

1890: KILL THE
MICROBES!

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1917: BONNETS
AND BICYCLES

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2016: BILLINGS
SET TO RETIRE

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The Montague Reporter

YEAR 15 – NO. 1

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

OCTOBER 6, 2016



COURTESY MONTAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE...

Two views up Avenue A: the first from around 1906, and one just yesterday.

A Special Issue As The Days Grow Darker

A detailed historical archive of a small town is like a crack in the earth. If you crawl far enough down into it, the world above will not look the same when you surface.

Ever since Alvah Crocker and his business partners decided to harness and combine the flow of the river with the flow of laboring immigrants here, downtown Turners Falls has been a place of intense encounter between longer-settled locals and the changing outside world.

Montague's population quadrupled between 1860 and 1890, and though they gradually fanned out onto the Hill and now occupy a full six percent of the town's area, the residents of Turners have numbered a curiously constant 4,000 to 5,000 ever since.

The *Montague Reporter* sometimes finds itself retracing the footprints of the village's earlier weeklies, particularly the *Turners Falls Reporter* (1872-1922), which is available for free online, very nearly in full, at montague.advantage-preservation.com thanks to the staff of the Montague public libraries, who have carefully preserved this mother-love for generations.

We've published three previous special editions, seasonal "core samples" of area happenings and editorial musings from specific weeks in the village's history: one in winter, one in summer, and one in the spring.

You're holding the fourth, and the last in the set. A couple warnings are due before you proceed: Life was tough, for most people here. Infancy and employment were more lethal for them than they are for most of us, as were transportation, sickness and age.

Newspaper writers of the time recorded in plain and stoic terms the violence these people encountered and inflicted in their everyday life. Some also openly expressed racial and ethnic prejudice.

Most of the copy between 1874 and 1921 was written by one eccentric Anglo from the Canadian Maritimes named Cecil T. Bagnall. He spent his entire adult life recording one tiny and fascinating universe, column by column.

Nearly a century after his death, the gift of Bagnall's vast paraliterary opus to folks walking these same mean streets should not be overlooked. It's only a chapter in the history of this place, but it's one hell of a chapter.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue: little bits & pieces from every town paper we could find from this week, strung together like popcorn and hung up just for you!

- Eds.

Turners Falls Reporter.

Vol. 1.

Turners Falls, Franklin County, Mass., Wednesday, October 2, 1872.

No. 14

October 2, 1872

Mr. P. Sullivan has just given his house a brilliant coat of paint.

Wm. P. Crocker's new brick house on Prospect street is beginning to loom up.

The Farren Hotel stable is nearly completed.

There is yet room at McVey Bros. for a few more boarders. It is a good, home-like place to board.

The school-house cellar has been excavated, and the stone wall completed. Good for you, Mr. Sullivan, you had plenty of wet weather to retard your progress.

We rambled through the Keith Mill the other day, and were surprised at the immense progress made during the past few weeks. Mr. Waters has been driving things to some purpose. The bleach and boiler house is nearly completed, the machine room begun, and the office about being begun.

The bleach house is three stories high, and is intended to hold the two large engines, over those will be iron tubular tresses, with arches, forming, when done, a complete brick floor. One other item attracted special attention, the immense harness work for the shafting. This special work is under the care of Mr. Merry, and attests his ability as a workman.

The Spaulding Bell Ringers favored our people on Monday night last, with a first-class concert. We doubt if there was one present who did not come away satisfied, and the hall was filled to its utmost capacity.

They are to have a singing school over the river. A meeting for formation of class will be held at Riverside Hall, Thursday evening, Oct. 10.

Last Monday, J. D. Boutwell tied his horse to a post in Miller's Plain, and went into his field to work, and on returning a short time after, found him dead. It is supposed his death was caused by being choked with the halter.

A few weeks ago, when the dogs were more lively than they are now, a man who was walking down along Fifth Street, was attacked and bitten

in the leg by an insignificant looking cur of the canine persuasion, and as soon as he recovered from his fright, he swore he would kill the animal.

"But the dog isn't mad," said the owner. "Mad!" shouted the victim, exasperatingly, "What in thunder has he got to be mad about?" He evidently misconstrued the explanation.

Dwight Clapp, on complaint of the overseers of the poor, has been sent to the State Work house at Bridgewater, by Justice Davis of Greenfield, as a common drunkard.

"Resolved, That no person has a right to build up a business and accumulate a fortune at the expense or sacrifice of the life, health and property of the whole community in the midst of which such business is located." - The above, one of the East Cambridge nuisance resolutions, should be a part of the creed of every good citizen, particularly here in Turners Falls, where we have so many nuisances.

October 1, 1873

The new steam fire engine has arrived.

The beautiful moonlight nights are here, and lovers can wander forth to whisper soft nothings and pick their steps through the mud.

Over 400 hands are at work in the Cutlery.

The heavy rain of Monday night made the rivermen feel good. The work of sorting the logs at the upper booms goes along rapidly.

Hose and hook and ladder companies will probably be formed after the engine company gets in thorough working order.

R.M. Starbuck & Co. have opened their stove and tinware store with full assortment of goods in their lines. They do copperplate work in a very superior manner.

The loss of our splendid school-house by fire, on the night of Wednesday last, is the sorest blow ever inflicted upon the town of Montague.... That 200 children are upon the streets as the result is too painfully apparent. But it might have been much worse, and there is cause for thanksgiving in the fact that no one was injured by the fire.

As the policy of the town, for all time, has been to avoid insuring its property, it must bear the loss without striving to lay the responsibility

where it does not belong, and learn a lesson from its experience.... The fire had not stopped burning before a petition was presented to the selectmen asking a meeting to be called to see what the town would do about erecting a new one.

The Agricultural Society's annual exhibition at Greenfield last week was the grandest success yet. The weather and the ladies were of the most charming, and the exhibition of stock very fine, especially the show of calves.

The Deerfield militia had a royal good time at their two days' camp at Bernardston this week, and their comrades from Amherst and Holyoke helped them enjoy it.

Stebbins, of Amherst, with a wagon load of Agricultural College students, paid our town a visit Thursday. The boys enjoyed themselves in searching for bird tracks and fossils, while "Steb" looked things over generally.

Miss Sophia J. Parsnow, daughter of Joesph Parsnow, died in this town on Tuesday evening, at 8-1/2 o'clock from tetanus lockjaw resulting from accidentally piercing her foot with a rusty nail on Tuesday. She was a fine girl, and generally liked among her acquaintances.

The disgraceful rough-and-tumble row which occurred in the streets of this place on Sunday afternoon, was an unfortunate affair for the good name which Turners Falls receives and deserves, outside, for the order and sobriety of its citizens of all classes. The active manner in which Constables Stone, Morrison and Dunbar dealt with the offenders, gave the public proof of the courage of our officers, and showed disturbers of the peace the folly of expecting to have everything their own way.

Hon. Alvah Crocker was so far thoughtful about our happiness, yesterday, as to bring in person a large basket of extraordinary large and luscious pears. Thanks, kind friend, you couldn't have brought anything that we more appreciate.

October 7, 1874

The Chapman & Co. Cutlery of Millers Falls used their new drop yesterday for the first time. It weighs some 6000 lbs. and strikes a blow of 700 lbs. It is reported as working splendidly. Striking a steel

handle at each blow.

Mr. C.H. Hazelton, firm of Campbell & Hazelton of our town is and has been dangerously sick at his home in New Hampshire.

The fourth exhibition of the Deerfield Valley Agricultural Society commenced on Tuesday, at Charlemont, under rather unfavorable circumstances. But yet there were coquetish glimpses of blue sky, and by 10 o'clock the grounds of the Society were liberally sprinkled by the sturdy farmers of the Pocumtuck Valley, and their cousins from the elevations of Florida and Savoy, while the good dames and daughters showed their disregard of soiled dresses and ruined hats, and turned out in goodly numbers.

There will be a Concert and Dance, given by the Montague City Cornet Band, at Montague Centre, on the evening of Oct. 14.

October 6, 1875

The Leverett Box Factory has received 499 applications for employment.

The Montague paper company have started up ten of their pulp machines.

The tower at the north end of the Griswold mill has been carried up a story higher than the main structure. The timbers for the roof are being placed in position.

Jacob Wolfe of Turners Falls had the handsomest lot of turtle doves at the fair.

The epizootic is prevalent among the horses in town now, although it has not affected them as severely as in former years. People have now learned how to treat the distemper.

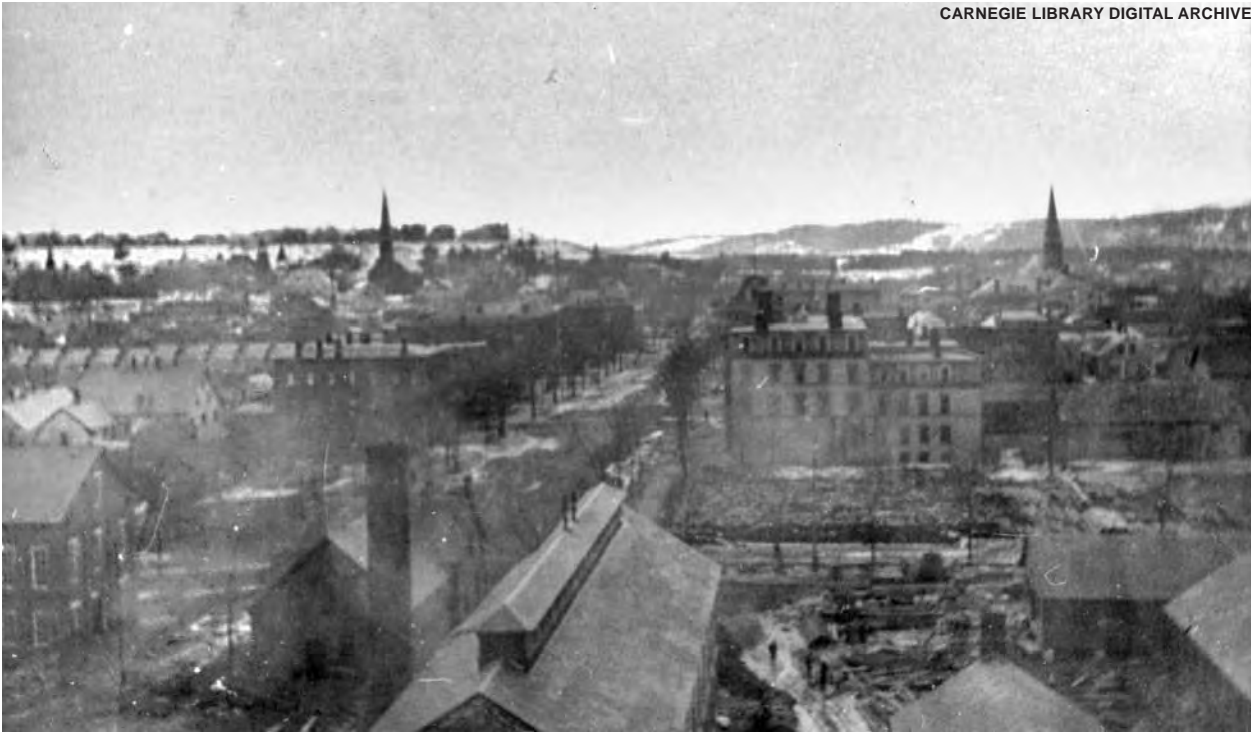
The old road leading to the suspension bridge from Canal street is not closed by a fence or anything, and is a trap for strangers to drive into the canal on dark nights. The sign board "Look Out for the Train" remains to help mislead the traveler.

Three young men terminated a drunken spree at Millers Falls, the other day, by setting a neighboring farmer's barn on fire. Caught in the attempt, they begged to be let off and paid for all damage, and as one condition of their liberty, told where they procured their liquor - at James Ryan's saloon. James is now in durance in default of bonds to await trial for selling liquor without license.

Mrs. KATHERINE MILKE,
MIDWIFE,
Second st. Turners Falls

Ad from October 2, 1872.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY DIGITAL ARCHIVE



This southward view of Turners Falls dates to around 1890.

Peanut Row band, but as cold weather is coming on and the doors and windows will be kept nearly closed, every one is encouraged to hope for better times.

The Butler club have their headquarters in the Colle block. They will hang out a flag.

The down town republicans seem to be a little sour this fall, and don't attend the caucuses.

A couple of men hailing from "Mormon Hollow" in Wendell, drove into Greenfield with such a raw-boned and starved looking horse that the office of the long named society threatened them with arrest. After a crowd had gathered about they promised to put the animal out of misery, if they could reach home with it, and were let off on the assurance that an officer would follow them up.

Last Thursday afternoon Rolie Beckman shot a big hawk, the wings of which measured from tip to tip, less than ten feet. We haven't the exact figures but should saw about five feet less.

The hawk evidently had been in the habit of allowing himself to be shot at by small boys around with pop-guns, and manifested no uneasiness or surprise when he was shot at and hit. He only sat still and winked very knowingly, but he sat a little too long and paid for his temerity with his life.

Master George Jackson one of the finest fancy skaters in the country, will give an exhibition at the Union rink, Fourth street, on Saturday evening, Oct. 4th.

The Millers Falls Co. closed their shops three days last week, to repair the canal.

October 7, 1885

The village of Turners Falls is more populous than any whole township in the county, with the exception, may be, of Greenfield.

We have received several batches of "local news" from parties in the village. As no names are signed to vouch for the facts, we are sorry to have to throw them in the waste basket.

A correspondent, who neglects to sign his name, however, writes to say that every Saturday night there are drunken brawls on Fifth street, disturbing the neighbors far and near. The writer says that some of the town constables are sometimes present at these "hullabaloo's."

The capitalists treat this village as a penal colony, good enough for barbarians to live in, but not a safe place to stay more than a few hours themselves. Patience may outwind such a policy, however, and when shortsightedness becomes the under dog in the fight, you bet there will be

an interested crowd of spectators.

A village that is not good enough for the interested capitalists to live in, has the mark of Cain on it.

A grocer in this village, who is not given to exaggeration, says the grocers' books of this town, dating back a dozen years, will show over \$50,000 in accounts that are not worth a cent on one hundred dollars.

There will certainly be a company incorporated this winter to supply this village with water. The patience of the people has been exhausted, and to-day a vote could be had to bond the town for all it is worth, rather than have matters go along as they have this summer. It is almost like the insanity caused by the thirst of shipwrecked sailors at sea.

Fire was discovered over the boiler in Southworth Brothers saw mill, yesterday afternoon, and in a few moments the flames had spread to the drying room in the upper story. The fire engine was quickly at work, but owing to the nature of the building it was impossible to extinguish the flames before considerable damage was done. The loss is probably \$3,000. The grist mill was not burned, and the boiler and engine are not harmed.

F. H. King is raising Main street in Millers Falls about a foot and a half. It makes a great improvement, as the street has always been a regular mud hole in rainy weather.

Miss Eunice Clapp, while bending over to pick something from the floor Sunday fell from her chair and broke her hip. In her feeble condition the shock was too great, and she died on Friday.

Wm. Jacobus, the fat and jolly Dutch and negro comedian, is home on a brief vacation. He will begin the winter season shortly.

Leonard Barton, Esq., has this season been experimenting with a new variety of watermelon, and has succeeded in raising very large fruit of an extremely fine flavor.

T.F. Harrington now has 16 girls employed in making fig boxes.

October 6, 1886

A good smart boy is wanted at the REPORTER office to learn the printing trade.

The Electric lights were started on Monday evening. There were fourteen on the streets, and three stores have lamps - the Boston store (2), A.W. Shieding's, and J.F. Bartlett's.

The streets were never better lighted especially the Avenue, upon which is most of the travel.

Eggs are getting scarce and high again and the hens want coaxing to do their duty.

Coon hunters are waking up to the occasion, and so are the coons.

The flues of the boiler in the kin-

dling wood factory were burned out last week, necessitating the shutting down for repairs.

The long-talked of sidewalk at the Riverside bids fair to be a reality. M. Fitzgerald began this morning to widen the road from the bridge to the saw-mill, and in time a sidewalk with extend from the bridge to the crossroads at A. E. Perry's.

Few people comprehend the magnitude of the business that is being done by our great railroads. The Fitchburg road, for instance, runs out of Boston 240 trains a day or one train on an average every six minutes. The train dispatcher in his office in Boston, controls them all and knows their whereabouts from time of starting until they reach their destination.

Miss Marble and Miss Annie Rockford have opened a millinery and small-wares store in the Riley's block, on the avenue.

In Montague, F.A. Rugg and H.H. Root have each been setting out elm trees on their grounds that in years to come will improve the looks of their homes.

The Sons of Veterans will play "Hal Hazard or the Feral Spy" at Colle's opera house, on Friday evening, the 15th. This worthy society is in need of funds of the purpose of relief and they expect to lay the foundation of a respectable fund by the means of entertainment. They deserve every encouragement.

W. K. Lamson, who works for the Millers Falls, Co. had three fingers taken off in the planer on Saturday.

P.S. Sullivan serves oysters in every style at his restaurant.

October 5, 1887

More darkness than daylight now. The streets have caved in considerably from the heavy rains the past week.

James L. Conway has extended the sidewalk in front of his block on the avenue to the full width, making a vast improvement in the premises.

Jacobus Brothers are painting the front of their Second Street block a cherry color, having got tired of that bottle-green. The change is quite an improvement.

Master Mechanic Axtell of the cutlery has invented a machine to grind knives which does the work of the most skillful grinders in a superior manner, at less cost, and with little manual labor by the operator.

The old aqueduct of the Turners Falls company, which supplied the village with water for 16 or more years, has become a thing of the past, and the entire plant, costing much money, is as dead as hay.

There were thirty-five carriages in the funeral procession of a two-months'-old child in this village last

Sunday. The parents were popular.

Joseph Vevier got into a dispute at the dinner table, last week, with M. Guimon, and losing his temper, threw a knife at his face which nearly severed a part of his nose. Vevier will be tried before Justice Dana tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Officers Allen and Lilly of Greenfield and Keefe and Morrison of this village made the third raid on Mrs. O'Brien's South End rum shop on Saturday night, and found bottles of whiskey and gin, after diligent search in every nook and corner. She was arraigned Monday, and will be tried Friday. The officers feel proud of making two successful raids, as she is counted as a very cunning fox in the business.

Miss Flora Lamson, a former well known residence of Shelburne Falls, is now a mind cure practitioner in Zanesville, Ohio.

A government official designated for the purpose is searching the records of various county courts to ascertain the number of divorces in the county from the year 1867 to 1886, both inclusive, a period of twenty years. In this county the number is 176 or an average of 8-3/4 a year.

A young girl named Dunn got her hand caught in a belt in the cutlery, the other day, and was considerably hurt.

October 3, 1888

And now a stone crusher is one of the things that is pined for in this town.

Manchester & Ward will lay a gas pipe from the John Russell Cutlery Co's gas works to the new Hibernian block. This town is famous for everyone going on his own hook. Why not have concerted action, and induce the company to furnish gas to all on the avenue who might desire it. A proper size pipe laid the length of the street now would make the future use of gas by others a possibility. The gas made by the cutlery company is a very superior quality.

The Turners Falls tax payers kick terribly at the value put on real estate in this village, and cannot quite understand how with a lower rate their taxes are higher than ever before. Real estate unproductive, and there is lots of it here, pays a tax with poor grace. When we get a new factory, nobody will think about taxes.

The new factory at Erving will make harness buckles, and the capital is furnished by men who take this means of saving their property from decay. A factory is needed here badly to put life into some real estate that couldn't be given away. The proprietors of ten vacant stores must begin to feel that real estate is a hungry animal to be fed on air.

Typhoid fever is becoming prevalent in surroundings towns, but this village is remarkably free from it. Malaria and typhoid fever don't seem to get along well together in the same community.

It is rumored that the county commissioners are determined to make the new jail burglar proof and to that end will have some of the weakest cells papered.

The stallion "Glendale" owned by Messrs. Everett and Farwell of this village, won first money in the trotting race at the Brattleboro fair last week.

We saw by the Republican that the Millers Falls base ball club played in two towns 40 miles apart the same afternoon. That's what might be called hustling.

John Carter, while chopping wood near Athol, drove an axe into his foot, making a gash seven inches long. Dr. Best was called to care

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for the wound.

Mary Stutz, aged 18, died in the Russell block, this noon, quite suddenly of heart disease.

The ladies of the Congregational society are planning three entertainments to be given in the near future. One will be a lecture, one a concert and the other not yet decided on.

October 2, 1889

John H. Starbuck is a new recruit to the army of bicyclists.

The trees are beginning to put on all their splendid apparel, and the eyes are dazzled with the hues and shades which no mortal has yet been able to counterfeit. It is the glorious time of the year, even if it has a tinge of sadness.

The brickyards have all got through making brick for the season, although they have several kilns yet to burn. They complain of a scarcity of dry wood.

Chestnuts and walnuts are getting ripe, and the small boy finds it out by his wonderful intuition.

O. Guillaume has opened a blacksmith shop in John Jamison's old stand on K street, where he will carry on horse shoeing and all blacksmith work.

The democratic party seems to have put on the proper armor of war in this village this fall, and the caucus was well attended by representative men of the town.

The house built a year or two since, by Ed Loveland, and lately occupied by a Arthur Baker, on the road leading to Millers Falls, was burned to the ground, Wednesday night. The people occupying it were away at the time and as the house is some distance from neighbors, but little if any of the contents were saved. The fire is supposed to have been of incendiary origin, and an inquest will be held.

Henry J. Day's peddler "got on his ear" the other day, and then got on to his employer's ear, biting it quite severely. Mr. Day didn't propose to be chewed up, and used his fists on the chap in a most happy manner, every blow carrying conviction to the chap's countenance.

Levi Miner was locked up by the police for drunkenness, and this morning paid a fine of \$7.63 to Justice Dana.

S.E. Ripley joins the excursion from Boston to Baltimore, Gettysburg and the battlefields on which he was wounded. He hasn't been there since he shouldered a musket.

F.I. Webster has changed to the rover type of bicycle, and will now ride a Singer's safety.

October 1, 1890

Frost has been reported to the towns north and west, and it seems to be squinting this way.

A fine stone curbing is being put along the front end of Edwin Wilbur's house and adds greatly to the beauty of the residence.

Augustus Ross and William Hamilton of Millers Falls while hunting Friday afternoon on the Daniel Benjamin farm on Dry Hill, Montague, discovered the dead body of Sylves-

ter Hale, who has lived a hermit's life near by for many years. It was undoubtedly a suicide, a bullet hole near his right ear being found. Appearances indicated that Hale had died several days before. Medical Examiner Coy was called and ordered the burial of the body. Hale had a most interesting career. He served a term in prison for robbing Ira Kent of Guilford, Vt. 20 years ago, and since his release had acted strangely. About \$4.08 was found on his body.

Excursion to New York, to-morrow, on the Hoosac Tunnel route on the Fitchburg R.R. Tickets for the round trip \$5.00.

As Mrs. Lucretia Nettleton of Erving was standing in a chair picking grapes from her garden vine on Friday, the chair tipped over, using her to fall, spraining her ankle and breaking a bone in her foot; she is getting along comfortably.

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A. L. WHITING, Agent,
TURNERS FALLS

Ad from October 1, 1890.

October 7, 1891

The orange crop is to be an immense one.

George Batten's bowling alley is well patronized since cold weather set in.

Owing to low water several of the water wheels had to be stopped the past week, and the wheel of the electric lighting plant could not be started, so that the village stores had to resort to kerosene. The water yesterday was two feet below the top of the dam.

Oscar Hummel's tin cart was upset on the avenue, Friday morning, and the contents scattered to the four corners of the earth.

George Fournier has built for J.F. Bartlett, probably the best business wagon in town, everything made by hand and for long life. It will carry a big load of paints and utensils, as well as be a comfortable carriage for the workmen to ride in.

Wendell has one smart little girl. Hattie Miner, six years old, has picked blueberries amounting to \$11.25, this season.

John Hall of Erving has newly painted his house a coat of white

lead and oil, which adds greatly to its beauty.

William Deane fell from an apple tree on Frank Bascom's farm in Gill, on Saturday, and broke his leg in two places.

Gottlieb Yetter, a man of family, and aged about forty, while picking apples at Montague City, Saturday, owing to the breaking of a limb on which the ladder rested, fell headlong to the earth, receiving a mortal hurt. When picked up his legs were numbed, but apparently no bones were broken. Taken to his home in Turners Falls, Dr. Coy said that very likely he had injured his spinal column, and that death might not be far off, which proved true. The man did not live twenty-four hours.

The base ball boys will give a ball for the benefit of the club on the 13th.

The clerks of the village will hold their annual ball on the 30th.

The depot and post office at Zoar were again broken into last Friday night, the robber entering through a window which he pried up with a flat, chisel-like instrument, but thanks to Mr. Hawkes' watchfulness, the cash drawer was empty so nothing was taken. A stranger who has been gathering medicinal roots in the vicinity was detained on suspicion, but was released upon his proving an alibi.

Hens sometimes show queer tastes. A resident of Locks Village recently found in a hen's gizzard 37 glazier's zinc points. On looking at a package which had contained several hundred only a few remained.

October 5, 1892

The swamp-maple flames out its crimson and gold among the pines and spruces, wild grapes are ripening in the thickets and the crows are holding their fall conventions. Autumn is at hand, with its frosty nights and sunny days, its wealth of color and harvest of fruit, its fullness of life and beauty that foretell the coming of winter days when Nature is at rest.

A leak in the water-main on the avenue is causing water commissioners much trouble. They have excavated in three different places and it still baffles them.

The republicans quietly threw a campaign flag to the breeze on the avenue Monday, without a word or a splurge.

The pupils in the public schools are trying to raise money enough to buy flags to wave over their several school buildings on Columbus day.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal should send an agent to watch the struggles of a poor old horse carrying a load of children like so many sardines in a box, from Montague City to Turners Falls every day. Eleven or twelve people would make a good load for a draught horse in his youth, but it's too much to put on the declining years of a superannuated general utility farm nag. The school committee should put a stop to the practice of having children of both sexes hauled to school like a bushel of cats.

The shaft is being extended in

the Carpenter mine at Rowe. A good copper vein is in sight.

Martin L. Hubbard of Sunderland, a well to do farmer, belonging to one of the first families, hanged himself in his barn Wednesday night. He had been quite despondent of late from imaginary causes. He was 72 years old.

Now is the season when the amateur hunter is abroad with his gun. If you go to walk in the woods and fields on Sunday, you take an even chance of being shot.

October 4, 1893

The poor eels in the canal are having a hard time at present. Every Sunday a whole throng of wily Frenchmen are intensely busied in hunting them up. Large strings of the slippery dainties are caught, some being fortunate enough to haul out twenty or more. Parties even come over from Greenfield to engage in the sport.

The work of concreting the sidewalks goes merrily on. Second and Third streets have been finished and the rest are rapidly nearing completion. When the walks are laid our streets will compare favorably with those of more pretentious places.

Flynn Bros. opened a fish market in Collier's block on Second street this morning.

Chicken thieves are hard at work, and there is much complaint. Not infrequently a farmer will lose from twenty-five to fifty chickens in a single night.

As Elk Wright of Farley was out hunting, last week, he heard a noise in the bushes, and, judging he had hit upon a covey of partridges, he fired into the bushes, but instead of killing his bird he hit a Polander by the name of Jacob Dolanska, who was on his knees gathering some apples. Dr. Johnson was called, who extracted the shot and dressed the wound.

Jacob Jacobus, while inspecting his new Prospect street house on Sunday, met with an accident. He stepped on a plank which broke under his weight, and he fell a distance of several feet. His shoulder was dislocated. Dr. Best attended.

Business at Colrain is slowly reviving. There has been a small reduction in the wages of the mill hands, but tenement rents are low.

A number of the boys met Saturday and organized a foot ball team, with C.W. Munson, business manager and G.H. Rist, captain. They have secured permission to practice under an electric light, and may be seen any night practicing together. They play under the name of the Turners Falls Athletic Club and desire games with any other clubs or high school teams. The first game will be played with the Greenfield high school, on next Tuesday, Oct. 10, on Goddard's grounds.

A Polander who is well known in local police courts, was arrested Saturday night and fined \$5. He had been at the wedding festivities of one of his countrymen who had been married that afternoon but made himself unbearable.

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the prisoners at the Greenfield jail expires November 1. The men are employed in bottoming chairs with cane for S.K. Pierce & Co., South Gardner.

A Frenchman while engaged in spearing eels in the canal, last Sunday, had a spear accidentally thrust through his hand. Dr. Bertrand, who happened to be passing, extracted it.

October 3, 1894

The water in the Connecticut river was, yesterday, the lowest at any time this season, or in fact in the memory of man. That such a thing should happen after the recent heavy rains, passes the understanding of all possessing aquatic wisdom.

Wild deer were seen running at large through the village of Erving last week, and many regretted the laws forbidding the killing of the wild game.

A few members of the Turners Falls Bicycle Club went to Orange, last Sunday, and were entertained by the Orange wheel club. On the return home the distance was made in one hour and twenty-seven minutes, the time being very good in consideration that the roads were very bad.

Michael Kennedy, a lad of 12 years, was arrested last week for being an unruly boy, and he is in Greenfield jail waiting for the set agent to come and see what ought to be done with him. When Officer Park went to arrest him, he made a bee line for the Connecticut river which he proposed to swim to escape the arm of the law.

A party of young people consisting of Mr. Bacon, Miss S Mahoney, Mr. Reed, Miss Stevens, Miss Negus and Miss Stockwell, participated in a pleasure drive last week, visiting the two mountain hermits in their isolated homes on the mountain side, where no human voice is heard to disturb the tranquillity of nature's charms except when some pleasure seeker invades into their homes.

As the party approached one of the hermit's dwelling he confronted them with this question, "Are you democrats? If so you cannot come any farther." When they informed him to the contrary, he invited them into his home and took pleasure in showing to their admiring eyes the way a lone man keeps bachelors hall in the woods.

He was a possessor of an organ which he opened and some members of the party played and all sung for the pleasure of the kind old man.

There were only seven tramps put up by the policemen last month.

October 2, 1895

Nearly all the little feeders to the main streams among the Franklin county hills have dried up and springs and wells hitherto supposed to be permanent have succumbed to the fierce September heat. There is no feed in the pastures, which also lack water.

A fire started in some packing boxes way in the rear of James A. Gunn's block this morning, but the fire department responded so quickly with water that absolutely no damage was done.

Gill is not too far away for the Turners Falls thieves who carry on their operations on Sunday. Every day of rest, J.L.S. Moore finds his premises infested with thieves from Turners Falls who rob him of his nuts in the most brazen manner, and then make way with their plunder. Many of them come up the river in boats, and when they have stolen all they wish, hie themselves to their boats and go home. Mr. Moore has grown tired of being robbed, and



This hazy photograph, dating to around 1895, shows the electric trolley on Avenue A.

forbids any one picking the nuts on his premises.

Mr. Wm. Stebbins of Millers Falls met with quite a loss this week, losing over fifty pounds of trout, some of them weighing two pounds and a half apiece. About two years ago Mr. Stebbins dammed up the brook that ran across his land, and built a trout house. He has spent a good deal of time and money to get his fish started as he wished and it is a pity his work was for naught. Probably some poisonous substance was in the water that killed them.

There was a lively fracas at the jail work-shop in Greenfield, Monday morning. Thomas Ryan, the tramp whose queer actions at the time of his arrest a few weeks ago attracted unusual attention, left his work of chair-bottoming and grabbed Florence Sullivan of Turners Falls, a fellow prisoner, about the body and with one of the work knives made an ugly slash across his neck. Dr. A.C. Walker was summoned and dressed Sullivan's wounds. It was found that one of the arteries was severed and some of the muscles. The man was weak from loss of blood but he will recover.

Joe Smith, a Polander employed by the Turners Falls Paper Co., was struck by the New Haven engine Wednesday morning, while unloading a car of wood. Smith was warned of the approaching train by a brakeman, but did not heed it. He was somewhat injured, but no bones were broken.

The French people are busy preparing for a fair which they hold sometime this month.

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Ad from October 5, 1892

October 7, 1896

Julius Equi, the fruit dealer, starts for Italy, to-day, to visit.

Miss May I. Smith has started a kindergarten at her home on Prospect street, and has 16 pupils.

The Shamrock hose company takes a run down the Avenue every afternoon. They are practicing to take part in the hose race at the fair to be held in Northampton.

People may lament over hard times in this village, but they should

remember that we are a thousand times better off than some towns in which all the mills are shut down and the banks suspended. Half a loaf is better than all loafing, and with us times will brighten up wonderfully when the mills get some assurance of immunity from the raids of political highwaymen. With a protection that will protect all, business will revive mighty quick.

The Otis mills at Ware shut down last week because of striking weavers.

Fred D. Kellogg of Orange had a narrow escape from death, Thursday evening, at Millers Falls. Mr. Kellogg was with a party of friends who attended the Brattleboro fair and were returning on a special train. At Millers Falls the cars were switched from the Central Vermont to the Fitchburg tracks and the cars were left on the bridge. Mr. Kellogg got off of the car thinking he would walk to the rear of the train on the ground, but he walked or stepped off into the river, which was about 60 feet below. His friends went to his rescue, but found he had swum to shore, but was in dazed condition. He was otherwise uninjured.

William F. Kennedy, aged about 30 years, a native of this village, was found dead between 5 and 6 o'clock Saturday morning on the Boston and Albany tracks about a mile east of Westfield station. The dead man's legs were badly mangled and crushed, but aside from that the body was not bruised. Marks along the track show that he was dragged quite a distance and it is surmised that he either fell from some freight train or else was killed while attempting to catch a ride.

Kennedy served his apprenticeship to the printing business in the REPORTER office, and he has worked here as a journeyman many times since, a place being always made for him when he came around. He was a good printer, and was a born artist, but never would subject himself to the restraint of severe training. A good fellow in his sober senses, he was apt to be ugly under the influence of liquor, and he had a passion for traveling from place to place. His companions give him credit for being an honorable fellow, and say the dollar loaned him when "broke" was always repaid when he struck the case again.

No man lays idle a day but the loss is borne by his neighbors - the landlord, the merchant, the mechanic - everybody who would profit by the surplus he should have to spend. No man living in a manufacturing community can see a workman turned

away from a factory door on account of business stagnation without realizing that he is also curtailed in his income his share in that man's labor.

James P. Dower was at work on a paper cutter in Holyoke, Monday morning, when he caught both hands under the cutter, and it was found necessary to amputate both. He formerly lived in Turners Falls and worked in the Keith mill. He was a skillful musician and appeared often in local concerts.

The new law making tramping a crime, punishable by at least six months in the house of correction, is having a good effect in weeding out the chronic bums. All kinds of idle and suspicious characters may now be arrested as vagabonds, which will make it much easier for the authorities to control the professional criminals.

A young man employed in John Drago's fruit store, accidentally cut off the top of his finger, one day last week, while cutting bananas.

October 6, 1897

The Jewish New Year, which begins the year 5658, according to their reckoning, began last week.

An occasional dog gets killed by the electric, to the delight of all except the owners of the canine. A small dog has a way of his own of getting under car wheels wholly unobserved by the motorman.

It is a miracle that the electric have not killed a dozen children at several points on the road. Kids hardly able to toddle play near the tracks all summer long, and it is a common sight to see a youngster bob up in front of a car in a manner calculated to bring the motorman's heart up into his mouth. The motormen take the utmost precaution going by places where children most commonly swarm.

John Crowley of Millers Falls was suddenly thrown from a trolley car Monday while on his way to the village and received several painful flesh wounds about his forehead and left eye. The accident happened as he momentarily released his hold of the railing to light his cigar and the injured man blames no one.

Druggist I.A. Darling has been appointed inspector of milk for this town. Many complaints had been made to the board of health that sickness among children could probably be traced to impure milk. The milk will be tested from every source, and the premises of the peddlers will be inspected. No person will be allowed to sell milk without a license. It is somewhat strange that almost all the persons who supply

milk to this village have their farms located in other towns.

Mrs. Holmes has closed her cottage at Lake Pleasant and has returned to her home in Riverside for the winter.

All persons interested in forming a lodge of Knights of Pythias are requested to meet at the G.A.R. hall Monday evening, at 7:45.

Albert B. Nelson, 83, a life-long and respected resident of Colrain, died very suddenly at his home last week. Mr. Nelson went to a pasture near the house to drive his cows from a garden patch, and upon returning seated himself in his favorite arm-chair on the porch. His house-keeper noticed his somewhat exhausted condition and asked if he felt ill. He replied that he did not, but she started to get a bottle of camphor.

She was absent only a moment, but during that time Mr. Nelson had expired. He remained seated in his arm-chair in a sitting posture.

October 5, 1898

When a young man sees his "best girl" now bestowing the smiles that used to be for him alone, on some returned volunteer from Santiago, it is safe to say that the slighted individual indulges in some highly interesting soliloquies on the subject of war.

Edward Branch Lyman, the very entertaining writer who does so much good work all too modestly, has written and issued from the artistic press of E. A. Hall & Co., of Greenfield, a sad little brochure, founded on a fact in connection with the homecoming of company L of the second Massachusetts regiment, a few weeks ago. The story suggest in a most tender and touching way merely the sorrow of Miss Lenois for the nontrivial of her very dear and brave brother who died so gallantly in the battle of El Caney, the knowledge of which tragedy having by curious circumstances been kept from her.

The "onliest" Snowball is with us once more after a visit with friends in Orange and elsewhere. He has discarded the "ragged regimentals" of his Cuban campaign, and now appears in a new outfit from top to tow, so that, barring his color, he looks like any other up to date young American. It will be a wonder if he little chap does not have his head completely turned by the amount of ionizing he is receiving. He seems to find it agreeable, however, and so far as borne up very well under it.

The town is minus its latest Chinese laundry. Charley Wing, who came here from Millers Falls a couple of weeks ago, finds that place more to his tastes and has flown back there.

The famous "Castle Garden," the abode of "ski's" without number, and the place where Polanders most did congregate, was almost completely destroyed by fire early Saturday morning. An alarm was rung in about three o'clock and the fire department and a large number of citizens in various degrees of undress, promptly responded. The building is a six tenement one on X street and is owned by Mrs. Agnes Tutlis.

The fire started somewhere in the second story and burned fiercely for several hours before it was subdued. The house, which is usually as crowded as a sardine box, happened to be occupied by only two families at the time of the fire and they were able to save but very little as the flames made rapid headway. A stove on the third story fell through the floor onto the stove in the story below and was smashed to bits.

The last outdoor band concert of the season will be given in the

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Avenue A bandstand, on Thursday evening.

Arthur Bourgett shot a wild cat which weighed 16 pounds last week, near the Narrows.

A large illuminated electric clock has been hung out by Jeweler M.L. Bitzer. It is a great convenience to the public, for he that runs may read the time now without the slightest difficulty. At night the face of the clock is illuminated by electricity, so that it can easily be seen at a considerable distance.

J.T. Reed was taken to the Northampton lunatic asylum, Wednesday afternoon. He was discharged from the asylum last October, and had shown no signs of insanity till that day.

Reed has been working on a new process for cooling refrigerators without the use of ice, and this may have unsettled his mind.



Ad from October 5, 1898

October 4, 1899

We will soon begin to read about foot ball accidents.

The crop of chestnuts this year is unusually heavy and great amounts were harvested last Sunday.

F.I. Webster has everything needed by a hunter. The nut crop being plenty, grey squirrels are very plenty in the woods now.

With the thermometer registering 14 degrees below freezing at this time of year, it is no wonder colds are epidemic.

The selectmen of Montague offer a reward of \$5 for any information which will lead to the discovery of the person or persons who have been carrying off the drinking cups and damaging the pump and other property at E.L. Bartlett's Spring grove. For two years Mr. Bartlett has furnished water at the grove to man and beast, and has borne all the expense himself. In return for his kindness, some one has been carrying off the drinking cups and doing other damage, and the selectmen are anxious to discover the offenders.

There will be a baby show in connection with the sale at Riverside hall, Nov. 17. Prizes will be awarded to the prettiest baby under 2 years, the smallest baby under 2 years and the fattest baby under 5 years. There will also be a prize for the prettiest baby between 2 and 3 years.

The man found in the Connecticut, last week, has been identified as James Greer of New York, a brother of the dead man fully identifying the articles found on the body. According to the statement made by the brother, Mr. Greer, who was a New York business man, left home Sept. 11 to visit their father in Salem, N.Y. He was 47 years old, unmarried, and not a drinking man.

Charles Moran met with a painful accident last Wednesday, while at work in the Millers Falls company's shops. He had his hand caught in a drop at which he was working. In some manner, the drop failed to

catch as it went up, and the weight of 300 pounds fell about five feet, removing two fingers and a portion of Mr. Moran's hand.

"Labor-saving inventions for the farmer — beneficial and otherwise" is the topic for the grange meeting, Friday night.

Charles Arnold, who went through the Cuban campaign, John Costello and James Breslin have enlisted in the army and are already on their way to the Philippines.

A tribe of Red Men has been formed at Colrain.

October 3, 1900

Squirrels are reported plenty by the owners of good squirrel dogs. The leaves are too thick for still hunting.

The Selectmen have raised the grade of Fourth street, near L, sufficiently to overcome the settling of water there, which has been a nuisance for a year. Frank Robert's market was inaccessible after a heavy rain, except from favored points of the compass.

A local company will start an independent telephone line connecting Athol, Orange, Erving, Farley and Millers Falls. It is the intention of the company to furnish telephones to subscribers for \$1 per month. Why don't they come and see us?

A monument has been erected in the old cemetery at Deerfield, in memory of the victims of the massacre by the French and Indians in 1704, and whom tradition says were buried in one grave in the southeast corner of the old cemetery. The monument is a handsome block of sandstone, and bears the following inscriptions, on one side, "The dead of 1704, and on another, "The grave of 48 men, women and children, victims of the French and Indian raid on Deerfield, February 29, 1704."

Edgar, a four-year-old son of Chas. St. Lawrence of West Deerfield while playing with matches, Monday, set his clothes on fire and was severely burned on his head and back. He died at the Greenfield hospital yesterday.

Sol. Amidon has so far recovered from his rheumatism as to be able to go back to Florida the last of the week and take charge of the phosphate mine in which he is interested.

During the thunder shower Wednesday night, Robert Cornwell's house at Wendell was struck by lightning and six rooms besides the attic and cellar, badly damaged. Plastering was torn off, a large beam split and the bell wire in the hall melted. A large tree in front of the house was also struck. Fortunately the occupants of the house escaped injury.

Mrs. Christina Milke, or "Grandmother Milke" as she is familiarly known, of Second street, is quite ill as the result of an accidental fall from her bed one night last week.

The faces of President McKinley and "Teddy" Roosevelt now smile a prosperity smile on a prosperous and contented people on the Avenue, from a Republican campaign flag of huge dimensions, which was raised by the Republican town committee last week. The flag is suspended between Colle's and Kellogg's blocks.

The Democrats are talking of getting a banner to be hung between the Farren House and the Allen block opposite.

October 2, 1901

Albert Smith of Riverside, familiarly known to everyone in these parts as "Commodore" Smith, died at his home, Saturday forenoon, from the effects of a stroke of paralysis which he suffered Sept. 19. Mr. Smith used

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In 1903, the Millers Falls Company widened and deepened its canal substantially.

to run the ferry across the Connecticut river at Riverside before the upper suspension bridge was built, and that is where he gained his title of "commodore."

He was ferryman for nine years, having come to Riverside from Deerfield, his native town, in 1865, when Turners Falls was still in its infancy. At that time there were less than a dozen houses in Riverside and Turners Falls put together. After the bridge was built Mr. Smith entered the employ of the Turners Falls Lumber Company and worked there as long as his health allowed. Mr. Smith was a veteran of the Civil war, having served two years in Co. G, 10th Massachusetts regiment, and was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness. He was very patriotic and still had in his possession at the time of his death everything he carried during the war except his tin plate.

He was also a good antiquarian, and a member of the Pocumtuck Valley memorial association. He had a fine collection of Indian relics on which he was an authority, having gathered them on the scene of the Falls fight and other places. He was an original character, very kindly and esteemed by all.

James D. Avery of Buckland, owner of the big ox, Jerry, shipped him to Connecticut last Saturday, to be exhibited at the fairs there, having just completed a tour of Ohio and Pennsylvania fairs. Mr. Avery received a telegram, Monday afternoon, saying that the car containing the ox was wrecked near Bridgeport. The telegram said the ox and one of the men who traveled with him was uninjured, but said nothing of the ticket seller, who, it is feared, sustained injury. Mr. Avery went to Bridgeport at once.

W.A. Johnson, an Orange farmer, was severely injured last Saturday by being struck on the head with a 19-pound hammer. Mr. Johnson was packing walnuts under a tree while a boy in the tree pounded the limbs with a big hammer so the nuts would fall. The boy accidentally dropped the hammer and it fell directly on Mr. Johnson's head rendering him unconscious for several hours. He will probably recover.

"The Hottest Coon in Dixie" with 12 people in the company, is the next attraction at Colle's opera house, Wednesday evening, Oct 8.

Mrs. Florence L. White was arraigned in court, Friday for the larceny of a spy glass and articles of wearing apparel from George H

Williams of Deerfield. She was fined \$10 and went to the house of correction for lack of funds.

John Pratt, Mrs. Josephine Stone and Bert Pratt and Mrs. Sarah White were arraigned in district court, Saturday, for lewd and lascivious cohabitation. They pleaded not guilty and their cases were continued a week, they in the meantime going to jail in default of \$300 bonds each. The four lived some time very unconventionally in a sugar house at Leverett.

The Worcester-Franklin Pomona grange met with Montague grange at the town hall on Friday. The business meeting was held in the morning and the afternoon session was an open meeting. The question "How can we deal with the anarchists?" was discussed.

October 1, 1902

The hunting season began to-day, the law being now off on game.

The coal question is the chief topic of conversation these days, all other questions sinking into the background. From the looks of things now, many parlors will have to be shut up for the winter and the family will gather in the kitchen as in the days of long ago.

The farmers from surrounding towns are bringing in great quantities of wood for fuel. The prices for wood of all sorts have already taken several jumps as there is unprecedented demand for it. The owners of wood lots are happy.

For some little time, Treasurer C.W. Hazelton of the Turners Falls Co. has had engineers at work making preliminary surveys along the canal tract and along the river bank for the purpose of obtaining information of exact character for record in view, of possible future development of power.

A buyer for Marshall Field & Co. of Chicago has been in Deerfield the past week and gave a large order for baskets to the basket makers of that town.

The Wendell library has received 66 new books from the state, being the balance of the \$100 worth provided in the acts of 1900.

John Lynch who has been working at Millers Falls, was found guilty of drunkenness and indecent exposure, and fined \$5 for the former offense and sentenced to the house of correction for six months for the latter.

George Driver, a colored wood-chopper was in the district court Friday, charged with the larceny of a sum of money belonging to two fel-

low choppers. They had been chopping for Edward Ingraham of Leverett, who intrusted George with \$10, \$1.61 of which belonged to him and the rest to the other two. He offered them \$5, which was refused. Driver explained that he did not understand how much was due the two men, and he was accordingly discharged.

David Jaffer, a Jewish junk dealer from Turners Falls, was in the district court, Saturday, charged with stealing cucumbers from Henry A. Jones of Greenfield. David said he took only a few cucumbers to eat, while Mr. Jones contended that David had abstracted two dollars' worth of the vegetables.

Rev. D.A. Hudson has moved into the new house on Bridge street extension just completed by F.H. King. Fred Comins will move into the tenement vacated by Mr. Hudson.

While engaged in moving Rev. D.A. Hudson's household goods Thursday morning, Mr. King, who was carrying out a box of books, missed his footing and fell on a stake, injuring his abdomen in a painful manner.

Wanted in REPORTER office: a good, stout, intelligent boy to learn the printing business. Those who have been shifting from place to place looking for a soft job need not apply. Fair education, and ambition to become something of a man is desirable.

October 7, 1903

The autumn foliage this year is superb and has not been so beautiful for several years. The woods and hill sides present a gorgeous appearance and a drive or walk into the country at this time is an inspiration.

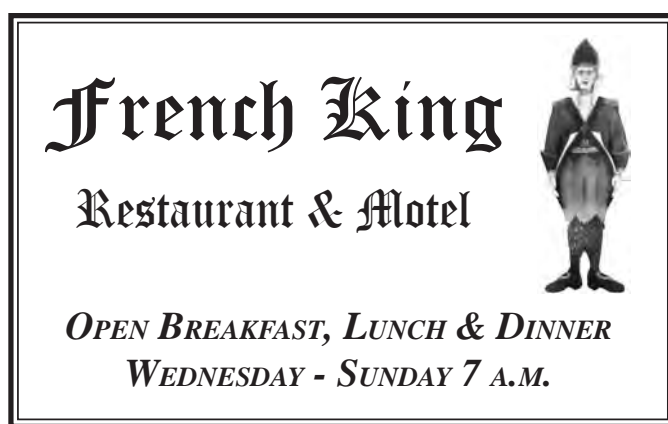
Charles Jacobus went out hunting for squirrels this afternoon, but came home with a handsome fox instead. While Mr. Jacobus was listening to the bark of a squirrel up a tree, Brer Fox came along and kindly stood for a target. Mr. Jacobus promptly brought him down with a charge of No. 6 bird shot.

H. Press, the ladies' tailor of Fourth street, has just returned from New York where he has been buying goods and studying the new styles.

Conrad Bitzer has had bathrooms put into his brick block on Second street.

Charles Park, whose judgement in the building line is recognized by all as something valuable, took down the big chimney of the reclaimer building in a few hours last Saturday. He put guy ropes to it, and broke it

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off piece meal as one would a carrot, and brought the whole pile of masonry to earth with a hitch or an accident of any kind. It contained about 50,000 brick.

The Vladish block is traveling slowly along Fifth street to its new site on the corner of L. John LaPoint has the contract to move it. When set up it will be a desirable renting property.

The Ballon brothers disposed of a lot of dogs at the fair and some are wishing that the number might have been larger as many still remain undisposed of.

October 5, 1904

Several hundred Turners Falls people attended the Brattleboro fair last Thursday and in common with thousands of others were thoroughly soaked by the rain.

The high wind of last week blew down the fence on Fourth street around the Peabody houses.

Large quantities of chestnuts are being brought into town. They are very plentiful this year. The early frost helped to ripen them and the winds of last week brought them to the ground.

Local sportsmen find woodcock plenty and partridge rather scarce. The scarcity of partridges is due to the increase of foxes and skunks, their natural enemies. Hunters say that a bounty on foxes and woodchucks would be the best thing possible to protect good game.

The directors of the Greenfield and Turners Falls street railway voted at a meeting held last week to petition for a location for the extension of their line from Montague town to the Sunderland line. They expect that the Amherst and Sunderland road will take similar action, so that there shall be an unbroken trolley line up and down the valley east of the river as far north as Millers Falls.

The small boys living on "the hill," ranging in age from eight to a dozen years, have organized a hose team. The youngsters call themselves the "Champions," and one of the indulgent parents, interested in fostering budding ambition, has furnished the boys with caps and is having a miniature hose cart built for their use. The lads are very enthusiastic, and to indulge in this sport will help to develop muscle and physical endurance if nothing more.

Tax Collector John W. Haigis will be at the town hall, on Monday, Oct. 10th, for the purpose of collecting taxes. This is the tax collector's second and will probably be his last trip to Montague for the purposes of collecting taxes for 1904.

Sales of tobacco in West Deerfield have been made at prices probably better than 20 cents. The tobacco is said to be the best this fall for 20 years and is curing well without any pole-sweat.

The annual report of Charles S. Richardson, master of the house of correction and keeper of the county jail, has been submitted to the prison commissioners. The expenditures, cents omitted, are as follows: Provisions \$1192; clothing, \$449; beds and bedding, \$58; medicine and medical supplies, \$55; reading matter, \$5; aid to discharged prisoners, \$11; miscellaneous, \$1761; salaries and wages, \$4460; total, \$8705. The item of incidentals includes furniture and repairs, \$364; labor and tobacco, \$153; outside labor, \$17; medical attendance, \$11; furnishings, \$1164; incidentals, \$40.

From the labor of prisoners \$964 has been received, and from other sources, not including fines and costs, the amount received is \$621, making

a total of \$1585. There were 50 commitments for non-payments of fines. Sixteen persons paid fines and costs, the amount being \$330, of which \$230 is paid to towns and \$100 to the county. The average daily number of prisoners has been 40.66.

An unknown man was struck and killed near Cheapside bridge by the engine of train No. 23 from Boston which reached Greenfield at 9 Monday evening. The first intimation the engine crew had that they had struck a man was when they discovered the cowcatcher to be covered with blood and flesh, while they were looking over the locomotive in the Greenfield station.

Immediately after the discovery a "special" was sent back over the route traversed by No. 23 and the horribly mangled remains of a man were found lying alongside the rails near the Cheapside bridge. The man was well dressed and a small sum of money was found in his pockets. On a small notebook found in his vest pocket was written, "James Coyne, overseer of weaving room." A card bore the name, Clarence J. Forbes, and still another card bore the address, Mrs. Tallant, 38 Bartley street, Mansfield, Mass. Several small weaving tools were found in the dead man's pockets.

Circle Pride of Court Turner, Companions of the Forest, will hold a waltzing party in Foresters' hall on Monday evening, Oct. 10. The public is invited.

A beautiful deer was seen yesterday grazing in the woods close to the road down the Greenfield mountain.

October 4, 1905

The Massachusetts fish and game commission has awarded the German shooting club an allotment of Mongolian pheasants. They were delivered to Charles Jacobus yesterday and he proceeded to liberate them at once.

The residents of Fourth street have suffered considerably the past week or two from the deprivations of some sneak thief or thieves.

The dance which was announced to be held at Riverside hall last Friday evening had to be given up. Less than a half dozen men appeared on the festive scene but there was an embarrassing wealth of young ladies.

William H. Welch, Jr of Millers Falls was on trial in court, Saturday, for breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny, in the house of Lewis Sylvester at Millers Falls, September 8. Miss Flora K. Smith testified that Welch entered her room late in the night.

Welch said that he left the hotel about 11 o'clock that night. He saw a light in Miss Smith's room and as he admired her, jealousy attacked him to such an extent that he was moved to see who was in her room. Taking a ladder he went to the house, broke through the screen and entered the house. Miss Smith screamed, whereupon Welch said he requested her to shut up and promised to go.

Taking the ladder he started back with it. Coming to the railroad track he stubbed his toe, fell, and was struck by a passing train and had a few ribs broken. He claimed that he acted wholly free from any idea of committing a burglary or doing any wrong. He drank freely through the day, and to that must be credited his unique visit. Judge Field was unable to find probable cause and Welch was released.

Mrs. Plumb and Mrs. G.A. Lewis attended the Brattleboro fair on their own book, returning very much pleased with their trip. It does one

good to get away once in a while. Lots living here were never known to take a trip expressly for pleasure, but just jog along in the old ruts from day to day, year to year knowing little and caring less of what is going on beyond their vision.

October 3, 1906

The recent rains have been thankfully received, but more are eagerly looked for.

Residents of Riverside, or those having business over the river, are growling long and hard over the necessity of paying five cents every time they wish to go from one shore to the other. The repairs on the bridge are not completed yet, and passengers have to be rowed across the river till the bridge is again open for travel.

Charles N. Sumner has sold the six tenement house on the corner of L and Second streets, to Walter S. Carson of Greenfield. In years gone by, this block used to be known as "the beehive."

The Connecticut River lumber company have a force of men repairing the sluiceway through the island in the center of the falls, and are blasting out rocks in the channel of the river at the French King in order that the progress of the log drive next summer may be facilitated. Anything tending to hasten the passing of the logs down the river will be heartily welcomed by many persons who find pleasure in boating in the summer months.

There is constant complaint of the scarcity of help in some lines of business. But really, there should be no scarcity of the help could be induced to stay put. They are scarce in the mills because they are riding around New England all the time in the cars going to new places, to change again as soon as some agent comes along and offers them a new job with car fares paid.

Agents are scouring all over New England, with a generous supply of mileage books, seeking to steal away somebody's help, and while they are out on a hunt, other agents are sneaking around to steal theirs. The world is a good deal like a mule, who will leave a good pasture to go on to a barren spot if he happens to see other mules heading that way.

About 25 young people working in the cotton mill, without thinking, went out on Monday morning, because Superintendent S.J. Parker had changed foremen. On sober second thought, they saw the absurdity of trying to take part in the management of the mill, and went back to work as cheerfully as their wont.

Yesterday, the aftermath of a Polish wedding celebration in Hibernian hall, Monday night, was heard at the district court. Ignace Tocas, Ignace Solock, Frank Solock and John Challowa, four gentlemen who had celebrated not wisely but too well, were hauled into court for drunkenness and disturbing the peace. The quartet behaved themselves at the wedding, but when they were going home a little after midnight, they got to scrapping and were arrested.

Miss Edna Shepard is studying voice culture with Madame Salisbury of Boston, a prominent teacher.

As no one has come forward in response to advertisements inserted in different papers, the work of building the new piece of state road in Wendell will go over until another year.

It seems all the contractors who do work of this kind are busy and are rather inclined to fight shy of Wendell, as is it well known that those that have taken jobs of building the

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different stretches have returned as poor as when they came.

W.L. Boutwell, aged 49, a prominent Leverett farmer, died at the Dickinson hospital in Northampton Friday night of meningitis. He was injured by a fall while assisting in building a tobacco shed about seven weeks ago. He was a progressive farmer and was well known as a manufacturer of maple sugar. He was educated at the Massachusetts agricultural college. He had held different offices in town.

A.H. McQuesten exhibited moving pictures at Colle opera house on Saturday and Sunday evenings. He was assisted by the Turners Falls Glee party, composed of some of the English male singers of Turners Falls, most of whom possess superb voices.

A bullet from the rifle of some careless individual, passed through a window screen into the Factory Hollow school room, last Friday, whizzing by the heads of some of the pupils but doing no damage, except giving the scholars a bad fright.

Police Officer Charles M. Sweeley, who has been very ill with a severe attack of gall stones, will go to Boston to consult a specialist, hoping to get relief from this torturing disease.

October 2, 1907

The hunting season opened yesterday and local Nimrods have been scouring the woods for game. A number of squirrels have been brought in.

J.J. Wisely dug four potatoes from his garden the other day that weighed eight pounds.

Eli Dagenais, a hostler employed by C.A. Davis, had his face badly cut and torn Thursday night, as he was returning from Millers Falls. The night was dark and Dagenais ran into a lumber wagon coming from the opposite direction. His horse became frightened at the sudden encounter and ran throwing Dagenais out.

Most persons in this vicinity

seem to have settled to their own satisfaction the momentous question of "Is the Bible Holy," or only about 35 inquiring souls appeared at Colle's opera house last night to hear Charles A. Alden, erstwhile Reverend, propound his present views in the matter, and the chances are that a good number of the 35 never heard of the Bible before.

Adolph Jacobs, of 46 Moffatt street, Brooklyn, N.Y., was in town the other week trying to find some old acquaintances and friends, and he was on a hard stunt sure enough. He came to Turners Falls from the office of the old John Russell Mfg Co. in New York, to be a shipping clerk in the factory here in 1870. He left in 1872, and has traveled all over the world since, and now is connected with the board of education of New York.

Mr. Jacobs, a very intelligent German, found few or none who knew him here. Very few indeed are living here now when he was here, and only a few such men as Frank Seller remembered him all. Jacob Jacobus was too young to have a distinct recollection. Practically it was a new place to the visitor.

The writer remembered him as being the first person he did business with in the village, receiving an order for a cutlery label, which came from his department, the 18th of June, 35 years ago.

Time does go on a pace sure enough.

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October 7, 1908

People who are not employed have plenty of time to tell what delightful weather it is.

This is to be a good season for walnuts and chestnuts, and the boys are making the most of the large crops of both from neighboring hills and woods.

Lowell Brown of Riverside caught two porcupines in a trap this morning. One he had to kill, but the other he was able to capture alive, and will exhibit the critter in the village to-day.

The Millers Falls Paper company is building an addition to their mill, 60 x 64 and five stories high. The enlargement is made necessary by the addition of the third paper machine.

John W. Haigis of Turners Falls was nominated for representative by the 3d Franklin district republican convention held in Grand Army hall, this village, yesterday afternoon, receiving nine votes to seven for Henry B. Barton of Riverside, the present representative on the first ballot.... Mr. Haigis is a junior member of the firm Bardwell & Haigis, and has served as town treasurer and collector of Montague. At present he is chairman of the board of assessors. He is also president of the Turners Falls merchants' association.

Three years ago, the Morey printing plant in Greenfield employed 150 hand type setters, while to-day the work is done at half the cost on six machines, making new type for every book. Every office in this county, except the REPORTER shop, is supplied with machines to-day, while five years ago it would be considered a dream. More than that, a young girl will work at a machine, getting good results, at small pay, because it looks and acts like a typewriter, while the same grade of young woman would not touch a cold type if assured twice or thrice the salary.

One of the most important phases of reforestation in New England is that of planting abandoned farms and other waste land, which at present is bringing no income. In Massachusetts this amounts to ten per cent. of the total area of the state, while

the latest reports in Rhode Island shows 228 abandoned farms. It is this type of land which is now being planted....White pine is, of course, the species most generally planted, but other species which make excellent growth and are being used more and more are Norway spruce, for timber and pulp wood; chestnut, for telegraph poles, posts, ties and lumber; red oak, for piles and ties; black locust, for fence posts, and sugar maple for a variety of products.

Jon Hahn of X street is a very intelligent gardener, and for several years he has been demonstrating the fact that many fruits and vegetables may be raised in this soil which have always been considered out of their element this side of Virginia.

This year Mr. Hahn has raised several bushels sweet potatoes of large size and delicious flavor. One of his products is a squash weighing 37 pounds. Last year he raised a variety of beans whose pods were 33 inches long, and among other things raised 1-1/3 bushels of very good peanuts. It has long been the belief that Montague plains could produce as much early garden stuff as the plains of New Jersey, if farmed scientifically.

The Blassberg family, Abram Smith's family and other devoted Hebrews attended the solemn religious services of their church in various cities, Monday, the annual fast day of the Jews. This estimable race are devoted to their religion, and the fast days of their church are better observed than the holy days of any church.

A large buck, coming from a herd of deer on Deerfield mountain, last evening, was ground to pieces under the wheels of a train of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad below Cheapside. The train, bound for Turners Falls at 7 o'clock, ran into the animal, which was estimated to weigh 175 pounds. Only small pieces, with specimens of the antlers, were found on the tracks this morning.

Louis A. Rivet has installed a new electric meat and bone cutter in his store.

October 6, 1909

Since Oct. 1st, the liberty of the young folks has been somewhat abridged, for the curfew now sounds at 8 o'clock instead of at 9, as has been the hour since April 1.

A dozen or so of the capitalists of the village met about a week ago to consider the advisability of starting an overall factory here. What conclusions they came to has not yet got to the bureau of publicity.

Crops of all kinds are being harvested and the petty thief is exacting his toll from vegetable gardens and orchards. Melon thieves and pilferers of apples and grapes are very numbers, and gardeners everywhere in town are daily called upon to mourn the loss of some of their most cherished treasures.

The Hotel Vladish bowling alley has been put into first class condition and will be opened for the season on Saturday of this week.

A party from here went to Amherst, by automobile, to witness the annual rope pull between the sophomore and freshman classes.

Charles E. Winslow has found a small vein of prebnite in the trap

rock at the plant of the Massachusetts broken stone company at East Deerfield. While looking for another semiprecious stone he found the prebnite which is very rare, and is not commercially valuable by reason of its scarcity.

Manager Fred Colle of the opera house always endeavors to enforce order in his place of amusement but has hard work to succeed owing to the lawless gang that is apt to go there in a body, seemingly for the purpose of seeing how mean and annoying they can be. It is quite a common thing for a herd of small boys to take possession of sections of the gallery and lead in a pandemonium of noise before the curtain goes up, yelling, bellowing, whistling and stamping, punctuating the racket every now and again with the report of a peanut bag blown up and burst with the hands. Many ladies were deterred from going to entertainments on account of the racket which seemed to be quite entertaining to even the constables of the town who were present.

But the limit was reached Monday night when a gang of toughs tried to see how much of a disturbance they

could create, with a deliberation worthy of a better cause. Mr. Colle has had officers in the building without accomplishing much, but, last night he had two policemen on duty, and their presence had the desired effect. The professional peace disturbers failed to put in an appearance.

Because one fellow, a common nuisance, was refused a ticket of admission to an entertainment lately, he stood on the corner of the street and shouted the vilest language and curses against Manager Colle, for a long time, and no one thought of a way to stop such outrageous proceedings. Hereafter Mr. Colle will have two policemen in the opera house at every entertainment, and if the racket is not stopped, and the uncouth disturbances of small boys curbed down to some semblance of decency the men who pay taxes for protection against all sorts of mouth assaults will demand the reason why.

Strangers who come to town to make their home are amazed at the rowdyism that is seen where least expected. If the town appears to some people to have seen better days, there is certainly a reason.



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OCTOBER 6, 2016

October 5, 1910

James Thompson is the latest purchaser of an automobile.

The annual inspection of the Fire department took place on the Avenue on Saturday afternoon, last week. There was a big turnout to see the sports on the Avenue. At 1:30 the firemen paraded the principal streets of the town, headed by the Turners Falls band. After the parade the inspection of the fire apparatus took place on the Bank block. Everything was found to be satisfactory. After the inspection came the sports.

Frank A. Sampson of Millers Falls was before the district court, charged with shooting a deer and not reporting it to the commissioners of game and fisheries. Mr. Sampson pleaded guilty, but said that the deer was shot in his garden and that he was unfamiliar with the law. He was fined \$20.

All Greenfield public schools below the high school will be closed for two weeks. This step is taken as a result of the scarlet fever epidemic in the town. Dr. T.T. Fyfe is of the opinion that the epidemic first broke out on Laurel street and spread through the exchange of cream bottles.

Colrain, it is expected, will harvest 30,000 barrels of apples this fall. This town is making rapid strides in fruit growing.

W.L. Sprague of Avenue A for a number of years has had a garden which has been a verifiable beauty spot and the admiration of all lovers of flowers. This year the garden has been more beautiful than ever and has irresistibly incited to covetousness. Mr. Sprague's dahlias have been record breakers. They have bloomed profusely and some of the plants attained the unusual height of nine feet.

Abram Smith and family are observing the Jewish New Year, which began Monday. His store has been closed all week, but will reopen tomorrow morning.

Dennis Delisle of Springfield, aged about 30, a brakeman on the Boston and Maine railroad, was killed and his body was horribly mangled by being run over by the cars near the South Deerfield station at 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning. Mr. Delisle left the caboose with his lantern to go forward on the train and in some way fell between the cars.

The Friends in Council opened their calendar year on Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Marie Koch of Maple street. An interesting paper on Chicago by Mrs. Annie Rist was heard with pleasure. Mrs. Julia Kennedy contributed two especially fine papers on Florence and Venice. The usual discussion of current events closed an enjoyable afternoon.

October 4, 1911

Philip Casey speared 400 pounds of eels after the canal was drawn off Sunday before last. After stringing the wrigglers on a wire it required two men to carry them off. A number of other persons carried eels away in bags. One big pike was also captured.

A dollar poetic social was held at the Congregational church last evening and was very entertaining. Everyone who has earned a dollar for the church the past year turned in the money last evening, at the same time relating, in rhyme, how the shekel was earned.

Marion Stevenson, aged 16, of Millers Falls was shot dead last Friday in Lincoln by Charles Wetherbee, 18, who fired a rifle at her which he believed was not loaded. "You don't dare shoot me, Charles," said the girl, when Wetherbee pulled down his father's hunting rifle from its rack. The boy laughingly pointed the rifle at her and pulled the trigger. The girl dropped dead with a bullet through her head.

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The Samoset "tribe" of the Improved Order of Red Men, along with its women's auxiliary, the Degree of Pocahontas. The Order, a national fraternal organization, was founded in 1834. It claimed lineage to the Sons of Liberty, and its use of "Indian" imagery, terminology and regalia referenced the Boston Tea Party. By 1921 it boasted over half a million members, with an additional 120,000 women in the Degree. Each tribe collected dues and administered relief funds, called "wampum," to members in times of sickness or disability. The Samoset "tribe," founded around 1899, met in Red Men's Hall in Millers Falls on the first and third Thursdays of each month, and continued at least into the 1940s. John W. Haigis, later lieutenant governor of the state, served a term as its "Sachem". Until 1974, the Order was open to whites only.

The authorities, after an investigation, decided to take no action against Wetherbee, being satisfied that he believed the rifle was not loaded. The girl is the daughter of William Stevenson, who lives on the Northfield road at Millers Falls, in the house of L.I. Wetherhead.

A.A. Chapin has lost a hen that was nearly 15 years old and which had been a strenuous worker all her life. Up to last winter she had been one of the best layers on his farm and had raised two broods of chickens nearly every year for 10 years.

John P. Eddy, aged 73 years, committed suicide at his home in East Buckland yesterday morning by taking strychnine. He took the poison in his barn and then went to the house and told his wife what he had done. He died before medical help could arrive. Mr. Eddy suffered a shock two years ago and had become despondent. He was a prosperous farmer.

Special services were held in the Unitarian church, Sunday, at 5:30 p.m. Address by Rev. Mary Whitney, subject: "The Artificial and the Real."

October 2, 1912

The REPORTER was established forty years ago by the present writer who came from Boston to accommodate a friend, who was to have done the trick, but unfortunately went on a spree, and stayed on it for several weeks. The present writer had no taste or desire for country journalism, and must confess that if it is an acquired habit it takes longer than to learn to eat pomegranates.

He set all the type for the first issue, wrote every line, and pulled off an edition of 1000 copies on an old hand press, with a fat German out of the cutlery as roller boy, his only assistant. The writer soon saw that country printing offices might be good to inflict penance on a wicked sinner, but as giving a proper livelihood to any but professional beggars, he could not be made to be-

lieve, and took business from cities where it is given for merit and not as a pay for fawning.

The result was that the village has always had a staunch champion in the REPORTER, which the village people might appreciate or not as suited their minds, and their patronage would be graciously received but never begged for.

We have seen hundreds of merchants and professional men come and go, and if many of them felt that they had lost their purses here, we could in good faith assure them that there was little possibility of their having taken them out in this office, as shrewd Jim Pickard, landlord of Northfield's famous old hotel, once told the Warwick deacon who fancied roofs of hotels and their sheds were made for the shelter of man and beast, to pay for which would be a mortal sin.

John Royer, aged 64 years, a well known brick mason and contractor, shot himself to death Monday morning in the bath-room of his house on Central street, owing to ill health.

He was born in the city of Quebec and came to Adams. When the Keith mill tumbled down before it was finished in 1872, owing to a poor foundation, the contract was taken from Mr. Farren, and Charley Waters of Adams, a person friend of John Keith, was given the job to put the walls up ship shape, and Mr. Waters brought Mr. Royer to work as a mason. After the mill was up Mr. Keith found something for Mr. Royer to do for a considerable time.

He lived on Canada Hill, afterward building a small house on the rear of his lot on Central street, then a larger one in front. He took up cement construction some years ago, and was considered an expert in that line. He was just finishing a cement home for his family on Ferry Road.

October 1, 1913

Dr. R.A. McGillicuddy is driving a fine new Hudson car of latest type.

The Beverly Lighter and Wrecking company of Boston have been engaged to assist the Bates-Rogers construction company in removing the old dam, which with the completion of the new concrete dam is no longer necessary. It was found necessary to remove the old dam in order to allow the water to get to the sluice gates.

Our former townsman, James M Chapman of Greenfield, has loaned the Turners Falls library a fine collection of stones gathered by him on his visit to the Pacific coast. Some of the stones are very beautiful and are of much interest. A number of pieces of wood cut by beavers in northern Maine, also wood from which the bark had been peeled for winter food, have been presented the library by T. Harold Reynolds, together with a picture of the beaver dam from which the wood was taken.

M.A. Ward of Prospect street has returned from his trip to the south and had a very enjoyable visit. He visited Chattanooga, Tenn. and the different battlefields of the south, including that of Lookout mountain, in which engagement he was wounded during the late unpleasantness. He found great changes everywhere but did not encounter a single member of his old regiment. He did find however the graves in the National cemetery at Chattanooga, of many of his comrades who were killed in battle.

Tree Warden Augusta Paillet is finishing setting out 23,000 trees for the state forestry bureau on the 26-acre tract the state bought three years ago between Lake Pleasant and Montague Centre. There are 20,000 red pine trees and 3,000 white pine, and all of them were sent from the Massachusetts agricultural college at Amherst. Three years ago Mr. Paillet set out 28,000 white pine trees from Germany on the same tract and most of these have done well, though some have died, owing to the very dry weather of the past few years. Many of them have been

transplanted and some have grown to a height of three feet.

Mrs. Henry B. Barton of Riverside will entertain guiding Star Circle of Greenfield to-morrow afternoon and invites strangers and their friends to a progressive whist party in the evening.

The socialists are to hold an open air meeting Saturday night on the Avenue. W.S. Hutchins of Greenfield will address the gathering.

October 7, 1914

Cement crosswalks are being laid on Avenue A, an improvement which will be particularly appreciated this winter.

Walter Metz, a well known local young man, was sentenced to the house of correction for 30 days, yesterday morning. He pleaded guilty to the charge of indecent exposure. The defendant had been making unlawful revelations of his person to women living on Third street in the vicinity of his home, and complaint was lodged against him.

Max Baker, the second-hand dealer of K street, is at the Farren hospital, suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia.

J.F. Bartlett, who has been ill for three or four weeks, is able to be outdoors again, to the delight of his hosts of friends.

William Patrick of Leverett was killed Monday afternoon by the sudden breaking of a staging rope while engaged in painting the steeple of the Congregational church at Leverett. The work was nearly done, and the young man was being hoisted to the top for the last lap when the accident occurred, caused probably by the fraying of the rope on a projection of the tin work. Patrick fell nearly 70 feet and was dead when picked up.

Saturday, Oct 10th, will be children's afternoon of the Turners Falls Woman's club, in the High school hall at 3 o'clock. Professor Edward Avis of New York city, bird mimic, whistler, and violinist, will give a

most excellent program full of interesting numbers. Professor Avis' imitations of bird songs and calls as they are heard in the woods and fields will accompany his stereopticon views. Many of the illustrations of bird life were photographed by himself in the woods. Mr. Avis is a cultured musician as well as a naturalist, and uses his violin with pleasing effect in connection with his whistling numbers.

An unknown man was killed on the Boston and Maine tracks opposite the Art stone company's factory at Millers Falls last Thursday afternoon. Letters found in the pockets of the deceased would indicate that the man's name was Giuseppe di Donato, and he at one time had lived in Montreal, P.Q.

There was no session of the schools on Thursday on account of the Greenfield cattle show.

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John Russell Cutlery Co.

Ad from October 7, 1914.

October 6, 1915

Joseph Welcome of Montague City picked strawberries out of his garden last week.

Another consignment of pheasants was received here last week and liberated up river.

Work has started on the new layout of the state road in Wendell, about three-fourths of a mile in length, which is twice the distance of previous layouts. The job we understand is to be worked at both ends. L.W. Bowen has charge of the lower end and Charles Ballou the upper, though we haven't as yet noticed any sign of anything being done at the Centre as yet.

People in Apple Valley in Ashfield have sold their apples to a Boston concern, for an average price of \$2.70 per barrel. The deal is estimated at 5000 barrels.

Herman F. Seiler, who for a dozen years has been connected with the well known clothing firm of Allen Brothers, has bought out the business, and took possession Monday morning. Mr. Seiler will conduct the business under his own name. Mr. Seiler has been manager of the store for the past three years, and before that was employed as clerk for about nine years, so he has had every opportunity to acquire a thorough knowledge of the business.

Through the efforts of W.H.P. Gilmore, the Chicago Society of Etchers have sent to the library 175 etchings by modern artists. This collection is to be on exhibition at the library for the next two weeks. This gives the people of Turners Falls and vicinity an unusual opportunity to see the work of some of the foremost living American etchers.

The Montague grange held an interesting meeting Friday night, when the married and single members competed for highest honors by each providing part of the entertainment. The unmarried folks carried off the honors. The married group presented a farce, "A Paper Match." A musical entertainment was presented by the single group.

October 4, 1916

The Belchertown cattle show will not be held this year in fear of the

spread of infantile paralysis.

Superintendent Frank Gerald and his men are doing oil work on the State road to Millers Falls and getting it into good shape for the winter.

The selectmen of Montague, by advertisement elsewhere, are calling the attention of property holders to the fact that on or before Dec. 31, gypsy and brown tail moths on any property in the town must be destroyed, in accordance with the act of the legislature requiring cities and towns to destroy the eggs, nests, etc., of the gypsy and brown-tail moths under heavy penalty for failure to do so.

A Greenfield man, Thomas G. Gass of Silver street, was quietly motoring with his family southerly on Sunday, and when passing Whately was overtaken by a lawless lot of young joy riders, belonging in Chicopee, who tried to pass without allowing sufficient room, and struck Mr. Gass's machine, overturning it, with the result of killing an 18 months' old child, and seriously injuring a ten year old boy. The driver of the car was learning to handle it. The story of the joy riders, when they were rounded up by the detectives, did not tally with the story as told by the victims of the crash.

The body of Samuel Eaton of Athol, who was drowned in the Connecticut river near the Montague City bridge, a week ago Saturday, while at work making repairs on the bridge, was recovered Friday morning, in an eddy in the river about 50 feet below where the drowning occurred.

George Voetsch, a well known resident of Turners Falls, died at his home on N street last Wednesday, at the age of 72 years. He had been ailing for a long time but had been confined to his bed only about a week. Mr. Voetsch was a native of Germany, but came to America as a young man. He had been a resident of Turners Falls for about 45 years. For 46 years he was in the employ of the John Russell Cutlery Co., entering the company's employ when the factory was located in Greenfield previous to removal here. He was a quiet, unassuming man, industrious and kindly, and of exemplary character. He was a member of Gustav Adolph lodge, D.O.H.

Great interest is being shown in the photographs taken at the library for the use of the State Commission at their summer library school. The photographs show eighth grade children making use of the library in various ways under supervision.

The Montague man who took good money from a lot of poor people in return for worthless milk tickets, a month ago, hasn't made good the loss of the householders. He confessed to the Chief of Police Ripley that he had taken money and left no milk for it, and he probably considers confession absolution.

October 3, 1917

The new street lighting system for Turners Falls was officially started last night for the first time, and now Avenue A and Third street will bear comparison with Broadway and the far famed "great white way" in New York. The new lighting system gives 132,600 candlepower, against the Picayune 4680 candlepower of the old system, and the Avenue and Third street are now so light at night that it will no longer be possible to disguise anything on either thoroughfare after sundown.

It was noticed today after the new lights blazed up, that it was possible to stand on Second street and distinguish persons and things as far down the Avenue as Seventh

ADRIAN SAVAGE COLLECTION CARNEGIE LIBRARY



Many hands pitch in to drag the convertible owned by John M. Powers, superintendent of the Millers Falls Paper Company, up the embankment on Grand Avenue, after he accidentally backed it up over it one late August day in 1915.

street.... It was said by experts that Turners Falls now has one of the best lighted main streets in New England and nearly everyone was pleased at the needed change.

The next 40 per cent quota of drafted men from this division, are scheduled to leave Turners Falls for Camp Devens at Ayer, on Sunday, Oct. 7th, shortly after noon. The 98 men in the quota will be given an appropriate Godspeed, under the auspices of the Turners Falls Board of Trade, the Board's entertainment committee having charge of the program.

Arthur H. Pollard, son of Mr. and Mrs. W.F. Pollard of Riverside, went to Boston last Thursday, to enter the quartermasters' corps, which he had joined a few days before being called. He expects to go to France soon. Mr. Pollard was formerly employed by the Turners Falls Power & Electric Co.

The librarian of the Turners Falls Carnegie Library has received from the National Emergency Food Garden Commission of Washington a bundle of storage manuals for distribution in the food saving campaign.... A close estimate, based on early reports to the Commission, says the women of the country have placed 460,000,000 jars of canned stuff on the pantry shelves this year.

On Saturday in the district court at Turners Falls, the continued cases of Arthur C. Noyes, George and Richard Black, Joseph Rudenaur and George Skerry, charged with the larceny of onions from Fred Lyman and Clarence Newton of Montague, were disposed of. Noyes pleaded not guilty in court last week but all of the others pleaded guilty.

The Baptist church ought to be proud to be directly represented through one of its members in the work of helping to uplift a much despised and down-trodden race. Miss Pearl Harlow left Saturday, to assume her new duties as instructor in the Calhoun colored school at Calhoun, Ala.

Miss Elsie M. Smith, supervisor of the Berkshire district, which includes Berkshire and Franklin counties, for the State Child Conservation committee, is in town for two or three weeks in connection with her work, and she will make while here, an intensive survey of the deaths of all children in town up to the age of five years, with a view to determining the means best adapted to conserve the lives of children.

The Turners Falls high school football team played its first game this season, Saturday afternoon, on the local grounds, with the Arms academy team of Shelburne Falls. The game resulted in a tie, 7 to 7.

The Turners Falls team showed up in good form at Saturday's game, and it is expected that the team will do good work.

The members of the Schuetzenverein will have a sauerkraut dinner at the clubhouse up the river next Sunday.

October 2, 1918

The present epidemic of influenza is keeping the few available doctors on the jump day and night. With Dr. Leary and Dr. Messer both unable to practice, the two remaining Turners Falls physicians are unable to respond to all demands made for their services. The Farren hospital corps of nurses has been badly crippled by the disease.

The public schools are closed until further notice on account of the influenza epidemic.

The Opera house is closed until further notice, on account of the influenza epidemic.

More than 50 cases of Spanish influenza have been reported the past week in Millers Falls.

Numerous cases of measles are reported in town. In some households, there are measles and influenza patients.

The Turners Falls Power & Electric Co. have had a crew of men busy during the past month cutting off brush and removing dying chestnut trees from their land in town.

Private Hector F. Munn, son of Frank L. Munn of Gill, died at Camp Devens, last week of pneumonia. He had but recently entered the service. He was 21 years old, and was the first one from Gill to die for his country.

Private William Schweitzer died at the base hospital at Camp Devens, Saturday, of influenza. He was 22 years old and the son of Andrew Schweitzer of Fifth street. He had been in the service only a few weeks. Before donning the uniform he had been employed by the Keith Paper Co., and his death is the first to occur among the Keith employees who have gone into the service.

Miss Ella M. Hazelton, daughter of C.W. Hazelton of Montague City, has become a canteen worker with the women's section of the Young Men's Christian Association, and has arrived safely in France.

Eugene Chapman, a former resident of Turners Falls, died at the Worcester City hospital, Sunday aged 61 years. For many years he was employed as a papermaker at the Montague paper mill in this town, but repeated attacks of rheumatism crippled him, and nearly 20 years he went to the Odd Fellows' home at Worcester where he had lived since. The funeral was held this afternoon from the home of his daughter, Mrs.

E. Jenkins of Second street, Rev. T. H. Vincent officiating. A more extended obituary is not possible as our compositors are ill.

The car from Millers Falls, at half past five Sunday afternoon, coming down the steep grade on L street, owing to a heavy load of passengers and leaves on the track, could not be controlled with brakes set, and plunged to the turn at Seventh street at a tremendous speed. Coming to the turn the car went over on its side with a crash, and the 33 passengers were thrown in a heap and all more or less injured.

Thirteen of the worst were taken to the Farren hospital, and the remainder were taken to their homes. The greatest of the sufferers from the accident are Julia Szehle, age, 11, daughter of Mrs. Anna Szehle of X street, Turners Falls, She has a badly cut shoulder and is injured about the head, and it is thought she is injured internally.

Persons near by came to the rescue, physicians and ambulances were telephoned for, and a large crowd of volunteer rescuers soon gathered. The windows of the vestibule of the car were broken and the occupants taken out in that way.

John Bushey, aged 69, died of pneumonia at his home on Franklin street, Sunday, of pneumonia.... George Bushey, one of the sons, was injured Sunday in the trolley accident.

The Red Cross rooms will be closed and no collections of clothing will be made for Belgian relief, until further notice, on account of the influenza epidemic.

The whistles at the East Deerfield railroad yard rent the air Monday afternoon, to celebrate the Bulgarian surrender.

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John F. Hood, Druggist, Turners Falls, Mass.

Ad from October 2, 1918.

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COURTESY MONTAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bicycle riders and a float, in a 1917 carnival at Montague Center.

October 1, 1919

Airplanes have been soaring overhead so often the past week or two that the novelty of seeing them has almost worn off for most of us.

The schools and stores and some of the manufacturing plants were closed, Thursday, on account of the fair at Greenfield. In the afternoon Turners Falls was like a deserted village, everybody who could, taking advantage of the fine weather and the fair to indulge in a holiday.

Stuart Winch of K street was one of the prominent exhibitors of poultry at the Greenfield fair.

A rousing mass meeting on behalf of the newly organized Clarence W. Allen post of the American legion will be held at Hibernian hall on Friday evening, Oct. 3, in an effort to increase interest in the post and secure more members.

Druggist Harry E. Tucker has on exhibit in his window a pair of apothecaries' scales, which are known to be a good deal over 100 years old. They were found among the effects of the father of T. Harold Reynolds, teller of the Crocker

Institution for Savings.

Miss Pearl L. Harlow, who has been spending the summer at her home on Prospect street, left Saturday, to resume her duties as teacher at the Calhoun colored school in Calhoun, Ala.

Alfred Stotz, who graduated from the Turners Falls high school in June, has entered Dartmouth college, where he will take the engineering course.

Saturday, September 27th, at Greenfield, the John Russell Cutlery company base ball team of Turners Falls once again proved to be masters of the B. & M. Giants.

October 6, 1920

The annual inspection and muster of the Turners Falls fire department will take place on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 9, on Avenue A. As usual there will be much interest taken in the affair, and if the weather is favorable the Avenue will be filled with spectators. Beside the usual tryouts of the apparatus, there will be an extensive program of sports, including a tug of war between the Montague

City hose company and Hose Co. No. 1, who won the cup last year.

Reuben S. Park of Bernardston was 100 years old Friday. He was born Oct. 1, 1820, at the old Park homestead near the Bernardston and Gill boundary. Up to a few years ago, Mr. Park was a farmer. He is in good health.

The elm trees near the upper suspension bridge, on the Gill side, are being cut down. The trees died as a result of the water backing up where they grew, since the dam was raised.

Judge Irwin at Northampton has overruled the motion for a new trial in the case of Czeszawa Prondecka Admr. vs. the Turners Falls Power & Electric Co. At a recent term of the Superior Court a verdict of \$12,600 was returned the plaintiff in this case for the death of two men by drowning.

Mrs. Florence T. Perkins of Boston will speak before the Woman's Club at Library hall, Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 19th. Mrs. Perkins is manager of the Massachusetts league of women voters and her subject will be "Woman's New Responsibility."

An attempt was made, Sunday night, to break into C. Koonz & Son's jewelry store in the Rist block. Glass in the side window was broken, but the boys, as they evidently were, gave up on the job when they encountered the bars across the window.

Miss Vivian Eva of Montague City was given a surprise party and shower by a number of her girl friends at her home, Thursday evening. A jolly good time was enjoyed by all and the prospective bride was showered with a number of pieces of cut glass.

A novel and enjoyable poverty social was held at the Baptist church last Friday evening.

October 5, 1921

The street electric light standards are being painted an attractive green.

John W. Haigis of High street, editor of the Greenfield Recorder, has been unanimously elected president of the Greenfield Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Edgar H. Hughes has bought a cottage from John Equi on Park street and will occupy it soon.

The assessors have issued the poll lists and there is a great demand for them. The pamphlets are being perused very assiduously for the names of the women voters, with the acknowledged tally of years to which they have confessed when registering, is a matter of absorbing interest.

There are some strange and astounding revelations. It is safe to assume that had some of the new voters realized that the ages which they have been trying to forget since they were past their 20's, would thus be nakedly exposed to the public eye, they would have thought twice before registering or else have done as some of their long-headed sisters did and practice a little subtraction!

Two women were coming down the Connecticut river with two male companions, in a canoe, at half past

three Friday morning, and when near the Narrows, a half mile up, unable to swim, were drowned, while the men swam ashore, near at hand.

One of the women was the wife of Joseph McDermott, of Roxbury, having come there a year ago from Portland, Me., where she was born, 36 years ago. The other woman was her sister, Mrs. Alice Johnstone, aged 38, who was living with another sister, Mrs. Thomas Lavin in Greenfield. The men were Wallace Cadran and Edward Letourneau, both well known Turners Falls residents.

The women came over to this village to attend the lawn party of the St. Mary's drum corps, Thursday evening in company with Mr. Cadran, and at eleven o'clock went down to the boiler room of the International Paper Company, where Mr. Letourneau is a fireman, and he joined the others as his working tour was up, and all proceeded up the river in a canoe to a shack owned by a friend of the party, where they remained until three o'clock, when they started for home, to meet with the terrible mishap a short time afterward when the canoe suddenly overturned from striking a submerged stump, it was stated at the time.

The men made all possible speed for the village, where they gave particulars to the police, but Mr. Cadran was so overcome from exertion and nervous shock that he had to be sent to the hospital. Men started to grapple for the bodies as soon as it was light, and the next morning obtained that of Mrs. Johnstone near where it sank, and on Saturday afternoon the remains of Mrs. McDermott were brought up from a point not far from where the other was located. The bodies were sent to their birthplace in Portland, Maine, for burial.

The doll carriage parade Saturday afternoon held in connection with the lawn fete of St. Mary's drum corps, was a decided success, and brought out a large number of artistically decorated carriages.

Turners Falls Herald

VOLUME 1 — NUMBER 43

TURNERS FALLS, MASS., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1941

COPY FIVE CENTS

October 8, 1941

A large flock of geese, approximately 150, were seen flying south over Millers Falls at about 6 Sunday morning by Harold Ray of the Corner Book store, who was at the railroad station to get his Sunday newspapers.

The current balmy weather has baffled even the miller moths, those winged pests who haunt street lamps and other lights during the summer evenings. Last evening, countless thousands of the moths swarmed around the lights downtown.

The Rotary Flexible Underground Pipe Cleaning company is cleaning out mains at the South End this week.

If all the garbage cans in Turners Falls were placed end to end, it would probably be Hallowe'en.

Firemen of Turners Falls will have their annual inspection and muster Saturday afternoon, and their ban-

quet Saturday night in the American House, Chief Charles G. Earley announced today. The inspection will take place at the high school.

Miss Lillian Kells of Montague City has been named reappointment agent for the Montague district, the draft board has announced. Miss Kells will aid discharged soldiers to find jobs.

Montague center had a three and a half hour blackout Sunday night from 7:15 when the main 13,000 volt transformer, feeding the town, blew out, according to the Western Mass Electric company officials this morning. Whether this terrific downpour soaked the insulation in the transformer or whether lightning, reported as excessive at about that time, caused the short-circuit was unknown today.

The "tempest in a teapot" which has been brewing in Montague center for the past month boiled over again last week, when some unidentified inhabitant removed the Mt. Toby Turkey Ranch sign from the common at the junction of Route 63 and the old North Sunderland road.

The trouble started when Dr. and Mrs. George Cook who operated the ranch erected a sign showing a turkey in colors, and bearing the words,

"Mt. Toby Turkey Ranch." According to one stalwart of the anti-sign forces, the objection was to the use of the public land for commercial advertising. This spokesman said Dr. and Mrs. Cooke had asked the selectmen for permission to erect the controversial device, and the selectmen told them to go ahead.

The Misses Aldora and Marie Anne LeMoine of 9 Chestnut street sustained lacerations and bruises when the car in which they were riding was involved in a three-car accident on the Northampton-Easthampton road Monday night.

Fire chief Earl Cosby of the Erving fire department has invited the public to a meeting in the town hall, Oct. 10. There will be a speaker from Boston on incendiary bombs.

Pvt. Ernest Cadran of Camp Edwards is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Cadran of Pratt street.

Members of Samoset tribe of Red Men have received an invitation from Nashua tribe of Fitchburg to attend a harvest supper, Oct. 25.

Eugene Weed of the Turners Falls inn has been ill with grip.

Harold Tibbetts and George Zimmerman of Montague City were winners in the boy's and senior division respectively in the Montague

City table tennis tournament which ended recently. Both received cups as trophies.

William S. Kumanis of Troy, NH has accepted a position as head chef at the Modern Age cuisine on Avenue A. He had been employed as chef on passenger boats operated by the French Line, and in many better-known hotels in the south. Mr. Kumanis's daughter, formerly a dancer on Broadway, has been stranded in Greece for some time, having gone there to visit her uncle, who is a doctor.

Mr. Kumanis reports he has received no word from her since the Nazis invaded that country.

Herewith we present a few rules on how to prepare a country editor and publisher for a straightjacket:

1. Ask him if he runs the newspaper as a sideline while engaged in some other business.
2. Tell him you don't believe in advertising.
3. Encourage him by reminding him, "If you plug at this long enough, you may be able to get a job on some big city paper. You're getting good experience here, you know."
4. Keep telling him, "Boy, you must be making dough."
5. If you are an advertiser and the

paper comes out on Wednesday, wait until Monday or Tuesday to prepare your advertising copy.

6. Tell him, "It's a nice little paper you have there, but why don't you have some funnies?"

7. Keep reminding him that he has a soft job. Always remember to kid him about how often you see him killing time by sitting around "chewing the fat" with this guy or that.

8. Don't buy the paper. Read a friend's or neighbor's, and tell the editor about it.



Ad from October 8, 1941.

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ALLAN ADIE CONTINUED
the Turners CCC camp /Page 10



CLEAN SWEEP
On Avenue A /Page 16

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Year 1
No. 46

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The Montague Reporter

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

OCTOBER 2, 2003

October 2, 2003

When Montague's former DPW superintendent left his post abruptly in late January of this year, he took more than thousands of dollars worth of stolen trash sticker receipts with him. He also left with the details of road projects in various stages of design and permitting all over town.

A hiring committee will hold its first meetings next week to review applications to replace him. At a recent meeting of the selectboard, town administrator Frank Abbondanzio said he would like to have someone hired to fulfill the post by the start of winter. Judging from the comments of town planner Robin Sherman, who came before the board on Monday September 29 to discuss drainage problems on Montague City Road, that day cannot come soon enough.

For more than three decades, Green Mountain Post Films has been producing independent film and video out of the former Knights of Columbus hall, a rambling brick building on the corner of Chestnut and Unity Street in Turners Falls. Filmmakers Charles Light and Daniel Keller have produced award-winning films with such titles as Lovejoy's Nuclear War, Save the Planet, and The Secret Agent, the story of dioxin, Agent Orange, and Vietnam veterans.

More recently, Keller said, GMP was asked to produce a video on the life and death of Palden Sangpo, a Tibetan refugee who came to live in Turners Falls in the early '90s. Sangpo worked at Thomas and Thomas Rodmakers and the Shady Glen, trying to save enough to bring his wife and five children to America. He died in an arson fire at the Crocker Building on Avenue A on the night of June 26, 1997.

The video GMP produced helped win a \$1.4 million settlement for Sangpo's family at a pre-trial mediation with the building's insurers.

More than 30 local residents attended Mass Highway's 25 percent design hearing for the Millers Falls Streetscape Improvement project last Tuesday. Several residents voted concerns about aspects of the million-dollar plan, and the impact it may have on traffic in the village.

October 7, 2004

Want to buy a used paper mill for \$300,000? The owner of the Strathmore Mill has offered to sell the 133-year-old factory to the town of Montague for \$300,000. He bought it for \$40,000 two years ago.

On October 21, town meeting members will be asked to consider purchasing the mill. Western Properties LLC, a Boston-based property management company owned by Scott Jones, purchased the Strathmore Mill from International Paper Co. in December of 2002 for \$40,000. His father, Jerry Jones, has since used the mill as a warehouse



JOE PARZYCH PHOTO

2004: Jerry Jones offers to sell Montague the Strathmore mill complex.

for his paper recycling business, and has lately approached the town with an offer to sell the 244,482-square-foot factory complex for \$300,000.

Tom Bergeron is Montague's new DPW superintendent. The selectboard confirmed his appointment at Monday night's meeting, October 4. "Things seem to be getting done, perhaps with fewer people. I have heard a number of positive comments about your performance," said selectboard chair Pat Allen.

The board unanimously approved Bergeron's appointment, at the completion of his three-month period as acting superintendent. His appointment follows a period of tumult at the top of one of the town's major departments, which has seen the long-time highway boss step down and plead guilty to theft of public funds, and his replacement, who served the town for only four months, departing to take a higher paying position in the eastern part of the state.

After six years of shepherding the development phase of the Great Falls Discovery Center nearly to completion, director Dave Ziomek will be leaving to take a new position as the head of the Conservation Commission of the town of Amherst.

Ziomek, who has worked on the project as a consultant for US Fish and Wildlife, in partnership with the Montague Economic Development Industrial Council (EDIC), told the selectboard on Monday, "The EDIC was charged to work in partnership to develop the site and launch the Discovery Center. That has been done. It is time to say to our state partner, 'we've done our part.'"

October 6, 2005

Sunday's Adopt-a-Planter Celebration was a great success. At least fifteen people participated in the walking tour of the planters, other gardens along the Avenue, and the Veteran's Memorial. The walk lasted approximately 90 minutes, beginning and ending at the Discovery Center. The participants included some of the gardeners, streetscape committee members, and selectboard members Pat Allen and Patricia Pruitt.

The streetscape committee is a group of volunteers who began meeting this spring to help beautify

downtown Turners.

The committee identified concerns such as overgrown untended planters, dog droppings, orphaned shopping carts and litter. As you walk down the sidewalk along Avenue A, take a moment to admire the flowers and other plants in most of the planters. If you see someone working on one of the planters, or you see a planter sponsor, perhaps you can stop and thank them.

The latest offering of Wendell theater worker Court Dorsey's Conflict Resolution Theater debuted at Greenfield High before showing to an all-school assembly at Turners Falls High School. *This is Not the Place* will return for one more performance at the All Soul's Unitarian Church in Greenfield.

The performance featured a running, *West Side Story*-style variant of the time-honored theme of star-crossed lovers, spiced with hip hop dance numbers and freestyle rapping. Science teacher Robert Perlman stood up to say, "I think this was the best presentation we've had on the subject (of race) in all the years I've been here."

"It's really hard in our culture to talk about issues of race," Dorsey said. "People don't get together and talk about it really openly, to allow us to feel more comfortable about it. These sketches were written by the people who are in them, about what it means to be a person of color in Franklin County."

October 5, 2006

The Montague Energy Group, owners of the former Indeck co-generation facility on the eastern end of the peninsula formed by the power canal in Turners Falls, have been busy dismantling the coal burning generation facility in preparation for removal and the rumored sale of the equipment to a foreign company.

Multiple sources in town hall said the power plant's equipment would soon be leaving town, destined for a company in Guatemala. Virginia Huling, an attorney based in Saugus, MA who acts as the Montague Energy Group's spokesperson, declined to comment on the sale of generator equipment.

Plans for a biodiesel producing plant in Greenfield's industrial park jumped into sharp focus this week, after project leaders announced they had finally gathered enough private investors to reach the required \$2 million mark.

Northeast Biodiesel, LLC now moves to the final phase of development, which is arranging bank loans to cover the cost of construction and other startup costs.

During the course of sewer construction on Seventh Street in Turners Falls, Ludlow Construction uncovered the impressive brick sewers that have served the town as storm drains for decades beyond count.

Brick sewers and drains were common in the earlier days before large sizes of vitrified clay tile were produced. Bricks made in Montague City were cheap. Greenfield also has a number of large diameter brick sewers. Smaller sizes of vitrified clay tile were much more common, going back to the Romans.

October 4, 2007

It could be a tight squeeze, but the senior center and the Good Neighbors food pantry are going to try to share quarters in the 735-square-foot building that formerly housed the Wendell Free Library.

The building sits on a tiny, 75-by 100-foot lot on the corner of

Montague Road and Lockes Village Road. It is nearly 90 years old, has no plumbing, and a narrow staircase leads down to the basement where low-hanging beams make headroom an issue.

Yet, according to Good Neighbors board member Kaymarion Raymond, the town saved \$100,000 by not building extra space for a senior center at the new town office building, just across the way on the north end of the common. The plan is to use \$10,000 in funds set aside by the town to salvage the handsomely appointed old building and renovate it to meet the needs of the town's seniors upstairs, and for storage and perhaps distribution of food pantry items in the basement.

Visitors came from all villages of Montague, across the Valley, and beyond to a silent art auction at the Brick House. According to outreach coordinator Karen Stinchfield, bidders came from as far away as Toronto, Ontario.

There are over 60 donated art items on the Brick House display tables, so it was difficult to decide which ones to bid on – but certainly there was something for everyone. Approximately half the items had new owners by Sunday evening, but the remainder are all available for silent bidders until Gill Art Fest on October 13 and 14.

The town of Wendell is waiting to hear what Brian Anderson, immediate neighbor of the new town office building on Morse Village Road, desires for compensation for the problems he has experienced from the placement of the structure on its building lot.

Anderson lost the view from his house, and a sense of rural elbow room, last year when the town erected the long, fairly high town office building, 245 feet from his boundary line and 25 feet from the road – both dimensions approved by the town's zoning board of appeals.

Selectboard member Dan Keller described the selectboard as "confused" at the "over three months" wait to hear from Anderson.

Meanwhile, Anderson is confused too, and hurt that, in his mind, the town has shown so little interest in negotiating. "I've always been open to negotiation," he said on Sunday, "and have reiterated that recently." As far as negotiations, he said there has been "basically none." He feels his efforts to protect his "legitimate interests," while making sense to his friends and neighbors, have made him a pariah among town officials.

October 2, 2008

With the Gill highway department reporting the breakdown of the town's 16-year-old front end loader, the Gill selectboard spent a large part of their September 29 meeting bemoaning the town's budget straits.



2006: Anne Jemas of the Streetscape Committee presents Milica van Steenburgh with a recognition certificate from the Town of Montague and the Streetscape Committee for sponsoring the planter in front of Turners Falls Pizzeria.

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Most of their comments focused on the Gill-Montague school budget stalemate.

"We use the front end loader every day," said a frustrated Lee Stevens. The selectboard directed highway superintendent Mick LaClaire to use Chapter 90 funds to purchase a new used model. LeClaire said he has located a decent front end loader on a state bid of \$106,000, and went to inspect that machine on Wednesday of this week.

The town presently has \$265,000 in Chapter 90 funds set aside, but has delayed purchasing sand and salt for the winter due to the budget crisis.

Celestial Bodies, Infernal Souls is the title of Lois Greenfield's 54 stunning photographs of dancers captured in mid-flight, or fallen back to Earth, on exhibit at the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography through December 14.

While the show's title conjures up depictions of heaven and hell, according to Greenfield, who gave an illuminating talk about her work last Saturday, the concept is less about religion than about mythological notions of ascent and descent.

Every Tuesday night, a regular group of folks head to the Route 63 Roadhouse in Millers Falls for a little legal poker playing, and an all around good time. Beginning at 7:30 p.m., the Roadhouse hosts a weekly Texas Hold 'Em-style poker game, a ten-week tournament open to anyone who wants to join.

Points are determined based on your standing at the end of the night and the top ten players at the end of the ten weeks compete at the coveted "final table." No money changes hands, and everyone there is just out to have a little fun at the beginning of each week.

October 1, 2009

On Tuesday, the long-delayed bid opening for the renovation of the Gill-Montague bridge finally took place. At \$40.7 million, SPS New England out of Salisbury, MA was the apparent low bidder, according to Adam Hurlbise, spokesperson for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation.

The project first went out to bid a year ago, in September 2008, with an expected price tag of \$42.3 million, but Hurlbise said the bid opening kept getting pushed back to allow contractors more time to respond.

News of the low bid caused Maureen Mulvaney, transportation manager for the Franklin County Regional Council of Government to breathe a sigh of relief on Wednesday. "That's great," she said. "That's significantly lower than expected."

Less than 100 residents of Gill and Montague voted at the district meeting in Turners Falls High School auditorium on Wednesday night to approve a budget of \$213,000 lower than the amount sought by the school committee to



2008: Gill highway superintendent Mick LaClaire, with a broken front-end loader.

operate the Gill-Montague schools in the present budget year.

The regional school committee asked residents of the member towns to approve the temporary budget figure, set at the beginning of July by the commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, of \$16,657,788.

"I want to support a permanent solution," said Greenfield mayor Bill Martin, at a breakfast meeting about homelessness in Franklin County at the Farren Care Center on Tuesday morning.

Martin was talking about the same thing city mayors and policy experts are talking about all across the country these days as they move away from a reliance on emergency sheltering to deal with homelessness and toward a "housing first" approach.

"Housing first" is an initiative developed in the city of Seattle, and given major nationwide impetus by a pair of independent studies that show the city saved millions of public dollars in the first years of operating two staff-supported public housing facilities for the chronically homeless.

October 7, 2010

The only operating mill on Canal Street, purchased from the former Esleek Manufacturing Company in 2006 by the Southworth Company, has been turning out paper at that location for over 110 years.

Last Friday, the Montague Historical Society met at their new quarters, upstairs at the Grange Hall in Montague Center, to discuss the danger of the Montague Historical Society disbanding.

The society will hold an open house at the Grange Hall in Montague Center on Sunday, October 24th, from 2 to 4 p.m. to show visitors the collection of Montague historical items they have catalogued and archived in protective envelopes. They also hope to spark interest in others to pick up the torch and carry on the work of preserving the Society and the history of Montague.

"There's a lot of interesting history; pictures of people's houses, opera and play bills, post cards and old photos," said Lillian Fiske, 87, retiring president of the Society. "We need some enthusiastic new members to help us catalog and archive this. Otherwise, a lot more

history of the villages of Montague will be lost."

The Friends of Gill and friendly volunteers gathered in the basement of the Gill Congregational Church on Tuesday to make pies for the Arts and Crafts Festival, coming up at the old Riverside schoolhouse on the weekend of October 16 and 17.

Earlier, Betsy and Bill Turnham and Mary Bourbeau picked four bushels of apples at Dole Farm in Shelburne. "We always pick Cortland apples," Betsy Turnham said. "They hold up well and don't get mushy, and they have a nice flavor."

October 6, 2011

Hundreds trekked up the hill to celebrate the dedication of the new temple at the Leverett Peace Pagoda on Sunday. The wind blew through the beech leaves, and through the maple leaves, still green, but turning. Rivulets of water ran everywhere, from the rocky soil, from each dripping leaf, from the golden mandala glittering through the fog at the top of the white pagoda, and from the curving concrete eaves of the new temple.

On Sunday, October 2, the First Congregational Church in Montague joined with churches around the world to celebrate St. Francis Day with a service of blessing and healing for animals.

In New York City, simultaneously, there was a huge celebration at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, with thousands of animals (and their thousands of people) – dogs, cats, snakes, parrots, monkeys, lizards, turkeys, turtles, llamas, horses, sheep, goats – even camels have attended! – who amble, or in that exalted context, might be said to process, down its historic aisle.

The Mahar regional school district moved two steps closer to hybrid regionalization this week.

On Monday, the Mahar regionalization subcommittee voted to finalize amendments to the regional agreement between Orange, Peterham, New Salem and Wendell. On Tuesday, the full Mahar school committee voted to send the amended agreement to the member towns for town meeting votes.

With a goal of generating ideas and keeping everyone informed, Monday's selectboard meeting included a Community Development Block Grant program informational session regarding the status of the town's fiscal year 2012 application, which is due December 16.

Planning is well underway on a draft that includes phase two of the improvements to Unity Park as well as rehabilitating a handful of housing units in Turners Falls and Montague City.

Director of parks and recreation Jon Dobosz stated that Unity Park improvements in the FY'12 application would include upgrades to ball fields to reduce puddles and sloping, better parking near the basketball court, walkways connecting the activities in the park, exercise stations,

and a community garden.

October 4, 2012

The good news is that the Gill-Montague bridge reconstruction is right on schedule. There are just two more concrete pours to finish the closed lane of the bridge. Those will be of the same high performance 6,000 pounds per square inch concrete SPS Construction has used on the prior bridge pours. Shortly after the final pours on the closed lane, SPS will pave the concrete with a one and a quarter inch thick bituminous base coat, followed by an inch and a coat of modified bituminous for a top layer.

The bad news is the bridge will remain open only to one-way traffic for quite some time. While the job appears to be rapidly nearing completion, workmen are hard at work out of sight on the underbelly of the bridge, with a great deal more work left to do. Sorry, folks; at this time the completion date for the bridge project is still April of 2014.

After a hiatus of nearly seven years, the Lake Pleasant Village Association (LPVA) is making a comeback.

Lake Pleasant, the smallest of Montague's five villages, was founded in 1870 and quickly became a popular spiritualist summer campground. The LPVA is a community organization dedicated to preserving the town's unusual history and keeping the village of Lake Pleasant beautiful. Artist Lahri Bond is the new president of the LPVA. He moved to Lake Pleasant a year and a half ago, and brought new energy with him. Recently, the LPVA has undertaken several community projects, bringing residents out of their homes to help improve their village.

This week, Northeast Solar is installing the first Solarize Montague photovoltaic (PV) systems. Daphne Bye and Mark Fraser of Taylor Hill Road are the first to have their PV installed. Energy committee member Susan Conger, of Main Street, was the second to go to contract under the reduced-price program, and is next in line for solar panels.

October 3, 2013

More than a hundred people crowded into the United Arc on Friday to celebrate the Arc's new home at 294 Avenue A. Former board president Lisa Harris told the crowd that she was thrilled that the Arc had completed the beautiful renovation of the former Miskinis television building.

For the ribbon cutting ceremony, executive director Ed Porter invited Arc clients, friends and members to slice the bright red ribbon with giant scissors.

Story after story of overwhelming debt and hardship filled the Greenfield Community College auditorium as students from around the region testified before the Massachusetts subcommittee on Student Loan Debt. The first group of students to speak were enrolled at UMass-Amherst. Bayley Blaisdell said she hoped to work after high school in order to save money for college, but she soon realized that "ten dollars an hour is what you make out of high school, and that's not enough to save money – that's not enough to live." Blaisdell took out loans to pay for her education, which will total sixty thousand dollars when she graduates. "It's too much, it's suffocating. I don't like to think about it," she said.

October is kick-off month for raising funds to move the Unity Skatepark project forward.

Montague's selectboard grappled

this week with the thorny problem of "non-plant" objects in the planter in front of Rodney Madison's store, Madison on the Ave. Seeking a policy that avoids artistic anarchy but does not discourage creativity, the board punted the problem back from whence it came – to a new committee of uncertain status variously called the "streetscape committee," or "planter committee."

The Turners Falls Fire department responded to a report that smoke was filling Suzee's Third Street Laundry. A malfunctioning machine was identified as the source of the smoke.

Heavy equipment operators belonging to Local 98 of the International Union of Operating Engineers have been working without a contract for contractor Northeast Construction since June. The operators are conducting a rolling strike throughout western Massachusetts.

On Tuesday, members picketed the Route 2 bridge between Gill and Greenfield, saying the company's proposal to raise from 70 to 100 tons the minimum weight that would require a crane operator to be accompanied by an "oiler" would undermine both safety and training opportunities.



2013: Heavy equipment operators picket the Factory Hollow Bridge project.

October 2, 2014

Real property tax rates will increase in Erving, after the selectboard approved a 65% "minimum residential factor" at the town's tax classification hearing Monday night. Under this factor, the Northfield Mountain Project pays 83% of real property taxes owed to the town. The split rate shifts the tax burden away from residential property owners.

Last Monday was the last day postmaster Charlie O'Dowd worked at the Wendell center post office. This last day was inventory day, spent counting and documenting the number of stamps and pieces of equipment, so there was little time for farewells.

Many Wendellites came into the post office the previous Friday and Saturday to say goodbye, hug Charlie, and shed a few tears. Charlie met with well-wishers at the Deja Brew pub after his inventory day on Monday for dinner and goodbyes.

At Charlie's request, Deja Brew owner Patti Scutari opened the pub for dinner on Monday.

Montague town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, building inspector David Jensen, and town planner Walter Ramsey gave a lengthy presentation on the future of the Strathmore Mill. After outlining a number of options, including demolishing the building complex or pieces of it, the main message was, in Abbondanzio's words, "stay the course."

In recent years, he argued, the town had been confronted with a poor real estate market and rising costs for demolishing the structures, which he estimated at \$5 million. This has led to a "hunker down" mentality as the town waited for

see **HISTORY** page B8



2010: Mary Melonis and Lillian Fiske dig through the Montague Historical Society's archives.

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Pet of the Week

My name is Daisy and I came from a rescue group on Cape Cod.

While not much is known about my past (I'm keeping it a secret!), I can tell you that I'm a little bit Maine Coon and a lot moxie--in other words, great looking with plenty of spunk.

If you're looking for a colorful Daisy in your garden of white, I may be just the cat for you. Come visit me at Dakin soon!

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



"DAISY"

Senior Center Activities OCTOBER 10 to 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.

Tues & Weds Noon Lunch

M, W, F 10:10 a.m. Aerobics; 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise

Monday 10/10

1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Tuesday 10/11

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga

1 p.m. Painting Class

Wednesday 10/12

9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach

11:30 a.m. Friends' Meeting

12:45 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 10/13

NO Tai Chi

10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

10:30 a.m. Brown Bag

1 p.m. Cards & Games

Friday 10/14

1 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregating meals.

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 2 days in

advance. Call (413)-423-3649 for meal information and reservations.

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

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

Monday 10/10

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance

Tuesday 10/11

8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics

9:30 a.m. COA Meeting

10 a.m. Stretching & Balance

11:30 a.m. Homemade Lunch

12:30 p.m. Creative Coloring

Wednesday 10/12

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Chair Yoga

Noon Bingo, Snacks & Laughs

Thursday 10/13

8:45 a.m. Aerobics (fast)

10 a.m. Healthy Bones

12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors

Friday 10/14

9 a.m. Quilting

9:30 a.m. Bowling, Walking Club

11 a.m. Market Shopping

11:30 a.m. Pizza, Salad & Dessert

12:30 p.m. Painting Workshop

LEVERETT

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

Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free). Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

WENDELL

Wendell Senior Center is at 2

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

Happy, spooky, decked-out October! We love to welcome in what's arguably one of the most festive seasons in our area, with Pumpkinfest coming up at the end of the month.

Now available for viewing on our website: **Jay Mankita** at the September 9 Great Falls Coffeehouse! Jay Mankita combines folk rhythms with hilarious humor you won't want to miss. This Grammy-nominated entertainer has presented thousands of concerts to children and adults alike in the past 30 years. Check it out on MontagueTV.org, and find more at JayMankita.com.

The next **Great Falls Coffeehouse** will be on Friday, October 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls – and will feature Polly Fiveash and Anand Nayak.

We encourage you to stay updated on **local politics** in your town. You can now watch the September 29 Montague special town meeting on MontagueTV.org. Also available online are recent meetings of the Gill-Montague Regional school committee, Montague selectboard and finance committee, and Gill selectboard.

For those eligible, the deadline to **register to vote** for the November 8 election is Wednesday, October 19, with options to register by mail, at the town clerk's office, registry of motor vehicles, or online.

This month, check out the *MIGRATION: Connecting through Art & Culture of the Americas*, an exhibit of **Guatemalan and other Central and South American art** to celebrate the richness these cultures bring to our communities. This exhibit is a collaboration of Montague Catholic Social Ministries and other local programs, the Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Guatemalan Art and Culture Connection, and the local immigrant community.

To learn more about the Guatemalan Art and Culture Connection, founded by Lorna and Imre Kepes, visit guatemalaartandcultureconnection.blogspot.com.

On Monday, October 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. there will be **activities by Native American people** in the same space to highlight the impact of Columbus's "discovery" of America. The focus will be on moving toward healing from the trauma therein, with performances led by Visioning B.E.A.R. Intertribal Coalition. All of this happens this October at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

Something going on you think others would like to see? Get in touch to learn how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment.

Contact (413) 863-9200, infomontaguetv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 Second Street in Turners between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We'd love to work with you!

The Blues of Franklin County

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

The sixth annual Riverside Blues, Brews & BBQ Festival on the Beacon Field in Greenfield is this weekend, October 8 and 9, from noon to 6 p.m.

Christy Moore, the director of the town's recreation department for six years, said it was started by "a group who watched the Kansas City BBQ competition on a cooking channel, and thought it would be cool to bring it to Greenfield."

"Two thousand people," Moore said, including visitors from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Connecticut,

"had come throughout the weekend, and through the gates." Seventeen barbeque cooking teams have registered.

The festival's official website lists cooking teams from the different states, including "That's Our Quell," "Four Smoking Guys," "Up in the Grill," and "Big Red BBQ."

"The Grand Champion Prize winner is invited to compete at the American Royal Invitational Cook-Off in Kansas City the following year," Moore explained. The Riverside Festival is also a qualifier for the Jack Daniels Barbecue Invitational in Tennessee.

This year's blues entertainment will feature Wildcat O'Halloran Blues Band, a western Massachusetts band that Moore says has been involved with the event since its beginning.

The band has been around for over 20 years, and their latest CD, *Midnight Service Call*, is their eleventh.

Saturday's music includes the Wildcat O'Halloran Band, Janet Ryan, and B Street Blues. On Sunday, bands include Sweet Daddy Cool Breeze, Blue Devil Bluez, and Blue Cat Blues.

For more information, see www.riversidebluesandbbq.com.

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Avoiding Flap Surgery



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

Q. What exactly is tartar, that stuff on your teeth?

Bacteria, mucus, and food particles in our mouths produce a colorless film on the surfaces of teeth. This film is called "plaque." Plaque contributes to tooth decay and gum disease. Plaque that is not removed can harden and form "tartar."

Brushing your teeth will remove plaque but not tartar. Once tartar builds up, you need a professional cleaning, one of those fun things we all look forward to. Well, it's definitely better than gum disease.

Gum disease is common among seniors because it develops painlessly over a long period of time.

Gum disease can be aggravated by ill-fitting dentures and poor diet – both of them senior problems. Symptoms include bleeding, swollen or receding gums, loose teeth, a change in your bite, and persistent bad breath or taste.

Gum disease, known officially as periodontal disease, affects about 80 percent of American adults. Periodontal disease ranges from gum inflammation ("gingivitis") to a serious stage that causes tissue damage and tooth loss. In fact, periodontal disease is the leading cause of adult tooth loss.

You're at greater risk of developing periodontal disease if you smoke; suffer from diabetes, cancer or AIDS; are under great stress; are taking drugs such as antidepressants that reduce saliva in your mouth; are a woman going through hormonal changes, or have a genetic predisposition for gum disease.

The American Academy of Periodontology says that about one in three people in the USA may have inherited a susceptibility to gum disease. People who are genetically predisposed to gum disease may be up to six times more likely to develop it, even if they are extraordinarily diligent about dental hygiene.

To prevent gum disease, you

should brush your teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste, floss daily, see a dentist regularly, eat a well balanced diet, and avoid tobacco.

(Personal note. Several years ago, I started using a high-powered electric toothbrush that cleans between the teeth. I brush after breakfast and before bed, and I don't use floss. My dentist has been amazed at how little plaque there is on my teeth.)

Periodontal disease is treated by scaling and root planing. Scaling is scraping off tartar from above and below the gum line. Root planing gets rid of rough spots on the tooth root where the germs gather, and helps remove bacteria that contribute to the disease. Medications may be used with scaling and root planing.

Your dentist or periodontist may recommend flap surgery to remove tartar deposits in deep pockets. In flap surgery, the gums are lifted back and the tartar is removed. The gums are then sutured back in place.

In addition to flap surgery, your periodontist may suggest bone or tissue grafts. Grafting is a way to replace or encourage new growth of bone or gum tissue that has been destroyed.

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

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Polly Fiveash & Anand Nayak are the featured performers at the Great Falls Coffeehouse at the Discovery Center in Turners Falls on Friday, October 14, 7 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY

McCusker's Co-op Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians of all levels welcome to play traditional Irish music. 10:30 a.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls-*Play Group*. Unstructured playgroup. Grown-ups can chat and connect with other parents and caregivers while supervising their children's play. 10 to 11 a.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: Crafts and activities for children of all ages. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY

Arts Block (4th floor), Greenfield: *Creacion Latin Big Band & Late Night Open Mic JAM*. 20 piece ensemble play son, salsa, chacha and much more. 8 p.m. Open Mic starts at 9 p.m. Free.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time*: Thematic stories, projects, and snacks for young children and their caretakers. 10:15 a.m.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Tales and Tunes Story Hour*. For ages 0 to 5 and their caregivers. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Homeschool Science. Hands-*

on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activities for homeschoolers of all ages, with Angela or special guest. 1 p.m.

New Salem Public Library: *Teen and Tweens*. Program for 11 to 18 year olds. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

2nd St. and Ave A, Turners Falls: *Farmers Market*. 2 to 6 p.m.

1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY

Hubie's Tavern: *Open Mic*. 6 p.m.

EVERY THURSDAY

Millers Falls Library, Millers Falls: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson*. Children and their caregivers invited. 10 to 11 a.m.

The People's Pint, Greenfield: *Derek Bridges*. Live acoustic guitar. 7 p.m.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Watchdog Open Mic*. All musicians, comedians, and magicians are welcome! 8 p.m.

EVERY THIRD FRIDAY

Element Brewing Company, Millers Falls: *Brule's Irish Band*. Food carts supplement the local beer. 6 p.m.

EVERY FOURTH FRIDAY

Community Yoga and Wellness Center, Greenfield: *Greenfield Circle Dance*. 6 to 8 p.m. \$

EVERY FRIDAY

Slate Memorial Library, Gill: *Story Hour*. Stories and hands-on arts & crafts. 10 a.m. to noon.

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

FIRST SATURDAY MONTHLY

Montague Common Hall: *Montague Center. Montague Square Dance*. Family fun, October through May. 7 p.m. \$

EVERY SATURDAY

Highland Park, Millers Falls: *Adult Co-Ed Pick-Up Soccer*, sponsored by Montague Parks and Rec. 10:30 a.m.

EXHIBITS:

Artspace Gallery, Greenfield: *Live and Die in Dixie. New Works by Charles Shaw*. Through October 21.

Bernardston Unitarian Church, Bernardston: *River Rooms Art Exhibit by Alice Thomas*. Artist

Talk & RoundTable, October 23, 1 p.m.

Discovery Center, Great Hall, Turners Falls: *Migration - Connecting through Art and cultures of the Americas*. Guatemalan art display curated by local artists. Artist reception Friday, October 28, 3 to 7 p.m. Through October.

Leverett Crafts & Arts, Leverett: *Surface: Texture & Transparency*. Exhibit of abstract paintings by artist Martha Braun. Opening Sunday, October 9, 4 to 6 p.m. Through October.

Memorial Hall, Deerfield: *Relics and Curiosities in Memorial Hall*. Interesting objects such as wreaths made of human hair and weapons made from sharks' teeth. Through October 30. Also at Memorial Hall, *Farmers' Castles by Robert Strong Woodward*, including barns that Woodward painted in Charlemont, Colrain, and Buckland earlier in the 20th century. Through October 30. \$

Rhodes Art Gallery, NMH, Gill: *"akin" by Whitney C. Robbins*. Through October 15.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: Paintings by *Q Holmes: Birds and Circles*. Through October. Also paintings by *Kerry Stone: Flower Power*. Through October.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery at The Montague Mill, Montague: *"Art Meets Verse: An Exhibit Honoring Emily Dickinson"*. Through October 16.

Shelburne Arts Co-operative, Shelburne Falls: *"Birds, Beasts and Bugs"*, creations by Marian Ives. Reception Sunday, October 16, 2 to 5 p.m. Through October.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Straw Weavings by Kathy Morris*. Exhibit through October.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Wheeler Memorial Library Orange: *Robert P. Collins Poetry Contest*. Deadline October 15. Cash prizes. For details call library at 978-544-2495.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Collected Poets Series, featuring Jan Freeman and Gail Hosking*. Poetry reading. 7 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Harvest Jam with Bella's Bartok and the Gaslight Tinkers*. 8 p.m. \$

Arts Block, Greenfield: Silverthorne Theater Production of *The Compleat Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Holly May*, country pop, and special guest *Rachel Zamstein*, singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.

Arts Block (Wheelhouse) Greenfield: *The Diamondstones, and Ginja Low Mein*. "Folk-Rock-Psychedelia-Funk-Groove-Magic." 9 p.m. \$

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Great Falls Reggae Splash w/ DJ Fyah Lyontist*. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. This week it's Moose! For ages 3-6 accompanied by adult; siblings and friends welcomed. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Beacon Field, Greenfield: *6th Annual Riverside Blues, Brews, and BBQ*. 12 to 6 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. \$

Arts Block, Greenfield: Silverthorne Theater Production of *The Compleat Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Brian Glowacki, Comedian*. 8 p.m. \$

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *The Baird Sisters, Marielle Jakobsons, Amber Wolfe*. 8 p.m. \$

Arts Block, Greenfield: *The Happier Valley Comedy Show Presents Scripted/Unscripted*. Improv. 8 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Juggler Meadow String Band*. Americana. 9 p.m.

Pioneer Tavern, Miller Falls: *Steel Rail*. Rock. 9 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Trees on the Trail*. Take a walk and learn about the trees along the Canalside Rail Trail. For ages 4-8 accompanied by adult. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Montague Historical Society presents Montague Movie Matinee*. Rare restored film depicting Montague circa 1929. Come help identify people and places. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Crow's Rebellion*. Steve Crow, Peter Kim, Joe Fitzpatrick. Warped Americana. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT Karaoke*. 9:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Poetry Night*. Evening of Spoken Word featuring *Nina Rossi*. Sign-up for open mic at 6:30. Readings begin at 7 p.m. \$

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

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

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Olive Tiger*. Folktronic indie rock. 9 p.m. \$.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Screaming J's*. Boogie Woogie from S. Carolina. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Falltown String Band*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Great Falls Coffeehouse presents *Polly Fiveash & Anand Nayak*. 7 p.m. \$

Arts Block, Greenfield: Silverthorne Theater Production of *The Compleat Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Drew Paton's 1940's Hit Parade*. 7 p.m.



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HISTORY from page B5

economic conditions to improve. Michael Twomey, vice president of external affairs for Entergy, said that Vermont Yankee would close by this December and that spent radioactive fuel will be removed from the reactors at the nuclear power plant by 2020.

He also said the site assessment of the Vernon reactor was ahead of schedule and the decommissioning cost estimate – which has been estimated to be close to \$1 billion – would be included in a report to be released at the end of October. He said the fund for decommissioning currently totals \$653 million.

October 1, 2015

Highway superintendent Tom Bergeron reported on progress in cleaning the large stormwater drain which begins at Avenue A, passes next to Food City, proceeds under the power canal and eventually sends runoff into the Connecticut River. The portion of the drain that passes under the canal is divided into two "siphons," which have become clogged with debris and sand.

A contractor, Wind River Environmental, cleaned a large amount of sand from one of the siphons, but it immediately filled up with more water and sand. This appeared to come from the other siphon, suggesting either an inaccurate schematic map of the system, which dates from 1914, or a breakdown in the wall between the two siphons.

Work on the cleaning had to be stopped, because the project was using up too much of the money

appropriated at town meeting, and because continued work might risk a collapse and the draining of the power canal itself.

Gary Konvelski has moved his store, Gary's Coins and Antiques, down the Avenue, from its original location in the Starbuck building at 115 Avenue A and into the Crocker building at 56 Avenue A. The move was not for reasons of space or convenience, but rather was a result of disagreements with the new owners of his building.

The public seating area at the Gill-Montague school committee meeting was overflowing on Tuesday night. As the members took their seats, a room packed full of teachers stared back at them. The previous meeting had become contentious when chair Sandra Brown said she would not appoint any former teachers to the team tasked with negotiating teacher contracts.

Dr. Curtis Nordgaard, a resident in Urban Health and Advocacy at Boston Children's Hospital, has cautioned Erving's board of health against infrastructure such as the Kinder-Morgan Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline, and associated compressor stations, "when we don't know the risk we're taking with health." "Will this harm us?" Nordgaard asked. "We just don't know – there's no data."

This Saturday, a conversation will be held at the First Congregational Church in Greenfield about mass incarceration and the connections between today's prison system and U.S. slavery, racism, and labor exploitation.

October 6, 2016

"There's some real changes in law enforcement coming down the highway," Leverett's police chief, Gary Billings, told his selectboard Tuesday night. "An old dinosaur like me just said, no thank you.... It's time for younger, more ambitious administration." Billings will be retiring from the post as of January 6. "It's just time to move on," he said, adding that if they wanted, the board could appoint him as a part-time officer on January 7.

The selectboard also met with the finance committee to discuss strategy in the Amherst school district, where Shutesbury is again pushing to revise the formula by which costs are assessed to towns. "You can make the argument right now," said finance member Tom Powers, "that we have a broken government structure in our region." He wondered if an "Amherst plus two" system would work better than full consensus for agreeing on a formula.

The town has sold its surplus 1988 GMC four-wheel-drive rescue truck for a winning bid of \$666.

The town of Montague has signed a consent agreement with the utility Eversource which will allow the company to connect with a planned solar generating facility on town-owned land off Sandy Lane.

The selectboard's Monday night meeting was dominated by a nuisance dog hearing. The hearing began on a contentious note, as complainants stated that the barking of the Carlisle Avenue beagle "goes to the center of your soul." By the end of the session, however,



2016: Leverett police chief Gary Billings tells the selectboard he's stepping down.

the parties agreed to work together to solve the problem.

Candidates for Montague town administrator and treasurer are being interviewed this week.

Wendell will be among the first five western Massachusetts towns where Osmose Utility Services, a vendor contracted by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), will begin its pole surveys.

The surveys are a crucial pre-construction step toward extending "last mile" high-speed broadband internet service to the rural communities of the area. According to the MBI, pole surveys in Wendell, New Salem, and Shutesbury should start by mid-November.

Erving's selectboard formally accepted the \$491,650 bid from Mountain View Landscapes and Lawncare of Chicopee to construct the first phase of Riverfront Park on Arch Street, at the former Usher Mill.

The railroad has closed a portion of Moore Street between Prospect and West High streets in Ervingside until Friday, October 7, for repairs

to the crossing.

Teams from Turners Falls High School played Greenfield in six contests last Friday. Turners lost Green Friday games in middle school soccer and varsity field hockey, while prevailing in varsity football, junior varsity field hockey, and middle school and varsity volleyball.

On Black Monday, October 3, the Tribe dropped three games – field hockey, and middle school and varsity volleyball – to the Black Tigers of South Hadley.

The Montague Common Hall will host a tag sale and bake sale this Saturday, October 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations are welcome (no electronics, please).

The First Congregational Church of Montague will hold its annual service of blessing and healing for animals this Sunday, October 9 at 11:30 a.m. Participants are encouraged to bring their dogs, cats, birds, lizards, rabbits, fish, horses and other well-behaved pets, and line up single file to have them blessed by faith leaders.



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