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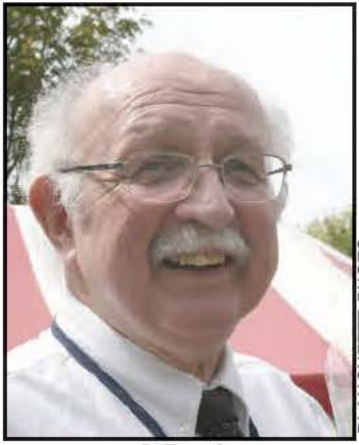
THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

OCTOBER 9, 2014

Charlie O'Dowd To Retire

By KATIE NOLAN

BONDSVILLE - Long-time Wendell postmaster Charlie O'Dowd, transferred to the Bonds-ville post office as of September 30, has decided to retire from the postal service. "I knew I could do a good job there," he said, "but I would rather have my final memories with Wendell."



O'Dowd

The last day he worked in Wendell was "very hectic," he said, with inventory and other transfer procedures to conduct, as well as sorting mail and saying goodbye to towns-people he had served for years. The next day, fearing that he might be late on his first day in Bonds-ville, he arrived two hours early.

see O'DOWD page A7

A Full-Service Café Bar For Downtown Turners

By PATRICIA PRUITT

TURNERS FALLS - As of this week, Turners Falls will have another new eatery, as the Five Eyed Fox will be open for business on Third Street.

Wednesday through Friday evenings will serve as a "soft opening," leading up to a Grand Opening event this Saturday, October 11 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The Five Eyed Fox, under the ownership of Ashley Arthur, Aric Binaco and Meredith Merchant, aims to be a full service café and beer and wine bar, specializing in locally sourced and crafted drinks and food.

The owners' commitment to use local resources has extended to their build-out of the 37 Third Street space, formerly home to the Thrive Project, and before that the Desautels store. Working with carpenter and advisor Timothy Ballard, they have built their new bar using native ash wood from Forest Products Association in Greenfield. The open porch will come alive with beautifully recycled wooden-topped tables.

They will serve bar food, includ-



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

Merchant, Arthur and Binaco prepare for a Saturday night grand opening party.

ing sandwiches, charcuterie and local cheeses, and a variety of coffees including espresso. They will source their coffee from Six Depot, importers of fair trade beans in West Stockbridge, and their bread from a bakery called Small Oven in Easthampton.

Ashley Arthur and Aric Binaco have long wished to have a café bar. Arthur, the food master, is enthusiastic about local produce and revels in putting up preserves of vegetables, as well as jams and syrups. Binaco, the "biermeister," will

see CAFE BAR page A3

Hefty Document Shifts Leverett Cell Tower Debate

By JEFF SINGLETON

LEVERETT - Brian Emond, who served on the committee that played a key role in writing the current Leverett cell tower bylaw, feels disillusioned. The Leverett Zoning and Planning boards have recently approved special permits and variances to allow a cell tower proposed by AT&T to be built on Route 63, at 470 Long Plain Road. The tower location clearly violates the distance requirements in the current bylaw he helped construct.

Noting that his committee "put a lot of time into the issue," he complains that the recent decision by two Leverett boards "gave in to the corporations." According to his wife Nancy, "we thought we could influence local outcomes." Apparently not, is the Emonds' view.

Another member of the cell tower committee is also frustrated. Like the Emonds, Nancy Grossman feels that a lot of work was put into the bylaw, only to be undermined by a few poorly publicized board meetings at the end of this past summer.

Grossman is particularly concerned about the fact that potential health impacts of a cell tower, her primary concern, could not be discussed. Federal law appears to prohibit drafting zoning ordinanc-

es based on the current research on health impacts. According to Grossman, "it was no secret" that AT&T lawyers were reviewing the minutes of the tower committee meetings.

Planning Board member Richard Nathorst is sympathetic and claims to have "a tremendous amount of respect" for the work of the cell tower committee. But in the end, he believes, the citizens of Leverett were "naïve" to think they could place significant restrictions on cell tower sitings.

"I think the town has better things to do than fighting quixotic battles, in this case with AT&T, especially when citizens who attended recent meetings spoke in favor of better cell coverage in town," he says.

The issue has certainly been a controversial one in Leverett, as it has in many rural towns.

An effort to create a cell tower bylaw with looser setbacks, allowing towers to be sited in any part of town, in the spring of 2012 fell a few votes short of gaining the necessary 2/3rds majority.

That led to the appointment of the cell tower committee and the current proposal with setbacks of 2,000 feet from roads and 1,650 feet from residences. That proposal

see TOWER page A4



MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FIRST FRANKLIN DISTRICT

Steve Kulik (D)

By CHRIS SAWYER-LAUCANNO

Democratic Representative Stephen Kulik, first elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in October, 1993, is ardent about continuing to serve his constituents in the First Franklin district that includes 19 towns, including Leverett and Montague.

"I feel I've made real contributions over the years working with people on local issues such as state funding for education, the environment, agriculture, the regional economy and transportation infrastructure. But there's more to do," said Kulik.

On Kulik's "to do" list are a number of "ongoing items" including last-mile broadband, Chapter 70 education reform and continued opposition to the pipeline. He said his position as Vice-Chair of the House Ways and Means committee allows him to have "direct influence and input" over matters of "great importance to the district."

"I have a seat at the table," he said. "All spending bills come before Ways and Means. The whole state budget, which includes healthcare, human services, institutional spending as well as all capital spending, comes to us."

Kulik's examples of legislative victories he helped achieve on the committee were increasing the funding for "last mile broadband" from \$40 million to \$50 million, the environmental bond bill, funding for agricultural protection, the transportation bond bill, and strengthening and funding the Community Preservation Act (CPA).

Kulik, who faces an opponent for the first time since his election in 1993, said he is enjoying campaigning. "The legislature is not in session right now, so I've been using my



time to get out and talk to people, renew old friendships, hear from folks about what they are thinking."

He said the major issue his constituents are talking about is the proposed Kinder-Morgan pipeline. "It's by far the number one topic of concern," Kulik said he feels that the "well-informed opposition has had a real impact on the discussion": "I don't think Kinder-Morgan thought their proposal would generate such pushback in Western Mass."

Kulik said that he was "very comfortable being an outspoken opponent of the project." He credits his engaged constituents for bringing their issues directly to him. "I did my due diligence and concluded that a pipeline was not in the best interests of the region."

He noted that he did not feel that it would bring any real economic benefit to Western Massachusetts, and was confident it would have a significant impact on the environment. He said he also questioned "the need for moving more fossil fuels into New England."

Kulik said he was proud of those who have worked to call attention to potential pipeline

see KULIK page A6

Dylan Korpita (R)

By MIKE JACKSON

"There's a lot of Democrats in Montague," observes Dylan Korpita. "They're excited to see some new people."

Hoping to represent a redistricted First Franklin that stretches from Turners and Millers Falls in the north all the way to four west Hampshire County hilltowns, Korpita has the unflappable confidence and steady cadence of someone nearly halfway through knocking on "7,000 or 8,000" doors.

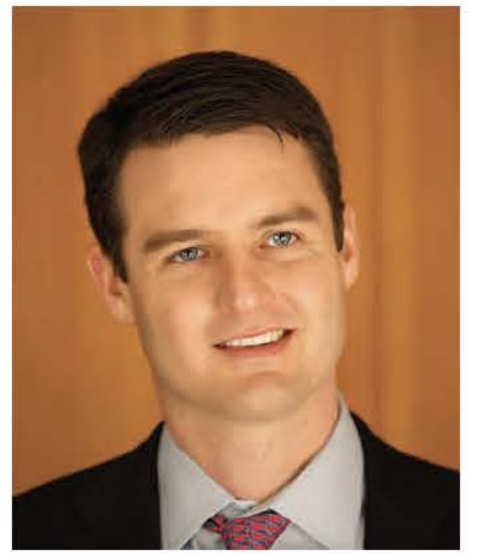
The 35-year-old retired bond trader is running as a Republican against Democratic incumbent Steve Kulik, who won the seat in a midterm election in 1993, after his predecessor, Republican Jonathan Healy, was tapped by Gov. Weld to serve as state agricultural commissioner. Healy had served since 1970.

"Hopefully this fall we'll see a good turnout," Korpita says: "This race hasn't been contested in a decade."

Korpita grew up in Deerfield, the grandson of a Sunderland selectman, and went off to Princeton and a career in finance (mortgage-backed securities, startup hedge fund) before deciding he "wanted to get involved in public service.... I had some opportunities in DC, some opportunities in New York... but just - I really, really, love being back home."

Turning down advice that he pursue an open seat ("that's the opposite of what I'm about"), he decided to make a largely self-funded run in his home district, as a socially moderate, pro-business, outspoken critic of the Beacon Hill status quo.

"It really comes back," he says, "to the fact that we have a one-party state. And it's



not a Democrat problem: it's a one-party problem. ... You see voting records of a number of state representatives where they vote the same way as the speaker of the house, every time, for years on end. And Mr. Kulik is not singular in this regard."

In an interview with the Reporter, Korpita carefully tempered criticism of his opponent with praise - "he certainly does care about connecting with and interacting with the people around here" - but portrays himself as better suited to "go into Boston to deal with the political machine," raising the banner of term limits and the inherent value of resetting a connection to constituents.

"It's hard to say that every elected official in every office should knock on 5,000 doors by themselves every time they have an election," he acknowledges, "because it's difficult to make that happen, in terms of time. But I think every elected official should have done that once."

Who are his Republican role models? Korpita goes straight to Lincoln ("he took all his rivals and put them in his cabinet... his greatness was really in managing those

see KORPITA page A7

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Hong Kong: Going It Alone

We've been following the pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong over the last few weeks. The scenes of hundreds of thousands of mostly young demonstrators congregating in the streets are reminiscent of other protests we've seen over the last few years.

Those protests, particularly in Ukraine and Tunisia, did usher in new governments. On the down side, the democratic movement in Egypt, at first so promising, was quickly squelched and iron rule has swiftly returned. In Libya and Syria the descent into civil war has created states where chaos, murder and absolute instability rule.

With the protests in Hong Kong losing momentum, and with the Chinese government exerting more and more force against the umbrella wielding, goggle-wearing protesters, we can only wonder what the future may be.

We would like to think that what's been happening in Hong Kong is just the beginning of a hopeful and powerful wave that will lead to true reforms and a more democratic society.

But that was also the hope of the millions on the mainland who took part in the pro-reform protests of 1989 that ended in the Tiananmen Square massacre.

That Chinese officials on Tuesday agreed to start talks on the electoral system with student representatives was a small breakthrough. At the same time there were no offers of any willingness to accede to substantive changes. Beijing is still very much calling the shots. Hong Kong's chief executive Leung Chun-ying is very much under the thumb of the central government.

While we hope these talks prove fruitful, we doubt there will be any real concessions on the key demands of the demonstrators.

Among the more important of these demands is that the Communist Party rescind the decision they made this summer to allow a committee composed of hard line Beijing loyalists and business insiders to hand pick who can run as a candidate for chief executive role in the 2017 election.

According to the protestors, this decision was made to prevent free and fair elections just at a point where a new electoral system will, for the first time, let the city's 5 million eligible voters pick a winner rather than the largely pro-Beijing committee of 1,200 members that has chosen past leaders.

The right to vote, as the activists

state, is rendered pointless if Beijing allows only their hand-chosen candidates to run.

We do feel that progress has already been made. Beijing is allowing talks to take place. Indeed, aside from bringing the authorities to the table, protesters have asserted the right to raise issues of paramount importance to their future. And the future is theirs and they know it. Those under 25 make up nearly 50% of the entire population in China.

Perhaps it is natural, therefore, that it's mostly young people in the streets. And while they have enunciated exactly what they want, they have also made it clear that they can and will play a major role in the future of Hong Kong, and even in China as a whole.

It's also clear to us that these young activists are going to have to succeed on their own. Their mainland counterparts do not seem to be in any position to support their movement - at least not publicly. And the absolute lack of support from Western governments for these pro-democracy protests is to us quite appalling.

Britain, Hong Kong's former owner and ruler for 155 years until they handed the colony over to China in 1997, has endorsed the movement in the most tepid of terms.

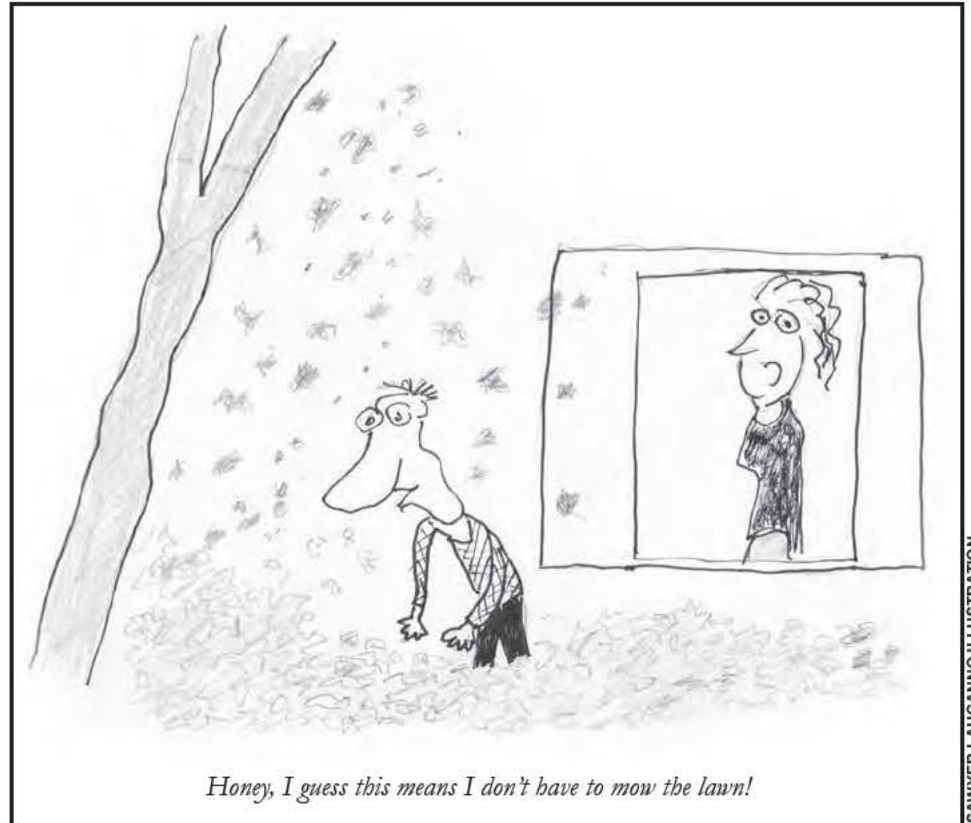
The United States has not even done that. At the height of the clashes, with tear gas and pepper spray raining down on the protestors, the American consulate in Hong Kong issued a statement urging both sides to show restraint. Amazingly, they couldn't even muster lip service to the cause for democracy.

"We do not take sides in the discussion of Hong Kong's political development," the statement said, "nor do we support any particular individuals or groups involved in it."

The economic might of Beijing has clearly strangled any meaningful western response to the protests. After all, what would we do without all those Chinese goods that fill the shelves of our stores, that shore up Wal-Mart and even Family Dollar?

What would we do if China were not buying our coal, selling us steel and allowing us to enjoy clearer skies at the expense of their own residents' health?

We are glad that the young people in the Hong Kong streets do not have the same fear - or is it cowardice? - displayed by Western leaders.



SAWYER-LAUÇANNO ILLUSTRATION

Letters to the Editors

Owners of Montague's Overflowing Dumpsters Will Be Fined

At a regularly scheduled and posted Montague board of health meeting held on September 24, 2014, the board voted unanimously to charge a \$50 fee for overflowing dumpsters.

The fee will be assessed to the property owner. Although the fee is town-wide, we have a significant problem in Turners Falls and sometimes Millers Falls caused by

a small number of (primarily) out-of-town landlords who consistently allow their dumpsters to become in overflowing and deplorable condition.

Orders to correct sent from this office take time to reach miscreant land owners, and our feeling is that property owners simply must manage their property in a way that does not jeopardize the health of

the public.

This fee will also be assessed to owners of restaurants and other commercial businesses who do not manage their waste in a way that is respectful to the rest of the town.

Gina McNeely
Montague Director of
Public Health

Stop Muddying the Water

In March, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers proposed a rule to close loopholes in the Clean Water Act that have left more than half of America's streams and millions of wetland acres unprotected from pollution.

Since then, organizations and individuals who don't seem that concerned about clean water have leveled every possible criticism against the proposed rule - and some that seem impossible.

I've read the proposed rule. I wonder how many of these critics can say the same, especially those who espouse fanciful theories

about regulating puddles and even the rain as it falls from the sky.

Is the Waters of the U.S. rule perfect? No, and the Center for Rural Affairs and others have offered credible critiques aimed at improving the rule. True democracy calls for real debate, not mud-slinging and hyperbole.

Rural America - and the family farmers, ranchers and small town folks therein - are the tip of the spear when it comes to protecting America's water quality.

The proposed Waters of the U.S. is a commonsense effort to clear the regulatory waters, protect the nation's surface waters, and pro-

vide an environment in which economically vital activities such as hunting, fishing and birding as well as farming and ranching can thrive and contribute to a better quality of life and safer drinking water for those of us that live here, and also for our neighbors downstream.

Let's stop muddying the waters, debate how to improve the rule, and move forward.

John Crabtree
Director, Center for
Rural Affairs
Lyons, NE

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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

This is the last weekend to see art works by Buckland artist **Robert Strong Woodward** at the **Memorial Hall Museum**, 8 Memorial Street, in Old Deerfield. Woodward, born in 1885, studied in Heath and Buckland. His subjects include farm houses, farms, mountain views and his studio window still lifes.

This third annual exhibit of Woodward's works entitled "New England Landscapes" is presented by the Friends of Robert Strong Woodward in cooperation with the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association.

The exhibit continues through October 13. The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 to 4:30. It will also be open on Columbus Day.

From October 11 to 18, **seniors age 60 and over** can try the YMCA for free. Options include group exercise classes, water fitness classes, cardio and strength machines, lap swimming and use of the Jacuzzi. Seniors should bring a photo id on their first day and sign in. For class schedules visit ymcaingreenfield.org, or call (413) 773-3646 ext. 0.

Don't miss **Paul Banard and his race car** coming to Greenfield Savings Bank, Turners Falls, at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 11. Banard and some of his crew will be at the bank in race attire and, weather permitting, with his actual car.

Get pictures with the team and some of the free memorabilia. Learn how Banard got his start driving race cars and the skill as well as endurance associated with this hobby. Free light refreshments provided by GSB. Make sure to bring your camera.

Also this Saturday morning, the 11th, the **Montague Common Hall will be holding a tag sale**. The Common Hall (formerly the Grange) is located at 34 Main Street in Montague Center. Others are welcome to set up, they say. The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The **North Leverett Baptist Church** will be hosting its annual Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. (Rain date Sunday October 12, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.) There will be activities for the whole family: games for the children, "trick or

trunk", bounce house and raffles. There will be lots of food and fun. For more information, email the church at: office@nlbcma.org.

Saturday and Sunday nights a real retro **burlesque troupe**, the Boston Babydolls, will be performing at the Shea Theater. Tickets are \$15, and doors open at 7:30 p.m. both nights.

Crows and Co-ops is the theme for Third Thursday in Turners Falls on October 16 from 4 to 9 p.m. There will be scarecrow building, improvisational dance, documentary film focusing on food co-ops, and photography exhibit.

All events are held on the grounds and Great Hall of the Great Falls Discovery Center. For event times and listings visit www.turnersfallsriverculture.org or call the GFDC at (413) 863-3221.

Leverett residents are invited to the **34th Leverett Harvest Festival**. Firemen's pancake breakfast is from 8 to 10:30 a.m., the 6th grade lasagna supper is 5 to 7 p.m., and the festival itself from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. All at the Leverett Elementary School on Saturday, October 18.

For more info, please contact

LevHarvestFest@aol.com.

It's time for the **21st annual Rays of Hope - A Walk Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer**, as a part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, on Sunday, October 19, in Greenfield.

There is a 3-mile option which will include slightly more difficult terrain, and a 2-mile, relatively flat walk through downtown Greenfield. Both courses will start and finish at the Energy Park, at 50 Miles Street, and there will be plenty of free parking available in the public lots beside the Greenfield Fire Station, and behind Green Fields Market, Wilson's Department Store, and the Franklin County Court House. Handicapped parking will be permitted at the Energy Park.

There will be a Breast Cancer Survivor Photo shoot before the walk at 11:30 a.m., and the walk will begin at noon. If you are interested in signing up for this event or learning about other ways you can help raise money for breast cancer research, please log on to www.bay-statehealth.org/raysofhope, or call (413) 794-8001.

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Unity Park Accessible Swing Project in Motion

TURNERS FALLS - The Committee for the Unity Park Accessible Swing Project has announced that the ADA accessible swing will be ordered this fall with an installation date set for the spring of 2015.

Since this venture began in the spring of 2013, we have been patiently waiting for the Liberty Swing (manufactured in Australia) to be US compliant for public playgrounds.

The manufacturer had set its goal for compliance for Christmas of 2013. Unfortunately, that deadline came and went without any known, revised timeframe.

During a meeting with the group this past spring, it was proposed that the committee choose another

design from a different manufacturer.

Accordingly, the group chose the Sway Fun Glider by Landscape Structures as the best option to serve the needs of those who are differently-abled.

The Parks & Recreation Commission unanimously voted to accept this swing in June. It has also been fully endorsed by Heather and Greg Norwood, whose son Jacob has been the inspiration of this entire endeavor.

The committee noted that the Sway Fun Glider appeals to the sensory element of play for people of all abilities, and looks forward to its installation in the spring of 2015.

By **CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO**

TURNERS FALLS - The Shea Theater in downtown Turners Falls is busy readying a haunted house for the afternoon of the annual Pumpkinfest celebration on October 18.

From 1 to 5:30, 17 costumed performers will be guiding visitors through a haunted carnival atmosphere within the theater. According to the event organizer Jillian Morgan, who is also the vice-president of the Shea board of directors, a variety of actors including a fortune teller, strange clowns and other assorted "carnival types" will be present to interact with the intrepid who dare to enter the theater.

Morgan said that the Shea board has been wanting to do this for some time but this year finally managed to coordinate the spooky tour with another production - Ja'Duke's *The*

Addams Family - that will be staged that evening.

As a result, she said, the tech crew had to be quite creative in building the sets. "We had to make sets that could be easily taken down so that the evening show could go on that night." She emphasized that despite this obstacle, the sets are "tremendous."

Morgan said that the actors and tech crew have been working hard on creating the haunted house for the last three weeks and have already begun "run-throughs." "It's going to be quite an event," she exclaimed.

The event is a fundraiser for the Shea. Tickets are priced at just \$3 with all proceeds going to sustain the theater. There will also be popcorn, cider and other goodies on sale in the lobby.

While the Shea promises a "delightfully scary atmosphere," Morgan said the event is for all ages.

as Turners Falls Café and Bar. We wanted to be somewhat enigmatic, he said. Five Eyed Fox seemed just right.

All three live in Turners Falls, and picked Turners for their business "because we love this town," says Aric.

Meredith adds, "This is such a supportive community," and Ashley, agreeing, closes with "We want to have fun."



CAFE BAR from page A1 select local and regional craft beers.

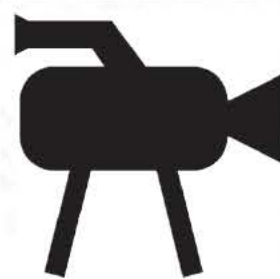
The two met Meredith Merchant while working with her at the Alvah Stone, the restaurant which opened this spring in the Bookmill complex in Montague Center.

Merchant is a wine aficionado and will serve as the front person, which I think means she pays close attention to how things are working for the customers.

Merchant points out that adding together their individual experiences in restaurants amounts to 30 years experience. Among them, they have worked in every aspect of the food service business. All they needed was a Café Bar of their own! So voila, Montague!

As for the name they chose, Binaco said it was easier to explain names they didn't want than the one they came up with. They decided against more generic names such

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TOWER from page A1

overwhelmingly passed a town meeting in the fall of 2012.

Then this spring, on April 26 to be precise, AT&T formally delivered its request to site a tower on the Long Plain Road Bryant Horse farm, which coincidentally had been the subject of a contentious battle over a gravel pit expansion. The selectboard requested that the planning board revisit the cell tower issue and potentially initiate a revision of the current bylaw.

In the process, various comments made by selectman Peter d'Errico about the origins of the bylaw some members of the cell tower committee found insulting. The resulting war of words may have helped precipitate the resignation of current Selectboard Chair Rich Brazeau.

Initially the ZBA and Planning Board seemed inclined to ask AT&T to hold off on its application pending revision of the bylaw. It is not clear what then led to the approval of the corporation's request during the heat of August, but Nathhorst suggests one factor was that town officials had spent the early part of the summer digesting the application.

It turns out this was no ordinary local application for a permit but a (literally) weighty piece of work, over 150 pages long. Among other things, the document cited the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recent court decisions, particularly *Nextel v. Wayland* (2002), to argue that the town was legally required to issue the permits and the variances.

In the Wayland case, a US district court found the town of Wayland, MA had violated the Telecommunications Act by denying a phone

company permission to build a cell tower, because a gap in coverage existed. The court ordered the town to grant a variance.

According to Nathhorst, town officials who read the application said, in effect, "Holy [expletive deleted]." Added Nathhorst, "You can't print that of course."

As the summer wore on, town officials began to have visions of an expensive legal battle and probably a defeat for Leverett. On August 11 the Zoning Board of Appeals approved AT&T's requested variances for the tower. On September 10 the Planning Board issued special permits. Next Wednesday, October 15, the Planning Board will present a new bylaw at a public hearing that significantly reduces the current setback and distance requirements for cell towers.

Both sides will have ample opportunity to weigh in on the issue in the coming months, but they may want to familiarize themselves with the AT&T documents which have had such a big impact on local officials. The AT&T application makes a strong case that federal law may be on the side of cell tower corporations.

On the other hand, some of the arguments would appear to contradict decades of case law on variances. Variances to zoning bylaws are only allowed in very narrow circumstances when the unique characteristics of a property, such as its shape and geology, might render it nearly worthless in the context of local zoning.

Variances, according to a key source on zoning law, were introduced in the 1920s to serve as a kind of "safety valve" lest such ordinance be struck down as illegal "public tak-

ings". The purpose of the variance is to "provide a kind of administrative escape hatch to protect the ordinance from being held unconstitutional as applied" (Bobrowski, *Handbook of Massachusetts Land Use and Planning Law*, 251).

According to a report by the Cape Cod Commission, a regional planning agency, "Case law is replete with exhortations to local zoning boards about their misuse and abuse of power and state legislatures have often responded with limitations, prohibitions and a strict narrowing of the opportunities for zoning boards to grant variances."

It is not at all clear that a similar history of cell tower rejection exists in Leverett, or that the approved location was the only, or best, place for a tower.

The AT&T application relies on the Wayland case that argued that the realities of filling coverage gaps constitute a "unique circumstance" that satisfies the rigid requirements for a variance. Citing *Wayland*, the report states that the "need for closing a significant gap in coverage, in order to avoid an effective prohibition of wireless services, constitutes another unique circumstance when a zoning variance is required."

This creative interpretation melds the Telecommunications Act with the rigid requirements of variance case law. The failure to issue a variance, in this view, creates the "harm"

that variance case law requires.

This argument, however, relies heavily on the court's conclusion that the town of Wayland would not permit an alternative location to accomplish the same goal. The court cites a long history of local efforts to thwart cell tower construction to argue that the rejection of the variance in this particular case follows a pattern, and thus violates federal law:

It is not at all clear that a similar history of cell tower rejection exists in Leverett, or that the recently approved location was the only, or the best, site for a cell tower.

The AT&T application rejected two other locations, one to the north and one to the southwest of the proposed site, but these do not appear to be the only potential sites, some of which might conform to the current bylaw. In fact, the proposed tower only makes a small dent in the town's coverage gap and seems to be targeted almost exclusively to the well-traveled Route 63 corridor.

Yet, as Nathhorst has pointed out, such arguments would have to be part of an expensive court challenge that Leverett could well lose. AT&T's cell tower appears to be a done deal, and may be constructed "before the snow flies," according to Nathhorst.

But there will no doubt be more applications, since much of the town still lacks service, and more discussion of cell tower bylaws on October 15. Can Leverett satisfy both the requirements of the emerging case law and also the concerns of local residents, including health concerns and impacts to property values? A careful reading of the *Wayland* case suggests this may be possible.



Readsboro to Wendell: Highline Revamp

By JOE PARZYCH



Michels Power Hi-line General Foreman Zack Landmark holds a section of aluminum high tension line equipped with composite ceramic core. The outer aluminum wires are flexible, but the composite core lines are as brittle as uncooked spaghetti.



Journeymen Linemen on bi line. Mario Batitis, left, and Jameson Duncan, right, install new ceramic insulators.



Michels Power constructed this timber mat bridge over a stream about a foot wide, as required.

WENDELL – Michels Power construction crew, headquartered in Booneville, Wisconsin, is working on a mammoth project replacing copper high tension lines with cabled aluminum lines from Readsboro, Vermont, to a substation in Wendell.

The new cables will still carry power at 115 KV but will carry a flow of twice the amperage as the old copper lines. The increased power load will be siphoned off to feed communities at Millbury, MA in the Worcester area.

The new conductors have a composite ceramic core of nine strands wrapped with 24 aluminum strands. The individual composite core strands are brittle and snap like dry spaghetti when subject to severe deflection, but they have high tensile strength so that the lines do not stretch or sag under tension, especially when subject to high ambient temperatures, as copper lines are apt to do.

The ceramic core strands cabled together and wrapped with aluminum strands create a line that has these fine attributes, but must be handled differently than copper lines. When an aluminum line is attached to an insulator, it must have a special connector clamped onto it. A jumper line to the outgoing line bridges the insulator.

Michels Power linemen are also installing new porcelain insulators for the new lines. Though high line crews often work with live lines, in this in-

stance power has been shut off to expedite the work on more than 250 tower structures along more than 30 miles.

Hardwood timber mats bridge streams and wetlands as mapped by an environmental company. A Cat loader equipped with forks sets the timber mats where designated directly onto wetlands, and sometimes builds bridges over small streams.

The equipment lineup in-

cludes 11 Ford pickup trucks, an Army surplus 6 X 6 all-wheel drive truck, five bucket lift trucks, two digger derrick trucks, three cranes, one Peterbilt lowboy, one Caterpillar forklift, two Wagner-Smith pullers, one Wagner-Smith V-groover, three Volvo Excavators, three Volvo Payloaders, two Caterpillar bulldozers, several dumpsters and an office trailer.

ALL PHOTOS BY JOE PARZYCH



Foreman Hanes Erikson stands in front of a tower where Mario Batitis and Jameson Duncan install new insulators from a bucket.

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MONTAGUE ELECTION INFO

Voter Registration Deadline:

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 is the last day to register to vote for the upcoming November 4 State Election. Registration will be held at the Town Clerk's Office for all Montague residents who will be 18 years old on or before November 4, 2014. Office hours will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Town Clerk's office is located at the Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls. For more information call 863-3200, ext 203.

Montague Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee ballots are now available at the Town Clerk's Office for the November 4 State Election. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is noon on Monday, November 3. To vote absentee you must be out of town on the day of the election, have a religious belief that prohibits you from being at the polls or have a physical disability that prevents you from going to the polls.

All absentee ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by the close of the polls on November 4. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Town Hall hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Town Clerk's Office is located at the Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls. For more information call 863-3200, ext 203.

WENDELL ELECTION INFO

Voter Registration Deadline:

The last day to register to vote for the November 4 State Election is Wednesday, October 15.

A special voter registration session will be held on this day in the Town Clerk Office from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Mail in registrations must also be postmarked on this date to be valid for the November 4 election. Register before October 15 during regular office hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Register in person at the Town Clerk Office, by mail, or at the RMV.

Anyone who has changed addresses must register at their new address in Wendell. If you have recently moved to Wendell you must also register to vote.

Absentee Voter Application:

If you are a registered voter who is unable to vote at the polls on Election Day, you can complete

an absentee ballot application and vote by mail. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is noon on Monday, November 3. To vote absentee, you must be out of town on Election Day, have a religious belief that prohibits you from being at the polls, or have a physical disability that prevents you from getting to the polls.

Ballot Questions:

There are 4 ballot questions on the November 4 ballot covering topics including the gas tax, the beverage deposit law, gaming, and sick time for employees.

Everyone should have received in the mail a red booklet with a summary of each question, arguments in favor and against, and an explanation of what a Yes Vote or a No Vote would mean. If you need a copy of this booklet, it may be picked up at the post office, or local library. Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk at (978) 544-3395 x 102.

NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Montague Center School Building Talks Go Public

By JEFF SINGLETON

After months of negotiations with the potential developer of Montague Center School, Mark Zaccheo, behind closed doors, the Montague Selectboard on October 6 decided to open up the doors to conform to the state Open Meeting Law.

As the very long public portion of the meeting was about to end and the board prepared to go into yet another executive session with Zaccheo, Montague Center Resident Roy Rosenblatt asked if the action did not violate state law: "If the reason for the executive session is that you don't want to undermine your negotiating position with the developer, then how can you have the developer participating in the executive session?"

Selectboard member Mark Fairbrother responded, "Well, I was going to ask the same thing."

Rosenblatt then proceeded to read from the text of the state open meeting law, which he had accessed from his cell phone. The law states that a public body may meet in executive session "to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body."

The three Selectboard members looked at one another with a classic "how can this discussion have a detrimental effect if the guy is sitting at the table" look. They then agreed to have the discussion in public session.

Then, with numerous Montague Center residents looking on, the board presented a proposed timeline to complete the sale of the former school.

Within two weeks, Zaccheo would request a variance (or exception) from the local/state zoning law that requires a building of a certain size to have an industrial sprinkler system. Zaccheo wishes to install a less expensive residential system, but the building's square footage is slightly above the upper threshold under state law.

A purchase and sale agreement for the property would be completed by December 1, and the final sale or "closing" would take place on or before February 15.

Things seemed to be moving along smoothly when Fairbrother stated that he felt that the old tank buried near the school, which currently holds the building's heating oil, should not be removed until the sale is completed. His rationale was that the town would need the tank

and its oil if the sale fell through at the last minute.

Zaccheo responded that there could be no closing on the property until the tank was removed.

There followed a somewhat inconclusive discussion about the cost of removing the tank and putting in one or two smaller above-ground tanks.

Building inspector David Jensen said that he did not understand why the issue was becoming a "stumbling block." Presumably, the issue will be resolved by a purchase and sale agreement. Or not, as Zaccheo pointed out, and both parties will "move on" to other pursuits.



Some remember a time when the building served a purpose. This April, 2008 file photo suggests it may once have been some sort of facility for children.

At this point, the issue of the sale price came up. Audience member Roy Rosenblatt said that he felt that since a price of \$50,000 was part of the original Request For Proposals (RFP), a change would violate the state open bidding law, Chapter 30B.

Selectboard chair Chris Boutwell stated that he had been assured by town administrator Frank Abbondanzio that town counsel had ruled that a price negotiation was legal. Abbondanzio was not at the October 6 meeting.

Then the board went into a presumably legal executive session to discuss the sale price amongst themselves. Zaccheo and members of the audience headed downstairs to chat.

When the executive session was over and the selectboard reconvened the meeting, the board announced a sale price of \$1, and the meeting ended.

People In Uniforms

The Montague Center School discussion began roughly an hour after its scheduled time on the posted agenda. The primary culprits

responsible for the delay were two long and sometimes emotional dog complaint hearings.

In the first, a resident complained that she had been attacked and bitten while walking on the bike path in Montague City. The owner for the most part agreed with her version of events, although he suggested that the victim had approached the dog and "flailed" at an inopportune moment.

The board ordered that the dog be muzzled while off the owner's property, and attend a program called "Canine Head Start." After much thought and discussion, the board decided not to prohibit the

dog from the bike path, as long as he is wearing a muzzle.

In another case, a dog that had already been the subject of a hearing last spring had jumped over her mandated fence and attacked several postal workers.

Montague police chief Chip Dodge, supported by the local animal control officer, requested that this dog be "put down" as too dangerous.

After an emotional defense of the dog by its owner, who claimed the animal only attacked people in uniforms, the board reluctantly delayed the execution for now.

However, the board stated that if there is "just one more incident" when the animal breaks free from its enclosure, even if it does not attack anyone, "that's it." The board vowed to hold no more hearings on the issue.

Assessments Assessed

The meeting began with an official "tax classification hearing" in which the town assessor, Barbara Miller, requested that the board approve a "residential factor" of 0.866354.

This moves approximately 9.34% of the total town tax levy from residential and open space class to the commercial and industrial class. The predicted impact on Montague tax rates for FY'15 will be a rate of \$16.96 per thousand dollars for residential property and a rate of \$25.65 for commercial and industrial property.

Miller's memo stated that the total taxable valuation in the town had decreased by \$2,865,371, or 0.38% over the previous year. She ascribed this to "cyclical inspections," an effort which produced "increased access to properties, many of which experienced a reduction in value due to previously unaccounted for physical depreciation."

Miller also noted that "there has been no settlement with FirstLight" power company which is disputing both its FY'14 and FY'15 valuations: "An Appellate Tax Board case is imminent. As stated last year, we will hardly defend our valuation but, should they prevail in appellate court, the tax rate could go up significantly."

Cross Road To Reopen?

In other news, the board voted to reopen Greenfield Cross Road, which runs between Greenfield Road and Hatchery Road, on October 31. The road has been closed for at least a decade due to purported safety concerns (several "fender benders") but Chief Dodge stated he had checked the various "sight lines" and was satisfied the road was safe.

Highway Chief Tom Bergeron said that reopening the road would require minimal work and that if problems arose he could handle them with state Chapter 90 funds.

The board also voted to hold a public hearing on the issue on October 20.

A number of members of the audience asked why the road was being reopened, suggesting that it was unnecessary and redundant. The response was that the road had not been closed legally in the first place.

Lisa Adams, whose property abuts both sides of the road, said she believed the reopening was "retaliation" for her insistence on rebuilding two burned barns within the town right of way.

Adams announced she was filing a lawsuit against town officials, officials of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and a consultant named Mr. Toth whom she previously had employed to research historic maps.

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Johnson Wins Erving Selectboard Seat

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

Arthur D. Johnson will be Erving's new selectman. In Tuesday's voting he received 131 votes; his opponent Scott Fritz garnered 82. Turnout was light: only 21 percent of Erving voters went to the polls.

Johnson will join Margaret Sullivan and William Bembury on the board. Johnson will fill the seat left open when Eugene Klepadlo resigned last summer. The partial term expires in May of 2016.

Johnson said he was pleased and excited that the voters had confidence in him. "I can't wait to get

to work. There's a lot to be done and I look forward to doing it."

On Wednesday morning Johnson had already been to town hall to pick up his selectman's packet and get oriented. "I'm on duty as of today," he said on Wednesday.

Johnson campaigned on a platform that emphasized restoring harmony to a town deeply divided over recent selectboard decisions, especially the dismissal last year of fire chief Almon "Bud" Meattey.

He also said he'd work to improve Erving's business climate. At the top of his list was attracting investors to rehab the former In-

ternational Paper Mill in Erving-side.

"We need to get this building back on the tax rolls, he said in September. "We need to get businesses in there and transform it from a liability to an asset."

Johnson is not a newcomer to town government. He's served on the finance committee, the zoning board of appeals and since July 2013 has been the town's certified animal control officer.

"The town needs to move forward," he said. "I'm a level-headed, common-sense guy who looks fully at the issues in order to come up with a reasonable approach."

New Wood Pellet Bag Recycling Program

FRANKLIN COUNTY – The Franklin County Solid Waste District has coordinated a new program for residents to recycle empty wood pellet bags.

Using grant funds from Mass-DEP and a state Community Innovation Challenge Grant, the District has purchased and distributed small sheds to collect and recycle wood pellet bags.

This is a pilot program and can only accept pellet bags – no other plastic bag or plastic film product. Bags must be dry and empty.

It's very important for participants to follow the guidelines so

that all material can be recycled and not rejected by the end market.

These sheds are currently available for town residents using the following transfer stations: Bernardston, Buckland, Deerfield, Northfield, Warwick, and Wendell. The Conway and Rowe Transfer Stations are collecting pellet bags separately but do not have a shed for them; hand to attendant.

Beginning in November, town residents using the Charlemont/Shelburne, Montague, and Orange Transfer Stations will have pellet bag recycling sheds on site. The program is free to residents.

In collaboration with the Greenfield DPW, the District has used grant funds to purchase a large storage trailer for pellet bags.

Residents in any Franklin County town may deliver pellet bags to the Greenfield Transfer Station during normal operating hours. There is no fee.

For more information contact the Solid Waste District at (413) 772-2438 (Mass Relay for the hearing impaired: 711), email info@franklincountywastedistrict.org, or visit www.franklincountywastedistrict.org.

Democratic Candidate Forums

Representative Denise Andrews is sponsoring a series of Democratic candidate forums. The first will be held in Erving at the French King Bowling and Entertainment Center, 55 French King Highway, from 1:30-2:30 pm on Saturday, October 18.

Maura Healey, Democratic candidate for Attorney General, will share the stage with Representative Andrews.

tion infrastructure.

Kulik is also a member of several legislative caucuses which focus on issues of importance to the region. He founded the Small Town and Rural Caucus, and is a member of the Regional School Caucus, the Regional Transportation Caucus, the Manufacturing Caucus, and the Progressive Caucus.

He is also active in several regional and national legislative organizations, including serving on the executive committee of the Council of State Governments/Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC). As part of CSG/ERC, he is an active member of Northeast States for Agricultural Stewardship (NSAS).

He is also presently the vice-chair of State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL), a national group of legislators who work on state and federal policy issues regarding agriculture, water resources, environment, trade, and other issues of importance to rural communities.

Steve and his wife, Suzanne, live in Worthington, where they raised their two adult children, Sam and Elizabeth.



NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Firefighter Hiring Committee Short On Members; 2 Upcoming STMs

By KATIE NOLAN

At the October 6 Erving selectboard meeting, fire chief Philip Wonkka told the board that the hiring committee to review applications from six former firefighters has only two members, himself and selectboard chair William Bembury. He said that he had approached several people about joining the committee, but they "respectfully declined."

Bembury suggested having one of the two captains in the department join the hiring committee. The committee is responsible for reviewing the applications of six former firefighters who applied to re-join the fire department on August 25.

Wonkka also presented a draft firefighter job description to the board. Selectboard member Margaret Sullivan, noting the requirement for firefighter 1 and firefighter 2 training in the draft, asked Wonkka to create three separate job descriptions, for firefighter (untrained), firefighter with firefighter 1 training, and firefighter with firefighter 2 training. Wonkka agreed to provide revised job descriptions to the October 20 selectboard meeting.

Conservation commission member Cyd Scott told the board that he and concomm chair David Brule attended a Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners meeting recently. He said he learned that "the state and town have nothing to say" about the proposed Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline route.

According to Scott, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) can decide that the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act doesn't apply to a project. However, he is asking the selectboard to support a letter the concomm is drafting, asking FERC to apply state regulations regarding cultural, historical and wetlands resources.

He said he will be documenting Erving's resources in preparation for responding to Kinder Morgan's proposal. If the pipeline route through Erving is approved and constructed, he said, it will be the concomm's job to mitigate the damage from the project.

Highway foreman Glenn McCrory told the selectboard that brush cutting at the former International Paper property "should be done tomorrow and under budget." Administrative coordinator Tom Sharp said, "It [the brush cutting] really makes a difference."

The selectboard approved purchase and installation of five security cameras for the property at a cost of approximately \$200 per camera. McCrory he would get estimates for closing up first floor entrances.

Sharp said he would inform insurer Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) that the town was making progress on securing the property.

The board accepted the low bidders for a Ford F550 truck and heavy duty equipment package for the highway department. Stoneham Motors will sell the truck for \$40,884 and H.P. Fairfield LLC will equip it for \$28,892. The September 15 STM approved spending up to \$91,585 for the truck and equipment.

On October 20, the board will finalize the warrant for a November 3 special town meeting. The warrant will include two articles: a bylaw

establishing a process for recalling elected officials and a zoning bylaw allowing commercial aboveground storage tanks for petroleum products in the town's groundwater protection zone. The special town meeting will be held at Erving Elementary School starting at 7 p.m.

The board will also be preparing a warrant for a second special town meeting November 24, with articles proposing expenditures of "free cash" for various projects, including legal costs for appellate tax court, developing a town water system, work at the former Usher plant, work at the Pearl B. Care historical building and constructing a carport for the FRTA senior van.

The selectboard members signed a ten-year agreement with the Town of Montague for the treatment of Montague wastewater at Erving's wastewater treatment plant.

Selectboard member Margaret Sullivan said that the Montague selectboard had agreed to the terms of the contract, but that it needed to be approved by the Montague town meeting. She said Montague's November special town meeting would vote on the contract. Under this contract, Montague will become a customer, paying fees based on annual flow rate into the plant.

The board rejected the Franklin Regional Council of Governments' offer of a pellet bag recycling bin. "I don't think it makes sense for us to do it," Sullivan said. Because Erving doesn't have a transfer station, the bin would likely be placed at the wastewater treatment plant.

According to McCrory and wastewater treatment supervisor Pete Sanders, residents would have to make an appointment to drop the pellet bags off at the plant and town employees would have to supervise the drop-off. Instead, the board decided to put a notice in the Around Town that Erving residents can drop off pellet bags free of charge at the Greenfield transfer station.

According to Sharp, Tighe & Bond's Phase I environmental site assessment for the property adjacent to the former Usher plant "found no smoking gun" indicating environmental problems.

Erving Industries CEO Morris Housen offered the property as a gift to the town. The board asked Sharp to contact town counsel Donna MacNicol about finalizing the property transfer.

Bembury will contact Winston Lavalley for a continuing discussion about possible sale of Lavalley's property, located between the senior center and Erving Elementary School, to the town.

Denise Maynard was appointed to the Council on Aging, with a term ending July 2017. AnnMarie Newton was also appointed, with a term ending July 2015.

The board will be considering moving many of the human resources responsibilities for hiring to the treasurer's office. Chair William Bembury said he would contact Montague and Greenfield human resources departments to find out how these towns organize human resources responsibilities.

The state senate sent a citation for Erving's oldest resident, Arlene Clark, who will turn 100 soon. Bembury will consult with Polly Kiely about an appropriate time to present the citation.

A Crucial Catch: Your Day to Fight Breast Cancer, October 25

GREENFIELD – On Saturday, October 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., please join the Community Health Center of Franklin County at our Greenfield location to learn more about how you can reduce your risk of breast cancer, or find it early.

Our events will include clinical breast exams, a health insurance table, voter registration, a raffle, face painting, snacks, and refreshments, information on breast cancer, a healthy cooking and eating

demonstration, and more.

The event is made possible with funds raised by the National Football League's A Crucial Catch campaign, in support of the American Cancer Society.

The Community Health Center of Franklin County is located in the Cherry Rum Medical Plaza at 489 Bernardston Road in Greenfield. For directions, please visit www.chcfc.org/driving-directions.

KULIK from page A1

consequences. "This opposition has already had an important impact. Governor Patrick, who invited Kinder-Morgan in, has now stepped back and is doing his own due diligence study of other energy options."

Kulik said that voters in his district have also raised other issues, among them gaining broadband for towns and communities that don't currently have access, among them those who reside on Chestnut Hill in Montague.

Education is another key issue for his constituents, particularly aid to local school funding. Kulik said this has also been a topic of importance to him and that he has "long advocated a revision to the Chapter 70 formula." "It's been 21 years since educational reform was introduced in the state. A change is needed."

He said he was optimistic that the FY16 state budget will have good information about how the formula can be changed to help out rural regional school districts.

Kulik also said that he remains a strong advocate for local aid to towns, including programs like Regional School Transportation, Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT),

and support for local libraries.

Prior to entering the legislature, Kulik served 11 years as a selectman in the town of Worthington, where he was active in many regional and statewide organizations promoting the interests of municipal government, especially small towns.

He is a past president of the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association and the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

Kulik notes that when he was elected to the state house in 1993, it was the first time that a Democrat occupied the First Franklin District seat in over 90 years. He also points out that Western Massachusetts has far more of a voice on Beacon Hill than in previous years.

As Vice-Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, he sits on the six-member conference committee of the House and Senate which reconciles the two versions of the budget for presentation to the full legislature.

He has also served as a negotiator for the House on many other conference committees, including the 2014 Transportation Bond which provides a multi-year plan for a \$13 billion investment in the state's transporta-

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KORPITA from page A1

relationships") before settling on examples of consultative leadership closer to home:

"When I was growing up, Governor Weld was an extremely popular governor... the way that he appealed to people in this part of the state, these towns around here voted for him just as heavily as anywhere else. He was someone that really connected across the aisle with people, as others have done in this state – as Silvio O. Conte did.

"He was very apolitical, in a way, in that he just went and tried to get things done: represent his constituents, and work with his colleagues.... There's a lot of people in office right now who just don't seem to put as much emphasis into those two things. They think that there's a pecking order, and the orders come from above."

Getting down to issues, Korpita expresses themes of public-sector overreach, but only by degree. "Everyone talks about big government and small government. I think that different ranges of government can work, but where it gets tricky, or dangerous, is where the authority doesn't line up with the accountability. That's one of the problems I see when I look at our government. And this is cross-party, and beyond just Massachusetts."

He expresses frustration with an apparently constrained New England energy system, blamed for electricity rate hikes this winter. "My question is," he asks, "what is the government's plan here? Saying that, well, 'it's up to FERC' is not really an answer to me. What is our intention? What is the path of our energy future, and how do we start taking our steps to go down it?... Isn't that why we have a government – to handle things like infrastructure projects?"

Drawing his special ire is the proposal to fund a new natural gas pipeline with a tariff on electricity consumers. "I don't understand how the government has the authority to levy these tariffs, but doesn't have the responsibility for what happens with the money. To just kind of sign the blank check, and not have explored all the alternatives....

"Let's just put aside for a moment if the right next infrastructure is conservation, or a pipeline, or a combination, or something else: you'd think that that next step and solution would line up with the winding down of the existing paradigm."

Korpita shares his positions on this year's ballot questions as a cross-section of his political range. He opposes mandatory sick leave ("I like and appreciate the concept of paid sick leave... I don't think it's something that should be mandated") and casinos ("I saw Atlantic City in the '90s when it still was a place you might want to be, periodically... I really think it's going to be a net negative down the road"), and is in favor of expanding bottle redemption, though also open to scrapping it altogether ("the thing I feel strongest about is there shouldn't be a distinction between types of bottles").

On Question 1, he is in favor of repealing last year's law pegging the state gas tax to inflation, seeing this as a move that disproportionately hits rural residents: "People have to drive more in Western Mass, and there's public transportation in Eastern Mass, so it feels a little bit like money sliding downhill into Boston again.

"My opponent has reaffirmed his support for the automatic gas tax,

and I just don't think that represents the will of the people of this district, as best I've been able to find in all my travels."

Some of his concerns around education are also rooted in this rural perspective – "when the schools regionalized a generation ago, they were promised that they'd get the transportation funded by the state, and they've never done it." He also criticizes the Core Curriculum as "squander[ing] some of that lead we had," a situation in which "signing up for the national average is just going to drag us down to it."

Korpita also cites rural internet access as an unmet promise, commending the technical aspects of Leverett's last-mile plan ("I think that's the right way to do that") while pointing out that, at over \$3 million, it's not an affordable solution for many other towns in his district.

"It's a delicate balance between getting the resources we need from the larger collective," he writes on his website, reflecting on a day spent knocking on doors in Montague Center, where he encountered residents unhappy with their town government, "and still wanting to be left to our own devices."

Korpita reflects on the outsized benefit a single state employer, UMass, has on the region. "The economic opportunities for businesses or individuals are very concentrated around here, both geographically and in terms of what they are.... There's a real challenge for kids coming out of school, and adults, looking for the kind of work that you can build a life around. It's very difficult around here....

"And that has ramifications all the way back to schools: you have these large regional schools now that don't have anywhere near the size classes they were built for. And that's part of why we have the strain on per-student costs and per-household tax assessments. They're interconnected, it's challenging, and it's hard to see what the path forward is, other than to know that it's an opportunity for people to try to do something different."

Different in what way? "Government is not going to have the answer. And there's certainly programs we need to help people, but I think we're starting to push too far in a lot of these directions. The overall cost of the system is getting very onerous, especially for small businesses, in terms of not just taxes and healthcare, but in terms of regulations and red tape and bureaucracy."

In which case – why the switch to the public sector? Korpita describes "COO-type work to be done" there, but stops and clarifies: "That's an analogy! Government is not business....

"Being a state representative is a great responsibility, a great opportunity, and a lot of other things, but it's really about the type of person I want to be in that role, and the type of influence or effect I want to have on other people.

"Not just to make them want to go vote, or want to go volunteer, but just to get up and go try to do whatever it is they're doing in their life: starting their own family, starting their own business, or whatever. That's how our parents and grandparents got through tougher times and tougher periods economically and otherwise, in the history of this area. And that's the way we're going to do it."

And if he should fall short of the mark in November, what next?

"My full focus is on the campaign."

**NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD**

Taking Care of Business

By DAVID DETMOLD

With Randy Crochier absent, the remaining members of the selectboard were in taking care of business mode on Monday night.

Near the top of the agenda, Ann Banash (former selectboard member) reported she was nearing completion on her compilation of the annual town report for 2011. Leaving for her winter home in Florida this week, Banash will take drafts of the annual reports for 2012 and 2013 with her, and finish them before the end of the year, she said. Some vacation.

Town administrative assistant Ray Purington, swamped with work on a number of town projects, told town meeting earlier this year that he had been unable to compile the lengthy annual reports for the last three years.

Town meeting voted about \$3,000 to hire an assistant to compile the reports, which are mandated by law. Banash, intimately familiar with the goings on of the selectboard and other town boards and committees, was the obvious pick for the job.

Banash said it had taken her between 40 and 50 hours to complete the 2011 report, but predicted the next two would go quicker. Still, a solid week of work seems like a lot to ask from an already overburdened town administrative assistant, so the selectboard seemed inclined to continue hiring Banash to put the reports together in future years, as long as she is willing.

Fire chief Gene Beaubien came before the board to request an appropriation of \$2,270 from the Northfield Mount Hermon fund to pay for an outside company to test the fire department's four inch hose for leaks.

The selectboard wound up authorizing a not to exceed figure for the hose test of \$3500, to allow Beaubien the option of having some of the department's 1 1/4 and 2 1/2 inch hose tested as well, time permitting. The procedure will take place at the boat ramp, to allow enough room to unreel long lengths of the 6,000 feet of 4-inch hose the department stores on its pumpers.

"I think it would be wonderful to get a good inventory of what we have for hose," said selectboard member John Ward. "We've wanted that for years."

Bids are due this week for insulation projects at the town hall and the Riverside municipal building. Only one company showed up for the mandatory tour of those buildings, so no more than one bid is expected. Asked how the town would know whether it was getting a good deal from a single bidder who knows there is no competition, Purington said as long as the bids fell within the range of a prior estimate, the bid would likely be awarded.

The selectboard will hold a special meeting this Friday evening to decide whether to award a bid for insulating. At the same time, they plan to award the Boston Post Cane to the town's eldest citizen.

Stay tuned for more details on both these events.

News last week that the town of Montague does not plan to seek a sewer rate increase for the coming fiscal year will come as a relief to overtaxed Riverside residents, who are paying Montague to process a mysteriously large amount of sewage each year. The board has so far been stymied in their attempts to figure out why the small Riverside water district routinely seems to be pumping nearly two times more sewage to Montague each year than the amount of water it imports from Greenfield.

The selectboard asked Purington again this week to contact Montague to see if that town could install a meter on their side of the river to double check the meter on the Gill side, to make sure there is not a faulty meter at the root of the mystery.

The board hired architect John DeVries to oversee the design of a new roof for the town's safety complex. The amount agreed to for DeVries' services, \$10,500, was 10% lower than the town had budgeted, according to Purington.

Set aside the date of November 19 to participate in the next Gill flu clinic, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Gill Elementary School.

A Gill energy commission workshop on home weatherization still has openings, on October 25; go to the town website (or the Gill energy commission's Facebook page) to pre-register for this free workshop.

O'DOWD from page A1

"That gave me time to think," he said, and he concluded that going to Bondsville was "making the wrong decision." After his second day in Bondsville, he emailed postal office supervisors saying he wanted to retire.

O'Dowd said he appreciated the support he received from Wendellites when the postal service publicized its plan to cut Wendell post office hours this summer, and that he would be

back to visit and participate in the community. At the July 8 hearing with western Massachusetts postal officials, over 100 residents crowded into town hall to praise O'Dowd's customer service and plead for keeping him at full hours in Wendell. However, within weeks, the postal service decision to cut hours and move O'Dowd was confirmed.

He said he has many reasons to come back to visit Wendell, as well as the wide community support. One

is vegetables: "I have a farm share at Stone's Throw Farm."

O'Dowd is currently using his accrued vacation time until his retirement is effective on October 31. A group of Wendell citizens is planning a celebration for him on October 19 at 4:30 at Wendell town hall, with a potluck dinner and open mic for stories about his years serving Wendell.

**NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD**

Wendell Settles on Fiberglass Shingles For Gazebo

By JOSH HEINEMANN

The Wendell selectboard called and posted a special meeting Friday, October 3, at 10 a.m. to act on the results of the special town meeting that was held Thursday, September 25. Board member Dan Keller and board chair Christine Heard were in attendance at this mid-morning meeting.

Town meeting cut the budget for replacing the roof on the town gazebo, and in doing so, eliminated the possibility of using slate. Slate would have cost over \$8,000, if done along with the senior center roof, and the town meeting approved \$4,500.

Keller said that Ed Hines offered the town cedar shingles for the gazebo roof. Hines then sorted through his cedar and found that he had about three squares of useable shingles.

The roof needs three more

squares, at \$70 a bundle and four bundles to a square, and an estimate of \$4,200 for labor alone to put the shingles up. The offer was generous but still would cost more than town meeting authorized.

Building and grounds coordinator Ted Lewis came to this meeting and expressed disappointment that the voters had not approved money for a slate roof, which he said would last 100 years and would look good, matching the slate roof that will be replaced on the senior center. The senior center is a historical building, but the gazebo, built in the 1980's, is not.

Voting together, Heard and Keller approved fiberglass shingles for the gazebo.

Neil Bannon of Leverett will replace the slate at the senior center and will put the fiberglass shingles on the gazebo.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10.

Tibet: A Journey in Image and Story

Former New Salem resident Terri Nash will give a talk on Tibet on Saturday, October 11, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the Wendell Free Library.

Nash will present her adventures as a modern midwife in remote eastern Tibet, training women in maternal and infant care during the summer of 2014.

Nash, originally from Boston, graduated from UMass Amherst in 1978 and resided in Western Mass for over twenty years working as a midwife, teacher and storyteller.

In 1982 she helped initiate the Peace Pagoda in Leverett. She made her home primarily in New Salem until the island of Kauai captivated her in 2005.

Terri says she returns each year to Western Mass because, "the maple syrup never truly left her blood, the granite her bones, nor the majesty of autumn leaves her imagination."

Semi-retired from midwifery, she teaches Qi Gong on Kauai and has received Qi instruction from numerous teachers including Daisy Lee, International Qi Gong Instructor and founder of Women's Qi Gong.

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Veterans Districts Merger Planned

By DAVID DETMOLD

MONTAGUE – According to Leo Parent, the proposed merger of the Central Franklin County Veterans Service District with the Greenfield Veterans Services office to form a unified district will be a positive development that will keep assessments to the 26 towns of Franklin County, plus Plainfield, from more than doubling.

“It’s going to be really, really good for veterans,” said Parent, who predicted the new district would enable veterans to have better, computerized access to all their Veterans Administration benefits.

Under the recently passed Valor Act, the state of Massachusetts will require all veterans districts to maintain certain levels of staffing, based on the population they serve. Parent said joining with Greenfield, whose veterans office also serves Leyden, will allow the other 24 Franklin County towns to take advantage of the full time staffing the county seat will provide under the new law. The net result will be three full time staffers serving Franklin County veterans, he said.

Parent, who has served the Central Franklin District for 30 years, was joined five years ago by Mark Fitzpatrick.

After the merger is completed, Parent said he would retire next July, and continue to serve on the board of new district as the representative from Erving, while Fitzpatrick will stay on for an additional year to aid with the transition before joining the board as the representative from Bernardston.

“What’s happening is the Secretary of Veterans Services is trying to make sure all the districts in the state have enough staffing and finances to take care of veterans. Right now our district does not have enough staffing,” said Parent.

Parent said if the Central Franklin District were to remain a stand alone district, it would be forced under the new law to increase staffing to two and a half full time employees, which could result in more than a doubling of town assessments.

Many area towns are already experiencing steep increases in costs for veterans’ benefits, due to the increased demands from veterans returning from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Under the new plan, the current veterans office on Millers Falls Road, in back of Rubin’s Auto, will likely close and be replaced with a satellite office in the Montague town hall, with dedicated hours. A new satellite office is planned for South Deerfield, and office hours will be maintained in Shelburne and Orange as well.

Parent said with the ease of access provided through FRTA buses, veterans throughout the county should have no trouble reaching the central office on Main Street in Greenfield, where newcomer Tim Nijadlik plans to stay on as a full time veterans agent.

The proposed merger will be the topic of discussion of the veterans service district board members representing towns throughout the county and Greenfield meeting in joint session on Thursday, October 9 at 5 p.m.

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B1

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OCTOBER 9, 2014

ROCK PRIMER, PART TWO: THE HISTORY OF PESKEOMSCUT, MA

By JOHN FURBISH

THE GREAT FALLS – In last week’s article I described orienting myself to the forces that would make Peskeomscut a “place of rocks split by water.” This week it’s time to start my strolling tour through rock sites with the immense help of Steve Winters’ booklet *Geologic Walking Tour*.

I start on Canal Street facing the large rock outcrop behind the Youth Sculpture Garden (site 5). I notice a definite time marker on the left, and walk closer. At bottom left is a sedimentary rock mixture, a conglomerate of rocks, gravel, and sand that was formed after getting deposited at a lake bottom in the Jurassic era (200-145 million years ago).

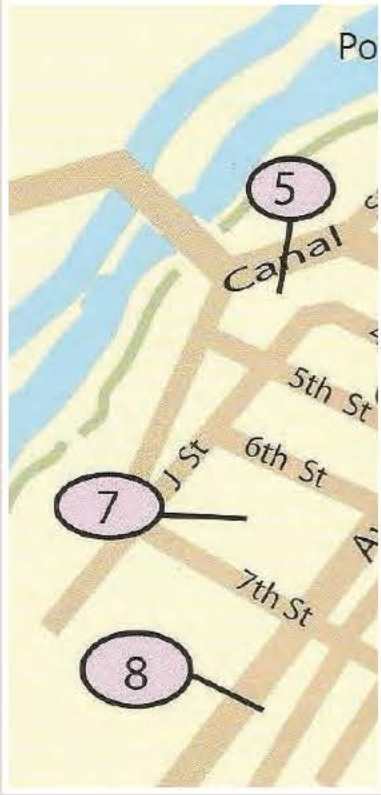
The layered sandstone rocks above, being higher and therefore newer, were deposited in streams during periods over 145 million years ago. I rub my hand across the rock, with its distinct but smooth layers.

Next, I turn around 180 degrees and look across the waterway at Canada Hill in Greenfield. Visible is a basalt formation that originated 194 million years ago, when up to 400 feet of the Deerfield lava flows continued filling the rift after first depositing 1,000 feet of rock in the original rift valley (which had opened up the Holyoke lava flows).

The igneous rock basalt is harder than sedimentary rocks, erodes less easily, and has survived better through time, although it was reoriented by 90 degrees from a side layer to an upright formation to make today’s hill.

I walk along Canal to Seventh Street, and make a horseshoe turn on J Street, parallel to and right behind Peskeomscut Park. I notice two very long, connected mounds of rock, and stop to face them directly.

The rock face causes me to scrunch up my face in simulated pain every time I see it since I think that the growing pressure



Section of map from Winters’ “Geologic Walking Tour” booklet.

from new sediments made everything shift by 65 degrees to their present position. This formation makes a bonus of exposed rock for site 7.

Heading back to Seventh Street, I take a look at rock-site 7 where trees grow from the outcropping shading the rocks. The ridge of exposed rock slabs got formed from mud flats in shallow drying-out lakes in early Jurassic times.

The irregular ridge of exposed rock surfaces in this site, a miniature mountain chain, are all circled by hillocks which create miniature mud cracks, sand dunes and ripples. A discerning eye can also detect clay chips formed within the rocks.

While rich in geology, the park is also important historically as the “split rock area” recognized by the Pocumtucks. It would be nice to see complementary informational and interpretive outdoor signs in the area of the rocks, to tell in pictures and text, what went on here with particular information about Wissatinnewag.

see **ROCK PRIMER** page B5



FURBISH PHOTO

Close-up of rocks at 3rd and Canal: Older rocks formed at lake beds on bottom, newer stream-created rocks on top.

Young Thespians to Stage Shakespeare



SUZANNE RUBINSTEIN PHOTO

Members of Young Shakespeare Players East performing.

By JOE KWIECINSKI

MONTAGUE – It’s an exciting time for the Young Shakespeare Players East as the group conducts rehearsals at the Shea Theater in preparation for its Saturday, Dec. 6 debut here of the delightful comedy of confusion, disguise and love, “Twelfth Night.”

Two performances are scheduled for the opening day, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m., and at the same curtain times the following day, Sunday, Dec. 7.

Young Shakespeare Players East was founded in Brattleboro three years ago by Suzanne Rubinstein.

She is director of the organization, which has many goals including the establishment of a strong foundation in the language of the renowned playwright and poet.

YSP East is the only branch of the original Young Shakespeare Players that took first breath in Madison, Wisconsin in 1980.

Founded by Richard DiPrima, a child psychologist and Shakespearean scholar, the Midwestern troupe has performed hundreds of plays over the years, including productions of *The Bard*, Charles Dickens, and George Bernard Shaw.

Anne DiPrima serves as co-director and is also a child psychologist and expert in the works of Shakespeare.

In addition, DiPrima designs costumes for all YSP/Madison offerings. Richard and Anne are husband and wife and live next door to the playhouse where the group’s offerings are performed.

Closer to home, Rubinstein is extremely grateful to the board of directors at the Shea for a warm welcome. “The Shea has been wonderful,” said Suzanne. “This is our first production at the theater. They’ve opened their doors and their hearts to our program and have been incredibly supportive.”

Jillian Morgan, vice president of the Shea board of

see **THESPIANS** page B4

MOVIES, ART AND DANCE ON TAP FOR OCTOBER'S THIRD THURSDAY

By REPORTER STAFF

TURNERS FALLS – Crows and Co-ops, the last Third Thursday evening of 2014, will be held on October 16 from 4 to 10 p.m. in downtown Turners.

Among the many events are a scarecrow building workshop, improvisational dance, a photography show and a screening of the Steve Alves’ *Food For Change*, a documentary about the Co-op movement.

Scarecrow builders of all ages are invited to the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, at 4 p.m. for a scarecrow building workshop.

RiverCulture, in partnership with the Montague Business Association, will have all of the basic scarecrow building supplies: frames, pants, shirts, heads and hay for stuffing.

All builders need to bring are ideas and accessories to personalize their scarecrows. Unusual hats and distinctive clothing work well. RiverCulture urges participants to think creatively. How about scarecrows modeled on rockstars, astro-

nauts, footballers, medieval queens, skateboarders, farmers?

Once finished, the scarecrows will be placed throughout downtown and at the Turners Falls-Gill intersection/Route 2. Builders can collect their scarecrows after the display weekend, October 18 and 19.

Registration is not required but helpful for planning. Please email riverculture@gmail.com.

On the lawn at the Discovery Center at 6 p.m., the professional dance duo Roman and Jennifer will perform an entirely improvised dance. Accompanying them on cello will be Vernon C. David, a cellist/modern composer who will contribute unique and spontaneous sound imagery.

At 7:15 in the Great Hall of the Discovery Center, Third Thursday

see **3RD THURS** page B4



Scene from Food For Change.

On Exhibit at the Discovery Center: Beth Pelton’s “Seasons of Light”

By ANNE HARDING

TURNERS FALLS – “Seasons of Light,” the work of Beth Pelton of Eight Cattails Imagery, is on display through October and November at the Great Hall of the Great Falls Discovery Center at 2 Avenue A with an opening reception on Saturday, October 11 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Visitors will see a selection of framed prints capturing the sun’s luminous quality in the early morning and early evening hours. The photographs focus on landscapes of fertile farmland along the Connecticut River and woodland scenes from the back roads of New Hampshire.

Pelton was first introduced to photography in high school in 1981 during an elective, a black and white photography class. Here she learned the basics of black and white photography, film development and photograph processing.

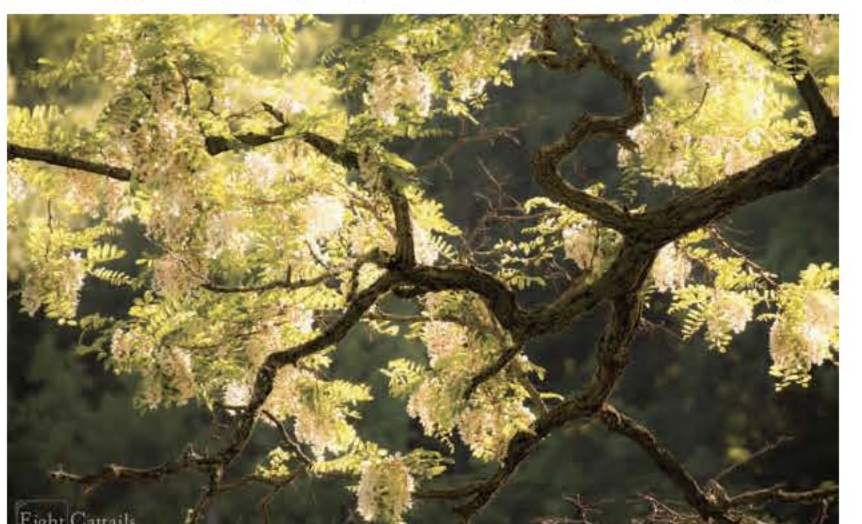
“I absolutely fell in love with the art. Although it was 33 years

ago, the memories of that class are very clear to me. I was so intrigued by the black and white film process, working in the dark room, learning about contrast, light, and trying out a variety of techniques with the enlarger. I could have spent all day there.”

After high school, Pelton found another opportunity to explore pho-

tography at Greenfield Community College while working on an associate’s degree in Education. “The instructor really challenged students and pushed us to be creative and stretch our imaginations. It was a great learning experience.”

Following her time at GCC, Pelton traveled and lived out west, see **LIGHT** page B4



Eight Cattails

Pelton’s “Wisteria.” Image courtesy of the artist.

Pets of the Week

This adorable father and son pair is ready and waiting to move into a new home, preferably one with lots of toys.

Gerbils know how to find the inner toy in any object -- a simple piece of cardboard becomes a game in their paws. Watch them team up and turn a paper towel tube into a

pile of shreds in a matter of minutes.

Ninja and Twinkie are hand tame, curious and friendly. As a bonded pair, they'll need to be adopted together as these social fellas are happiest when housed with other gerbil companions. Gerbils are diurnal, which means they're awake for a good part of the day and boy, are they busy!

They're excellent companions with their perky antics; when it's time to nap, they'll cuddle up together in a gerbil pile - so cute!

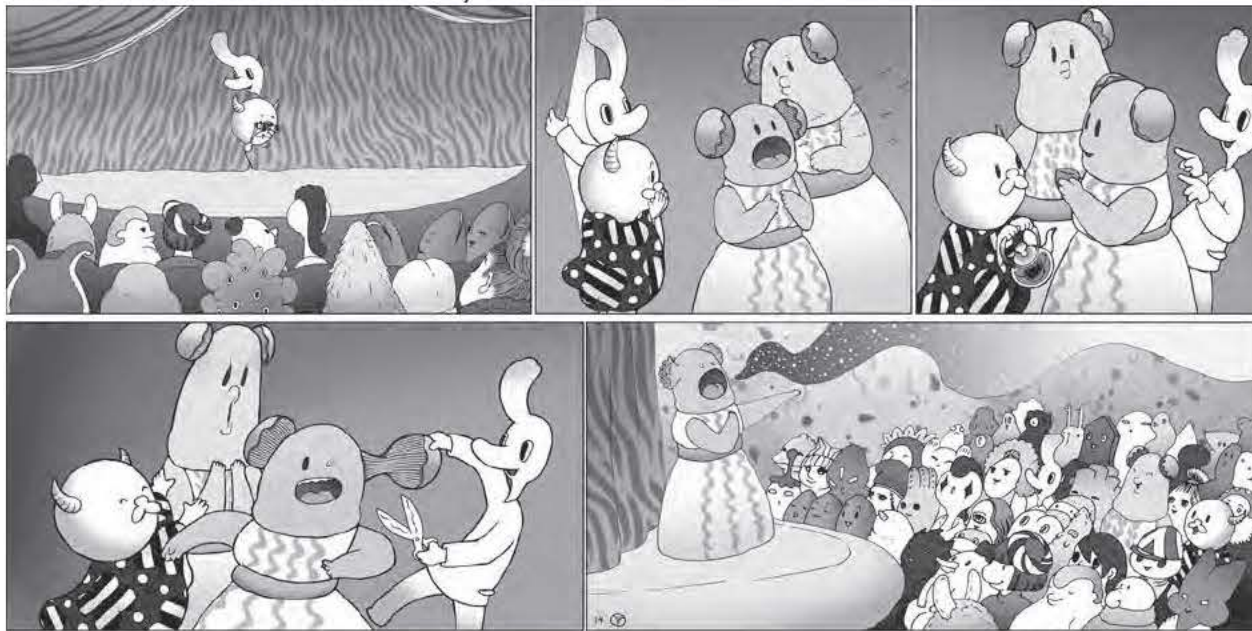
Gerbils are the cleanest of critters and very easy to care for. Adopt today and let the fun begin!

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



TWINKIE & NINJA

WEIRD HEALING! by OVERTURE



Overture is based in Shelburne Falls. Check out overture.org.

Come to a free local premiere of Overture's *Weird Healing* short animation next Thursday, October 16 at 7 p.m. at the FOE Store & Gallery in Northampton. The event will feature music and live scoring by Montreal artist Yume, and a zine of the *Weird Healing* comics to date.

Senior Center Activities October 13 through 17

GILL and MONTAGUE

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

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

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

Monday 10/13

- 8:30 a.m. Foot Clinic by appointment
- 10:10 a.m. Aerobics
- 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
- 1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Tuesday 10/14

- 10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
- Noon Lunch
- 1 p.m. Five Crowns
- 1 p.m. Painting w/ David Sund

Wednesday 10/15

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

Thursday 10/16

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Pitch

Friday 10/17

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

WENDELL

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

Call the Center for a ride.

ERVING

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

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

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

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

Monday 10/13

CLOSED "Columbus Day"

Tuesday 10/14

- 8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
- 9:30 C.O.A. Meeting
- 10 a.m. Dance Fitness
- 12:30 p.m. Painting

Wednesday 10/15

- 8:45 a.m. Aerobics
- 10 a.m. Chair Yoga
- Noon Bingo

Thursday 10/16

- 8:45 a.m. Aerobics
- Noon Cards

Friday 10/17

- 9 a.m. Bowling

LEVERETT

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

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

The Ghost at the Wendell Free Library October 25

The *Ghost* will be screened at the Wendell Free library on Saturday, October 25. Doors open at 7 p.m.; the show starts at 7:30 p.m.

The plot is fairly simple: A woman and her lover murder her husband, a doctor. Soon, however, strange things start happening,

and they wonder if they really killed him, or if he is coming back from the dead to haunt them.

There will be a short (1/2 hour) film before the movie: Episode 10 of *The Phantom Empire: The Rebellion*.

This is the next in the monthly series of Science Fiction/Fantasy

and Horror/Monster movies at the Wendell Free Library, located in the center of Wendell, MA. Free Admission.

For more information about the Wendell Free Library, visit its web page at www.wendellfreelibrary.org or call (978) 544-3559.

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Congestive Heart Failure

diseases or conditions that damage the heart muscle. It is often caused by coronary artery disease, including heart attacks. Diabetes and high blood pressure also contribute to heart failure.

Coronary artery disease is the leading cause of death in men and women. It happens when the arteries that supply blood to the heart become hardened and narrowed. People who have had a heart attack are at high risk to develop heart failure.

There are a number of things that you can do to reduce risk of coronary artery disease and heart failure. For starters, you should keep the following levels down: body weight, cholesterol, blood pressure, sugar, alcohol and salt. Exercise regularly. And, if you smoke, quit.

The most common symptoms of heart failure include shortness of breath, fatigue, and swelling, which usually occurs in the ankles, feet and legs. Swelling is caused by fluid buildup in the body and can lead to weight gain, frequent urination and a cough.

Because the symptoms are common for other conditions, your doctor will determine if you have heart failure by doing a detailed medical history, an examination, and several tests.

Tests that are given to determine heart failure include an electrocardiogram (EKG), a chest X-ray, and a blood test for BNP, a hormone that increases in heart failure.

Tests that can identify the cause of heart failure include: an echocardiogram that uses sound waves; a Holter monitor, which is a small box that is worn for 24 hours to provide a continuous recording of heart rhythm during normal activity; an exercise stress test that reads your EKG and blood pressure before, during, or after exercise to see how your heart responds, and a coronary angiography, which is an X-ray of the heart's blood vessels

There is no cure for heart failure, but it can be controlled.

People with CHF are usually put on a low-salt diet to prevent fluid build-up. Their doctors may also tell them to lose weight, quit smoking, and reduce alcohol intake.

Medications that are used include: diuretics, "water pills" to reduce fluid; ACE inhibitors to lower blood pressure and reduce heart stress; beta-blockers to slow your heart rate and lower blood pressure; Digoxin to help the heart beat stronger, and anticoagulants (such as warfarin) that help prevent blood clots.

People with severe heart failure may also be given a mechanical heart pump. A heart transplant is an option when all other treatments fail to control symptoms.

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

Questions? Send them to fred@healthygeezers.org.



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

Q. What exactly is congestive heart failure?

If you have congestive heart failure (CHF) your heart can't pump enough blood. This condition develops over time. It is the number one reason people over age 65 go into the hospital.

Heart failure is most common in older people, and is more common in African-Americans. Men have a higher rate of heart failure than women. But, because women usually live longer, the condition affects more women in their 70s and 80s.

In normal hearts, veins bring oxygen-poor blood from the body to the right side of the heart. It is then pumped through the pulmonary artery to the lungs where it picks up oxygen.

From there, the blood returns to the left side of the heart. Then it is pumped through a large artery called the aorta that distributes blood throughout the body.

Heart failure is caused by other

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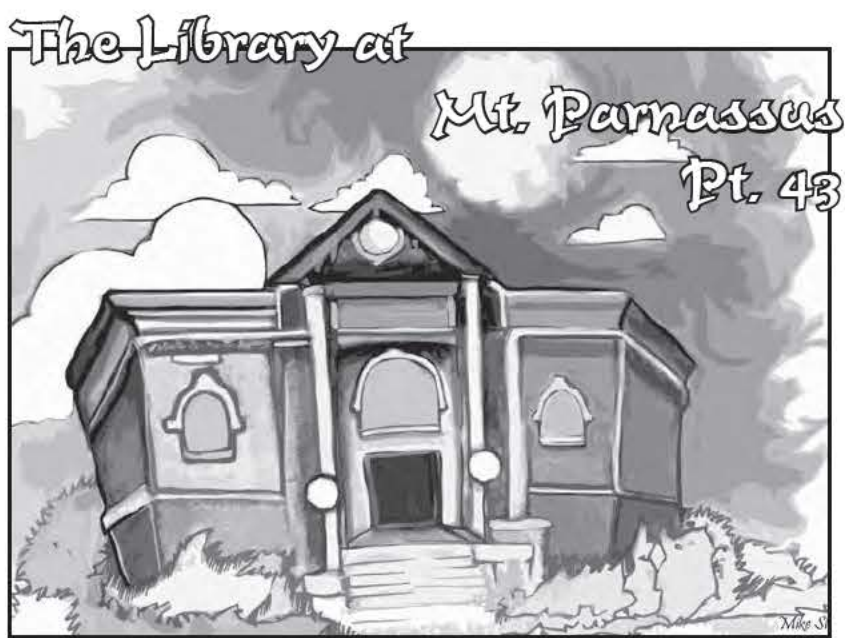
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A message for Cadmus.



MIKE SLIVA ILLUSTRATION

By DAVID DETMOLD

Melantha picked up a section of pomegranate from a little silver tray and peeled back the husk, revealing the moist red pulp within, oozing seed and syrup. Cupping a little of the pomace in her hand, she offered a mouthful to the snake.

The python's head was resting on the overdue card file. Its upper body was coiled around the glowing hot plate. Its tail draped down along the back of the desk and wound around among the heating vents on the library floor.

"I can't believe it," I said. "Did you read Tony's obituary? Who would have known he was a published author?"

"We have some his books here in the library," said Melantha matter of factly. She ate the pomegranate the python had refused and wiped her fingers on her dress, leaving moist red chevrons on the pale green fabric. "Including this one."

She took a book from a wheeled library cart behind the desk, which held titles for borrowers who had called ahead to reserve them.

I had the sinking feeling I had never really known my friend. "Let me see."

Melantha flicked on the goose-neck lamp and handed me the book. It was titled, *The Life and Times of Carlo Ponzi*.

"Who the heck is Carlo Ponzi?" I asked.

"Another economist. Tony considered him a visionary."

"I've never even heard of him." I flipped open the back cover to read the blurb:

Defying the laws of man and gravity, Carlo Ponzi proved that money can flow uphill.

A man of integrity who realized before most of his contemporaries that high finance need not be held back by the norms of international banking or hidebound regulations of government watchdogs, Ponzi proved global investing could be daring, original, and bold.

Ponzi ushered in the era of high stakes debenture, and where Ponzi led, the IMF and the World Bank followed. The massive loans, unsupported by any assay of sovereign assets or plausible pathway to repayment that have locked nations in the trammels of eternal debt, mass unemployment, and delirious free fall through the slash and burn of social safety nets, can all be traced to Ponzi's door.

Dr. Balducci lights the way with this incisive paean to the financial innovator of Modern Times.

The *Life and Times of Carlo Ponzi* is a primer for plutocrats,

an international drama with the fillip of a high stakes cliffhanger; a boulder rolling fable of glittering global chicenery guaranteed to leave you wanting more.

The book was published by Narcopolis Press. Their trademark logo, a winking eye atop a pyramid, seemed apt.

"It's on reserve?" I asked.

Melantha moved the python's head to one side with her index finger, and glanced down a handwritten list on a clipboard by the past due file.

"Yes. For Andy Killen."

"The finance committee chair?"

"Yes."

"Well, could I borrow it after him?"

"I'll add you to the list."

A low bank of fog had formed above the heating vents in the open space behind the desk.

As we talked, the fog bank gathered and swelled and rolled across the desktop, and the great molting snake, rising from the desk in one extended motion of its neck to which all the muscled coils of its endless length appended, transfused itself languidly through the swirling mist and wrapped itself once more around Melantha's shoulders. From this vantage, it raised its deltoid head and peered at me with milky eyes.

Melantha cut the tarot deck and dealt the first card – the Six of Wands. It showed a man crowned in laurel and seated tall on a caparisoned horse. He was carrying a triumphal wreath atop a staff, with five more staves angled at odds in the background.

"Do me a favor," said Melantha.

"Anything," I replied.

The peacocks on her blouse were also watching me with any number of their hundred eyes.

"Give Cadmus this message when you see him tonight." I had not planned to see him, but still I waited to commit to memory what she might say.

"Say:

*Hope in long abeyance found
Obstacles in ruin crowned*

More cryptic doggerel.

Herr Klee called over from the movie rack, "Has anyone seen *Europa, Europa?*"

On the bust of Homer, Ulysses uttered a hoarse discordant caw. There was the sound of banging in the basement.

I said goodnight and left.

Continued next week.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Armed Robbery; Suspects at Large. Breaking & Entering on Third and Chestnut Streets. Otherwise, the Usual String Poppers, Nip Tossers, Mayonnaise Smellers, Loose Pigs and Guys Wiping Their Nose You've Come to Love in the Montague Police Log.

Monday, 9/29

3:24 a.m. Loud popping noises reported outside house on Maple Street. Two male parties found to be using "string poppers" outside. Parties spoken to and will be apologizing to the caller for their behavior.

10:36 a.m. Report that a vehicle passed 2 cars in a no passing zone on Montague City Road. Caller tried to speak with operator about his driving, but the driver began cursing at him. Gone on arrival.

4:32 p.m. Party into station to inquire about the Third Street neighborhood.

4:49 p.m. Complaint that a party has been throwing empty "nip" bottles into a yard on Henry Avenue; caller had picked up 11 Jagermeister bottles. Party spoken to and admitted to activity.

9:07 p.m. Caller from Cumberland Farms reports a possibly intoxicated female, unsteady on her feet and swaying. Officers spoke to party, who stated that she is an MS patient.

9:28 p.m. Electronic Monitoring Program (ELMO) reports that one of their probationers who is a registered sex offender was tracked near Hillcrest Elementary School, which is one of his exclusion zones, for approximately seven seconds around 7:15 this evening. ELMO will be contacting probation officer.

Tuesday, 9/30

3:05 p.m. Report of two males fighting in front of Food City. Officers made contact with one party and advised him of his options. Officers will check area for other party, who had left the scene.

3:35 p.m. Caller expressing concern for welfare of a child who is regularly dropped off at Wentworth Congregate Housing. Advised of options.

4:12 p.m. Caller reports that she is behind a brown Hyundai Sonata that is all over the road. Officer spoke with registered owner of vehicle; possibly a bad driver, but no other issues found.

5:52 p.m. Report that yellow water has been coming out of the taps for the past two hours at an Avenue A business. Referred to Water Department.

Wednesday, 10/1

6:39 a.m. Caller from Avenue A reported an odor that she initially likened to mayonnaise coming from her bedroom; later said she believed she could smell something burning. TFFD determined the odor to be unfounded.

10 a.m. Report of trailer parked near School Street and Court Square; caller states that surrounding vegetation coupled with low lighting after dark makes vehicle difficult to see. Officer located trailer and placed a cone by it; will follow up.

11:10 a.m. Caller reports that she observed a party behind a building on Fourth Street wipe his nose; she suspects that he just snorted cocaine. Officer sat in area for a while; did not observe the party or vehicle described.

11:22 a.m. Report of male and female involved in altercation that briefly became physical in a parking lot on Fourth Street. Officer spoke with parties, who advised that it was verbal only.

12:42 p.m. Caller advised that a pig wandered onto his property on Turners Falls Road. Does not want assistance removing pig; just wanted to leave his number in case the owner calls looking for it.

4:13 p.m. Caller reports that there is a truck marked "Steak House Supply" on G Street that appears to be selling meats off the back of the truck. Unable to locate. (Different officer spoke to these individuals earlier in the shift and advised them of the proper permit process for this activity.)

4:34 p.m. Caller from Avenue A reports that she and her husband were just assaulted by a group of males; both parties have injuries. Male victim states that one of the parties had a gun and pointed it at his head. iPhone 5 and undetermined amount of cash taken.

[redacted] was arrested and charged with receiving stolen property worth over \$250; two counts of firearm-armed robbery; assault and battery with a dangerous weapon; and conspiracy.

[redacted] was arrested and charged with two counts of firearm-armed robbery, assault and battery; assault and battery with a dangerous weapon; larceny over \$250; and conspiracy. Additional suspect(s) still at large.

9:20 p.m. Caller advised that he was out at the Pizza House and observed a party take off with his moped, which he had left outside. Moped described as a light blue Motobakon with a bicycle-type seat. Additional call from Pizza House saying that they have this on tape. Investigated; summons issued.

9:14 p.m. Caller from J Street reporting that a male wearing an orange t-shirt who seemed intoxicated knocked on his door twice stating that he was looking for someone. Caller told the male to leave; last seen wandering around on Fifth Street. Referred to an officer.

9:17 p.m. Caller reports witnessing a hand-to-hand drug deal on the corner of Avenue A and Fourth Street. Report taken.

Saturday, 10/4
12 midnight. Caller reports multiple teenagers on top of the Powertown Apartments building, attempting to climb the tower on top. During call, caller advised that all four teenagers appeared to be down now and in the alleyway behind the building. Officer made contact with two male juveniles who were involved; they were spoken to and advised to go in for the night.

10:43 a.m. Party into station to report that his previous PCA is harassing him and accusing him of having relations with his current PCA in order for her to be paid. Report taken.

Sunday, 10/5
4:03 a.m. Officer out with suspicious vehicle at transfer station on Sandy Lane. Person was dropping off leaves.

11:41 a.m. Report from Lake Pleasant that neighbors are burning trash in their backyard. Officer on scene; fire extinguished upon arrival. Parties advised of options.

Thursday, 10/2

11:07 a.m. Party into station to report that last night a female that is known to her confronted her at Cumberland Farms and began hitting her on the back. Caller states that this stemmed from an incident this past Monday at the community meal at Our Lady of Peace Church where this female accused the reporting party of trying to make out with her boyfriend. Reporting party states that she tried to help the female's boyfriend stand up and that the gesture was misconstrued. Caller does not wish to press charges. Officer will follow up.

8:26 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.

Friday, 10/3
1 a.m. Caller who just arrived home at Turners Falls Road and Vladish Avenue reports that as he got out of the car, he heard a pop sound. He then observed an electric pole snapped at the base and a tractor trailer unit leaving the scene. Officer located the tractor trailer unit at Hillside Plastics. Barricades requested from DPW. WMECO en route. Citation issued to truck operator for failure to use care in turning.

10:37 a.m. Report of a breaking and entering into a Third Street apartment overnight; purse and backpack missing. Report taken.

11:27 a.m. Report from Fifth Street of a male soliciting without a permit. Truck bears the company name of "Steakhouse Supply." Vehicle located and stopped near Town Hall. Operator advised regarding soliciting without a permit.

12:12 p.m. Report of illegal dumping near Millers Falls Road and Lake Pleasant road; among items left were a recliner, homemade dresser, and plastic shelves. Message left for DPW.

1:08 p.m. Report of an odor of gas at Avenue A and Montague City Road. TFFD and officer on scene. Odor determined to be coming from Simon's Stamps.

3:54 p.m. Vehicle into utility pole at Montague City Road and Greenfield Road. Medicare, TFFD, WMECO, and DPW advised. One vehicle occupant reporting pain/minor injury; medical transport refused.

6:35 p.m. Report of suspicious auto on Fosters Road. Referred to an officer.

9:14 p.m. Caller from J

Street reporting that a male wearing an orange t-shirt who seemed intoxicated knocked on his door twice stating that he was looking for someone. Caller told the male to leave; last seen wandering around on Fifth Street. Referred to an officer.

9:17 p.m. Caller reports witnessing a hand-to-hand drug deal on the corner of Avenue A and Fourth Street. Report taken.

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Sunday, 10/5
4:03 a.m. Officer out with suspicious vehicle at transfer station on Sandy Lane. Person was dropping off leaves.

11:41 a.m. Report from Lake Pleasant that neighbors are burning trash in their backyard. Officer on scene; fire extinguished upon arrival. Parties advised of options.

3:57 p.m. Report of a suspicious vehicle coming and going from a T Street residence several times per day. Referred to an officer.

5:07 p.m. Caller reports an intoxicated male walking in and out of traffic on Third Street. Referred to an officer.

5:30 p.m. Report of burglary/breaking and entering on Chestnut Street; jewelry taken. Investigated.

7:05 p.m. Neighbor disturbance on Fifth Street. Officer spoke with party and advised him to keep the noise down.

8:28 p.m. Caller advises that she kicked her adult daughter out of the house tonight and that the daughter took items that weren't hers when she left. Advised of options.

9:01 p.m. Caller is trying to move out of her mother's house but reports that her mother, who has been drinking, is refusing to let her take her horses and has threatened to get a restraining order on her. Advised of options.

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112

THE SPIANS from page B1

directors, said she was really excited about the company taking up residence at the theater. "We have this big, beautiful theater and it's so great to have Suzanne utilizing it to bring Shakespeare to kids."

Rubinstein worked in development and marketing in the non-profit sector for more than two decades and is the mother of three YSP actors.

She volunteered at the young actors group in Madison for six years. Daughter Mia attends school nearby but will visit often to help direct during the 2014-15 season.

Young Shakespeare Players East is unique. The group holds no auditions. Anyone who is ready to learn to trod the boards and is from the age of 7 to 18 is accepted.

"There are also no separations," said Rubinstein, "by age or experience. Seven-year-olds work alongside 18-year-olds."

Actors take small roles of 50 to 80 lines or large roles of more than 1,000 lines."

According to Suzanne, there is a tuition but, she said, in the 34 years of the Wisconsin and New England sites, "no one has ever been turned away."

Morgan, of the Shea board, commented that the inclusiveness was a real plus. "It's an incredible piece to us that no one ever gets turned away."

It's so important that in this county – the poorest in the state – kids get a chance to act and take on such roles as Shakespeare requires."

Rubinstein is proud that the presentation of plays is full and unabridged. "We don't kiddie-down the text," said the organization's director. "We work with the origi-

nal, full-length works of William Shakespeare with no modernizing or chopping up or editing the material.

"Young people are incredible at taking on the humanity of his great works. They approach the plays with great intensity and incredible depth. I've never seen anyone, who has committed to the program, fail. In fact, I've seen nothing but success."

Chris (Monte) Belmonte, well-known in the area for his on-air and behind-the-scenes work at Radio Station WRSI, is highly enthusiastic about the YSP program. He has two sons, Atticus, 9, and 7-year-old Enzo, enrolled.

"So far," said Belmonte, "it's been unbelievable. The whole program is a bold concept to challenge the minds of young people. They are memorizing their parts in what essentially is a foreign language compared to today's speech. Many kudos go to Young Shakespeare Players East. This in-depth work will plant seeds in their minds that will grow and bloom for the rest of their lives as learners."

Young Atticus, meanwhile, emphasizes another aspect of the program. "It's fun. We get to do real acting. And it's fun to watch others act. It's easy to make friends here, the directors are very nice, it's just really, really fun. I was nervous at first but now I'm not. It's a wonderful experience."

Atticus is playing three roles in "Twelfth Night." He is Sebastian, the twin brother of one of the main characters, and also handles the role of Curio, a servant, and is one of five musicians who perform for Orsino, Duke of Illyria.

One of the key techniques YSP East employs is the use of audio

work developed by Richard DiPrima.

DiPrima records audio for each character, explaining every word in context of the greater scene including historical references and puns.

"We have two members of our group who have dyslexia," said Rubinstein. "Thanks to our techniques, which include the audio material, they not only participate fully, but also thrive."

"There's never a moment during the entire process when all of our kids aren't involved. They learn about giving and receiving healthy, kind, thoughtful, and insightful critiques. Although I'm the director, we have two or more casts. Actors are thus also directors and, in addition, handle the technical aspects of the production."

Another outstanding feature of YSP East is the amount of effort the youngsters put into their endeavors.

"It's incredibly hard work," said Rubinstein, "especially at rehearsal. The kids are always engaged for the 4-6 hours. Yet when it's over, they remark that they can't believe where the time went."

"Most people would say it's not possible to accomplish the level of competence we reach. But our group pulls off what many adults can't. Yet, this isn't a program to make 'stars.' It's not even about the show ultimately. It's about young people finding their voices through classical work, young people discovering all that they're capable of, and young people learning the joys of hard work, teamwork, and a form of family."

Performances of "Twelfth Night" in early December will be free of charge and open to the public.

3RD THURS from page B1

goers will have a chance to catch a screening of *Food For Change* by Turners Falls filmmaker Steve Alves. The 2013 feature-length documentary focuses on food co-ops as a force for dynamic social and economic change in American culture.

The movie tells the story of the cooperative movement in the U.S. through interviews, rare archival footage, and commentary by the filmmaker and social historians.

This is the first film to examine the important historical role played by food co-ops, their pioneering

quest for organic foods, and their current efforts to create regional food systems.

Additionally, the film shows how the co-op movement strengthens communities where they are located, enhancing local economies and food security.

Before or after the movie, visitors can take in "Seasons of Light-Photography by Beth Pelton" in the Discovery Center Great Hall. This show features a selection of light focused landscape and nature photographs taken in the Connecticut River Valley this year.



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October 21 - 26: Greenfield Annual Word Festival

Six days of words, or the fourth Greenfield Annual Word Festival, will be taking place from Tuesday, October 21 through Sunday, October 26 in downtown Greenfield.

The opening night show begins at the Ocean Grill in Greenfield on Tuesday October 21. Doors open at 6, with reading beginning at 6:30.

On Wednesday, October 22, also at 6:30 at the Ocean Grill, is The Mole – a night of five-minute true storytelling. The audience will vote to decide the Mole winner.

On Thursday, October 23 seven writers will be reading at five Greenfield venues starting at 6:30 followed by an 8:30 to 10 p.m. show at the Ocean Grill.

On Friday, October 24, seven writ-

ers will be reading at five Greenfield venues starting from 7 to 8:30 followed by a 9 p.m. show at the Ocean Grill.

On Saturday, October 25, writers will be reading at five venues starting at 2:30 and continuing throughout the day, culminating in an 8:30 show at the Ocean Grill.

The final day, Sunday, Oct. 26 features readings at 1:30 at the Ocean Grill.

There will be a book fair throughout the festival with small press publishers and authors present.

Donations to support the festival are strongly suggested. For more information contact paul@humanerrorpublishing.com.

LOOKING BACK

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was on October 7, 2004: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

It is integral to the history, cultural landscape, and economic future of downtown Turners Falls."

a 50% increase in the Gill fire department's annual budget, which climbed to \$40,000 this year.

Want To Buy A Used Paper Mill?

On October 21, Montague town meeting members will be asked to consider purchasing the Strathmore Mill.

Western Properties LLC, a Boston-based property management company owned by Scott Jones, purchased the Strathmore Mill from International Paper Co. in 2002 for \$40,000.

Jones' father, Jerry Jones, has since used the mill as a warehouse for his paper recycling business, and has lately approached the town with an offer to sell the complex for \$300,000.

At the October 4 selectboard meeting, town planner Robin Sherman said, "We've been discussing the future of Strathmore since 1994 when IP shut down the mill.

Gill Fire Department Lacks Daytime Coverage

Fire chief Gene Beaubien told the selectboard on October 4 that with most of his department's 20 volunteer firefighters working outside of town, it is hard to find coverage for calls during the day. "We might want to think about having a full-time person on during the day," Beaubien said. "We have very few people that work locally who can get here during the day."

As it is, the town relies largely on mutual aid for daytime coverage from nearby towns with full-time firefighters. But as the board pointed out, "It's hard to call it mutual aid" if Gill can't reciprocate during the day.

Hiring a full-time firefighter to staff the department during the day would likely lead to more than

Sewage In Limbo

The Wendell board of health has amended their regulations for septic systems, according to chair Don Richardson, but in doing so they failed to follow provisions in state law requiring a public hearing, according to member Andy Hamilton.

Eva Tor, spokesperson for the MA Department of Environmental Protection, confirmed that Chapter 111, Section 31 of MA General Law governing the adoption or emendation of board of health regulations requires a public hearing process with a 14-day public notice period.

When asked what regulations the board should currently be using to issue permits, Tor said that was the jurisdiction of the office of the Attorney General.

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FURBISH PHOTO

Developed rocks turned sideways from the accumulated weight.

ROCK PRIMER from page B1

Wissatinnewag, an Algonquin word that means Shining Hill, was the name of a “peace settlement” on both sides of the three waterfalls at Peskeomscut.

During the extensive salmon and shad runs in the spring, tribes of Native Americans/Indians from throughout the Northeast had gathered and fished for one hundred centuries. All could share equally in the abundance of nature.

War and feuds were set aside for this bountiful time of the year, and Wissatinnewag was a place of cooperation, diplomacy, intermarriage, trade, and ceremony.

Heading directly to the next rock site, I turn left at Seventh Street, then turn right at the light to head south. I know that ancient rock history from millions of years ago only tells how the rocks were formed, but it was more recent events of just thousands of years ago that explain why this is a place of split rocks.

During the Ice Ages, starting 2,000,000 years ago, continental glaciers formed in North America, but most of them did not extend into New England, until the Laurentide Ice Sheet and the tundra at its edges covered much of North America from 95,000 to 25,000 years ago.

At this same time, Alaska was ice-free due to its arid climate; the Southwest had lush vegetation and large freshwater lakes; and the Great Plains were covered with browsing mammoths, musk ox, and elk and a dense forest.

Glaciers form in cool climates when snow builds up in winter faster than it melts in summer. Over time, mounds of ice can build so high that their bottoms recrystallize as layered sedimentary rock-ice, and with even more pressure turn into harsher metamorphic rock-ice that plows and scours with great erosive power.

Before the Ice Age, New England held deep soils developed from millions of years of warm and humid conditions. The “basal sliding” of the unimaginably heavy glaciers easily removed this soil and exposed and cut into the underlying bedrock, sometimes polishing its surfaces.

I turn left at the grassed-over Eighth Street roadway and head up the stairs going from Avenue A to K Street to rock-site 8. Stopping at a spot I know well, I look at the small section of rock framed by moss, which looks like a smoothly-polished jewel in a setting.

I then look upward and notice an interesting larger section of exposed rock. Glad that my cargo pants allowed me to bring my camera, I

get another interesting photograph at a larger scale.

Next, I continue up the stairs and cross to view a still-larger rock face section from the hilltop at the western edge of Our Lady of Chestochowa Church. Looking down at this much more varied location, I see that a whole range of rocks here were scoured, smoothed, and polished by the glacier.

The sedimentary rock near my feet appears dusty, with ghost-like layers. Checking for debris, I run a finger across the rocks, finding no grit. Indeed, the rock is as smooth as the surface of the rock cliff back in site 5.

As I gaze across the vista of downtown, I see the terrain is definitely flat, and think of our many exposed rocks which are an attractive feature of the downtown.

Peskeomscut is definitely post-glacial in getting the terrain eroded away. And more so, we are post post-glacial in getting much of the terrain covered again. The glacier melted northward from the shores of Long Island, dropping most of the debris it had been carrying.

Some of the debris blocked off a valley in central Connecticut, making a dam and, growing with the glacier melting 300 feet a year, to create a huge 180 mile long lake, Lake Hitchcock, going from Middleton, Ct. to northern

Vermont. Clay filled the lake bottom and gravelly deltas and sandy shoreline deposits lined the sides of the Connecticut Valley, at the level of the old lake.

Then 12,400 years ago the dam broke and most of the lake emptied, allowing the Connecticut River to return and cut a path through the old lake floor, depositing sediments from the lake all along downstream. There was much mud and clay laid down from glacial erosion.

For a while the river meandered through White Ash Swamp and Cherry Rum Brook in northern Greenfield. Then it moved east of Canada Hill, looking for its pre-glacial channel to the ocean.

As David Brule tells us in *West along the River 2*, the waters took away the ground above and encountered the glacially-exposed sedimentary bedrock at the Narrows, creating a falls there, then again down river at the Bear’s Den falls, and finally at the Great Falls (above Lily Pond), all in Peskeomscut.

The river created other waterfalls in Bel-lows Falls, VT, South Hadley Falls, MA, and Enfield Falls, CT.

Stay tuned for Part 3 next week!



FURBISH PHOTO

A section of glacially-scoured rock on Chestochowa Hill.

This Saturday: Benefit for Wendell Meetinghouse

Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse will have a benefit on Saturday, October 11 at the Shutesbury Athletic Club featuring a delicious local foods dinner at 6 p.m., followed by music by the Equalites and other special guests.

The dinner, which will feature food from local farms, will be prepared by Eric Newman and Adam Zucker.

Some highlights include Open Faced Braised Pulled Pork sandwiches with Sugarbush Farms Maple BBQ Sauce, Curried Diemand Farm Lamb Stew, Seared Tofu with Kitchen Garden Farm Farm Sriracha-Sesame Sauce, Braised chicken with New England Preserves Cider Syrup glaze, Stone’s Throw Potato Casserole, Dean’s Beans Coffee Bread Pudding and more.

Dinner tickets are \$10 or \$5 for kids 12 and under and are available at the Wendell Country Store and Shutesbury Athletic Club. All food from named farms has been generously donated.



GARRETT SAWYER PHOTO

Eight-year-old Ajika Sawyer will provide entertainment at the Meetinghouse benefit.

Music will start at 7:30 pm with Garrett and Ajika Sawyer, followed by DJ Vibe Wise (formally DJ Bobby), and the Equalites with Manou Africa of the Black Rebels.

The suggested donation for the music is \$10, but we are offering a sliding scale of \$6 to \$20 to keep the event accessible to all.

Families who come for dinner are welcome to stay for Ajika’s performance without paying an additional fee for music. Music tickets will only be available at the door, due to the sliding scale.

Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse will use all the proceeds of this event beyond expenses to continue restoration of the building with the goal of making it available to the community for historical exhibits, cultural and spiritual events, and community gatherings.

For more information on this project please visit our website www.wendell-meetinghouse.org.

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The Turners Falls Women's Resource Center

The Turners Falls Women's Resource Center (TFWRC) is offering a four-week "Very Basic Intro to Basic Computer Skills" workshop starting in mid-October. This is the first in a series of computer literacy workshops that will be offered at TFWRC at 41 Third Street in Turners Falls starting on Monday, October 20 from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.

This program is made possible through funding from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts to Montague Catholic Social Ministries, Montague Public Libraries and the Gill-Montague Senior Center who are working together to provide computer literacy and increase computer accessibility to area residents through a year-long program, 'Bridging the Digital Divide'.

Sign up now for any or all of the four remaining Fridays of Art in October.

On October 10, bring in all those as yet unappreciated photos that have never made it into a frame or scrapbook to create your own unique "Collage with Old Photos."

Combining your photographs with words that inspire you can be the perfect way to reflect on who you are and all that has changed in

your life.

On October 17, celebrate autumn using "Natural Objects in Art" to create seasonal flat or sculptural artworks. Some natural materials will be provided and participants will be invited to bring interesting bits found while out and about to share.

Back by popular demand, on October 24, learn how to make accordion books. The accordion book is a folded structure made by simply folding a sheet of paper back and forth in page-width increments which is attached to the two covers - one on either end.

"Found Objects Art Sculpture" will finish up the month on Friday, October 31. Many metal, wood and plastic materials will be supplied and participants are encouraged to bring those things that are just too good to throw away but haven't yet found their purpose.

All "5 Fridays of Art in October," which began October 3 with Doodling, run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and registration is required.

To register for one or more of these programs, call Christine at (413) 863-4804, ext. 1003 or email her at christine@mcsmcommunity.org.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Class A Drug And Class B Drug

Tuesday, 9/30

11:45 a.m. Checked on suspicious motor vehicle at Mountain Road.

2:05 p.m. Took report of larceny at French King Highway.

2:45 p.m. Complaint regarding election signs at the end of Mountain Road and Route 2.

Wednesday, 10/1

9 a.m. Wallet reported missing. Nothing turned in to station at this time.

9:51 p.m. Motor vehicle crash at the Lester Street bridge, on the Erving/Montague line. Took report.

Thursday, 10/2

8:20 a.m. Alarm on Goodell

Street. Found to be workers at residence.

2 p.m. 911 call from Strachen Street. No emergency.

4:45 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle on a suspended license, possession of a Class A drug, and possession of a Class B drug.

8 p.m. Assisted on scene of medical emergency on Lester Street.

Friday, 10/3

5:45 p.m. Assisted motor vehicle on Northfield Road with a flat tire.

Saturday, 10/4

7:30 a.m. Alarm at French King Restaurant. Same se-

cure.

9:30 a.m. Abandoned 911 call from River Road residence. Found to be trouble with the lines.

8:30 p.m. Call of a disturbance on Lester Street. Was verbal altercation only. One subject left for the night.

11:50 p.m. Mountain Road resident reported subject came to residence looking for gas for car broken down on Route 2. Unable to locate vehicle or subject.

Sunday, 10/5

7:50 p.m. Suspicious vehicle at French King Bridge. Spoke with same and moved along.

New Activities, Perennial Favorites Mark Twentieth Annual CiderDays

FRANKLIN COUNTY - CiderDays returns to Franklin County this fall from October 31 to November 2. There will be dozens of free workshops and activities for backyard orchardists, homebrewers, apple lovers and families.

CiderDays has grown from humble roots 20 years ago into an internationally recognized event that draws over 4,000 visitors from the US, Canada, Europe and Australia. It features apple tastings, orchard tours, workshops on making your own sweet cider, pruning your apple trees, fermenting hard cider and so much more.

Popular features of CiderDays include the world's longest running hard cider tasting, the Cider Salon, held this year on Saturday afternoon in the "Baptist Lot" on Main Street in Shelburne Falls, across from the Shelburne Buckland Community Center.

Visitors come to taste ciders from local fermenters like West County Cider and cider makers from all over the US and Canada. The Salon features over 65 ciders that can all be tasted in one evening. This year due to increased demand, tents have been expanded to accommodate more tasters.

New to CiderDays this year is a special kick off 20th anniversary reception on October 31 featuring Massachusetts ciders and a seasonally inspired menu at the Blue Heron Restaurant in Sunderland. In contrast to the large crowds at the tasting salons, this will feature a more relaxed and leisurely opportunity for the public to talk to producers and cider experts about their craft.

There will also be several cooking demonstrations from Sandy d'Amato of Goodstock Farm as well as guest chefs of Yankee Magazine lifestyle editor, Amy Traverso.

Throughout the weekend, internationally renowned apple experts like Tom Burford, Claude Jolicouer and John Bunker will present workshops and tastings on topics like how to make Ice Cider, apples for juice, finding the perfect cider apple in your back yard, and more. Returning are perennial favorites like making barrel cider with local fermentation guru Charlie Olchowski.

Tickets for tastings and the CiderDays dinner are available for sale online at www.ciderdays.org. Advance purchase is highly recommended, as nearly all ticketed events sell out well before the November event.

Friday, October 17: Downtown Boys at the Brick House

By REPORTER STAFF

TURNERS FALLS - Providence's Downtown Boys are having a good year. Besides making it acceptable to rock saxes in punk again, they are taking every stage as a chance to open new eyes to the renewed possibility of a magnetic, participatory, empowering, inclusive scene.

"Most of the people who pigeonhole us as a DIY punk band don't like us because we are loudly against the typical macho nonsense that goes along with that world," one member explained in a recent *BDCwire* interview.

"The people who like our band are able to hear the weirdness in our music and the centrality of our message



ERIC PHIPPS PHOTO

and don't try to box us in."

Sharing members with the infamous street band What Cheer? Brigade and digital cumbia project Malportado Kids, Downtown Boys play driving, catchy anthems - best seen live, where Victoria Ruiz can get right up in your face to tell you what she believes.

Opens include Hard Nips, a party-rocking band of Japanese-American Brooklynites,

and two bands with Turners Falls members: our favorite math-garage two-piece, Holy Vex, and the Final Frontiers, earnest pop stars helmed by a current *Montague Reporter* columnist.

The show starts at 8 p.m. sharp, and is all-ages and substance-free. Bring some cash for the touring bands. The Brick House is located at 24 Third Street in Turners Falls.



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ONGOING:

EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

EVERY MONDAY

Montague Center Library: *Evening Story Time*. Young children and their families are invited to wind down at the end of the day with stories, with Angela. Children are invited to come in their pajamas. 6:30-7:00 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

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

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

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

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

EVERY THURSDAY

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

EVERY FRIDAY

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

ART SHOWS:

Porter-Phelps-Huntington House Museum, Hadley: *Field Notes 4: Transect*. Exhibition of drawings, paintings, collages and sculptures created by architects Sigrid Miller Pollin & Stephen Schreiber, landscape architect Jane Thurber. Through 10/15.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Chalkboard Windows* by Nicole Holmes. A blending of usable art with an antique feel. On display through October 25th.

Leverett Library, Art in the Community Room: Works by *Eggvard Munch* and *Pablo Peckasso*, *Macaylla Silver's Art's Eggs* on display through the end of October.

CALL FOR ART:

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

EVENTS:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Great Falls Coffeehouse presents *The Tin Pan Valley Trio*. Bill Shontz, Rob Fletcher and Lenny Zarcone perform a family variety show, \$, 7 p.m.

At Replay Music, The Pushkin, Greenfield: *The Underwater Sounds*, a listening experience that alternates between moments of psychedelic improvisation and deep groove. 9 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Original Cowards*, indie/rock, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

Leverett Annual Harvest Festival Held at North Leverett Baptist Church. Activities for the whole family, food, raffles 11:30 a.m.

to 2:30 p.m. (Rain date 10/12.)
Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Tag Sale!* Rain or shine, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Leverett: *The Charm is in the Detail: Botanical Print Making with Leonore Alaniz*. Walk to collect materials and learn about Nature Printing. Meet at the 4-H Forest parking lot, across from #42 Shutesbury Road, Leverett, 2 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Leaf Peepin' Bike Path Bingo! Canal-side Nature Walk for Kids*. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Verdi's Macbeth*. Metropolitan Opera Live in HD. Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave, based on the play by William Shakespeare, \$, 12:55 p.m.



Mal Devisa performs at the Montague Bookmill on Saturday, October 11. The evening's line-up also includes Jaggery and Nora Murphy. 8 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Artist Reception for photographer Beth Pelton*. In the Great Hall, 2 to 4 p.m.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Gender Role Free Contra Dance*, \$, 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Elizabeth & Ben Anderson*, Scottish fiddle and cello duo, 8 p.m.

The Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *The Boston Baby Dolls*, burlesque, \$, 8 p.m.

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *The Ha-Ha's* presented by the Happier Valley Comedy Show. Special guest Will Luera and *Big Bang*, the all-star improv show from Boston. \$, 8 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague Center: *Jaggery, Mal Devisa, and Nora Murphy*. Jaggery moves from haunting lullabies to intricately-woven mixed-meter rants to catharsis-inducing mini-epics. Mal Devisa is Deja Carr, a poet and musician, student at

the Pioneer Valley Performing Arts School where she focuses on creative writing, music and African American studies. Nora, guitarist and singer (of Bulldog and Kids On A Hill), brings her jazz, pop, rock, and folk styles in her solo performance. \$, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Nobody's Fat*, techno jazz trio, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

Leverett Crafts & Arts, Leverett: *Printmaking with natural materials*, \$, 2 to 4 p.m. Info and to register: www.rattlesnakegutter-trust.org.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Crow's Rebellion*, Steve Crow (electric guitar, vocal), Peter Kim (bass) and Joe Fitzpatrick (drums). - Warped Americana, 8 p.m.

The Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *The Boston Baby Dolls*, burlesque, \$, 8 p.m.

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Nick's Movie Night showing E.T!* 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Nora's Stellar Open Mic Cabaret*, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus: *From an African Village to the U.S.A. and Back*. GCC History Professor Dovi Afesi will present slides and music from his home town in Ghana. Stinchfield Lecture Hall, 12 p.m.

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus: *Gallery Talk by Philip Calabria*. Photographer and educator Calabria discusses his photographs of Ellis Island's unrestored buildings, on display in the South Gallery. 12 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

Turners Falls: *Third Thursday* events, see page B1 for more info.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *The Taking: Before They Flooded the Quabbin, Talk and Discussion with author Helen Haddad*. 7 p.m.

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

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus: *Greenfield Community College Chorus* open its fall semester concert series preview concert: "Fall Cornucopia." 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus, Sloan Theater: *David Bollier speaks on the concepts of the "Commons"*. Sponsored by Traprock Peace Education Center as part of the *Roots of Peace* speaker series. Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Collective Copies, Amherst: Reading and Book Launch Celebration with Lever's Press publication of *Building Co-operative Power, Stories and Strategies from Worker Co-operatives in the Connecticut River Valley*, 7 to 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Doug Alan Wilcox & special guest Shawnee Kilgore*, singer-songwriter, 8 p.m.

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

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HOMECOMING VICTORY

By MATT ROBINSON

TURNERS FALLS – The Turners Falls Indians defeated the Athol Red Raiders 35 - 0 on Saturday October 4.

It was a good day for football: warm temperatures and torrential downpours. During one particular hard driving rain, Mr. Roberts, who has been announcing home games for the past forty years, told us to applaud ourselves. Yes, it was a good day for football and the perfect weather for Turners' much vaunted ground attack.

In their first three victories, Christopher Lapointe's Powertown offense had rushed 133 times and using the one-two punch of Trent Bourbeau and Jalen Sanders had averaged five yards per carry.

Turners won the toss and elected to receive the opening kick-off. They started on their own 26 yard line and ran three runs before Tionne Brown hit Jalen Sanders and just like that, Turners was up 6-zilch. Emmitt Turn added the one pointer and Turners was off to the races.

There is a UFC term called Ground and Pound but I think I can borrow that term for the 2014 Indians. Pounding the ball for five yards per carry tires the defense and forces the linebackers to play the run, especially since most of the tackles are made in their own secondary.

This in turn opens up the field for the pass and the very capable arm of Tionne Brown. Although Turners had only 8 completions in the first three games, 4 of those completions were for touchdowns. This

rang true last week when Tionne hit Alex Carlisle for a game winning touchdown against Frontier.

Turners' Defense did their own version of Ground and Pound in the first series. In the pouring rain, Alex Carlisle sacked the QB, forcing a fourth and 15 and then Jalen Sanders got through and blocked the Raider punt. Quinn Doyle came up with the rock and with six minutes left in the first quarter, Turners had a first and goal from the Red 5-yard line.

Turners' second series didn't go so well. After a couple of losses and a chop block penalty, they gave the ball back to Athol. But Athol got the ball deep in Red territory and in-turn gave the ball back to Turners who took over on Athol's 41 yard line.

Trent Bourbeau and the Blue ground attack, grinded all the way to Athol's 22 yard line and on third and 5, Jalen caught another touchdown pass and the second quarter began like the first quarter and Turners was now leading 14 zip.

Carlisle, Sanders, Bourbeau and Tanner Castine each made tackles on the next defensive series and

when Blue got the ball back, Trent crashed and dashed 58 yards for the Tribe's third touchdown of the afternoon and Turners led 20 to 0 with four minutes 55 seconds left in the first half.

When Athol took over in the second half, the Tribe's defense continued their hard hitting. Quinn Doyle and Tanner Castine each made stops and after Will Roberge came up with the loose ball, Turners took over on the Red 35 yard line.

And as the rain crashed down on the crowd, Jalen Sanders crashed down the field, putting the Tribe up 27 to nothing with six minutes, 58 seconds left in the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, several players, including Tyler Charboneau, Akeeva Forcier, and Emmitt Turn made key plays and kept Athol off the score board. Tionne Brown put the icing on the cake with a rushing touchdown of his own, putting the Tribe up by 33 points.

And when things go your way, they really go your way. After a botched PAT kick attempt, Jalen Sanders came up with the two pointer.

And the Turners Falls Football Indians walked off the field with a 35 point homecoming shutout and entered the locker room satisfied. Soaked to the bone, but satisfied.



Owen Ortiz and Jalen Sanders line up for the hike.

ROBINSON PHOTO

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