

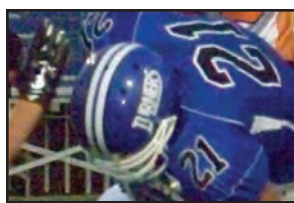
THE GOOD OLD
DAYS, HAH

Page B1



ARE YOU READY
FOR FOOTBALL?

Page B1



TAKE US
WITH YOU

Page B6



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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

One Vote Seals Fate of Usher Mill Chimney

By KATIE NOLAN

ERVING – With a 17-16 vote, the Erving special town meeting rejected a transfer of \$60,000 from the Usher Plant demolition account to fund repair and renovation of the boiler building chimney at the Usher site on Arch Street.

Usher Plant re-use committee chair Jeanie Schermesser spoke passionately about the need for repair, saying that the town needs to market the site to developers.

With the chimney intact, Schermesser said, “I feel very confident we can attract a developer.” Without it, “it’s a simple brick building that looks like a warehouse.”

Finance committee chair Jacob Smith said that the finance committee had not made a recommendation on the article, because “there were good points on both sides.”

He characterized the two sides as repairing the chimney because of its aesthetic value, or tearing it down to the roof line to reduce long-term maintenance costs.

Usher re-use committee member Sarah Vega-Liros said that the boiler building had been saved while the other onsite buildings had been demolished.

see USHER page A4

Cultural Council Grant Applications Due October 15

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

FRANKLIN COUNTY – Got an arts project that needs some funding? How about a science activity you want to bring to kids? Is there a local history tour that you’d like to share with a wider audience? If so, your local cultural council may be able to help with some modest funding.

Each cultural council in the five towns served by the *Montague Reporter* has money to give away for worthy arts, humanities and science programs.

Over the years these councils have funded a variety of projects including activities in the schools, a senior writing program, theater productions, poetry readings and art. Some projects get funding from more than one town.

The process to apply for a grant is simple: Get a form from your local cultural council at your town hall or on line, fill out the required information along with a description of the project, and submit by the October 15 deadline.

There is no specific sort of project that the Councils are looking for but many do give some priority to applicants that have not previously received a cultural council award.

Projects where applicants have secured and confirmed a location



JEANIE WEINTRAUB PHOTO

In Montague, Cultural Council grant money has helped fund the Traveling Rhubarb Circus.

for their proposed activity or project are more likely to get funded.

According to the local cultural council website (www.mass-culture.org) grant applications are evaluated based on several review criteria: artistic or creative merit; project design; qualifications and track record of the individuals and organizations involved; physical accessibility of any facilities being used; and local community benefit and involvement.

Members of local councils are all from the communities they serve. And while they are funded by the Massachusetts Cultural

see COUNCILS page A4

Town Hall Will Call For Proposals For Theater’s Use, Rebuild Civic Commission

By JEFF SINGLETON and CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS – The Montague selectboard at their meeting on September 15 made progress on a question that has provided much recent controversy – the status of the Shea Theater.

Because the theater’s current board of directors failed to notify the town one year in advance that it wished to renew its contract, the town has argued that it must put control of the Shea out to bid. However, state open bidding law, Chapter 30B, requires an appraisal of the

value of the property to ensure the contract is valued at over \$35,000, the threshold for a full RFP.

On Monday, Abbondanzio announced that the appraisal had been completed, with the value of the contract determined to be over \$50,000. At the last meeting the Montague board had already voted for an RFP pending the results of the appraisal.

Abbondanzio outlined a process, including a planning or “visioning” study prior to issuing the RFP. He stated that this would help determine what sort of theater program the town wants.

see THEATER page A7



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

The volunteer board that currently runs the theater has invited more public participation in the face of complaints about the theater’s range of offerings.

It’s Official: Kinder Morgan Pre-Files For Pipeline Through County

By MIKE JACKSON

MONTAGUE AND ERVING – On Monday, the Houston-based energy company Kinder Morgan made official its intention to run a major natural gas transmission pipeline through Franklin County by submitting a “pre-filing” for the project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) through its Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company subsidiary.

The voluntary filing, which may be viewed by the public on the FERC’s docket under PF 14-22, includes detailed maps of its proposed Northeast Energy Direct project, which would carry pressurized natural gas from Susquehanna County, PA to Dracut, MA.

The company’s cover letter outlined its case for the project’s necessity, and clarified some of its details. It is not yet sure a 36-inch diameter pipe will be necessary, saying that “depending on market conditions and regional developments” it may opt only for a smaller 30-inch pipe from Wright, NY to Dracut.

No new customers were added to the company’s August announcement of 500,000 cubic feet per day in commitments from local gas

distribution companies (LDCs) to purchase the gas.

Smaller lateral pipelines would run from Dracut to Haverhill and Lynnfield, from the new pipeline to Nashua, NH and an existing TGP terminus in Fitchburg, as well as from the line the company currently runs to Fitchburg into Worcester.

For members of the public following the debate about the proposed pipeline, there is little new information in the letter: the company describes the region as having “growing energy needs” combined with “limited natural gas transportation infrastructure,” and is therefore facing “extremely high electricity prices.”

Compressor Station

Notably, the company envisions a 120,000-horsepower compressor station, which it labels the “Wright to Dracut Mid Station 2,” somewhere along a four-mile segment in Deerfield between the Deerfield River and a point on Keets Road, east of Routes 5 and 10 on the way

up Woolman Hill.

A “typical,” 50- to 75-acre compression station plot plan is included among the documents.

The proposed route passes along the south edge of Clarkdale Fruit Farms, the site of a protest rally by pipeline opponents in July.

Clarkdale owner Tom Clark told the *Reporter* he was concerned about the prospect of a compressor station nearby, and that he was unsure whether the route in the company’s new maps went through his land.

“But if it moves 500 feet south and a 36-inch pipeline blows up, well, that’s not going to help us much,” he said, adding that the noise and safety risks of a compressor station compound his worry.

“The [Deerfield] Board of Health is starting to fight this as a health and safety issue,” he said.

Kinder Morgan spokesperson Richard Wheatley said the company was not prepared to announce a specific location for the station.

Streams and Rivers

From there, the route passes over Woolman Hill and across River Road, crossing the train tracks as they leave the yard. The proposed site of directional drilling under the Connecticut River is at the high-tension lines just north of Pan Am’s Springfield Terminal Rail Bridge.

“Given that it is a new pipeline, all the impacts will be brand new,” said Andrea Donlon of the Connecticut River Watershed Council. “If they’re really not impacting the bed or banks when they drill, construction may not be a big problem.”

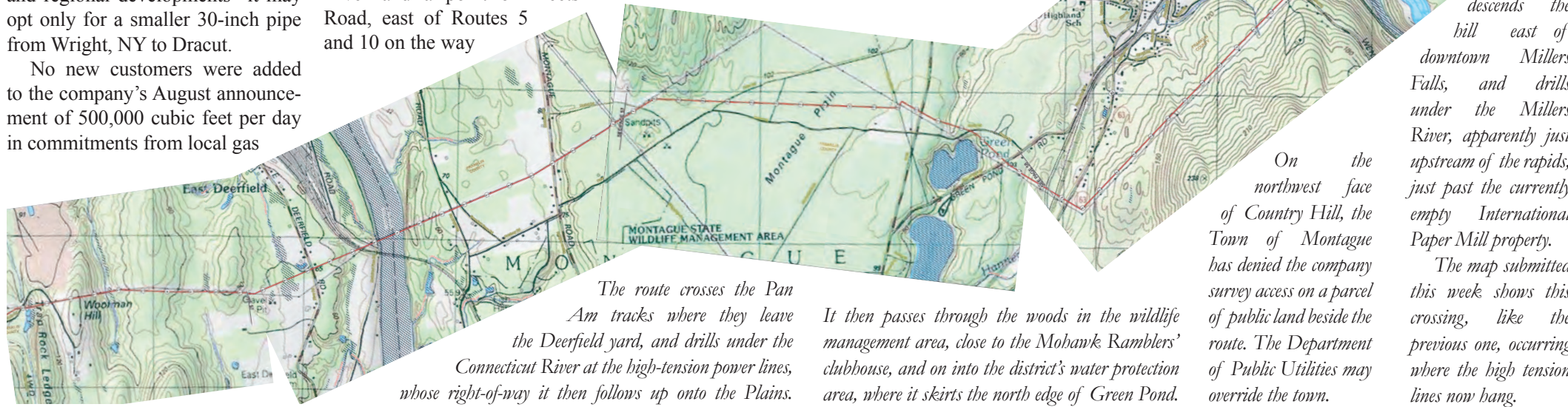
Donlon noted that the crossing site is habitat for the endangered shortnose sturgeon, and said the Council plans to learn more about the impacts of both large and small crossings in coming months. “Wetlands, vernal pools, and small and large stream crossings,” she said, might be sites of greater risk

to the watershed than the major river crossings.

On the Montague side of the bridge, the route continues along the power line right-of-way, now avoiding the property of Robert and Lisa Adams, which is under agricultural protection with the Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust.

It breaks from the power line right-of-way on the Montague Plains to take a more direct route through

see PIPELINE page A6



The route crosses the Pan Am tracks where they leave the Deerfield yard, and drills under the Connecticut River at the high-tension power lines, whose right-of-way it then follows up onto the Plains.

It then passes through the woods in the wildlife management area, close to the Mohawk Ramblers’ clubhouse, and on into the district’s water protection area, where it skirts the north edge of Green Pond.

The route descends the hill east of downtown Millers Falls, and drills under the Millers River, apparently just upstream of the rapids, just past the currently empty International Paper Mill property.

On the northwest face of Country Hill, the Town of Montague has denied the company survey access on a parcel of public land beside the route. The Department of Public Utilities may override the town.

The map submitted this week shows this crossing, like the previous one, occurring where the high tension lines now hang.

The Montague Reporter

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Why the People’s Climate March Matters

On Sunday, September 21, tens of thousands, including many from Western Mass and Vermont, will converge on New York to support real action on climate change. “The People’s Climate March” is intended to push the U.N. to act decisively on this pressing issue.

On Monday, the U.N.’s summit on the climate crisis will bring together world leaders, business executives and activist groups in an attempt to galvanize action for a global climate deal to follow the Kyoto Protocol.

While this is not an official U.N. negotiating session, world leaders are expected to announce significant and substantial initiatives to limit global warming. And action cannot come too soon.

Ban-Ki Moon, Secretary General of the U.N., who convened the summit, is to be commended for taking climate change seriously. He has fully grasped that the only possible course to take is to aggressively reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases. Climate change, as many know, is here to stay. But reducing greenhouse gasses will lessen the degree and thereby the intensity of the thermal impact on the U.S. and the planet.

For decades one of the major reasons the U.S. and other major polluters have been unwilling to do much about CO2 emissions in the belief that doing so will harm the economy. But not doing something will actually hurt the world economy even more.

Ban-Ki Moon highlighted this issue in his call to action: “Just as scientists are united on the impacts of climate change, so are economists generally agreed on the costs of combatting it. Working now for a rapid transformation to a low-carbon economy will be significantly less expensive for people and economies than failing to act.... No one can afford the relentless increase in global temperatures that business as usual will bring.”

Unlike many demonstrations, the People’s Climate March is not intended to disrupt the U.N.s summit. Instead, it is intended to support the U.N.s actions by stressing that citizens care, that this issue affects every man, woman and child on the planet.

The convergence of so many on New York will clearly give a boost to those inside the U.N. who seem determined to act decisively

to issue a new protocol for curbing greenhouse gasses.

A new climate treaty is necessary. Real action has been stalled for far too long. And while some gains have been made, a far more aggressive stance is desperately needed. Although no treaty will emerge from next week’s summit, this could very well pave the way for a substantial treaty.

We were chagrined to learn that neither China nor India – two of the world’s biggest polluters – will be sending their heads of state. For real change to take place, these countries have to be active participants. Our hope is that their representatives will carry the message home.

We were pleased that President Obama will be there and even gladder that the president seems seriously willing and eager to act. According to the New York Times, the U.S. is hoping to reach “a sweeping international climate change agreement” in time for a 2015 meeting in Paris.

But because the Obama administration is quite aware that passage of a new climate treaty by two-thirds of the U.S. Senate is virtually impossible, their strategy is to simply augment the deal reached at the 1992 “Earth Summit” in Rio de Janeiro which has already been ratified by the U.S. and is legally binding.

This new agreement would commit every signatory nation to certain goals on reducing carbon dioxide emissions and also send money to poorer countries to assist in reducing their reliance on polluting plants.

It’s a bold step and an important one. It also seems to us that it could very positively impact the crisis. Action on global warming should not be held hostage by a few officials, here or elsewhere, that for whatever reason feel it in their best interests to continue the status quo.

We can’t say that the People’s Climate March is helping to influence a new round of deal making but the presence of perhaps 100,000 in the streets of New York certainly won’t hurt. Indeed, that action is needed now is the resounding message that the March hopes to deliver.

And we’re actually beginning to believe that a number of world leaders are hearing this urgent appeal.



SAWYER-LAUÇANNO ILLUSTRATION

Letters to the Editors

Time To Change Society’s Diapers

I swore I wouldn’t get on a pulpit about this issue but I believe that pressuring our local governments to support Diaper Need Awareness Week is carrying things a little too far.

While I’m in agreement that diapers are a basic household necessity than cannot and should not be purchased with SNAP benefits, I also believe that the use of expensive disposable diapers is a personal choice. By all estimates the cost of disposables is running \$90 to 100 per month.

I was pretty broke when my son was born. I was lucky and picked up a bunch of second hand diapers from my sister, so I only had to purchase a few pairs of “rubber pants” – probably no longer in existence – and a couple dozen more diapers.

I was fortunate to have a washing machine, but there was no dryer in my budget, so I used a wooden drying rack or the clothesline out back.

It was a little more work but it was affordable.

A side benefit is that I wasn’t exposing my newborn’s skin to the chemical-laden filler that most disposable diapers include.

Disposables and their non-biodegradable plastic outer shells ultimately end up in landfills or incinerators. The estimates range from website to website, but most agree that disposable diapers constitute about 30 percent of the non-biodegradable waste in our landfills, along with the chemical fillers and untreated human waste that can potentially leach into our water supply system.

One site estimates that each child diapered in disposables contributes about 2,000 pounds of waste before he/she is toilet trained.

One particularly detailed look at the environmental costs of disposable diapers can be found here: www.smallfootprintfamily.com/dangers-of-disposable-diapers.

Here you can find landfill and natural resource consumption figures, as well as an extensive list of the chemicals contained in typical new super absorbent gel containing disposables.

One that jumps out is *Sodium Polyacrylate*, which you may remember was banned from tampons in 1985 due to its link to Toxic Shock Syndrome.

If you really can’t bear the thought of washing your own diapers, the simplest of web searches showed me that Franklin County has Changing Habits diaper service.

There is a modest upfront cost to get started, but the service is basically only \$21/week for door-to-door service that provides you with 70 high quality cotton diapers each week. See www.changinghabits.com/

Anne Harding
Turners Falls

Gas Pipeline A Public Health Issue

As member of the Wendell Board of Health, I am interested in the varied responses to the gas pipeline Kinder Morgan proposes to pass through our region.

Several local Boards of Health have begun to communicate about the potential threat to our water and environment from the pipeline, which would carry gas extracted by the toxic practice known as fracking.

I hope there will be communication with all Boards of Health, in a coordinated effort to educate our public and demonstrate interest in what neighboring Boards of Health deem imminent if not threatening to their environment.

A local meeting is in order, most effectively coordinated by our regional director.

If local domain is to be pre-empted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), or if FERC’s domain is to be challenged by local Boards of Health, we will benefit by proactive knowledge of these affairs.

Anyone can contact me about this issue.

Nina Keller
Wendell

Make Some TV Shows!

A few weeks ago the *Montague Reporter* ran an editorial cartoon that complained that there appears to be less programming on MCTV, except for selectboard meetings.

This sparked a lengthy conversation on *Montague-MA.net* about what public access TV is and perhaps should be, with some saying more needs to be done by the station.

Public Access is for you, the public, to use. Like a library, it exists for you to walk in off the street and use, for free.

Unlike public libraries, public access TV is paid for by the local cable company expressly so the local residents can create their own TV shows to broadcast their opinions on politics, or music, or whatever. It’s there for you to use and create TV shows. For free.

With the changing technology and recent ease of creating short videos on your smartphone and uploading them to YouTube, local public access TV stations have begun to lose their monopoly as the sole location of public-created video... but they’re still there, and they’re still important resources for you.

Yes, shooting video of an event with a professional video camera, editing it, putting titles at the beginning see **OFFER** next page

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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Harvest **Potluck Supper** this Sunday, September 21, at 5 p.m. at the Old Town Hall. Bring a dish to share and your own plate and utensils. Roasts, salad, bread, beverages and desserts will be provided. A contra dance will follow.

The Benefits Counseling Programs of Franklin County Home Care will be holding an **energy fair** on Wednesday, September 24, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Great Falls Discovery Center.

The event will share information with **persons 60+** and their family/caregivers about the home energy benefits they qualify for that will help save money and obtain rebates for energy efficient appliances.

One-on-one assistance will be available. Registration is appreciated but not required. Contact Gretchen Smith at gsmith@fchcc.org or call (413) 773-5555 ext. 2258.

On Wednesday, September 24, from 2 to 4 p.m., the **Senior Symposia Program** at Greenfield Community College will kick-off its fall 2014 session with a symposium entitled “Chile, Chicle, Chocolate and Fertile Sow.”

Nina Scott will talk about three Central American spices: chile and its impact on European and world spice markets; chicle, the source of Aztec chewing gum, governed by strict gender and cultural rules; and chocolate, from cacao beans, another great find of the native peoples.

Scott draws on first-hand accounts of incredulous reactions of the indigenous population upon first seeing oxen, sheep, horses and pigs. She will also share some Old World/New World recipes with the audience.

Scott was a professor of Spanish at UMass for 34 years and also taught at Mount Holyoke and Amherst Colleges. She is a specialist in colonial Spanish-American literature and has taught several courses on food and culture.

This symposium will take place at the GCC Downtown Center, 270 Main Street, Greenfield. The cost is \$10.

The Partnership for Youth, the MassGrad Coalition, and local filmmaker Ali Pinschmidt present the premier of **Why We Drop Out: A Video Bridge Dialogue between Youth, Teachers and Administrators** at The Literacy Project, 34 North Main Street in Orange on Thursday, September 25, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served. This is an amazing and unique video-mediated dialogue between local young people who have dropped out of school and school teachers, and administrators.

The Greenfield Public Library will hold a **Peter Pan Party for kids** on Saturday, September 27, at 4 p.m. in the afternoon, starting at the back door of the library.

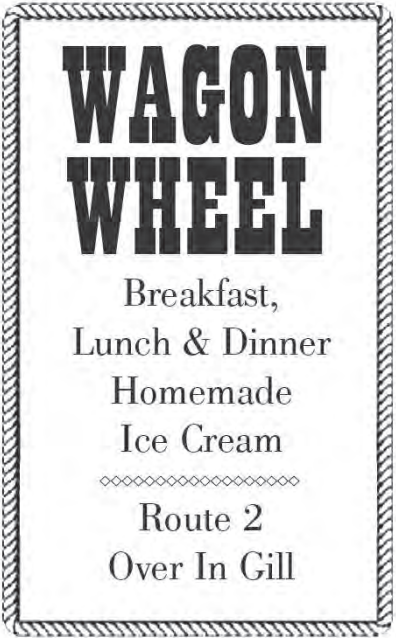
Choose your “camp” and dress accordingly, as one of the Lost Boys, a Pirate, Indian, or even a Fairy. Come play a part in this classic story based on the book by J.M. Barrie.

This free event is sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library. Register now in the children’s room at the library, or call the children’s desk at (413) 772-1544 extension 5.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.



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local gossip, news & business listings



Scarecrow in the Park: Call for Artists

Bernardston Kiwanis is seeking artists, craftspeople, and food purveyors for its two-day Scarecrow in the Park event on October 25 & 26.

In order to present an event that offers quality artwork and handcrafted items, the organizers are seeking artists in a wide variety of mediums.

The booth fee for the two-day weekend is \$40 per 10'x10' and \$65 for a 10'x20' booth space. We ask that artists must commit to the whole weekend, to give everyone who visits Cushman Park the chance to enjoy all of the offerings; however, a limited number of single-day applications will be accepted at the full weekend price.

This year’s event will also include two days of live music, a beer and wine garden, lots of activities, artist demonstrations, two parades, great food and, of course, a park full of scarecrows creatively designed by anyone who’s in the mood to make one.

All proceeds from booth rentals at this event go to the Kiwanis Scholarship Fund.

For applications for booth space or questions, please contact scarecrowinthepark@gmail.com.

The jury will be accepting artists until either capacity is reached or October 15.

**“A Will For The Woods”:
Screening to Benefit Green Cemetery Campaign**

GREENFIELD – Green Burial Massachusetts and Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust will offer the first Western Massachusetts screening of the movie *A Will for the Woods*.

The film, which will be shown on Thursday, October 2 at 7 p.m. at Greenfield Garden Cinemas at 361 Main Street in Greenfield, is free. Donations will be accepted to support the work of Green Burial Massachusetts and Mount Grace in the creation of Massachusetts’ first green cemetery.

In the film, psychiatrist and classical musician Clark Wang prepares for his own green burial while battling lymphoma. The film follows Clark’s dream of leaving a loving, permanent legacy by using green burial to save a nearby woods.

The free screening will be followed by a Q&A session about the Green Cemetery Initiative, a collaboration between Mount Grace and Green Burial Massachusetts to establish Massachusetts’ first green cemetery open to

all.

“Currently, there are very few cemeteries in Massachusetts that allow for natural burial. Many people have expressed an interest in being buried as simply as possible and yet natural burial is not available for the majority of Massachusetts residents,” explains Judith Lorei of Green Burial Massachusetts.

Mount Grace is currently assessing suitable land for a green cemetery. A property would need to be at least 50 acres, with less than a 15% grade and easy access to a road.

“We see this as a way to combine land conservation with the community’s expressed desire for more natural burials,” adds Sean Pollock, Director of Community Engagement at Mount Grace.

“With this project, we can provide those who choose natural burials the opportunity to use their final act to protect the natural world and inspire future generations to make respectful use of it.”

OFFER from previous page

and end, burning it to a DVD and submitting it to your local public access station is more difficult than just clicking two or three buttons on your smartphone, but it’s still worth doing.

Why? People watch cable TV. Your neighbors and your friends. Well, maybe not all of them, but some of them, and perhaps more of

them would if they knew you had a show on the air.

And it’s a great skill to have, especially in a soft job market. Free training, hey! And don’t forget about free speech... something very important in this new age we live in.

I’ve been on the board of MCTV for fourteen years and I think public access TV is so important that I am

willing to PAY YOU MONEY for shooting a show and handing it in.

Look for my display ad on this page, offering \$25 per show, with free training.

Take me up on it, and make some cool TV for us all to watch. And learn something about video production, and free speech.

**Mik Muller
Greenfield**

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USHER from page A1

She said the boiler building was “the oldest mill structure in town,” and called the chimney “an integral part of the building.”

Finance committee member Arthur Johnson said it would cost much more to save the chimney than to tear it down.

Other citizens expressed concerns about the amount of money already spent at the Usher site and about potential additional liability to the town with the chimney in place.

With a majority vote, the meeting approved transferring \$5,000 from the Usher Plant demolition continuing appropriation to fund invasive vegetation control, and brush and tree cleanup, at the former Usher site on Arch Street and Crescent Street.

The committee plans to create a picnic area in this part of the property, along Keyup Brook. As part of its permitting of the project, the conservation commission is requiring removal of invasive plants.

Schermesser called the establishment of the picnic area “a viable beginning point” for development of the property.

All of the other articles on Monday’s special town meeting warrant passed unanimously:

- The transfer of \$91,585 from

the Economic Development/Infrastructure Improvement continuing appropriation to purchase a 2014 or 2015 Ford F550 truck and other accessories.

Highway foreman Glenn McCrory explained that a crack was found in the frame of the department’s 2005 F550 that had been scheduled for replacement in 2015.

- The transfer of \$45,000 from the Economic Development/Infrastructure Improvement continuing appropriation to complete roadwork on Church Street and North Street.

Asked about what happened with past appropriations for this project, selectboard member Margaret Sullivan explained that the specifications in the original bid package were not complete. She said that rather than 64 manhole structures, there were 91 structures and that additional brush clearing and other work was needed, resulting in increased costs.

- The transfer of \$29,046.69 from town hall emergency generator, senior center emergency generator and Route 2 re-location legal expenses appropriations to fund mothballing, professional services, engineering, and planning expenses at the former International Paper site on Paper Mill Road.

Town administrative coordinator Tom Sharp said “These are the first monies to make the property salable, before we begin to market it.”

- The transfer of \$12,835 from Route 2 Relocation legal expense and Economic Development/Infrastructure Improvement appropriations to fund specialized landscape services on town properties.

Citizens praised the work of Harry Brown, Sr., owner of Beulah Land Maintainers, in maintaining plantings on town property.

- The transfer of \$5,000 from relocation expense/administrative coordinator and Route 2 relocation legal expenses appropriations to fund enhancements to the Pearl B. Care Historical Building.

Historical commission co-chair Cyd Scott reported that the second floor of the building had been rehabilitated and historical photos and documents had been copied and the originals stored safely. He said the commission wants to replace slates that are coming off the roof and install “reasonable museum quality” track lighting in the building.

- The transfer of \$4,500 from the Tax Title Foreclosure appropriation to fund the October 7 special town

election to elect a selectboard member.

Two candidates, Scott Fritz and Arthur Johnson, remain in a race to replace Eugene Klepadlo, who resigned July 23.

George Moonlight Davis announced this week that he has had to drop out of the race for a seat on the Erving Selectboard. “I have taken ill and haven’t been able to give my campaign full or good attention,” he said.

- A ten-year inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Montague for the treatment of Montague wastewater at Erving’s wastewater treatment plant. Under this agreement, Montague will become a customer, paying fees based on annual flow rate into the plant.

Finance committee member Daniel Hammock told the meeting that the cost to Montague is based on the amount that Montague charges Gill for treating Gill wastewater.

Before the meeting dissolved, Rebecca Hubbard noted the division in town opinion and commented that the people who volunteer for committees have the townspeople at heart:

“It’s important that people realize that everybody on these committees is working for the good of the town.”



NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Firefighter Interviews Recommended For October

By KATIE NOLAN

The Erving selectboard held a short meeting before the special town meeting on Monday, addressing the International Paper site, a federally funded streetscape improvement project, and hiring for the fire department.

IP Feasibility

Margaret Sloan of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments provided the selectboard with a draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for a feasibility study for the former International Paper site on Papermill Road. Sloan estimated the cost of a feasibility study at \$65,000.

Town administrative coordinator Tom Sharp said that the town should wait several months before publishing the RFP, waiting for a new grant cycle and potential grant funding for the study.

The selectboard members will review the draft proposal and discuss it at a later meeting. Sharp said that FRCOG will continue with the hazardous materials assessment for the property. The town acquired the property through tax-taking.

Streetscape

The board voted to have FRCOG facilitate design and construction of the streetscape project, which includes a sidewalk along Route 63 between the senior/community center and Erving Elementary School. The town will have the option to scale back the project if costs exceed the \$450,000 federal grant.

FRCOG will receive a \$5,000 consulting fee to oversee the project. Selectboard member Margaret Sullivan called it “\$5,000 well spent.”

The board stipulated that highway foreman Glenn McCrory should be copied on all correspondence and information for the project, so that he can learn more about project

oversight. Sharp predicted “shovels in the ground by next spring.”

Fire Department

Fire chief Philip Wonka explained the process for hiring firefighters to the board. The process includes a group interview, a drug test and a physical within 36 hours of notification and a criminal offender records investigation (CORI).

Seven former firefighters applied to re-join the fire department on August 25. Selectboard chair William Bembury noted that the board is updating the town’s personnel policies, and expects them to be complete by September 29.

Bembury and Sullivan recommended that firefighter interviews be conducted the first full week in October, after the policies are adopted. Wonka said he was still working on writing the firefighter job description.

Other Business

The board received notification of a planning board hearing October 2 at town hall regarding a proposed zoning regulation that Sharp described as “a bylaw to allow the Sembs to have a gas station in the drinking water aquifer.”

Highway foreman Glenn McCrory reported that Ryan Henderson of Montague started work on September 15 as the new full-time wastewater treatment operator.

The selectboard awarded the sand contract to low bidder Lane Construction, at a cost of \$9.50 per ton. The selectboard awarded the highway salt contract to low bidder Morton Salt at \$71.71 per ton.

McCrory had recommended the town approve a higher bid from Eastern Salt, because that company had been responsive to Erving in the past, providing highway salt quickly.

Debra Lapinski was appointed to the Usher Plant re-use committee.

COUNCILS from page A1

Council in Boston, they have complete control over the administration of grants. This year, each council has \$4,300 to spend on projects in their communities.

A member of the Wendell Cultural Council, who asked to remain anonymous, remarked that “usually there are three meetings, with one being a marathon session going over all applications, but sometimes this takes two meetings.”

“We all have our favorites, but one thing that’s so great is that members hear about performances and cultural events on a level that inspires us to attend because we have learned more about the performers and want to see the grantees for ourselves.”

“It’s a great way to expand our own horizons.”

Shannon Coakley Ramsey, a member of the Montague Cultural Council, said she applied for a seat on the council because she’d been “consistently inspired by the goings on in town.”

“I love living in a place where I can stroll downtown to meet friends at a festival or an art opening, or on the other hand enjoy a quaint celebration on the Town Common. Since moving here in

2010 I wanted to get involved in some of the behind-the-scenes work, to become part of the strong support network that helps make Montague a creative place.

“I’m really looking forward to reviewing the proposals for this year and seeing projects come to life.”

John Furbish, a long-time member of Montague’s council, said that “this year is starting out the best of all.” Like Ramsey, he said he had gotten on the council because he was interested in contributing to his community.

For further information and to download an application go to the following websites:

For Montague:
www.mass-culture.org/montague

For Gill:
www.mass-culture.org/Gill

For Wendell:
www.mass-culture.org/Wendell

For Leverett:
www.mass-culture.org/Leverett

For Erving:
www.mass-culture.org/Erving



The Montague Cultural Council also helped fund the “Introduction to Mosaics” Workshop conducted by Edite Cunha last spring at the Turners Falls Women’s Resource Center.

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

“New Evidence” Prompts Town To Withdraw Hatchery Road Request

By JEFF SINGLETON

The Montague Selectboard last Monday, September 15 wrangled with a number of issues including Hatchery Road, the Shea Theater, a boiler issue at Sheffield School and the long ongoing saga of the former Strathmore mill complex.

Hatchery Road topped the agenda.

After several months of lengthy and often heated public discussion, the board voted to endorse a letter to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) withdrawing a petition to change the right of way on Hatchery Road. The road runs between Greenfield and Turners Falls Roads and is part of the Greenfield Road reconstruction project.

The decision, however, was not made in public session and the board Chair, Christopher Boutwell, refused to allow more discussion of the issue.

The letter, sent to Robert Dean of FRCOG, stated that the town had changed its position on the right of way based on “new evidence.”

When asked what the new evidence was, Boutwell stated, “I don’t have it all.” He also said that the decision had been made in a previous executive session and that “[legal] counsel advised that we not release the evidence.”

The issue has been a topic of discussion at various board meetings for at least two months. Lisa and Robert Adams, who own property on both side of Hatchery Road, wish to rebuild two old barns which were located within the existing town right of way. They initially argued that town bylaws allow them to rebuild destroyed “non-conforming structures” but the town argued that such action violated the state building code.

This led to several meetings last spring and summer at which the Adamses and the board pored over old town maps – one from the 1750s – to try to determine where the existing right of way was located. The Adamses also hired a man named Mr Toth to do historical research on the issue.

Finally, at the suggestion of building inspector David Jensen, the Adamses and the town appeared to agree to petition FRCOG for a change in the right of way which would allow the barn to be rebuilt in the desired location. Mr Toth was then hired by the town to assist in the process.

Thus it came as a surprise on Monday when the town withdrew the petition based on “new evidence” that it refused to discuss.

Yet at one point in the brief discussion, Town Administrator Frank Abbondanzio suggested that the evidence involved the state Department of Transportation, which is in charge of the intersecting Greenfield Road project.

“The right of way [on Hatchery Road] established by the DOT is the right of way of record,” stated Abbondanzio.

A shadow has already been cast over the long-awaited Greenfield Road project by the state’s decision to hire Baltazar Construction Company, which may be involved in litigation with Montague over the controversial Millers Falls Road sewer reconstruction.

Now, the decision to withdraw the petition after closed deliberation

in executive session may raises state Open Meeting Law concerns.

While it was not clear from the meeting when the deliberation occurred, Abbondanzio said subsequent to the meeting that the matter had been discussed in posted executive session on September 8.

The executive session is listed on the agenda as addressing “the purchase, exchange or lease of real property: Hatchery Road.”

At the time, the board stated that a public discussion would undermine its negotiating position, although the right-of-way issue has been publicly discussed at numerous meetings over the past two months.

Green School Proposal

Chris Mason of the Montague Energy Committee came before the board with a proposal to bring two Gill-Montague Elementary School buildings into the town’s Green Communities Program.

The state-sponsored program allows the town to apply for grants to reduce energy use but requires it to meet certain reduction targets. In this case the stated would pay for an energy audit for the two buildings.

Sheffield and Hillcrest are town buildings leased to the Gill-Montague Regional School District. The district is applying for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority to replace or rebuild one of the boilers.

“We need an audit,” stated Mason, noting that the information might allow the district to purchase a smaller boiler.

As the discussion proceeded, questions were raised about the appropriation, which totaled \$110,000, passed by Montague town meeting recently to replace one of the boilers.

Abbondanzio stated that the work had been done the previous spring for \$80,000, but the lack of communication on the issue appeared to rub some board members the wrong way.

“Somebody spent \$80,000 of our money and didn’t tell us,” complained Mark Fairbrother. “There’s a certain amount of dysfunctionality or miscommunication [going on].”

Highway Depart Chief Tom Bergeron stated that it may have been the fault of the GMRSD facilities manager, who, he said, had been let go by the district “because he wasn’t doing what he was supposed to do.” Abbondanzio suggested that the Montague Capital Improvements Committee had probably been informed of the boiler work.

The board voted to place the two buildings under the green communities umbrella.

Strathmore

In other news, town Planner Walter Ramsey came before the board to outline a plan for the Strathmore, a large multi-building complex in Turners Falls which has been costing the town hundreds of thousands of dollars annually with dim prospects for redevelopment.

Last spring the Turners Falls Fire Department declared the complex a fire hazard, forcing an infusion of more town money.

Frequent complaints by Selectboard and town meeting members (“when are we going to stop putting money into this thing”) have met with the response that it will cost the

town far more to tear the building down than to fix it.

Ramsey outlined the recent history of the building, including a 2005 committee to oversee a study of its prospects, and two recent “Requests For Proposals” to develop it.

He outlined a six point plan, which included completing the water, sewer and electric upgrades, resolving the issue of the key bridge over the power can (owned by the First Light Power Company); promote Building 11, which Ramsey said was the most viable building; and to resolving issues involving adjoining land which is currently in tax title.

Ramsey also suggested recreating some version of the Strathmore Committee to monitor and encourage progress on the plan.

The board will revisit the issue in several weeks.

Special Assignment

The *Reporter* does not generally venture as far afield in its listings as the Five College area, but two upcoming events at Smith College, both brought to our attention by our readers, caught our eye.

The Academy of Music, in conjunction with Smith, will present “1940s Women in Labor: Then and Now” on Saturday, September 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Nielsen Library Browsing Room.

The Academy will present this discussion as a pre-production to their newly commissioned work, “Nobody’s Girl,” which will premiere October 17 and 18 at the historic Northampton venue.

Panelists are Daniel Horowitz, professor emeritus of American studies, Smith College; Ivette Hernandez, social worker and community activist; Debra J’Anthony, executive director, The Academy of Music; and Dale Melcher, labor extension coordinator, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The discussion will be facilitated by Jacqueline Castledine, co-director of Valley Women’s History Collaborative.

For further information, contact Academy of Music executive director, Debra J’Anthony at djanthony@academyofmusictheatre.com, or (413) 584-9032, ext. 102.

The following week, Paul Sanderson, a Jungian Analyst will give a talk entitled “The Archetype of Betrayal: The Dark and Bright Side of the Individuation Process” on Friday, October 3 at 7 p.m. at Seelye Hall 106.

This and other talks in an ongoing series are presented by the Jung Association of Western Mass. For further information go to: www.westmassjung.org.

We will award a free one-year gift subscription to any reader who attends both events and submits an article for publication relating the two topics to each other.

Free Pop-Up Tech Store Opens Briefly in Greenfield

By ANNE HARDING

GREENFIELD – On Friday, August 29 a mob scene erupted when Access to Technology (A2T) opened a free pop-up store at 10 a.m. at the Arts Block in Greenfield.

They were scheduled to be open until 4 p.m. but with anxious families forming a line out the door and down the sidewalk, all the computers were spoken for within an hour and a half. The overwhelming response to the shop affirmed what A2T already knows – there is a great need for the technology they distribute.

This event was targeted to Greenfield area families with school age children that did not own a computer.

It is routine for children to have computer-based homework assigned these days, and with many families in Franklin County living below the poverty line, A2T wanted to help fill the gap.

Although the line was long, the families were patient and grateful and children were excited. A2T also gave about a half dozen computers to new GCC nursing students who could not enroll without them. One young woman was determined to enroll at GCC in spite of being homeless, and a laptop made that possible.

Spokesperson Christina Sheppard gave special thanks to Jim & Maggie Zaccara and Evelyn Wulfkuhle of the Hope and Olive restaurant who provided storage space for the collected goods for such a long time, and to Edward Wierzbowski for providing a rent free space for the event.

The lack of a home base is the most daunting challenge faced by A2T at this time. They’ve had to turn down computer donations due to lack of storage and a work space to refurbish the machines.

Their goal is to find an inexpensive yet spacious home that is near a bus route. Some of Friday’s participants came via bus from Erving and Orange and had to carry their goods back to the station and wait for the next bus on their route.

It was a good reminder for A2T that both future events and a permanent home need to be convenient to



CHRISTINE SHEPPARD PHOTO

A laptop cart chock full of laptops.

mass transit stops. If you know a location that might suit their needs please contact info@accesstotechology.org

A2T is an all volunteer group that accepts donations of equipment from corporations and private schools in New England. In addition to computers and laptops, the group has also given away projectors, dvd players, scanners and other electronic equipment. They are currently only accepting functioning technology from businesses.

The collection of this used equipment saves businesses disposal fees and keeps perfectly good equipment out of landfills.

A2T wipes hard drives clean to demanding pentagon standards and installs new operating systems. While Friday’s event had a specific audience, they have helped artists, job seekers, literacy groups, and nonprofit organizations with their technology needs. They’ve even established a video lifeline to siblings separated in foster care.

A2T is the brainchild of Mike Phillips, an internet strategist and web developer manager at Yankee Candle Company for more than 14 years.

When his daughter was attending Greenfield’s Federal Street School in 2009, the computers were 12 years old, and some took 15 minutes or more to boot up. With the help of Entergy, Yankee Candle and other businesses Phillips replaced about 120 computers.

In 2010 Jamie Berger launched the Thrive Project whose mission was to “help young adults go be-

yond merely surviving to pursue careers that they find meaningful.“

While the program was active, Phillips was a board member and the repurposing of technology was a perfect fit for the program and a great opportunity to connect with other partner organizations. The distribution of computers became a mini project of Thrive for a period of time before becoming its own formal entity. It was here that Phillips met Judith Lorei.

Lorei has worked as an independent workforce consultant since 1999 serving organizations throughout New England and nationally.

She hopes to expand partnerships with agencies serving the populations most in need of access to technology. She has a wide range of experience with non-profit organizations, state agencies and unions and understands the importance of technology to enhance job skills.

Lorei was a member of the team that founded the Commonwealth Workforce Coalition (CWC), a program of the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC), a statewide initiative that seeks to strengthen the capacity of Massachusetts’ education, training, and workforce system to produce better employment and earnings outcomes for unemployed and underemployed residents.

While A2T in its various incarnations has been distributing repurposed technology for several years it took time and effort to establish their nonprofit status with the State and Federal governments.

Former Hallmark School instructor Christina Sheppard joined the board in 2012 and took on the role of filing the required paperwork. Since federal 501(c)3 status was granted in February 2014, A2T is anxious to continue moving forward.

They have launched their website and begun fundraising. They are seeking grants and partnerships with an eye toward finding a permanent home with one staff person to answer phones and maintain a visible presence.

A2T has registered for the upcoming 2014 Valley Gives day or you can donate via PayPal through their secure website www.accesstotechnology.org

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PIPELINE from page A1

the woods, where it passes within a few hundred feet of the Mohawk Ramblers motorcycle clubhouse.

Protected Habitat

The state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, which manages the land, wishes to remove that building to replant scrub pine. This spring the Division agreed to delay their announced eviction of the Ramblers until the end of the year.

“The Montague Plains is a particularly sensitive area where we have spent years

restoring natural habitat,” said Amy Mahler, spokesperson for the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), which oversees Fisheries and Wildlife. “We are very concerned. Further determination of the need for this pipeline is essential.”

She added that all in all, the project “would cross 15% of all state-listed

type of detailed analysis to facilitate a meaningful review of the route, nor has it demonstrated that it has fully considered alternative routes to minimize impacts.”

She called on FERC to consult with the state Energy Facilities Siting Board, and to “use its resources during this pre-filing process to hold the company to that pledge.”

In addition to a re-examination of the route and a “full environmental review,” Bartlett, whose office oversees the state’s Department of Energy Resources, called for “a full analysis of the need for the project,” adding that “it is unclear whether Massachusetts needs additional infrastructure to meet demand, and if so, how much.”

Water District

From the Plains, the route passes into the Turners Falls Water Department’s water protection district, where it appears to pass within 200 feet of the northern shore of Green Pond.

Water superintendent Michael Brown did not return calls as of press

time.

“We’d rather work with them than against them,” said water commissioner Ken Morin, who said that nothing has changed since the spring, and that the department has received no new information about the details of the project construction. “We haven’t really heard from them.”

Morin said he had been following the public debate over the pipeline, and said that to him, a recently announced competing proposal by Northeast Utilities and Spectra Energy to increase gas to New England indicates that there is a real demand for it. “I’m in a business that has a need” for natural gas, he said, adding that the Town of Greenfield has a moratorium on any new businesses that would use natural gas.

As for construction in the water protection district, Morin said, “as long as they follow procedures for erosion control,” he would defer to the state Department of Environmental Protection’s oversight on the proposal.

In the event of a leak, he explained, the pipeline would not be moving liquid, but rather gas, which would go “into the atmosphere” and therefore does not pose a threat to the aquifer.

The route continues from Green Pond across Route 63 and over Country Hill, passing by a parcel the Town of Montague has refused to let the company survey.

Then it turns north to cross under the Millers River just upstream from the rapids -- again, under the high-tension lines.

Contested Territory

The pipeline then follows those lines up to Northfield Mountain, where GDF Suez subsidiary First-Light runs a massive, pumped-storage hydroelectric facility. It passes across the front lawn of the facility, avoiding the Northfield Farms Cemetery, then wends eastward around the mountain’s north face.

“In addition to producing electricity, GDF Suez supplies New

England customers with natural gas,” said a spokesperson for that company, Julie Vitek. The company lands liquefied natural gas (LNG) at its Distrigas facility in Everett.

“We’re firm believers in using infrastructure wisely, and contend there is sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the market...

“We’ve been stockpiling additional LNG supplies to keep residents warm this coming winter,” she continued, saying that the company holds the equivalent of 1 billion cubic feet of gas in liquid form in storage, “using existing LNG infrastructure that has already been paid for.”

“In light of this,” she explained to the *Reporter*, “we’re not inclined to allow the survey on our property.”

Ever Onward

The proposed route continues through deep forests on the border between Northfield and Erving, entering Erving State Forest north of Laurel Lake and heading into the Warwick State Forest.

In North Orange, it passes between Tully Pond and Little Tully Mountain.

The rest of the 127 miles the project spends in Massachusetts is a straight shot through gradually greater residential density.

Pre-filing, Kinder Morgan’s Wheatley said, is a voluntary step “typically used for projects requiring an environmental impact statement” that “is intended for early identification and resolution of environmental issues.”

The company’s timeline describes twelve Open Houses, aimed at landowners and other stakeholders, this November and December.

In addition to these, the FERC will hold a series of “scoping meetings” and collect comments that will help it determine the scope of the environmental impact statement it requires.

In a year, the company hopes to begin its full application process, including the environmental impact statement, with the



The route follows the power lines through a western corner of Erving into Northfield, where it passes across the front lawn of GDF Suez’ Northfield Mountain pumped storage facility.

MONTAGUE REPORTER
COMPOSITE MAPS
IMAGES COURTESY FERC AND
TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE LLC

Opioid “Task Force” Meeting Highlights Progress

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

GREENFIELD – As people gathered in the dining commons at Greenfield Community College on Tuesday, September 16, they were offered a place at the table not seen before.

Instead of row upon row of seats facing forward, with a panel facing them, as was the design for the last Drug Task Force Forum, this large, bright room was filled with a circle of tables and chairs, so that everyone could easily see each other and be seen when they spoke.

Fewer Deaths Seen

This inclusive and collaborative effort was not just for show, but is the way the Task Force has evolved.

Evident in this meeting was the number of individuals and organizations throughout the county who are now actively involved in the effort to stem the wave of opiate addiction that has surged through our community in the past year.

The increase in availability and use of Narcan to stop drug overdose has already resulted in a reduction of overdose deaths. Agencies collecting data and reporting results show 350 lives saved from heroin overdose through the use of Narcan this year.

Narcan, a brand name for naloxone, blocks the opioid receptors in the brain and stops the process that shuts down vital functions of the body, the slowing heart rate and breathing that cause an overdose.

Narcan can be used by anyone who has received training, and is now easily available in its nasal spray form.

Walgreens at Valley Medical Center in Greenfield will now stock Narcan, and plans to make it avail-

able in all their pharmacies.

John Merrigan, Franklin County Register of Probate, opened the forum and introduced Marisa Hebble, the newly hired Opioid Task Force Coordinator, hired with grant funding from the state. He had high praise for her contribution to the task force.

Hebble then presided over the meeting, introducing the task force members as they offered updates on their progress.

Many organizations have made progress in expanding their efforts to solve the problem of heroin addiction and overdose within Franklin County.

A Public Health Framework

District Attorney David Sullivan said support has grown, with the governor and state legislators increasing funding. Governor Deval Patrick called heroin addiction a “community health crisis,” a statement that puts the focus clearly on treatment and prevention.

Sullivan said the efforts of state senator Stan Rosenberg, representatives Denise Andrews and Paul Mark, and governor Patrick have put money behind those words, supporting funding for a detox center in Franklin County with an additional 32 beds, another 32 beds for stabilization following detox.

The goal is to maintain a continuation of care across the spectrum of services so individuals with addiction challenges do not slip back after treatment.

Baystate Medical Center is waiting to hear back on a grant application that would provide funding for expanding their services for drug addiction and dual diagnosis patients.

The issue of individuals with both addiction and mental health prob-

lems has been a primary focus of the task force from the beginning.

Reducing Availability

Sullivan said heroin use does not start with a needle in the arm, but with a pill taken from a friend or a family medicine cabinet. He said they have an 18-month grant to stem the tide of prescription drug abuse.

Data gathered over the past several months among high school students shows that attitudes toward using substances such as cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana are more positive in students who have already used prescription drugs, demonstrating a dramatic difference in use of these substances among young people who have tried other opiate medications taken from family or friends without permission in comparison with those who haven’t.

Efforts are underway within the medical community to get doctors to follow protocols for prescribing opioids. As part of this effort, they are sponsoring a “Free Collection Day” for safe disposal – no questions asked – on Saturday, September 27 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at several locations in the county.

The Greenfield Police Department, Ashfield Town Hall, Bernardston Senior Center, the Deerfield Police Department, the Montague Safety Complex and the Sunderland Police Department will all serve as collection points.

Drug drop off boxes are also available at various police stations. The public is encouraged to get rid of old, unused prescription drugs to help eliminate this temptation and danger.

Expanding Treatment

Ruth Jacobson Hardy at the Department of Health said they are

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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

To Cut Costs, Board Members Seek To Simplify or Refine Inner Circle

By JOSH HEINEMANN

Wendell selectboard members spent the bulk of their September 10 meeting talking about making the town flag to hang in the state-house, and, with the finance committee, about the warrant for the special town meeting that they had scheduled for Thursday, September 25.

Town treasurer Carolyn Manley opened the meeting to talk about how the Domestic Leave Act affects Wendell. The act requires any employer with more than 50 employees to allow up to fifteen days of unpaid leave to a victim of abusive behavior.

Wendell has 85 people on the town payroll, but only the highway crew and the shared town coordinator, Nancy Aldrich, work full-time and receive benefits. Aldrich is paid by New Salem, and Wendell gets billed for the town’s share of that payment, so Wendell’s financial impact from the Domestic Leave Act will be small but the town’s legal obligation should be clarified.

Good Neighbors Potluck

Aldrich reported that Nancy Gratson reserved the town hall for Sunday September 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. for Good Neighbors’ annual potluck benefit harvest dinner. The normal fee was waived as it has been in the past because Good Neighbors is a town organization that serves townspeople.

Warrant and Roofs

The warrant has six articles, one of which would authorize \$8,500 beyond what was authorized at the annual town meeting to replace the senior center roof with slate, and include replacing the gazebo cedar shingles with slate also. Done together, the two projects would cost the town less than if they were done separately. There is no question the gazebo roof needs replacement. A view up from inside shows many holes through which the sky can be seen.

Finance committee chair Doug Tanner did not argue against replacing the gazebo roof, but he did protest the choice of slate for two reasons.

First, he pointed out, slate is expensive. A slate roof is a 100-year roof, but that longevity comes from regular, annual maintenance, inspection and replacement of individual tiles as needed. It is true that sound pieces of slate taken from the senior center roof could be put on the gazebo, and that Tanner has some unused slate in storage that could be used, but the pieces are different sizes and courses would not match up.

Also, said Tanner, the gazebo hip roof has four triangular faces, so each course of slate would have two pieces cut off at an angle, one on each side, and towards the top of each face, the number of cut pieces relative to the number of square pieces would increase. Each of the four ridges would need an expensive ridge cap.

He suggested replacing the cedar with asphalt shingles, which could be bought, and then put up in less than a day by volunteers and not require the special knowledge of

a slate roof expert. The ridge caps would be asphalt shingles and not specialized pieces. Tanner did not object to slate on the senior center roof because that roof is two rectangular panels, and the building’s original and historic roof is slate.

Selectboard member Dan Keller said that the town already accepted a bid for putting slate on both roofs. He was not sure whether the contractor, Apollo Construction of Lev-erett, had ordered or paid for the slate but he said he would call, find out and see if the purchase and the work can be delayed until the special town meeting decides which choice the town prefers.

Other Articles

The other articles on the warrant would put \$5,043.12 into a sick leave pay bank, pay a \$804.60 WRATS bill of prior year, a \$208.90 building inspector bill of prior year, a \$122.00 fire department bill of prior year, and repurpose \$3,275.01 to purchase a safe for the tax collector.

Creating a Town Flag

Board members also discussed the next steps toward creating a town flag. Flags can be cotton or nylon, and the image can be dyed, embroidered, or appliquéd. To hang in the statehouse the flag can be one sided, but if it will be hung on a pole, or from poles, in Wendell it should be two-sided.

Embroidered and appliquéd flags will not work as two sided, and will be more expensive and difficult to make into multiple copies than would a dyed flag.

The design that won the most votes at Old Home Day is a sunburst, with an inner circle, and inside that circle is more starburst. Simplifying the content of the inner circle would reduce complexity, and cost.

The town has the option of putting its name on the flag, along with “Massachusetts,” “Mass,” “MA,” or no writing.

The inner circle of another entry in the flag voting might work better, and since both designs were preliminary, board members decided to contact both artists, and refine the design.

Rich Wilder, “Roads Scholar”

The Baystate Roads Program sent the Wendell selectboard a letter of congratulations calling town highway supervisor, Rich Wilder, a “Roads Scholar.” To earn that award Wilder attended at least seven 6-hour workshops, and the letter states in part:

“Although the name “Roads Scholar” is somewhat humorous and designed to catch attention, Mr. Wilder’s accomplishment is very impressive because he has come to all of our workshops ready to learn with a genuine interest in improving operations in Wendell.

Richard has shown us that he is a professional who is serious about furthering his education and improving the way he accomplishes his work.”

Free Offer

Wendell is one of 10 towns chosen by Western Mass Connect for a pilot program that will assess the present equipment and use,

the needs, and performance of the town’s information and communication systems and develop a plan for the town.

The offer is free, and board members accepted it without argument. Selectboard member Jeoffrey Pooser commented that the next step is to ditch Verizon.

Speaking of Verizon

Verizon sent the town a notice stating that Wendell is not paying the lowest rate possible, and that the company will reduce the rate Wendell pays per telephone line from \$35 to \$14 per month. The town has 14 telephone lines.

Pooser thought that the town should ask for a rebate covering the years since the office building opened and the town asked for the lowest rate available.

Other Business

The board approved Nan Riebschlaeger as Wendell’s representative to its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (CEDSC).

Aldrich said that twenty people have called asking for the green house numbers that the town has put out to help emergency responders find the right house when answering a 911 call.

Keller said he talked with fire captain Asa de Roode and the two of them will pick a day when they can place those numbers.

Seal Lamadeleine asked for the use of the town hall Monday evenings from October 6 through December 8, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., for the community chorus.

Heather Wiley offered the town a good spinet piano, in good shape but needing to be tuned. Even a spinet would be large in the senior center, but Keller said that the piano in the town hall is in bad shape and could well be replaced.

The board agreed to ask Full Moon Coffeehouse committee chair Kathy Becker if the coffeehouse was interested.

NOTES FROM THE GMRSD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Strategic Plan Synergy: Achieving The Objectives

By PATRICIA PRUITT

Over the summer superintendent Michael Sullivan, in consultation with staff, teachers and the school committee, completed the district’s strategic plan.

The plan identified five strategic objectives: readiness to learn; critical literacy; performance driven curricula; a learning community; and community engagement. For each of these five objectives actions have been identified that will enhance the student’s development.

The first objective – a readiness to learn – calls for the provision of social and emotional supports needed to ensure all students can engage in learning.

For faculty and staff this means developing understanding and approaches to address student learning needs. It means that educators will employ classroom practices and create an atmosphere conducive to learning, as well as deal effectively with behavior that inhibits learning.

For students with high needs at all grade levels, the district will develop behavior-based systems of support. Training and coaching support for teachers and staff will be provided to strengthen their understanding and strategies.

The second Strategic objective is the area of critical literacy. The District wants to build a Pre-K through 12 system of literacy development that focuses on comprehension, effective written communication, and learning at high levels of understanding.

According to the plan, this will happen through a system of tiered literacy support at every school and in every classroom, with the help of reading specialists. In addition, elementary teachers will develop a shared understanding of all aspects of literacy in order to employ a common model of instruction.

Secondary teachers will focus on curricula and learning at high levels and purposeful content area

writing as well as reading comprehension. To accomplish this goal the district intends to provide professional development in instruction, and evaluation to enhance student learning at cognitively high levels.

Performance driven curricula is the third objective set by the District and is described as “...curricula that reflect state standards and that specify and align learning outcomes with meaningful performance assessments.”

The first task, and one that has been ongoing, is the development of curriculum maps that specify when and for how long each unit is taught, the unit mastery objectives and the assessments of the objectives.

Objective two is to provide time for this mapping so that teachers can collaboratively develop and/or revise maps based upon actual experience. Next is developing tests, performances, projects and other forms of unit assessments that demonstrate learning at high levels of understanding.

The fourth and fifth objectives toward achieving performance driven curricula is to appoint and train curriculum coordinators to facilitate the development of curriculum maps and their components and to provide professional development on mapping, power standards, mastery objectives and assessments.

The district’s final two strategic objectives involve the quality of the district. As a “learning organization” the plan proposes creating a culture of adult learning, driven by goal setting, feedback, collaboration and accountability.

Finally, community engagement, with increased parental and stakeholder involvement and investment, also requires the district to be responsive to the communities’ educational wants and needs.

At the district, school and team levels the plan proposes to develop a commitment to shared goals, to see GMRSD page B4

THEATER from page A1

There has been public conflict between the current theater board, which emphasizes traditional plays and musicals in its offerings, and other members of the arts community in Turners Falls who feel the theater could host a greater variety of performances.

One of the goals of the process is to mediate these conflicts and, hopefully, produce a common vision for the theater.

Abbondanzio stated that there will be several public forums and that Debra J’Anthony, former Shea Director and current Executive Director of the Academy of Music in Northampton, will assist the process as a facilitator.

J’Anthony’s salary of \$1,000 will be paid for by a peer-to-peer grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Economic Development.

According to Abbondanzio, J’Anthony’s job will be to facilitate two public forums. The first will collect citizen input on what direction the Shea should take; the second will discuss these recom-

mendations to help define the criteria for the RFP. J’Anthony will also assist Abbondanzio in the development of the RFP.

He has also called for the recreation of the Civic Center Commission, which originally helped create the Shea.

This commission would be empowered by the selectboard to negotiate future contracts, as well as help facilitate communication between the town and the theater board. It would also play an advisory role in shaping theater activities and events.

Abbondanzio said that at present, three individuals had applied for seats on the Civic Commission but that he was hoping to have a five-member commission.

After some back and forth with Shea board members and the selectboard, a deadline of Thursday, September 25 was chosen to close applications.

Members of the current Shea theater board, but few if any of its critics, were in attendance in force at the meeting. A number of the board members defended the philosophy of the Shea, arguing that

it was financially stable and that Montague is “a community of limited means.”

“We are a sovereign corporation,” argued Shea board chair Michael Glazier.

The main concern seemed to be the length of the process and its potential impact on future Shea booking. Abbondanzio stated that the process will be completed by next spring. “This is not a long drawn out consulting study or report,” he said.

The Shea board, however, has a number of concerns about the process and feel quite strongly that the uncertainty hanging over the future of their board and theater makes it difficult to attract theater events and participants.

Glazier noted that the decision to issue an RFP comes just at a time when the board and theater are “in the midst of progress.” As a result, he said, “we had to pull our plans back.”

Glazier added that “Just about everything that people want is on our schedule for next year. What people want is already there.”



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Volunteers Needed for Source to Sea Cleanup

MONTAGUE & GILL – Individuals and groups that enjoy beautifully clean natural spaces will gather for the 18th Annual Source to Sea Cleanup on Saturday, September 27 at 9 a.m. at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, in Turners Falls.

Volunteers age 7 and older make local watersheds cleaner by spending a couple hours collecting debris at designated sites.

Most volunteers collect trash on foot and are done by noon, but some will work later in the day; like those who are ferried to Third Island in Deerfield by Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife staff, and those that join the spirited hauler crew, accumulating collected debris for recycling or disposal at the Montague Transfer Station (truck not required).

Volunteers are fortified with Adam’s Donuts provided by the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center and, at the end of their work, share fresh baked Whoopie pies from Northfield Mount Hermon School bakers along with stories about the biggest, ugliest, dirtiest and most ex-

citing finds of the day. The hauler crew also enjoys morning baked goods from 2nd Street Baking Company and lunch sandwiches from the Wagon Wheel Restaurant.

Call Northfield Mountain at (413) 659-3714 to register for sites in the Gill, Montague and surrounding towns.

Folks who want to volunteer in other areas can email or call Watershed-wide organizer Connecticut River Watershed Council at cleanup@ctriver.org or (860) 704-0057.

In the past 17 years over 3,000 people have volunteered to clean sites in eastern Franklin County netting enough debris to fill more than thirty-five 30-yard roll-off dumpsters along with almost 2,000 tires and many refrigerators, microwaves, couches, televisions.

“Volunteers have made a very positive impact in our area,” states Cleanup organizer Beth Bazler of FirstLight Power’s Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center.

“We’re lucky that most people in our area properly dispose of waste, and very lucky that every year a corps of committed adults and children come out to clean up after the outliers who do not.”

Parents and scout leaders tell stories about how child volunteers can find the task a bit daunting at first, and some youth will say exactly what organizers hope they learn from the event – “this is gross, I’m never going to dump anything where it doesn’t belong!”

These very same children will be back at the Discovery Center at the end of the morn-



Northfield Mount Hermon School Students Frank, Mike and Alec jump right in to remove debris from the Connecticut River in Gill.

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Martin Dobrow
“Knocking on Heaven’s Door”

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BOOK REVIEW

Conflict and Cooperation Between Native Americans and British Colonists

BY JOE KWIECINSKI

BRATTLEBORO — For Stuart Strothman, researching and writing his historical novel *Sackett* gave him an extraordinary canvas on which to paint an emotional, exciting tale of conflict and, at times, cooperation between Native Americans and British colonists.

"I made an effort," said the first-time author, "to imagine myself being alive at that time. I worked hard to create descriptions of the people, the landscape, the Connecticut River. I envisioned the majestic pine trees in Putney and the salmon running in the springtime."

In total, Strothman spent some six or seven years on the book. His quest began in locating the origin of the name for Sacketts Brook, which rolled by his house in Putney en route to the Connecticut.

In 2001, he became associated with the Putney Historical Society. He earned a grant from the Vermont Humanities Council to work on a book, examining Putney's history to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the town.

"I learned during that research," said Strothman, "about a Native American named Sackett who was an Abenaki." Sackett fought against the British colonists in southern Vermont and what is now Western Mass., including Greenfield, Colrain, Northfield, and Deerfield, during the French and Indian War.

"This is where things got interesting for me as a researcher. I discovered a book on the Internet about Westfield, Mass. called 'Woronoco: The Present Westfield.' A researcher had discovered that a little girl named Elizabeth Sackett was abducted from her family in 1682.

"John Sackett had been one of Westfield's original settlers. His daughter was five years old at the time of her abduction."

Abducting men, women, and children was a common practice at that time. British colonists also kidnapped people and brought them to England during the state of war.

At this time there was an extremely well-known Indian named Greylock, a fierce Waranoke from the Westfield area. Author Strothman chose to portray Elizabeth Sackett as an abductee of



Greylock in the novel.

"The people were real," said Stuart, "but I don't know if Greylock kidnapped Elizabeth. It's the right time, the right place, and it made sense."

Meanwhile, the Waranocks were driven northwest to Scathticoke, a town in northwestern New York. Governor Andros welcomed the Waranocks and planted a tree for them as a symbol of benevolent greeting.

Elizabeth, meanwhile, disappeared. It is very likely, according to Strothman, that Sackett and Greylock headed north to live with the Abenaki. About a year after her abduction, the Sackett family declared Elizabeth legally deceased.

The novel follows Elizabeth as she marries an Abenaki from the Bellows Falls, Vt. area. Elizabeth has a boy. The Abenakis called him Saksis, the British referred to him as Sackett, and the French called him Jacques de Sachette. He was known and feared during the French and Indian War in the Western Mass. area as Sackett.

Part of the tale follows the exploits of Greylock. The story explains the Deerfield Massacre of 1704 with the raid told from Greylock's perspective. According to Strothman, this shift in view is a rarity.

In 1720, the building of Fort Dummer (now Brattleboro) came about, partially as a result of Greylock's raids. Fort Dummer was the first settlement in Vermont. "They wanted a northern fort to protect towns like Turners Falls, Greenfield, and Northfield," said the author.

Another local connection is referred to in "Sackett": the dreadful events that occurred around Turners Falls in 1676 when Captain William Turner attacked the Native American camps in the

see **SACKETT** page B4



This 18th-century engraving by European settlers depicts a young woman being taken captive by members of an unnamed Northeast tribe.

Swift River Historical Society has a Busy Season

By ANNE HARDING

NEW SALEM — For 75 years New Salem's Swift River Valley Historical Society (SRVHS) has told the story of the people of Dana, Enfield, Greenwich, and Prescott as well as several nearby villages.

In 1938 the Quabbin Reservoir was built to provide water for the city of Boston, and the people of the Swift River Valley were forced to leave.

SRVHS provides a look at life in the "lost" towns and honors the memories of those who once called it home through the Whitaker-Clary house, Prescott Church Museum, and the Carriage Shed.

It's not too late to visit before they close for the season. If you missed the "Children of the Swift River Valley" exhibit of historic photos at the Great Falls Discovery Center last winter you can enjoy it at the end of your tour, reinstalled in the Whitaker-Clary House.

Visitors begin their visit with a folk-guided tour of

the Carriage Shed including a new introduction to the Quabbin Valley story. This year the Carriage Shed and its reproduction one-room schoolhouse also feature a small exhibit on loan from the Friends of Quabbin. It was created by Les Campbell with support from the Belchertown Cultural Council and includes incredible black and white Burt Brooks photographs depicting youth engaged in play and farm work in the early 1900s.

Informal tours of the Whitaker-Clary House and Prescott Church begin approximately every half-hour.

SRVHS will remain open Sundays and Wednesdays through September 28th from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. with a few special events to come. SRVHS will open Saturday, September 27th from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. to celebrate Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day along with museums all across the nation. In addition, SRVHS will be at the

see **SRVHS** page B6



HARDING PHOTO

Folks watching a felt hat-making demonstration on Swift River Valley day in front of the Carriage House.

The Village Store

By LEE WICKS

MONTAGUE CENTER — The Village Store, also known as the Montague Mini Mart, and to old timers as Watroba's Market, has been transformed. No worries; you can still find the basic products people have always depended upon the store to supply, but now a cascade of flowers adorns the front and sides of the building.

A tropical vine filled with pink flowers climbs the wrought iron railings and borders beds of yellow and blue and red blossoms.

There's a tiny white table and two chairs on the porch where neighbors might pause for a chat, and there are brightly colored signs all over the door announcing new products.

The wine and beer selection has been expanded and the old/new owners are offering local organic dairy products, as well as bread and coffee.

Dennis and Sunny Lynch, who bought the store in 1984, have come out of retirement to reshape the business to reflect the abundance of this valley and customers' desire to

support local farms and food producers.

There's milk from Mapleline Farms in Hadley and from Our Family Farms, bread from El Jardin Bakery in Deerfield, eggs from Diemand and various small farms, Pierce Brothers coffee from Greenfield, yogurt from Sidehill Farm in Hawley, organic butter, and more locally sourced products to come.

"The building built in 1782, destroyed by fire in 1882, and then rebuilt, is one of the oldest in Montague and has always been a store,"

said Dennis proudly.

It was Watroba's Market when he and Sunny bought it.

But doing business has not always been easy. In 1986, just two years after Dennis and Sunny bought the store, the Town decided to rebuild the bridge that crosses the Sawmill River right before the Bookmill.

The complicated project, requiring re-routing a sewer pipe, was not completed until 1991, and during that time people who once cut through Montague Center on the

see **STORE** page B4



WICKS PHOTO

The former Mini Mart in Montague Center is now again under the direction of Sunny and Dennis Lynch.

TURNERS KEEPS ITS STREAK ALIVE

By MATT ROBINSON

The Turners Falls Football Indians kept their home unbeaten streak alive defeating the Belchertown Orioles, 28 -7 on Friday, September 12. The Tribe was 5 and 0 at home last year and 5 and 1 in 2012. The last time they lost at home was two years ago, against these same Orioles back in September 2012.

The game started with Turners at their own 38. Coach Chris Lapointe had them pounding the ball, rushing al-



ROBINSON PHOTO

The Blue's Jalen Sanders in the season opener with Belchertown.

most every down. His three captains, Trent Bourbeau, Jalen Sanders and Alex Carisle took turns carrying the rock and the boys in blue marched down the field all the way to the 5 but a holding penalty and a sack ended the drive with 5:23 left in the first quarter.

Belchertown managed to move the ball to their own 38 but the Blue defense tightened up and Turners took over at their own 40.

A sloppy second series for the Tribe and a shanked punt meant the Orioles took over at midfield at the beginning of the second quarter. But again the Power-town Defense tightened up and Turners took over at their own 38 with 8:38 left in the half.

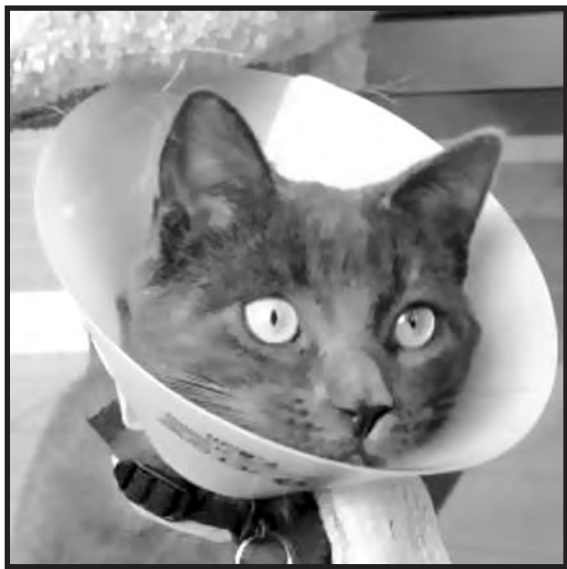
Coach Lapointe again utilized the run. Bourbeau and Sanders took turns running, and with 4:26 left in the half, Jalen ran the ball in and the Tribe led 7 to 0.

The Orioles put together their own drive and forced their way to the Blue 26. But with 42 seconds left, Power-town's defense came up big. On 4th and 2 they sacked the QB and the Tribe took over on their own 27.

With Ricky Craver injured, the quarterback question was answered. Trevor Mankowsky was chosen as the man behind the center. And Mankowsky took all the snaps until this drive. With less than half a minute left, Coach Lapointe took Tyler Charboneau off the line and

see **FOOTBALL** page B4

Pet of the Week



DOMAR

Why hello there. My name is Domar and I was brought to Dakin as a stray.
I am just a stray that lost my way

is all.
I have a huge heart and I would love a warm lap to go home to, if that's okay with you.
I am a very friendly cuddle bug. I still feel like a kitten because I LOVE to play and be very active.
I can get along with other cats - as you can see that here at Dakin. Come and see me, wouldn't you love to have a purrfect companion right meow?

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

Senior Center Activities September 22 through 26

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 9/22
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
Noon Pot Luck & Bingo
1 p.m. NO Knitting Circle
Tuesday 9/23
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Lunch
1 p.m. Five Crowns
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
Wednesday 9/24
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
Noon Lunch
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 9/25
9 a.m. Tai Chi
Noon Lunch
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday 9/26
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:50 a.m. Chair Aerobics
1 p.m. Writing Group

and upcoming programs.
Call the Center for a ride.
ERVING
Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Ervingside, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregare 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 9/22
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise
Noon Quilting
Tuesday 9/23
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Dance Fitness
12:30 p.m. Painting
Wednesday 9/24
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Bingo
Thursday 9/25
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Posture Perfect
Noon Cards
Friday 9/26
9 a.m. Bowling

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Take-It-Easy Chair Yoga –

FACES & PLACES

UMass students clean and landscape in front of Sheffield School in Turners Falls on Saturday, September 13. Principal Sharon Moberg (far right) said she was grateful for the fine work the students were doing. The cleanup was part of an ongoing "Sheffield Pride" program.

SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Too Much Coffee?

By **FRED CICETTI**

Q. Does caffeine bother you more the older you get?

Sensitivity to caffeine – the pick-me-up in coffee – tends to increase as you get older. Children metabolize caffeine quicker than adults.

About 90 percent of Americans consume caffeine daily. More than half of all American adults consume more than 300 milligrams of caffeine every day, making it America's most popular drug.

Caffeine occurs naturally in many plants, including coffee beans, tea leaves and cocoa nuts. It is therefore found in a wide range of food products. Caffeine is added artificially to many others, including a variety of beverages. The most common sources of caffeine for Americans are coffee, tea, colas, chocolate and some over-the-counter medications.

Here are some useful numbers to help you determine how much caffeine you take in:

- A 6-ounce cup of coffee – 100 mg
- A 6-ounce cup of tea – 70 mg
- A 12-ounce can of cola – 50 mg
- An ounce of chocolate – 6 mg
- One tablet of Extra Strength Excedrin – 65mg
- One tablet of Anacin – 32 mg
- One tablet of Maximum Strength NoDoz – 200 mg

For most people, 200 to 300 milligrams a day aren't harmful. But, if you are sensitive to caffeine or use of

certain drugs, you may want to cut down or eliminate caffeine from your diet. Your caffeine consumption is worth discussing with your doctor.

Caffeine can cause restlessness, anxiety, irritability, muscle tremors, sleeplessness, headaches, nausea, diarrhea and abnormal heart rhythms.

Some medicines and supplements interact negatively with caffeine. These include some antibiotics and bronchodilators. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about whether caffeine might affect the medicines you take.

In the practice of medicine, caffeine is useful as a cardiac stimulant and also as a mild diuretic. Caffeine is an addictive drug. It stimulates like amphetamines, cocaine, and heroin.

If you feel you have to have caffeine every day, then you are addicted to it. Eliminating caffeine suddenly can cause withdrawal symptoms, such as headaches and fatigue. These symptoms usually pass after several days.

Here are some tips if you want to chase the caffeine monkey:

- Read labels carefully for ingredients and keep track of the caffeine you consume.
- Gradually reduce the amount of caffeine you take in. This will enable you to acclimate to less caffeine and reduce the effects of withdrawal.
- Start drinking decaffeinated coffee, tea and soda.
- Brew your tea for less time to cut down on caffeine.
- Or try herbal teas which are caffeine-free.
- Check the caffeine content in over-the-counter medications that you take. If you can, switch to caffeine-free forms of the medications you need.

Questions? Send them to fred@healthygeezers.org.

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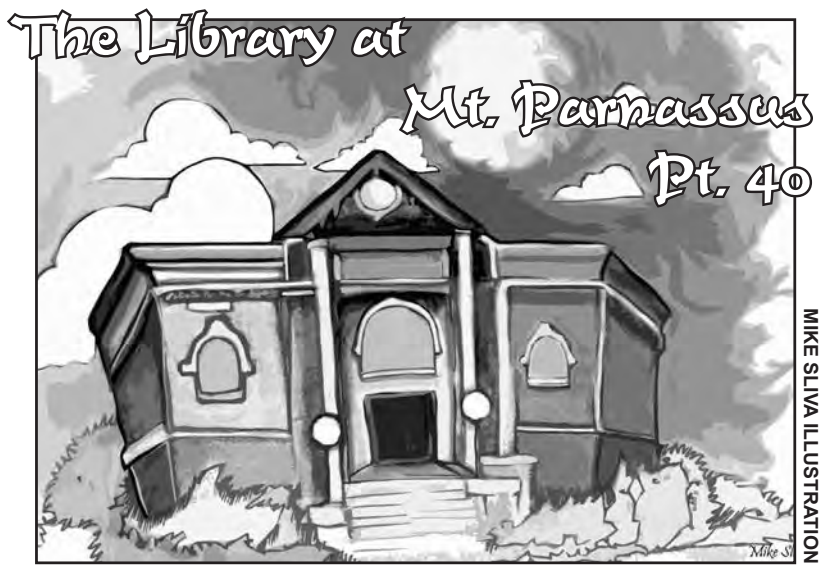
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Otis enthuses about the possibilities of combining the library, the senior center and the highway garage into one big cinder block building, while Hector Jarvis, the building inspector, accepts Ol' Clare's invitation for a conference in the back office.



By DAVID DETMOLD

“Let’s go to my office for a shot of Slivovitz.”

Old Clare reloaded his pipe, and Jarvis jammed his crushed pack of cigarettes into his coat pocket. He frowned. Then he picked up his wet gloves and followed Clare toward the back office, where, in spite of relevant bylaws, Clare maintained a smokers’ den, to which Jarvis seemed happy to repair.

The steam spouting from the kettle on the main desk had by now reached a boiling shriek, but Melantha made no move. I reached over and put the kettle on the trivet.

“But how would the senior citizens deal with the diesel fumes?” I asked, winking at Lucius. “And wouldn’t all those kids from Penelope’s after school program get underfoot at bingo?”

“Silence!” said Melantha. The kettle obeyed.

I said, “It might give the town nurse more to do. Writing grants for surplus gas masks for senior tai chi.”

Melantha did not reply.

“Maybe they could fit parks and rec in there too... Volleyball in the reading room? What was that show? ‘Anyone for Tennyson?’”

Melantha’s eyes took on a cloudy sheen, not unlike her python’s, and she intoned:

*None can hear, who does not speak
None can find, who does not seek
The way seems lost, yet fate draws near
Storm-tossed still, sea-faring, blind.*

“Well, I don’t know. Exactly. But I’m not sure that follows.”

I walked into the reading room. Cadmus had the *Attic Times* open on the table. He looked over at me from under the brim of his battered hat.

“Where’s Eddie today?” I asked him. “Not out with the sheep in this weather, I hope?”

“Nope, he quit that job.”

“He quit?”

“His father drove him to it. Said he’d likely kill the bastard if he didn’t clear on out of there.”

“No kiddin’. Well, good for Eddie. Where is he now?”

“Over at the unemployment.”

“At the Sphinx?”
“That’s right.”

“Oh, god. That’s awful. I hope he makes it out of there in one piece.”
“She’s a pretty tough outfit.”

For years, the local welfare office, with its plush upholstered couches and battered wainscoting, was located above the former haberdashery, next door to the VFW. After running the lackadaisical gauntlet of bored caseworkers who asked rote questions and ticked off answers on their clipboard forms, the idle mill workers, checks in hand, could go next door to relax with a draft and a shot of whiskey.

But times had changed. Now located on the outskirts of town on a battered shelf of rock, the newly privatized Transitional Assistance Office was run by the Sphinx Corp., a division of Tantalus Employment, a global temp service headquartered in Memphis.

The squat, windowless red brick building was located on the main highway out of town, but there was no public transportation, except for one bus early in the morning and one at night, a dollar fifty each way.

Most folks in town didn’t own a car, so people in need of assistance, transitional or otherwise, had to walk miles, often in the bitter cold, to get in line outside the steel door.

The office was small and cramped, staffed by a gang of computers hooked up to a giant central video monitor, like the display screen in a bus terminal, that hung by chains from the ceiling.

As they inched up to the door, an exterior security system scanned the applicants’ thumbprints and relayed their identity to a central database.

By the time they made it inside, their personal information was displayed on the giant screen for everyone to read, detailing their recent inquiries in the local job market along with interviewers’ responses, if any, cross-filed with employment history, pay rates, reasons for termination, criminal records, marital status, substance abuse and counseling files.

The luminescent green data scrolled slowly in the electric blue haze of the monitor, in letters large enough for all to ponder.

The line moved slowly.

Continued next week.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Cloth Bag That Holds Plastic Bags Moved

Monday, 9/8

2:22 a.m. Report of loud voices in the Third Street parking lot followed by a female screaming “Call the police!” Officers spoke to parties in the area; will look out for an involved male party.

2:36 p.m. Neighbor dispute on Central Street. Advised of options.

3:07 p.m. Report of overgrowth creating a traffic hazard on Montague City Road. Referred to an officer.

3:13 p.m. Disorderly conduct on Avenue A. Party taken into protective custody.

6:10 p.m. Caller from Turnpike Road reports that there were two pit bulls in her backyard, and that when she attempted to “shoo” them, one of them started to charge her. Gone on arrival.

11:07 p.m. Disturbance on K Street. Party taken into protective custody.

Tuesday, 9/9

12:00 a.m. Caller reports that her possibly intoxicated ex-boyfriend is outside of her father’s house beeping the horn; vehicle description provided. Vehicle located in Gill. Courtesy transport provided.

9:48 a.m. Moped reported stolen from Building 4 at Swift River Hydro Electric. Report taken.

2:37 p.m. Report of subject attempting to dump 3 TVs inside the transfer station. Officer responded; subject loaded the TVs back into her vehicle.

5:59 p.m. Request for officer to dispose of a syringe found on Third Street. Services rendered.

6:57 p.m. Caller from Gill reports that his friend had a bike “destroyed” behind the Rendezvous this past weekend. Referred to an officer.

7:58 p.m. 911 caller reports she shares a porch with her neighbor, against whom she has a harassment order, and that he has placed a toolbox under her table. She does not want to be the one to ask him to remove it. Officer spoke to other party, who will be moving toolbox.

8:26 p.m. Caller from Keith Street reports that while his daughter was in the shower, she noticed a larger white-skinned arm in the window with what appeared to be a camera or phone. Investigated.

Wednesday, 9/10

4:16 a.m. Caller reports

a dark sedan behind her apartment building on Bridge Street; male occupant is doing something behind another car in the lot. Caller believes they may have stolen a license plate. Sedan left toward Erving. See next call.

4:59 a.m. Officer reports vehicle failing to stop on Millers Falls Road near industrial park. Second officer advised to put out stop sticks near Scotties. Vehicle avoided spikes and almost struck officer; continued westbound toward F.L. Roberts and into Greenfield. Greenfield PD advised. Vehicle continued up Turners Falls Road the wrong way onto High Street. GPD placed sticks on High Street near police department; pursued vehicle along Main Street in Greenfield, along the Mohawk Trail into Shelburne. State police advised. North Adams police advised to be on lookout. MSP located vehicle on Route 2 at the Mohawk State Forest; request for K9 unit to track blood trail leading from vehicle into woods. Stolen license plate recovered.

7:07 a.m. Report of smoke billowing from the woods off of North Leverett Road. State police advised that the smoke was caused by cars burning out in the area; signs of same in road. One involved vehicle identified and located; operator spoken to.

10:50 a.m. Party into station to report that her chocolate lab was bitten by her neighbor’s girlfriend’s pit bull last night on Randall Wood Drive. Animal control officer advised.

11:48 a.m. Report of cardboard in road at Unity Street and Grove Street; blew out of a truck on the hill. Officer and DPW advised. Caller called back to advise that the driver returned and was picking up the cardboard. DPW confirmed that all the cardboard had been picked up; no hazard.

12:18 p.m. Report of a dog on the roof of a porch on High Street. Animal control officer advised. ACO and neighbor got dog back into house via open window.

4:34 p.m. 911 call reporting that a male party fell in the Food City parking lot and struck his head. MedCare and TFFD advised and en route. Subject refused medical transport;

courtesy transport home provided. Officer will file an immediate threat report.

7:13 p.m. Caller from Chestnut Hill Loop reports that at 11:30 this morning, his wife noticed a helicopter flying in the area for 2.5 hours. During that time, a suspicious vehicle came halfway up the caller’s driveway. Advised of options.

Thursday, 9/11

8:17 a.m. Report of suspected drug deal outside F.L. Roberts. Referred to an officer.

12:20 p.m. Party into station to report that he observed a white powdery substance over the storm drain on Avenue C. Party concerned due to it being the anniversary of 9/11. Responding officer found that the substance was paint from when the crosswalk lines were painted.

3:30 p.m. A Second Street resident called to report that her daughter is missing; last seen two weeks ago in Holyoke; may be in search of heroin. Advised of options.

4:38 p.m. Intoxicated female party seen attempting to get into her vehicle at Scotty’s. Party refused breath test and failed field sobriety tests. Party taken into protective custody and later released.

8:05 p.m. Caller observed a couple who lives at the house across K Street dragging a couch to the dumpster behind Booska’s. Caller upset about dumping. Officer located responsible parties, who were cooperative and returned the couch to the house.

Friday, 9/12

8:40 a.m. Caller reports someone put something sticky all over his girlfriend’s vehicle; may be connected to an incident where he damaged someone’s bicycle the other day. Advised of options.

4:54 p.m. Caller requesting to speak with an officer regarding his daughter being bullied on the school bus earlier today. Advised of options.

6:30 p.m. Report of four males drinking from what appeared to be pint bottles of alcohol on Avenue A. Unable to locate.

8 p.m. Report of a bonfire at the house next to Kostanki’s. Caller concerned about control of the fire. TFFD advised.

11:27 p.m. Complaint re-

garding loud music and party noise coming from one of the apartments above Second Street Bakery. Parties advised of complaint and agreed to turn it down.

Saturday, 9/13

4:57 p.m. Caller reports that the tenant on the top floor porch of a Bridge Street apartment building is using a charcoal grill and that the flames are getting high. Investigated; officer found no issues.

5:23 p.m. Landlord requesting that an officer respond to his building on Bridge Street where a tenant was reporting a barbecue on the porch. Advised of options.

Sunday, 9/14

1:44 a.m. Caller reports a vehicle off the road and into the woods just across Millers Falls Road from Lake Pleasant Road. No sign of anyone in the area. Report taken.

10:12 a.m. Caller requesting assistance with an opossum that has been in her house for 2-3 days. Caller saw the opossum the other day; is not sure exactly where it is now. Caller advised to contact a pest control company.

10:30 a.m. Bike reported stolen from Third Street. Report taken.

12:30 p.m. Items including tools and a license plate reported stolen from a Griswold Street residence. Advised of options; plates entered as stolen.

12:34 p.m. Caller reports that while at the Bookmill she observed a man in an orange jumpsuit going in and out of the woods. Caller expressed concern, due to the jumpsuit, that the man may be an escaped convict. Responding officers checked the area; unable to locate.

2:48 p.m. Report that two subjects are smoking what appears to be a joint behind a building on Fourth Street. Area search negative.

7:01 p.m. Caller reports that her apartment was broken into. A cloth bag that holds plastic bags was out of place; nothing else known to be missing at this time. Caller stated that apartment was locked when she left and was locked when she returned. Officer spoke to caller and advised that the item in question was possibly accidentally moved and that this was likely not a breaking and entering.

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FOOTBALL from page B1

put him behind the center. Tyler managed to drive Turners deep into Orioles territory. With 2 tenths of a second left, Turners had a first down and the opportunity to expand their lead. But the officials decided the half was over and the teams entered the locker rooms with Turners leading 7 to 0.

In the second half, Turners Defense took control. They put plenty of pressure on the QB and in less than two minutes, Tionne Brown came up with a pick. Turners began their first drive of the second half on the 47. They drove the ball to the 32 but a fumble gave the ball back to Belchertown.

Again the Defense answered. Two plays later, they snagged another interception and with 6:52 left in the third, Turners took over at midfield. This time they wouldn't squander this opportunity.

Facing 3rd and 9 from the Orioles 49, Mankowsky found Jalen Sanders. Sanders broke loose and scored his second touch of the night and the Tribe led 14-0.

The defense forced Belchertown to punt but another Turners turnover gave the Orioles back the ball. Belchertown put together some nice passes and scored a TD as time ran out in the third.

The Tribe entered the final quarter with a 14 to 7 lead. They got

down to the 20 yard line in four downs but then Belchertown began to get stingy. After two runs for losses and an incomplete pass, Turners was facing 4th and 14. At this time, Coach Lapointe called a time out.

This seemed to work as Mankowsky once again found an open Sanders. And once again, Sanders scored a touchdown. Turners was now in the driver's seat, leading 21 to 7 with 6:18 left in the game.

The Defense was not about to give Belchertown a free pass. Knowing that the Orioles would have to go to the air, Powertown could sit back and tee off on any intended receiver.

The first reception was for only two yards and the second attempt was picked off by Quinn Doyle. With 5:18 left, the Offense marched back onto the field.

As usual, Mankowsky went to Sanders and Bourbeau. They managed to chew up the clock as well as the yards. With 2:31 left in the game, the Turners Falls Football Indians put the icing on the cake as Trent Bourbeau crashed his way into the end zone putting the Tribe up 28 to 7.

The Defense stopped the Orioles one more time and the game ended with Trevor taking a



LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was on September 16, 2004: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Selectboard Transfers Skatepark Lease

The Montague selectboard agreed to transfer the skatepark lease to the new owner of Chick's garage. Tim de Christopher, who is buying the property, which includes the skatepark, has agreed to abide by the terms of the existing lease.

Erving: Liquor License Changes Hands

The Erving selectboard held a public hearing and approved the transfer of a liquor license owned by Ron Mooradian to Gail Beauregard, co-owner of the Copper Angel restaurant, which Beauregard and her partner Nicole Wander plan to open at the former site of Ronzo's Bistro, on Route 2A in October.

Gill: Project Proceeds at Turtle's Pace

Folks in Gill may be right in thinking the reconstruction of Main Road is moving ahead at a turtle's pace. Although full federal and state funding for the 3-mile \$3.7 million rebuild of the road from Wood Avenue on the Northfield line has been secured, and the

metal on the ramps, "and get this skatepark open, because it's a valuable community resource."

project is slated to commence in the spring of 2005, MassHighway is holding off on approving the final engineering plans until all parties agree on a better way for wood turtles to cross the road.

Wendell: New Town Offices Proposed

The warrant for the upcoming special town meeting includes proposals to designate the lot where the town office building stands as a site for a new library, to dismantle the current office building, and give the selectboard the authority to purchase land for a new office building.

Selectboard members said the plan under consideration would be to demolish the current building, which is in poor condition.

There are two known wood turtle crossings on Main Road," said Gill conservation commission member Ted Castro-Santos, "and one of them -- a culvert -- is on the stretch being redesigned."

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STORE from page B1

way to Greenfield (and often stopped at the store) stayed on Route 63 and made a left on Swamp Road bypassing the town center altogether.

Dennis still made a dismal shake of the head and didn't want to dwell on that time.

Business was so slow that Dennis and Sunny bought another store in New Hampshire, and that store prospered.

When the bridge in Montague reopened Dennis and Sunny returned to Montague, but could not run the two stores.

Sunny's brother and sister-in-law, Sam and Sue Song, took over the management of the Village Store, and that worked well for nearly twenty years until Sam and Sue decided to retire.

It was decision time for Dennis and Sunny, who were also comfortably retired and enjoying their grandchildren. Their thirty-year history with the building won out, and they returned to the store on May 2 of this year.

Sunny had also nearly used up the space in her garden in Greenfield where she and Dennis live and

where she has about two thousand plants. She was ready to take on a new project.

Her "Sunny" smile (Dennis once used "Drive an extra mile for Sunny's Smile," in an ad), lights up her entire face when she talks about flowers.

The grounds around the store already look wonderful, but wait until next year when she landscapes the strip in front of the parking lot and hangs a new sign to replace the now faded Village Store sign once painted by a customer, and adds trellises so that the garden will have layers of height and color.

Just this week pots of mums appeared on the steps and pumpkins will follow soon. Sunny said, "I don't care how much or how little people spend here. I just want everyone to feel welcome and know we are trying hard to provide what they want."

Dennis seconded that when he talked about the wine. He encourages customers to make recommendations. He'll do his best to stock them if he can get them from the distributor. He joked that he should have a "customer asked for this" label.

SACKETT from page B1

area during King Phillip's War including the massacre of women and children while they peacefully fished.

Turners Falls recently received a grant from the National Park Service to study those events as part of the town's reconciliation agreement with local Indian tribes and part of the town's attempts to make the area a destination for cultural tourism.

Also described in the book is the damming of the Connecticut in Turners Falls in 1799. "This action," said Strothman, "permanently blocked the great Atlantic salmon from migrating to their upstream birthing grounds."

Meanwhile, Elizabeth Sackett went back to her old homestead in Westfield with her Indian family of husband, son, and daughter.

The visit is depicted in the novel as highly emotional. In reality, there is a record of only one trip back home by Elizabeth, but in the story she returns three times.

"It's my impression," said the 45-year-old author, "that people who became Indians, as a rule, didn't visit their own families."

A feature of Strothman's work is the unique glossary in the back of the book, listing animals, plants, and places in the Abenaki tongue. John Moody, ethnohistorian at the Winter Center for Indigenous Traditions in Hanover, N.H., read Strothman's manuscript and helped the latter with the glossary.

Sackett has received a great deal of praise. Colin Calloway, professor of history and Native American studies at Dartmouth, has written, "Using research and imagination, Stuart Strothman adds an Abenaki

story to the historical fiction of New England -- a genre in which Native people rarely appear as believable characters -- and shows that in the Connecticut Valley as in many other regions of early America, Indian and English lives and family histories intertwined."

A native of Chappaqua, New York, Strothman teaches language arts at Bellows Falls Middle School. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from the State University of New York at New Paltz where his advisor was Larry Hauptman, a well-known scholar of Native American history. Strothman added a master's in education from SUNY/Albany.

Sackett is available from the bookstore at Old Deerfield's historic museum, bookstores in Vermont, and online at sackettbook.com.



The couple present a good argument for *not* retiring. They are filled with energy and ideas. The store is open seven days a week. When Sunny isn't watering the flowers she's busy cleaning or stocking shelves, as is Dennis. Both are eager to discuss their vision for the store as if it's a brand new undertaking.

The changes are certainly a fine addition to the town. Coffee, wine, bread and organic local dairy products -- it's almost a balanced diet. A walk or bike ride to the farm stand, and you've got the making of a meal. It's a nice way to save gas and support not one but a number of local businesses.

And you can still find detergent, paper products, canned goods, candy, pet food, condiments, flashlight batteries, cough medicine and more -- the stuff any good country store keeps on



GMRSD from page A7

communicate them widely, to share results publically and to use results to make ongoing adjustments.

There will be time for teachers to collaborate on shared student performance goals. Educators will adjust instruction based upon student learning outcomes. They will also report results of progress towards student performance goals.

To achieve these outcomes, the superintendent proposes to increase effective collaboration with teachers, and asks teachers for feedback and evaluation of effective collaboration with administrators.

The first district effort toward increasing community engagement in its schools involves the necessity to communicate

district, school, and individual accomplishments, programs, and profiles in order to educate the community about the district's strengths and successes.

According to Sullivan, the district must take action to increase parental involvement in student learning, support of the district and investment in education.

This may require reshaping the district and school programs and practices to attract and retain students and families within the district.

Sullivan's plan also indicates that the GMRSD will continue to develop district budgets with input from and ongoing communication with



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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

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kiddleidoscope Tuesday*. Hands-on environmental experience for young children. Story, interactive game and craft with rotating topics. Ages 3-6 with a parent or guardian. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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* an 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.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Welcome to Railroad Salvage* on display in the Great Hall through Sept 30. Constructions, reliefs and large scale drawings by Turners Falls artists Nina Rossi and Barbara Milot, with historical timeline and commentary by Anne Harding.

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, SEPTEMBER 19

Montague Bookmill, Montague Center: *All The Friends*, a four piece Indie/Chamber Pop band from Northampton & Middle Mountain, instrumental folk by John Nolan, \$, 8 p.m.

The Pushkin, Greenfield: *Wildcat O'Halloran*, \$, 9 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Dynamite Johnny*. John Clark, Guy DeVito & Billy Klock, 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Santina King* and guests, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Deerfield: *39th Annual Old Deerfield Fall Craft Fair*, \$,10 to 5 p.m. 200+ juried exhibitors from 15 states displaying crafts in all media. Events include free craft demonstrations, live music and free admission to Memorial Hall Museum. Rain or shine.

Greenfield Garden Theater, Greenfield: *Garden Theatre Gala*. Presented by George Gohl and Peter Miller. A history lecture and digital virtual tour of Greenfield's Iconic Movie Palace created by Jon Boschen. Free. 10 a.m.

Old 78 Farm Fall Festival, 823 Orange Rd., Warwick. Family friendly event featuring local craft vendors, food produced from the farm, local and nationally known musical acts. \$, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. www.old78farm.com



Banned Comics: A Banned Books Week Event with Scott Herstad, 2 p.m. in the Greenfield Community College Main Campus Library. Herstad discusses comic books in the McCarthy era

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: Gender Role Free Contra Dance, \$, 4 p.m.- 5:30 p.m. experience session, 6 p.m. benefit supper, 7 p.m. All Level Dance.

Hooker Dunham Theater, Brattleboro: All Star Tribute Revue. Six tribute acts in one exciting show. Includes Lady Elvis; Feelin' Groovy, The Music of Simon & Garfunkel; and Queen for a Day, a Freddie Mercury Tribute. \$, 8 p.m.

Arts Block Cafe, Greenfield: *Erin Harpe & the Delta Swingers*, \$, 8:30 p.m.

The Pushkin, Greenfield: *Rhythm Inc.* A multi-generational Wendell-based reggae/hip hop group. \$, 9 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Ye Ol' Lysergic Duo*. Psychedelic Folk Duo playing your 60's favorites, 9 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Sledge*, classic rock, \$,

9:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rockit Queer* w/ guest *DJ Studebaker Hawk*, \$, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Reflections on Roaring Brook: East Leverett's Industrial Past*. Historical presentation of the industries and mills along Roaring Brook in East Leverett. Features documentary video titled *Reflections on Roaring Brook* based on an interview with John and Georgana Foster, longtime residents of East Leverett. The Fosters will be guests at the presentation and available for questions. All are welcome, refreshments. 2 p.m.

Deerfield: *39th Annual Old Deerfield Fall Craft Fair*, \$,10 to 4 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *John Sheldon*, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus: *Chris Herren: Substance Abuse & Recovery*. The Opioid Education and Awareness Task Force presents former NBA star and author of *Basketball Junkie* Chris Herren who shares his story of substance abuse and recovery. 4 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Open! Free Slice with every Drink Night!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Arts Block, Greenfield: *ABCD Jam* (ARTS Block CONTACT Dance JAM). Greenfield Contact Jam hosts with improvisational musician to accompany. Contact Improvisation as well as any other forms of dance improv are welcome in the space, all are welcome. \$, 8 p.m. Live musician *Mike Vargas* - Piano.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus Library: *Banned Comics: A Banned Books Week Event with Scott Herstad*. GCC's own Graphic Novel professor, Scott Herstad, will discuss comic books in the McCarthy era. Free refreshments, 2 to 3 p.m.

Saint Kazimierz, Turners Falls: *Quartermania*. Vendors & crafters set up at 5 p.m, doors open at 6 p.m. and event starts promptly at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

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Montague, Montague: *Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High*, by Patterson, Grenny, McMillan, Switzer. Discussion of the concepts and techniques for improving communication found in this book. 6:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Blue Pearl*, blues/jazz, 8 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Parsonfield* presented by Signature Sounds. EP Release Party, \$, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Edge Sisters & friends*, ukes & ladyvoices, 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Dimma Dim*, Dan Putnam's new band playing rock, reggae & funk, 9 p.m.

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ON THE ROAD

DAVE SHERMAN PHOTO



Lynne Rudié, aboard the cruise ship Explorer of the Sea, passes the south end of Manhattan Island bound for Bermuda this spring. "It was a great trip, and great to have you with me," she writes.

SUMMER CRYPTOJAM ANSWERSSSS!

JUNE 5: Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. – Maya Angelou

JUNE 12: I envy paranoids; they actually feel people are paying attention to them. – Susan Sontag

JUNE 19: Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding. – Albert Einstein

JUNE 26: If you have been solving these puzzles without emailing us, can you let us know?

JULY 3: None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free. – Goethe

JULY 17: Anger makes dull men witty, but it keeps them poor. – Francis Bacon

JULY 31: Our culture runs on coffee and gasoline, the first often tasting like the second. – Edward Abbey

AUGUST 14: Nothing takes the taste out of peanut butter quite like unrequited love. – Charlie Brown

AUGUST 28: Q: What does a nosy pepper do? A: It gets "jalapeno" business!

OK NOW KEEP DOING CRYPTOJAMMMM!

SRVHS from B1 Garlic & Arts Festival from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28 where participants can make small felted landscapes of the Swift River Valley (before the Quabbin).

There is also a hike scheduled Sunday, October 5 with Marty Howe. Hikers will meet at the Hardwick Common at 11 a.m. to carpool to Lyman Road gate 45.

Howe has been giving tours of the Quabbin for more than 30 years and you'd be hard pressed to find someone more knowledgeable about the sights and history of the area.

It's been a busy year at SRVHS and special events have drawn a number of new visitors to this gem of a museum tucked away in tiny New Salem.

July's season opened with Gene Theroux's "Images of Quabbin" which presented an introduction and summary of videos produced for last year's 75th Anniversary Remembrance Ball.

A highlight this summer was Joe Manning's presen-

tation about his Lewis Hine Project on July 30.

Manning is an author, historian, sociologist and much more. He's been living in Florence, MA since his retirement as a social worker in 1999.



Lewis Hine's image of girl in Vermont in milk bottling factory, early 1900s.

Back in 2005, Manning's friend Elizabeth Winthrop published a highly acclaimed novel for young readers called "Counting on Grace." It was a fictionalized account of a child worker in an early 1900s cotton mill that was inspired by one of the iconic images of Lewis Hine.

Hine was a teacher and photojournalist whose inter-

est in social reform led him to take a job with the National Child Labor Committee (NCLC) in 1908.

For more than 10 years he traveled the country taking thousands of pictures of children at work and home. The photographs were instrumental in the child labor reform that ensued.

The one that inspired Winthrop's novel is seen at left (it is among the 5000 or so Hine photos that can be found in the Library of Congress) and it may even be familiar to folks as one that graced a postage stamp in 1998.

Winthrop became so curious about what really happened to the girl in the photo that she started visiting Pownal, VT and looking into historic records.

She discovered the child's name was actually Addie Card, found birth and marriage records but came to a dead end after the 1920 census showed Addie living with her mother-in-law while her husband served in the navy.

Winthrop then hired her friend Manning to ferret out the remainder of the story.



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