



The More  
Things  
Change...

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Ice Melts  
On Lake  
Pleasant!

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Barton Cove  
In the Age  
of Dinosaurs

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LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 11 – NO. 26

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

75¢

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

APRIL 11, 2013

## SENIOR CENTER WRITERS: VOLUME 3

**TURNERS FALLS** – On Sunday April 7, Laura Rodley's dedicated group of 8 writers read from the third volume of *As You Write It, A Franklin County Anthology*. These are stories of life as it was lived and is remembered. There is humor and sorrow, pain and delight, and an overall joy in the making of word-pictures on paper in these stories. The writers, Rosalie Bolton, Estelle Cade, Patricia Carlisle, Lillian Fiske, Frances Hemond, Dorothy Hmieleski, Robin Panagakos, and Joseph Parzych each read 2 or 3

short pieces covering a wide range of subject matter from shopping for the right wedding dress to travel in Australia to receiving fiddlehead ferns as a present, to hiking Mount Tom, to the treasure of a child with many serious medical problems, to bringing mushrooms from Poland into the U.S., to a father's hands, a rainbow, a saved teddy bear, and the jobs done by men and those done by women, the changes and the unchanging.

As Laura Rodley wrote in her Foreword to Volume 3... "Good writing...brings it all to the table."

## Edible Landscape Designer Calls For Assistance To Native Bees

By JONATHAN von RANSON

**ORANGE** – In the course of making their own living, native pollinators such as New England wasps and bees help many indigenous plants reproduce: i.e., to fruit and develop seeds. The buzzing insects were at it long before European colonists arrived with their managed colonies of honeybees. Honeybees, renowned specialists with a workaholic streak, have been exploited for a lot of the pollination work, often taking over from the native, more generalist and solitary fliers.

But in the last ten years, particularly in heavily monocropped areas outside New England, a mysterious malady called Colony Collapse Disorder has wiped out thousands of hives, hurting the pollination of field and orchard crops.

Not surprisingly, wild, native wasps, bumblebees, mason bees, sweat bees etc., are being looked to for our own food security. Theoretically, their less inbred genetics,



JONATHAN VON RANSON PHOTO

Over 40 people attended Tom Sullivan's native bee talk at the Orange Innovation Center last Thursday. It was sponsored by Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust and the Orange Community Garden.

wider species base and co-evolved fit with native flora should stand them in good stead in a stressful, changing environment. But there are worrisome signs about their health,

too, including a reported collapse of three major kinds of bumblebees. To explain it, some worry about

see NATIVE BEES page 5

## Art's Eggs: Outside the Box



MACAYLLA SILVER PHOTO

Silver's hens run wild in his yard.

By GLORIA KEGELES

**NORTH LEVERETT** – When the economy crashed in 2008, Macaylla Silver of North Leverett and his family figured, "We have a barn, might as well put some animals in it".

They acquired six chickens to provide enough eggs for their family, and a few giant chinchilla rabbits. No sooner did they have half a dozen hens, than Macaylla's wife Rani suggested getting "Easter Egger" chickens that produce blue- and green-shelled eggs. So they got a dozen Andalusians to join the original six brown-egg-producers.

Soon they had so many eggs they were giving the excess to friends and neighbors. Daughter Rebecca, one day in 2009, painted green acrylic on the top of an egg carton,

at which point Rani said, "Let's call them 'Art's Eggs!'"

A small family business was launched, with the flock now totaling about 100 chickens, producing 6 dozen eggs on a good day. They are a mix of classic breeds, mainly Barred Rocks, White Brahms, Leghorns, and about seven others. Pick up a box of Art's Eggs and you likely have a beautifully arranged rectangle of brown eggs with a couple of blue and green eggs in the center. But there's so much more to Art's Eggs than what appears inside the box.

Macaylla isn't your typical backyard egg farmer. An artist since childhood and holding a BFA from UMass with lots of art history, he began his extraordinary chicken parodies of favorite and famous paintings to top off his old-fash-

ioned, squarish 3 x 4-egg cartons. His medium is pen and ink on "chicken scratch board".

*Henronymus Bosch Garden of Chicken Delight* is replete with spaceship-with-chicken-feet amidst an alien-looking menagerie including winged eggs, a rabbit, a dinosaur or camel, egg plants, and potted plants reminiscent of reversed chicken feet. A flurry of *Chickens Descending a Staircase* is a take-off on Marcel DuChamp's *Nude* doing the same. *The Persistence of Chickens* is based on Salvador Dali's time paintings, here with egg-shaped clock faces, one sporting chicken feet perched on a tree branch, and a hen and rooster with unusually spindly legs. Bad puns are included in the 36 and counting covers, such

see ART'S EGGS page 6

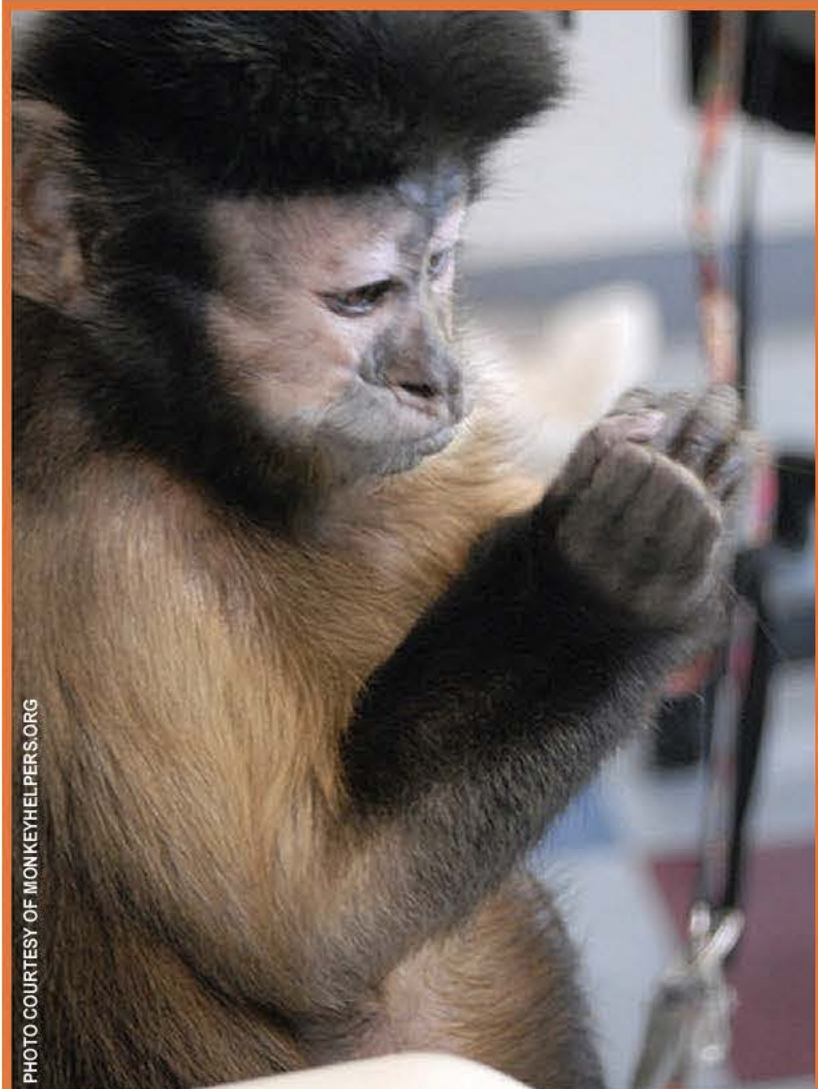


PHOTO COURTESY OF MONKEYHELPERS.ORG

## "Helping Hands" Monkeys: The Specialized Service Animal

By JEFF SINGLETON

**GREENFIELD** – Kent Converse, the victim of a devastating auto accident in 2007, is now wheelchair bound with a major spinal injury. He has difficulty performing the most basic tasks – picking up a telephone he has dropped, combing his hair, turning on lights, retrieving a book he is reading. His wife, who works for a local public school system, is away a good part of the day. Even with the best attitude, life can be lonely, empty, and depressing.

Then one day Kent's wife, Nancy, was looking through a resource book and saw a picture of a man in a wheelchair with a monkey on his shoulder. The picture directed her to a website for a program called "Helping Hands," which trains monkeys to assist people with spinal injuries.

It took Nancy nearly a year to convince Kent that a "service animal" would make a huge difference in his life. He believed he could learn to overcome most obstacles that confronted him and be "independent." What convinced him was the realization that a mon-

key would be much more than a helper.

"Eighty percent of it is companionship," Converse told an audience of about fifty at the Greenfield College "Senior Symposium" on April 3 in downtown Greenfield. The audience was treated to a two-hour presentation, including several short films and a talk by Megan Talbert. Talbert is Executive Director of Helping Hands, which is currently located in Boston.

The agency trains and places between five and ten monkeys a year. Recipients are primarily people like Kent with spinal cord injuries, but also include those with debilitating diseases like multiple sclerosis and polio.

This is not a program for everyone who might need it. Recipients must be at least a year from their injury and have been successful in rehabilitation. They must have access to a strong support system and there can be no small children in the home. And they must have, according to Talbert, "patience and a sense of humor."

The monkeys themselves are not, well, your everyday monkey.

see MONKEYS page 9



## Pet of the Week

### Your Wascally, Fuwwy Fwend



## Rabbit

No, no, I'm not a rabbit – just named after one! I'm a sweet, gentle boy looking for love, preferably on someone's lap. It's hard to believe I was found as a stray in Hartford and spent two weeks in someone's shed until I felt brave enough to come out of hiding. Now that I'm in a safe place, I enjoy meeting new people and am compatible with other cats. If you adopt me, my long fur will need to be brushed regularly to keep up my stunning good looks.

For more information on adopting me, contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or info@dvphs.org.

## Wendell Free Library

### Movie: *The Premature Burial*

On Saturday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. the Wendell Free Library will host a screening of *The Premature Burial*. This underappreciated Edgar Allan Poe adaptation is another film in the monthly series of horror movies.

Beautiful Emily Gault arrives at the Carrell mansion determined to rekindle an old relationship with Guy Carrell (Ray Milland), despite the disapproval of his sinister sister, Kate. Guy overcomes his all-consuming fear of being buried alive long enough to marry Emily but soon becomes obsessed again, building a crypt with many fail safe escape devices designed to guarantee he will not fall prey to his most dreaded nightmare.

Trying to prove that he has been cured of his phobia, he opens his father's tomb and is shocked into a catatonic state. His worst fears are realized as he is lowered into a grave and covered over, apparently

never to learn that the treachery of someone very dear to him was directly responsible for his predicament.

The basis of the story is man's fear of death and more specifically of somehow being buried alive. Guy believes his father was a victim of a premature burial and thinks he will suffer the same fate. Guy begins to hear eerie sounds and is seemingly tormented by two grave diggers he encountered earlier. Are there plans afoot to drive poor Guy mad? Who in his household could be behind such a plan? Does he ultimately suffer the fate that he fears most?

Milland is excellent in the lead. He conveys the building paranoia of Guy very convincingly.

There will be a short (1/2 hour) film before the movie: "Rocky Jones, space ranger, Crash of Moons, Chapter 2", from the 50's Rocky Jones TV series.

## Shutesbury Library

### Reading: *Boy Singing to Cattle*

On Wednesday, April 24 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall, there will be a poetry reading featuring three local poets.

Mark Hart will be

reading from his new award winning book, *Boy Singing to Cattle*. Also featured will be Shutesbury poets Janet MacFadyen and Emily Bloch.

Contact library director, Mary Anne Antonellis for more information at (413) 259-1213 or visit [www.mnspear.org](http://www.mnspear.org).



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

*Q. What kind of glasses should you get for low vision?*

Low vision is a significant reduction in visual function that can't be corrected by regular glasses, contact lenses, medicine or surgery. Low vision can range from moderate impairment – such as tunnel vision or blind spots – to almost total blindness.

One out of every 20 people has low vision. About 135 million people around the world suffer from this impairment.

Irreversible vision loss is most common among people over age 65. However, losing vision is not just part of getting older. Some normal changes occur as we get older. These changes usually don't lead to low vision.

Low vision can be caused by dis-

eases, disorders, and injuries that affect the eye. Many people with low vision have age-related macular degeneration, cataracts or glaucoma. Almost 45 percent of all cases of low vision are caused by age-related macular degeneration, which progressively destroys the central retina (macula) at the back of your eye. The retina is to your eye what film is to a camera.

If you think you may have low vision, consult an eyecare professional who can tell the difference between normal changes in the aging eye and those caused by disease.

There are many signs that indicate possible vision loss. Under normal circumstances, do you have trouble recognizing faces of people you know? Is it difficult for you to read, sew, match the color of your clothes? Do lights seem dimmer than they used to?

Vision changes like these could be early warning signs of eye disease. Usually, the earlier your problem is diagnosed, the better your chances are for successful treatment and maintaining your vision.

Regular eye exams should be part of your routine health care. However, if you think your vision has changed, you should see your

## FACES & PLACES



CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

Rodney Madison at the opening on April 6th of his new shop, Madison on the Avenue, at the corner of Third Street and Avenue A in Turners Falls. The shop will be open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m..

## Finding Good Work: Steps to Career Success

Have questions about getting started in the working world? Sign on now to a self-directed program in career and job exploration! Based at the Brick House in Turners Falls and supported by Co-op Power, this program will bring you

real experience in the world of work.

Youth 14-24 can meet with career counselors, get support from a youth coach, attend career fairs, write a good resume, and practice interviewing. A \$125 stipend will be rewarded on completion of the program.

Come to an open registration and orientation session, this Saturday, April 13, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Brick House, 24 Third Street in Turners Falls. For more information or to enroll, contact Nancy Bair by email at [nancycbair@gmail.com](mailto:nancycbair@gmail.com), or by phone at (413) 549-3702.

## THE HEALTHY GEEZER

### Low Vision

eyecare professional as soon as possible.

A specialist in low vision is an optometrist or ophthalmologist who is trained to evaluate vision. This professional can prescribe visual devices and teach people how to use them.

Devices and rehabilitation programs can help you adapt to vision loss. They may help you maintain your lifestyle.

These devices include: adjustable lighting; large-print publications; magnifying devices; closed-circuit televisions; electronic reading machines; computer systems with voice-recognition; telescopes, and telephones, clocks, and watches with large numbers.

Rehabilitation programs offer a wide range of services such as low-vision evaluations and special training to use adaptive devices. They also offer guidance for making changes in your home as well as group support from others with low vision.

If you would like to read more columns, you can order a copy of "How to be a Healthy Geezer" at [www.healthygeezer.com](http://www.healthygeezer.com).

Send your questions to [fred@healthygeezer.com](mailto:fred@healthygeezer.com).

## Senior Center Activities - April 8th to April 12th

### GILL-MONTAGUE

#### SENIOR CENTER

Gill/Montague Senior Center at 62 Fifth Street in 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. Kerry Togneri is meal site manager. Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted. For information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs, call (413) 863-9357. Leave a voice message on the machine if the center is not open.

#### Monday 4/15

10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1:00 p.m. Knitting Circle

#### Tuesday: 4/16

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga  
12:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Painting Class

#### Wednesday: 4/17

10:00 a.m. Aerobics  
12:00 p.m. Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Bingo

#### Thursday: 4/18

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi  
12:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Pitch  
**Friday: 4/19**  
10:00 a.m. Aerobics  
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1:00 p.m. Writing Group

### ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregating 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, 4/15

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10 a.m. Osteo-Exercise  
12:30 p.m. Movie- TBA  
**Tuesday, 4/16**  
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics  
10:15 a.m. Steve Damon- "Name

that Tune"  
12:30 p.m. Painting  
**Wednesday, 4/17**  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics  
10 a.m. Chair Yoga  
10:30 a.m. Greenfield Savings Bank Craft project  
12 p.m. Bingo  
**Thursday, 4/18**  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics  
10 a.m. Posture Perfect  
1 p.m. Songbirds of the Northeast, with J. Root, presenter  
**Friday, 4/19**  
9 a.m. Bowling  
9:30 a.m. Sit and Knit

### LEVERETT

For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or [coa@leverett.ma.us](mailto:coa@leverett.ma.us). Take-It-Easy Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$4 (first class free). Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

### WENDELL

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

## RECYCLE

### BOTTLES & CANS!

Week of April 15th in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

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## Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

### Grade 6

Owen Darling

### Grade 7

John Wheeler

### Grade 8

Alysha Wozniak  
Shakira Torres Vega

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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

## LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled By **DON CLEGG**

Five poetry boxes with some 90 poems in them, by young and old of the town, are out on Leverett trails, including many poems by 5th and 6th graders at Leverett Elementary. There are three boxes on the 4-H trails, one on the top of Long Hill and one at the boat launch at the south end of Leverett pond. Three more boxes are about to go up at the beginning of the Bill Rivers trail behind the Town Library, on Rattlesnake Gutter, and at the East Leverett Meadow. In case you are inspired write a poem on the spot, each poetry box has paper and pen. Or, write a poem at home and take it to one of the boxes. It is best if it is put in a clear plastic, 3-holed sleeve to protect the paper against the elements.

Attention Montague Precinct One town meeting members: a **pre-town meeting meeting** will be held on Apr 25 at 7 p.m. at the Montague Center Fire Station to discuss the warrant articles for the annual town meeting.

Come and join **Father Stan Aksamit**, Our Lady of Peace Church, as he takes you to visit Egypt at GSB, in Turners Falls on Saturday, April 13, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. See all the ancient ruins in vivid color and re-live all the adventures from his recent journey, plus explore secrets of the Pharaohs and Pyramids. Discover what the sands of time might share with you. For reservations, please call Christina, Kerri or Linda at (413) 863-4316. Light refreshments will be served.

Planning an engagement, wedding, birthday, baby shower, christening, baptism, bar mitzvah, graduation, special birthday, anniversary

or "just because" event? Speak with the experts at the **Making Memories** bridal and event sampler on Saturday, April 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. at GSB. Enjoy light refreshments, door prizes and mingling.

The 8th Annual Peter Cottontail's **EGGstravaganza** is Saturday, April 13, starting promptly at 1 p.m. on the Unity Park softball fields in Turners Falls. Featuring face painting, egg decorating, pictures with Peter Cottontail and, of course, the egg hunt with 5,000 candy and toy-filled eggs. Participants must bring their own basket/bag for the eggs. This event is geared towards children ages 4 to 12.

**Safe Kids** of Western Massachusetts is now offering a monthly child car seat inspection station at the Greenfield Fire Department, located at 412 Main Street in Greenfield. The next safety check will take place on Tuesday, April 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will perform the inspections by appointment.

Parents and caregivers will be trained in the proper installation and setup of their own specific car seats in their own vehicles. The car seat safety checks are free and open to the public by appointment. Inspections usually take 20 to 30 minutes to complete. For an appointment, please call Baystate Health Link at (413) 773-2454.

The National Spiritual Alliance, TNSA, is presenting the monthly **"Evening of Spiritual Healing"** on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. in the TNSA Thompson Temple, 2 Montague St., Lake Pleasant. TNSA certified spiritual healers will be present to help with relief to anyone in need including absent or

distant healing. Certified Reiki healers will also be available for Reiki chair healings. All healing sessions are free of charge and a donation would be appreciated. To learn about TNSA Spiritual Healing with video examples, please visit [www.spiritualallianceusa.org](http://www.spiritualallianceusa.org) and click on the Spiritual Healing page.

The National Spiritual Alliance is also sponsoring a workshop titled, **"How Do Hauntings Happen & How to Send Them Home"**. Rev. Steve Wilson of Mason, NH, a TNSA Spiritualist Minister, will be presenting the workshop on Saturday, April 20, starting at 11 a.m. at the TNSA Thompson Temple, 2 Montague St., Lake Pleasant, experienced. There is a \$20 workshop fee that helps to fund TNSA's continuing religious, spiritual and educational programs.

The Turners Falls High School Alumni Association is hosting a **community tag sale**. The location is the parking lot (football field side) of TFHS on Saturday, April 27, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This is the alumni association's first attempt at hosting a tag sale and they are hoping it will become an annual event. Deadline for registration is April 19. For questions and info visit [tfhsalumni@gmrsd.org](mailto:tfhsalumni@gmrsd.org), or call Doug Brown at (413) 863-2626.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Franklin County annual **"Bowl for Kids' Sake"** is Saturday, April 27, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at French King Bowling Center, Rt. 2, Erving. For more and registration call (413) 772-0915, or visit [www.bbbs-fc.org](http://www.bbbs-fc.org).

Send local briefs to [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org).

## MCTV Update

Turners Falls Riverculture's Lisa Davol interviewed Sarah Doyle about the upcoming Jurassic Roadshow, happening in May, for the Montague Cultural Update. Riverculture and MCTV are partnering on the *Where I Live* event. Come to the Colle Opera House storefront beginning at 5:30 on April 11 to speak your mind on video about where you live.

MCTV's Owen Weaver and Cindy Tarail recently filmed their sec-

ond interview with Staff Sergeant Chris Williams of the Montague PD. Sgt. Williams describes planning for school safety code, an increased community policing presence downtown, use of the conservation land and parking in Montague Center, and more. Check the schedule for cablecasts of these programs or view them online at [montaguetelevision.org](http://montaguetelevision.org) or at [vimeo.com/mctvchannel17](http://vimeo.com/mctvchannel17). Call MCTV at 863-9200 with questions or comments.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

### Erving Teenager Leads Police on Three-Town Chase

Tuesday, 4/2

6 p.m. Report of low-hanging branch on Route 2 along the river. Checked; no branch located.

6:45 p.m. Removed large tree from Farley area of Route 2.

9 p.m. Report of male subject walking on Route 2, wearing all black. Caller reported almost hitting him. Found subject walking eastbound. Checked out fine.

Wednesday, 4/3

3:08 p.m. Chimney fire at Gunn Street residence. Fire department on scene. All set.

4:55 p.m. Motor vehicle crash, State Road and Holmes Street. No injury. Report taken.

Friday, 4/5

1:15 p.m. Arrested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], on a default warrant.

10:15 p.m. Criminal application issued to [REDACTED], for operating a vehicle with revoked registration and without an inspection sticker.

Saturday, 4/6

12:45 p.m. Arrested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] for: speeding, failure to stop for police, marked lanes violation, failure to stop at a stop sign, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of property damage, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (the motor vehicle), use of a motor vehicle without authority, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

8 p.m. Report of motor vehicle on the grass at Veterans Park on Moore Street. It was lighting the basketball court. It was removed from the park.

Sunday, 4/7

2 p.m. Dispatched to Orange to assist with an uncooperative female.

Monday, 4/8

5:40 p.m. West High Street resident called to report car blocking driveway. Same was removed.

6:35 p.m. Report of annoying phone calls to Lillians Way residence. Report taken.

## Spring Vacation Week Activities at the Brick House

The Brick House Community Resource Center, located at 24 Third Street in Turners Falls, is hosting a wide range activities for youth, parents, and children for the coming school vacation week.

There will be an overnight "lock-in" sleepover this Saturday, April 13, for youth ages 12 to 18 with signed permission slips. Contact Maria at 863-9559. Doors lock at 8 p.m.; breakfast served in the morning.

Children's gardening workshops will run Monday the 15th, Wednesday the 17th, and Saturday the 20th. Ages 3 to 5 are welcome from 10 to 11 a.m., and ages 6 to 10, from 11 a.m. to noon.

Also on Saturday the 20th there will be a creative movement workshop for kids aged 6 to 10, running from 10 to 11 a.m.

Later on Saturday the 20th, Brick

House teen center youth will either have an in-house movie night, or go on a field trip to meet another youth group at the movies. Plans are still in the works. Contact Maria at the above number for details.

The Brick House is also hosting a pediatric CPR and first aid certification for Spanish-speaking adults, Friday April 19 from 5 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday April 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Childcare and lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required: contact Erin at 863-9576.

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## OPEN HOUSE

at Green River Zen Center

Sunday, April 14, 4-7 p.m.

Curious about Zen practice, or a committed practitioner looking for community? Come see our beautiful zendo space, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, and chat with teachers and sangha members. Optional meditation instruction from 5 to 5:30, followed by a question-and-answer period. All are welcome!

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# The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

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Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold  
August, 2002

## Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose

No, we're not writing in French this week, but this French expression (the more things change, the more they stay the same) seemed appropriate. As many of you know, your newspaper has undergone a critical transition since last fall when our founding editor, and now contributing writer, David Detmold, stepped down from his role as editor-in-chief, ad man, business manager and community ear.

But we have pulled through and have maintained a quality paper. Shira Hillel, who served for several months as our interim editor, has put us on the right track. Mike Jackson has come on board as our business manager. And we are lucky enough to have a committed editorial staff and group of core writers. Shira will remain as a writer but will move on from her role as editor. We can't thank Shira enough for seeing us through this period of change.

As of this issue, the new editorial team will be Chris Sawyer-Lauçanno and Patricia Pruitt. Patricia has been the assistant editor since last year. Chris has been associated with the paper since its inception, and has guest-edited *The Reporter* on several occasions.

Another first is that we are in the process of developing a website that we hope in the next few months will be full of content. You can check it out now: [montaguereporter.org](http://montaguereporter.org). It won't take the place of the print paper, but it will eventually contain arts and entertainment listings, archives of the paper, and other features.

*The Montague Reporter*, founded in 2002, started as a small grassroots endeavor, and has since grown to be a pillar of the communities we serve: the five villages of Montague, and the towns of Erving, Gill, Leverett, and Wendell. With nearly 1000 subscribers as

well as sales in stores, our paper provides an important community service.

And while much has changed in the first 10+ years of our existence, some things have not. Our mission is, as it always was, to run a newspaper that reflects the news and views of our communities. As you know, we don't just cover civic events. We also keep up with local cultural events, and support the arts and local business.

Local independent newspapers are becoming more and more of a rarity as more newspapers are going under, or being bought by a larger media entity. It is no secret that print newspapers across the nation are struggling to survive. Yet without access to local newspapers it is very difficult for small town residents to find out what's going on in their towns. We do our very best to keep you informed week to week of what matters. But like newspapers everywhere, we have to struggle to make it happen. Indeed, each week our business manager has to juggle our finances to keep us afloat.

As you can see: the more things change, the more they stay the same. The reality is this: we need all the financial support we can muster to keep on providing the news you have come to rely on week after week. We truly need your help to keep this paper alive. We are turning to you for critical support. Please consider making a gift of \$30, \$50, \$100 or more to *The Montague Reporter*. Please consider sponsoring the Poetry Page. Please consider becoming an underwriter. If you have a business and don't already advertise, please do. Help us continue to write the first draft of history!

On behalf of the board and the community, we thank you for your continued support.

## GUEST EDITORIAL

### Demand an End to Gun Violence

By DAVID DETMOLD

**TURNERS FALLS** – April may be the cruelest month, and April 1 a day for fools of all stripes to rue the tricks fate and fickle friends may play on them. But the nation as a whole will have cause to regret the fecklessness of its lawmakers again before month's end as the impact of another in the unending series of heart wrenching gun massacres fades before the conjoined firepower of the gunning lobby. That is, unless average citizens across the land wake from their mass slumber and despair long enough to demand a sane response to the Newtown elementary school slaughter of 20 first graders and the six brave educators who tried to defend them from the indefensible last December: a disturbed young man with an assault rifle able to rapidly fire 150 rounds and snuff out more than two dozen innocent lives in five minutes flat.

We have a choice – call our Congresspeople and demand sensible gun control now, or wait for the next rampage by a heavily armed man firing on innocent bystanders to remind us of our duty to our fellow human beings: to uphold the right of each and every one of us to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without fear that the next movie premiere or Congressional meet and greet we attend will be our last, thanks to some guy with a grudge or a mental illness and easy access to lethal weapons of mass slaughter.

Let's review.

On October 5, 2006, three days after a gunman walked into an Amish schoolhouse in Nickel Mines, PA and bound and shot ten young girls, killing five, *The Montague Reporter* printed our first editorial on gun violence, *The Lesson of the Amish*. We said then, "Looking back to Monday's massacre in Pennsylvania, there are those who say the Amish invited the tragedy by leaving their children unprotected in a rural schoolhouse." These pundits would have us arm every teacher, every principal, every homeowner throughout the land. But finally, what good have guns really done in preventing the loss of life, whether they were handguns, automatic weapons, or nuclear bombs? America, like Iraq, and like much of the rest of the world is awash in guns: civilians, militias of every stripe and troops of every uniform are armed to the teeth. Has this state of affairs produced anything we could call peace in recent centuries? Or has it produced one orgy of bloodletting after another? We are all like those schoolgirls in Pennsylvania,

standing at the front of the room, waiting for the next madman to pick up the tools so readily at hand...

"Perhaps the only lasting lesson to be learned, ultimately, is the lesson of the Amish: to forgive, and to forsake the modern ways when it comes, at least, to violence and the weapons man uses, uniquely constructed to impose violence on his fellow man. Forsake these in favor of the redemptive human qualities of brotherly and sisterly love – and nonviolence – that is our only real hope."

There have been other anti-gun editorials in our little community newspaper over the few brief years of our existence: we have not responded to each and every outrage of gun violence that has flayed the tortured psyche of our country since those Amish schoolgirls were sacrificed on the altar of gun rights.

But our editorial on April 9, 2009, "A Well Regulated Militia," was representative of the whole. We printed this six days after a naturalized US citizen walked into an immigration center in Binghamton, NY called the American Civic Association and, firing 99 rounds from two Beretta handguns, killed 13 and wounded four students studying to become American citizens.

In that editorial, which cost us a number of advertisers and canceled subscriptions, we wrote, "Let's set aside the legitimate need to hunt game to put food on the table, and the sport that has developed around this ancient practice, and accept the sale and possession of hunting rifles and ammo as defensible. No one needs a handgun or an AK-47 to get the better of a deer."

"Anyone who sees the working of a well-regulated militia in the horrific killing spree unleashed by Harris, Klebold, Cho, Roberts, Stewart, Voong, Mixon, Poplawski and their brothers in arms are simply aiding and abetting the mayhem and making plain the way for more mass murder to follow. Since the 5-4 District of Columbia v. Heller ruling in June of last year, overturning Washington DC's ban on the private ownership of handguns, and finding for the first time an individual right to own guns, we are forced to include the rogue majority of the United States Supreme Court in this category."

"Now, American society is an armed camp, bristling with firepower, waiting for any match to strike the tinder. In the 'post-Obama' era of right wing fear and hate mongering, background checks for gun permits are up 31%, and gun stores nationwide are running out of ordnance and ammo to keep up with

demand. There are already more than 200 million privately-owned guns in America, more than one per household. That arsenal is growing rapidly.

"The time will come when Americans will no longer be willing to live with the slaughter imposed on our society by our easy access to guns. Each year, on average, 70,000 Americans are wounded, and 30,000 killed, in gun violence. There is no way to arm ourselves effectively against this fact. The only way out of America's shooting gallery is to ban the private purchase of handguns and assault weapons, and maintain sensible regulation on other firearms in private hands."

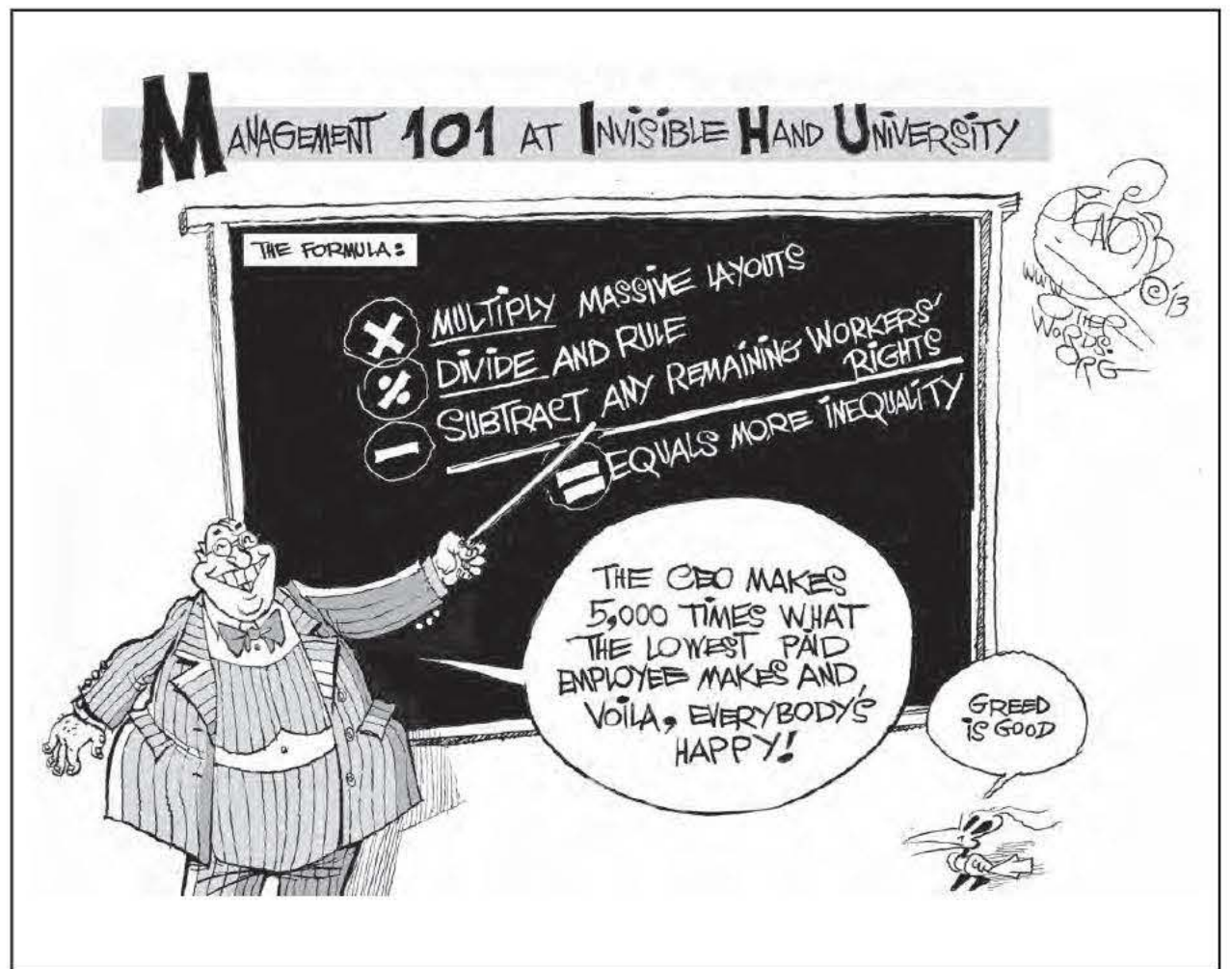
Gabrielle Giffords, the former Congresswoman from Arizona who barely survived a bullet through the brain in the course of meeting her constituents at a shopping mall in January of 2011, managed to say just a few words at a January Senate hearing on pending legislation following the Newtown elementary school massacre. She said, "You Must Act. Be Bold."

Each and every one of us should take her message to heart, and respond, even if all we do is call our own elected representatives to repeat her words. Do it today, even if you think Massachusetts' Congressional delegation is solidly in favor of gun control. It is not enough for Senator Elizabeth Warren (202-224-4543 / 617-565-3170) or Congressman Jim McGovern (202-225-6101 / 413-341-8700) to say they support gun control. They must take leadership and reach out to their colleagues on both sides of the aisle to put people's lives above politics and pass needed gun control legislation now.

America, as *The New York Times* pointed out recently, is one of just three countries in the world to have a right to bear arms written into their constitution. The other two are Mexico and Guatemala. Whatever you make of the "well regulated militia" clause in our constitution, neither Mexico nor Guatemala is faring any better than the U.S. insofar as gun violence is concerned.

We ended our April gun control editorial in 2009 by saying, "One day, Americans will come to realize they do not have an inalienable right to own handguns and assault weapons, much less to use them on other human beings. The question is how many more innocent people will have to die before we do."

That is still the question four months after Newtown provided all the answers any rational society should need. Call your Congressman and Senators now, and demand action to halt gun violence.



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## NATIVE BEES from page 1

electromagnetic fields, or point to the coincidence of the broad introduction of GMO crops. Insecticides like clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiametoxam are a current focus of attention. (In a class called neonicotinoids, they actually were initially introduced to correct other problems – those of highly toxic organophosphates).

But some students of the matter maintain there isn't a single smoking gun. They say bees in general have a "canary in the mine" quality: that their troubles, growing for a long time, suggest that we must somehow broadly change our act, especially in agriculture, where the honeybee hives are shuttled around and left in a strange place for the bees to pollinate chemically treated monoculture crops, but also in suburban lawns and flower gardens, where pesticides often contaminate and exotics replace wildflowers.

Native pollinators can use a helping hand. Tom Sullivan, a landscape designer with a special focus on these insects and resident of The Patch in Turners Falls, spoke April 4 at the Orange Innovation Center in Orange, offering a number of ways for homeowners, gardeners and others to assist native bees.

Sullivan, a graduate of Conway School of Design and a long-time tiling contractor, was named *The Recorder's* "Green Hero of the Month" for February. His presentation was sponsored by Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust and the Orange Community Garden.

First, though, Sullivan pointed out some facts about pollination, including that it is "the exchange of pollen between flowers of the same species." It actually occurs as a side effect of the insect's foraging (feeding) process: "Only about five percent" of the pollen a bee handles contributes to the flower's reproduction, he said.

"The kinds of pollen bees transport," which he showed magnified on a slide, "are ones with spikey, sticky grains."

He called pollen "the major protein source for bees, and they and their larvae need a variety," not just one kind, as in many monoculture crop situations. Pollinators, he said, "are required for the fertilization of all food crops except grains, nuts, mushrooms," and a few other categories.

The bees themselves are characterized by lots of body hair, two sets of wings, compound eyes (with numerous apertures or what we would call pupils), and talented antennae. "The antennae can chemically detect the presence of nectar," Sullivan said, and they stay busy, even as the bee is working a bloom, "finding the next place" for the bee to stick its long, multi-branched tongue and suck up the stuff. "It informs the bee if a flower has been recently visited," he said.

All the while, the plant's design assures that the bee's body hair is collecting pollen from stamens, the male part of a flower. "About 5% of the pollen a bee carries" gets left behind at a pistil – the flower's female reproductive part – to initiate reproduction, he said.

"Flower constant" bees like honeybees and bumblebees are the favored pollinators from the plant's standpoint, because they're the ones that tend to stick to the same species for a period of time, and carry a compatible pollen. Perhaps this characteristic deprives these two bee species of the broader diet that today stands the other, less flower-constant species in better stead.

To support native pollinators, habitat improvement is the first strategy Sullivan mentioned. Partly, that means growing the kinds of flowering plants they feed on – diverse, preferably chosen "to stretch the pollen-producing period" for the bees. Willows typically begin the season, and asters end it.

"Seventy percent of native pollinators are ground-dwelling," Sullivan said. They like to make their home in patches of bare, somewhat sandy soil. They particularly appreciate a south-facing slope. Grassy hummocks from plants like Indian grass and little bluestem offer a good homesite for those that nest just above-ground.

For the 30% that are wood-nesting, like blue orchard or mason bees, you can grow hollow-stemmed plants like bamboo, knotweed or elderberry. People make native bee nests by drilling out blocks of wood (5/16- to 3/8-in. holes work best), or bundling a dozen or two tubes of that inside diameter together (picture a fistful of straws).

Entire "pollinator hotels" have been springing up of late in European gardens. Slides showed a few of these structures: roofed walls of tubes and drilled-out blocks, in a handsome and inviting pattern of contrasting sections. Sullivan suggested facing them east, "to wake the bees up" and get them working early. They should be set up, he said, at a height of 3 to 6 ft. above ground, to avoid dampness. Netting can keep out birds that feed on the larvae that hatch.

In all cases, the solitary species make pollen balls and lay their eggs on them. They lay "about 30 eggs and die," Sullivan said.

He champions edges as favorable for pollinator habitat, and "flyways" – connections between patches of habitat. The less long-distance flying they have to do, the better are their chances of thriving.

"A whole world of understanding has been coming back to life because of the pollination crisis," Sullivan told the crowd of over 40. His website is PollinatorsWelcome.com. He can be reached at [sullivan08@csl.edu](mailto:sullivan08@csl.edu).



## Aiding Native Bees

*Some facts and suggestions extracted from Tom Sullivan's presentation materials:*

### 5 Major Families/Genera of Native Bees:

*Colletidae*: Polyester Bees

*Andrenidae*: Mining Bees

*Halictidae*: Sweat Bees

*Megachilidae*: Leaf Cutter and Mason Bees

*Apidae*: Bumble, Carpenter, Honey, Squash Bees

### Basic Help for Bees:

Grow and buy organic

Do not use pesticides

Provide nesting

Plant bee-friendly flowering plants

Encourage municipal bee-friendly practices

### General Native Bee Habitat Criteria:

Sunny locations for maximum #'s of flowering plants

3 blooms in each season: spring, summer, fall

Woodland edge for overwintering and spring ephemerals

Water to drink and mud to

construct nest partitions & plugs

South facing slopes, min. 35% sand for nest drainage

Nesting no more than 200 feet from their flowers

Limbs, rocks, bare sandy soil, grassy hummocks for nests

### How to Enhance Bee Forage (nectar and pollen):

Ensure blooms throughout the growing season

Plant flowering shrubs and forbs (native perennials) and annuals on woodland edge

Plant flowering ground covers and spring ephemerals in the understory

### Some Native Perennials Easy to Germinate, Beautiful in the Landscape and of Tremendous Ecological Benefit:

*Agastache foeniculum* (Anise Hyssop)

*Campanula rotundifolia* (Harebell)

*Eupatorium hyssopifolium* (Hyssop-Leaved Boneset)

*Eupatorium perfoliatum* (Boneset)

*Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus*

(Hollow-Stemmed Joe Pye Weed)

*Eupatoriadelphus maculatus* (Spotted Joe Pye Weed)

*Gaillardia aristata* (Blanket Flower)

*Helianthus angustifolius* (Swamp Sunflower)

*Helianthus divaricatus* (Woodland Sunflower)

*Heuchera americana* (Common Alumroot)

*Helenium autumnale* (Sneezeweed)

*Helopsis helianthoides* (Oxeye Sunflower)

*Monarda fistulosa* (Bergamont)

*Monarda didyma* (Bee Balm)

*Oenothera fruticosa* (Sundrops)

*Physostegia virginiana* (Obedient Plant)

*Pycnanthemum muticum* (Mountain Mint)

*Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed Susan)

*Rudbeckia triloba* (Three-Lobed Coneflower)

*Sedum ternatum* (Wild Stone Crop)

*Symphyotricum cordifolium* (Blue Wood Aster)

*Symphyotricum laeve* (Smooth Blue Aster)

*Symphyotricum novi-belgii* (New York Aster)

## Letters to the Editor

### A Call to Action

As the Police and Fire Chiefs of both Gill and Montague, we are charged with ensuring the safety of all our community members. We do this in partnership with all the citizens in both towns. Today we are asking for your help in protecting our most valuable assets, our children.

In response to a local Montague Elementary School parent's concern, we are joining the Gill Montague Community School Partnership's (The Partnership) Call to Action to raise awareness of the importance of helmet use. We encourage you to notice and commend anyone wearing a helmet and to remind those not, to put one on.

Recently there has been a national conversation focusing on the lasting and at times devastating effects of head injuries and concussions. Our community is not immune to this reality. One of the easiest ways to prevent these tragedies is to ensure all our children are wearing helmets whenever participating in activities with the potential for head injury, including but not limited to: bicycling, skateboarding, snowmobiling, sledding, rollerblading, ATV riding, scootering, skiing/snowboarding, and motorcycling.

Do not be surprised if you see our local police officers "pulling

over" youth wearing their helmets to "ticket" them for being "caught in the act" of doing something great. The "ticket" is actually a gift certificate donated by local establishments. Thanks to the Turners Falls Pizza House, the 2nd Street Bakery (on 4th), and others for their generous reward donations. These gift certificates will double as free raffle tickets for a bicycle/ scooter/ or skateboard prize.

The campaign will include a number of helmet and safety events in the coming weeks and months with the goal of becoming a community where everyone wears a helmet! To see the schedule of events call the Partnership at 863-7512, or go to their website, [www.gmpartnership.org](http://www.gmpartnership.org) or their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/gmpartnership>

**Thank you,**  
**Montague Police Chief**  
**Chip Dodge III**

**Gill Police Chief**  
**David W. Hastings**

**Gill Fire Chief**  
**Gene Beaubien**

**Montague Center Fire Chief**  
**John Greene**

**Turners Falls Fire Chief**  
**Robert Escott**

## Walk for a New Spring Arrives in Washington, D.C.

The Walk for a New Spring, initiated by the New England Peace Pagoda in Leverett arrived on April 3 in Washington, D.C. Participants now walk to the White House to speak about their journey at ceremonies honoring John F. and Robert Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, and Malcolm X, leaders who fifty years ago gave their voices and lives to the cause of a just and peaceful world.

The Walk began February 15th and has proceeded through winter weather to cities and towns on the East coast where nuclear facilities are located, from the Vermont Yankee plant to the Indian Point nuclear power plant in the lower Hudson Valley, to the Oyster Creek nuclear plant in Toms River, NJ and on through Maryland to Washington, D.C.

As in former years, the walk is joined along the way by citizens wishing to stand against exploitation and poisoning of the earth and the people by toxic wastes and the tyranny of harsh materialism. The walkers are accompanied this year by Defenders of the Black Hills of the Ogala Sioux Tribe, whose health

and tribal lands in South Dakota are systematically being destroyed by companies engaged in open pit uranium mining.

We can support this Walk and the on-going effort to close the Vernon plant in whose evacuation zone we live. Legal actions are underway against Entergy, the out-of-state owners but letters are still needed to the Vermont Public Service Board to support the closure and to stop the plant's pollution of the Connecticut River by the illegal dumping of millions of gallons of waste water, some at 105 degrees.

Money is all that matters to this company. The Public Service Board can deny Entergy a Certificate of Public Good and help move the case into the Vermont Courts and possibly the US Supreme Court.

Write to Clerk of the Board, Vermont Public Service Board, 12 State Street Drawer 20, Montpelier, VT 05620-2701. Tell them to close Vermont Yankee. They need to hear over and over again that this nuclear plant must be closed.

— Alice Scheffey  
Leverett

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## LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was on April 10, 2003: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

### Local Government Needs Your Vote

According to the federal census of 2000, Montague has a population of 8470. 4762 are active voters. Are we using the total of our strength, as a community, to affect who is running our local government? Not by a long shot, according to town clerk John Zywna. In the last town election, "a sunny day, 70 degrees," according to Zywna, 22% of the electorate turned out: a total of 1,062 people. "If they won't turn out in weather like that," said Zywna, "they won't turn out at all."

### School Committee to Reconsider Layoffs

Controversy over the non-renewal notices sent to elementary principals Bob Mahler, of Gill Elementary School, and Anna Garbiel, of the Montague Center School, dominated Tuesday night's meeting

of the Gill-Montague school committee. The committee heard the concerns of a group of nearly a hundred parents and teachers from both towns, who had gathered over 700 signatures in three days from local residents asking for the notices to be rescinded.

### Carroll's Market, A Source of Pride for 50 Years

Carroll's Supermarket is located on East Main Street in Millers Falls. It fits the requirements of an old-time general store, one that has managed against all odds to persevere, modernize, and provide a full assortment of what a regular person needs to survive in this day and age. Carroll's stands out for its home-made products – fresh rice pudding, tapioca, homestyle baked beans, German-style potato salad, fresh and spicy ground horseradish, and of course their *pièce de résistance*: boneless chicken wings, bathed in hot and spicy or honey barbecue sauce.

### Pinewood Derby Rolls in Bernardston

Since January, the scouts have been converting a single block of wood, four nails and four plastic wheels into one-of-a-kind creations with only one goal: to be faster than everyone else's. While the atmosphere outside was dreadful, with Mother Nature unleashing late-season sleet and snow, inside the arena the air was electric... The Tiger Cub winner was Michael Cerreta. Jakob Miller fronted the Wolves. Brett Rogers was fastest in the Bears division, and Roger Allcroft was best in field for the Webelos.

### Editorial: This Too Shall Pass

This winter sucker-punched us in October and just would not let up. And now this: snow on the ground in April. New Englanders are a rugged breed, but this is ridiculous. Then there's the hellish war. We have little to complain about compared to the soldiers still fighting in Iraq. Suicide attacks, sand and smoke, 100 degree heat; what's a little snow compared to that?

## Judd Wire Hires New President

By JEFF SINGLETON

The Judd Wire company, one of the largest employers in Montague, has announced that Hidetoshi ("Toshi") Kinuta stepped down as President and CEO effective April 1. Kinuta, who has been with Judd Wire since it was purchased by the Japanese firm Sumitomo Electric in 1988, is being replaced by Hiroyuki ("Hiro") Watanabe.

Kinuta's twenty-five years with the company have certainly been productive. A high tech firm that manufactures wire for the aerospace, automotive, and telecommunications industry, Judd's products are used in satellites, guided missiles, automotive air bag ignition systems, medical electronics and rail transit, among others. Judd Wire also engages in research and development, as well as operating an import business.

The company has plants in Montague and San Marcos California, with the Montague facility employing approximately 275 of the company's 300 employees.

Judd Wire was founded by Thomas Judd in 1953 in a warehouse in downtown Turners Falls. The company initially had one extruder and one respoiler, producing insulated steel wire for vacuum cleaners. Within a decade the company was producing wire for the telephone, automobile (ignition cables and antenna leads) and electronics (including elevator cables and traffic signal cables) industries. In 1962 Judd opened a 20,000 foot manufacturing facility at its present location on Turnpike Road.

In September of 1967 Judd sold the business to the Electronized Chemical Corporation (ECC). ECC had pioneered in "irradiation," a process by which polymers (plastics) are bombarded with electrons to change their properties, thus increasing resistance to heat and allowing them to be more easily processed. The company increasingly captured "approvals and contracts with manufacturers in the emerging computer and telecommunications industries."

In 1988, Judd was sold to Sumitomo Electric Industries USA, a subsidiary of the Japanese company of the same name created in the late nineteenth century. According to the company's history, Sumitomo "supported an immediate program of growth and modernization [at Judd Wire]...New buildings, manufacturing equipment and new computer systems were introduced.

Sumitomo also claims to place a great deal of emphasis on progres-

sive employee relations and staff development. "... more important than the structures and equipment, Sumitomo Electric and Judd Wire Inc., have invested in the people that make these products."

"Today, everyone at Judd Wire is an integral part of the company, responsible for writing the operating systems that govern the quality and manufacturing processes, as well as developing the materials that fuel our growth."

Sumitomo promotional material includes a well-developed "mission statement" including a list of "Corporate Principles." These include, in addition to customer service and technological innovation, "contributing to a better society and environment, with a firm awareness of our social responsibility" and maintaining "high corporate ethics... [striving] to become a company worthy of society's trust."

The corporate website describing the Sumitomo Spirit declares that the company's business interests "will always be in harmony with the public interest; Sumitomo shall adapt to good times and bad times but will not pursue immoral business."

This ethic is consistent with the history of Judd Wire. Thomas Judd played an important role in initiating the development of "Power-town," the affordable apartments in downtown Turners Falls. Today Judd Wire is an important funding source that helps match state grants for Riverculture, a non-profit organization that promotes cultural development in Montague.

Asked about the differences between the business cultures of Japan and the United States, Kinuta respond with a laugh. "Yes they are very big," he said, but "basic business principles are not so different." For the time being, Kinuta will stay with Judd in an advisory capacity. "They need my support."

### ART'S EGGS from page 1

as Pablo Peckasso with chicken in arms.

Art's Eggs themselves are "pastured" eggs which is beyond and before organic and free-range. Free-range can be interpreted as let out into a small enclosed pen but mostly cooped up. Macaylla's hens are freely pastured around the 250-year-old farmhouse in North Leverett, eating grass, shoots, bugs and seeds out in the daylight. He bases his methods on research he has gleaned into the past wisdom of chicken raising before the advent of factory farming. He quoted one modern egg farmer as having realized, "I'm no longer an egg

farmer, I've become an egg manufacturer!"

Macaylla states that pasturing gives the eggs seven times more beta carotene content than eggs from corn- and grain-fed chickens, and that direct sunlight gives the eggs four times the Vitamin D content of those raised indoors. In cold weather the hens eat table scraps (they love kale!) and good-quality, old bread as well as local New Hampshire feed. He thus keeps the price reasonable while keeping the quality high.

The main chicken coop is itself a work of art, built entirely of post-consumer materials from Macaylla's landscaping and building business. The non-uniform flurry

of wooden roof shingles reminds him of wings in flight. The interior accessibility, with its natural wooden pole perches, allows him to easily check on the chicks. His building skills assure that the coops are predator-safe.

The yolks of Art's Eggs stand high because of their freshness, and are orange because of their high quality. Art's Eggs are sold only at the Leverett Village Co-op and the Wendell Country Store, brought to market no more than two days old. Enjoy humorous chicken art along with your local, healthful eggs raised with integrity and love!



GLORIA KEGEL'S PHOTO

Silver shows off one of his layers.



Each Art's Eggs carton features a piece of original art. Left, The Persistence of Chickens (Feb. 2012); right, The Smile by Eggvard Munch (March 2013).

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# And the Winners Are...

CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUÇANNO PHOTO

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUÇANNO

**LAKE PLEASANT** – As of Easter Sunday, Mar. 31, the ice on Lake Pleasant had melted, and two lucky winners took home some cash for drawing the exact dates of Mar 31 in the annual Lake Pleasant ice melt contest. Larry O'Connor won contest one, and Kathleen Otto drew the lucky date in contest two. O'Connor's pot was worth \$54; Otto took home \$51. David James judged the contest by standing in the center of the Bridge of Names at Raisen Rosen's picket, just above the sluiceway. The tradition began in 1977. The date range this year was from Feb 22 to Apr 19. The earlier date was set last year when the ice vanished earlier than ever; the latest the lake has been free of ice since the contest began was Apr 19.

## Jurassic Roadshow "Home Team"

The quiet, wooded Barton Cove peninsula once rang with the sounds of men hammering out slabs of sandstone from Lily Pond and other small quarries. These laborers unearthed dinosaur tracks, insect trails, raindrop impressions, and other trace fossils created during the Jurassic period, when marks in sandy mud hardened into rock and formed a record of what this land was like nearly 200 million years ago.

Lily Pond quarry is now underwater, but one old quarry site is still in the open air. Join us on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. for a few hours with Jurassic Roadshow, a team of experts who share their fascinating collections of these special fossils and answer questions about the creatures that made them and the geology that preserved them. Bring in your rocks and fossils from home to stump the experts!

There will also be a guided walk to the old quarry, where you can learn about how the tracks were discovered and quarried and how they made their way into museums in

American and European cities. See fossils and talk with experts from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Quarry walks will be at 10:30 for families and 12:30 for adults, or feel free to use the Barton Cove Quest map available on site and discover the quarry on your own.

Jurassic Roadshow is a project of Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association (Deerfield), funded in part by an Adams Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. [www.jurassicroadshow.wordpress.com](http://www.jurassicroadshow.wordpress.com). This free event is appropriate for all ages. Barton Cove is located on Route 2 in Gill, MA. No pre-registration is required, but if you have any questions, please call Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center at 1(800)859-2960.

The Jurassic Roadshow is staffed by a group of local historians, geologists and rock hounds. Participation by these experts varies, but will likely include many of the following: Andrew Brodeur, Bob Oakes, Dan Vellone, Ed Gregory, Harry Sharbaugh, John Fellows, Sarah Doyle, and Steve Winters.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HANRAHAN OLSEN

*The Jurassic Roadshow is coming to Barton Cove!*

## Turners Fire District Seeks Funding for Well Project, Ambulance Service

By MIKE JACKSON

**TURNERS FALLS** – At the upcoming Fire District meeting at the Hillcrest School, this Tuesday, April 16 at 7 p.m., district members are invited to vote on a number of motions to appropriate funding, with one in particular, the construction of a new well on Hannegan Brook, dwarfing the rest at \$935,000. The district hopes to borrow the money from a state revolving fund, to be paid over 20 years, rather than take it directly in taxes.

Also on the agenda is a motion to raise \$24,270 for an ambulance and ambulance services, "with the expectation that receipts from users" of such a service will cover the cost, "resulting in no additional costs to the District."

Under Article 13, the money for the well project, which has been continued in some way at every annual fire district meeting since

2001, would come from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust. The site is near Lake Pleasant on Green Pond Road.

"This was a project that started back in '99, with test wells, trying to find a new source for water," said Water Department Superintendent Mike Brown. To save money, "the water commissioners decided to do the project slower than usual," in several stages, as funding sources became available. "We've gone through a lot of hurdles with the Department of Environmental Protection," he added, including getting the approval for interbasin transfer – the discharge of some water originating in the Connecticut River basin into that of the Millers.

The department also intends to retrofit the existing Lake Pleasant pump station into a station for pH adjustment, emergency chlorination, and other treatment processes. "This appropriation would complete

the project."

All told, the requested special appropriations break \$1 million this year, a figure that will take the district's proposed expenses for FY'14 from \$2.3 million to \$3.4 million if all articles are approved. Most of the rest of the appropriations come from three other motions: Article 4, for the ambulance and ambulance services, Article 12, which would raise \$30,000 for the purchase of a new Fire Department vehicle, and Article 16, to set aside another \$30,000 for work on Well #1.

The remaining articles, totaling another \$64,000, include funding for tires, electrical panel upgrades, turnout gear, vehicle conversion, sick leave and vacation pay for the Fire Department, and storage tank maintenance and sick pay at the Water Department.

All registered voters living within the Turners Falls Fire District are welcome to vote at the meeting.

## April 11: "Where I Live" Exhibit

Postcards have started to roll in! Join us for a showing of 4x6" cards created by community members on the theme of "Where I Live." Submissions will be on display at a reception in the Colle Opera House at 85 Avenue A on Thursday, April 11 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Make a Night of it! Participating downtown Turners Falls establishments will be doing something special on the theme:

**LOOT, 62 Ave A:** We Live in the Patch - An exhibit and make your own cards from Vintage clothing patches

**MCTV, 85 Ave A:** Sit in their Hot Seat in front of the camera at the Where I Live card exhibit and tell us YOUR stories.

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**MADISON AVE, 102 Ave A:** We Live in the Past. Brand new store opening with vintage articles and collectibles.

Meet Rodney Madison on Ave A!

**KARMA SALON, 131 Ave A:** I Live in Front of the Mirror Display of postcards created by their customers with a hairstyle theme.

**GARY'S COINS AND ANTIQUES, 115 Avenue A:** Featuring old currency from Crocker Savings Bank and Old Franklin County.

**BURRITO ROJO, 50 Third Street:** Special Down Home Roots Burrito!

Wherever you live – in your mind or an apartment, in town or country, or even on the edge – you can be part of RiverCulture's collaboration on the latest community art project!

Questions? Call Turners Falls RiverCulture at (413) 230-9910, or email [whereilive2013@gmail.com](mailto:whereilive2013@gmail.com).

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## NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

## Fire and Highway Seek Increases, Police Ask for Level Funding

By DAVID DETMOLD

On Monday, the Gill selectboard met jointly with the finance committee to go over the fire department's FY'14 budget request, which seeks a \$5,275 (7.7%) increase over last year's \$68,854 appropriation. On Wednesday, according to town administrative assistant Ray Purington, the two boards will hear from highway superintendent Mick LaClaire, who is asking for a \$26,585 (12%) increase over last year's \$209,544 budget, with the increase driven by the rising cost of fuel and materials, and equipment maintenance.

Last week, Purington said, the police department brought in a level funded budget request of \$181,827 for the coming fiscal year. That's essentially the same amount the town gave the police department last year, not counting the new \$32,727 police cruiser, whose final price tag may still rise with extra features still under discussion.

Last year, town meeting voted to no longer separate the amount Chief David Hastings asked for part time police salaries (\$14,357 in FY'13) from the rest of the police budget (\$167,470 in FY'13) after a number of attempts by voters at successive annual town meetings, led by Tupper Brown and other members of the finance committee, failed to convince the majority to reduce the amount the department spent on personnel, despite figures Brown presented that showed Gill spending more than comparably-sized Franklin County towns on policing.

The departmental budget requests are all preliminary. But commenting on fire chief Gene Beaubien's presentation on Monday night, finance committee chair Alden Booth said, "The fire department, since I've been on the finance committee, has used money really wisely," and no one present took issue with the overall budget as Beaubien presented it.

The fire chief noted, "All of our equipment is getting old." He asked to have a new fire truck considered again by the capital improvements committee, and pointed out that the department's oldest engine, purchased in 1979, was long past the recommended 30-year window for replace-

ment, while the town's second-oldest engine, purchased in 1987, will soon be reaching that 30-year milestone. The department's third, and newest, engine was bought in 1995.

Last year, the fire department spent \$5,000 on new hose from the \$25,000 annual fund the Northfield Mount Hermon School contributes to the town in lieu of taxes, and in recognition of Gill emergency services' support for the private school. In the coming year, Beaubien said he would like to spend a similar amount from the NMH fund on new hose (enough to replace about 1000 feet, or one-sixth of the department's hose), along with a similar sum to perform needed body work repairs on the department's vehicles.

Finance committee member Valeria (Timmie) Smith objected that the fire department had not found the money needed to purchase new turnout gear in the last year or two, mainly, Beaubien said, because vehicle maintenance had cost so much more than expected in FY'13: \$6,000, instead of the \$2,000 budgeted. But Smith cautioned, "Turnout gear is your life." Each new set of turnout gear costs about \$2,200, Beaubien said, and the department would ideally like to replace three or four sets of turnout gear each year.

Beaubien said the department's call volume declined last year, so he may be able to put some of the money budgeted for labor to other uses. He also mentioned that two new candidates have expressed interest in joining the force, and three new members are hoping to get appointed to the department's 12-member governing board of engineers in the coming weeks.

In other news, the town hall should have a new slate gray standing seam metal roof installed by this time next month. The board discussed the advisability of installing a rear gable vent to help with air circulation in the attic.

If the selectboard decides to mark the new police cruiser, a 4-wheel drive Ford Interceptor, the bill will be about \$530; it would cost about \$200 to remove the decals from one of the older cruisers. The selectboard is divided about the necessity of having an unmarked cruiser in the fleet, with John Ward opposed, citing a hun-

dred-year-old state law that only prevents minors from being transported in a closed paddy wagon, a law Ward said should not be interpreted as mandating a town like Gill to maintain an unmarked cruiser in order to transport minors. Ward would like the new Interceptor to be marked, in part because it is the first cruiser in many years paid for directly by the taxpayers of Gill.

While that detail is being discussed, police chief Hastings would like the selectboard to decide about a number of other details for the new cruiser, which totaled together would add another \$2,160 to the final price tag. That amount would cover: push bumpers, window bars, a rear prisoner barrier and a gun rack. Another \$2,410 is being sought to convert the three cruisers' on board computers to mobile Ipad.

Skip's Roadside Diner will open for the season this week, at the Gill end of the Gill-Montague bridge, after the selectboard approved their seasonal permit. (Best Polish food this side of Krakow, so they say!) And after a crisis due to lack of outlets, trash stickers for Gill residents are now available at Upinngil, the Wagon Wheel, and Scotty's in Turners Falls.

Gill is teaming up with the town of Montague for the first time this year to conduct an assessment of the value of FirstLight property in the two towns (including the dam that stretches across the Connecticut River between the two communities). That participation will cost the town of Gill about \$4,800, but Purington believes the investment will be worth it to gain an accurate valuation of FirstLight's net worth in Gill.

A brief discussion of the idea of curbside compost pickup failed to gain support among the selectboard and finance committee, but acting selectboard chair Randy Crochier noted Gill's salad days of affordable trash pickup may be nearing an end, as the Northampton landfill is expected to close this year.

At present, Crochier noted, the town spends about \$68,500 on trash hauling and recycling pick up each year, and trash stickers pay for a little more than half, or \$35,000 of that amount. "It's definitely a town-subsidized program," he said.

## NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

## Usher Plant Property Still An Issue

By KATIE NOLAN

At its April 8 meeting, the selectboard announced plans to meet with the Usher Plant Re-Use committee on April 29 to discuss next steps for the former Usher Plant property. The Re-Use committee has considered spending \$35,000 for an environmental study of the property, based on the advice from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments.

Selectboard member Andrew Goodwin commented that a 21E (potentially contaminated sites) investigation was done previously, and no hazardous waste was found on the property. The board and committee will also discuss costs for structural work on the former boiler building.

Department of Public Works director Paul Prest

told the selectboard that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation was interested in expanding Erving's Route 2 sewer line beyond the police station, to include the MassDOT garage. Selectboard chair Eugene Klepadlo asked Prest to recommend that the state build a pumping station at its garage to connect to the town's wastewater system.

Prest and town administrator Tom Sharp will begin preparing paperwork to obtain design and construction funding for sidewalks and streetscaping along Route 63 near the senior center and elementary school, under the Connecticut River Scenic Farm Byway program.

Portions of Route 63 have been designated as scenic byway under the federal transportation program. Approximately \$500,000 is available

for streetscape work in Erving.

The selectboard voted to hire Bryant Stewart of Maple Avenue as cemetery groundskeeper, pending satisfactory completion of paperwork.

The selectboard accepted a \$1,900 bid from Tyco Simplex Grinnell of Westminster, Massachusetts for quarterly testing of the sprinkler systems at the senior and community center.

Emergency generators installed at the senior and community center and town hall were tested by ASNE, the contractor who installed them, and were found to be working well.

Sharp reported that he is working with a group of residents to prepare to re-open the historical society building in time for the town's 175th anniversary celebration this summer.

## NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

## Expanded Vermont Yankee Evacuation Zone Endorsed

By DAVID DETMOLD

Solar power on the safety complex roof, last mile internet to residents' homes, and the lack of a workable evacuation plan in the event of a radiological emergency at the Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor in Vernon, VT were all on the selectboard's agenda this week.

But first, a dog hearing.

Clayton Prince, of North Leverett Road, came before the selectboard with a complaint that dogs belonging to Lisa Crocker, who owns a home and farmland that surround the acre of land his

house is situated on, have been entering his yard and terrorizing his cat, and on one occasion in December one of them may have bitten him on the toe. The veracity of the latter claim was disputed by Crocker, and cast in doubt by the testimony of Leverett police officer Don Robinson, who responded to Prince's home on December 18<sup>th</sup> to investigate the matter.

The dispute played out in a leisurely fashion, with Robinson opining that it had been going on for 30 years or so, and Crocker recalling years past when Prince owned dogs, and they had en-

tered her property, and Prince insisting that those dogs, long gone, had been suffering from canine Alzheimers or they would have never roamed over to see her.

Dog officer Roberta Bryant insisted that state law prohibits dog owners from letting dogs roam free, and both she and Robinson wanted to know what the selectboard planned to do about enforcing the town's own dog bylaws. The selectboard let it be known they intended to begin enforcing dog ordinances, noise ordinances, and other town bylaws which allow

see LEVERETT pg 10

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

## Unwanted Firearm Turned In to Station

## Monday, 3/25

8:45 a.m. Assisted district attorney with past arrest, on multiple drug charges, against party on French King Highway.

6:10 p.m. Investigated resident on Franklin Road for passing bad checks in Greenfield.

## Tuesday, 3/26

9:00 a.m. Domestic disturbance on Meadow Street.

## Wednesday, 3/27

11:10 a.m. Tractor trailer unit stuck attempting to turn onto the Gill-Montague bridge. Assisted same.

12:30 p.m. Medical assist for resident on Main Road.

3:10 p.m. Resident reported wallet stolen while in Florida.

## Thursday, 3/28

10:30 a.m. Assisted resident with firearms complaint on French King Highway.

8:10 p.m. Disabled motor vehicle on French King Highway. Assisted party.

## Friday, 3/29

12:00 p.m. Illegal burning on West Gill Road. Investigated.

## Saturday, 3/30

1:00 p.m. Resident turned unwanted firearm in to the sta-

tion.

5:00 p.m. Lost wallet reported in area of Mobil station.

5:10 p.m. Past breaking and entering reported at residence on Main Road. Under investigation.

6:35 p.m. 911 mis-dial at residence on French King Highway.

## Sunday, 3/31

9:45 a.m. Intoxicated male subject on Gill Montague Bridge. Subject transported.

8:05 p.m. 911 mis-dial from residence on North Cross Road.

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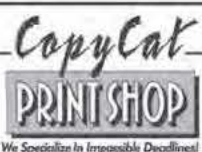
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## Dear Clio,

Dear Clio,

I've heard that the difference between extroverts and introverts is not that one is social and the other personality type is not — we're all social creatures — but rather it has to do with where you draw your energy from, what recharges you. Extroverts feel recharged by social interaction, whereas introverts have to go recharge by themselves after social interaction.

If this definition is correct, then I am definitely an introvert. I love hanging out and spending time with friends, but often I seem to get tired and be done sooner than others.

For this reason, I prefer to visit other people over being visited. When I am visiting, I can say that I am very tired, or I must get up early in the morning, or make up some excuse and take my leave gracefully. While I enjoy hosting very much, I want to be alone long before others. After a couple of hours, I have a hard time signaling to my guests that it is time for them to go, and I begin to behave awkwardly.

How can you graciously kick friends out? I think I might need some social scripts at the ready to help me out.

Sincerely,  
Socially Introverted

Dear S.I.,

It seems like you have already come up with one solution that allows you to

feel relaxed about social gatherings, and that is going to other people's homes. In my own social circle there are some people who really prefer to host, and the rest of us are generally happy to let them. In fact some struggle with the problem that they feel a social obligation to visit the homes of their friends but would actually prefer that others always come to them. These people feel more relaxed and comfortable in their own homes.

In any social group there will be people who like to host and some who prefer to be guests. This is a good thing, as it allows more of us to be where we are most happy. So I don't think you should feel obligated to host, if your friends seem happy to do it. I have a friend who always brings food to gatherings, explaining that she feels guilty about never hosting, because her house is too small.

In fact her house is not especially small, but by saying this regularly, she has made it clear that she prefers bringing food over hosting gatherings. This is not a problem for the rest of us, and it is good news for those in the group who like to be in their own homes and those who would rather not be in charge of food.

One of the goals of socializing in the first place is to develop a sense of community — people who know you and care about you. Your friends want you to be happy and comfortable. They will appreciate knowing that you

prefer to end gatherings earlier. Possibly they have already figured this out, but if not, there is nothing rude about saying, "You usually like to stay out later than I do, so maybe we shouldn't gather at my house."

Sometimes you may want to be at your own home. When that happens, I suggest that you tell your guests ahead of time what will make you comfortable. It's usually easier to tell people what does work for you rather than what does not. I have a friend who often says, "I'm happy to have everyone at my house as long as it's not too late, because I have to get up early." Usually we are good at remembering to leave on the early side, but on the occasions that she has had to remind us, no one is surprised or offended, since she has prepared us.

I think it's reasonable to say something like, "I have a few things I need to do before I go to bed," or "I have some projects I need to get to this afternoon." If the project is giving yourself some downtime, that's legitimate. Whatever you need to do to be happy deserves a place on your to-do list. If your friends feel that they will want to gather for longer than the time you have available, then they will choose a different location.

S.I., good luck communicating your preferences to the people in your community. I know that your friends will like you just as much as always. They will appreciate your straightforwardness and be glad to learn more about who you are.

Yours,  
Clio

## Tax Help for Seniors

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Refundable State Tax Credit Against Property Taxes for Seniors ("Circuit Breaker")

Seniors are eligible for a tax credit to the extent that their property taxes - or 25% of rent - exceed 10% of

their income. Income limits and a cap on the maximum assessed value of the filer's primary residence apply. The maximum credit is also adjusted annually for inflation. The maximum base credit was \$385 for tax year (TY) 2001, \$790 for TY02, \$810 for TY03, \$820 for TY04, \$840 for TY05, \$870 for TY06, \$900 for TY07, \$930 for TY08, \$960 for TY09, and \$970 for TY10.

Income limits and the maximum credit are adjusted for inflation over a 1999

base year; however, Chapter 136 of the Acts of 2005 increased the assessed home valuation to \$600,000 and set its base year to 2004. Source: [http://www.mass.gov/bb/h1/fy13h1/tax\\_13/items/htax1609.htm](http://www.mass.gov/bb/h1/fy13h1/tax_13/items/htax1609.htm)

### Property Tax Abatement

Many towns offer property tax abatement for seniors. Ask your town clerk if this is an option for you, and pass any information on to your tax preparer.

## CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP Tourette Syndrome & Associated Conditions

On Friday, April 26, 2013, from 1 to 4 p.m., a workshop on Tourette Syndrome and associated conditions will be presented by Garry L. Earles, LICSW, at the Greenfield Community Television (GCTV.org) studio at 393 Main Street (3<sup>rd</sup> fl.), Greenfield.

The workshop, suitable for educators, clinicians, parents and interested others is made possible by a grant from the Brad Cohen Tourette Foundation of Roswell, Georgia. Mr. Earles, in conjunction with GCTV, was awarded a grant to present the workshop, which will be filmed in order to generate a DVD of the program.

**MONKEYS** from page 1 Capuchins are a highly intelligent "new world monkey" that are easily domesticated (they were the monkeys that used to accompany street organ grinders). At six to eight points they have the perfect "size to strength" ratio.

According to the program's website, Capuchins "are natural tool users in the wild and have an active curiosity and a natural enjoyment for manipulating objects. Capuchins also undergo natural transitions in their living situations in the wild, and these instincts help them adapt to new surroundings and new people in their lives."

However, according to both Talbert and Converse, the monkey's main virtues are social and psychological. Capuchins maintain a natural hierarchy that is transferred to their trainers in the program and then the recipients. For example, in the Converse home, Kent is number one and Nancy is probably number two, with Farah, the service animal, close behind. (Kent suggested that while

Tourette is a perfect example of how child and adolescent mental health conditions tend to cluster or co-occur, a phenomenon known as co-morbidity. It is not unusual, for instance, for those with Tourette to also be diagnosed with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, as well as some form of mood instability such as depression or even Bi-Polar Disorder.

Children and adolescents confronted with these various conditions, face enormous challenges socially, emotionally, behaviorally and especially with classroom learning. Often these

Farah more consistently responds to his directives, she is sometimes more affectionate and playful with Nancy).

The Helping Hands program did not spring up overnight. It began in 1979 with the placement of one monkey. The next ten years were spent in research and development, in part to determine the best species and in part to develop the appropriate training and placement program. Currently it takes three to four years to train a Capuchin. The tasks it is expected to perform are very limited, as are potential access to food and household drugs. The transition from the training to the home must be handled carefully, with the monkey's accustomed trainer not accompanying the animal to the recipient so there will be no confusion in the hierarchy.

Then there is the issue of funding. In its early years, Helping Hands received funding from both the National Science Foundation and the Veterans Administration. In 1994, governmental support to the organization ended.

types of youngsters are bullied in school, which in turn engenders concerns about youth suicide.

Mr. Earles, who has Tourette Syndrome, is a nationally known trainer, speaker and consultant on child and adolescent mental health conditions and accompanying issues.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, please contact Garry by emailing him at: [garry@garryearles.com](mailto:garry@garryearles.com) or by phone at: (413) 863-4128. There is a nominal fee of \$25 for the workshop.

Partial scholarships are available for those in need of assistance.

Since then the organization has developed an extensive fundraising and outreach capacity, with a large portion of its funds coming from private foundations.

Helping Hands has also encountered significant legal obstacles. Transporting or keeping monkeys is illegal in some states. Monkeys have not been recognized as "service animals" to be allowed in public places under the Americans with Disabilities Act. In addition, the "Primate Safety Act" greatly restricted the transportation of monkeys. Helping Hands has had to work with state and federal legislators to modify existing laws and regulations.

Helping Hands is a carefully constructed program that does a great deal of good for a limited population. It is hardly the solution to the problem of spinal injuries. But it is a tremendous benefit to those who are lucky enough to fit the program's recipient profile, and was greeted with great enthusiasm by those attending the GCC symposium in the spring of 2013.

### Poets Wanted!

to submit original poems. Please email: [poetry@montaguereporter.org](mailto:poetry@montaguereporter.org) for consideration in the monthly Poetry Page. Include 25-word bio. Poems may also be posted to Montague Reporter, 58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376. .

*No prior experience necessary,  
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## Erving Town Election Set for May 6

Erving town clerk Richard Newton reported that there are no contested seats for the May 6 election.

The open positions and ballot candidates are:

**Selectman, 3 years:** Eugene Klepadlo  
**Assessor, 3 years:** James Carpenter  
**Tax Collector, 3 years:** Michele Turner  
**Library Trustee, 1 year:** Mackensy Bailey  
**Moderator, 1 year:** Richard Peabody  
**School Committee, 3 years** (one of two open seats): Rene Tela  
**Tree Warden, 1 year:** Christopher Stacy  
**Constable, 3 years:** Richard Newton  
**Planning Board, 3 years** (one of two open seats): Jacquelyn Boyden  
**Planning Board, 3 years** (one of two open seats): Michael Shaffer  
**Recreation Commission, 3 years:** Jillian Betters  
**Recreation Commission, 3 years:** Melinda LaBelle  
**Board of Health, 3 years:** Leo J. Parent, Jr.

There are no candidates on the ballot for the following offices:

**Library Trustee, 3 years**  
**School Committee, 3 years**  
**Planning Board, 1 year**

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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

### Vehicle Break-in Spree

**Monday, 4/1**

11:59 a.m. Domestic disturbance, L Street. Services rendered.  
 12 noon. Fight on L Street, across from F.L. Roberts. Services rendered.  
 6:48 p.m. Larceny, Bridge Street. Report taken.  
 7:25 p.m. Domestic disturbance, Turnpike Road. Advised of options.

**Tuesday, 4/2**

6:50 a.m. Burglary/breaking & entering, Turners Falls Rd. Referred to an officer.  
 6:55 a.m. Burglary/breaking & entering, Keith St. Referred to an officer.  
 12:12 p.m. Burglary/breaking & entering, Davis St. Report taken.  
 1:10 p.m. Arrested

, at Light Life Foods, 153 Industrial Boulevard, on four default warrants.

1:49 p.m. Burglary/breaking & entering, K St. Report taken.

6:35 p.m. Larceny, Avenue A. Report taken.

7:12 p.m. Vehicle breaking & entering, Keith St. Report taken.

**Wednesday, 4/3**

11:27 a.m. Unwanted person, Powertown Apartments, Fourth Street. Peace restored.

10:29 p.m. Domestic disturbance, Avenue A. Investigated.

**Thursday, 4/4**

7:12 a.m. Chimney fire, Willmark Avenue. Referred to another agency.

at Food City, Avenue A, on a straight warrant.

3:09 p.m. Hit and run accident, Canal Road. Services rendered.

**Friday, 4/5**

11:56 a.m. Burglary/breaking & entering, Pinewood Circle. Report taken.

1:09 p.m. Brush fire, Sherman Drive. No police service necessary.

3:03 p.m. Illegal dumping, Fifth Street alley. Services rendered.

4 p.m. Larceny, Suzee's Laundromat, Third Street. Referred to an officer.

6:36 p.m. Domestic disturbance, Newton Street. Services rendered.

10:47 p.m. Loud noise dis-

turbance, Canal Street and Third Street. Unfounded.

**Saturday, 4/6**

10:13 a.m. Vandalism, Laurel Lane. Advised of options.

11:03 a.m. Loud noise disturbance, Crescent Street. Advised to contact police if repeated.

11:43 a.m. Domestic disturbance, Central Street. Peace restored.

1 p.m. Brush fire, Green Pond Road.

1:07 p.m. Brush fire, Route 63.

2:13 p.m. Brush fire, Hatchery Road. All three referred to another agency.

**Sunday, 4/7**

10:20 a.m. Summons issued for a motor vehicle violation at the Water Department.

10:08 p.m. Domestic disturbance, Coolidge Avenue. Peace restored.

## LEVERETT from page 8

for a \$15 fine for the first infraction, \$30 for a subsequent offence within the same calendar year, but also that they would not seek fines in the current complaint. Instead, the board will advertise their intent to enforce town bylaws and impose fines in the next town newsletter, and perhaps bring a warrant article to a fall town meeting to allow the police to issue non-criminal tickets for bylaw infractions.

The selectboard ordered Crocker to keep her dogs restrained and away from Prince's land at all times.

Crocker said she intended to completely fence off her property from Prince's by June. She also said Prince had been harassing her, squealing his tires at night, shining headlights in her windows, and calling repeatedly to threaten or annoy her, but the selectboard said these matters were outside the scope of the present hearing. Before they left, without looking at each other, Prince said, "It all needs to stop," and within seconds, Crocker said almost exactly the same thing, adding, "I'm not going to put up with it any longer."

For the second time, the town of Leverett has failed to secure a bid for an approximately \$120,000 solar photovoltaic installation which the town hopes to have installed on the roof of the public safety complex, using grant money the town received consequent to its Green Community designation by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. The selectboard will consult with the town energy committee and with the Hampshire Council of Governments, which included the town's safety complex on a joint photovoltaic bid involv-

ing potential solar sites in numerous Franklin County towns, about ways to move forward on the project.

The state attorney general's office has notified Leverett of a problem with a minor detail in the bid document for another major infrastructure project, the one intended to bring 'last mile' high speed internet fiber to the home of every resident and to all businesses in town. Last year, Leverett town meeting approved spending up to \$3.6 million, to be paid for out of property taxes over a 20-year period, to build a high-speed internet network, stringing fiber on the utility poles alongside the town's 40 miles of roads and routing that fiber to each resident's home. The town's broadband committee estimated the average resident would actually save about \$500 a year once the town's system is operational, by canceling the more expensive, slower and less reliable internet and phone service contracts most Leverett taxpayers rely on now.

On March 5<sup>th</sup> of this year, the selectboard accepted the recommendation of the broadband committee and awarded the bid to build and maintain the town's fiber optic network at a considerably lower figure — \$2.75 million — to G4S, the same company that is building the 'middle mile' high speed internet network for the quasi-public Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), at a state and federally funded cost of \$71.6 million, bringing the basic backbone infrastructure for high speed connectivity to 123 underserved Central and Western Massachusetts towns, including Leverett.

But this week, the selectboard announced, the Massachusetts AG had ordered the town to rebid the project, since the bid document was technically flawed by allowing bidders to cite "exclusions" to the bid specifications, which the two lower bidders — Millenium Communications Group and Maverick Construction — chose to do. The broadband committee had ruled out awarding the contract to either of these companies last month on other grounds, due to what they regarded as defects in their bids, specifically in the lack of supporting past performance documentation. But Chris Lynch, a representative of Millenium, showed up at the selectboard on Tuesday to gauge the potential for his company to resubmit a bid, in light of the AG's ruling.

Meanwhile, selectboard member Peter d'Errico said the town would take advantage of the AG's ruling to re-examine the landscape for providing last mile connectivity in town, in light of the recent announcement by the Patrick administration proposing an \$869 million information

technology and innovation bond, with \$40 million of that earmarked to leverage private investment to complete last mile connectivity in the 123 underserved towns.

D'Errico said if the legislature approves the bond as proposed, it could lead to a "regional solution for last mile. We've had meetings on that with MBI as part of our due diligence. We're not backing up. We're just waiting to see if this has opened up any possibilities for us." Although the town had hoped to have preliminary construction on last mile hook ups begin this month, and be completed townwide by some time next year, d'Errico said Tuesday, "We have to be clear that if we spend money, we can get reimbursed," from any regional fund provided through MBI for last mile connectivity from Governor Patrick's proposed bond issue.

As the warrant takes shape for the annual town meeting on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at the elementary school, town administrator Margie McGinnis said a larger than expected deficit in the highway department's snow and ice budget (\$21,384) combined with a few other expenses would push the town's budget to within \$900 of the levy limit. Still, no override is proposed or expected to meet departmental needs for FY'14.

Residents Jean Bergstrom and Ann Ferguson attended the meeting to seek the selectboard's endorsement of a petitioned town meeting article calling for Entergy Vermont Yankee to expand the planning and preparation for the emergency evacuation zone around the 41-year-old GE Mark I Boiling Water Reactor in Vernon, VT.

Leverett emergency planner Jim Field attended the meeting, and brought maps showing the path of the worst concentrations of radiation from the Fukushima meltdowns, which Field said exceeded government safety standards of exposure in a concentrated area up to 23 miles from those damaged reactors.

Currently, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires private utilities to engage local communities in evacuation planning exercises only to a 10-mile radius around the nation's 103 operating nuclear reactors. It was pointed out at the meeting that the NRC itself recommended the evacuation of US citizens within 50 miles of the damaged reactors shortly after the accident began in Japan.

Bergstrom and Ferguson provided the selectboard with copies of an April 7<sup>th</sup> press account of comments by former NRC chair Gregory Jaczko to Nuclear Intelligence Weekly

see LEVERETT page 12

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Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic session*, 10:30 a.m.

## EVERY TUESDAY

The Millers Falls Library Club: Free after school program. 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

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

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

Carnegie Library: Children and their families are invited to come enjoy stories, crafts, music, activities and snacks. 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Between the Uprights, Turners Falls: *Karaoke with Dirty Johnny*. 9 p.m. to midnight. Friday Night Karaoke begins on March 1. Free.

## EVERY THURSDAY

Montague Center Library: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson*. Children and their caregivers are invited. 10 to 11 a.m. Free.

Between the Uprights, Turners Falls: *Open Mic with Dan, Kip, and Schultzy* from Curly Fingers Dupree Band. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Free.

## ART SHOWS:

Great Falls Discovery Center: colorful paper quilts and story quilts created by K-8 students.

## LOCAL EVENTS:

## THURSDAY, APRIL 11

Deja Brew Pub, Wendell: *The Roosters*, classic rock dance music by Bruce Scofield & Mark Feller. 8 to 10:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Great Falls Coffeehouse with *Zydeco Connection*. Handmade desserts available; doors at 6:30 p.m. \$

Bruce's Browser, 1497 Main Street, Athol: *Donald L. Brown*, co-author of the memoir *The Morphine Dream*. 6:30 p.m., free.

Pothole Pictures, Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Dirty Dancing*, 1987. PG-13.

97 minutes. 7:30 p.m. Music before the movie: *Small Change*, acoustic swing & more, 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Equalites*, reggae. 8 p.m.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *The Happier Valley Comedy Show* with the *Ha-Ha's* and *Mosie McNally*. 7:30 p.m., \$

Pothole Pictures, Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Dirty Dancing*, 8:45 p.m. Music before the movie: *Shakin' All Over*, 50's & 60's

rock hits. 8 p.m.

Pushkin Gallery, Arts Block, Greenfield: *Maeve Gilchrist*, celtic harp, and *Eugene Friesen*, cello. The two will play duets and solo pieces. 8 p.m., \$

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Beatles for Sale*, New England-based Beatles tribute band. 8 p.m., \$

Deja Brew Pub, Wendell: *Doug Hewitt Group*, classic rock dance party. 9 to 11:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Ruby's Complaint*, current & classic hits. 9:30 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Masters of the Groovaverse*, jam thing. 9:30 p.m., free.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Second Congregational Church,

Crapo, Margaret Lloyd, Henry Lyman and Rich Michelson. 7 p.m.

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Ted's Jazz Trio* with Ted Wirt. 7 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half Shaved Jazz*. 8 p.m., free.

Deja Brew Pub, Wendell: *Tommy Filiault & Friends*, acoustic rock. 8:30 to 11 p.m.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Pothole Pictures, Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *The Muppet Movie*, their first feature film! 1979. PG. 97 minutes. 7:30 p.m.

Music before the movie: *Whistle-stop*, old-time music. 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Jim Gilmour*, with special guest *Amanda Rogers*. Signer-song-

writers. 7:30

p.m.

Arts Block

Café,

Greenfield:

*Michael*

*Chorney*

*and Hollar*

*General*,

acoustic

jazz-in-

fluenced

americana,

with *Wood-*

*en Dino-*

*saur*, folksy

indie stuff.

8 p.m., \$

Deja Brew

Pub, Wen-

dell: *Josh*

*Levangie & the Mud, Blood*

*& Beer Band*, singing all your

Johnny Cash favorites and much

more. 9 to 11:30 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls:

*Haste*, gypsy punx. 9:30 p.m.,

free.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers

Falls: *Community Smokes*, rock

reggae & classic rock. 9:30 p.m.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Curry Hall Cage, UMass: *32nd Annual UMass Powwow*. Native

American drums, head dancers,

vendors galore. 10 a.m. to

6 p.m.

Pothole Pictures, Memorial Hall,

Shelburne Falls: *The Muppet*

*Movie*, 7:30 p.m. Music before

the movie: *Beach Honey*, pop. 7

p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls:

*The Chickenyard*, americana,

with special guest *Hanging Hills*,

indie rock. 7:30 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls:

*Rockit Queer* dance party with

*DJ Funkadelic Fern*. 9:30 p.m.,

\$

Deja Brew Pub, Wendell: *Dedi-*

*cated to Deillah*, '80s pop rock

and ballads. 9 to 11:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers



PHOTO CREDIT

*Pothole Pictures*, a volunteer-run movie house in Shelburne Falls' Memorial Hall, is showing the 1987 hit *Dirty Dancing*. Shows start Friday April 12 at 7 p.m. with acoustic swing band *Small Change*, and Saturday April 13 at 8 p.m. with retro rockers *Shakin' All Over*; the movie starts at 7:30 Friday and 8:45 Saturday.

Greenfield: *Pioneer Valley Symphony Chorus* performs *The Movies In Song*, featuring works by Mancini, Morricone, Barber, Wagner and more, plus Benjamin Britten's "Five Flower Songs," in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birth. 3 p.m.

Wendell Free Library: *Mostly Mohawk* inaugural concert. Chamber music. Doors at 3:30 p.m., \$

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

Deja Brew Pub, Wendell: *Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Joe Fitzpatrick*, warped americana. 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

Montague Bookmill: *Jim Malcolm*, Scottish singer-songwriter. 7:30 p.m., \$

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Quiznite* with guest QuizMaster Jon Shina. 8 p.m., \$

Bezanson Recital Hall, UMass: *Euridice Ensembles*, baroque chamber and orchestral music. 8:15 p.m., free.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: Poetry reading, featuring *Trish*

Mostly Mohawk  
Inaugural Concert

*Mostly Mohawk*, a chamber music group based in Shelburne Falls, will give its inaugural concert at the

Wendell Free Library on Sunday, April 14 at 4 p.m.

Suggested donation is \$6 - \$12. Doors open at 3:30 p.m.

For more information, contact (978) 544-3814 or [www.facebook.com/MostlyMohawk](http://www.facebook.com/MostlyMohawk).

"This program is supported in part by a grant from the Wendell Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency"

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## Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse

Saturday, April 27

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The Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse is located in Old Town Hall in the center of Wendell offering a unique opportunity for music, fun and dance; always in support of a good cause. Come experience the Valley's only Dessert-O-Rama in an affordable family-friendly venue.

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**LEVERETT** from page 10 (also reported in the New York Times) in which Jaczko recommended that the nation's fleet of nuclear reactors be phased out because the NRC could not guarantee against an accident at one of the aging reactors causing widespread contamination of surrounding land masses.

"The next accident is going to be something that no one predicted," said Jaczko last week. "After a certain point, you have to review the fundamental problem. That evaluation tells you you can't rule out a severe accident."

After the triple meltdowns at Fukushima, the NRC agreed to evaluate the possibility of expanding evacuation planning to a 50 mile radius of operating nuclear plants. But recent votes by the commission, including one to delay the implementation of an earlier order to establish filtered vents to prevent the release of radioactive gasses in an emergency on older boiling water reactors like Vermont Yankee, and a second vote last week by the commissioners to rule out any options that would take full account of the cost of lengthy evacuations in weighing measures to prevent a major radiological release as ex-

amples of lessons not learned from Fukushima.

D'Errico said, "You don't need to convince us."

Julie Shively said the warrant article should be subject to friendly amendments that would allow the town of Leverett to get timely notice of any radiological release from Vermont Yankee, "so we don't have the plume on us before we know."

D'Errico said even the current evacuation plans are unrealistic for residents living near Vermont Yankee, since they call for people to be evacuated to Greenfield Community College, which is barely outside the 10-mile zone.

Field said the essential tri-state plan for dealing with large scale disasters can be boiled down to this:

"You head east or you head south or you head west and keep going until you find a place to stop."

"All you have to do is see UMass after graduation to see how difficult it would be to travel east or west," said D'Errico, who called for expanded evacuation planning with specific destinations so people will know where to go in the event of an emergency at VY.



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## School Vacation Week Happenings at the Montague Libraries

By LINDA HICKMAN

**MONTAGUE** — There is a variety of programs at the Montague Public Libraries during the April school vacation week.

All week at the Carnegie Library there will be *Art-to-Go* kits available in the children's room.

Monday the 15<sup>th</sup>, the libraries are closed in honor of Presidents Day.

Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup>, there are two programs. At 10 a.m., there will be *Farm Animal Fun* at the Carnegie Library. This fun program will include a variety of craft projects for children of all ages. At 3:30 p.m. is the *Millers Falls Library Club*, which features crafts, snacks, and a story for all ages.

Story Time with Ruth O'Mara is

held on Wednesdays at 10:15 at the Carnegie Library. It also features crafts, stories, and snacks.

The very popular *Music and Movement* for young children with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson is Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. at the Montague Center Library.

During vacation week, the Carnegie Library in Turners Falls will be open Tuesday and Wednesday 1 to 8 p.m., Thursday 1 to 5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Millers Falls Library will be open Tuesday and Thursday, 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m.

The Montague Center Library will be open Wednesday 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information, call the Carnegie Library at 863-3214.



Reporter On The Road

Leverett subscriber Barbara Alfange lurks mysteriously behind her Montague Reporter on a recent birding trip to Arizona.

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