



The Montague Reporter

YEAR 10 - NO. 30

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

APRIL 26, 2012

Farewell, Allan Adie



JOHN FURBISH PHOTO

Allan Adie, collecting groceries for distribution to those in need, last year at Our Lady of Peace.

BY DAVID DETMOLD

GILL - Our community lost a man who cared and who shared more than most when Allan Adie passed away last Thursday, April 19th, peacefully at his Riverside home. He was 96.

Allan was a mainstay of the Gill historical society, the Gill-Montague senior center, and Our Lady of Hope parish. He delivered groceries to Head Start for the parish each week, ran the Brown Bag food distribution program at the senior center, visited lonely people each Monday at the Poet's Seat Nursing Home, who were younger in years than he, served them communion and led them in prayer as a lay minis-

ter. He showed up at every town meeting to cheerfully question the expenditure of tax dollars, and every other policy matter that came before the voters of his town. He was a devoted husband to Angelina, nee Murley, for 73 years, and also leaves three daughters, Bev Demars, Judith Nelson, Susan Sibley, two sons, Allan and David, 13 grandchildren, and 26 great grandchildren, almost all of whom live within 20 miles of the house on Walnut

Street he and Angie have called home seven decades.

Allan first came through Riverside in 1935, when he drove down Route 2 and over the Old Red Bridge in a convoy of open trucks from Fort Devens, with 150 other Civilian Conservation Corps men, bound for the barracks on Millers Falls Road, near where the airport is today. His job, in all weather, was to paint the egg sacs of gypsy moths with creosote, or burn brush, for which he was paid \$25 a month. He mailed \$20 dollars home each month to his widowed mother in South Boston,

see FAREWELL page 13

Nurturing the Midwives of Peace in South Sudan

BY SHIRA HILLEL

LEVERETT - As the world's newest nation faces aerial bombardment and the renewed threat of open warfare, Leverett resident and peace worker Paula Green believes this may be the perfect time to empower the women of South Sudan.

Green has a long history of working in troubled regions around the globe. She is the director of the Karuna Center for Peacebuilding and has long years of experience in conflict resolution management in developing countries. She recently returned from a trip to South Sudan.

South Sudan only gained independence and autonomy from Sudan in July of last year; however, it is engulfed in strife on many fronts. Beyond security issues, this fledgling nation has one of the highest maternal mortality rates and poverty rates; it also has one of the lowest literacy rates in the world. By some estimates, only 5% of women in South Sudan have finished primary school.

Colonization and Conflict

Up until July 8th, 2012, Sudan was the largest country in Africa. Like much of the region, Sudan was formerly colonized by the British Empire, which drew

national borders with little regard for ethnic divisions. The north of Sudan was populated by Arab Muslims. The sub-Saharan southerners, some Christian, some Animist, are darker skinned and come from different cultures. While Sudan's national language remains Arabic, South Sudan's new national language is English.

Sudan has suffered the devastation of war throughout most of its history. In 1989, the country was seized in a coup d'état by colonel Omar al-Bashir, who proclaimed himself President of Sudan, and the government in Khartoum, the capital in the north, held the country together through military force.

In recent years, Al-Bashir has been indicted as an international war criminal for crimes against



Leverett resident Paula Green reports back from the world's newest country - and newest war zone..

humanity, after worldwide outrage grew over atrocities in Darfur, in the west of Sudan. Now, if Al-Bashir travels to any of the countries that are signatories of the International Criminal Court, he will be arrested and tried at the Hague for human rights violations.

Still, in relation to the South,

see SUDAN page 10

Theater Review

Radium Girls Glow at the Shea



RICK ROY PHOTO

Marley Toben, (l-r) Jen Campbell, Sarah Coflan, with Jim Lobley looking on in Radium Girls

BY SUDI NIMMS

TURNERS FALLS - Radium Girls is the true story of five women who radically changed the face of safety standards for American workers in the 1920s and '30s. This chilling, powerful, tale of triumph is presented by

Arena Civic Theatre and is on stage now at the Shea Theater in Turners Falls.

In the early 20th century, radium was a popular element used in many household items including health tonics ("Radium Therapy Invigorates!") and an illuminating paint called

"Undark." Female factory workers used the paint to illuminate watch dials for soldiers in World War II, so they could see the time under any conditions. Dr. Marie Curie traveled the world testifying to the effectiveness of radium and

see RADIUM pg 16

Vacation in Vienna

BY DANIEL HALES

SHELburne Falls - Holley Martins (Joseph Cotton), a writer of pulp westerns, arrives in Vienna at the invitation of his old friend, Harry Lime (Orson Welles). Unfortunately (for both of them), Harry has just been run over by a car and killed.

There is something fishy about the circumstances of Harry's death, however, and Holley won't rest till he's gotten to bottom of it.

This is the premise for one of the all time greatest film noirs: *The Third Man*. This 1950 cinematic masterpiece, directed by Carol Reed and based on a screenplay (and novella) by Graham Greene, takes place at the beginning of the Cold War, in what Graham Greene describes as "the smashed, dreary city of Vienna divided up



Joseph Cotton in the Third Man at Pot-hole Pictures this weekend

in zones among the four powers; the Russian, the British, the American, the French zones, regions marked only by notice boards."

While parts of the city are clearly still "smashed" by World War II, and the winter in Vienna sounds "dreary" enough ("It was February, and the gravediggers had been forced to use

electric drills to open the frozen ground in Vienna's Central Cemetery...") it also looks strikingly beautiful and mysterious in *The Third Man* - and the viewer gets to see it from the top of the ferris wheel in the Prater amusement park all the way to the vast network of sewers beneath the city. It's no wonder that

see VIENNA page 8

PET OF THE WEEK Hopalong Friend



Thumper

Thumper is a friendly, cuddly year old female Angora bunny in need of a home. She adores being with people and will hop along behind her person. In her previous home, Thumper lived with adults, teenagers, and a dog. She enjoyed sitting in laps or lying on someone's chest while watching television. Did you know that bunnies form very close relationships with their people and typically get along well with other animals like dogs and cats? Rabbits can be litter box trained too. They should be indoor only pets and have plenty of time each day outside of their cage to hop around, leap and jump in a bunny-proof room or a penned in area. Besides being fun pets, there's nothing cuter than a bunny! For more information on adopting Thumper, please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or info@dpvhs.org.

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WENDELL LIBRARY NEWS Bicycle Repair Workshop

Feeling blue cause your bike won't go?

A bicycle repair workshop led by bike mechanic, Llani Davidson will take place at the Wendell Library on Saturday, April 28th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Prevention now prevents accidents later!

Each hour will focus on a different area of repair: tires, brakes and gears. Davidson will give a 15 minute tutorial at the beginning of each segment on that hours topic. This will be followed by setting up participants to make repairs. Attendees are welcome to come to the entire workshop or just the segment that they need. Please bring tools, if you have them, and a replacement inner tube that fits

your rim if you think you need one. (Inner tube patches will be available.)

Schedule:

10:00: Tire care and repair

11:00: Brake problems

12:00: Gears and shifting

Llani Davidson is an avid biker and mechanic. She spent her college years racing bikes. And she even won occasionally! She took a semester off to ride across the United States. She has been dabbling in bike repair for ten years and is always itching to get her hands on a broken bike.

This workshop is appropriate for teens and adults and children accompanied by an adult helper. There is a suggested \$5 donation per bike.

Bring your bike, tools and enthusiasm.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY NEWS Children's Beading Party

The Carnegie Library in Turners Falls will host a children's beading party this Saturday, April 28th, at 10:30 a.m. Ruth O'Mara will facilitate projects that will include bracelets, necklaces, backpack

dangles and barrettes. Materials will be provided at no charge. Children under twelve years of age must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call the library at 413-863-3214.

Integrated Pest Management for Vegetables; Hands-on Garden Visits

Hands-on Garden Visits (in the Community Garden, or another Wendell garden) will take place on Thursday evenings, May 3rd, May 24th, and June 21st from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. (Rain dates are the following Thursdays.)

The workshops aim to educate vegetable gardeners about integrated pest management practices that help reduce or eliminate pesticide use, and protect the health of our ecosystems. Workshops will include time for gardeners to share problems and solutions. The workshop is free for

Wendell residents.

These hands-on visits will focus on monitoring for and identifying pests as well as natural enemies (biological control agents), experimenting with tools, pesticide application as necessary, and preparing a soil test.

The program is presented by Karen Idoine and sponsored by the Wendell open space committee. Idoine has a background in agricultural entomology, integrated pest management (IPM), biological control, horticulture, organic farming and natural history.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES – April 30th - May 4th

GILL-MONTAGUE – Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Kerry Togneri is the 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, meal reservations, or to sign up for programs, call 413-863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine if the center is not open.

Monday, April, 30th

10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
12:00 a.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday, May 1st
9:00 a.m. Walking Group
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
12:40 p.m. COA Meeting
1:00 p.m. RAD Class

Wednesday, May 2nd

10:00 a.m. Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Aerobics
Thursday, May 3rd
9:00 a.m. NO Tai Chi
10:30 a.m. Brown Bag
1:00 p.m. Pitch

Friday, May 4th

10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
1:00 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Ervingside, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For Center and program information, call Polly Kiely, Senior Center Director, at 413-423-3649. Lunch is daily 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. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity. Please call the Senior Center to confirm activities, schedule a ride and to find out when the next blood pressure clinic will be held.

Walking Club

The Erving Seniors are forming a walking club that will meet at least twice a week, weather permitting, to walk together. Call Polly for more information.

Monday, April 30th

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
10:00 a.m. Osteo Exercise
12:00 Pitch

Tuesday, May 1st



Craig Sandford, music teacher at Northfield Mount Hermon School, picks up trash along Main Road in Gill on April 21st, as part of NMH's Service Day.

Turners Falls Crabapple Blossom Festival 2012

The ninth annual Turners Falls Crabapple Blossom Festival runs from May 1st - May 15th. Much of downtown Turners Falls is lined with flowering crabapple, cherry and apple trees. Various events celebrating spring in Turners Falls will take place.

Schedule:

May 1st - 30th: Exhibit of Paintings by Heather M. Craig at the Great Falls Discovery Center.

May 1st at 3:30 p.m.: May Day Party at the Millers Falls Library
May 2nd at 1:15 p.m.: Big Birds for Homeschoolers at the Carnegie Library.

May 2nd at 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.: Great Falls Farmers Market opens for the season on the corner of Ave. A and 2nd St.

May 4th - May 19th: Shea Theater's Valley Idol karaoke contest.

May 5th at 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: Used Book Sale at the Carnegie Library.

May 5th at 10:30 a.m. - noon: Cinco de Mayo Children's Festival - the Carnegie Library

lawn.

May 5th at 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.: Artist Reception at the Great Falls Discovery Center

May 11th at 7:00 p.m.: Great Falls Discovery Center Coffeehouse Music - The Harmaniacs

May 12th at 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Turners Falls Fishway opens for the season

May 12th 10:30 am - 11:30 pm: 2nd Saturday Family Series: What's an oil spill? - Great Falls Discovery Center

May 15th at 10 a.m.: To Bee or Not to Bee Play - Peskeompskut Park

For more information, visit turnersfallsriverculture.com or call the Carnegie Library at 413-863-3214.

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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.



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

COMPILED BY DON CLEGG - The Athol Democratic Town Committee will hold a **meet the candidates** for state representative of the newly redistricted 2nd Franklin District (which still includes Gill and Erving, but has dropped Greenfield and otherwise moved east) on Tuesday, May 1st at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Athol Town Hall. Four candidates: Jim White, Rebecca Bialecki, Denise Andrews and Genevieve Fraser will attend. This is not a debate. The candidates will speak about themselves. The meeting is open to the public.

Pioneer Valley **Habitat for Humanity** will host a fundraising event, "Feast for Habitat," on Friday, May 4th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Miles Lumber Warehouse on Route 5 in West Hatfield. Restaurants from across the Valley will provide samples of their cuisine. The event will also feature wine and beer, live music, and a silent auction of spectacular bargains. Tickets for the event can be purchased at World Eye Bookstore in Greenfield, or online at www.PVHabitat.org. Every dollar at the Feast for Habitat raised goes to build affordable homes for low-income families in the Pioneer Valley.

Do you have a medicine cabinet full of out-dated or no longer prescribed medical drugs? On Saturday, April 28th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. you will be able to **get rid of those drugs** safely, with no questions asked, at the Montague Safety Complex, Erving Police Station and Greenfield High School.

A fundraising event for the **Literacy Project** on Sunday, April 29th, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 9 Mill Street in Greenfield will feature Edite Cunha and Emile Goodwin reading from their works and surrounded by Lindy Whiton's photo show titled "Ground in Magic." Donations accepted.

The Leverett Library will host a lecture on **Lyme Disease** on Sunday, April 29th, from 3:30 to

5:00 p.m. with naturopathic doctor Emily Maiella. The event will feature a 60-minute presentation on testing, diagnosis and treatment followed by a 30-minute question and answer session.

With recent spring rains, an outstanding amount of salamanders, wood frogs and other amphibians begin to migrate to **vernal pools**. Join Rick Ross of the Cape Ann Vernal Pool Team at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, in Turners Falls on Saturday, April 28th, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. for a fun and informative presentation about the importance of vernal pools and what species call this unique habitat home. This presentation will include live amphibians, so attendees will have a chance to get an up-close view of these incredible species. Sponsored by a generous donation from the "Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center." Early arrival suggested.

Don't forget there will be a debut reading of **As You Write It**: a Franklin County Anthology, featuring local writers Rosalie Bolton, Estelle Cade, Patricia Carlisle, Lillian Fiske, Fran Hemond, Robin Panagakos, and Joseph Parzych on Sunday, April 29th at 1:00 p.m. at the Gill Montague Senior Center, located on 5th Street in Turners Falls. Refreshments will be served. Send local briefs to: reporter-local@montaguema.net.

Questions Raised on Health Studies of Cell Towers

BY TANYA CUSHMAN LEVERETT - The Leverett planning board meeting on April 18th was a lesson in the varied interpretations of health studies, in this case regarding wireless telecommunication facilities ("no longer called cell towers," chair Jeff McQueen quipped).

The proposed bylaw would loosen site restrictions on where cell towers could be located in Leverett, to allow towers to be constructed by special permit in any zone in town, removing the town's current commercial zone only restriction. Leverett's three small commercial zones are all in low lying areas, and unlikely to encourage any applicant to pursue construction of a cell tower in town.

Under the proposed bylaw, cell towers would be limited to less than 200 feet tall, and would be located not less than 1000 feet away from a school, and 600 feet away from any residence.

One of the stated purposes of the proposed cell tower bylaw Leverett will be voting on at town meeting this weekend is to ensure that towers are located where "they do not have negative impacts, such as... on the general safety, welfare and quality of life of the community."

Nancy Grossman, town resident, offered the planning board a letter with 26 signatures that asked the board to "consider postponing bringing the cell tower bylaw change forward... until there has been time for further study," of possible health and wildlife safety issues.

In March, Grossman had asked the planning board to form a committee to study possible

health issues related to cell towers. Critics claim health problems may be caused by the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) cell towers emit. No committee was formed, but the planning board looked into two studies, by the National Institute of Health and the American Cancer Society, and decided it was "reasonable, based on the information from them, that we could go forward with this," said McQueen.

Grossman has been reading the studies on the health issues herself, but said she has about 40 more studies to read. She said she found that about two thirds of the studies she had read so far brought up "concerns like sleep disorders, headaches and physical stress clusters." As for wildlife, she found there are indications of decreased fertility in some wildlife, like tadpoles, near cell towers. She said, "Almost all the studies call for future studies." She would like a larger group of people to help review the literature so town meeting can make an informed decision.

Richard Nathhorst, a Leverett resident who has been advising the planning board on this issue from his background on the town broadband committee, and from his work as UMass capital projects manager, said he favors moving ahead with the bylaw at this time. He countered Grossman's concerns by saying, "No scientific studies show a direct modality (later defined as cause and effect) with levels of radiation cell towers emit and cancer." He believes the "real public health issues" lie in the

inability of town residents to call for help in emergency situations, an inability the presence of cell towers in town could cure.

Fenna Lee Bonsignore, resident, had read a few studies about the issue herself, and from those came to the conclusion, "The long wavelengths do not give a high enough level of radiation to break the chemical bonds of DNA."

Brian Emond spoke next asking for a delay in the vote. "All we're asking - the prudent thing" is to "keep a moral and healthy environment." He believes that just because there is a "personal or economic need, doesn't mean we should just do this. It is important to have infor-

see TOWERS pg 12

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"The Voice of the Villages"

Cougars View Wildlife Biology



The Right to Farm in Montague

BY DONNA FRANCIS - The Montague Agricultural Commission has been working hard in recent months to draft a Right-to-Farm bylaw. What is a Right-to-Farm bylaw and why do we need one?

The town of Montague has nearly 3000 acres of land in agricultural uses, and Montague growers produce an astonishing variety of products: from vegetables, honey, and hay to Christmas trees and wool yarn. We are blessed here in the Connecticut River Valley with some of the best agricultural soils in the world.

Our farms provide many benefits in addition to producing local food. Agriculture and related businesses are a significant part of Montague's economy; farmland preserves open space, and the rural character of the town attracts residents and visitors. Farming is a strong part of our cultural heritage. Interest in locally-grown food, and concern over issues like climate change have given many a renewed appreciation of the farms we have right here at home.

All citizens of the Commonwealth are granted the right to farm under the Massachusetts General Laws. The Montague Right-to-Farm bylaw will restate and re-emphasize these rights, recognizing the value of agricultural pursuits to the town. Such a bylaw is a way of showing our commitment to supporting agriculture. The bylaw supports and encourages all types of farming, including dairying; production and marketing of horticultural commodities (nurseries and plant sales); forestry (wood products,

Christmas trees); raising and keeping livestock including horses; keeping and raising of poultry and other animals for food and other agricultural purposes, including bee-keeping and aquaculture.

The bylaw will not impact any zoning regulations and does not confer any new rights or privileges to farmers, nor does it remove their responsibility to follow state and local laws concerning agriculture. Montague farmers are good stewards of the land and all of them want to protect their soils, and the quality of the air and water resources in the town. The agricultural commission strongly encourages all farmers to use best management practices to limit use of pesticides, protect animal health, and minimize negative environmental impacts.

One provision of the Right-to-Farm bylaw includes a system for notification to new landowners and residents of the town. Anyone buying property or renting within the town will be informed they are moving into a farming community, and the normal activities of farming can include some odors, noise, dust, slow moving vehicles, and the like. It is the intent of this provision to keep the community informed and reduce potential conflicts between farmers and non-farming neighbors.

Over the last few decades, as farmland has been converted into residential development, persons new to farming have been moving into traditional agricultural areas. Right-to-farm bylaws protect farmers from nuisance lawsuits from neighbors, and create public awareness regarding the needs of local farms and farmers. The bylaw also states the agricultural commission will be prepared to assist town officials in help-

ing to resolve conflicts that might arise. These "good neighbor" clauses will help to resolve misunderstandings that might occur, and help to preserve the peace when a legal or permitted activity causes concern or disruption to neighbors.

Most of our neighboring towns (and a total of 118 towns in the state) have passed similar Right-to-Farm bylaws. Another advantage of having such a bylaw in place is an automatic reduction of funds the town will contribute to help preserve farmland in the state Agricultural Preservation Restriction program. Thus the bylaw will contribute to the permanent protection of our priceless farmlands.

It is the mission of the agricultural commission to promote and protect agricultural activities within the town, and passage of the Right-to-Farm bylaw will be a significant contribution to this mission. Copies of the proposed bylaw are available at town hall and on the town website (www.montague.net), and in the branch libraries. The bylaw will be voted on at the annual town meeting on May 5th. Please ask your town meeting representatives to support agriculture and vote 'Yes' for the Right to Farm.

Donna Francis is the chair of the Montague agricultural commission.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Faster Than A Speeding Sloth

Utility Contractor, Bemis LLC of Jacksonville, VT has been very busy along Main Road, Gill, in recent weeks, setting new taller utility poles to accommodate Verizon's fiber optic cable for broadband high speed internet service. Utility contractor Rodney Bemis said his crew is working for Western Mass Electric Company, but the taller poles are for the benefit of Verizon.

The poles need to be taller to insulate the cable against interference from other utilities crowding the poles at a lower level.

According to Devoris Bailey of Verizon, their high speed internet user service is not shared by others. Each subscriber has the equivalent of a direct line rather than a shared connection, as Comcast subscribers do.

Having had a Comcast connection with eight others, I know firsthand what problems

can arise.

What is broadband high speed internet? According to Bailey it is a fiber optic system that provides faster upload and won't slow down with heavy use when sending.

When will people on the Main Road of Gill be able to hook up? "In about a month," Bailey said.

It took more than an hour of pushing button 1 for Yes and button 2 for No, before I got a live person. Bailey was in Florida. As I waited, I'd intermittently hear a recording telling me that my call was very important, urging me to stay on the line, making me wonder why Verizon doesn't put on more service people, if my call is so very important.

I hope Verizon's internet service is faster than their customer service.

—Joseph A. Parzych
Gill

Turners Memories

For several years, I was a den mother for the cub scouts in Turners Falls. Our troop was pictured in the recent article by David Brule, entitled 'Old Friends' (MR X #28). In the photo, I am in the back row

between Paul Garrand and Joyce Vivier, another den mother. It was a truly fun time.

—Mary Varney
Greenfield

U.S. Casualties in Afghanistan as of 4/25/12

Wounded: 15,332
Deaths: 1,946



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You Don't Have to Eat at Home to Eat Locally

BY LEE WICKS - Before any of us could recover from media images of pink slime, a beef-based additive that has been used for years in ground beef, national news reports warned about packaged salad greens, and a day later people got sick from frozen tuna. This week on "Democracy Now," we heard a report on Gulf seafood contaminated by the BP oil spill.

One fisherman reported hauling four hundred pounds of pink shrimp, and none of them had eyes. "Eyeless shrimp," he kept saying. He had a thick accent, so at first it sounded like he was talking about a new breed.

Thankfully, here in Western Massachusetts, we have an alternative to factory farmed meat and produce grown thousands of miles away. We are surrounded by some of the best farmland in the world, land that is tended by devoted organic farmers. We can vote for sus-

tainable agriculture with our purchasing power and buy local organic produce, along with dairy products from grass-fed cows and meat and poultry that have been raised humanely without antibiotics. In our own kitchens we can savor the smells of home cooked foods.

But what happens when we eat out? Some people just relax and enjoy; they put their commitment to local foods on hold for the evening, along with any desire to count calories. Fair enough. Perfection is a burden.

Others head for the national chain restaurants, believing these are the only low cost alternatives.

But there is way to eat out affordably, and support local farmers and the restaurants that honor them. The good news is there's no sacrifice in doing this. Fresh local food tastes better than produce that was picked before it ripened and then spent days on a truck or

plane. Grass fed beef, described by some people as gamey, has a rich, deep flavor and far less fat than a grain fed animal. Free-range chickens and the eggs they produce make them seem like a whole different food than the factory farmed alternatives.

Good news also that it's not just pricy restaurants that offer menus featuring local organic foods. Eateries from elegant to rustic are listing local suppliers on their menus or chalking up the list on a blackboard for all to see. Some go as far as naming the source of each ingredient with the description of the dish. More good news is that our local restaurants understand budget constraints and they've created affordable small plates, weekly specials, and soup and sandwich combinations.

Writing about all the great restaurants in Franklin County would be daunting, but there are some wonderful choices in the towns covered by the Montague

Reporter, and I've been to many at least once. But I haven't been to every restaurant in the towns. If your favorite place has been left out, write a letter to the editor and share your knowledge and enthusiasm.

The Blue Heron Restaurant, owned by two Montague women, has a philosophy statement about the value of supporting local farms right on its website, and the menu contains a list of all the local farmers they work with. They also post frequently on Facebook, and this is the best way to find out when they are making something wonderful with asparagus or baby peas, as they will certainly do as soon as each becomes locally available. A light meal at the bar is always an option as is the Sunday night special (three courses for \$25), or the Wednesday burger special.

The Night Kitchen, which is right in Montague at the

Bookmill, has reinvented itself this spring. Gone are the white tablecloths and the pricey menu that made a dinner there into a very special occasion. During a winter break, long bench seats were built along one wall and the bar area expanded, giving the restaurant an open, casual appearance. Now the menu offers an assortment of small plates that can serve as a light meal or be combined, like a tapas bar. I enjoyed a rich creamy mac and cheese for \$4. And light fish tacos for \$7, along with a spectacular spicy Margarita - nice choices for a warm spring evening.

The Night Kitchen also features local produce, organic when possible, creatively and beautifully presented. A list is posted in the restaurant, but when I was there the sources were not listed with each menu item. This would be a welcome addition. The Night Kitchen see LOCAL page 8

Touring the Northfield Solar Farm

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH - In these uncertain times, people in the proximity of nuclear reactors live in fear the next 'event' could be the Big One. A cooling pipe breaks under extreme heat and pressure, or a 40-year-old valve fails to close, and they might have to flee their homes, never to return, as the people in Japan and Chernobyl have had to do.

At the same time the U.S. government is planning to use taxpayer's money to finance more of these dangerous reactors, and to take responsibility for insuring them against catastrophic accidents like those in Fukushima, Japan, because no insurance company would touch a nuclear reactor policy with a ten foot pole. So who foots the bill? You and me, the taxpayers.

Cheer up! There is a safe alternative energy source - the sun, that big nuclear reactor in the sky. There's no toxic waste to worry about, no groundwater or air pollution either. And sunlight doesn't cost the taxpayers

a ton of money.

On Sunday, April 22nd, IP-GDF-Suez conducted tours of the area's newest solar collector field, opposite the Northfield Mountain visitor center on Route 63 in Northfield. The 11-acre field has 515 new technology "thin film" solar panels cranking out 2 megawatts of power from the sun. That's enough power to supply 1500 homes, according to Chuck Burnham of Northfield Mountain.

The photovoltaic film on the panels is 100 microns thick, which is 1/50th of the thickness of a fingernail, not much thicker than a coat of paint. The DC (direct current) electricity generated by the panels is wired to an inverter changing current to AC.

When Thomas Edison founded Edison Electric Company, he used DC generators in the power plants his company built. He chose DC despite its inability to be sent over long distances, due to high power loss. He located generating plants in neighborhoods a

short distance from users. That meant Edison could sell more generating plants. At the time, electric motors ran on DC only, until the brilliant inventor, Nikola Tesla, who worked for Edison, came up with an elec-

The 11-acre field has 515 thin-film solar panels cranking out two megawatts of power from the sun.

tric motor that ran on AC current.

With that obstacle overcome, AC became the standard for its ability to be sent long distances with less loss, making neighborhood power plants unnecessary and a national grid possi-

ble. Edison, perhaps sore that his monopoly on DC power plants was ended, parted ways with Tesla for good.

At the Northfield solar open house, tour guide Beth Bazler explained that the solar panels' DC power, transformed to AC by the inverter, is then stepped up by transformers and sent over high tension lines onto the national grid from which consumer electricity flows.

At present, most of America's electric power comes from coal plants, like the antiquated Mount Tom facility in Holyoke, which produces 140 megawatts at 9.5 cents per kilowatt hour. Hydro facilities produce electricity at 8.6 cents per kilowatt hour.

Nuclear comes in lower if government subsidies and gov-

ernment insurance, plant decommissioning, waste storage, and other externalities (uranium enrichment, providing school nurses with potassium iodide pills, running annual evacuation drills, for example) are not taken into account. If the true costs were to be applied, nuclear is by far the costliest source of electric power, according to Dr. Benjamin Sovacool of the Energy Security and Justice Program at Vermont Law School.

Solar comes in at 21 cents per kilowatt, depending on who is calculating. But, according to Peter Talmage, assistant professor at GCC in charge of the new Renewable Energy program, "A homeowner who installs a 5,000 watt solar panel system for \$25,000 would be eligible for state and federal grants and tax credits of about \$10,000, bringing the cost down to \$15,000. Selling excess electricity to the grid would give the homeowner a net gain of about \$5,000 per year. In three years, that home-

see SOLAR page 9

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD**Fairbrother Opposes Cumby Proposal**

BY JANEL NOCKLEBY
The selectboard re-voted on its motion to endorse special town meeting article number one on Monday night this week, at the request of chairperson Mark Fairbrother. Article one states: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$30,000 or any other amount, for the purpose of restoring 38 Avenue A through remediation and roof repair or demolition of the building, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto."

The sum of \$30,000 is meant to cover costs for demolition or mold remediation, should that be the decision of the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, which recently obtained the property from the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The vote on Monday to endorse this article resulted in Pat Allen and Chris Boutwell voting "aye" and Mark Fairbrother, "nay."

While the selectboard had already approved the placement of the article on the special town meeting warrant on April 17th at its weekly meeting last week, in its joint meeting with the finance committee on April 18th the selectboard also voted to endorse the article in a signal to town meeting members that it recommends keeping all options open regarding the building at this time, even though a possible lease agreement with MCTV may be in the works to renovate that building without town funds. Boutwell was not in attendance at the Wednesday night joint meeting, and the vote was Allen and Fairbrother, aye.

But Fairbrother wanted to revisit the question on Monday because, he said, "I made a mistake last week. I very foolishly

voted for it."

Fairbrother explained, "I hope to have an amendment for town meeting floor. I urge my fellow selectboard members and town meeting members to not support this as written. I hope to change the motion basically to say, if you want the town of Montague to put money into this building, we become the owners of the building, and no money goes into that building except to either demolish it or to prep it for lease or sale to a for profit entity."

On April 17th, the selectboard voted 2-1 to express support of Grand Trunk Media's proposal (Grand Trunk is a new consortium comprised of MCTV, the Montague Business Association, and Turners Falls RiverCulture) to pay for all of the costs of mold remediation and renovation. Grand Trunk proposes to spend about \$80,000 to accomplish this work in order to lease the property at a reduced rate and create expanded TV studios for MCTV, along with office space for the Montague Business Association and Turners Falls RiverCulture.

Allen and Boutwell voted for endorsing the proposal from Grand Trunk Media, and Fairbrother voted against it.

Currently, the quasi-public Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation is responsible for the property, and has the power to decide whether or not to lease the property from Grand Trunk Media or not. On April 17th, the EDIC voted unanimously to accept Grand Trunk Media's proposal, and to lease the building to the group for two years.

The special town meeting and annual town meeting will be held at Turners Falls High School on Saturday, May 5th at 8:30 p.m., and information

packets should be in the mail to town meeting members this week.

In related news, Don Clegg's request for use of the lawn in front of 38 Avenue A (the old Cumberland Farms building) for the Great Falls Farmers Market season was re-directed to the Montague EDIC, since they are now the managers of the property.

In other news, the Spring Parade was a big success this year, and so parade manager Mike Nelson will help to continue the tradition next year, and the selectboard has approved the date of Saturday, April 20th, 2013 (rain date: Sunday, April 21st, 2013).

"We lucked out with the weather again," said Nelson.

Nelson reported the theme for next year's parade will be Hawaiian, with even more, bigger and better house parties along the route encouraged through contests, and that more marching bands will be able to march in Montague that day (rather than in Boston) by moving the parade to the third weekend of April (avoiding a scheduling conflict during a major band competition.) The 2013 parade will follow the same route on the Hill, in Turners Falls, from the Sheffield School to the safety complex and back via Millers Falls Road.

Once again, employees of the town will need to hit the books. Water Pollution Control Facility superintendent Bob Trombley reported that two members of his staff will need to take additional exams to upgrade their individual licenses in light of the plant now having a higher rating. The installation of new equipment and updated operations procedures resulted in a higher rating for the plant.

see MONTAGUE pg 10

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD**Warranty Issues at Senior Center**

BY KATIE NOLAN - Warranty problems at the new community and senior center on Care Drive - and questions of how much of the contractor's bill to retain to insure completion of the building project - were the focus of the April 23rd Erving selectboard meeting.

Despite these issues, the selectboard signed the certification of substantial completion for the project.

Director of public works Paul Prest said earlier in the day he was called to deal with an improperly installed pipe that came apart and sprayed water, flooding an area of the building, damaging insulation and possibly the geothermal pump motors.

Prest expressed frustration at confronting these problems in the new building. "I was there; I got soaked. I was the one who handled the problems."

Prest said the sewage ejector pump panel was also malfunctioning, and there were sewer smells coming into the kitchen.

Scott D'Entremont, president of contractor MCMUSA, assured the selectboard that all warranty problems would be resolved.

He said, "It's typical when buildings start up that a few things happen. The mechanical contractors are reputable firms that rely on this kind of work."

MCMUSA and subcontractors were scheduled to meet with Prest to address the building problems on Wednesday, April 25th. The selectboard asked Prest to provide a recap of the problems and actions at the April 30th selectboard meeting.

The selectboard had received the next-to-the-last bill from MCMUSA in the amount of \$94,000, along with a recommendation from architect John Catlin to retain \$6,000 until the punch list of uncompleted items were satisfac-

torily finished.

Owner's project manager Bruce Hunter provided a recommendation to hold back \$20,000 of that bill. Hunter's memo indicated the larger amount was needed because several subcontractors had conducted work "under protest," contending it was beyond their contractual scope of work, and the subcontractors could file claims for additional compensation.

D'Entremont said that he felt MCM had done well by the project. He also said that under the contract, it is the architect's role to certify when work is completed and should be paid for, and he asked that the town accept the bill as certified by Catlin.

D'Entremont said it seemed unfair to hold back tens of thousands of dollars, when the punch list remaining at the senior center project contained mostly cosmetic items. And he told the selectboard that the subcontractor protests listed by Hunter "don't exist."

Selectboard chair Andrew Goodwin expressed frustration that neither Catlin nor Hunter had provided an itemized list showing how they came up with the amount of money to retain. "It's unfair to put us in this position, with no facts, no evidence. I'm disappointed in both of them."

Jacqueline Boyden, building committee chair, suggested retaining \$12,000 as a compromise, which the selectboard ultimately decided to do.

The selectboard signed the certification of substantial completion for the building after town administrator Tom Sharp explained that it is typically signed when the owner moves in and uses the facility, and that both Catlin and Hunter agreed that MCM had substantially completed the building project.

The selectboard opened

bids for repaving Pratt Street, Lester Street, and Moore Street.

Massachusetts Broken Stone Co. bid \$146,220, Lane Construction bid \$150,253, and Warner Brothers bid \$164,361. Initially, the selectboard voted to accept the low bid. However, when it appeared there might be some discrepancies in the proposal provided by Massachusetts Broken Stone, Prest asked for time to review the proposals more carefully. The board rescinded their acceptance of the low bid and agreed to take the paving bid up at their next meeting.

Daniel Hammock brought plants to the meeting to illustrate a request. He showed the selectboard some healthy pachysandra, which grows in shady areas, blooming forsythia, growing on sunny banks in Erving, phlox, which grows in rocky areas, and magenta azalea blooms from bushes he said were overgrown and should be moved. With the recent reorganization of town highway, water, and treatment plant services under a public works director, various contract or part-time building and landscape maintenance work will be done by a town maintenance employee, and Beulah Land Nursery will no longer perform landscape work on town-owned properties.

Hammock offered his services as an unpaid horticultural consultant to maintain town landscaping. He said, "I want to have the town more beautiful as time goes by." The selectboard appointed him as Erving horticulturist for a term of three years.

The selectboard approved paying \$192,606.80 to Green Mountain Pipeline Services of Royalton, VT for the Erving sewer relining project.

see ERVING page 12

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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Pursuing Green Community Status

BY JOSH

HEINEMANN &

DAVID DETMOLD - The chair of Wendell's energy committee, Nan Riebschlaeger, informed the Wendell selectboard by letter on April 11th that the energy committee hopes to pursue Green Community status for the town.

Under the Green Communities Act, cities and towns that meet a set of five Green Energy criteria qualify for state funding to advance energy saving and alternative energy generating projects within their borders. As of now, 86 cities and towns in Massachusetts have qualified as Green Communities, receiving \$15 million in state grants, from funds set aside from Massachusetts' participation in the Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a cap and trade program. Another two million dollars in state grants are about to be divided up among the 12 newest Green Communities, including the town of Leverett, which is due to receive \$138,750 to install photovoltaics in town, on May 3rd.

On Monday, April 9th, the energy committee met with Jim Barry, Western Massachusetts regional coordinator for the Green Communities program, a project of the state Executive Office of Energy and the Environment.

As the discussion got under way, Riebschlaeger told the committee, "I felt we spent too much time on food issues last year."

In the past, the energy committee has shied away from the mandated requirements needed to achieve Green Community status, which include establishing by-right siting of alternative energy generation, manufacture or research and development in town, along with a commitment to reduce municipal energy use by 20% over a five year period from an established baseline.

Passage of the stretch energy building code is another of the requirements the town must meet to receive the status.

Barry asked and answered this rhetorical question in his pitch to the committee: "Can we do Green Community? Hell, yeah!"

He said if town meeting agreed to a zoning bylaw change

to allow by-right siting, with site plan review "some place in town," to allow for at least 250 kilowatts of solar generation on a site that would equal about an acre, that would meet the minimum standard for the first Green Community criterion.

A zoning bylaw change requires a two thirds majority vote, but a simple majority would suffice for town meeting to approve passage of the stretch building code, which requires thicker wall construction, more insulation, energy saving windows, blower door tests and third party monitoring of new construction in town to make sure energy standards are achieved. Barry said these construction techniques typically add about \$2,000 - \$3,000 to the up front cost of new homes, with energy savings more than making up the difference over time.

Musing on how this might impact home building in Wendell, Riebschlaeger said, "I would tell you how many building permits we issue each year if the building inspector would give us copies of them."

Riebschlaeger and other committee members strategized on how they could compile base energy use data for town buildings, and wondered how far back the town could go to claim credit for recent energy saving improvements at town hall, and whether the town's contribution to energy upgrades at the jointly owned Swift River School in New Salem could count towards the needed 20% reduction in Wendell's municipal energy use.

Riebschlaeger added the town might be able to save all the energy they would need to qualify by just fixing the heating system controls in the relatively new town office building.

In order to pursue Green Community status, the energy committee needed selectboard approval, and board members gave that with a unanimous vote on April 11th.

Also at that selectboard meeting, Nancy Spittle, chair of the Council on Aging, asked the selectboard how the COA can get work done on the senior center building; the outside needs painting.

Selectboard member Jeoffrey Pooser said the propane heating system at that building (the former library) is primitive and "scary," but replacing the heating system would be expensive.

Spittle said propane use is up this year largely because the building has been used more.

Selectboard member Dan Keller noted the town owns the building and maintenance can be financed through the town's building maintenance account.

Spittle said calling the building "the senior center" discourages some people who are not ready to call themselves seniors from making use of the programs and facilities offered by the COA. She suggested changing the name to the Wendell Community and Senior Center.

Keller approved, and selectboard chair Christine Heard added that name change would better reflect what goes on there.

Spittle also wanted confirmation that when the Massachusetts Broadband Initiative (MBI) brings its trunk line high speed internet fiber through town the community and senior center will be among the buildings hooked up. Pooser said that trunk line is expected to be completed within a year, but to expect delays. He added, when it comes, the difference in internet access will be like the difference between traveling by horse and buggy and driving a Lamborghini.

Town buildings slated to be connected to the middle mile fiber are the town office building, the library, the police station, the community and senior center, and the highway garage and fire station, which also houses the town's emergency operations center (EOC).

There is a bubble of baby boomers growing to senior age, and Spittle said at some point the community and senior center might need regular staffing. Keller suggested she bring the subject of staffing up with the finance committee.

The selectboard has been working to create a job description for every town employee, including the building inspector. A building inspector must be licensed as both a building

see WENDELL pg 12

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Now You Can Have a Bloody Mary with Brunch at 10 a.m.

BY PATRICIA PRUITT - The Gill selectboard made two community pleasing votes on Monday afternoon. The first was to approve the use of the town hall stage and upstairs meeting room for use by the 4th and 5th grade drama students of Gill Elementary School teacher Ann Gordon. Her afterschool drama classes will hold five Tuesday and Wednesday rehearsals, in the upstairs of Gill town hall, from May 15th through May 29th. Performances will take place on: Wednesday, May 30th, from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. for students in K - 3rd grades; on Friday, June 1st, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. for grades 4-6, and on Saturday, June 2nd (time to be announced) for the community.

And Alden Booth, owner of the Gill Tavern, was granted a license to serve alcohol one hour earlier with Sunday brunch. The Gill selectboard reasoned it was absurd to have to wait until 11 a.m. to have a Bloody Mary when your brunch was served at ten.

Under old business, administrator Ray Purrington reported the new sewer pumps at the Riverside pump station were working well. He also reported a structural engineer had visited Gill Elementary School to examine exterior wall cracks and determine their seriousness. The engineer reported only one crack in the exterior wall needed attention in order to prevent future leaks. He suggested also that a little more compound in the expansion joints would keep little fingers out of the cracks.

Next the board reported it had received three bids for the mowing contract for 2012. The lowest bid was from Howe's Lawn Care of Winchester, N.H. Howe's was approved unanimously.

Alden Booth raised a concern that mowing companies often mowed by their contract and not by the height of grass. If over-mowing is excessive, it actually kills the roots of the grass, especially in dry conditions. Purrington said in recent years the mowing was done every other week. He would suggest

flexibility and common sense regarding frequency of mowing to Howe's Lawn Care.

In other business the selectboard unanimously approved the appointment of Ivan Ussach to the historical commission.

There was another request for use of town hall for a joint training effort of the Gill conservation commission and the Mt. Grace Land Conservation Trust on Saturday, May 5th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The selectboard approved the highway department's Chapter 90 project request amount of \$94,000 to shim, level and chip seal stretches of Center Road, Mountain Road, and all of Bickford Lane, as well as \$10,000 to re-gravel and resurface approximately two miles of other roads.

At the end of its quiet meeting the selectboard answered questions about its participation and expectation for the April 24th meeting with the GMRSD school committee, both the Gill and Montague selectboards, finance committees, and the technical committee that worked on the fiscal sustainability compact for the towns, state, and school district. Chair Randy Crochier wanted to know what the district's plan is with respect to hiring another interim or permanent superintendent, as well as for hiring a district business manager. Purrington said the intent of the joint meeting on Tuesday was to have active conversation, and the meeting was scheduled to go 75 minutes, but would likely go longer. The selectboard nodded in agreement with that assessment.

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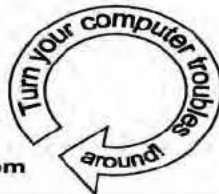
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NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Budget Blues and Committee Fireworks

BY ELLEN BLANCHETTE - Selectboard and finance committee members from both Gill and Montague joined the Gill-Montague school committee on the stage of Turners Falls High School auditorium on Tuesday to discuss town assessments for the FY'13 school budget, and the progress of the district fiscal sustainability agreement known as 'the compact.'

The compact, agreed to in FY'11, sets budget targets for the member towns, the state, and the district to meet over five years. The school district has more than met its commitment to hold to a budget of no more than 2.5% increases since then (the current FY'13 budget proposal is for a 1.2% increase), but the state aid numbers this year and last have fallen short of what was projected and agreed to by local legislators and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The compact assumed a 3% increase in Chapter 70 funding by 2013, but so far, state aid to the district has been nearly flat. That may change. But with the towns and the district in agreement on keeping to their commitments going forward, the main question Tuesday was what to do if the state continues to fail to uphold its end of the bargain.

Members of the so-called

technical committee that crafted the compact, Michael Naughton, of the Montague finance committee, Tupper Brown, of the Gill finance committee and school committee member Jeff Singleton, of Montague, led the discussion.

Taking turns laying out the details of the agreement and how it evolved, they then turned to the issue of the shortfall in state Chapter 70 funding. Naughton said he had concerns that a continued failure on the part of the state to meet the compact's Chapter 70 targets will be a problem as the partners move forward into FY'14.

Naughton said "tweaking" the numbers is not a solution, and the likelihood of the state meeting the goal of 3% annual increases in Chapter 70 funding seems increasingly dim.

Singleton said the towns and school district do have some ability to influence state policy. He recommended a strong effort to lobby the legislators who participated in the technical committee, along with representatives of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The idea of connecting with other school districts facing similar budget shortfalls was brought up. David Lockwood of Management Solutions, the private company now handling the

district's business office, said he might be able to assist in facilitating this.

On the topic of this year's assessments to the town, Ray Purington of Gill called the increase "very manageable". John Hanold, chair of the Montague finance committee said, "We wish assessments were lower, but we see the problem with the state funding."

After the budget discussion concluded, town officials left the meeting and the school committee turned to other business. When chair Michael Langknecht began to present the agenda item "open meeting law complaint," Marjorie Levenson of Montague demanded the right to speak and would not let Langknecht continue.

Langknecht asked Levenson to stop talking, saying she was out of order and could not speak without the chair first recognizing her.

She refused his repeated requests to stop talking until recognized. Levenson was telling Langknecht not to chair that portion of the meeting because he was named in the complaint, which concerned posts by more than one member of the school committee on the town of Montague's informal internet 'chatboard'.

It is not clear whether Langknecht intended to step

LOCAL from page 5

also has a Facebook page, in fact all the restaurants do, and these days the ever-changing information on Facebook tends to be more recent than what you will find on the websites.

Be assured the Lady Killigrew, also at the Bookmill, still offers warm brown rice salad (served on local greens) and a fine selection of local beers.

It seems that everyone I know discovered the Wagon Wheel in Gill before I did. This has to be the best place to go if you're very hungry and very committed to supporting local farms. The portions are huge; the prices are low, there's homemade ice cream with locally inspired fla-

aside during that portion of the meeting or not. Levenson did not let him talk. This went on for a few minutes, then Langknecht stood up, said he had a headache and was going home, gave the gavel to Sandra Brown, vice chair of the committee, and left.

Even as he was speaking and gathering his things, Levenson continued talking over him. She called after him, saying "Thank you," repeatedly as he left.

Brown then took over the meeting, and after a short discussion, the remaining members voted to take no action and forward the complaint to the District Attorney for review.

Langknecht did not return.

vors such as Deerfield Wildflower Honey, and the owners are extremely sensitive to food allergies. They assured me the equipment was washed thoroughly after any flavors containing nuts are made. They also separate the scoops when serving, which is great news for people with life threatening nut allergies who struggle to find safe food. Carnivores will savor huge burgers, made from Wheelview Farm beef. Vegetarians should not miss the black bean burger. Omnivores can delight in all of it.

Also in Gill is the Gill Tavern that pays homage to farms and farmers by identifying them with each item. This is a great place for a candlelight special-occasion meal, but there's also a great bar, a diverse menu, and evenings devoted to special events from wine tasting dinners to open mic nights when community members can share stories, songs or a skill. At a recent event everyone learned about origami. The beer is so local that the grain for one blend is grown right in Gill. The rest come from the People's Pint. The pizza crust is organic and there's a gluten-free option. With the bridge leading into but not out of Turners Falls, it takes a bit more effort to get to Gill. The drive is worth it, and this is a great time of year to enjoy a slightly longer route.

If you'd rather stay in Turners Falls, Ristorante Di Paolo has

see LOCAL page 16

from VIENNA page 1

The Third Man won an Academy Award for Best Black and White Cinematography.

Better than the Book

The Third Man is the extremely rare case where the movie is better than the book — by the author's own admission. Greene writes in the novella's preface: "The reader will notice many differences between the story and film, and he should not imagine these changes were forced on an unwilling author: as likely as not they were suggested by the author. The film, in fact, is better than the story because it is in this case the finished state of the story."

The movie fleshed out Greene's book with stunning cinematography, unique camera

angles, superb performances from the entire cast, a better ending, and, perhaps most memorably, an amazing musical score. In the novella, Harry Lime has a signature tune he whistles. In the film, the melody takes on new life with a rich, evocative theme composed by Anton Karas.

Karas' score for *The Third Man* is absolutely perfect. At once romantic and humorous, subtle and flashy, timeless and instantly catchy, the music says everything that the disconnected characters aren't quite able to say to each other.

My Favorite Crook

Fans of *The Third Man* and Orson Welles are also heartily encouraged to check out "The Lives Of Harry Lime," an old time radio show that aired 52

episodes in 1951 and '52 (all of which can be heard online for free at www.archive.org). This spin-off show was conceived of as a prequel to the film, and it chronicles the many cons, scams, and close scrapes of Mr. Lime (reprised by Welles) in various exotic (or dreary) locales. Welles himself wrote several of the episodes; he even based his film, *Mr. Arkadin*, on the episode "Man of Mystery."

Harry's crimes on the show are considerably less despicable than they are in the film; his dialogue is unfailingly sharp and witty, and if you're not careful, you could easily find yourself rooting for this very, very bad man. And of course, Anton Karas' zither music is once again used to lure you in and make you complicit in the crimes of Harry Limes.

From the Danube to the Bridge of Flowers

For those of you who were unable to make it to Vienna last winter, I offer you the next best thing: Vienna on the big screen in the springtime. Pothole Pictures is showing *The Third Man* this Friday and Saturday night. Is it possible that there are still readers of the *Montague Reporter* who have yet to experience the Pothole Pictures phenomenon?

Pothole Pictures is an all-volunteer-run, non-profit, community movie house that's been showing the best in classic, foreign, and independent films on the BIG screen in historic, century-old, 420-seat Memorial Hall Theater (at 51 Bridge Street — above town hall — in Shelburne Falls) since 1995.

They have frequent special events like "Meet the Filmmaker" nights and collaborations with local community organizations.

And just as music can make a great movie even better, Pothole Pictures always features live, local musical acts (also "all-volunteer") on stage for half an hour before each film. My own band, Daniel Hales, and the frost heaves, play an eclectic set at 7 p.m. before Friday's screening of *The Third Man*, and on Saturday, Jason Bourgeois plays his baroque pop. The frost heaves, will be debuting a new song on Friday called "Harry Lime" their tribute to your new favorite crook.

For more information on your ticket to Vienna, call 413-625-2896.



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Word = Object

BY JANEL NOCKLEBY

TURNERS FALLS - While exploring the adhesive qualities of words to a place or a thing, local poet Chris Janke spent two years researching glue. His experiments with prototypes for his new interactive book of poetry, *of the of of the of*, ultimately became his "first complete physical art object."

"Constructed of nine poems and 81 graphic reinterpretations, made of Plexiglas, vellum, and book cloth," and measuring 20 inches by 20 inches, *of the of of the of*, is best read at a slow pace in an atmosphere where browsing and reader-inspired manipulation of the words as objects is encouraged, Janke explained.

But where is such a place? Enter Loot: Found + Made. The shop that houses industrial artifacts and handmade goods is Turners Falls' newest addition to Avenue A, owned by Erin MacLean and John McNamara.

But even in a store where objects are constantly questioned, reinterpreted and manipulated, MacLean needed some guidance on how to explain and present Janke's

book to potential browsers. And so, Janke made an *of the of the of quickstart guide*, explaining how one might make such a thing oneself, and he invited four fellow writers and artists to join him in an art opening and reading reception, *Word = Object*.

The *Word = Object* opening at Loot takes place this Friday, April 27th, at 7 p.m., with reading by the artists at 8 p.m. The show will run through June 1st.

While the *of the of of the of quickstart guide* explains many things about the mechanics of Janke's work and that, "If you like, choose an order for all nine pages in the book and arrange all nine books in this order so you have a complete layered picture through the whole," it also just states "ignore this guide and play with the book."

Janke is admittedly obsessing about his hypotheses. "Content is a fiction made of forms. There are only forms," he said. "We put words on the world and the world is putting words onto us," he elaborated.

Do you agree?

Get thee to Loot and play with "the boundary between



JANEL NOCKLEBY PHOTO

Pilot Books publisher and editor Betsy Wheeler works on hand-crafting books of poetry.

word and object" in Janke's new word object and in the works of Florence residents Meghan Dewar and Betsy Wheeler, of Wendell resident and *all small caps poetry* reading series curator Jess Mynes, and of visual artist ASIZ.

Dewar is a graphic artist and art director and designer for Pilot Books, which focuses on "gorgeous objects made of and with words," explained Janke. She will be showing posters, letterpress cards, and more. Wheeler, editor and publisher

of Pilot Books, will read from her just-released book of poems, *Loud Dreaming in a Quiet Room*.

On display will be many of Pilot Books' "hand-crafted rare titles."

Meanwhile Mynes will be displaying a "mélange of the small chapbooks he creates largely by hand" for his press Fewer and Further. Poems by Wheeler and Mynes are included in this week's *Montague Reporter Poetry Page*.

Janke explained that classi-

cally trained painter ASIZ recently began transforming his own "highly-polished work using graffiti techniques" in a kind of "commentary on the art world and the place of street art." As a result, words as objects become quite prominent in the paintings.

And what of *of the of of the of* and of it all?

Well, the artists are here, and you're invited to play. Join in, and you may find, like Janke, you could need up to three types of glue.



JOSEPH A. PARZYCH PHOTO

Beth Bazler points to the junction of solar power lines with the DC inverter as she conducts a tour of First Light's new Solar Field.

SOLAR from pg 5 owner would recoup his investment and pocket the net gain of \$5,000 each year after that." Not a bad deal.

While coal is plentiful, mining it pollutes land and water, burning coal pollutes the air, puts mercury into the food chain, and increases global warming, and coal ash is a toxic waste also polluting land and water. Natural gas has dramatically come down in price and may soon fuel coal fired plants. Solar and wind are relatively benign, and may be the

smartest choice to meet our future energy needs.

There are already homes in our area with solar panels supplying their total electrical needs.

Most area towns have an energy committee that will guide homeowners through the process of installing solar panels. In Montague, Chris Mason (413-367-9923) is chair of the Montague energy committee. The Northfield energy committee lists Bob Pasteris (413-498-5978) and Walt Congdon (413-498-2729). The Gill energy committee lists Claire Chang (413-863-8952) and Tupper Brown (413-863-8243).

This could be a good time for Gill to build a solar collector field on the town owned land at Main Road and West Gill Road, producing income to pay the mortgage.



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SUDAN from page 1

rights violations.

Still, in relation to the South, Sudan is a more developed nation, and Khartoum a relative metropolis in comparison to the dusty rural capital of Juba in South Sudan.

In Juba, the pace of population growth has outstripped the limits of infrastructure. Refugees who were either internally displaced or who have returned from Kenya, Uganda, Europe and North America are now pouring into Juba seeking safe haven.

In Juba, the roads are mostly dirt. There is only one tiny airstrip for small planes. The capital is largely isolated. People live in thatched roof huts or small concrete structures. Few buildings have electricity.

Despite being located along the Nile River, it is a parched city. The ever present United Nations SUVs kick up dust. At night, with no electricity, people build fires, adding the pall of smoke to the dusty air.

Agriculture is nearly nonexistent in the South, which imports most of its food. Traditionally, the people of that region were pastoral cattle farmers, and their trade was based on cattle. Today, hard currency is needed to buy South Sudan's food and supplies. Most people have very little money. Many suffer from malnutrition.

In a café overlooking a verdant waterfall of the Sawmill River in Montague Center last week Green reflected on her experience in South Sudan, where, she said, "There is not much work for anybody, men or women."

Though poverty and war stalk the land, South Sudan is rich in oil. However, the pipeline that provides the new nation with its main source of revenue runs through the north,

and Sudan charges exorbitant fees and taxes for its use.

On the Brink

After decades of armed struggle, South Sudan finally gained its independence last year in a referendum monitored by the United Nations, but the situation remains extremely volatile. The border regions between Sudan and South Sudan are fiercely contested. The land in this area is rich in oil and the demarcation lines unclear. Armed incursions on both sides, complicated by longstanding clan rivalries, have led to death, displacement and starvation for thousands. In recent days, the situation has rapidly deteriorated. With escalating violence and tension, the fear of full-blown war returns.

Green said she had to "gather courage" to travel to the region. In addition to bombs and bullets, the area is also plagued with disease. "Malaria, dengue fever and dysentery are everywhere. Luckily, I came back healthy and unharmed."

The humanitarian community struggles to provide aid to the new nation of South Sudan, but delivery of aid is being blocked by Sudan's military forces. Recently, actor George Clooney and Massachusetts Congressman John Olver made headlines for being arrested at the Sudanese embassy in Washington DC in a protest of the humanitarian aid crisis.

Green said wearily, "People are starving to death because they can't get food. How long will we have images of starving African children?"

Women at the Peace Table

The Karuna program in South Sudan is run in partnership with the Institute for Inclusive Security (IIS), a Washington DC based organization. Their mission is to advocate for women and to get women involved in peace negotiations. Around the world, as Green pointed out,

"Women are victims of wars, yet they have no part in their resolutions." Women need a seat at the peace table.

The program Karuna and IIS set up aims to build a coalition of women in South Sudan along with a sister coalition of women in Sudan, with regular meetings between the two.

A similar coalition of Rwandan women, both Tutsi and Hutu, has enjoyed some measure of success. The new coalition of South Sudanese women looks to these neighbors for lessons. They hope to meet with the Rwandan women's coalition in Nairobi this coming fall for additional training, Green said.

During her recent two week program in Juba, Green facilitated workshops with 25-40 participants daily. The women came to the seminar dressed in elegant colorful African fabrics. In comparison, "I felt like a shriveled American in my shorts and t-shirt," she said.

The workshops, which took place in English with Arabic translation, introduced the concepts of what a coalition is and what women working together can hope to accomplish. The workshops began in a very basic way by working to build trust among the participants themselves, who represent some of the world's most marginalized people, nevertheless divided across ethnic, geographic and religious lines. Before they can hope to influence government policy, the women of South Sudan need first to build trust among themselves.

While they shared personal experiences, Green taught the women nonreactive listening and speaking skills. She explained that nation building begins with the large task of community resolution to build bridges and create unity.

Beyond war, there is a history of tribal conflict in the region.

Cattle-raiding was common, as is a long-standing culture of revenge that perpetuates a cycle of violence. In hopes of breaking this cycle, workshop participants discussed violence in their lives, including domestic and sexual violence. They explored non-violent strategies for conflict resolution that can be applied to affect real change.

Green led group discussions about what happens when people remain rooted in a state of anger rather than willing to walk down the path of reconciliation. She explained the difference between conflict resolution and forgiveness. Reconciliation and social community healing is an external act. Yet forgiveness is a lengthy internal process that comes to most people slowly.

The group worked on visualizing what the country they are building will look like in the future. This is uncharted territory, since South Sudan does not yet have a fully structured government or a written constitution. Workshop participants discussed legal representation for women and the kind of laws that should be written to protect women's interests in areas such as violence, discrimination, health care, food, and education.

The new South Sudanese parliament has a quota of 25% women, which they hope to raise to 33%. Some of the women participating in the workshops voiced an interest in running for public office.

Provided they can obtain the necessary visas, the coordinators of the Sudanese and South Sudanese women's coalitions will travel together to the School for International Training graduate institute's annual summer program in peacebuilding in Brattleboro, VT, where Green teaches. There, they will build a relationship with each other and will pass on the peacebuilding skills they learn to their peers on their return.

The South Sudanese women in the coalition hope to have the opportunity to build a country that works for them from the very outset. To do so requires strength, courage, determination and hope – qualities that Paula Green has seen firsthand within the group, and helped to foster.



MONTAGUE from page 6

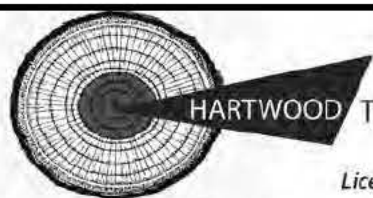
In light of changes at the plant, Trombley reported the facility now rates having 10.8 employees. Currently, there are just six employees working there, and Trombley has submitted a budget proposal for 2013 to raise that number to seven.

Abbondanzio provided some quick news on the status of the Railroad Salvage building in the Patch, since residents of the Patch keep asking what's up with the falling down building. Apparently, the current owner, James Bent, may be preparing the building for auction, Abbondanzio said. He recommended the auctioneer talk to town building inspector David Jensen before an auction proceeds, to become familiar with court orders now in place for that property's safe renovation or demolition.

The use of the Peskeompskut Park band shell by the Montague Community Band has been approved by the selectboard again this season. Concert dates will be June 25th, July 9th and 23rd, and August 6th.

Acting police chief Chris Williams will be a Montague representative on the regional dog kennel oversight committee, with officer John Dempsey as alternate.

The next selectboard meeting will be April 30th at 7 p.m. at town hall, and Josh Goldman is expected to provide an update on the footbridge project at the end of North Street on the Sawmill River conservation land!



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Readers are invited to send poems to the Montague Reporter at
58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376; or email us your poetry at
reporter-poems@montaguema.net

Poetry Page edited by
Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno, and Janel Nockleby
design by Claudia Wells

Unauthorized Biography of Christopher Sholes

The inventor of the typewriter was not by trade an inventor.

A mewling pack of kittens born in his family's barn. Also a duck, but in the pond. A baby in the room painted blue. In his head, a small idea about salmon.

Near to there, a series of explosions; chrysanthemums blooming low in clear skies over Baltimore.

The memory of February was to him fourteen snowballs stored in the icebox.

He could have been 18 or 19, a dead-ringer for Horace.

He went to bed early, thinking of "g" sitting next to "h" or of the closeness that "buttes" holds to "butter".

School and work are sisters, he thought.

He'd wanted out of the family.

As a printer, he was mindful but redundant.

Supper at the library was only allowed in summertime.

Librarian Dan is a "shusser from shusshville," he pouted.

Migration, though not usually used to describe human travel, appealed to him as a method.

A short report on Wisconsin mining history revealed to him for the first time the food named "pasty" wrapped handily in napkins, then placed in squeaking lunchpails.

His personality was often borderline Collie.

First came the faint rustling of horsemen from under the bedclothes. They probably were hollering "writing machinery!" but what he heard was "riding to Tuilleries!" and this would set him back in years.

His way of spinning pencils between his thin fingers should have been patented.

That was a very serious idea.

The inflatable jackets were issued to all the riders on the ferry, but he was in the loo.

It was June 23, 1868, and he was very far from home.

—Betsy Wheeler
Florence

Centennial Ale

thinking's halfway fended familiar exorcism
threads milked to or
your fist fighting ways thus
supposed to see so much
of you lovingly fucked with
in prelude to amass wobble
Let It Down outtakes crown
visible heart shivers deep wattage
our small market jewelry
more passenger seat applying for
each fort worth doused
we chase to keep fiction current
in civil twilight it was
or wasn't without purpose
a weakening bluebird bitter
days captive to suffer my pretend
ways of clinging to the winning tragedy

—Jess Mynes
Wendell

Narragansett

The complete sentence narrates a satisfying process.
It closes and opens like a clam.
I take a knife to the sentence and start my evening at the raw bar.
It is hard work, and the sentences would prefer to be in the ocean.
I would rather be a patron of this establishment.
Someone over my shoulder
Would rather know I am going to continue to put up with his stuff.
It is not a wide receiver, his stuff. It is his development,
Which is gradual. It involves testing me. Sometimes
These tests take the form of imperatives. Drive onto the boat!
The boat would rather be en route to Maine.
It is an ambitious ferry. My knife wishes to whittle patterns
Into the enormous picnic table. Art does not narrate.

—Jordan Davis
New York and Ohio

Contributors' Notes

John Godfrey was born in Massena, N.Y. in 1945. He has lived in the East Village since the '60s. He is the author of ten poetry collections, and he recently retired as an RN specializing in HIV/AIDS in Brooklyn.

Jordan Davis is Poetry Editor of *The Nation*. He divides his time between New York and southeastern Ohio. *Narrganset* was originally published in *The Nation*. John Godfrey and Davis will be reading at *all small caps* in Wendell at Deja Brew on Monday evening.

Jess Mynes, author of *Sky Brightly Picked*, editor of *Fewer and Further Press*, and curator of the *all small caps* reading series at Deja Brew in Wendell. Betsy Wheeler will be reading from *Loud Dreaming in a Quiet Room* at the opening reception for Word = Object at Loot in Turners Falls on Friday, April 27th at 8 p.m., as will Jess Mynes. She is the editor and publisher of Pilot Books. *The Biography of Chistopher Sholes* was originally published by *Bat City Review*

the poetry page

It is difficult to get the news from poems
yet men die miserably every day for lack of
what is found there.

—William Carlos Williams

After Chrysalis
Irritability a deviate prayer
comes with slapping of knees
to transport on rivers O Kalamazoo
O Red defined by your waters'
content of gunpowder, schism, and spoor
Dip and the sheen takes off with
your fingers, the Mother of Currents

The appointed temperature
dews up my chin, plunges
forward to rest in sand

Coughs a lot lately, fouled
Now seeking its own level
of paint on the walls for
high waters to study
The pain becomes ordinary
after chrysalis

No apparition she really passes
the window charmed with watermarks
Scarf dipping fingerprint in puddles
Reading omens as it dawns on you

Stay dry but suffocate, hand
on sash reflected behind you
Another hand reaches for
and pulls on a lip like
a city girl back in the City
hundreds of minutes ago

—John Godfrey
New York City

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NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Candidates Night

BY DAVID DETMOLD – Only three candidates showed up, and one of them was already seated at the table for the selectboard meeting as a current member of the board. Still, the candidates' statements ahead of Leverett's unique floor-of-town-meeting nomination proceedings this Saturday were thoughtful, and pointed to the pitfalls and promise facing local government in the years ahead.

"The school is at a crossroads," said Sarah Dolven, who is running for one of four seats on that committee that are up for

election on Saturday.

Kip Fonsh is running again, for a three year seat, but current chair Farshid Hajir is stepping down mid-term, after five years on the school committee, citing increased work responsibilities. Pam Stone is not running again.

"We're looking for three new teachers," said Dolven (who happens to married to an LES teacher), "and we have all these edicts coming down from the state... Now that we've all started working on unfunded mandates, I'd like to communicate to the Leverett community

about why costs are going up when enrolment is going down."

Dolven said she had not yet made up her mind on the issue of whether Leverett Elementary should continue to accept school choice students from other districts.

"The crux of the problem for me, I'm philosophically opposed to school choice and the way it's structured. However, at this point it feels like we're dependent on school choice to meet our budgetary needs. It's a bind."

Richard Nathhorst, who has been advising the planning board through the process of

drafting and holding hearings on a new cell tower bylaw, has now decided to run for an open seat on the planning board.

"We were very successful coming up with a bylaw that protects the environment and allows cell phone towers to be done in a technically feasible manner. I have experience with facilities planning at UMass for 30 years. I have some technical expertise.

"I'm interested in the planning board planning for sustainable growth in town. As someone who grew up in Westford, and seen the changes there... if you want to see what is facing Leverett, take a trip down Route

2 East. As you travel east, you travel forward in time, and when you hit 495 in Westford, you see the results of planning too late.

"Leverett is going to grow. But we can do it in a sustainable way that will be respectful of the environment and the character of the town. We can keep Leverett a great place to live."

Selectboard chair Rich Brazeau observed, "There has been a tremendous restraint on development in town due to the soils and wetlands, but there has been a drastic improvement in septic system technology," which could make formerly unbuildable lots suddenly devel-

see LEVERETT pg 14

WENDELL from page 7

inspector and as a construction supervisor. In Wendell, the building inspector has the responsibility of acting as a resource for owner builders; Keller said a building inspector should have regular office hours in the town office building.

Building inspector Phil Delorey has held regular office hours, but he has said holding office hours in Wendell just meant he waited in the town office building for someone to show up. So after many evenings alone in the office, he listed his home telephone and made himself available by appointment.

A complaint was made about Andy Hamilton having too many unregistered vehicles on his property. One month ago the selectboard sent Hamilton a letter informing him that he is required to clean up those vehicles: he gave no written response. On April 11th, Aldrich had another letter prepared informing him of the bylaw that authorized a \$25 per day per vehicle fine for each unregistered vehicle beyond the two per property allowed by bylaw. Keller reported back on April 12th that all the vehicles on Hamilton's property appeared to be gone, except for one school bus.

Representing the Valley Land Trust, Stephen Broll met the selectboard to discuss the property line between the town office building lot and the house and lot east and below it on New Salem Road, owned by the land trust. A May 1993 survey showed discrepancies between the lines that

have been used by abutters and the lines described in an 1839 deed. Abutters on all sides of the land trust property have agreed to continue using the property lines that have been assumed for 100 years; the selectboard agreed to follow those lines as well.

After months of sending letters back and forth, the selectboard agreed with Bob Schulman on a six-year plan for keeping the tree line between his house and the library maintained, to keep unwanted trees from growing so tall that cutting them out becomes a problem.

On Tuesday, April 24th, three prisoners from the Franklin County jail came and

installed house numbers by the driveways of residences that did not have numbers, under the guidance of firefighter Alia Kusmaul and Ted Lewis. Keller mounted the numbers on metal plates. Aldrich said the prisoners worked hard and with good will.

Union 28 superintendent Joan Wickman sent the selectboard a letter informing them of an error in the listing of Swift River students; the accurate count shows more students coming from Wendell, and fewer from New Salem. Assessments to the towns will be adjusted accordingly.

Wendell will receive \$191,905 in Chapter 90 funds for road work in FY'13. The

Franklin Regional Council of Governments will contract for highway materials on behalf of the town, to get a volume discount.

The Leverett selectboard has been contending with the state about unfunded mandates, and in some instances has been able to get the state to agree to fund those

mandates. Pooser said he was keeping a list of unfunded mandates in Wendell, and he planned to get in touch with the Leverett town administrator, Marjorie McGinnis, to discuss cooperation in efforts to get the state to pay for mandates imposed upon the town.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Brush Fire; Hit & Run; Missing Person

Tuesday, 4/17
10:25 p.m. Attempted breaking and entering on East Main Street. Advised of options.

Wednesday, 4/18
12:54 p.m. Trespassing at Railroad Salvage building on Power Street. Unfounded.

3:35 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Second Street. Advised of options.

3:46 p.m. Brush fire on Dry Hill Road. Referred to other agency.

4:26 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Second Street. Advised of options.

4:56 p.m. General disturbance at Subway on Avenue A. Investigated.

6:26 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Bridge Street. Advised of options.

Thursday, 4/19
12:12 p.m. Brush fire on Turners Falls Road. Services rendered.

3:45 p.m. Hit and run accident on I Street. Investigated.

9:13 p.m. Arrest of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], for subsequent offense of disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, assault and battery on a police officer, resisting arrest, and possession of a Class B drug on Avenue A.

11:31 p.m. Neighbor disturbance on Fourth Street. Advised of options.

Friday, 4/20
3:04 a.m. Arrest of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] for failure to stop at a stop sign and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle on Turnpike Road.

10:32 a.m. Fight at Turnpike Road and Montague City Road. Area search negative.

3:18 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Avenue A. Advised of options.

5:40 p.m. Assault on Montague Avenue in Lake Pleasant. Report taken.

Saturday, 4/21
1:31 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Montague City Road. Services rendered.

3:17 p.m. Unpermitted fire behind the

Old Rod Shop on Rod Shop Road. Referred to other agency.

5:59 p.m. Burglary, breaking and entering on Eighth Avenue in Lake Pleasant. Services rendered.

7:52 p.m. Trespassing on South High Street. Advised of options.

Sunday, 4/22
4:12 p.m. Fight on L Street, near Third Street. Services rendered.

Monday, 4/23
9:15 a.m. Restraining order violation on Third Street. Referred to an officer.

10:20 a.m. Missing person on Eighth Street. Report taken.

2:30 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Avenue A. Services rendered.

3:49 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Keith Street. Peace restored.

10:59 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Avenue A. Services rendered.

Tuesday, 4/24
5:35 a.m. Disorderly conduct at Avenue A and Seventh Street. Peace restored.

ERVING from page 6

Sharp informed the board that the engineering firm Tighe & Bond will have a draft bid document for the Usher Plant demolition and cleanup for the town before the annual town meeting on May 9th. Tighe & Bond also proposed to prepare the wastewater plant staffing plan submittals for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for \$1,050.

Police chief Chris Blair was appointed as the Erving representative to the regional dog kennel oversight committee, and sergeant Corey Green was appointed as the alternate.

The board closed the public meeting after 8:30 p.m. and went into executive session to discuss employee contractual issues.

from TOWER page 3

mation out there for the people" before the bylaw change is voted on. He believes the town has a duty to bring the residents the information they will need to vote on the issue.

Nancy Emond joined in saying she has seen many more children with cancer than in her own generation and wonders why. She also said, when reading health studies, it is important to "follow the money to find out where the information is coming from."

At the end of the evening, the planning board voted to bring the bylaw change to town meeting on Saturday as planned. The planning board has worked on the cell tower bylaw for a year and has held three public hearings. The bylaw change will need a two thirds majority vote at town meeting on April 28th to be approved.



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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI
LEONIA, NJ -

(This is the second of three columns on meditation.)

Meditation is classified as a mind-body practice. It is used to move the focus of your attention away from the noise of the mind to the inner self where there is silence and peace.

The primary benefits of meditation are immediate relaxation and a better understanding of

The Word on Meditation's Health Benefits - Pt. 2

how your body, mind and spirit work together so you can handle stressful situations. Over time, you will gain greater peace for yourself, and those around you.

Meditation has been practiced for thousands of years. Most meditation originated in ancient spiritual traditions. There are many types of meditation. These include:

Zazen. Zen Buddhist meditation, which has been practiced for 2,500 years. Zazen is more than meditation, though; it is the study of the self. It is an intense spiritual practice that can't be summarized in a few words. In this form of meditation, you sit still and concentrate on your breathing and being in the moment.

Kinhin. Another form of Zen

meditation practiced while walking. Attention is directed at the feet while stepping slowly.

Transcendental meditation. By repeating a sound (mantra) to yourself, you can move your focus from your mind to the sound. This form of meditation comes from the Hindu traditions.

Chanting. Voiced repetitive sounds work like mantras.

Guided meditation. In this method of meditation you form mental images that you find relaxing, such as sunbathing at the beach.

Qi gong. Qi gong (CHEE-gung) is part of traditional Chinese medicine. This practice generally combines meditation, relaxation, physical movement and breathing exercises to restore

and maintain balance.

Tai chi. Tai chi (TIE-chee) is a form of Chinese martial arts. When you practice Tai chi, you assume a variety of postures in a slow, graceful manner while practicing deep breathing.

Yoga. In yoga, you use postures and controlled breathing exercises to calm the mind and develop a more flexible body.

How long to meditate?

As long as you like. I find that 15 minutes twice a day has remarkable benefits. During the day I feel more at ease. It takes a lot to get me angry. I worry much less, especially about trivia. I think more clearly and find solutions to problems more easily.

The results of meditation seem magical, but there's no magic

involved. When you get deeply into meditating, you will rediscover the person you've always been, the one without all the baggage of responsibilities, life roles, grievances, disappointments, fears.

Researchers have found that meditation makes changes in the body. In one area of research, scientists are attempting to determine whether meditation changes brain function. Some types of meditation might work by affecting the involuntary nervous system that controls heartbeat, sweating, breathing, and digestion.

Meditation is considered to be safe for healthy people. There have been rare reports that meditation might cause or worsen symptoms in people with psychiatric problems. If you want to try meditation, you should consult a physician to discuss it.

FAREWELL from page 1
providing vital support for his family in the depths of the Great Depression.

Allan reminisced about his CCC days in a four part series published in the *Montague Reporter*, where he recalled climbing tall trees using spiked boots, with a tin pail of creosote strapped to his belt, wielding a paintbrush against the devastation caused by gypsy moths.

He recalled hitchhiking back East to visit family in these words: "Bummed to Boston. Took 14½ hours, including sleeping in the basement of an old abandoned schoolhouse. I vowed if I ever had a car I would pick up people who were bumming. I did for many years. What a shame that I am afraid to now, in 2003."

He recalled his rivalry with camp leader Phil Desbien, who put him on KP for raising a ruckus in the barracks one night, and made him wash the mess hall floor. In return, Allan shortsheets Desbien's bunk on more than one occasion; the two became

lifelong friends, as Desbien made his home on South Prospect Street in Millers Falls.

Allan recalled the beauty of the country, saying, "Perhaps because I'm a city boy, I never got tired of seeing the hills. Today the snow makes them look like clouds."

And of course, Allan recalled meeting his wife to be, as he bounced a tennis ball down Ferry Road in Turners one day, walking from the camp. "She was coming up the hill. I dropped the ball. She caught it and gave it to me." It was love at first sight, and that love never wavered.

At the overflowing funeral service on Monday, Father Stan Aksamit said, "Allan Adie found a way of shortening the distance between his head and his heart. A lot of us have good intentions, or notice good things to be done. Often, at the end of the day, I find there were a lot of things I would like to have done that I didn't do. Allan, as soon as he saw a need, responded to it.

"For 13 years, every Monday

morning, he led a prayer service at Poets Seat Nursing Home, and gave out communion, right up until the end. There were lonely people there, and when he saw a need he responded to it, no matter what."

Father Aksamit remembered how Allan wrote him a formal letter a few months ago saying he could no longer serve at the altar, due to his health. "But the next thing I knew, he was right back with us," Allan served at "all our funerals, and Saturday 4 o'clock mass," Aksamit said. "He was our oldest altar server."

Allan took a personal interest in the people he met, whatever their age. Aksamit recalled Allan writing encouraging notes to a young student athlete who had been sidelined by injury, and often asking the parish for small checks to buy birthday gifts for elders at the senior center.

Senior center director Roberta Potter called Allan Adie, "a treasure. He was our previous president of the Friends of the Senior Center, and an active participant

in almost everything we did. He was our unofficial historian, our resident cheerleader, and the most passionate promoter of the senior center."

Potter recalled how Allan was frequently heard to repeat, in a staccato manner all his own, the phrase, "Good, Good, Good!" cheering on any constructive activity. "He was always delighted about something. He always told people when they had done a good job."

He was also quick to send letters to the editor when some bureaucrat had done what he considered something less than a good job, as when he skewered the rule makers in Boston who determined seniors, who often have small appetites, could not take leftovers home from their meals at the senior center. To a boy who came up the hard way as the youngest of five in South Boston, wasting food was a crime and a shame.

After he got out of the CCC, Allan worked as a custodian at the Mount Hermon School in

Gill, then spent 29 years at the Millers Falls Tool Company as a filer of auger bits, before taking a position as an expeditor for deliveries at the Sandri Oil in Greenfield, where he retired in 1982. As a member of the town historical commission, he worked to make the collection of town memorabilia open to the public. He wrote the second volume of the *History of Gill*. And helped to shape it.

When he finally felt his health would not allow him to deliver groceries collected at the parish to Head Start and Montague Catholic Social Ministries last year, the parish advertised for someone to take over the job. Father Aksamit said at that time, "It will be hard to replace Allan in this task, but it has to be done."

He could very well have shortened that sentence. It will be hard, indeed not possible, to replace Allan, in any of his roles. We are all richer for having known him, and our community is better for his years of caring service.



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Ferry Meadow Farm - part XXXVII

Turners Falls 2017

BY ELOISE MICHAEL - By midnight I can't work anymore. My hands have blisters, and my arms are sore. I decide to go for a walk along the fields by the river.

The night is warm and still. Later, I read a book Marissa lent me by a small light in a corner of the dining room. I feel like I am the only person awake in the world.

My house in Turners Falls seems lonelier, though, and I dread lying down on Marissa's floor. I spend my workday in front of the computer day-dreaming about Ferry Meadow and, especially, about Dave. I wonder whether he will come to work with me again this

evening. Of course, I tell myself, he would rather have time off from working, time to spend with his friends.

After work I go out running, have a shower, then dinner. It's only 7:00, but I am wondering whether I can go to bed now. Then I'll be at Ferry Meadow.

I decide to wait until 8:00, but at 7:45 I am already in my pajamas and in bed with a book. It's quite light outside. I tell myself I am being silly, but still turn off the light at 7:58, hoping that I will fall asleep quickly. While I wait for sleep, I day-dream some more about the farm. And Dave.

And then I am there. I jump up from the floor and head

downstairs.

Leah meets me. "Hungry?" she asks, after saying hello.

"Yeah," I say, "thanks."

"We have some food for you," Leah tells me, "outside."

I follow her out onto the deck, which at first seems empty. Then I notice three people sitting in the shadow against the edge of the house. I follow Leah's cue and head over to them. Then before I can make out who any of them are, I recognize Jason's voice. "Hey, Resie," he says, just above a whisper.

"Jay?"

"Yeah, it's me," he says, hopping up to hug me.

With his arms around me I feel safer than I have in days and surprise myself by almost starting to cry. I don't let go

until he does. "Resa, I'm sorry," he says.

I say, "I didn't have to do this. It was my choice."

"I just thought it would all go differently somehow," he says. "Now I realize that we should have hidden you sooner."

"It would have been suspicious if I had disappeared right away after the strike."

"Well, we should have hidden the doppelganger or gotten rid of it," he says.

It bothers me that he acts like he can decide whether I get rid of the doppelganger. "Jay," I say, "I can't live in two different places. It just doesn't work that way."

"Then we should get rid of the doppelganger," he says. Dave hands me a bowl of oatmeal. The other person on the deck is Marissa.

"Well, actually I already decided to do that," I say, hop-

ing it's clear that this is my decision.

"So you need to get to Philadelphia?"

"One body does. The one in my house will go," I say firmly.

"Will you go back to living in your house?" Leah asks. "When there is only one of you?"

"Yeah, of course," I say.

"I'm not so sure," Jason says, still acting like he is in charge of my life. "I think Theresa should stay here or else," he turns to look at me, "you could go with me to Europe."

"Jay, I'm not going to Europe!" I say, surprising everyone, including myself, with my vehemence.

"OK," he says. "That's fine." He looks a little hurt, which makes me feel bad.

- Continued Next Issue

LEVERETT from page 12

developable.

Nathhorst said the planning board could play a crucial role in preserving wildlife corridors, wetlands, and hiking trails from encroachment by development, "through the careful consideration of plans that come before the board."

Though she is in the running for another three year term on the selectboard, Julie Shively did not make a formal speech, other than to say, "It's amazing how much is done for so little [by elected officials and volunteer boards] in this town. There is no graft here."

Shively also said she hoped her husband, Dan Bennett, would not vote against her on town meeting day.

Brazeau said if Bennett stood up to oppose her candidacy, as he had half-jokingly threatened to do at an earlier selectboard meeting, it might indeed sway more people to vote for her.

In other news, the select-

board approved a request by police chief Gary Billings to hire former Ashfield police chief Gary Sibilio to work as a part time officer on the Leverett force.

Billings also said that police sergeant Tim Batchelder is recovering from an unspecified medical condition, apparently brought on by a reaction to a medical procedure or vaccine administered when he was called up recently by the Air National Guard. Batchelder was flown back to Walter Reed Medical Center after being deployed in the vicinity of Southeast Asia, where he was taken ill. Billings said Batchelder was recuperating at home now, but would not be allowed back to work on the Leverett force until he was released from duty by the Air National Guard.

Davenport Trucking won the low bid, for \$53,000, to install a new box culvert under Bull Hill Road, where periodic flooding of Long Plain Brook has been

an ongoing problem. Brazeau said that road would be closed for up to two weeks during construction, probably toward the end of June.

Jacob Phillips, of Long Plain Road, was appointed to the fire department, pending results of a physical exam.

Bill Sieruta came in to ask the selectboard why a flat fee for service could not be employed, instead of debt exclusion hike in property taxes, to pay the estimated \$3.6

million cost of installing last mile high speed internet fiber to town residences.

The selectboard said there was no difference between paying for installing a broadband network and paying for roads, schools, or other town services, and property taxes are the only mechanism the town has available to afford those costs. The board stressed that most residents would see a net benefit when the drop in monthly fees for telephone, satellite dish, or

DSL charges is factored into the same equation with the anticipated tax hike to install municipal fiber optic broadband lines.

The motion to borrow \$3.6 million to install a municipal broadband fiber optic network in town will be one among 28 articles considered at Saturday's annual town meeting, which starts at 9:00 a.m. at the elementary school.

Democracy is best experienced live and in person.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Illegal Dumping; Larceny

Wednesday, 4/18

3:30 p.m. Assisted Erving fire department with brush fire at Route 2 and Maple Avenue area.

Thursday, 4/19

5 p.m. Spoke with Lillian's Way resident regarding illegal dumping.

Friday, 4/20

8:20 a.m. Arrested [redacted]

for a straight warrant on Route 2.

1:45 p.m. Illegal dumping on Old State Road. Highway department advised.

4:45 p.m. Assisted Orange police. Stopped FRTA bus with possible stolen bicycle on the front. Orange police handled the issue.

Saturday, 4/21

8 a.m. Vandalism reported at Red Lantern Café on Lester

Street. Report taken.

9:30 a.m. Abandoned 911 call from High Street residence. Was child playing with phone.

1:45 p.m. Neighbor dispute at Highland Avenue. Spoke with same.

5:10 p.m. Arrested [redacted]

[redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, no inspection sticker, second offense of operating a motor

vehicle under the influence of liquor, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, open container violation, and marked lanes violations on Route 63 Northfield Road.

Sunday, 4/22

3:15 p.m. Larceny from East Prospect Street residence. Report taken.

Monday, 4/23

6:30 p.m. Report of something goes pile on Northfield Road. No description given.

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JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Introduction to Vernal Pools*, 1 to 2:15 p.m.

Montague Grange: *Quebecois jam session*, a convergence of fiddlers to play, share, swap, listen to Quebecois tunes. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Allysen Callery* with special guest Oakes & Smith, 7:30 p.m.

Montague Bookmill: *Prairie Empire*, 8 p.m.

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Samirah Evans*, 8 p.m.



Pamela Means plays at Mocha Maya's Friday, May 4th at 8 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Mark Manley Band*, 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Dedicated to Delilah*, 9 p.m. to midnight.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29th
Gill-Montague Senior Center, Turners Falls: Local writers read from *As You Write It II*, 1 p.m. Featuring local writers Rosalie Bolton, Estelle Cade, Patricia Carlisle, Lillian Fiske, Fran Hemond, Robin Panagakos, and Joseph Parzych.

Literacy Project, Greenfield: Readings from *Edite Cunha* and *Emily Goodwin* with photographs from *Lindy Whiton's* exhibit, *Grounded in Magic*. 3 to 5 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Sunday locals, *The Spring-fed Band & Grainne Buchanan*, 6 p.m. Free.

Montague Bookmill: *Home Body and Jeremy Dubs* present *Speak!* 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Le Chêile*, an Irish Session, 8 to 10 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 30th
Deja Brew, Wendell: *All Small Caps*, a night of spoken word, season finale, featuring Jordin Davis and John Godfrey, 7 to 10 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Dada Dino's Open Mic*, 8 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2nd
Leverett Library: *Mira Bartok*, author

of *The Memory Palace*, will read & discuss her book, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 3rd
Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Fall Town String Band*, 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Side Street Band*, 8 - 10 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 4th
Arts Block, Greenfield: *Amy Black & Erin Harpe*, 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Pamela Means*, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Equalites*, 9:30 - 11:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Reprobates*, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5th
4H Forest Parking lot near Leverett Town Hall: 8-10 AM. *Birds and Wildflowers in East Leverett*. Join Phil Crafts & Dan Williams as we look for migrating birds & spring wildflowers in the diverse habitats along Doolittle Brook. Meet at the 4-H Forest parking lot (about a half-mile from Town Hall on Shutesbury Road).

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Artist Reception: Heather M. Craig*, 1 - 3 p.m.

French King Entertainment Center, Erving: *Turners Falls Sports Booster Club's 9th Annual Fundraising Event Presents A Comedy ESP/Hypnosis Show!* Starring Jim Spinnato, pasta, DJ dancing, raffles, doors open at 6 p.m. Show starts at 9 p.m.

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Trine Cheile*, 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Valley Idol auditions*, round one, 7 p.m.

Montague Grange: Old-time square dance with caller Bob Livingston & live music by Run Mountain, 7 p.m.

Wendell Town Hall: Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse presents *Zydeco Connection*, 7:30 p.m.

Second Congregational Church, Greenfield: GAN-e-meed Theatre Project's New England tour of *Two-Headed*, 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Peachy's*, 9 p.m.

Memorial Hall Theater
POTHOLE PICTURES

Friday, April 27th
Saturday, April 28th
7:30 p.m.

The Third Man, Directed by Orson Welles, 1949, B&W, 104 min.

Music 1/2 hour before movie:
Fri. Daniel Hales and the Frost Heaves
Sat. Jason Bourgeois

51 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls 625-2896

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Cottonwood Country*, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 6th
Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Carnival of Hermaphrodites*, gallery opening for luke buckham & vex valkyrie, featuring songs & improv soundscapes with local tuba star kevin smith & special guests. 6 p.m.

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FRI 4/27 9:30pm \$3
The Diamond Stones
Hortonia (rock/jam)

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show cancelled
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SUN 4/29 6pm FREE
SUNDAY LOCALS (folk/etc!):
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The Night Kitchen in Montague Center is among the many fine dining establishments in the area serving local foods

LOCAL from page 8

sophisticated décor, a tiny, beautiful bar, and a statement on their menu about the importance of fresh local ingredients. This commitment is not followed with a list of local farms supplying the food, nor are the local items listed on the menu, which doesn't mean they are not being used. Some chefs are so accustomed to using locally sourced ingredients they assume everyone knows. One can always ask, but I'd like to see all the restaurants listing the local farms they buy from. It's a way of showing gratitude to the farmers who work very hard in all kinds

of weather to feed us. Ristorante Di Paolo also has a Wednesday night special with reduced rates, even on the wine. Since its opening DiPaolo has nurtured the local community in countless ways, from hosting a special meal and creating a pumpkin Martini in honor of the fall Pumpkin Fest to joining with other area restaurants for a soup and game night benefit.

Déjà Brew in Wendell serves local beer along with organic crusted pizza, and the Leverett Village Coop has a fine selection of prepared food using seasonal local ingredients. Soup is a specialty and the daily selection is

posted on Facebook. (Speaking of Facebook, if you friend Becky George, who works for the Chamber of Commerce in Greenfield, you will learn a lot about local restaurants along with up to date arts offerings throughout Franklin County.)

Most of these establishments strive for local and organic, but if the choice must be made between the two, local wins. That means you may not find organic strawberries from California on the menu in January, but you might have Indian pudding instead, flavored with maple syrup. Yum.



RADIUM from page 1

touted it as the scientific miracle that would cure cancer.

The U.S. Radium Corporation employed thousands of young women in New Jersey who were thrilled to be part of the war effort at home, and to earn a good living to support their families.

The women painted the dials by hand and considered themselves artists. In order to keep the end of their paintbrushes sharp, they would put the brushes, with the toxic paint, in their lips, a practice encouraged by the company.

When the women began to get ill and die from radiation poisoning, a few of the workers brought a lawsuit against U.S. Radium. The women's hard-won, heart-wrenching victory was instrumental in beginning an overhaul of American industrial safety laws.

In ACT's production of *Radium Girls*, the cast of over 25 actors holds you on the edge of your seat as the powerful drama unfolds. Brilliant direction by Robert Freedman assures the pace and energy of the actors, and the story keeps the audience absorbed, eagerly anticipating the next scene.

A tightly written script by D.W. Gregory tells the story like a good journalist, stating the facts in chronological order and anticipating questions with logical exposition. He also tells it like a good playwright, with compelling, humanized characters all of whose lives are touched by the unfurling events, devastation, and bittersweet victory.

What did the corporation know and when? Who was in whose pocket? What is more important: human lives, or investor profit? Scientists, government, and business commingle to create, purchase, and promote this amazing new product, but the lines of patriotism, science, humanitarianism, public image, and corporate greed swirl into a devastating predicament of the utmost moral dilemma.

One of the "radium girls", as the press came to call them, Grace Fryer, wholeheartedly portrayed by Jen Campbell, leads the fight despite little support from her financially and emotionally drained mother (Louise Krieger), and earnest but unrealistic fiancée (Mat Bussler). Grace does garner the encouragement and assistance of plucky advocate Katherine Wiley (Dee Waterman)

lawyer (Mark Hildreth) willing to work on contingency.

Arena Civic Theatre has amassed a lot of new talent in this ensemble production, and the actors turn in riveting performances.

Mat Bussler as Tom, Grace's fiancée, plays the ever-hopeful man in love with a dying woman. Bussler's acting style is direct and present — (and he plays a mean cowboy as well!) Bussler teaches acting at the Drama Studio in Springfield and has as much talent as credits to his name.

Jim Loble as Arthur Roeder, president of the corporation, actively and accurately portrays a man in conflict with his head and his heart. Loble holds an MFA in acting from UW-Madison. His performance alone is worth the ticket price. Julie Robbins as Roeder's wife, Diane, gives a strong performance as a woman torn between her husband's career, her personal mores, and her place in society.

Francis Hauert as the company's attorney Edward Markley is the character you love to hate. Paid to keep U.S. Radium out of hot water, his gracious-yet-slick portrayal fostered some internal boos and hisses along with applause for his convincing portrayal.

There are so many more characters in this show who play their parts with aplomb: Marley Toben as another "radium girl" who pushes for reform; John Darrow as the German scientist who invented the luminous paint, John Meisner as the passive-aggres-

sive dentist who wants his due; Jennifer Hassell Coliskey who plays Dr. Marie Curie; and Lynn Vesely, as the gal-on-the-go reporter who'll stop at nothing to get her news story.

To flip through the bios of the cast and production staff in the *Radium Girls* program is to get a small glimpse into Arena Civic Theatre's professional grade and pride of place in Franklin County arts. In its 42nd season, ACT remains the local leader in entertaining, thought-provoking theater.

A sparse, well-appointed set design, also by Robert Freedman, ensures quick changes from scene to scene: from factory, to living rooms, to courtroom. Karen Hinds gives us masterful period costuming that always adds, never detracts. Lighting designer Rachel Roy provides dramatic casting and shadow to support and enhance the action. Sound design by Ivan Park evokes emotion with interlude music of the era, such as "Ain't She Sweet", "Baby Face", "Five-Foot-Two, Eyes of Blue", and "Blue Skies", underscoring the

discrepancy between how women were viewed and the horrible, harsh reality of the substandard working conditions many factory workers faced.

Radium Girls reminds us that society must remain vigilant in its fight for what is right against corporate greed.

Gripping scenes, intriguing characters, and inspiring performances await you this weekend at the Shea. You will appreciate the journey, learn a little history, and your humanity will be touched by this topical and important work.

Radium Girls continues this weekend on Friday, April 27th, and Saturday, April 28th, at 8:00 p.m.; there is a Sunday matinee April 29th, at 2:00 p.m. Reservations can be made by calling The Shea Theatre Box Office at 413-863-2281, ext. 2, or online at www.arenacivictheatre.org; tickets can be purchased at the World Eye Bookstore in Greenfield or the Jones Library in Amherst. The Shea Theatre is located at 71 Avenue A in Turners Falls. Enjoy the show!

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