

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 12 – NO. 9

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

DECEMBER 5, 2013

Glass Is Now In Session

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – “I challenge anyone to beat the numbers!” Gabriel LaFleur is back, for a couple days, from a craft show in New York. He gathers a dollop of molten glass on the end of his blowpipe, rolls it briefly on a steel table called a “marver” to shape it, and thrusts it into a second furnace.

The numbers aren’t in the glass. He is talking about the overhead. “It’s so light!,” agrees his fellow collective member, Damon Carter. The two are working in a small studio space and showroom in River Station, the former Chick’s Garage building at 149 Third Street.

Seven months ago, Carter’s partner, Diana Pedrosa, talked with Rich Becker, who was planning to buy the building, about his vision for the space. Carter called LaFleur, who talked with his own wife T.L.

Tran, and the two couples came up with the idea for a common venture, Evoke Liquid Glass Collective, a “business model based on skillshare philosophy.” Evoke is now the first, and anchor, tenant in River Station. Evoke’s official launch comes in January, as Buckland resident LaFleur is still finishing out a year of previously booked shows. He has been crafting colorful, decorative vessels and ornaments for years from a base in Shelburne Falls, under the brand Angelic Glass.

For his part, Carter has “spent 25 years blowing glass for other people,” and, with that trade, “following the glass to where the jobs are,” and is excited about hashing out a more collaborative model at the new space in Turners, where he and Pedrosa have settled.

“We’re families coming together the old-fashioned way,” Carter

see **EVOKE** page A3

Greenfield Cooperative Bank Grows A Branch On The Avenue



The last ribbon separating the public from the bank is severed.

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS – On November 26, at 8:30 a.m., the Greenfield Cooperative Bank opened its doors at 176 Avenue A. At the opening ceremony, a group of bank executives, two members of the Montague selectboard, Mike Nelson and Chris Boutwell, and a number of other invited guests stood outside in the bitterly cold morning to witness the ribbon cutting that marked the official opening of the bank for business.

“We’re absolutely delighted to be in Turners Falls,” said bank president Michael Tucker. “It’s a place we’ve been looking to get into for a while.”

Tucker said that despite their desire to come to Turners, it was not until Bank of America moved out of town two years ago that the

right space became available. “It came up for a sealed bid auction in 2012,” said Tucker, “and we managed to get it.”

The bank hired D.A. Sullivan & Sons, a large construction firm based in Northampton, to oversee the exterior and interior renovation of the old bank building.

According to the D.A. Sullivan website, the overall project cost was \$592,000. Tucker said that the rehabilitation was quite extensive: “They pulled out the old oil heating systems and installed new high energy efficient gas furnaces. We insulated everywhere we could, and put in all new wiring.”

In addition to the major system improvements, Sullivan also subdivided the old bank building into two separate spaces, put in new furnishings and finishes in the bank section, and completely

see **BANK** page A4

GILL SELECTBOARD Smoke Test Fails To Flush Out A Suspect In Sewer Inflow

By DAVID DETMOLD – The mystery of how unbilled water is becoming billed sewage – the main culprit behind steadily rising sewer rates in the small Riverside sewer system – deepened last month when a system wide smoke test failed to turn up major suspects.

A follow-up camera inspection of a section of the sewer between Oak and Walnut Streets showed “a sewer line in really good shape,” according to administrative assistant Ray Purinton, who observed the day-long smoke test in its entirety.

So how, then, is excess water – often two or two and half times more water than the 113 sewer users in Riverside are paying for at their meters – finding its way into the sewer pipes and across Barton Cove to Montague, which charges the Riverside district for its treatment?

Ann Banash, consulting with a sewer district authority at her vacation home in Florida, told her colleagues on the selectboard via speaker phone that a former water commissioner said more than 90% of the Riverside meters are new, and readings taken from the home meters in Riverside agree, “within 5% or 6%,” with the amount of billable

see **GILL** page A7

Littleton Halts Championship Run, But TFHS Football Retains Bragging Rights

By MATT ROBINSON

WESTFIELD – The Cinderella season for the Turners Falls Football Indians came to a crashing halt on Saturday, November 23, as Littleton bested the Tribe 52 – 26. By the time the clock struck 12, the score was 32 to nothing and their magnificent carriage had turned back into a plain pumpkin.

All metaphors aside, the things which worked the whole year for the Indians, didn’t work against Littleton. The usual proficient running game for the Indians averaged only two yards per carry and Turners’ defense was unable to stop Littleton’s own running game.

For those of us who are Sunday morning quarterbacks, who pore over the stats and play the “what if?” game, there were a few woulda, coulda, shoulda moments but not enough.

To start with, Turners didn’t start with the ball and before you could blink, the score was 8 to nothing. And when Turners did get the ball, they failed to score and Littleton took the ball quickly into the end zone and Turners was down two touches.

Littleton ran the type of offense where several different ball carriers ran toward the QB, going different directions. The quarterback



Last Thursday’s rivalry game provided Turners a chance to end a great season on a high note.

would fake to one or more of these runners and if a tackler went after the wrong ball carrier, he would be taken out of the play completely. This resulted in several long gains for Littleton, and a long day for the Tribe.

Turners took over on their own 36, trailing 16 to 0. Blue managed to grind out a first down and forced their way into Littleton’s territory. But after a three-yard loss and a sack, Turners gave up the ball

and two plays later, Littleton scored again.

With the Tribe’s running game stalling, they had to go to the air. Knowing this, the Littleton defense had the luxury of deciding when to blitz and when to double-team the receivers. And although Malcolm Smith had a lot of pressure, and frequently threw into traffic, he threw for 286 yards and four touchdowns.

see **TEAM** page A5

Hickman Appointed Permanent Montague Libraries Director

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO and PATRICIA PRUITT

MONTAGUE – The Montague Libraries have a permanent director – again. At their Monday night meeting on December 2, the Library Trustees unanimously voted to offer the job to Linda Hickman, the current interim director and children’s librarian for almost 18 years.

Hickman had originally applied for the position vacated when Susan SanSoucie retired, but the Library Trustees voted instead to name David Payne, from Philadelphia, as director. But after one day on the job, Payne decided it wasn’t the right fit for him, and on November 2 he abruptly departed. Hickman, who was the runner-up for the directorship, was then named interim director.

The Board of Library Trustees president Karen Latka described the Trustees as “hopeful again” after their vote on Monday. Hickman has done double duty holding down much of her usual position as children’s librarian while taking on the duties of library director. Latka said the Trustees have been impressed all along with her commitment to the community and to her position as children’s librarian. As Latka

expressed it, “Linda has really stepped up to the plate and has high standards for herself and the library. The trustees needed time to reflect on the options before them in light of Payne’s resignation.”

In January they will meet again and start the process of hiring a children’s librarian. The winter schedule of programs for children is in place, and until a new children’s librarian is hired, Hickman will carry out essential duties for both positions.

Hickman said she was very pleased with the Trustees’ decision: “I’m really looking forward to the challenge. When I originally applied, I was definitely interested in the position. But most of all I wanted what was best for the library and the town.”

She said she was not disappointed when the Trustees originally decided on Payne. “They were looking for someone with considerable technical skills, and [Payne] had those.”

But upgrading the techni-

cal end of library services is among the top items on Hickman’s agenda. Hickman said that even before she had become the interim director she had applied for a \$90,000 Community Innovation Challenge Grant which will be shared with The Gill-Montague Senior Center and The Women’s Resource Center at Montague Catholic Social Ministries.

If the grant comes through in February, 2014, it will enable the libraries and their partners to buy iPads and laptop computers. The libraries will also purchase Kindle Fires.

see **HICKMAN** page A3



Linda Hickman, the new Montague Libraries Director, in the Carnegie Library Children’s Room, whose collections she helped to build.

The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

Editor in Chief
Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno

Layout
Pauline Miller
Christopher Carmody

Distribution Manager
Don Clegg

Technical Administration
About Face Computing

Patricia Pruitt, Associate Editor
Mike Jackson, Managing Editor
Suzette Snow-Cobb, A&E Editor

Editorial Assistants
Hugh Corr
Gloria Kegeles

Founded by
Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold
August, 2002

Raising the Minimum Wage Is Right, and Necessary

We were thrilled to learn the recent news that the Massachusetts Senate voted 32-7 for a bill (S 1925) to raise the minimum wage to \$11 by 2016. This was exactly the right move. We now urge the Massachusetts House to follow suit. The increase, if passed by the House, would be the first since 2008 and take effect on July 1.

The increase would give Massachusetts the highest minimum wage in the country. In September, California lawmakers approved a \$10 minimum wage, and last month New Jersey voters approved a raise to \$8.50.

We are aware that raising the minimum wage has its critics. Small business owners, in particular, have argued that they cannot afford to pay more than the current minimum wage of \$8 an hour.

A number of restaurant owners were also critical of the Senate's bill, which would raise the base wage of waiters who receive tips from \$2.63 an hour to \$5.50.

But we tend to agree with our able senator, Stan Rosenberg, who commented that small business needs to look at the bigger picture: "Putting more dollars back in the pockets of our residents will spur economic growth by increasing consumer spending and helping local businesses."

In other words, if those at the lower end of the wage scale have a little more cash in their wallets, they will be going out to eat a little more, buying a few more goods, even dropping a few more bucks to feed their families.

The bill is long overdue. The minimum wage of \$1.60 an hour in 1968, adjusted for inflation, would be worth \$10.72 in today's dollars.

But that doesn't even tell the whole story. In 1968 an average apartment cost \$130 a month; gas was 34 cents a gallon, a loaf of bread was 22 cents. In other words, two weeks of minimum wage work could pay for an apartment; you could pay for a loaf of bread with eight minutes of work.

In 2013 there isn't a single state in the country where it's possible to work 40 hours per week at minimum wage and afford a two-bedroom apartment at fair market rent. You have to work a half an hour to buy a loaf of bread.

The awful truth is that minimum wage workers were better off 45 years ago than they are in 2013. That's disgraceful.

We need an increase now more than ever. Since 2006 the poverty rate in Massachusetts has increased by 20 percent, and the child poverty rate has risen by 25 percent. Poverty results in negative health outcomes and lower academic achievement. In addition, the school dropout rate for low-income families is 4.5 times higher than for others.

What we have created in the United States over the last decade is an underclass where full-time workers cannot afford basic food and shelter.

According to the independent market research group IBISWorld, more than half of low-wage workers employed by the largest U.S. fast-food restaurants earn so little that they must rely on public assistance to get by.

The worst offender is McDonalds, which costs taxpayers \$1.2 billion in poverty benefits for its employees.

The average Walmart sales associate makes \$8.81 an hour, according to IBISWorld. That translates into \$15,576 a year if the associate works a full-time schedule of 34 hours a week.

But many associates don't work a straight 34-hour week. Many have less than full-time work schedules that don't allow them anywhere close to full-time status.

The 2013 poverty level for a family of three is \$19,530. So even working full time at Walmart doesn't lift you out of poverty, and Walmart even pays more than the minimum wage.

Like those employed in the fast food industry, most of those working for big-box retailers need public assistance, such as SNAP and other subsidies, just to get by. IBISWorld notes that just one Walmart Super Center costs taxpayers \$900,000 in government poverty benefits.

We can't legislate that the biggest businesses in America pay their workers a real living wage.

We can't cap CEO salaries. But we can attempt, by raising the minimum wage, to give the workers whom we all depend on to cook our burgers and fries, to ring up our cash register purchases, to stock the shelves, to unload the trucks, something approaching a poverty-level wage.

It is now up to the Massachusetts House to make this bill law. We strongly urge our local representatives to advocate and vote for the bill so overwhelmingly passed by the Senate.



SAWYER-LAUÇANNO ILLUSTRATION

Letters to the Editors

Correction on Town Cable Contract

Jeff Singleton's article in the Reporter regarding MCCI, the EDIC and the "Cumbie's" building ("Whither Cumbie's", MR Vol.12#07, Nov. 21, 2013, A1) contains an important error.

Singleton states: "On the other hand, Common Capital would certainly like to see a guaranteed revenue stream for the term of any loan. Currently, negotiations between MCCI and Comcast, the main local cable provider, for a new license have not been completed."

To clarify:

MCCI is not the negotiating entity with Comcast. The Montague Cable Advisory Committee (CAC) is. MCCI does not negotiate any cable provider contract for the Town of Montague.

Actually, as the committee name indicates, the CAC is an advisory committee that makes contract recommendations to the Board of Selectmen for their approval.

Only the selectboard has the power/authority to sign any cable contract.

The CAC does not anticipate

any other cable provider other than Comcast to enter the Montague market.

While many may confuse the term "cable contract" with any broadband service, that is not the use of the term by the CAC. For our purposes, "CABLE CONTRACT" refers solely to the provision of "cable television" services. Accordingly, the CAC does not negotiate for broadband services such as telephone and/or internet services.

The Montague TeleComm Committee, newly formed by the May 2013 town meeting, is investigating various "broadband" options for Montague. MCCI/MCTV operates on money derived solely from Comcast's "television revenue," a provision of the federal law governing cable (i.e. television) providers. Such revenue is specified in Comcast's contract with Montague.

Additionally, the town negotiates (via the CAC) for what is known as a Capital Grant, an amount of money made available from Comcast via the contract for the purchase of

"capital items" such as new camera equipment and other such items with which our local public access television station (i.e. MCTV) needs to function.

At this point in time, the CAC continues to investigate and acquire information, on behalf of all Montague residents, that is pertinent to our contract negotiations with Comcast.

As it stands, contract negotiations with Comcast are on-going; there is no specified date to conclude the negotiations.

Rest assured that the CAC will disseminate the specifics of the contract once it is finalized and approved by the BoS.

As the on-going negotiations are being held in Executive Session(s), neither I nor any member of the CAC is free to discuss any details of those negotiations.

For The CAC,
Garry Earles
Acting Co-Chair,
Montague Cable
Advisory Committee

"Project Unspeakable" Helps to Revive Lost Dreams

I was a member of the cast of Project Unspeakable in Leverett. Over 300 people came. Their attention and concern was electric, and the cast was electrified by it.

The subject matter was grim, the assassinations by members of the military--industrial--intelligence complex of the Kennedy brothers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, and with them, the epic struggles for world peace and social and economic justice that they led.

I come away from the experience of participating in this play with renewed determination and hope that we may revive the hopes and dreams of these leaders.

John F. Kennedy spoke these words in his "Peace Speech" at American University in 1963: "What kind of peace do I mean? What kind of peace do we seek? Not a Pax Americana enforced on the world by American weapons of

war. Not the peace of the grave or the security of the slave.

"I am talking about genuine peace, the kind of peace that makes life on earth worth living, the kind that enables men and nations to grow and to hope and to build a better life for their children... 'When a man's ways please the Lord', the Scriptures tell us, 'he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.'"

"And is not peace, in the last analysis, basically a matter of human rights: the right to live out our lives without fear of devastation, the right to breathe air as nature provided it; the right of future generations to a healthy existence?"

And Martin Luther King, from 1967: "I still have a dream...that we will be able to adjourn the councils of despair and bring new light into the dark chambers of pessimism. With this faith we will be able to

speed up the day when there will be peace on earth and good will toward men.

"It will be a glorious day, the morning stars will sing together, and the sons of God will shout for joy."

Jim Perkins
Leverett, MA

Thanks!

We need this paper. We hope people respond to your need.

The nuclear plant is closing! Reporting helped.

Our daughter lives a bit northwest of Tokyo – we know the danger.

So keep up the timely reporting!

Rita & Don LaPierre
Turners Falls

Published weekly on Thursdays.
Every other week in
July and August.
No paper last week of December.
PHONE (413) 863-8666
Please note new email addresses:
editor@montaguereporter.org
ads@montaguereporter.org
bills@montaguereporter.org
circulation@montaguereporter.org
events@montaguereporter.org
info@montaguereporter.org
poetry@montaguereporter.org
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org
Send address changes to:
The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is
Monday at **NOON**.

*This newspaper shall not be liable
for errors in advertisements, but
will print without charge that part
of the advertisement in which an
error occurred. The publishers re-
serve the right to refuse advertising
for any reason and to alter copy or
graphics to conform to standards of
the newspaper, such as they are.*

Annual Subscription Rate:
\$25/\$30/\$50, depending on address.
Call us or contact
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org
with any questions.

**WE WELCOME
YOUR LETTERS!**

Montague Reporter

177 Ave. A, TF, MA 01376
editor@montaguereporter.org

Sign Me Up!

\$20 { 10 months (37 issues) for our walking routes
8 months (31 issues) for our driving routes
5 months (18 issues) for mailed subscriptions

The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376
Name: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____



LOCAL BRIEFS

JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

All of us at *The Montague Reporter* wish a very happy retirement for **Nancy Holmes**, who has served as clerk and collector for the Turners Falls Water Department for the past 16 years. Welcome, too, to Sarah Tuttle, hired for the position from a pool (or reservoir?) of 54 applicants. Cheers to you both!

On a windy, and freezing cold Thanksgiving Day morning, **Franklin Tech Eagles** football senior Kyle Laffey ran wild on opposing defenses. Heading into the game, Laffey needed just 27 yards to break the school's career rushing record. He did so on the team's first possession with a final game tally of 111 yards and a pair of touchdowns. The Eagles went on to a 28-0 victory over Pioneer Valley Regional and finished with a season record of 8 victories and just 3 defeats.

There is a vacancy on the **Town of Gill's Finance Committee**. Residents of Gill who might be interested in serving on this committee should contact Lynda Hodsdon Mayo, Town Clerk, at 863-8103 or townclerk@gillmass.org. Mayo will put you in touch with John Zywna, Town Moderator, who will be making the appointment. To allow time for all residents to consider this opening, no appointment will be made until after December 14.

The Finance Committee acts

in an advisory role on all financial matters considered at Town Meeting. Most of its meetings occur in the late winter and spring months, providing review and input on the Town's budget for the next fiscal year.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church's Annual Christmas Bazaar, 2 Prospect Street, Turners Falls is Saturday, December 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hand knits, baked goods, gift items galore, raffles and much, more.

And just down around the corner and up the street, a **Polish Christmas Bazaar** will be held at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, located at 87 K Street in Turners Falls, on Saturday, December 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be Polish crafts and home-made foods, raffles, and more. For more information, contact Shirley at (413) 773-7202.

Back by popular demand: Spend a pleasurable morning at the Wendell Free Library on Saturday, December 7 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with Luc Bodin as he demonstrates **new paper folding and cutting techniques**. Create paper ornaments, spirals, snowflakes, birds, stars and even lampshades.

Basic materials will be supplied but bring your own sharp scissors if you can. If you have specialty paper you'd like to work with bring it along too. This program is intended for adults and teens, however

children assisted by adults are also welcome. This program is Free. No registration required.

Come to the Wendell Free Library on Saturday, December 7, for a **screening of 1932 cult classic White Zombie** at 7:30 p.m. This is another film in the monthly series of Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movies at the library, located in the center of Wendell. Free Admission.

The Montague Center Congregational Church, 4 North Street, is presenting an afternoon of **Christmas music** on Sunday, December 8, starting at 2 p.m. There will be a choral concert with adults and children, dulcimer, and guitar selections, to name a few. A carol sing and refreshments will follow. For more info call (413) 367-2061.

On Sunday, December 8, 2013, at 3 p.m., **"The Brick Church" Music Series at The First Church of Deerfield**, at 71 Old Main Street in Deerfield, will present Thomas Pousont, celebrating his 10th year as organist and Director of Music at The First Church. He will be performing a recital on its tracker organ playing music by Bach, Ligeti, Mendelssohn and Muffat.

This concert is a fund-raiser for the church, with a suggested donation of \$10 at the door. There will be a reception in the Caswell Library in the Administration Building at Deerfield Academy following the concert. For further information please call 774-2657 or 774-2573.

The **65th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights** will be commemorated on Sunday, December 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Second Congregational Church, Greenfield. The program will include compelling dialogue and reflections by Robert Perry, a civil rights attorney from Albany, New York, and Reverend Armand Proulx, from Greenfield, a co-founder of the worldwide Centering Prayer movement.

In 1948, at the time of the declaration, Dag Hammarskjold, then Secretary General of the UN, stated, "Unless there is a spiritual renaissance, the world will know no peace." In that spirit, this gathering is part of "a collective movement of hearts in the service of enlightened action," according to Mr. Perry.

Pat and Tex LaMountain will perform "A Song of Peace," and Russ Thomas will present an original song composed for this occasion, "Easy to Say, Hard to Do." Jeanne Douillard will accompany a prayer for peace with Native American drumming. At the conclusion of the program, light refreshments will be served.

Sponsors for the event are the Natural Path Meditation Center based in Sunderland, Massachusetts, and Second Congregational Church in Greenfield. The church is located at 16 Court Square, on the Town Common, and is handicapped accessible.

The **Leverett Elementary School Chorus** will hold two holiday performances. One is an evening performance on Tuesday, December 10 at 7 p.m. The second will be on Friday, December 20 at 2:10 p.m., and will be the December Assembly for the students. Interested members of the community are most welcome to attend.

The **Gill/Montague School Holiday Concerts** are coming up soon with the Great Falls Middle School and Turners Falls High School performing on Thursday, December 12, starting at 7 p.m. in the high school theater and the Montague Elementary School performing in the Sheffield Auditorium on Thursday, December 19, starting at 6:30 p.m..

Welcome Yule returns to the Shea Theater the weekend starting on Friday, December 13. Friday and Saturday performances start at 7:30 p.m., and the Sunday performance starts at 2 p.m. for ticket info visit www.theshea.org.

Wendell has tried both unofficially and officially to act on climate change by advancing **simpler at-home living**. On the official side, it's experiencing several hold-ups. One effort – Susan and Jonathan von Ranson's request to build themselves an apartment designed for non-electrical living – may be hitting another legal obstacle, five years after it was first submitted, just as success seemed in sight.

There are two upcoming opportunities for the public to find out more and get involved.

On Saturday, December 14, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., the Wendell Cultural Council and the von Ransons invite you to **tour this apartment** and have your questions answered. It is located at 6 Lockes Village Road on the Wendell common. The program is free for all ages.

The following Friday, December 20, the Wendell Climate Change Group is hosting a **discussion on the issue** at 7:30 p.m. at the Wendell Library.

Jeoff Pooser of the Wendell selectboard, Alistair MacMartin of the Simple Living Committee, and the von Ransons will share the status, aspects of this grassroots and Town board movement, and their thoughts about what's ahead.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

EVOKE from page A1

explains. Sharing equipment, space, outreach and marketing will allow the four, as parents of young children, to build the company while setting time aside for home life.

And, according to the plan, that sharing will extend resources out to the larger community. The studio and equipment will be available to other artists to rent, and the group plans to serve as a "nucleus," says Pedrosa, a focus point around which wider collaboration and activities can develop.

"We're trying to build around a very expensive craft, and one that uses fossil fuels. It's really a small-scale factory."

The strategy for meeting costs, she explains, will be based on "pooling resources from different artists," working together on things like grants, wholesale contracts, advertisement and events.

different than any other medium... Each piece is like a journey, its own trip. You can't walk away from it and come back." When students connect with this process, he says, the result can be "euphoric glee. They go like..." He grins, throws his head back. "Like EEEEE!"

He shapes the piece he has been working on with steel jacks, breaks off its pontil, and turns it again in the heat. The liquid glass coming out of Evoke's small electric furnace is melted from 100% recycled glass shards, and colored with metal oxides.

When finished, it is set in an annealer, a machine programmed to cool it progressively over 12 or more hours.

"You need every molecule to heat and cool at the same rate," teaches LaFleur, "because if they expand or contract at different speeds, you get breakage." Even at its simplest the process is equipment-intensive enough that



SAVIER-LACUNNO PHOTO

Carter looks on as LaFleur beats a piece back up in the second furnace.

Pedrosa said that Evoke intends to become known as a stop for tourists, in the way North River Glass Studio in Shelburne Falls once was.

The studio will be public access, with products available for purchase onsite, and open events, demonstrations, and classes are in the works, perhaps including "make-your-own Sundays." "We want to show people that what we do is not easy at all," jokes Carter.

But LaFleur enthuses over the experience of teaching. "Glass is

Evoke's lean setup seems strikingly elegant.

The shop will be open every day throughout December, at least for the "hard hours" between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

On December 19, they will stay open for the downtown-wide Third Thursday event, "It's A Wonderful Night." They encourage people to stop by that night, especially if they're looking for holiday gifts.

And in January, the collaboration will begin in earnest.



HICKMAN from page A1

Hickman said that there is a huge shortage of computers at the libraries and that the additional equipment was desperately needed. She said that the grant would also enable them to hire consultants to train staff and the public.

She said that many come into the libraries to fill out government forms, but often have to wait for a computer to become available and then need help with many less-than user friendly forms. "We will first train staff so that they can assist patrons with downloading books, using email and accessing government and social service websites. It will be very hands-on, practical training."

She noted that increasingly it is becoming important for those using the library to use computers. She cited the example of senior citizens needing to access the Social Security site since the nearest social security office is now in Holyoke. She also pointed out that many keep in touch with family and friends through the internet or Skype.

Hickman said one of the major obstacles the libraries face is a shortness of staff. As a result, Hickman said, library personnel are often doing a few jobs at once such as manning the circulation desk, assisting patrons with finding

a book and providing quick computer tutorials. To relieve some of this pressure, she said she just hired a new part-time employee to work the circulation desk and help with computers. She said that the new staffer is Scott Smith who has been volunteering at the circulation desk for some time.

She noted that even with this hire, the library is understaffed. For the three libraries, there are only three full-time employees, including Hickman, and five part-time employees.

She said that with a very tight budget, she is hoping to recruit more volunteers to assist her patrons. She commented that since she began working at the library the number of items in circulation has increased from around 60,000 a year to 105,000.

Among her other goals aside "from getting through the next few months," are broadening the collection of books and materials, increasing adult programming, and continuing to strengthen the libraries' partnerships with other Montague groups.

Hickman lives in Wendell. Before coming to the Montague Libraries 17½ years ago she served as the librarian at the Erving Elementary School for seven years.



www.MontagueMA.net
local gossip, news & business listings

RECYCLE

BOTTLES & CANS!
Week of December 9
in Montague

more info? call: 863-2054

on Avenue 1 for over 10 years

Jay K's Liquors

If we don't carry your favorite brand, we'll order it for you!

Open Mon-Thurs 10am-10pm
Fri & Sat 10am-11pm • Sun 10am-6pm

59 Avenue A • Turners Falls
863-9900

GREEN RIVER ZEN CENTER

Zen Meditation Practice
Beginners Welcome

Information and schedule:
www.greenriverzen.org
413-256-1594
At the Montague Retreat Center
177 Ripley Road
Montague, MA 01351

Nina's Nook

Uniquities, Frivolities
& Unnecessariums

125a Avenue A, Turners Falls
413.834.8800 ninasnook.com

Weds & Th 4-6
Fri & Sat 1-6
Sun 1-4

SLUGS GALORE!

art . craft . design .

Now Serving BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
Thursday - Monday

The WAGON WHEEL RESTAURANT

Route 2, Gill • 413-863-8210

GREENFIELD FARMERS COOPERATIVE EXCHANGE
Locally Owned Since 1918

269 High Street - Greenfield
(413) 773-9639

Local Farmer-Owned

Products for the home,
farm, pets, yard & garden

If you
Feed it - Seed it - Weed it
We GOT it!

www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com

Let our advertisers
know you saw
their ad in the
Montague Reporter!

NANCY L. DOLE
BOOKS & EPHEMERA



now located at
20 State Street,
Bucklandside
Shelburne Falls
413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com
closed Mondays

JAKE'S TAVERN

66 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS

FALL MADNESS

TUES: \$2 OFF ANY
WRAP W/FRIES

WEDS: \$2 OFF ANY
BURGER W/FRIES

THURS: \$2 OFF
HADDOK SANDWICHES

KITCHEN OPEN:
MON THRU SAT 11-9
SUN 12-8

WE HEAT FRANKLIN COUNTY

- System 2000 (Energy Knetics)
- Thermo Pride
- Weil-McLain
- Other Major Brands
- Expert Burner Service



(413) 773-3622

IN GOOD COMPANY
SKILLED, INTENTIONAL
COMPANIONSHIP FOR
ELDERS AND OTHERS



SITA LANG 413-834-7569
HOSPICE TRAINED
CPR CERTIFIED

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Kitchen Wrangling, And More

At its November 6 meeting, building inspector, Phil Delorey, brought a request for an assistant and a candidate that he felt was well qualified to the Wendell selectboard. Board members agreed then that Roland Jean was qualified, but they advertised as required, and got a response from a Wendell resident, Charlie Bado, who also met the qualifications.

Delorey came to the November 20 meeting with a revised building permit fee schedule that would bring Wendell's fees in line with the fees in neighboring towns, and he had a chance to look at Bado's resume but not to look at it carefully.

Selectboard member Dan Keller suggested that Bado and Delorey come to the next selectboard meeting. Delorey agreed, suggesting that the meeting be a general discussion rather than a formal interview. The assistant's pay of \$500 per year will come from the building inspection account for the first year.

The selectboard approved the new fee schedule unanimously, at \$5 per \$1000 value based on an estimated cost of \$70 /square foot for residential structures, \$50 / square foot for commercial structures, \$20 / square foot for non living residential structures like cellars and decks, and \$50 / square foot for municipal structures. There will be an annual inspection costing \$100 for a multi-family building with three or more units. Fees will be doubled if a building is started before a permit is taken out.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich showed Delorey a written complaint, which was news to him. He said he would read it, and if an executive session was called for, as a matter considering a town employee, it would be scheduled for the next meeting December 3.

Kitchen Committee

Delorey stayed while the kitchen committee met the selectboard with a progress report. The committee started with people who remembered when the town hall had a functioning kitchen that was used for town-wide meals and who wanted to bring that back. But newer health laws and the Americans with Disability Act have made it illegal to recreate the old kitchen as it was.

The issue of chemical sensitivity ran into some insisting on a gas stove and others insisting on an electric stove. The kitchen committee used some of their budget to consult with STAVROS, a private consulting company that deals with accessibility, about what had to be done, what should be done.

At the selectboard meeting Delorey said that the state Architectural Access Board (AAB) set a threshold of \$100,000 or 30% of a building's value before renovations required complete accessibility for the whole structure. Below that level of spending only what is touched by the project has to be made accessible to wheelchairs.

With that understood, the kitchen committee decided that the door from the stage to the kitchen will be widened, and counters and the hand washing sink will be made low for wheelchair access, and high for standing workers. A wall-mounted oven can have a side-opening door.

Because of the issue of sensitivity to a gas stove, and the feeling by some cooks that a gas stove is the only way to cook, the committee spoke with facilitators. Now the committee is leaning towards a combination, with both a commercial gas stove and a portable induction cooking surface. The gas supply to the stove can be shut off outside the building.

Committee member Myron Becker, who does professional catering, said a single burner induction cooking surface gives instant heat, is efficient, relatively inexpensive and its main restriction is it only works with pots that respond to magnets, such as steel or cast iron, not aluminum and some stainless steels.

Because the kitchen project is smaller than the AAB thresholds, a ramp from the floor audience-level to the stage does not have to be included in the kitchen plans. So far no one has volunteered for a ramp committee that was authorized at a town meeting. Franklin County Tech School shop teachers have looked at the kitchen. They think it is a good project for their classes, and are ready to start work.

Committee member Judy Hall said the committee will hold a public meeting in February. She hoped there would be an announcement about that meeting in the next town newsletter.

Selectboard Chair Christine Heard said she was impressed by how thoughtful and careful the committee had been, and was amazed at how people came together and threw themselves into the project.

Other Business

Keller reported that Tom Chaisson had repointed the senior center chimney, and is replacing slate shingles on the roof as necessary. He replaced a section of sill where it had rotted because roof runoff was flowing toward the building.

In late summer, the road crew graded in back of the center so that water now flows away from the building. The first and lowest section of the ramp that leads to the building's front door is rotting and will be replaced by concrete. That project has to go out to bid and will not start until spring.

Heard said she read a copy of the insert that the Friends of the Meetinghouse wants to include in the next town newsletter. She did not think it was wise to include it in the newsletter because the newsletter should be for official town information. Allowing one group to include a flyer would open the possibility to too many other groups.

Selectboard member Jeffrey Pooser said he had not had time to



Eileen Dowd, of Carriage House Designs and the Montague Business Association, makes the official first deposit at the branch.

BANK from page A1

reconfigured the original space. Tucker said the bank plans to lease the adjacent space and will do the build out to suit the new tenant.

"We had hoped to be in a little sooner, but as it turned out our timing, with the bridge reopening, couldn't have been better," commented Tucker.

He noted that in his 12 years as president, the bank has opened three new offices: "The first was in Sunderland. Then we opened in Shelburne Falls. And now we have this one in Turners. And we hope to be here for at least 100 years."

Tucker said that the bank's growth has been slow but steady. "We follow the demand of our customers," he said. "And we have lots of customers in Montague doing business with us. In fact, Montague deposits account for slightly more than 10 million dollars."

look at the flyer, but he agreed with her decision.

Pam Richardson has said she would like to leave the ZBA but was willing to stay on if necessary. The open space committee and school committee also have vacancies as will be reported in the newsletter.

Police chief Ed Chase said that although he is willing to do CORI checks (Criminal Offender Record Information), the information he gets as police chief is fuller than what an ordinary group gets and he is not allowed to share the information.

He suggested to Aldrich that the town appoint a CORI check designee and she told him, "It will probably be me." She was right. CORI checks will be done for people doing ongoing programs with children or teens, but not for someone doing a single performance.

The town was down to five unlicensed dogs. One died leaving four, and board members agreed that it was a great improvement from when they started their concerted effort to get owners to license their dogs and there were more than 30.

Tucker said that he was very confident that the Turners Falls' branch would be as successful as their other offices have been. "We have a great staff here, as everywhere. Our goal is to make customers happy. If it weren't for the customers, we wouldn't be here."

Greenfield Cooperative Bank is a traditionally structured bank that has retained its name from its days as a coop.

The bank building has a long history. Built around 1930, the building was first owned by the National Bank. Subsequently it housed Shawmut Bank, Fleet Bank, and most recently Bank of America.

In the 1930s, it was robbed by armed men who had rented a room across the street at the Vladish Hotel, watching the armored car that brought the payroll for the mills. The thieves were apprehended in Florida.

Erin Joy Seibert submitted a proposed article for town meeting that would ban hydraulic fracturing within the town. The process used to get natural gas out of the ground is similar to the process used to expand water flowing into drilled water wells, and Keller suggested that the article should clearly allow the process used in water wells.

Little if any bedrock in Wendell is likely to contain any fossil fuel.

Good Neighbors donated \$500 to the town to cover electricity they have used. That money will not go into the general fund, but will go instead into a building expense donation account.

Keller said that materials, posts, numbers with glue backing, and green sign plates are ready for another round of putting in house numbers. The focus will be on houses with hard to read mailboxes, or house numbers.

Keller will go out with firefighter, Alia Kusmaul, and inmates close to getting out of the Franklin County jail to post the numbers.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

BUY, SELL & TRADE

Madison
On The Ave

Arts, Collectibles and
the Unexpected

102 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA
413.522.7743

Montague
BOOKMILL
Open Daily 10 - 6



413-367-9206

www.montaguebookmill.com

Good Dirt Pottery
Studio

38 Main Street, Montague
413-367-0155
www.gooddirtpottery.com

TE chair and table rentals

Tammy Young
owner

1-413-221-3228 / 413-863-0293
Teyoung0201@verizon.net

"We Rent nice quality Tables
& Chairs for any Occasion"

11 Paradise Parkway, Turners Falls Mass 01376

CopyCat
PRINT SHOP

We Specialize In Impossible Deadlines!

- full color offset printing
- digital copies
- oversize copies
- files accepted via email

monday-friday - 8:30 am to 6 pm

27 Years of Making Copies and Still the Original!

up-to-the-minute technology • old-fashioned personal service

180 Main Street, Greenfield • 413-774-3500 • greenfield@copycatprintshop.com

TABLETS!

Stop by your local,
friendly computer
store & check them out!



151 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

413.863.5447

www.about-facecomputers.com

||| About-Face
Computer Solutions

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Taxes and Bids

By KATIE NOLAN

Real property tax rates in Erving will increase slightly in 2014 after the selectboard at their December 2, 2013 meeting approved a 65% "minimum residential factor" at the town's tax classification hearing Monday night.

The residential tax rate for Erving will increase by approximately 36 cents per thousand dollars value and the commercial rate by approximately 60 cents per thousand dollars value. Under this MRF, the Northfield Mountain Project pays 81.4% of real property taxes owed to the town.

The split tax rate shifts the tax burden away from residential property owners. The estimated rates are preliminary and will not be final until the town receives

certification of property values from the state Department of Revenue.

Town administrator Tom Sharp informed the selectboard that Andrea Woods, chief procurement officer for Franklin Regional Council of Governments, prepared a bid package for work on the former Usher Plant chimney, which has been losing bricks from its upper section.

Bidders are asked to provide bids for two scenarios: either demolishing the upper section of the chimney, or demolishing the chimney to the roofline.

Selectboard member Eugene Klepadlo noted that the extent of work would not be known until the contractor actually starts work. Bids are due December 19.

Woods will collect the bids, vet contractors, and provide a

recommendation to the board for its December 23 meeting.

Bids for curbside collection of trash, recycles, and the annual "anything goes" program are due December 4. The board will receive a recommendation from the Franklin Solid Waste District for its December 16 meeting.

Klepadlo said he planned to attend Massachusetts Department of Transportation's walking tour of portions of Route 2 in Farley and Erving Center on December 7. MassDOT staff will tour locations where safety improvement projects are planned over the next few years with interested people. MassDOT staff will be at Bridge and Holmes Street at 10:00 am and at Route 2 and East Prospect Street at noon. Questions can be directed to Tom Sharp at the Erving Town Hall (413-422-2800, extension 102).

The board decided to combine the work of RetroFit Technologies

PART-TIME RECREATION CLERK

The Town of Erving is seeking applicants for a P/T Administrative Clerk for weekends. Performs routine duties to support the recreation programs. High school diploma or equivalent. Computer skills, specifically in Microsoft Office, preferred.

Submit resume and cover letter to Town Hall, 12 E Main St., Erving, MA 01344 by 3p.m. on December 12, 2013. AA/EOE.

Mark Burnett, Erving Recreation Chairman

of Milford, MA and the town's part-time IT consultant Jacob Smith to set up the five new computers purchased for town hall offices. The town has a credit of 14 hours of work with RetroFit and will use up those hours. Smith will complete the rest of the set-up. In November,

Retrofit sent the board an estimate to complete all of the computer set-up work that quoted an hourly rate of \$140 per hour, which the board felt was too high.

Bids for the town's surplus F550 truck will be opened at the December 9 selectboard meeting.

TEAM from page A1

Trailing 24 - 0, Turners began their next drive on their own 32 and were able to advance the ball 36 yards before suffering a sack and then, gave up the ball on an interception. Littleton again scored and at 9:32 in the second quarter, they led 32 - 0.

On their next drive, Turners finally settled down and gave the Western Mass fans something to cheer about. Malcolm Smith began to hit his marks and Turners finally hit pay dirt at 6:49 in the 2nd quarter, when Malcolm hit Jalen Sanders for a 35 yard touchdown pass.

Coach Chris Lapointe tried a successful onside kick and Turners took back possession. But this was one of those woulda, coulda, shoulda moments, as Turners fumbled away possession and the Littleton offense came back on the field. They scored again and the score was 38 to 6 with four minutes, 29 seconds left in the half.

But Turners was not done. They took over on their own 40, and with only 56 seconds left in the half, Malcolm again hit Jalen for the second touchdown of the quarter and the score was now 38 - 12. But alas, Littleton quickly matched the touchdown, this time with a pass, and the teams entered the locker room with the score 44 to 12.

In the fourth quarter, leading 52 to 12, Littleton did something highly unusual. They decided not to try. With eight minutes 41 seconds left in the game, they simply refused to run a play. They just hiked the ball and went down on their knees. The Turners players were irate. "Call a time out." They screamed over and over again from the field. And finally, Coach Lapointe did call a time out to stop the clock and preserve some dignity.

It didn't take long to turn that indignity into points. Turners took the ball and passed their way into the end zone. Alex Carlisle caught a Malcolm Smith TD pass and at 3:06, the score was now 52 to 20.

And with one minute 43 seconds left in the game, Jalen Sanders

caught another Smith TD pass and Turners halved the score, 52 - 26.

Turners ran the ball 29 times in the game. Jalen Sanders, Alex Carlisle, Trent Bourbeau and Malcolm Smith each carried the ball. Trent led the pack with 44 yards.

Malcolm Smith was 16 for 25 in completions with four passing Touchdowns, averaging almost 18 yards per reception. Jalen Sanders caught three of the TD passes and Alex Carlisle caught the other. Melvin Moreno, Trent Bourbeau, and Brody Markol also caught the ball. Tyler Charboneau scored a two-point conversion.

Thanksgiving

Bragging rights still belong to Turners. They not only finished the season as Division 6 champs, they also won THE GAME. Yes, that GAME. THE GAME where we see old friends we hadn't seen for years, and scream so loud we can't speak the next day. THE TURKEY DAY GAME, the famous classic match-up which Turners again won this year with a 28 - 14 win over Greenfield's Green Wave.

When I was a Junior in high school, we were on the verge of beating Greenfield three times straight. We won my Freshman and Sophomore years and again when I was a Senior, but in my Junior year, a trapped ball stopped a drive and we ended up losing 21 - 19, the only time we lost to Greenfield when I was in High School.

The 2013 Indians were facing a similar situation. Many of the kids on the team had never lost to Greenfield and if they won this game, they would indeed 3-peat.

Greenfield gave the Boys in Blue and Coach Chris Lapointe a gift at the beginning of the game. They won the toss but elected to kick. Turners Falls has scored on their first possession almost every game this season and it seemed strange that Greenfield would give them the opportunity to do so again.

However, the Tribe gave the gift right back. On their first play of the game, they fumbled away the ball and with eleven seconds gone,

Greenfield's offense was on the field with great field position. Turners D stood up to them and forced a fourth and 6 but a wonderful catch gave Greenfield a first and goal on the Blue 1. And after 3 minutes and 42 seconds, Greenfield led 8 to nothing.

It took a while for the Tribe's offense to get into gear. They managed to move the ball into Green's territory but a holding call and two incomplete passes made it 4th and 20. Coach Lapointe, who tends not to punt on 4th downs, felt this was too far and after a bad snap and a short punt, Greenfield took over on their own 35.

But Greenfield was in the giving mood themselves. They fumbled on the first down from scrimmage and Blue started their second series from the 40 of Greenfield. It took Turners 3 plays to move the ball just four yards but on 4th down, Coach Lapointe kept his offense on the field.

Jalen Sanders caught the pass from Malcolm Smith and Blue had new life with a first and 10 at the Green 16. Greenfield's D pushed the Tribe back, and as the first quarter ended, Turners was facing 3rd and 14 from the 20.

After a ten yard gain, it was 4th and 4, and of course Turners went for the touch. Malcolm Smith was under all sorts of pressure but he kept his head and found Alex Carlisle in the end zone. Smith ran the keeper for the two point conversion and after 21 seconds of the second quarter, Turners had knotted the score at 8.

Neither offense was able to do much in the second quarter but in the closing seconds of the half, Greenfield fumbled away a punt return and the Tribe took over with only 34.1 seconds left on the clock.

This is not uncharted territory for the Tribe in Blue. Through wise ball control and strategic timeouts, they have managed to score in the final

seconds of many of their games this season.

Turners moved the ball 6 yards and after an incomplete pass, it was third and 4 with 20.3 seconds left. Turners got the first down to the Green 23 but there was only 11.3 seconds left to play. On the next play, Turners advanced to the 5 yard line and Coach Lapointe desperately screamed for a time out. It was granted with a whole 1.7 seconds left in the half.



Dobias (l) and Bourbeau (r) head to the end zone.

On the last play of the first half, Malcolm Smith darted for the pylon and for an instant, it was unclear if he made it. Then the Ref raised his hands and the hometown fans cheered so loud and so long that they were still cheering as the teams left for the locker rooms.

Both teams gave the ball up on ensuing drives in the third quarter but at 4:19 of the fourth, Melvin Moreno caught a touchdown pass and Turners led 20 to 8. Then the chants began: "3-peat, 3-peat, 3-peat." The crowd began stomping feet and clapping hands in rhythm as the chants continued.

Turners took over on downs with 3 minutes and 52 seconds left in the game. Two minutes and 42 seconds later, Brody Markol caught a Smith TD pass and Turners led 28 - 8. Then the marching band drummers began to keep beat with the chanting.

And as time ran out, and the 3-

peat was guaranteed, the smiling, screaming students flooded onto the field and Coach Lapointe was drenched in Gatorade.

As always, the win was a team effort. Melvin Moreno, Jalen Sanders, Alex Carlisle, Trent Bourbeau, Brody Markol and Malcolm Smith each took turns carrying the ball. Melvin Moreno, Jalen Sanders, Alex Carlisle and Brody Markol each caught passes.

Malcolm Smith was 9 for 16 for a total of 117 yards. He threw three touchdowns and ran for one. Melvin Moreno, Alex Carlisle, and Brody Markol each caught TD passes and Malcolm added a two pointer.

On the defensive side of the ball, Brody Markol picked up a fumble and Trent Bourbeau got two. Not only did Malcolm Smith make two solo tackles, he also caused two of the fumbles.

The undersized, undermanned, inexperienced Tribe in Blue had a remarkable season. They had only one player over 200 pounds and two players over six feet tall. They lost 14 seniors last year and could only field 24 players, including 11 freshmen. The players that did play had to play offense, defense and special teams. And when injuries occurred, young players had to step up and fill in.

"I had to coach differently with this squad." Coach Wonsey told me midseason. "We don't have the size that a lot of lines have. We had to rely on speed and assignments." "They played with a lot of heart." Coach Lapointe explained. "That's something you can't coach."

The Turners Falls Football Indians finished the 2013 season with a record of 10 and 3. They are the Division VI Western Massachusetts Champion and have beat Greenfield three times in a row.

So how does 2014 look? Can anyone say 4-peat?



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Rau's Auto
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR
(413) 367-2475
531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague
24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

ED L Dealer in used Home Furnishings
SMALL FURNITURE • COLLECTIBLES • DECORATIVES
374 Deerfield Street • Greenfield
featuring: Lamps Mirrors Chairs Baskets
Cookery Figurines End Tables
I Make Lamps Lite! Open 7 Days a Week
GOOD USED USABLES

Animal Crackers
Fun stuff for pets and their people.
Saturday Fish Special
• Aquarium Plants
• Saltwater Fish & Lots of Critters
Animal Crackers
Aquarium & Pet Supplies
44 Deerfield St. (Rte 9 & 10)
Greenfield, MA 413-774-7346

Simons & Simons
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Gerry G. Simons
Estates • Wills • Real Estate
Personal Injury
P.O. Box 9 • Turners Falls
(413) 774-3239 gerrygsimons@yahoo.com

Montague Mini Storage | Mike Fuller - owner

The Best Hiding Place in Town
48 Randall Road | 413-863-4680

RIVERSIDE RADIATOR
General Auto Repair
RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS
and HEAVY EQUIPMENT
Foreign and Domestic
Propane Filling Station
Route 2, Gill
863-4049 1-800-439-4049
8-5 Mon-Fri (closed Sat.)

NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Board Confronts Dilemma Over Dog Kennel, Industrial Park

By JEFF SINGLETON

November 25, 2013

Making a rare appearance before the Montague Selectboard, former State Representative and current Franklin County Sheriff Chris Donelan came to town on the evening of November 25 to discuss “kennel issues.”

The regional dog kennel, administered by the county sheriff’s office, is located in Montague in a building next to the former town dump on Turnpike Road. According to Donelan, the kennel has been a tremendous success, “exceeding my expectations.” The sheriff’s office would like to expand it “within its own footprint” and extend the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for two to three years.

The problem, according to Town Administrator Frank Abbondanzio, is that the kennel is located on land designated for a new industrial park. Due to environmental restrictions (read obscure endangered species) the size of the proposed park has been reduced considerably, limiting its viability. A dog kennel operated by the Sheriff’s office does not fit in with the plan (that is, there will be a road through the space occupied by the current building).

To further complicate matters, the Montague Department of Public Works uses part of the building – the part the Sheriff would like to use for expanded kennel services – for equipment storage. Abbondanzio suggested that a significant investment by the sheriff and an extension of the MOU might not be realistic.

There followed a wide ranging discussion involving Donelan, Abbondanzio, Leslee Colucci, who administers the dog kennel, and Richard Klough of the Montague DPW. Even Montague Police Chief Chip Dodge got involved. Everyone seemed to like and support the kennel but, at the same time, was hopeful about the future of the industrial park. A key issue was at what point the park would actually be moving forward. Donelan stated that he did not want to “hold up progress” but noted that “I find it difficult to believe that we will put a shovel in the ground inside of two years.”

The Selectboard voted to extend the MOU until December, 2015 and directed the DPW to work with all parties to solve the equipment storage issue.

Two members of the Turners Falls Skate Park Committee, Bryan Dolan and Sara Pearson, gave the board an update as requested by member Michael Nelson during a late summer meeting on the issue.

Dolan and Pearson reported that the committee raised \$3,000 at a recent fundraiser and now has \$5,000 in the bank to put toward the local match for the construction of a new facility in Turners Falls. They thanked Jakes Tavern on Avenue A,

which hosted the fundraiser.

Dolan and Pearson also reported that they had a “good meeting” with Recreation Director John Dobosz and Town Planner Walter Ramsey. The plan is to apply for a so-called PARC Grant next year to help fund the project. The grant will reimburse the town for as much as 70% of the cost of the project. Current estimates of the total cost range from \$250,000 to \$350,000. The committee will be meeting with the Berkshire Design Group, the firm responsible for design of the broader Unity Park project, to propose “small changes” to bring down the cost of the project.

Town Administrator Frank Abbondanzio read a letter from the Turners Falls Fire District concerning reimbursements for former employees receiving Medicare Part D (the prescription drug portion of Medicare). The town of Montague administers the program for district retirees through an organization called the Hampshire Trust. However, the town currently receives any reimbursements that may accrue after the fiscal years end. The Fire District letter stated that they are entitled to around \$5,000 from fiscal year 2011.

This request was not met with a great deal of enthusiasm from the Selectboard or the town administrator. Noting that another \$5,000 request may be forthcoming, Abbondanzio stated that this is the first time the district had requested a reimbursement: “We have handled it for them [without charging admin costs]; maybe they should handle their own Medex.”

One member of the audience stated that there was a “really fuzzy line” between the Fire District and Town, particularly on financial issues. Montague contains two fire districts - the Turners Falls Fire District which includes the villages of Turners Falls, Millers Falls and Montage City, and the Montague Center Fire District which includes Montague Center and Lake Pleasant. Both districts have their own oversight board and set their own tax rates but the taxes themselves are collected by the town treasurer, who also administers some employee benefits.

Police Chief Chip Dodge read a letter of commendation for all officers and other personnel involved in responding to a potentially deadly incident – a man threatening his roommate with a loaded gun at a house on Turnpike Road on November 6, 2013. The incident ended without death or injury.

December 2, 2013

On December 2 the Montague Selectboard meeting lasted for barely an hour. However the meeting was relatively well attended due to interest in the transfer of a liquor license within the Montague Bookmill complex in Montague Center. The Selectboard was being asked to transfer the license from the

Night Kitchen, the most recent full service restaurant in the complex, to Bread and Water LLC.

Bread and Water is owned by Howard Wein who plans to open a restaurant called “The Alvah Stone” in the space. Alvah Stone, according to Wein who presented the transfer request to the board, was the original owner of the original gristmill back in the early nineteenth century.

The request received a significant amount of support from those in attendance, including from Wendy and Mark Beaubien who own the complex. Mark Beaubien read a statement that stressed the importance of a restaurant to the viability of his business, and thus to Montague as a whole.

One neighbor, Ann Feitelson, questioned the large numbers of high volume parties on the restaurant’s patio. “I don’t think that is being a good neighbor,” she stated. “We fully intend to be a good neighbor,” replied Wein. “Everyone has said that”, said Feitelson. Wein then suggested that it was still better to say it than not to say it.

Town officials noted that noise issues could be raised during discussions of entertainment licenses, whereas this was a liquor license hearing. The license transfer was approved unanimously. The request will now go to the state with a relatively short time frame to act before the business change takes place.

Town planner Walter Ramsey requested that the Selectboard approve the 2013 Green Community Annual report and the 2014 Community Development Strategy. The latter prioritized twenty-two “projects” ranging from vacant properties in village centers (priority #1) to the expansion of broadband (#10) to increased solar power (#20).

There was some discussion about whether these priorities were “cast in stone.” Ramsey stated they were not: if funds become available for a particular project, it will be implemented wherever it appears on the list. Audience member Jeanne Golrick questioned the low priority placed on the development of the Strathmore Mill, as opposed to the high priority of a property in the center of Millers Falls. Both of these projects, however, would appear to fall under priority number one.

The Selectboard endorsed the Green Community Report and the Development strategy.

The meeting ended without Town Administrator Frank Abbondanzio reading a “Letter from Attorney General’s Office regarding Open Meeting Law Complaint,” as stated on the printed agenda. Chair Mark Fairbrother, in reducing the scope of Abbondanzio’s remarks, stated that the meeting had extended well beyond the posted time frame.

The board went into executive session to discuss “possible litigation” regarding the Millers Falls Sewer Replacement Project.

Great Falls Middle School 1st Quarter Honor Roll

GRADE 6

FIRST HONORS: Hailey Bogusz; Cameron Bradley; Kyle Brunelle; Alden Courtemanche; Liam Driscoll; Karissa Fleming; Joshua Gaulin; Bryce Hill; Josy Hunter; Eliza Johnson; Shelby Jordan; Aspen Keel; Joseph Kochan; Lilia Kocsis; Korey Martineau; Tucker Millane; Kaitlyn Miner; Chantelle Monaghan; Alyson Murphy; Brian Poirier; Lyuba Sankova; Emily Sisson; Aidan Smith; Lucy Spera; Brody Trott; Connor Waitkus; Jordan Welsh; and Makenna Young.

SECOND HONORS: Spencer Blair; Carson Carlisle; Mirela Cioclea; Jonathan Fritz; Mason Kucenski; Courtney Lacosse; Colby Mailloux; Luke Mayrand; Marcus Sanders; Lucas Shea; Journey Smalls; and Lydia Wright.

THIRD HONORS: Chelsea Curtis; Gram Hancock-Pezzati; Max Leh; Joseph Magin; Anthony Peterson; Alyah Sutton; Tevon Sutton; Jaclyn Thibeault; Owen Toal; and Bailey Young.

GRADE 7

FIRST HONORS: Madison Adams; Samantha Bocon; Ryan Campbell; Kyle Dodge; Cailyn Gobeil; Rebecca Harrell; Jenna Jacobsen; Jacob LaBelle; Mireya Ortiz; John Putala; Ethan Shilo-Draper; Keltyn Socquet; Sarah Studlien; Holly Tetreault; Victoria Veaudry; Sarah Waldron; Hannah Welles; and Cassidhe Wozniak.

SECOND HONORS: Reilan Castine; Kayleigh Curtiss; Reagan Fiske; Noel Kocsis; Danielle Lively; Emily Minor; Ryan Norwich; Tyler Noyes; Kallie Ryan; Ayden Stacy; and Will Turn.

THIRD HONORS: Lindsey Bourbeau; Shawn Cullen; Ryan Kucenski; Alexis Lacey; Bianca Martin; Tyler Murray-Lavin; and Hunter Sanders.

GRADE 8

FIRST HONORS: Hannah Bogusz; Madison Chmyzinski; Amanda Cooke; Sienna Dillensneider; Sahaley DuPree; Chloe Ellis; Kylie Fleming; Hannah Graves; Tabitha Hamilton; Maya Hancock-Pezzati; Kaylee Jackson; Samantha Kolodziej; Carlie Kretchmar; Kyle Kucenski; Snejana Lashtur; Simon Lorenzo; Abigail Loynd; Aliyah Sanders; D’ahnee Smith; Kaeden Socquet; Madison St. Marie; Jeremy Towle; David Tricolici; and Samantha Wegiel.

SECOND HONORS: Izaiah Adorno; Lynn Arsenault; Korey Bousquet; Branden Chapin; Elias Collins; Alora DeForge; Jacob Desbiens; Adrianna DiMaio; Peyton Emery; Alex Gheorghita; Daniel Momaney; Joshua Obuchowski; Hadyn Patenaude; Cameron Richardson-Ellis; Nicholas Taylor; Skylar Thompson; James Vaughn; John Wheeler; Mason Whiteman; Alexis Wickline; and Marie Samuel.

THIRD HONORS: Samuel Adams; John Driscoll; Kamal Ketcham; Zachary Lastowski; Kylee Mason; Emma Miner; Avery Palmer; Tyler Smith; Shannexy Torres; Rachel Tucker; Paul Vinton; Riley Watroba; and Javoni Williams.

Awesome Art In Motion

Join the dancers of *Awesome Art In Motion*, a new children’s dance company based out of Turners Falls, as they showcase their first performance piece, “Sleepy Time is Over!”

The show will take place Thursday December 19 from 6:30 to 7 p.m. in the Front Room of The Brick House Community Resource Center as part of the “It’s A Wonderful Night” celebration in Turners Falls.

Awesome Art in Motion was founded this past fall by the boys and girls in the company along with dance teacher Anna Hendricks of Great Falls Creative Movement. *Awesome Art in Motion* creates dances using improvisational dance technique, with concepts, choreography, costume and set design created collaboratively.

“Sleepy Time is Over!” is our first creation and our way of presenting ourselves as individuals and as a company, to the world. Come on out and see what we can do! Join us afterwards for an awesome all-ages dance party. Hope to see you there!

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU



25 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-4331
www.pzinc.com

Service 7 days a week, visit www.pzinc.com

INSURANCE



AJ'S
CYCLE
274 Rt. 2, Gill, MA 01376



- BMW Parts
- Accessories
- & Apparel
- Helmets
- Books
- Models

ALLAN • DAVID
Tel: (413) 863-9543
Fax: (413) 863-4920

E-mail: AJCYC@CROCKER.COM
Web: WWW.AJCYCLE.COM

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD
413-883-7323

Easy in-town location
Secure 24-hour access

VARIETY OF
SIZES
THE BEST
PRICES



OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors
and Artists encouraged to inquire

Renaissance Excavating, Inc.



COMPLETE
SITE WORK

Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam

Main Road, Gill
Douglas Edson 413.863.4462

Negus & Taylor, Inc. Monuments

People often come to see us
because their parents
and their grandparents did.
We're proud to have
that kind of loyalty,
and we work hard to keep it.
- Gary and Nancy Melan



"The perfect remembrance"



Hartnett Plumbing

Water Heaters, Drain Cleaning,
Remodeling, Repairs

"We give you a place to go"

184 Jacksonville Road
Colrain 413-624-0044

Serving all of Franklin County

Mass. License #13175

GILL from page A1

fresh water entering the neighborhood's water system from Greenfield.

"We put smoke down in manholes at seven different locations to test the whole system," said Purington. "We didn't find a whole lot of obvious problem areas," other than a few locations where traces of smoke seen coming out of the ground might indicate cracks in the pipes or faulty connections. But at the end of the day, Purington said, "there was nothing to show areas where massive amounts of water is getting into the system."

Is Heal-All Brook being diverted through some unknown underground culvert into the pump station?

Did scores of stealthy residents of Riverside disconnect their sump pumps just before the smoke test equipment arrived on November 20th?

Further testing of the system may now have to wait until spring rains raise the level of groundwater, so that flows can be visually inspected at the manholes to see which pipes, if any, are demonstrating telltale signs of sewer inflow and infiltration.

But in the meantime, residents are advised to install low flow shower heads, water conserving toilets, new washers in their leaky sink taps, and to keep a sharp eye on their sewer bills, which are due to rise an average of \$77 dollars in the coming year.

Energy

In other news, spikes in electricity rates consequent to the high demand for natural gas in New England last year have led the town's electricity supplier, Hampshire Power (an agency of the Hampshire Council of Governments) to call an unexpected halt to their revenue sharing program, by which the agency has passed on savings from their joint municipal electricity purchases in the form of rebates to the cities and towns that utilize their service.

The problem with the revenue sharing program, as Hampshire Power's Geoff Rogers told the selectboard on Monday, is that it allowed towns to benefit when electrical rates were low, but forced Hampshire Power to absorb the losses when electricity rates spiked,

as they did last winter. The program has been running at a deficit, and corrective action has been ordered from Boston.

Gill, which has benefited from the program, which has supplied the town with all its municipal electricity for the past seven years, must now decide whether to return to its former provider, Western Massachusetts Electric Company, which still transmits the power and maintains the electrical grid in town, or stay with Hampshire Power in a "fixed rate" program.

The problem for the selectboard is compounded by the fact that Hampshire Power's fixed rate price, which may run as high as 9.4 cents per kilowatt hour, may exceed the going rate for electricity supplied by WMECO, expected to reach 9.1 cents per kilowatt hour in January.

If the town agrees to lock in a fixed price with Hampshire Power for a longer term – up to three years – the rate drops, but forecasting the future price of energy is a notoriously tricky business.

"The price of electricity in New England is almost entirely dependent on natural gas," said Rogers. "But transportation to New England inhibits supplies," and winter storms and dropping temperatures can induce a kind of gas pipeline gridlock in the Northeastern states.

Meanwhile, natural gas suppliers are working overtime to increase transportation of natural gas overseas to Europe and Asia, where it can command prices up to \$20 per million cubic feet, as compared to \$3 per million on the domestic market. Considering this, Rogers told the board, "We are likely to see modest increases in market prices over the coming years."

Although Vermont Yankee is scheduled to close for good next fall, the emergency preparedness program Entergy VY maintains in seven Western Massachusetts communities within the immediate evacuation zone of the nuke will continue at least for another year beyond that. And, Entergy is paying a bit more for the emergency management of that system.

Other Business

Emergency preparedness director for the town of Gill, fire chief Gene Beaubien told the board that Entergy has increased the grant for towns in the evacuation zone from

\$7500 to \$8500 this year, and has agreed to increase that amount to \$9500 next year.

Most of this amount goes to pay for equipment and training, but Beaubien receives a modest stipend - \$2500 – for his work coordinating the program in Gill. The board agreed to raise that stipend by \$1000 this year.

The board will meet with the energy commission on December 16 to discuss the results of an energy audit of three town buildings – the town hall, the library, and the Riverside municipal building – with an eye toward investing some of the remaining \$130,000 in Green Community grant funds towards energy efficiency upgrades at these facilities.

The Gill Firemen's Association will hold a benefit Xmas tree sale on weekend days from now until December 22 at the Riverside building, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the possibility of additional sale days on Thursday afternoons, December 12 and 19.

The benevolent association, which aids in the purchase of fire department supplies and provides a scholarship for a Gill high school student each year, missed out on one of its traditional fundraising events when the Gill Craft Fair was canceled this fall.

So, if you are in the mood to bring an evergreen indoors this season, choose a locally grown tree from Gill, and help your local fire department at the same time!

Jeff Jackson was appointed to the fire department, and Tim Currier was appointed as a part time police officer on Monday. Jackson's appointment raises the active roster of Gill firefighters to 12, with 17 on the force in its entirety, said Beaubien. "I'd love to get to 25," he added, "but those days are over."

Beaubien said at present only one of the call firefighters is generally in Gill during weekday working hours.

There is a vacancy on the town's finance committee, left by the departure of business manager Jim Paulsen from Northfield Mount Hermon. Interested residents are encouraged to call town clerk Linda Hodson Mayo, at 863-8103, who will pass their names on to town moderator John Zywna for appointment when he gets back from his hunting blind somewhere in the wilds of Winchester or points north.

The town is now the proud owner of a fully equipped work zone trailer thanks to a \$5,000 grant from Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency. No word on whether it comes with a donut maker.

**Gill Winsert Workshop**

December 14 9am to noon
Gill Town Hall, 325 Main Road, Gill

The Gill Energy Commission will be holding a FREE Winsert Workshop. "Winserts" are reusable, transparent panels that fit snugly inside window jambs to add two extra layers of glazing. The workshop will be presented by Peter Talmage, who has been teaching people in the Renewable Energy field at GCC and elsewhere for many years.

During the workshop you will assemble a winsert for a window in your own house. Participants will pay only for the materials, estimated to be at \$1 per square foot. In order that there will be enough materials for everyone's project, we need to know the size of your window. See www.gillmass.org/energy.php for instructions on window measurement.

The workshop is limited by space considerations in the number of attendees who can participate. Pre-registration is required. To register, call Janet Masucci at (413) 863-8694 or email jmasucci@msn.com.

Holiday Themed Raffle Contest!

It's that time of year again, when families come together to enjoy each other and carry on beloved family traditions.

The Communities that Care Coalition is calling on teens and kids of all ages to gather around the table with your families and put together a submission for a chance to win a generous gift basket, courtesy of Dean's Beans Fair Trade Coffee! It's not just for coffee lovers: it includes hot chocolate, ingredients for baking, and even some non-food items!

You can enter by calling your

story in to our special contest voice mail at (413)774-3167 ext 143. Be sure to mention your favorite holiday dish, what you love about it, and who makes it! Make sure you include your name and phone number when you call.

Also, by submitting an entry you will be agreeing to having it read publicly and for your name to be mentioned: we are hoping to include ALL entries in a recording, possibly to be played on the radio, on our website, or even at some schools!

The deadline for submissions is Monday, December 16.

Winter Hours for Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Sites

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District's Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Sites are open year-round for convenient disposal of many hazardous wastes. These permanent "Supersites" are located in Bernardston, Colrain, and Conway.

The Bernardston facility, located at the town transfer station on Nelson Drive (off Merrifield Road), will be starting winter hours on December 7th. The facility's hours for December through April will be from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., the first Saturday of the month. The Conway facility, located at the town transfer station on Old Cricket Hill Road, operates 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. the first Saturday of each month, and the Colrain facility, located at the town transfer station on Charlemont Road, is open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. every Saturday.

The Supersites provide town residents with the opportunity to dispose of the most common hazardous materials, including: motor oil, oil filters, anti-freeze, oil-based paint, fluorescent light bulbs, household batteries, ballasts, thermometers, thermostats and mercury-containing switches. Charges apply for disposal of some items.

Any resident in a town belonging to the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District may utilize these Supersites. Member towns of the District are: Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Leyden, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Sunderland, Warwick, Wendell, and Whately.

For more information on disposal of hazardous materials, recycling, composting or other solid waste issues visit the District's website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org; email info@franklincountywastedistrict.org; or call 413-772-2438. Hearing impaired individuals can contact the District through the Massachusetts Relay at 711 or for TTY/TDD access dial 1-800-439-2370.

**TOWN OF GILL
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSED
ASSESSMENTS FOR FY 2014**

The Town of Gill announces it has received permission to begin public disclosure of the Fiscal Year 2014 property values. The Massachusetts Department of Revenue Bureau of Local Assessments has completed its preliminary statistical review of the revaluation program and proposed assessments for all classes of property for FY2014. These assessment values are preliminary and are pending certification following the final statistical analysis and approval indicating compliance with the Commissioner of Revenue's standards. Public Disclosure is part of the Revaluation or Re-Certification of values which is required by statute every three years.

In accordance with DOR requirements, the valuations are established as of the appraisal assessment date of January 1, 2013 consistent with Ch. 653 of the Acts of 1989. Values were calculated at "Full and Fair Cash Value" using market data including sales from fiscal year 2012 and 2013 which were analyzed to determine the valuations appropriate as of the January 1, 2013 assessment date. The Town of Gill conducts its own in-house revaluation program with the assistance of consultants from the firm of Patriot Properties, Inc.

The public disclosure period is being held from Thursday, December 5, and continues through Monday, December 16, 2013.

As part of the Public Disclosure process, valuation listings will be available for review at the Assessors' office and Town Clerk's office at Gill Town Hall during office hours: Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Monday evening from 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. You may call the Assessors' Office at 863-0138 with any questions.

mass.gov/dph/tick

little tick BIG PROBLEM

PREVENT Lyme Disease

CHECK YOURSELF AND CHILDREN DAILY FOR TICKS

CALL YOUR DOCTOR IF YOU ARE BITTEN

This message by The Cooperative Public Health Service

Great Rates, Fully Insured!

**Greenfield
Co-operative
Bank**
A Great Financial Partner

BestLocalBank.com
Reach All Locations 772-0293
Greenfield • Northfield • Sunderland



**Brian R. San Soucie
Locksmith - CRL**

Serving the Area for over 25 years Certified • Bonded • Insured

**We Install all Types of Locks & Entry Devices for
Businesses and Homes**

- Dead Bolts
- Household Lock Sets
- We Master Key & Re-Key
- Safe Combinations Changed

28 Montague Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Beeper 290-1162
863-2471
Fax 863-8022

432 Greenfield Road
Montague, MA
Right next door to
the Bookmill!

Call (413) 687-2125
to schedule an
appointment
today.

Nancy Paglia
Massage Therapy
Yoga Classes & Private Yoga Sessions
Women's Yoga Circles
Workshops & Retreats
Montague, MA

Gift Certificates,
Wellness Packages
and On-Site Classes
and Services available.

Ask us
about our
discounts for
new clients this fall!

MONTAGUE REPORTER ON THE ROAD



Mark and Pat Allen, recently traveling in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Zambia, took a newspaper break at the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa.

FACES & PLACES



LEE WICKS PHOTO

An endowment that generates income for repairs, many church suppers, craft fairs and other events yielded enough money to fix the roof of the First Congregational Church in Montague Center.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Who: Interested members of the Turners Falls community of all ages, especially youth living in the area.

What: Do you have ideas about what resources would help make the community a more welcoming place to youth? Here's your chance to share your input with people working on just that!

When: Wednesday, December 11, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Where: Brick House Community Resource Center, 24 3rd Street, TFMA
Food and childcare will be provided.

Questions? Email stepamericorps@dialself.org, or call (413) 387-8761.

Poets Wanted!

to submit original poems. Please email: poetry@montaguereporter.org for consideration in the monthly Poetry Page. Include 25-word bio.

Poems may also be posted to Montague Reporter, 177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376.

No prior experience necessary, at least as a poet.

**PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK
(12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666**

Dennis L. Booska
Dennis L. Booska, Jr. Phone & Fax
413-863-3690

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member
The Flooring Network.

**Tile
Lino
Carpet**

**SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION
SUPPLY CO. INC.**

SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

Complete Masonry Supply

Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more.

298 Avenue A., Turners Falls 413-863-4322
and at our new location 529 S. Main St, Brattleboro or 802-579-1800
www.shanahansupply.com

Nichols Vision

Now in Turners Falls

Free, "no pressure" consultations
Bring your prescription in today!



Providers for EYEMED,
DAVIS VISION, AARP,
CELTICARE, and others.

Nichols Vision
296 Avenue A
(Beside the United Arc)
Turners Falls, MA 01376
(413)863-1000

Register now!



Your Program

15 associate degrees, 17 career-building certificates, 24 liberal arts options

Your Schedule

On campus or online—plus classes in Northampton,
Friday-only classes and January Intersession

Your Future

Transfer, enter the workplace, or earn your bachelor's from
Endicott or Elms right here at GCC



You Belong Here!
www.gcc.mass.edu

Winter Feasts & Storage: Potatoes, Carrots, Onions, Garlic & more!
Place orders at www.redfirefarm.com

\$2.00 OFF Any Bulk Order
One discount per customer.

RED FIRE FARM
Organic Produce, Plants & Flowers

Pickup in Montague at the farm on Meadow Rd.

In online form, redeem Coupon Code: OGveg Expires 12/20/13.

SCAPES BUILDERS & EXCAVATION, LLC.

New Construction Renovation Site Work

P. 413-665-0185 www.scapesbuilders.com
110 N Hillside Road South Deerfield, MA 01373

Peter Waters Painting Services

Interior/Exterior
Custom Residential
Fully Insured

Office: 978-544-6534
Cell: 413-461-5172
Wendell, MA
peterjwaters88@gmail.com

COLDWELL BANKER

UPTON-MASSAMONT REALTORS

Donald J Mailloux
GRI
Recognized Top Producer

(413) 665-3771 x104 Office
(413) 834-1524 Cell
(413) 423-3810 Home
don@cbumr.com E-mail

4 Elm Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373
www.cbuptown-massamont.com

Your Local STIHL Dealer
413-367-2481

Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.

Sales, Parts & Service
310 Federal Street (Route 63)
Montague

Weekdays: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Turners Falls Pizza House

Family Owned & Operated
Serving Turners Falls area for 40 Years
Dave Argy, Family & Staff

**PIZZA, GRINDERS,
DINNERS, SALADS, BURGERS**

www.turnersfallspizza.com
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls (413) 863-8000

LOOT
found + made

Hours: Wed 11-5, Thurs-Sat 11-6, Sun 11-5

413-863-9500 • loottheshop.com
62 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

**Serving Home Grown
Farm-inspired Food & Drink**

H & O

44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
Ph 413 774 3150 | hopeandolive.com

Diemand Farm Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell

Good, Homemade Food From Local Ingredients!

(978) 544-3806
Farm Store Hours:
Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
"Come See What's Cooking!"

Speaking The Unspeakable

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

LEVERETT – No president in recent history evokes the emotion and passion of the American people more than the memory of the young senator from Massachusetts, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

Only the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln stands in the national memory equal to the power of the story of this young president’s death and what it meant for all of us. For the generation that was just coming of age when he ascended to the presidency, it meant a loss of innocence, replaced by despair, crushing the hope and aspirations we all had for a new kind of nation, one that was optimistic and dynamic, reaching out to the world to do good, not to dominate and make war.

If anyone thought the subject of the Kennedy assassination was left in the past, stepping into the auditorium of Leverett Elementary School on Friday evening, November 22, 2013, the 50th anniversary of the President’s assassination in Dallas, Texas, the energized crowd filling that room would dispel that idea.

Standing in what was a large room filled with rows of free-standing chairs lined up facing the small stage, people were full of anticipation and engaged in discussion even before the reading started.

There was a good mix of generations in attendance. The majority, however, seemed to be hopeful war babies and baby boomers who had their dreams dashed that day and had stood against war and injustice in the years that followed. Many showed up this night 50 years later, still hungry for answers.

see **JFK** page B5

Turners Falls Dams: Harnessing “White Coal”



The Turners Falls dam diverts much of the river’s flow into the Power Canal.

By JOE PARZYCH

TURNERS FALLS – On Saturday, November 23, at 10 a.m., historian Ed Gregory gave a power point presentation of the building of the three succeeding Turners Falls dams in the meeting room of Greenfield Savings Bank.

Gregory began by projecting spectacular historic photos of the three phases of Turners Falls Dam construction, beginning with the first rock filled, timber crib dam built with money raised by mover and shaker, Alvah Crocker. The visionary Crocker rose from poverty to own paper mills, railroads, and established two banks in Turners Falls.

Crocker was also responsible for laying out the streets of Turners Falls in a grid, constructing the dam and power canal to promote water power in the future city of Turners Falls, while promoting it as the home of “white coal.”

Coal-fired steam plants had been

the sole source of power for factories and mills. Hence, Crocker referred to water power as white coal because of the whiteness of rushing water.

He was able to attract investors to build factories along the power canal because of cheap water power, “white coal,” powered waterwheels and turbines that drove machines through overhead shafting, belts and pulleys in the mills.

White coal was used later to generate electricity with water-powered turbines, some of which are still in existence, generating electricity at the remaining Turners Falls paper mill, and for the company, Gaz de France-Suez, which uses the power canal and the two generating stations at Cabot Lodge.

Gregory briefly mentioned the White Coal Farm, which was the development of land on the plains once considered “waste land”, by irrigating the land to produce bountiful crops. The land later served as

see **DAMS** page B8

WEST ALONG THE RIVER: THE BEACH IN WINTER (PART 1)

By DAVID BRULE

MILLERS FALLS – Maybe it was the low gray sky, and news of the Arctic cold air coming down out of Quebec that gave me ideas. Or maybe it was my copy of “The Winter Beach”, by Charlton Ogburn, Jr. written almost 50 years ago. I had read this book in the 70s and put it away on the bookshelf among the favorite nature writings and hadn’t read it since. But I knew it was there, and this year it was time to open it again.

At the time, Roger Tory Peterson himself had said from the comfort of his studio full of his bird paintings and guide books, “this is a book I have enjoyed thoroughly.” Well, I thought sarcastically, thanks for the tip, that’s good to know. Quite understated Mr. Roger Tory, not a thumpingly enthusiastic endorsement for a book I’ve come to cherish.

At any rate, this book got me yearning to get back to visiting the Atlantic shore more regularly, and I decided to start immediately, this past Saturday, and keep track of my monthly visits.

Saturday was as good a day as any. I was imagining Newburyport livelier than other days during the week, and longing for the tawny dun-colored sand dunes, as well as the crowded holiday streets of that

fishing port town, I set out for Plum Island. I was hoping to combine the best of both worlds: a solitary walk on the early winter beach and the hurly-burly of the early Christmas shopping season.

I had an ulterior motive also. A beautiful sea- and sun-bleached 2x6x14 was waiting for me.

A month earlier, beach combing and bird watching, I had trudged and slipped up the crest of a very small sand ridge marking the edge of the high storm tides and the beginning of the ever shifting dunes. Now, the fragile dunes themselves are off limits and rightly so, but to survey their rolling landscape, and soft brown vegetation, the sand grasses tracing perfect circles in the wind, is certainly a change for the eye from our birch, pine, oak and maple vistas of this valley.

That day a month ago, it just so happened that at my feet there on the crest of the dune lay a beautiful plank (the 2x6x14 mentioned

see **RIVER** page B8



A peregrine falcon, as painted by the noted ornithological painter Louis Agassiz Fuertes.

Campaign For Affordable Farms Reaches \$400,000

By DAVID KOTKER

MONTAGUE – Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust joined with Red Fire Farm to announce the completion of the trust’s \$400,000 capital campaign to buy 122 acres of forest and farm land at Red Fire Farm’s Montague location.

The Farm and Mount Grace are now actively working out the lease agreement and legal details of the land transfer. The partners expect

to transfer the land this spring and the Trust is still accepting contributions to cover the anticipated legal and land stewardship costs of the project.

“Completing the \$400,000 campaign means we will soon own Red Fire Farm’s Montague farmstead in partnership with the farmers Ryan and Sarah Voiland,” said Mount Grace Executive Director Leigh Youngblood.

“We look forward to working together with the Voilands to demonstrate to New Eng-

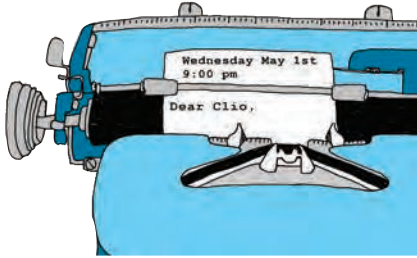
land farmers that this new model of farm ownership can offer solutions to some of the difficult financial questions facing farmers today.”

The Red Fire Farm capital campaign is the first project of the Campaign for Affordable Farms. Under the whole farm affordability model, the land trust and farmers share the ownership of the farm. Mount Grace will own and manage the land as a community resource. The Voilands will own the farm house, barns, greenhouses, and other buildings. Mount Grace will grant a 99-year lease to current and future farmers at a rate that is viable for food production. In addition, the resale price of the buildings will be limited to make them affordable for the next farmer.

The result is a permanently affordable whole farm, or a farm that has the elements that a farmer needs – fields, barns, greenhouses, and housing – at a rate that farmers can afford. “This arrangement allows us as two first-generation farmers – with no farmland to inherit – to own and manage a successful organic farming business in a place where farmland is some of the most expensive in the country,” noted Ryan Voiland.

Red Fire Farm is a certified see **FARMS** page B5

Dear Clio,



I’m twelve. My brother is fourteen. My parents like my brother better than they like me but deny it. He gets more privileges than I do. He gets to do more things. He gets more presents than I do. He hardly ever gets punished but I sure do. It isn’t fair! What can I do?

Second Child

Dear SC,

I am in my forties, and I still care whether my mother supports the choices that I make. It’s amazing how much it hurts when you feel like your parents don’t like you or don’t approve of your decisions.

I am also a parent and can tell you this: parents love their kids. A lot. Even though we don’t always behave in the loving way that you would hope, we care about our children a lot.

I think most parents would never say out loud that they like one child more, but sometimes they find it easier to understand one kid more than another. I know 100% for sure that your parents love you. They also love your brother.

Right now, you feel like

they favor your brother. I think you could be right. It’s hard for parents to treat their children the same. We are human and make mistakes all the time.

The dynamic in your family might change, however. I have noticed that parents relate more easily to different children at different points in their lives.

Here’s the thing: even if the situation is reversed a few years from now, and your parents seem to like you better than your brother, there will still be moments when you feel like they just don’t understand you.

Second Child, first of all, believe in your heart that your parents love you, because I am completely sure that they do. You don’t have to do anything at all to make them love you, because it is impossible for them not to.

Unfortunately I don’t think there is anything you can do to make them act differently toward you. You can’t change them, and you shouldn’t try to change yourself to become what they want you to be.

This is your reality, and you can’t change it. Now how can you make it work for you? How can you be happy even though your family does not

always see you for the smart, kind, thoughtful person that you are?

My second piece of advice is that you learn to draw your strength from somewhere inside yourself, instead of looking for your parents’ approval.

This is not an easy thing to do. Most adults have a hard time with it. We see ourselves through the eyes of someone else – a parent, partner, teacher, boss, etc. – and we feel that we are only worthy if that person likes us.

Other people are distracted by their own lives. They will never see us fully and never give us all the praise we long for. We need to learn to praise ourselves when we succeed and to forgive ourselves when we make mistakes.

You are the only one who is really qualified to decide whether you are a good person. When you have done the right thing, you will know it. When you have made a mistake, you will know that, as well.

Making mistakes does not make us bad people. It’s how we fix our mistakes that matters, and how we learn to avoid making the same mistakes again.

Probably you will not be able to ignore your parents’ criticism or disappointed looks all the time. As much as I try to follow the same advice I have given you, I don’t always succeed. This is something we spend our

see **CLIO** page B5



PHOTO COURTESY MT. GRACE LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

Sarah Voiland (l) of Red Fire Farm with Mount Grace Executive Director Leigh Youngblood.

Pet of the Week “Mila”



Spayed 4 1/2 year old Female. Luv-a-bull mix.

Are you looking for a hiking partner? I'm a pretty high energy girl. I am housetrained and have lived with kids too.

I'm a super smart and sociable girl, and enjoy training with rewards and lots of attention. I enjoy meeting other dogs, but I'd prefer to be the only dog in my new home. I'd love to meet you!

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

MONTAGUE LIBRARY NEWS

Used Book Sale, and Gingerbread Houses

There will be a Winter Used Book Sale at the Carnegie Library on Saturday, December 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thousands of books, including mysteries, suspense, non-fiction, and children's, and VHS tapes will be sold at \$2 a bag. Audio books and DVDs will be \$1 each.

The proceeds go to the Friends of the Montague Public Libraries, who help support the three libraries and their programs. The sale is held in the basement of the Carnegie Library, 201 Ave. A, Turners Falls.

Also on Saturday, December 7 at 10:30 a.m., the library will be having a gingerbread house making party for children. All materials will be provided and the houses will be easy to assemble. This is a great opportunity for children and adults to work together creatively on a holiday project. This is a free program.

For more information, please contact the Carnegie Library at (413) 863-3214.

Senior Center Activities
December 9 to 13

GILL and MONTAGUE

Gill / Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at Noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11 a.m.

All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted. Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs call 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open.

Monday 12/9

9 a.m Foot Clinic by appointment
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:55 a.m. Chair Exercise
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Tuesday 12/10

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
12 p.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Sing-Along

Wednesday 12/11

9 a.m. Foot Clinic by appointment
10 a.m. Aerobics
11:15 a.m. Friends' Meeting
12 p.m. Lunch
12:45 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 12/12

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
12 noon Lunch
1 p.m. Pitch

Friday 12/13

10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:55 a.m. Chair Exercise
1 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Ervingside, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 24 hours in advance. Call Mealsite Manager Rebecca Meuse at (413) 423-3308, for meal information and reservations.

For information, call Polly Kiely, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity. Call the Center to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out when is the next blood pressure clinic.

Monday 12/9

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise
12:30 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday 12/10

8:45 a.m. Aerobics
12:30 p.m. Painting

Wednesday 12/11

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12 noon Bingo

Thursday 12/12

8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Muscles
12 p.m. Cards

Friday 12/13

9 a.m. Bowling
11:30 a.m. Out-To-Lunch

LEVERETT

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

Take-It-Easy Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$5 (first class free).

Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

WENDELL

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

NOTES FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Trespassing, Then Dumping, At Paper Mill

Monday, 11/18
8:30 a.m. Report of vandalism at elementary school parking lot. Under investigation.
1:45 p.m. Alarm at Northfield Road residence. Found to be secure.
2:30 p.m. Report of larceny at High Street residence. Same under investigation.
6:10 p.m. Assisted Orange PD with 911 call at East River Street. Found to be an issue with lines.
7:40 p.m. Assisted Orange PD with restraining order violation at South Main Street. Report taken.
8:15 p.m. Report of suspicious vehicle in Old State Road residence driveway.
9:45 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Tuesday, 11/19
2:35 a.m. Report of domestic disturbance at East Main Street residence. Found to be East Main Street in Millers Falls. Montague PD handled same.
2 p.m. Criminal complaint issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with revoked registration, no insurance, no inspection sticker, and for failure to change address with RMV.
4:30 p.m. Larceny from convenience store. Currently under investigation.
Thursday, 11/21
5:35 p.m. Report taken of car vs. deer accident on Route 2 bypass.
Friday, 11/22
2:45 p.m. Welfare check on Central Street resident. Found to be OK.
9:30 p.m. Report of erratic operator on Route 2. Unable to locate.
Saturday, 11/23
12:30 p.m. Report of vandalism at Pocket Saver in Erving Center.
1:15 p.m. Report of suspicious male on Route 63, on bicycle, speaking with children.
2:15 p.m. Arrested [redacted] on a court warrant.
7:30 p.m. Single car motor vehicle crash at Erving/Orange line. Report taken.
Sunday, 11/24
4:35 p.m. Medical emergency on Mountain Road. Assisted on scene.
Tuesday, 11/26
1:30 p.m. Report of illegal dumping on Central Street. Under investigation.

Wednesday, 11/27
12:50 p.m. Suspicious vehicle at parking lot of Ervingside paper mill. Advised occupant that it was private property, and moved along.
4:30 p.m. Report of loose dog in Erving Center. Owner advised and picked up same.
Saturday, 11/30
1:22 a.m. Distraught female subject on East Main Street. Found to have had a verbal argument with a friend, and had another friend coming to pick her up.
Sunday, 12/1
4:10 p.m. Located subject illegally dumping at Ervingside paper mill. Same advised of private property. Report taken.

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

**Frequently Asked Questions:
St. John's Wort, and Stem Cells**

By FRED CICETTI

Q. What is St. John's Wort?

St. John's Wort – also known as hypericum herb, klamath weed or goat weed – is a plant with yellow flowers that are used to make teas and tablets. For centuries, the plant has been considered a remedy for mental problems, including depression and anxiety.

Does it work? St. John's Wort is not a proven therapy for depression. There is some scientific evidence that St. John's Wort helps in the treatment of mild-to-moderate depression. However, there have been two major studies that showed St. John's Wort is no better than a placebo for treating moderate depression.

Before you go to a store to buy some of this herb, consult with your personal physician. There are negative side effects from taking St. John's Wort.

These include: sensitivity to sunlight, anxiety, dry mouth, dizziness, gastrointestinal symptoms, fatigue, headache, or sexual dysfunction. This plant can also interact with drugs you're taking.

If you believe you are depressed and want treatment, there are approved antidepressant medications that work. Most people with depression get better with treatment that includes these medicines.

Q. What is a stem cell?

In your body, you have specialized cells that make up your brain, blood, bones and other anatomical parts. Stem cells are not specialized; they are master cells. Stem cells divide to form specialized cells or new stem cells.

There are two basic forms of stem cells – embryonic and adult.

Embryonic stem cells come from embryos that are a few days old. These cells can divide into more stem cells or any type of body cell. Embryonic stem cells have the greatest capacity to regenerate or repair diseased tissue in people.

Adult stem cells is a term used to describe stem cells found in adult tissues, children, placentas and umbilical cords.

Adult stem cells are often present in only small quantities. The primary functions of adult stem cells are to maintain and repair tissue.

The conventional wisdom has been that adult stem cells create only one kind of specialized cell, but a new theory suggests that these cells may have the potential to do more. For example, bone-marrow stem cells responsible for producing blood might be able to make nerve tissue.

Q. Can stem cells be used to treat Parkinson's disease?

Stem cells offer the possibility of a renewable source of replacement cells and tissues to treat many medical problems including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, spinal cord injury, stroke, burns, heart disease, diabetes and arthritis.

Parkinson's disease (PD) may be the first disease amenable to treatment with stem cells. In the early 1960s, scientists determined that the loss of brain cells was causing PD.

The cells that were depleted produced dopamine, a chemical that helps control muscle activity. Today, PD is treated with drugs and surgery.

PD is a complex disorder of the central nervous system. It is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States, after Alzheimer's.

The defining symptoms of PD include tremor, slowness of movement, rigidity, and impaired balance and coordination.

Questions? Send them to fred@healthygeezers.org

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

HK

Power Town Apartments

152 Avenue A
P.O. Box 48
Turners Falls, MA
413-863-9433

professionally managed by:

HallKeen Management, Inc.

rental office on the corner of Ave. A & 4th St.

Sharon Cottrell
Property Manager

DILLON CHEVROLET INC.

54 Main Street
P.O. Box 729
Greenfield, MA 01302

Chevrolet

Avalanche • Colorado • Suburban • Tahoe • Equinox • Traverse • Vans

RON SICARD
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Bus. Phone (413) 773-3678
Fax (413) 774-5746

REAL PICKLES

Naturally Fermented & Raw

Available at
Old Depot Gardens,
Uppingil, and Food City!

www.realpickles.com
(413)774-2600 Greenfield, MA

mww
Montague WebWorks . com

make the web work for your business.

michael muller owner
413.320.5336

28 Center Street
montague, ma 01351
info@montaguetwebworks.com

CopyCat PRINTSHOP

up-to-the-minute-technology
old-fashioned personal service

**27 YEARS OF MAKING COPIES
AND STILL THE ORIGINAL!**

•full color offset printing
•oversize copies
•files accepted by e-mail
•digital copies

180 Main Street, Greenfield • 413-774-3500
GREENFIELD@COPYCATPRINTSHOP.COM

DOLAN & DOLAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS
01376
413-863-3133

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

CONGRATULATIONS!

TFHS Football Team 2013 Western Mass Division VI Champions



A.H. Rist Insurance, Inc.

159 Avenue A
Turners Falls • 863-4373

Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.

310 Federal St., Montague
367-2481 • Congratulations from your friends at Sirum!

Hillside Plastics

262 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls • 863-2222

Greenfield Savings Bank

Yea! Yea! TFHS Football Champs!
We love you! • 863-4316

Geri Johnson & Associates, Realtor

66 French King Highway, Gill •
863-9736

Mackin Fuel

Trucking, Sand and Gravel
773-3633 • Congratulations!

Judd Wire, Inc.

124 Turnpike Rd. Montague. •
Congrats from all your Friends at
Judd Wire! • 863-4357

Rau's Auto

531 Turners Falls Rd.,
Montague • 367-2475
Congratulations!

St. Stanislaus Society

6 K Street, Turners Falls
863-0187 • Yea, Champs!

Edwards Tree Service

413-325-7823 • 978-544-7452
www.mattedwardstree.com

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A
Turners Falls • 863-3690

Southworth Paper Co.

26 Canal Street • Turners Falls •
Way to go! • 863-4326

Shanahan Construction Supply Co.

298 Avenue A, Turners Falls
863-4322 • Well done!

Dillon Chevrolet, Inc.

54 Main Street
Greenfield • 773-3678

Kostanski Funeral Home, Inc.

Kostanski Sq., Turners • 863-2447
220 Federal St., Greenfield • 773-9515

Montague Community Television

863-9200 • www.montaguetv.org
Congratulations, Team!

Shady Glen Diner

Turners Falls • 863-9636
www.Facebook.com/shadyglen
"Great Job!" from Charles Garbiel II

Montague Elks

Lodge #2521

1 Elks Avenue, Turners Falls
863-2521 • "Way to go, Guys!"

The Rendezvous Crew

78 Third St., Turners Falls
Thevoo.net • 863-2866

Greenfield Cooperative

Bank "Congratulations from your friends at GCB!" • 772-0293



Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center

2 Avenue A Turners Falls Visit
us on Facebook!
www.greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org

2nd Street Baking Co.

3rd Street, Turners Falls
863-4455
www.2ndstreetbakingco.com

McCarthy Funeral Home

Greenfield and Turners Falls
774-4808

In-Town Self Storage

Office: 50 Chapman Street,
Greenfield • 774-7775

Mohawk Real Estate

50 Chapman St. Greenfield
772-0076 • www.mohawkre.com
Congratulations!

Brian San Soucie, Locksmith

28 Montague St., Turners Falls
863-2471

Cruise & Travel

413-863-3143
www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com

Doug's Auto Body

67 Center Road, Gill
863-2785

About Face Solutions, Inc.

151 Avenue A, Turners Falls
413-863-5447

Couture Brothers

187 Avenue A, Turners Falls
863-4346 • Congratulations!

Franklin Grocery & Package Store

Pizzas and grinders!

Montague Bookmill

440 Greenfield Road
Montague • 367-9206

Montague Web Works

413-320-5336
www.montaguwebworks.com

Pipione's Sport Shop

101 Avenue A, Turners Falls
863-4246

Wagon Wheel Country Drive-In

Congratulations from us all!
Rt. 2, Gill • 863-8210
www.wagonwheelofgill.com

Riverside Radiator

48 French King Highway
Rt.2, Gill • 863-4049

Hallkeen Management, Inc.

Powertown Apartments
152 Avenue A, Turners Falls
863-9433

A. V. House

Direct TV for Turners Falls
863-8677 • Congratulations!

Scotty's on the Hill

66 Unity St. • 863-9634
Great job, Team!

Kharma Salon

Jackie Snow & Jen Letourneau
413-512-0271 • 863-2533

LOOT: Found and Made

62 Avenue A • 863-9500
www.loottheshop.com

Turn Lawn Care (TLC)

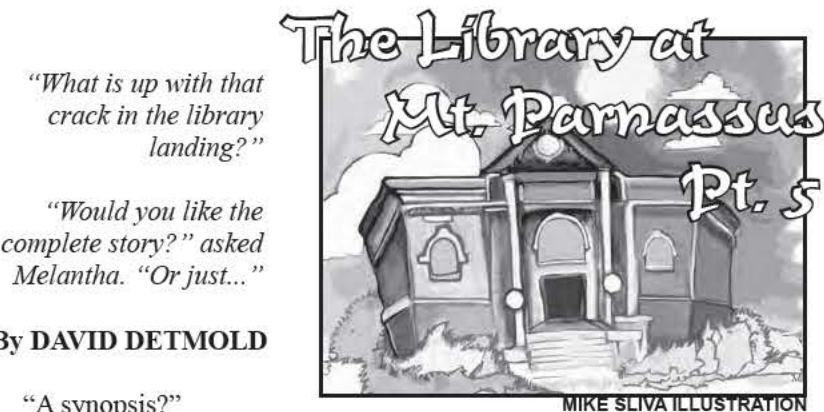
Gary Turn • 522-2563
Congratulations!

Carriage House Designs

TF, MA • 863-9499
www.signedinstone.com



ALL PHOTOS © DAVID HOITT 2013 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



By DAVID DETMOLD

“A synopsis?”

Seated on her tall wooden stool, Melantha stretched lazily, lifting up her arms until they formed a cashmere diamond, with her inner fingertips just touching above her head.

The crack in the landing,” she sighed, releasing her stretch and letting her hands fall slowly. “Would you like the complete story, or just the main points?”

“Oh, just the main points would be fine,” I mumbled.

Her voice was low, and seemed to begin before my ears could catch her intonation and trail off into a dim space somewhere out beyond my auditory range.

“... the shifting foundation of the library makes the public nervous,” she said. Her speech, punctuated with breathy lacunae, rose and fell in volume. “...Patrons of the library, desiring sameness, where none exists... requiring stability, in a realm of chaos... possessed of an obdurate faith in the rectitude of their civic transactions, in the belief that all things borrowed will one day be returned, neatly and in order...”

The sound of water slopping on the tiles in the entryway slipped in beneath the threshold of the swinging doors and lapped up the space between her words.

“...the patrons of the library disdain the slow entropic working of the scattering hands of time, the absent public mind... the endless encroaching impulse of disorder against all the artifice of man...”

Her fingers moved down over the soft nap of her dress like crab legs on beach sand.

“...the trustees sense a slippage... an idle drift from probity to profligacy... a great and general debasement of their dearest investments, all unappreciated, all encompassed and epitomized in the gradual shift of marble, the inching...invidious... advance of the chthonic crack... in the entrance to the library. Unchecked, they believe it will lead on to Freemasonry... debauchery... anarchy and decay. Beneath the bland facade of public order they sense the upwelling of some vast, untame, immeasurable abyss...”

As the words fell weightless from her lips, I let my eyes wander, following her fingertips’ lingering descent down the long length of her dress.

“So?”

“They want to tear it down and start anew. The steps. The landing. Everything. They want to lay bare the foundation and start again from scratch.”

For a moment, her fingers rested idly on the flair of her hips. Her gaze was half focused in the middle distance, somewhere beyond the foyer and its slowly turning chandelier.

Behind the desk, steam was rising from the floor vents.

Ulysses flapped languidly in from the reading room and circled in the misty air above her before disappearing into the dim recesses of the distant stacks.

I tried ordering my thoughts into clear consecutive sequences.

“Then, do you intend to accentuate... that is to say, do you anticipate, or have they been able to outline for you the contours of a plan? Or will we be facing, that is to say, will we be embracing, I imagine, upheavals and disturbances for some time to come? The regular patrons...” I gestured widely toward the reading room. “A millennium of dust while the work progresses... A corridor of moths. And the inconvenient thing, something lyrical about the loss of Saturday hours, your regular entrance closed, if I could put it to you that way, if I could only put my finger on it...”

“Never mind,” she said gently. She leaned across the desk, close to me at last.

“Melantha...” My eye fell on her ring. Its hammered gold band glowed like an ember against the red down of her dress. “Are you...? Do you...?”

Her dark eyes.

“Do you happen to have that new guide for preparing resumes for high tech firms?”

It wasn’t what I had meant to say.

“Author? Title?” She seemed amused.

“I... I’m not sure. Resume... Resumatrix... something like that.”

“Why?”

“Why?”

“Who needs it?”

“I do.”

“You do?”

“I think I do.”

“No, you don’t.”

“Oh but... I do. I really do. I mean, I think I do. I’m looking for one now. A job, I mean.”

Her perfume again; it made it hard for any man to concentrate.

“Really?”

“I think so.” A scent like sulphur, fine and startling, like the taste of silver on a cavity.

“And you think you’re ready for that?”

“Yes, of course.” What we were talking about?

“Well. What do you know?” She laughed pleasantly.

“I know what I need.” She was making fun of me.

“Such as?”

“A job, for starters.”

“Stand there for a little while,” said Melantha in a honeyed tone. “Something may come to you.”

She opened her dark eyes wide and took another book from the pile I had returned and began searching in the due box for its card.

Continued next week.

NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Two Weeks of Montague Mayhem: Wrong-Street Repo; Backyard Bowhunting; Gas Tank Sabotage; Paintball Tantrum; Beer Solicitor; Various Loose Ungulates

Monday, November 18
10:29 a.m. Verizon found to be working without traffic detail at Fifth and L Streets. Detail filled.
11:15 a.m. Brother-sister disagreement over newly painted wall in Millers Falls. Peace restored.
4:30 p.m. Report of three youths on scooters jumping off railings on the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. Youths spoken to.
10:09 p.m. Car vs. deer motor vehicle accident on Montague City Road.

Tuesday, November 19
8:16 a.m. Domestic disturbance on Turners Falls Road. Peace restored.
8:49 a.m. Reported recurrence of domestic disturbance on Turners Falls Road. Summons issued.
9:24 a.m. Domestic disturbance on Coolidge Avenue.
11:11 a.m. American and P.O.W. flags from park in Lake Pleasant found lying in yard, possibly ripped down by wind. DPW notified.
12:34 p.m. Recurrence of domestic disturbance on Coolidge Avenue. Peace restored.
8:13 p.m. A 41 year old Montague Center woman was arrested and charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon; intimidating a witness; domestic assault and battery; and malicious destruction of property over \$250.

Wednesday, November 20
1:31 a.m. Suspicious vehicle check at Route 63 Roadhouse. Male in vehicle en route from Springfield had pulled into lot to close his eyes for a while.
9:00 a.m. Report of loose pit bull jumping on a child at Avenue A and Fifth Street. Child not bitten, but pinned against wall. Dog called off by owner.
12:11 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.
12:49 p.m. Caller reported that tow truck was attempting to take a vehicle that has been paid off for seventeen years, and driver wouldn’t give him any information. Driver was at wrong house and off by a street. Peace restored.

1:27 p.m. Burglary/ breaking and entering on Third Street; Playstation stolen.
5:52 p.m. Physical altercation on Bridge Street. Advised of options.
6:03 p.m. Caller from Millers Falls reported that his girlfriend hit him twice with his car following a dispute and that he was injured. Northfield and Erving police involved. Female party located. Report taken.

Thursday, November 21
5:31 p.m. Caller observed beat-up red vehicle driving slowly from house to house on Old Stage Road and “flipping off” residents, including kids. Report taken.

Friday, November 22
12:38 a.m. Witness report of male and female in physical altercation at Avenue A and Fourth Street. Unable to locate.
8:44 a.m. Caller reported that a hunter in camouflage trespassed on his Meadow Road property, shot a turkey with a bow and arrow, and tried to leave with it. Caller confronted hunter and retrieved turkey; hunter drove off. Advised Erving PD to be on lookout for hunter. Environmental Police retrieved turkey from caller. State police notified Erving Police that hunter’s vehicle was back at his residence, and a bow and arrow were observed inside. Officer and Environmental Police arrived at hunter’s residence and obtained a confession. EPO issued a citation.

Saturday, November 23
12:58 a.m. Tenants above bar on East Main Street in Millers Falls exchanged words with bar patrons relieving themselves in alley. Referred to an officer.
6:44 a.m. Fire alarm triggered by burnt toast on J Street.
2:44 p.m. Motorist locked out of car by dog at F.L. Roberts. Services rendered.

Sunday, November 24
7:59 p.m. Faulty boiler caused large water leak from second to first floor at Sheffield Elementary School. TFFD advised.

Monday, November 25
9:05 a.m. Loose horse on Federal Street. Horse secured in caller’s pasture until owner could retrieve it.

2:55 p.m. Report of a threat made by a student against another student and a teacher. Services rendered.
5:37 p.m. Deer struck by truck near Gunn Road and Federal Street; believed to have broken leg; last seen running towards Podlensky’s sand pit. Unable to locate.
6:07 p.m. Suspicious vehicle in rail yard. Subject was texting. Moved along.
10:25 p.m. Threatening/ harassment on Fourth Street. Advised of options.

Tuesday, November 26
5:17 p.m. Witness report of road rage incident between two vehicles leaving Food City parking lot and heading toward library. Report taken.
6:12 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a default warrant.

Wednesday, November 27
6:53 a.m. Complaint of large pile of leaves dumped in Masonic Avenue. DPW advised.
11:29 a.m. Report of possibly inebriated male singing outside of field house at Unity Park. Subject found not to be drunk, but merely to be singing along with his iPod. Moved along.
3:36 p.m. Caller reported that someone put water in the gas tanks of her and her husband’s vehicles. Investigated.
9:36 p.m. Following a witness report of vehicle occupants sniffing white powder on Second Street, summons were issued to two juveniles: one charged with illegal possession of a class B substance and transporting/carrying an alcoholic beverage; the other charged with possession of a Class B drug.
11:47 p.m. Report of two drunken males damaging furniture on porch on Second Street, falling down on porch and in front yard, and walking off toward L Street. Unable to locate.

Thursday, November 28
5:55 a.m. Report of brush fire in area of last night’s bonfire at TFHS. TFFD responded.
11:34 a.m. Motor vehicle accident on Turners Falls-Gill bridge; one person injured.

Friday, November 29
2:35 a.m. Used syringe found in restroom at Cumberland Farms. Retrieved by officer and disposed of appropriately.
2:53 p.m. Subject dressed in full camo observed vandalizing building and automobile in Fourth Street parking lot with a paintball gun. Located parents of subject, who agreed to help son clean up mess.
3:40 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Third Street. Investigated.
5:36 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Griswold Street. Advised of options.
6:52 p.m. Rendezvous employee bitten by a patron’s alleged service dog. Patron, who was inebriated, taken into protective custody and released to responsible party.
7:24 p.m. Male party reported going house-to-house asking for beer on Worcester Street. Unable to locate.

Saturday, November 30
1:08 p.m. Carbon monoxide alarm at Millers Falls residence. TFFD notified. Positive CO reading in house.
4:20 p.m. Request for officer to speak with a man who does not clean up after his small dog. Unable to locate.
4:35 p.m. Two loose goats on Wendell Road. Returned to residence. Owner spoken to.
5:12 p.m. A 49 year old Turners Falls man was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery.
8:26 p.m. A Montague Center man was removed to the hospital following a domestic disturbance.
8:37 p.m. [redacted] was arrested and charged with failing to register as a sex offender, subsequent offense.

Sunday, December 1
1:56 a.m. Courtesy transport to Bernardston for a drunk man and his dog.
3:12 p.m. Callers reported hearing shots fired near the old Railroad Salvage building. Following report, caller learned that subject had been firing potato gun. Investigated.
4:57 p.m. Two horses and a donkey loose on Franklin Road in Gill reported to be causing a traffic hazard. Referred to Gill PD.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK 12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Doug's Auto Body
Doug Smith - Owner

PRECISION REPAIRS

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785 39 Center Road
Fax: (413) 863-0120 Gill, MA 01354
FREE ESTIMATES FREE LOANER CARS
REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS

413-256-6217

fine instruments
bought and sold
repaired and restored

Fretted Instrument Workshop
49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

Since 1895

On the Common
Greenfield, Massachusetts
Turners Falls, Massachusetts

McCarthy
FUNERAL HOME

(413) 774-4808
John C. Davis
Director

www.mccarthyfuneralhomes.com

B. RUBIN & SONS INC.

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS

Shocks • Tires • Batteries • Starters
Struts • Tune-ups • Brakes • Oil Change

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236

10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES

MASS INSPECTION STATION: NO. 13051

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

KUSTOM AUTOBODY
MA Reg #RS2066

48 Randall Road
Montague
Phone/413-863-3780

Mike Fuller, Owner

NEEDFUL THINGS
SELLING QUALITY
USED FURNITURE
AND COLLECTIBLES

~ NEW ITEMS ARRIVE WEEKLY! ~

Open Monday-Saturday • 413-774-7430
199 Deerfield Street (Rtes. 5& 10), Greenfield

FARMS from page B1

organic, mixed vegetable, berry, and flower farm selling produce wholesale, retail & through a Community Supported Agriculture program which serves more than 1,500 shareholders in the communities of the Connecticut River Valley and greater Boston area.

In 2009, the Voilands acquired the 108-acre former Tuvek farm along the Connecticut River in Montague and the adjacent 14-acre Blue Meadow Nursery property and greenhouses.

Red Fire Farm then worked with Mount Grace and the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources to protect that parcel with an agricultural preservation restriction that brought both the Tuvek and Blue Meadow parcels together into a unified farm with house, barns, office & greenhouses – an important step in making the farm sustainable that could not have been achieved without the work and cooperative support of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources and their Agricultural Preservation Restriction program.

While the land met the growing needs of Red Fire Farm, the high purchase price for each of the prime agricultural properties was driven by attractiveness as a residential setting and is not sustainable for a farm business. To find a way for farmers to have sustainable access to farmland, Mount Grace and Red Fire Farm devised the Campaign for Affordable Farms, based on the work of Equity Trust.

“Finding farmland with the necessary infrastructure is getting harder, as increasingly farm buildings are sold separately from their farmland,” said Sarah Voiland. “We are hoping this project can be a model for how to secure our working farms as whole entities.”

The \$400,000 capital campaign was launched publicly in May 2012 and was the most ambitious fundraising effort Mount Grace has ever attempted. “Taking on a challenge like this has helped Mount Grace

grow as an organization,” added Youngblood. “Thanks to the support of more than 400 donors, Red Fire Farm will become a permanently affordable whole farm held by Mount Grace as a community resource providing fresh, healthy produce forever. We hope this shared-ownership model will inspire more landowners to consider a similar future for their farms.”

Mount Grace’s decision to take an innovative approach to farm conservation attracted support from grantors interested in investing in new methods to make America’s food systems more sustainable. Leadership funding for the work came from The Bromley Charitable Trust, with additional project support from The 1772 Foundation, the Sand Dollar Foundation, the Hermann Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, the Adelard A. Roy and Valeda Lea Roy Foundation, the Rose Community Foundation, and more than 400 individuals.

With the first phase of the project now complete, the Voilands and Mount Grace invite the public to a celebration of the farm from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 14 at 184 Meadow Road in Montague. Visit the farm for hot chocolate and hot cider and learn about the Campaign for Affordable Farms and Red Fire Farm’s plans for the future. You may RSVP for the event at mountgrace.org.

Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust (mountgrace.org) is a regional land trust that serves 23 towns in Franklin and Worcester counties and is supported by more than 1,100 members and by private, state and federal grants. It protects significant natural, agricultural and scenic areas and encourages land stewardship in Massachusetts for the benefit of the environment, the economy and future generations. Since 1986, Mount Grace has helped



David Kotker works as the Development Manager for the Mount Grace Land Trust.

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was on December 4, 2003: News from The Montague Reporter’s archive.

The Democratic Lunchroom

As part of the school district’s cost cutting measures, Gill Elementary principal Bob Mahler now works half time at the Montague Center elementary school. When he tried to adopt a similar lunchroom seating arrangement there to the one in Gill’s lunchroom, with grade levels intermingled and older students helping set up and bus tables, there was a democratic uprising and, in Mahler’s words, “a teachable moment.”

Third-grader Dakota Smith-Porter went to Mahler to suggest that students should be able to vote on whether they could sit with their friends at lunch. Mahler decided to let majority rule. Free choice seating won, 71 to 19.

Mahler says he plans to establish a commission of kids to make

sure the return to free choice goes smoothly and peacefully for all.

Unmarked Remarks

A heated discussion took place at the Erving selectboard’s meeting on Monday. Board member Linda Downs-Bembury said she has received four separate citizen complaints regarding the lack of a magnetic placard to properly identify the police cruiser. The magnets were apparently stolen from the vehicle.

Downs-Bembury and fellow board member Bert Dubay both felt the car should be marked, but some residents, and the police department itself, feel the unmarked cruiser gives the department more flexibility for the types of work they can conduct. Board chair Andrew Tessier remained neutral on the subject, reminding his colleagues that all resident complaints are hearsay until formally brought to the entire board.

Editorial: Montague Loses A Friend

Walter Sojka, the dean of the Millers Falls town meeting delegation, passed away on Tuesday at Franklin Medical Center, with family near at hand. He was 85.

Born on 22 K Street in 1918, and graduating from TFHS ’36, he would go on to work at the Polish Food Coop, serve in the Navy during WWII, and then work as the regional delivery driver for Drake Bakeries for 41 years.

Montague Town Clerk John Zwyna said Sojka and Richard Guy were the last continuously serving members of the Montague town meeting. “I’m the last one left,” said Guy. He also served on the zoning and planning boards.

Sojka’s wife, Sophie, passed away nine years ago, and two of his sons, Richard and James, have moved out of town. His son Bob lived with him on Newton Street, and lives there still.

JFK from page B1

All these people were gathered in Leverett to see a theatrical reading of a play by author and actor Court Dorsey, with associate writers Steven Wanhg and Debbie Lynangale, titled “Project Unspeakable.” The play was inspired by a book by James Douglass titled John F. Kennedy and the Unspeakable. Many of the quotes and references come from this well-researched book. Director for this reading was Ingrid Askew.

This was one of many readings held on the same night in cities and towns throughout the nation, including Boston, New York, Chicago, Portland and many others. Locally, there were performances in Shelburne Falls and Charlemont. Sixteen actors make up the cast that speaks for close to one hundred historical figures, both living and dead.

At Leverett Elementary, the actors were arranged tightly on a small stage, facing the audience, each with a microphone before them. They read their lines with a mind to their meaning, and some dramatic influence but couldn’t move much, and so the scene was basically static. Not so for the words they spoke.

The play opens with Tenay played by Barbara Tiner, who is central to the story so holds her individual identity throughout, developing a relationship with the audience. She opens the play, asking questions, speaking of troubling dreams and thoughts. The cast: John Sheldon as Narrator 1, Rose Sackey Milligan as Narrator 2, Paula Green as Narrator 3. The narrators interact with Tenay in providing direct information and answers to her questions. They also represent others.

The main characters of this play are those assassinated leaders, portrayed by Tom Wolff as JFK, Amilcar Shabazz as Malcom X, Tim Bullock as MLK, Gary Gruber as RFK. The rest of the cast speaks the words of many individuals. They

are, Carlie Tartakov, Jim Perkins, Sackey, Barry Brooks, Peter Daniell, Jenny Daniell, Pat Fiero, Portia Weiskel, Alice Scheffey.

They speak the words of people who lived at the time and had a part in what took place, people like J. Edgar Hoover, Richard Helms, E. Howard Hunt, President Dwight Eisenhower, Nikita Krushchev, Justice William Douglas, President Jimmy Carter, Coretta Scott King, Betty Shabazz, Andrew Young, Dorothy Kilgallen, Maya Angelou, Tom Snyder, Sam Donaldson, Adrienne Rich, Jacqueline Kennedy and Lady Bird Johnson.

The play covers the years between 1960 to 1968 and includes the events of the Kennedy administration, such as the Cuban missile crisis and the Bay of Pigs failed invasion of Cuba, with some surprising information on both. It presents many facts around the assassination of President Kennedy but goes beyond that to look at the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Malcom X and Robert F. Kennedy.

In each case there are questions raised suggesting the official story does not match the facts, with quotes from witnesses to the events as well as questionable handling of the investigations. Using historical quotes from those who lived at the time, the play weaves a story that creates a picture of a nation driven by powerful people whose sole purpose is to maintain the power and influence of the United States of America.

When President Kennedy was killed we were told the information not made public at the time would be sealed for 50 years. Today it looks like the promise to unseal those records will not be kept. This play means to inspire questions and encourage those still looking for answers to seek to get them from our present leaders. It asks us all as citizens to take responsibility for the actions of our government, and de-

mand that we be properly informed.

To quote the program notes from the Leverett Peace Commission who sponsored the reading, the hope is “for ordinary people in all communities to bear responsibility to seek and proclaim the Truth of what is being done in our name. Our effort goes beyond trying to prove the facts behind these Unspeakable events – which may or may not ever be proven. We hope, on this anniversary, our effort will inspire others to inform themselves of actions our government continues in the name of security so that we can join together continuing the work of these great men who struggled toward Truth.”

Author Dorsey says they will continue to encourage more readings and hope to see a theatrical performance developed in the coming year. This was a very good start, with an enthusiastic response by the audience in Leverett, with a well paced, information rich presentation in this reading.



NOTES FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG
Domestic Violence Arrest

Monday, 11/25

7:40 a.m. Suspicious motor vehicle reported on Dole Road. Located hunter scouting area.
10:05 a.m. Officer requested in Riverside area for person taking pictures of homes. All OK.
3:15 p.m. Reported assault at Elementary School on Boyle Road.
10:15 p.m. Reported probation violation for West Gill Road resident.

Tuesday, 11/26

9:50 a.m. Motor vehicle accident at intersection of Route 2 and Main Road. No injuries reported.

10:02 p.m. Abandoned

911 call at Route 2 business. All secure.
11:25 p.m. Motor vehicle reported off roadway on Pisgah Mountain Road.

Wednesday, 11/27

3:20 p.m. Boyle Road resident reported credit card fraud.

Thursday, 11/28

11:34 a.m. Motor vehicle accident reported on Turners Falls-Gillbridge in Gill. Operator transported to Franklin Medical Center.

Friday, 11/29

12:35 p.m. Reported breaking & entering at Route 2 business, and motor vehicle stolen

from same. Under investigation.

4 p.m. Arrested North Cross Road resident for warrant.

8 p.m. Assisted Northfield PD with motor vehicle accident on Route 10.

Sunday, 12/1

10:30 a.m. Suspicious activity reported on Munns Ferry Road. Under investigation.

1:30 p.m. Arrested Mountain Road resident for domestic violence, and assault & battery on a police officer.

5:01 p.m. Animal complaint on West Gill Road. Horses and mules in the roadway.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

FUNK*SHUN
FUN, FUNKY, FUNCTIONAL
Custom: Sewing, Upholstery, Slip Covers,
Floors, Signs, Handbags, Pillows, Fabric Fun

38 3rd Street
Christa Snyder - Creator
Thur-Fri 11-6 Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4

Turners Falls
413-863-0003

WANTED:
Kawasaki
3- and 4-Cylinder Motorcycles
1969 to 1976
In Any Condition
Call Joe
(978) 760-5042
(508) 481-3397

couture bros
Since 1910
Professional Painting &
Decorating Contractor
Commercial • Residential • Industrial
“SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR OVER 100 YEARS”
www.couturebros.com
187 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

Pipione’s
SPORT SHOP
• Fishing supplies; Live bait
• Fishing & Hunting Licenses
• Paintball & CO₂ Refills
• Guns & Ammo
Open 7 am 7 days a week
101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246

Simply Computing
Onsite Software
Support on PCs and
Macs from Windows
to Office to
QuickBooks
Debbe Dugan
863-5030

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
DOORS & OPENERS
Devine Overhead Doors
Gerry Devine
106 West Street
Hadley, MA. 01035
Hampshire: 586-3161
Franklin: 773-9497



Now Open!

OPEN A NEW ACCOUNT
at our Turners Falls office
we'll automatically enter
you in our drawing!
\$500. - \$250. & \$100.
Visa Gift Card prizes!

No purchase required, 1 entry per person,
see bank for full details.

**Greenfield
Co-operative
Bank**

A Great Financial Partner



176 Avenue A - right next to the Post Office - Turners Falls

413 512-5012



A FULL SERVICE LOCATION



including

- > SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES
- > COIN COUNTING MACHINE
- > 24 HOUR DRIVE-UP ATM
- > NIGHT DEPOSIT



Julie Avery, Teller - Brenda Denison, Manager - Ingrid Zimmerman, Teller - Angie Marvell, Head Teller

**Stop by, say "Hi"
and enjoy FREE refreshments
while you look over
our new location in
downtown Turners Falls!**

Lobby & Drive-up
Mon. ~ Thurs. 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday 8:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday 8:30am - 12 noon
24 Hour Drive-up ATM

BestLocalBank.com

MEMBER FDIC MEMBER SIF

Coin counting machine use is no charge for GCB customers / small charge for non-customers, safe deposit boxes available to GCB account holders only, ask us for complete details!



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

ONGOING:

EVERY DAY IN DECEMBER

Historic Deerfield, Deerfield (excluding Dec. 24 & 25) Open Hearth Cooking, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Gift Making in the Visitor Center at Hall Tavern Ballroom, 12-4:30 p.m., \$.

EVERY SUNDAY

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

EVERY THURSDAY

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

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

EVERY FRIDAY

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

ART SHOWS:

University Museum of Contemporary Art, UMass, *Du Bois In Our Time*, exhibit continues through December 15.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus, Sloan Theater: GCC student music performance *Contemporary Music and Chorus Ensembles*, 7 p.m.



Trailer Park rocks the Arts Block on Saturday, December 7, at 8 p.m. James, Tom, Rick, Joey, and Greg create a ten-legged rock and roll machine powered by guitar, bass, drums, and twin tenor saxophones!

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poets Series* poetry reading featuring Kate Hanson Foster & Karen Skolfield, 7 p.m.

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

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Rooster*, classic rock, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield: *BPMC Employee Artisans & Craft Fair*, unique hand-crafted items, silent auction. Benefit BMC Surgical Services, 8 to 4 p.m.

Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls: *Mostly Martha*, \$, 7:30

p.m. with music before the movie: *Natural Music School*, food songs, 7 p.m.

Mohawk Trail Regional HS, Buckland: *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, performance by Mohawk Trail Regional School students, \$, 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Drew Paton's 1940s (& 50s!) Hit Parade*, 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *John Statz*, 8 p.m.

The Arts Block Cafe, Greenfield: *Alafia*, Afrofunkypolyrhythmicbliss! \$, 8 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *James Montgomery*, \$, 9 p.m.

Free. 7:30 p.m.

The Arts Block Cafe, Greenfield: *Trailer Park*, \$, 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Kristin Hoffman*, singer/songwriter, 8 p.m.

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

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Ketch-Fyre*, classic rock, \$, 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Suzees Lost and Found Fashion Show* (live runway show in bar and laundromat!) dance afterparty with DJ Greg2000, \$.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

Montague Center Congregational Church: *Christmas Concert*, choral, dulcimer, guitar, carol sing to follow. 2 to 3 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Carolyn Walker*, singer/songwriter, 2:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Greenfield Community College's line literary mag *Plum* reading, 4 p.m. and then TNT Karaoke starting at 9 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Maris Otter*, original folk/rock by Alyssa Kelly & Jen Spingla, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

Max's House, Third Street, Turners Falls: Off That Chain #2, featuring *Frank Hurricane*, *Bad History Month*, *MWCHINS*, and *Miss Olivia Kennett*. 8 to 10 p.m. Bring a donation.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Nick's Sweet '80s Movie: *Grem-lins*, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Greenfield Community College, Sloan Theater, Greenfield: *The Vocal Jazz Ensemble*, directed by Matthew Shippee. Vocalists Ellen Blanchette, Jessica Dow, Bailey M. Gardener, Mina Kent, Glenna Jones and Kristie Speck. Musicians Jonny Macguet and Jason Melchiorre on guitar and Will Byler on j bass, 7 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Nora & Martha's Open Microphone*, 8 p.m. (7:30 sign-ups)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Greenfield Community College, Dinning Common, Greenfield: *The Vocal Jazz Ensemble*, see 12/10 listing, noon.

The Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Blues & Jazz Standards* at Dinner, Ted Wirt & John Harrison present Blues & Jazz Standards at Dinner, with featured artist Peter Farber, saxophonist, 5 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Simon White-Acoustic Style*, 8 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Uncle Hal's Crabgrass Band*, american. Free, 8 p.m.

GFMS & TFHS Holiday Concert,

Turners Falls High School Theater, 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple*, with Jim Henry, Guy DeVito, Doug Plavin and Tommy Boynton, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Home Body and boom boom*. Band, DJs. Dance. \$, 9:30 p.m.

Memorial Hall Theater

POTHOLE PICTURES

Friday & Saturday

December 6 & 7, 7:30 p.m.

MOSTLY MARTHA

Music at 7 p.m.
Friday, *Natural Music School*,
food songs
Saturday, *Abdul Baki*, piano

51 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls 625-2896



The Brick House

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

24 3rd Street, Turners Falls

Teen Drop-In Center
Tues.-Sat., 2:30-6:00 p.m.

For information:

www.brickhousecommunity.org

(413) 863-9576



Draft Beer Fine Wine Great Food

Friday, 12/6 9:30 p.m.

The Equalites. reggae

Saturday, 12/7 9 p.m.

Doug Hewitt Group

classic rock dance party

Sunday, 12/8 8 p.m.

Maris Otter, original folk/rock by
Alyssa Kelly & Jen Spingla

978-544-BREW

57A Lockes Village Road

Next to the Wendell Country Store
www.DejaBrewPub.com



ASK ABOUT LUNCH CLUB!

THURS. 12/5 8pm FREE
Falltown String Band

FRI 12/6 7pm FREE
Drew Paton's Hit Parade

SAT 12/7 ALL NIGHT \$3
Suzee's Lost and Found Fashion Show
Simulcast and Dance Party
w. DJ Greg2000

SUN. 12/8 9pm FREE
TNT KARAOKE



78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS, MA
RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM
TEL: 413-863-2866

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM).

CALL 863-8666

FOUR WINDS SCHOOL

The strengths of the one-room school meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

nurturing each student's strengths and curiosity,
challenging every student every day,
helping students develop the determination and the
basic skills they need to follow their own inspiration

413 863-8055 www.fourwinds.school.info



Bryan G. Hobbs
Remodeling Contractor

Blown Cellulose Insulation • Airsealing • Energy Audits
Replacement Doors & Windows • Roofing • Siding
Home Repairs • Spray Foam Insulation

Call Now for a Free

Energy Audit:

(413) 775-9006

Bryan G. Hobbs

346 Conway St., Greenfield
bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com



GREAT SEAFOOD &
GOOD TIMES

Irish Seisun Music

Thursday 4 to 7

Friday 9 to 1

163 Sunderland Rd. • Amherst
(413) 548-6900

[Pam Veith
REALESTATE]

Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald

REALTOR, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR

75 Main Street, Suite 105,
Northfield, MA 01360

www.PamVeithRealEstate.com



Office: (413) 498-0207 x2
Cell: (413) 834-4444
Home: (413) 863-9166
Home Fax: (413) 863-0218
bedson1@comcast.net

Renaissance
Builders

Quality, Craftsmanship, Original Thought

www.renbuild.net

863-8316



CRUISE & TRAVEL
COMPANY



30 Montague St.
TURNERS FALLS



413-863-3143 | 888-763-3143
www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com

THIRD THURSDAY TURNERS FALLS

DECEMBER 19 - IT'S A WONDERFUL NIGHT!

5:30-8:30 pm

Photos & Glass Blowing Demo at River Station, 3rd St + Unity Park

Craft Fair at St. Kazimierz, 197 Avenue A

6:00 pm

Caroling begins at The Rendezvous, 78 3rd St

6:30-7 pm

Dance performance at The Brick House, 24 3rd St

7:00 pm

Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa at Spinner Park, Avenue A + 4th

8:30 pm

Enjoy a FREE screening of the classic film "It's a Wonderful Life" at The Shea Theater

sponsored by:

DAMS from page B1

building sites for homes, airport construction and the industrial sites of today.

Gregory presented spectacular historic photos of construction of new dams and the demolition of old dams that had preceded the replacements, adding anecdotes of his personal experience of favorite fishing places and other interesting tidbits.

It was fascinating to see the

first crude crib dams succeeded by more and more sophisticated dams up to the present two sections of dam which have electronic controls remotely activated from the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage control room. These modern devices control water flow through sophisticated gates.

He pointed out that the massive construction of the early dams went on without much in the way

of modern equipment such as that used in construction of the current dam. Gregory was assisted by John Crowley who worked for Western Mass Electric Company for 37 years as superintendent of the canal crew.

From time to time he called on Crowley to add information, or to confirm that information he presented was factually correct in regard to the canal and dam.



Frequent the Voo for lunch?

You should, join the club.

Have lunch nine times and the tenth is on us.

413-863-2866

Free Lunch!

RIVER from page B1

earlier) as if planted there on purpose, since my back porch was missing a plank, just exactly that size. It was meant to be and I wasn't going to pass it up.

Ah this plank was beautiful! If you have any kind of a love for wood, you know what I mean. Grain running up and down her length, the sun and salt water had rendered this board as perfect as any driftwood sculpture.

A winter storm had surely thrown it up above the high tide line, for me to find. I slid the plank just a little further into the beach grass to hide it, memorized the spot, and determined I would come back with a bigger vehicle to take it home for my back porch.

And that is just what I did this day, a month later.

The sky was both deep blue and ominous gray, the storm line clearly traced across the heavens as the snow clouds advanced from the northwest. But above me the sky remained clear, only briefly so, in the already golden early afternoon sun.

The dunes rolled for miles, brilliant winter berries sprayed in a haze over the desert-like landscape, swaths and diaphanous clouds of red. The beach grasses shone golden brown, some having traced perfect those circles in the sand, under the wind. The lovely poison ivy had turned a tarnished coppery color, and the bay berries blue like they should be.

Far off shore, several dozen whitish sandpipers, likely sanderlings, clustered and seemed to hang on by their toenails as they rode barnacle-covered rocks, just barely above the breaking surf. Two purple sandpipers had joined them while eiders rose and fell carefree up and down the rolling waves of the flowing tide.

Not far down the beach, two magnificent peregrine falcons perched on a driftwood tree limb, their hooded plumage and fierce eyes giving them a menacing look, for these are the most massive and powerful falcons nature has produced.

Indeed, one was picking apart a shorebird, likely one of the innocent sanderlings, who just moments before, had been running up and down the tide on his delicate pinwheel legs.

He had been feasting on his briny prey in the surf, when he in turn had become a meal for the next higher-up in the food chain. Nature is indifferent, and everyone has to eat.

A lone beach walker shared that my totem bird, the snow owl had been seen in the dunes on the hunt also, but he and I were not to cross paths on this day. In my mind's eye, I see him floating ghost-like over the dune crest. He will still be there in late December, when I come back looking for him.

A snow squall hit as I was making my way back to the truck on the boardwalk across the dunes. Bright sunshine, slanting golden in the west slipped and slipping under the white swirl of the sudden snow. Such a contradiction in weather, sun and snow and summer beach thoughts now bracingly chilled.

Once my plank was safely stowed in the vehicle, I headed west into the sun, which was still disputing the weather with the swirlingly localized snow. A double espresso in town and I'd be keeping my eyes open wide all the way home.

Entering my home street, another snowburst exploded and whipped suddenly across the windshield causing a whiteout not 20 feet from my front door, abruptly changing the calendar in my mind to December for sure. It felt as if a giant hand had shaken a snow globe and the whole world around us was suddenly now snowshot into winter.

And sure enough, the next morning, that familiar white light of snow-reflection filled all the rooms and brightened the ceilings, and we were right back where we left off, a scarce 7 months ago!

For more of David's writing, visit his website: ancestryplaceandrace.com



MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM!

ECTOP, LASMO EGAD ACK ACK "ACK," ACK ACK "ACK ACK";
"ACK ACK" ACK ACK C ROWWOJ QUUOYW GD WAO WOCYAOJ.

CRACK THE CODE? SEND YOUR ANSWER TO:
INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Mary Lou Emond

Certified Residential Specialist

Real Estate Agency

117 Main Street • PO Box 638
Greenfield, MA 01302-0638

413-773-1149 x142 • CELL: 413-772-9279

EMAIL: MARYLOU@COHNANDCOMPANY.COM

Serenity Home Organizing

decluttering, downsizing, deep cleaning

Jill Bromberg

Montague, MA

413.367.9959

clear your space, clear your mind

20% off your Back to School purchase with coupon

310 MAIN STREET, GREENFIELD | (413) 774-2345

WWW.BAKEROFFICESUPPLY.COM

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

magpiepizza.com

21 Bank Row, Gild.

413-475-3570

woodfired pizzeria

The Gill Tavern

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

Now serving Sunday Brunch! 10am-2pm

www.thegilltavern.com

326 Main Road, Gill, MA

Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM

413-863-9006

Your REPLACEMENT for Vermont Yankee

GREENFIELD

SOLAR STORE

413 772 3122

Advice, Design & Installation

www.SolarStoreofGreenfield.com

TURN'S LAWN CARE

Landscape Design & Maintenance

Now Scheduling Fall Cleanups

522-2563

www.TurnLawnCare.com

Geri Johnson, Realtor

ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES

413-863-9736 • GeriJohnson@Realtor.com

Don't settle for less

Choose a CRS (Certified Residential Specialist)

Only 4% of all REALTORS hold this prestigious designation.

The CRS is my badge of expertise and your shield of assurance. Put your trust in the best to get the job done.

Whether buying, selling or referring, always choose GERI JOHNSON, CRS 30 years of experience.

66 French King Hwy., Gill

(413) 863-9736 • WWW.GJAR.COM

MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309