

Out of the Pantry and onto the Gallery Walls Napkin Art

How Potatoes Become Hats
Ink on Paper... Napkin by Dawn Siebel

Page 9



A First Year Coordinating Local Food

Page 14

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 10 - NO. 16

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

75¢

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 22, 2012

Governor Patrick Praises Gill Elementary



ELLEN BLANCHETTE PHOTO

Governor Deval Patrick shows off his familiarity with bridge construction to Betsy Burnham's second graders during his visit to the Gill Elementary School on January 12th.

BY ELLEN BLANCHETTE - Gill Elementary was buzzing with anticipation as principal Kathleen Adams stood in the doorway with her staff and a few chosen students, waiting for governor Deval Patrick to arrive.

When he pulled up the curving drive through the first slushy snow of winter, Adams and her crew gave

the governor a warm welcome, and then led him to the classrooms.

The governor seemed right at home, whether he was reading to kindergarten students, joining in on a hands-on project with second graders, answering serious questions on international trade with sixth graders or talking about his own personal experiences

with Lori Rinaldi's third grade class. He was engaged, charming, easily answering the students' questions, posing them new ones, and clearly enjoying himself every minute.

Patrick began in Kelly Gobeil's kindergarten class, reading to students from *Make Way for Ducklings*, by Robert

McCloskey, a good book for someone visiting from Boston to read. Patrick used an expressive style, stopping at each page to show the students the well-known illustrations, also by McCloskey.

The youngsters responded happily, raising their hands to answer questions, as when Patrick see **PATRICK** page 12

Leverett Examines the Cost of War

"A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death." - Martin Luther King, Jr. speaking in 1967

BY DAVID DETMOLD

On Friday night, as a light snow blew along the back roads of Franklin County, two dozen residents gathered in the chilly meeting room of the town hall to discuss the implication of the nation's military spending on the town of Leverett.

Tom Wolff, of the Leverett peace committee, an ad hoc citizen's group whose educational efforts were endorsed by town meeting in May of 2011, called the meeting together by pointing out that Leverett taxpayers contributed more money to the military in 2011 - \$6,977,688 - than the entire 2011 budget for running the schools and town departments - \$5,148,863.

He asked those in attendance to come up with an alternative 'peace budget,' for town departments, by

taking just a quarter of the total Leverett spends now on the military, and divvying that money up in ways that may better reflect local priorities, including allocating a fraction toward programs "to foster a sustainable, resilient culture of peace locally in Leverett that includes commitment to a global vision of people living out a just peace in harmony with nature."

Wolff proposed sending the results of this community budgeting session to the town's legislators and to the Obama administration. But first he invited attendees to listen to an analysis of current military spending from a local expert, Chris Hellman, a senior policy analyst at the Northampton nonprofit National Priorities Project, which specializes in the impact of federal spending on localities.

Hellman, a former Congressional aide who held similar policy positions for the Center for Arms Control and the Center for Defense Information in Washington before coming to

see **COST** pg 11

With Woman, with Child BIRTH CARE COMMUNITY MIDWIVES



LEE WICKS PHOTO

Rebecca Beck (left) and Megan Hill at Birth Care Community Midwives

BY LEE WICKS
MONTAGUE CENTER
If you are a woman considering home birth, Rebecca Corliss Beck and her partner Megan Hill have established Birth Care Community Midwives in

Montague Center to help you every step of the way.

They moved their practice from Greenfield to the professional building right next to the Bookmill a year ago. The light-filled space is cozy and nurturing with

a toy area for siblings, rocking chairs, an area for examinations and a seating area where women can discuss anything on their minds as they approach this momentous rite of passage.

see **MIDWIVES** pg 6

Sonam Lama, Tibetan Stonemason & Entrepreneur

REBECCA RIDEOUT

DEERFIELD - Sonam Lama of South Deerfield is on a mission to turn the mundane into the marvelous. Sonam has created an aesthetic for his local stonework company, Sonam's Stonewalls, as well as his renovated commercial properties that is both comforting and elegant, familiar yet unique.

Sonam and his work crew have been building intricately beautiful stone patios, walkways, fireplaces, and walls for Valley residents since 1986.

see **SONAM** page 13



Sonam Lama, left, has recently opened the Tibetan Inn bed and breakfast at the Tibetan Plaza in Deerfield.

RIDEOUT PHOTO

PET OF THE WEEK

Sweet Year Round



Egg Nog

Hi, my name is Egg Nog. I'm a three year old female cat. Egg nog may be out of season but if you take me home you can have me all year long! I was found outside by a nice person who took me in and let me have my kittens in her home. I'm a quiet yet friendly kind of gal. Most of the time I just lounge around, but I do enjoy an occasional romp in the sink with the water running. Nobody knows why my tail is short; that's a secret! Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane society at 413-548-9898 or info@dpvhs.org to learn more about me.

Correction

The quarterly meeting of the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission will begin at 9:30 a.m., not 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, January 24th, at the Conte Anadromous Fish Lab on Migratory Way in Turners Falls.

RECYCLE

BOTTLES & CANS!
Week of January 24th in Montague

more info? call: 863-2054

NANCY L. DOLE
BOOKS & EPHEMERA

32 Bridge Street,
2nd Floor
Shelburne Falls

413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com closed Mondays

The Montague Reporter

Published weekly on Thursday.
(Every other week in July and August. Wednesday paper fourth week of November. No paper last week of December.)
PHONE (413) 863-8666
reporter@montaguema.net
Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Montague Reporter
58 4th Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Advertising and copy deadline is Tuesday 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 reserve 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.

Local Subscription Rates:
\$20 for 1/2 Year

WENDELL FREE LIBRARY NEWS

Reading, Book Signing and Film Series

Bob Ellis, author of the newly-published *Naked: A GI Memoir*, will read from his book on Saturday, January 28th at the Wendell Free Library from 4-5:30 p.m.

At age 19, Bob Ellis volunteered for the U.S. Army. He became one of a number of "elite soldiers" trained in the technology of nuclear weapons. His memoir takes us inside life in the U.S. military early in the Cold War and traces Ellis's struggle to come to terms with the implications of his choices.

As he writes, "I was blindly trusting the Army - with no idea what I'd volunteered for... Yet, whether I was an elite troop or a dogface soldier, I understood I was at the heart of something vast and ominous." Discussion will follow the reading. Free.

On Sunday, January 22nd, at 7 p.m., the Wendell COA Film Series presents *The Piano* plus *Owl Movie*, a student video.

The Piano (1993, 121 mins, rated "R") stars Holly Hunter as a mute but strong-willed 19th-century Scottish expatriate who arrives in New Zealand with her daughter (Anna Paquin) and her beloved piano in tow. Although betrothed to a landowner (Sam Neill), she's pulled into an affair with a laborer (Harvey Keitel). Hunter and Paquin both won Oscars for their performances in this haunting drama, as did writer-director Jane Campion.

Owl Movie, (6 mins) this month's short feature is a video by Streeter Elliot, a student of Amie Keddy's at Bement School. It is a delightful production about owls. Although quite young, Streeter shows great promise as a filmmaker with this production.

The movies, shown in the deluxe library cinema, are free! For more info, contact: Douglas Dawson at (978) 544-7762 or ddawson@post.harvard.edu

SHUTESBURY LIBRARY NEWS

Tie Broken in Favor of New Library

Last week, 75% of Shutesbury's voters turned out for a second vote in as many months on a \$1.3 million debt exclusion override for the town's share of a proposed \$3.5 million, 5,800-square foot new building to replace the 103-year old Spear Memorial Library. The vote ended in a dead heat, tied 522-522. On Tuesday, town clerk Leslie Bracebridge determined that the single ballot that had been embargoed as provisional, when a voter whose name did not appear on the voting rolls could only produce a Connecticut drivers license as ID, was cast validly by a registered voter in the town of Shutesbury. That vote was in favor of funding the library, and Bracebridge declared the

tie broken in favor of the new building.

In addition to the provisional ballot, eight other votes were challenged over issues of residency. Opponents of the new library building have requested a recount, and those eight challenged ballots will be particularly scrutinized. Monday, January 25th is the proposed date for the 1045 ballots to be recounted by hand.

Supporters of the new building are continuing their fundraising efforts to offset the costs of the new library to Shutesbury taxpayers. After raising more than \$170,000, the board of library trustees just announced a matching gift of \$150,000 (which they will receive if they succeed in raising another \$150,000.)

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES - January 9th through 13th

GILL-MONTAGUE Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Kerry Togneri is the meal site manager. Council on Aging director is Roberta Potter. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted. Appointments are now being scheduled for free AARP tax aid. Sign up now for RAD self-defense course with Lt. Sue Corey beginning 1/24. For information, meal reservations, or to sign up for programs, call (413) 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine if the center is not open.

Monday, January 23rd
10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
1:00 p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday, January 24th
10:30 a.m. Seated Health Program
1:00 p.m. RAD Self Defense
Wednesday, January 25th

10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:30 a.m. Monthly Health Screening
11:00 a.m. Fire Safety with Captain Mike Morin
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, January 26th
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, January 27th
10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
1:00 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For Center and program information, call Polly Kiely, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Lunch is daily at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 24 hours in advance. Call Mealsite Manager Rebecca Meuse at (413) 423-3308, for meal information and reservations. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity. Please call the Senior Center to confirm activities, schedule and to find out when the next blood pressure clinic will be held.



SAN FRANCISCO - For the second year in a row, Greenfield-based *Real Pickles* was awarded a top honor for their Organic Garlic Dill Pickles at the recent Good Food Awards in San Francisco. Co-owners Dan Rosenberg and Addie Holland use certified organic vegetables from local family farms in all their products. *Real Pickles* uses a traditional fermentation process with no vinegar to make its line of pickled vegetables. The Good Food Awards highlight outstanding American food producers who are making food that is delicious and supports sustainability.

Turnpike Road Energy Park

MONTAGUE - The Montague planning and conservation department will host a public informational session regarding the future vision of 183 acres for municipal land off Sandy Lane on Wednesday, February 1st, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

The town is actively planning the productive reuse of the property as a sustainable light industrial area that would incorporate solar arrays on the landfill, small industrial lots, a new public works facility, and conservation land.

Planning consultants The Cecil Group, Inc will present the vision and provide the public an opportunity comment on an early draft of the master plan. All are invited and highly encouraged to attend. Your input is critical at this early stage of the plan.

Refreshments will be served. For more info, contact Walter Ramsey, town planner at planer@montague-ma.gov.

WENDELL COUNTRY STORE

"It's just a stone's throw from reality."

Groceries - Videos - Home Baked Goods
Beer - Wine - Liquor

MON - SAT 7-9, SUNDAY 8-8
978-544-8646
Lockes Village Rd.
1/2 mile south of Wendell Center

Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

Grade 6

Rachel Tucker
Tanner Ames

Grade 7

Nicole Thibeault

Grade 8

Riley Palmer

LIVE IN
EST. 1754
MONTAGUE?

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

Feel Like a Brand New Person!
With a Haircut at **Ed's Barber Shop**

74 Avenue A • 863-2085
Crew Products • Gift Certificates

"56 Years on the Ave"

WE HEAT FRANKLIN COUNTY

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

(413) 773-3622



Local Briefs

JESSICA LARWIN ILLUSTRATION

COMPILED BY DON CLEGG - The Knights of Columbus held their annual youth free throw shooting contest on Saturday, January 14th, at the Sheffield gym. The local champs who moved on to the next round were Xavier Santiago, age 10, of Millers Falls; Kasia Dobosz, age 11, of Greenfield and sisters Karissa Flemming, age 10, and Kylie Fleming, age 12, of Montague Center.

The next **Gill/Montague School Partnership** meeting will be held Wednesday, January 25th, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in the Gill-Montague regional administration building, 35 Crocker Avenue, third floor. The focus will be on using social media to get the message out for organizations and community groups. Bring your smart phone, ipad or laptop if you have one. Contact the Partnership by January 23rd if you will need childcare at manager@gmpartnership.org or 863-3604.

Volunteers from Pioneer Valley **Habitat for Humanity**, as well as other community members, will give a presentation on how Haiti is doing two years after the earthquake, based on their recent visits to this impoverished nation. The talk is open to the public on Sunday, January 29th, starting at 11:30 a.m. at First Churches, 129 Main Street in Northampton. Presenters will include ministers, doctors, students, and Habitat volunteers recently returned from Haiti.

The Community Crisis Response Team (CCRT), a program of Community Action, is providing a new **Trauma Recovery Coaching** group that will meet the fourth Friday of each month in the winter and

spring. Join CCRT Director, Diana Bella, for the first session on Friday, January 27th, from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Using coaching techniques and kinesiology, participants will work toward meeting healing or other life goals that were put on hold due to an experience of trauma. This free support group is open to anyone in Franklin or Hampshire Counties and the North Quabbin region who has ever been affected by crime-related trauma. Vegetarian lunch will be provided. Held at the CCRT office, 277 Main Street, 4th floor in Greenfield. Registration requested by contacting CCRT at 413-773-5090 or ccrt@communityaction.us

Area residents are invited to participate in a **new support group** to explore the issues of "Living Fully, Aging Gracefully, and Befriending Death." The first meeting will take place on Monday, January 23rd, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., at a participant's home, still to be determined, in Greenfield. The group will meet twice each month through June, and participants may attend regularly or occasionally. For more information please call 413-625-6374 or email johnpberk@gmail.com.

The 2012 Historic Deerfield **Open Hearth Cooking** Program will celebrate its 25th year of service with the annual winter lecture series titled, "Gathering, Gardening, Preserving: Exploring Local Food in New England."

The first lecture, "Enough is Not Enough: 19th-Century Food Preservation," will be given on Sunday, January 22nd, starting at 2:00 p.m., by Debra Friedman,

from Old Sturbridge Village. The series is free, open to the public and held in the Deerfield Community Center (formerly the White Church Community Center).

There will be a **benefit concert**, speak out and other activities to benefit the SAGE Alliance campaign to shut down the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant on Saturday, February 4th, from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Leverett town hall. Free food and refreshments will be available, with a \$5 to \$15 sliding scale for admission.

Speakers will include Frances Crowe and Hattie Nestel, from the Shut It Down affinity group, and Randy Kehler, from the Safe and Green Campaign, among others. Musicians will include Court Dorsey, Annie Hassett, Annie Patterson, Julia Burroughs, Christian Hine, Ann Ferguson and Paul Newlin and the bands Red Valley Fog, Outer Style, Who Da Funk It?, Snakebaby, and others. There will also be a short performance by the Ever Evolving Soul Circus and other activities for children, including art and face painting.

"Sea Change," a free film presented by Greening Greenfield energy committee, will be shown on Wednesday, January 25th, at 6:30 p.m. Are you concerned about the health of our oceans and what you can do about it? Come to this inspirational film about a grandfather's search for answers to explain to his grandson what is happening to the oceans and their ecosystems. Held in the Greenfield Public Library community room, 400 Main Street in Greenfield.

An information fair for Veterans and their families will be held Thursday, January 26th, from noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Greenfield Savings Bank, 282 Avenue A, in Turners Falls. Veterans Administration repre-

see BRIEFS pg 5

Massachusetts Finds No Evidence of Wind Turbine Syndrome

BY KATIE NOLAN

BOSTON - "There is no evidence for a set of health effects from exposure to wind turbines that could be characterized as a "Wind Turbine Syndrome."

This was one of the main conclusions reported by a scientific panel organized by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) to study the potential health effects of living near wind turbines.

The January 17th report found:

- "There is limited evidence of an association between wind turbine noise and both annoyance and sleep disruption, depending on the sound pressure level at the

location of concern." However, the panel concluded "there is insufficient evidence to determine whether there is an association between noise from wind turbines and annoyance independent from the effects of seeing a wind turbine and vice versa."

- "The strongest epidemiological study suggests that there is not an association between noise from wind turbines and measures of psychological distress or mental health problems."

- "None of the limited epidemiological evidence reviewed suggests an association between noise from wind turbines and pain and stiffness, diabetes, high blood pressure, tinnitus, hearing

see WIND page 5

Gill-Montague School Committee to Discuss Ekstrom's Contract

BY DAVID DETMOLD - At the Gill Montague Regional School Committee meeting on January 10th, Jane Oakes made a motion to offer interim superintendent Nadine Ekstrom a three-year contract. The school committee's lawyer, Russell Dupere, advised the committee to put off that discussion until Tuesday, January 24th, since the posted agenda had not included mention of Ekstrom's contract.

In June, 2011, after Carl Ladd abruptly left the post of superintendent, the selectboards of Montague and Gill unanimously endorsed a letter to the school committee calling for a collaborative process in choosing the next superintendent, with a search committee made up of members of both selectboards and the school committee.

Gill selectboard member Ann Banash made this same pitch directly to the school committee at their meeting on May 24th,

2011. After hearing her, the committee proceeded to immediately follow the recommendation of the departing superintendent, and hired Ekstrom on an interim basis.

At a follow-up meeting with Langknecht on June 7th, Banash said, "I felt this was handled very badly. I hope we will be included in discussion of future superintendents," and with the backing of her colleagues, asked for the establishment of a superintendent search committee to evaluate available candidates prior to February, 2012.

Now, with a decision on Ekstrom's status apparently fast approaching, Banash said this week, "We have not discussed this recently as a board, but I personally feel we would still stand by our original comments to the school committee. We asked to be involved in any decision about Nadine's permanent

see BRIEFS pg 5

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 / WK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Patrick Smith
CSSL # 100236
Insured

Montague, MA 01351

EASTERN WEATHERIZATION
Specializing in Cellulose Insulation and Vinyl Replacement Windows:

Toll Free 413-367-2228
866-262-5361 FAX 413-367-2212

PETER WATERS
HOUSE PAINTING

Interior Exterior 978-544-6534 Wendell MA

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

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

McCarthy
FUNERAL HOME

Since 1895
On the Common
Greenfield, Massachusetts
Turners Falls, Massachusetts

(413) 774-4808
John C. Davis
Director

www.mccarthyfuneralhomes.com

Good Dirt Pottery Studio

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

Free Checking!
Free Cash! Free Gift!

What's not to love?

GREENFIELD SAVINGS BANK
282 Avenue A, Turners Falls ■ 413-863-4316
www.greenfieldsavings.com

Member FDIC ■ Member DIF

IN GOOD COMPANY
SKILLED, INTENTIONAL COMPANIONSHIP
FOR ELDERLY AND OTHERS

SITA LANG 413-834-7569
HOSPICE TRAINED, CPR CERTIFIED

413-774-4700

Community Yoga
& WELLNESS CENTER

beginners welcome

www.Community-Yoga.com

change your body
change your mind
change your life

The Montague Reporter

Editor
David Detmold

Layout & Design
Claudia Wells - Art Director
Sarah Duprey - Intern
Janel Nockleby

Photography
Claudia Wells
Joe Parzyoh

Editorial Assistants
Hugh Corr
Shira Hillel
Gloria Kegeles

Distribution Manager
Don Clegg

Technical Administrator
Michael Muller

"The Voice of the Villages"

Circulation
Janel Nockleby

Founded by
Arthur Evans
Harry Brandt
David Detmold
August, 2002

Less than a year before he was cut down by an assassin's bullet on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, where he had gone to support a strike by sanitation workers, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave a speech to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference on August 16th, 1967, in which he addressed economic injustice and the way forward for the Civil Rights movement.

Excerpts from this speech, which remains as relevant today as the day he gave it, are reprinted below.

The Way Forward

Now, in order to answer the question, 'Where do we go from here?' which is our theme, we must first honestly recognize where we are now. When the Constitution was written, a strange formula to determine taxes and representation declared that the Negro was sixty percent of a person. Today another curious formula seems to declare that he is fifty percent of a person.

Of the good things in life, the Negro has approximately one half those of whites. Of the bad things of life, he has twice those of whites. Thus half of all Negroes live in substandard housing. And Negroes have half the income of whites. When we view the negative experiences of life, the Negro has a double share. There are twice as many unemployed. The rate of infant mortality among Negroes is double that of whites and there are twice as many Negroes dying in Vietnam as whites in proportion to their size in the population.

[Editor's note: According to the Pew Charitable Trust, the median wealth of white households is now 20 times that of black households, and 18 times that of Hispanic households. These lopsided wealth ratios are the largest since the government began publishing such data a quarter century ago, and roughly twice the size of the ratios that had prevailed between these three groups for the two decades prior to the Great Recession that ended in 2009.]

The Center for American Progress notes that unemployment for blacks remains more than double the rate of white unemployment, with 16.1 percent of blacks unemployed in 2011, compared to 7.9 percent of whites. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services calculates that infant mortality for blacks remains 2.4 times higher than for whites.]

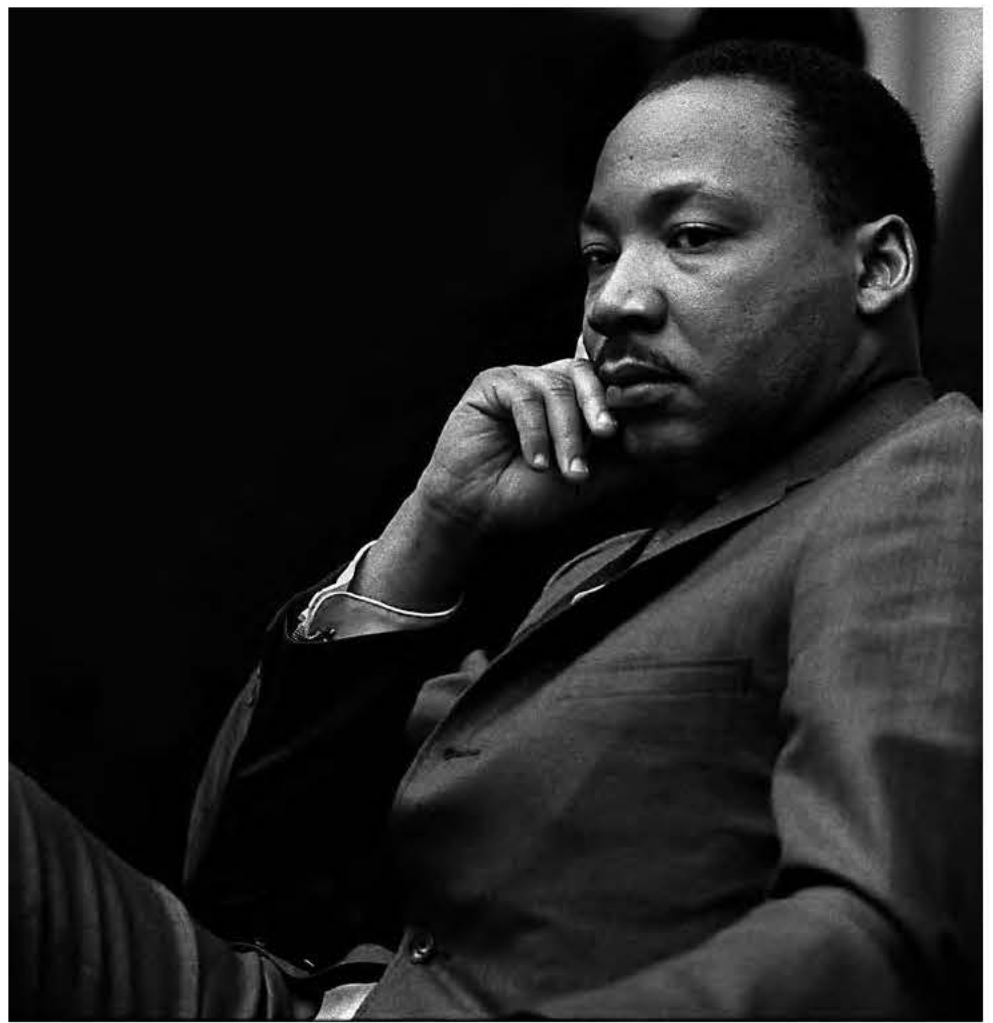
In other spheres, the figures are equally alarming. In elemen-

tary schools, Negroes lag one to three years behind whites, and their segregated schools receive substantially less money per student than the white schools. One-twentieth as many Negroes as whites attend college. Of employed Negroes, seventy-five percent hold menial jobs.

This is where we are. Where do we go from here? First, we must massively assert our dignity and worth. We must stand up amidst a system that still oppresses us and develop an unassailable and majestic sense of values. We must no longer be ashamed of being black. The job of arousing manhood within a people that have been taught for so many centuries that they are nobody is not easy....

With a spirit straining toward true self-esteem, the Negro must boldly throw off the manacles of self-abnegation and say to himself and to the world, 'I am somebody. I am a person. I am a man with dignity and honor. I have a rich and noble history. How painful and exploited that history has been. Yes, I was a slave through my foreparents and I am not ashamed of that. I'm ashamed of the people who were so sinful to make me a slave.' Yes, we must stand up and say, I'm black and I'm beautiful, and this self-affirmation is the black man's need, made compelling by the white man's crimes against him.

Another basic challenge is to discover how to organize our strength in terms of economic and political power. No one can deny that the Negro is in dire need of this kind of legitimate power. Indeed, one of the great problems that the Negro confronts is his lack of power. From old plantations of the South to newer ghettos of the North, the Negro has been confined to a life of voicelessness and powerlessness. Stripped of the right to make decisions concerning his life and destiny he has been subject to the authoritarian and sometimes



LETTER TO



THE EDITOR

Regarding the Termination of an Employee of the Gill Montague Regional Schools

At its meeting of January 10th, 2012, the Gill-Montague regional school committee was deliberating on the need for an executive session to discuss a complaint from a recently terminated employee and our policies concerning the termination of employees. I attempted to state that, based on the information I had (that is, the letter of complaint from the employee to the committee and some comments from members of the GMRSD community who support him) the employee appeared to have been terminated unfairly. The point was, the committee needed an executive session to obtain all the information and get a more balanced picture.

Unfortunately, before completing my comments, I was essentially shouted down by a number of committee members,

including the chair. These actions created the impression that I was supporting the employee's complaint or revealing specific information about the case. In fact, at the time I did not have at this point sufficient information about the case to draw a firm conclusion. None of my comments revealed specific information. Nor have I spread any "rumors" about the case, as later claimed by the chair.

I will stand by the comment that in the absence of complete information and an honest discussion by the committee, one draws conclusions from the information one has. This is particularly true when an effort is made to stonewall. A central issue for me is whether established and fair procedures for terminating employment were followed. The termination of

employees, particularly in this economy, and our policies in this area are not trivial matters to be swept under the rug.

Also it is my understanding that shouting down a fellow committee member, with the assistance of the chair, is not normal school committee procedure. It is particularly strange behavior at a time when the committee is undergoing "professional development" to increase collegiality and end the district's Level 4 status.

- Jeff Singleton
Montague

Jeff Singleton is a member of the Gill Montague Regional School Committee. The opinions in this letter are his own and do not reflect those of the committee as a whole.

whimsical decisions of this white power structure. The plantation and ghetto were created by those who had power, both to confine those who had no power and to perpetuate their powerlessness. The problem of transforming the ghetto, therefore, is a problem of power — confrontation of the

forces of power demanding change and the forces of power dedicated to the preserving of the status quo.

Now power properly understood is nothing but the ability to achieve purpose. It is the strength required to bring about social, political and economic change. Walter Reuther defined power one day. He said, 'Power is the ability of a labor union like the UAW to make the most powerful corporation in the world, General Motors, say, "Yes" when it wants to say "No." That's power....'

What is needed is a realization that power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love. And this is

what we must see as we move on. What has happened is that we have had it wrong and confused in our own country, and this has led Negro Americans in the past to seek their goals through power devoid of love and conscience.

This is leading a few extremists today to advocate for Negroes the same destructive and conscienceless power that they have justly abhorred in whites. It is precisely this collision of immoral power with powerless morality which constitutes the major crisis of our times.

We must develop a program that will drive the nation to a guaranteed annual income. Now, early in this century this proposal would have been greeted with ridicule and denunciation, as destructive of initiative and responsibility. At that time eco-

see THE WAY page 10

Sign Me Up!

- ☐ \$20 for half year subscription
☐ \$25 out-of-area subscribers

The Montague Reporter
58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

U.S. Casualties in Afghanistan as of 1/11/12

Wounded: 14,342
Deaths: 1,878



Eye on Town Finances



BY MIKE NAUGHTON - Many people talk about "the town" (meaning town government) as if it were a single unit acting in a coordinated and focused way.

Examples include, "The town should get rid of the Strathmore," or "The town should clean up Railroad Salvage." Some say, "The town should do more to encourage business." Others say, "The town should support school funding requests."

But what is "the town," really, and how does it do the things that it does?

For one thing, the town is not everything you might think it is. In most places, fire protection and the water coming out of your faucet are provided by whatever town you live in, but in Montague there are actually separate fire and water districts for these services, and "the town" has nothing to do with them.

How Does the Town of Montague Work?

Twenty years ago, there were four distinct fire and water districts within the borders of Montague: Turners Falls, Millers Falls, Montague Center, and Lake Pleasant. Over the years the Millers Falls and Lake Pleasant districts have disappeared, with their customers now being served by either Turners Falls or Montague Center.

If you live in Montague Center, your water and fire protection come from Montague Center; if you live in Lake Pleasant, you get your water from Turners Falls but your fire protection from Montague Center; and if you live anywhere else you get your water and fire protection from Turners Falls. (Of course, wherever you live, if you have your own well, your water comes from that.)

Montague is also a member of two regional school districts – the Gill-Montague district and the Franklin County Technical School district, and those districts – not the town – are in charge of the school systems.

The town, meaning Montague and not one of its parts, is in charge of other municipal services, including police, DPW, and sewer. (We pay one entity for the

water that comes into our sinks and another for the water that goes down the drain.)

So, who is in charge of the town of Montague?

Ultimately, the town meeting is in charge, as is true with other towns in Massachusetts that aren't big enough to have a council-manager or mayoral form of government. Town meeting members vote on the annual budgets and can amend them, and they also decide matters such as zoning and other bylaw changes, lease agreements, and so on.

Many towns have what's called an "open" town meeting, which means any registered voter can show up and vote, but Montague has a "representative" town meeting. That means that certain people are elected to be town meeting representatives, and they are the only ones allowed to vote at a town meeting.

Right now, Montague has 126 town meeting positions (although not all of them are currently filled), divided among six precincts. Each member serves a term of three years, and every year one third of the town meeting members are up for re-election, so the voters of each

precinct elect at least seven members to represent them at the annual town elections each May.

After the most recent census, there was an effort to reduce the number of precincts and the number of town meeting members in Montague, but it was unsuccessful. So the town will likely have the same structure for at least another ten years. Registered voters interested in serving on town meeting can get their names on the ballot in Montague by collecting ten signatures in their precincts before the election (contact the town clerk at 863-3200 x 203 for details). But write-in votes are also allowed, and every year several new members are elected to town meeting by write-in vote.

The names of incumbents appear on the ballot automatically unless they choose not to run again.

Every year there is one annual town meeting, which our town bylaws state shall be held on the first Saturday in May (although it has occasionally been held at other times). This meeting is when most of the major decisions affecting town governance take place – the annual budgets, including school assessments, are

on the agenda, as are most major capital purchases and other important items. From time to time throughout the rest of the year, special town meetings are held as necessary to conduct business that can't wait until the next annual meeting. Typically, there are two or three special town meetings a year.

Each town meeting is presided over by a moderator, who is elected by the voters every year. Town meeting also has two permanent committees – the finance committee and the capital improvements committee – that are appointed by the moderator and act on its behalf. From time to time, other committees are created by town meeting for special purposes or projects, which last only as long as their charge requires.

But a government that consisted only of a 126-member group that only met every two or three months would be pretty inefficient. So how does the day-to-day and week-to-week work of the town actually get done? We'll look at that in my next column.

Mike Naughton is a member of the Montague finance committee. The opinions expressed here are his own, and do not necessarily represent those of the other members of the committee.

EKSTROM from page 3

status and that the committee not act until they had explored all the options and had more information on which to base their decision. It appears that the school committee has disregarded our request, as is their right, and will move forward without any collaboration with the towns."

Pat Allen, of the Montague selectboard, said this week, "I have certainly not been included in the discussion, and I don't believe my fellow board members have either. We have been waiting to hear when the process would commence after the evaluation of the superintendent's first year."

Asked for comment this week, school committee chair Michael Langknecht said he felt the school committee needed to discuss what they wanted to do first, in regard to the interim superintendent's contract. He said he would make sure the selectboard knew the committee intends to discuss a three-year contract for Ekstrom on Tuesday, January 24th.

WIND from page 3

impairment, cardiovascular disease, headache or migraine."

• "[T]he evidence suggests there is no risk of seizure from shadow flicker caused by wind turbines." (Shadow flicker results from the passage of the blades of a rotating wind turbine between the sun and the observer.)

• "There is limited scientific evidence of an association between annoyance from prolonged shadow flicker (exceeding 30 minutes per day) and potential transitory cognitive and physical health effects."

The report states the panel conducted an extensive search of the scientific literature as well as other reports, popular media, and the public comments received by the MassDEP. According to the report, the panel wanted to identify studies that specifically evaluate human responses to turbines, as well as population and individual responses to the three primary characteristics or attributes of

wind turbine operation: noise, vibration, and flicker. The panel also conducted "a rigorous analysis" of the evidence for Wind Turbine Syndrome and concluded a scientific basis for the proposed syndrome was lacking.

Panel members included seven individuals with backgrounds in public health, epidemiology, toxicology, neurology and sleep medicine, neuroscience, and mechanical engineering. According to MassDEP and MDPH, all of the panel members are considered independent experts from academic institutions. With the exception of two individuals, panel members did not have any direct experience with wind turbines before joining the panel.

Based on the findings in the report, the panel recommended "best practices" for designing and siting wind turbines that could potentially be adopted as policies, guidelines or recommendations by state or local agencies.

BRIEFS from page 3

sentatives will provide information about Veterans Health Administration benefits and additional veterans-specific information about VA services.

This is a free event organized by veterans service officers Leo Parent and Mark Fitzpatrick, with the assistance of GSB branch manager Linda Ackerman, in coordination with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

In addition to primary care and overall VA health benefits, program managers at the Turners Fall fair will include services for combat veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan; women's health; mental health services and treatment for post traumatic stress disorder; VA nutrition and exercise programs; support to family caregivers; and home-based primary care services. For additional information about the information fair, contact John Paradis at (413) 582-3050 or by email at john.paradis@va.gov.

Baystate Franklin Medical Center will hold a cardiac risk

cholesterol screening on Wednesday, February 8th, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. in conference room A. Participants must fast for 12 hours prior to being screened. Test results will be forwarded to participants and their primary care providers. The cost for the screening is \$10.00, and pre-registration is required by calling Baystate Health Link at 413-773-2454.

Send local briefs to:
reporter-local@montaguema.net.



The Country Players

Present:
Play On!

on Fridays and Saturdays,
January 20, 21, 27, 28 at
8 p.m. Sunday matinee,
January 29 at 2 p.m. at
the Shea Theater in
Turners Falls.

\$12 general admission.
\$10 students and seniors.
413-863-2281, ext. 1

www.countryplayers.org

PLACE YOUR BIZ CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

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

NEW NEPAL SHIPMENT

unique and thoughtful gifts
from Tibet, Nepal & India
starting at \$5! Wow!

HIMALAYAN VIEWS

HOLIDAY HOURS W-SA 10-6, SU 12-5 | after 12/25 TH-SA 10-6
665.5550 | tibetan plaza | 265 ris 5/10 | so. df

CARSENSE AUTOMOTIVE

Your Automotive Answer

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT EXPERTS

TELE: (413) 772-8862 **U-HAUL**

409 DEERFIELD STREET • GREENFIELD

Doug's Auto Body
Doug Smith - Owner

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph: (413) 863-2785
Fax: (413) 863-0120

39 Center Road
Gill, MA 01354

Montague BOOKMILL

Open Daily 10 - 6

413-367-9206
www.montaguebookmill.com

CRUISE & TRAVEL COMPANY

30 Montague St.
TURNERS FALLS

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

NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Treatment Plant Staff to Work Four Day Week

BY JANEL

NOCKLEBY - In sewer news, Water Pollution Control Facility superintendent Bob Trombley requested that the WPCF staff change to a four day work week, with ten hour days, from Monday through Thursday (6 a.m. until 4 p.m.) for a trial period lasting through the end of March, 2012. Currently, the treatment plant employees work from 6 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Montague selectboard members Chris Boutwell and Mark Fairbrother (Pat Allen was absent) voted to approve the request based on Trombley's comments on Tuesday evening.

The new schedule will have the effect of increasing overtime pay for WPCF staff on weekends. On a rotating basis, a two person crew works a minimum of three hours each day during the weekends, said Trombley, in order to perform necessary maintenance. Now, instead of a two day weekend to accrue overtime, staff will have three days to receive time and a half pay.

"If you look at the rest of this fiscal year (January 27th through June 30th), the increase in overtime pay ends up being \$3726 for the department," Trombley said.

There is also a rotating emergency cell phone which may lead to additional overtime pay on Fridays. Trombley said that the staff has gotten better at keeping the number of alarms down in the last few years.

Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio noted that since the town hall and highway department already run on a four day a week schedule (except in the winter when the highway department is open

five days a week), already approved by union representation, the decision could be made by the selectboard for the WPCF also. Montague town hall employees changed to a four day week schedule in 2008, with the hopes of reducing energy costs.

Trombley explained that with the longer hours during the afternoon, there is a chance more septage (material pumped out of septic tanks) haulers may find it convenient to become customers at the Montague treatment plant. This could mean more revenue for the department. Recently, the selectboard approved a lower rate for septage hauling, to encourage more customers in this category. Trombley also stated that WPCF staff might "get more work done" in the afternoons, since they will have more continuity in their work days.

Judd Wire, a high tech wire company located on Turnpike Road, now has permission from the selectboard to continue its sewer usage (at its current rate of about 3800 gallons per day) for an additional five years. Trombley explained the wire company has far less water use than the big three industrial water users in town - Southworth Paper (resume and fine business papers available at your favorite office supply stores), Conagra (Lightlife - Smart Dogs available at your favorite grocer), and Australis (home of aquaculture farm-raised barramundi - the better fish).

The selectboard approved renewing the industrial discharge permit for Judd Wire, and members Chris Boutwell and Mark Fairbrother seemed open to an invitation from Judd Wire staff

to a tour, especially after Trombley described the facility as "amazing." He added, "They make millions of feet of wire a month."

In other news, the selectboard voted to approve a request to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments brownfields committee for technical assistance to conduct a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for the town owned properties at 26-34 East Main Street in Millers Falls. The FRCOG's brownfields website features a brochure that defines the term. "A brownfield is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

Coincidentally, or perhaps not, no less than three Montague town properties are featured photographically on the brochure, dominating it - the Railroad Salvage building, the Strathmore Mill complex, and the former Dubois property at Third and Canal Streets. Only the Dubois property, now a youth sculpture park, is considered cleaned up so far.

Among the prior owners of the properties under consideration on East Main Street, which the town took for back taxes last summer, was Jeanne Golrick, also an East Main Street resident. Two weeks ago, Golrick was fined \$31,000 by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. In a press release, the agency explained that when she owned 34 East Main Street, "Ms. Golrick failed to complete the

see MONTAGUE pg 14

from MIDWIFE pg 1

Beck and Hill are both certified professional midwives who have completed formal study, traditional apprenticeships, and rigorous national examination. Beck and Hill offer free consultation; complete pre-natal care, labor and delivery care, postpartum and Dula care. They even have a portable tub for water births. They are both members of the Massachusetts Midwives Alliance, a professional trade organization created by and for a dynamic and diverse group of midwives.

The MMA was founded to build cooperation among midwives, and to promote midwifery as a means of improving health care for women and their families. This umbrella organization serves as a source of inspiration and support for Beck and Hill, who attend workshops and share information and insights with other midwives.

The partners met at midwifery school in 1996 and have practiced individually in different parts of the state and together in Western Massachusetts, with 300 safe, successful births between them, not counting their own. Beck has three children and Hill has eleven, and all their babies have been born at home.

They say, "The experience of giving birth at home allows us to speak to the sacred, transformative experience that birth can be."

If a woman chooses to have her baby in the hospital, the pair can provide labor support at a patient's home until it is time to go to the hospital, and then serve as a bridge to the medical community during the birth and afterwards. And, if complications arise during labor, and a woman must go to the hospital, they will transport her and alert the hospital and the doctors on

call.

Both Hill and Beck say they are grateful for the local medical community who work in collaboration with midwives, and for their extended community of friends, who willingly care for their children when they are called upon to attend a birth.

Being mothers as well as well-trained professionals means they can assure a laboring woman, "We have been there, too."

Beck added, "That's the lovely thing about women serving women. We can make a woman feel both safe and strong."

Hill said, "Women who make this choice are extremely thoughtful, and some who previously delivered a child in a hospital setting felt like they lost their voices first time around."

A home birth provides personal autonomy and total control of your surroundings. A handout answering the question, "Why Homebirth?" reads, "The food is yours, the clothes are yours, and the birthing position of choice is yours. Nothing is imposed. Privacy enhances instinct, restoring birth from a medical event to a natural process."

In a world of dazzling technology and impressive medical centers, it is easy to forget that until 1900, almost every American was born at home, and that home birth is still the norm in many parts of the world. In fact, over 90% of those alive on Earth today were born at home.

Hill and Beck point out that evidence-based research shows that home birth with skilled midwives is as safe or safer than hospital birth; with planned home birth women suffer fewer severe tears, fewer hemorrhages, fewer surgical deliveries (by 50 percent), less instrumental deliveries, and fewer episiotomies. Also, babies

born at home benefit from higher Apgar scores and higher rates of successful breastfeeding.

Still, with all this evidence, Beck and Hill are not out to make converts of every pregnant woman. In fact, three pregnancies a month is about all they can handle, because of the time and attention each woman receives.

"We listen and they talk. They can laugh, cry, complain, share their hopes and fears; it is all about them. For so many busy women, just having a safe space where they are affirmed in this way is rare," said Beck.

Also, added Hill, "We are so hands-on that we can spot any potential complications early on."

There are some medical conditions that contraindicate a home birth, such as heart conditions and type 1 diabetes, and any woman considering Birth Care Community Midwives will need to discuss her medical history with Beck and Hill. Once that detail is cleared, the focus of the practice is to affirm the positive.

"Birthing at home is an amazing, empowering experience. Some births are very quiet and tranquil. Some women gather family and friends around them and it's like a party. Each birth is different, and it's an honor to know these women," said Beck.

Though there is pending legislation to get this care covered by the larger health insurers, at present most insurance plans do not cover home birth midwifery in Massachusetts. But, Beck and Hill would not want the cost of home birth care, which ranges from \$3,000 - \$3,800, to deter any woman seeking their assistance. They have payment plans and sometimes they barter for services.

"We want to talk with women and make this work," said Beck.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK. (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666

Locally owned since 1941



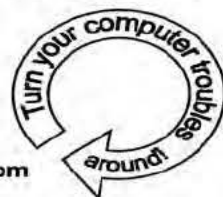
Full service market

Fresh Fish from the Boston market

70 Allen Street Greenfield, MA Beer & Wine 413-773-1100 FAX 413-773-1105

About-Face
Computer Solutions
151 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA
(413) 863-5447Full Service Repairs, Network
Setup & Repair, Sales!

www.about-facecomputers.com



COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

KUSTOM AUTOBODY

MA Reg #RS2066



48 Randall Road

Montague

Phone/413-863-3780

Mike Fuller, Owner

AJ's
CYCLE
Gift Certificates

MOTO GUZZI



(413) 863-9543

Allan • David

email: AJCYC@CROCKER.COM

WWW.AJCYCLE.COM

274 Rt. 2, Gill

Montague Mini Storage | Mike Fuller - owner

The Best Hiding
Place in Town

48 Randall Road |

413-863-4680

COUTURE BROS

Celebrating 101st Anniversary

Professional Painting & Decorating

Contractor - Retailer

www.couturebros.com

187 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

Town Meeting Approves Heating Upgrades at Safety Complex



DETMOLD PHOTO

Special Town Meeting at Work, January 17th, 2012.

BY DAVID DETMOLD GILL - Town meeting voters decided to borrow \$10,125 on Tuesday to provide the remaining funds needed to install two new oil-fired forced hot water boilers at the public safety complex, which is shared by the police, fire and highway departments. The finance committee and capital improvements committee agreed it would be more prudent to replace the current 33-year old boiler, which has been breaking down with some regularity, with two smaller units, and to convert the system from steam to more efficient forced hot water, rather than continue to repair the old system.

More than two dozen voters turned out for the short special town meeting; the vote to upgrade the safety complex heating system was unanimous.

Finance committee member Tupper Brown supported the motion, after pointing out that the six month borrowing for the \$10,125 would need

to be paid back in the FY'13 budget.

The total project cost for the heating system upgrade will come to about \$55,000. The motion stipulated that \$10,000 of this amount would come from the Vermont Yankee emergency fund, and \$14,875 from supplemental state aid, added to the \$20,000 the town had previously appropriated to repair or replace the boiler.

In other business, voters unanimously approved moving \$800 from the county dog fund to the library account. That was easy to understand, because dogs deserve a chance to borrow books, just like any other citizen. But how many voters really understood the fine points of Mass General Laws Chapter 41, Section 110-A, which was read out loud by the town clerk before receiving a unanimous vote of approval?

That section of state law reads, "Any public office in any city or town may remain closed on any or all Saturdays as

may be determined from time to time, in a city by the city council, subject to the provisions of the city charter, or, in a town, by vote of the town at a special or regular town meeting, and the provisions of section nine of chapter four shall apply in the case of such closing of any such office on any Saturday to the same extent as if such Saturday were a legal holiday."

We will attempt to explain the meaning of that at some other date. Perhaps on a Saturday.

Before adjourning for the evening, by a vote of 23 - 3, town meeting approved a new solar overlay district, taking up most of the Village Commercial district along Route 2 and Main Road, where future installations of ground mounted solar panels will be allowed by right.

Passage of this bylaw fulfilled one of the necessary requirements for the town to apply for Green Community status, to qualify for state energy conservation grants.

BY DAVID DETMOLD The town will avoid an \$860 penalty for failing to provide the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection semi-annual analyses of trace copper and lead in the public water supply system used at the Gill Elementary School by signing a consent order to have those tests performed regularly over the next two years.

The stepped up testing of the school's water supply was ordered when a spot check of copper and lead turned up a problem resulting from one defective plumbing fixture in the school's kitchen which has since been replaced, town administrative assistant Ray Purington told the selectboard on Tuesday.

But after that one elevated reading found during a routine test in 2010, the DEP ordered the school district to provide more frequent follow-up tests for copper and lead at ten different locations in the school for the succeeding years, and due to a database error in the school district's water testing subcontractor, Safe Waters, those test samples were not taken until December of 2011, leading to the DEP's action.

The school district pointed out to the DEP that the town of Gill owns both the school building and the well that supplies it, and the selectboard agreed it would be the town's responsibility to pay the \$480 cost of the semi-annual tests.

Purington noted the test for copper and lead in the school's water supply in December of 2011 turned up no elevated levels.

He reminded the board

that a high coliform bacteria reading from several years ago in the school's water supply leaves the town vulnerable to a further enforcement order from DEP if high coliform readings are found again at GES. If that happens, Purington said, the likely remediation measure would be the installation of a chlorination system at the school.

In other news, selectboard chair Randy Crochier said a \$100,000 Community Innovation grant application has been sent in this week to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Administration and Finance to provide start up funding for a regional public health district for Franklin County.

In the disappointing wake of the public health initiative's failure to receive the hoped for three-year, \$325,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health late last year to launch the Franklin County regional public health program, Crochier called the fallback to a one-year start up grant from EOAF, "a straw to reach out and get it started." He added, "Hopefully, it will grow to become self-sustaining."

Gill was one of just seven Franklin County towns that initially signed on for the comprehensive public health delivery program, which would rely on the Franklin Regional Council of Governments as a fiscal agent and a decision making body of one board of health member appointed by each of the participating towns.

Crochier said if the EOAF grant comes through, he believes the

program will be up and running by May 1st.

After a long delay, the new pumps are finally being shipped for the town's pumped sewer system, which forces sewage from the Riverside Water District under Barton Cove to join the Montague sewer line.

Purington said the plan is for contractor R.H. White to install one of the new pumps at the Riverside pump house on Monday, January 23rd, and test it out for the remainder of the week before installing the other new replacement pump on January 30th.

After hearing that Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown is likely to be in attendance at the upcoming Dial Self Youth Services Roundtable on January 27th, Purington said, "If that's the case, I probably won't go."

His reluctance to attend was not based on Brown's partisan affiliation, Purington said, but due to the fact that the youth legislative forum tended to focus on national or global issues, rather than local ones, and that tendency would only become more pronounced with a U.S. Senator at the forum.

"If I could solve global warming I'd ask for a raise," Purington said.

He did not mention that Scott Brown voted last year to ban the federal Environmental Protection Agency from controlling greenhouse gasses that can lead to global warming. Brown is also noted for the complexity of his view on global warming, as in December of 2009 when he told a constituent, "The globe is always heating and cooling."

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Gill Avoids \$860 DEP Penalty for Missed Water Tests at School

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK. (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666

Now Delivering Propane

COUNTRY OIL
SINCE 1966
HEATING-COOLING-PLUMBING

Prepaid & Budget Programs Available
CALL for Details

Air Conditioning Service & Installation

540 Northfield Rd., Bernardston 1-800-327-9992
www.countryoil.com 413-648-9912

Leaf Busters

Gutter Cleaning and Repairs,
Spring Cleaning, Power Washing,
Lawn Maintenance and Odd Jobs

Call for a FREE Estimate

Justin Hanecak
413-512-1553

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

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.)

Renaissance Excavating, Inc.

COMPLETE SITE WORK

Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam

Main Road, Gill
Douglas Edson 413.863.4462

413-256-6217

fine instruments
bought and sold
repaired and restored

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

Transition Town Gathering



DETMOLD PHOTO

More than 50 people attended a regional gathering of the Transition Town movement at the Wendell Town Hall on Monday night, January 16th.

BY DAVID DETMOLD WENDELL - Following a bountiful potluck, more than 50 people gathered in a large circle in the Wendell town hall on Monday night to discuss ways to make their communities more resilient in a time of commodity scarcity and economic upheaval.

Billed as a regional gathering for the Transition Town movement, the event drew organizers from as far away as Pittsfield, Putney, VT, Worcester and Longmeadow along with devotees of slow growth, alternative energy, community gardens, and something called "the Great Unleashing of the Collective Genius."

The international Transition Town movement has grown from a classroom idea, catalyzed by permaculture educator Rob Hopkins and his stu-

dents at the Kinsale Further Education College in Ireland in 2005, to a sprawling international network working on the community level to prepare for 'energy descent' and climate change. Rather than wait for governments to lead the way, the movement emphasizes community self-reliance and prioritizing the local over the imported. The movement's mission is to encourage every locality to engage its collective creativity to unleash an extraordinary and historic transition to a future beyond fossil fuels; a future that is more vibrant and resilient.

The Transition Town movement has spread rapidly across the world as groups in other communities copied the model and initiated the Transition process in their own locales. The Transition Network was

established in the UK in late 2006, to support the international growth of the movement. In 2007, increasing high levels of interest in the States led to the launch of Transition US, which provides co-ordination, support and training to Transition Initiatives as they emerge across the country.

It was apparent from the people gathered in Wendell on Martin Luther King Day that the Transition Town movement has found fertile ground in the Pioneer Valley.

Alistair MacMartin, one of five residents from the Wendell Transition Town team that hosted the event, introduced himself by saying, "We're having a really good time in our group. But sometimes I feel we really don't know what we're doing at all."

Much of the evening was

given over to a presentation by the Northfield Transition Town initiating group, who were looked up to by the rest of the crowd because they had already succeeded, in a November event billed as 'Celebrate Northfield,' in taking the community step of holding "the Great Unleashing" by gathering 80 or 90 Northfield residents in one room and allowing them to anarchically determine what working groups they would like to establish or facilitate in order to build more resilience in their town. As the residents themselves determined, resilience for Northfield would involve a community garden, a tool sharing library, developing a plan for community waste reduction, regionalizing town services such as police, fire or highway departments with neighboring towns, opening a food pantry, or even offering a workshop in woodlot management.

"But how many people are actually working on those things now?" someone in the room wondered.

"We don't know," admitted Emily Koester, one of the Northfield initiators. "We don't know how many groups are still going on. Some have morphed or gone by the wayside."

After hearing from the Northfield initiators, the room broke down into about eight or nine small groups to freely share ideas about building the Transition Town movement in the Valley and beyond.

One of these groups, which examined the possibility of encouraging more small scale manufacturing in the region, was facilitated by Don

Campbell, a Northfield resident and solar power consultant. This group talked about the possibility of reviving small machine shops to provide prototypes for treadle powered apple presses and other non-carbon fuel oriented agricultural products.

Campbell said, "Instead of large scale manufacturing with high unemployment, more traditional small scale manufacturing would keep more people employed."

Others noted the prevalence of vacant mills by hydro dams waiting to be repurposed in an era when non polluting fuel sources will again be valued.

By the end of the evening, the work of the small groups had been compiled, and participants left with a feeling of camaraderie in the struggle for a sustainable economic future.

"The amazing thing was to find so many other people doing the same work," said MacMartin.

When an outsider asked if the point of the international Transition Town movement, in essence, was to try to get more communities to resemble the town of Wendell, with its community garden, free box, food pantry, citizen-led neighborhood emergency response network, solar powered library doubling as a free university, and town funded food coordinator, MacMartin just laughed.

"Is the transition even necessary in Wendell? It's already happening on so many levels. I realize more and more how much I love living here and what an amazing place it is."

That's a credo all Valley residents can take to heart in the days ahead.

For more information on the Transition Town movement, go to: www.transitionus.org.

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

BRING IN YOUR OLD INK CARTRIDGE,
Purchase A New Ink Cartridge for \$20 or more
& **Receive \$2.00 OFF**
or Purchase Same For Under \$20
& **Receive \$1.00 OFF**

BAKER
Office Supply
310 Main St., Greenfield 774-2345

Huge Selection of Passenger, Light Truck/SUV, Truck, Farm, Off Road, Industrial, Trailer, Lawn & Garden, ATV

Pete's
TIRE BARN, Inc.
Tires for Work. Tires for Play.

www.petestire.com
Northampton • 186 North King St. 413-586-8815
Brattleboro • 220 Old Ferry Rd. 802-254-3628
Orange • 275 E. Main St. 978-544-8811

Mike and Tony's Pizzeria
@ the Green Emporium
Thursday - Sunday 5 - 9 p.m.

fabulous dining,
great music, neon art,
full liquor bar,
and the best pizza!

www.greenemporium.com Colrain Center
413-624-5122

CopyCat Print Shop
Loves You More

Check our other ad in this newspaper

scan this to find us

CopyCat PRINT SHOP
We Specialize In Impossible Deadlines!

(413) 774-3500
greenfield@copycatprintshop.com

Mary Lou Emond
Certified Residential Specialist

COHN & COMPANY
Real Estate Agency

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

413-773-1149 x142 • HOME: 413-863-4568
EMAIL: MARYLOU@COHNANDCOMPANY.COM

Diemand Farm

- Farm Fresh Eggs
- Whole Roasting Chicken
- Pot Pies
- HomeMade Soups
- Desserts

Products Vary Weekly

Farm Store Hours: Monday - Saturday 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell • 978-544-3806

HOPE & OLIVE

SERVING HOME GROWN
FARM-INSPIRED Food & Drink

44 HOPE STREET, GREENFIELD, MA 01301
PHONE 413 774 3150

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.

Geri Johnson & Associates REALTORS
66 French King Hwy., Gill
(413) 863-9736 • WWW.GJAR.COM

The Gill Tavern

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

www.thegilltavern.com Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM
326 Main Road, Gill, MA 413-863-9006

NAPKIN ART OPENING



He Did It!
by Peter Weremchuk



Economic Outlook Uncertain
Zelda Dunaway, age 2



Pine Tree Rorschach
by Ruth Kjaer

BY DAVID DETMOLD

EASTHAMPTON - Artists sometimes talk about their ambition to work on a bigger canvas. But rarely do we have the chance to see as disparate a group of artists working a canvas quite so small as the humble paper napkin, which took pride of place in an unusual opening at the Selections Gallery at Eastworks in Easthampton last Saturday.

Excellent beer from Holyoke's High and Mighty Brewery and music from a Dada ensemble complemented the show, and if anyone happened to spill salsa from a corn chip on their shirtfront amid the excitement, they could easily find a napkin to wipe it off.

Hundreds of individual masterpieces in miniature were pinned to the walls - some artists entered dozens of separate line drawings, word poems, sketches, paintings, collages - all framed by the six inch, occasionally scalloped-edged, forgivingly absorbent paper square.

Limning the bold, zigging lines of her equid companion in blue felt marker, Becca Law revealed, "Paco the Zebra was my only friend." Heartbreaking. But easily digestible.

Childrens' work mingled in this polyglot assemblage with serious art, serious but very small, such as the line and shadow studies by Dawn Siebel examining the transubstantiation of potatoes turning into hats, a pear becoming a guitar.

Some napkins turned the concept of the tiny square on its elbow, presenting work of diamond-like brilliance in a diamond setting. But most stuck to the plebian square, filling it with inventive patterns suggestive of coffee stains or deranged Rorschach blots.

Peter Weremchuk told a story in black and blue ink of the fabulous ride of Rollie Free, depicted in a minor blaze of glory, clinging to the handlebars of a borrowed Vincent Black Lightning with the seat removed, stretched horizontal to the Bonneville Salt Flats, dressed only in a bathing cap, speedo, and sneakers, on the "brisk September morning" in 1948 when he broke the world land speed record at 150.313 miles per hour. Stripped down hero of a

stripped down art.

Some napkin artists offered only a few spare lines, tracing elliptical arcs within the diminutive frame, leaving the viewer seeking meaning in a constricted universe of recycled rags. Others nearly crowded out the tiny canvas with effulgent splashes of gouache, or perhaps spilled tea.

The creators of the gallery work paced and preened as they do at any art opening, but with far less to show for their anxiety.

One of the 50 artists represented spoke capily about his work when asked, "Do you have a piece in the show?"

"I do."

"Is it very small?"

"It's #24. That's all I can tell you. You have to find it."

We never did.

Some envelopes seemed to reach for the essence of a particular experience, others seemed poised to capture the zeitgeist of the entire show, if not the present moment, as when Ruth Kjaer drew two slightly intaglioed brown circles near the center of her napkin, as if the damp and muddled imprint of her mug still pressed against its fibers. A pine tree or the blackened pyramidal eye of God hovered within, and inscribed above and below in flowing script were the immortal words: "Now my coffee's cold... Oh, well..."

But the cultural illuminati who prowled the vast halls of the former Stanley Home Products factory on Pleasant Street and sampled the artistic *petites oeuvres* on the walls of the Selections Gallery settled on one napkin in particular, like fruit flies on a favorable stain, as the *pièce de résistance* for the evening. It was a fleeting, indistinct vision, barely sketched by Neal Parks in shaky pen strokes, that hinted at memories of an old mill building, perhaps a tobacco barn, drifting down a river clogged with flotsam or inchoate ice floes, under a barely indicated mountain of pines. The inscription at the bottom of the napkin read, "The dream moved to Eastham..."

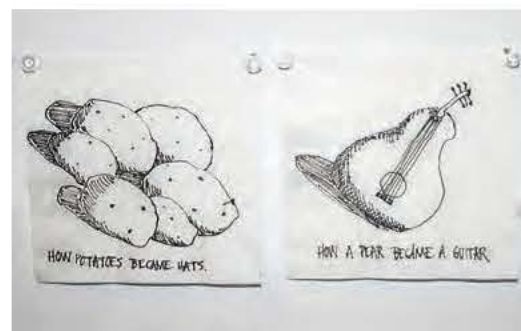
Half the artists in Northampton wandering the elegant, evocative and very strange little gallery opening at Eastworks seemed to agree.



The Dream Moved to Eastham...
by Neal Parks



Paco the Zebra
by Becca Law



Transmogrifications
by Dawn Siebel

Please shop locally
Support
The Montague Reporter
advertisers!

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

CELEBRATING WOMEN
125 years
AVON

VIRGINIA WHITTEN
Independent Sales Representative
Executive Unit Leader

TO BUY OR SELL
CALL 1-800-258-1815
EMAIL - AVONNH@AOL.COM

mww **ROCKET FUSION**
Montague WebWorks .com

Now powered by RocketFusion

413.320.5336 info@montaguewebworks.com

make the web work for your business

COLDWELL BANKER
UPTON-MASSAMONT REALTORS

Donald J Mailloux
GRI
Recognized Top Producer

(413) 665-3771 x104 Office
(413) 665-3772 Fax
(413) 834-1524 Cell
(413) 423-3810 Home
don@cbumr.com E-mail

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

Turners Falls Pizza House
119 Avenue A
863-8000
We Deliver!

Grinders • Dinners • Beer & Wine
Open 7 days • 41 years on the Ave

It's Pizza Time!

Your LOCAL Solar Energy Experts

GREENFIELD SOLAR STORE
413-772-3122
Advice, Design & Installation

www.SolarStoreofGreenfield.com
Solar Store of Greenfield • 2 Fiske Avenue • Greenfield, Mass

LOOT
found + made

Hours: Wed 11-5, Thurs-Sat 11-7, Sun 11-4
4th Fridays of the month until 9

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

THE WAY from page 4

conomic status was considered the measure of the individual's ability and talents. And, in the thinking of that day, the absence of worldly goods indicated a want of industrious habits and moral fiber.

We've come a long way in our understanding of human motivation and of the blind operation of our economic system. Now we realize that dislocations in the market operations of our economy and the prevalence of discrimination thrust people into idleness and bind them in constant or frequent unemployment against their will. Today the poor are less often dismissed, I hope, from our consciences by being branded as inferior or incompetent. We also know that no matter how dynamically the economy develops and expands, it does not eliminate all poverty....

New forms of work that enhance the social good will have to be devised for those for whom traditional jobs are not available. In 1879 Henry George anticipated this state of affairs when he wrote in *Progress and Poverty*:

The fact is that the work which improves the condition of mankind, the work which extends knowledge and increases power and enriches literature and elevates thought, is not done to secure a living. It is not the work of slaves driven to their tasks either by the task, by the taskmaster, or by animal necessity. It is the work of men who somehow find a form of work that brings a security for its own sake and a state of society where want is abolished.

Work of this sort could be enormously increased, and we are likely to find that the problems of housing and education, instead of preceding the elimination of poverty, will themselves be affected if poverty is first abolished. The poor transformed into purchasers will do a great deal on their own to alter housing decay. Negroes who have a double disability will have a greater effect on discrimination when they have the additional weapon of cash to use in their struggle.

Beyond these advantages, a host of positive psychological changes inevitably will result from widespread economic security. The dignity of the individual

will flourish when the decisions concerning his life are in his own hands, when he has the means to seek self-improvement. Personal conflicts among husbands, wives and children will diminish when the unjust measurement of human worth on the scale of dollars is eliminated.

Now our country can do this. John Kenneth Galbraith said that a guaranteed annual income could be done for about twenty billion dollars a year. And I say to you today, that if our nation can spend thirty-five billion dollars a year to fight an unjust, evil war in Vietnam, and twenty billion dollars to put a man on the moon, it can spend billions of dollars to put God's children on their own two feet right here on earth.

Now, let me say briefly that we must reaffirm our commitment to nonviolence. I want to stress this....

Occasionally Negroes contend that the 1965 Watts riot and the other riots in various cities represented effective civil rights action. But those who express this view always end up with stumbling words when asked what concrete gains have been won as a result. At best, the riots have produced a little additional antipoverty money allotted by frightened government officials, and a few water-sprinklers to cool the children of the ghettos. It is something like improving the food in prison while the people remain securely incarcerated behind bars....

This is no time for romantic illusions and empty philosophical debates about freedom. This is a time for action. What is needed is a strategy for change, a tactical program that will bring the Negro into the mainstream of American life as quickly as possible. So far, this has only been offered by the nonviolent movement. Without recognizing this we will end up with solutions that don't solve, answers that don't answer and explanations that don't explain.

And so I say to you today that I still stand by nonviolence. And I am still convinced that it is the most potent weapon available to the Negro in his struggle for justice in this country. And the other thing is that I am concerned about a better world. I'm concerned about justice. I'm con-

cerned about brotherhood. I'm concerned about truth. And when one is concerned about these, he can never advocate violence. For through violence you may murder a murderer but you can't murder murder. Through violence you may murder a liar but you can't establish truth. Through violence you may murder a hater, but you can't murder hate. Darkness cannot put out darkness. Only light can do that.

And I say to you, I have also decided to stick to love. For I know that love is ultimately the only answer to mankind's problems. And I'm going to talk about it everywhere I go. I know it isn't popular to talk about it in some circles today. I'm not talking about emotional bosh when I talk about love. I'm talking about a strong, demanding love.

And I have seen too much hate. I've seen too much hate on the faces of sheriffs in the South. I've seen hate on the faces of too many Klansmen and too many White Citizens Councilors in the South to want to hate myself, because every time I see it, I know that it does something to their faces and their personalities and I say to myself that hate is too great a burden to bear. I have decided to love. If you are seeking the highest good, I think you can find it through love. And the beautiful thing is that we are moving against wrong when we do it, because John was right, God is love. He who hates does not know God, but he who has love has the key that unlocks the door to the meaning of ultimate reality.

I want to say to you as I move to my conclusion, as we talk about, 'Where do we go from here?' that we honestly face the fact that the movement must address itself to the question of restructuring the whole of American society. There are forty million poor people here. And one day we must ask the question, 'Why are there forty million poor people in America?' And when you begin to ask that question, you are raising questions about the economic system, about a broader distribution of wealth. When you ask that question, you begin to question the capitalistic economy. And I'm simply saying that more and more, we've got to begin to ask questions about the whole

society. We are called upon to help the discouraged beggars in life's marketplace. But one day we must come to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring. It means that questions must be raised. You see, my friends, when you deal with this, you begin to ask the question, 'Who owns the oil?' You begin to ask the question, 'Who owns the iron ore?' You begin to ask the question, 'Why is it that people have to pay water bills in a world that is two-thirds water?' These are questions that must be asked.

Now, don't think that you have me in a bind today. I'm not talking about Communism.

What I'm saying to you this morning is that Communism forgets that life is individual. Capitalism forgets that life is social, and the kingdom of brotherhood is found neither in the thesis of Communism nor the antithesis of Capitalism but in a higher synthesis. It is found in a higher synthesis that combines the truths of both.

Now, when I say question the whole society, it means ultimately coming to see that the problem of racism, the problem of exploitation, and the problem of war are all tied together. These are the triple evils that are interrelated.

If you will let me be a preacher just a little bit... Jesus realized something basic — that if a man will lie, he will steal. And if a man will steal, he will kill. So instead of just getting bogged down in one thing, Jesus looked at [Nicodemus] and said, 'You must be born again.'

He said, in other words, 'Your whole structure must be changed.' A nation that will keep people in slavery for 244 years will make them into things. Therefore they will exploit them, and poor people generally, economically. And a nation that will exploit economically will have foreign investments and everything else, and will have to use its military to protect them. All of these problems are tied together.

What I am saying today is that we must go from this convention and say, 'America, you must be born again!'

So, I conclude by saying again today that we have a task and let us go out with a divine dissatisfaction. Let us be dissatis-

fied until America will no longer have a high blood pressure of creeds and an anemia of deeds. Let us be dissatisfied until the tragic walls that separate the outer city of wealth and comfort and the inner city of poverty and despair shall be crushed by the battering rams of the forces of justice. Let us be dissatisfied until those that live on the outskirts of hope are brought into the metropolis of daily security. Let us be dissatisfied until slums are cast into the junk heaps of history, and every family is living in a decent sanitary home. Let us be dissatisfied until the dark yesterdays of segregated schools will be transformed into bright tomorrows of quality, integrated education. Let us be dissatisfied until integration is not seen as a problem but as an opportunity to participate in the beauty of diversity. Let us be dissatisfied until men and women, however black they may be, will be judged on the basis of the content of their character and not on the basis of the color of their skin. Let us be dissatisfied....

I must confess, my friends, the road ahead will not always be smooth. There will be still rocky places of frustration and meandering points of bewilderment. There will be inevitable setbacks here and there. There will be those moments when the buoyancy of hope will be transformed into the fatigue of despair. Our dreams will sometimes be shattered and our ethereal hopes blasted. We may again with tear-drenched eyes have to stand before the bier of some courageous civil rights worker whose life will be snuffed out by the dastardly acts of bloodthirsty mobs. Difficult and painful as it is, we must walk on in the days ahead with an audacious faith in the future.

When our days become dreary with low-hanging clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.

Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK.

(12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666

[Pam Veith REAL ESTATE]

Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald
REALTOR, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR

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

75 Main Street, Suite 105,
Northfield, MA 01360

www.PamVeithRealEstate.com

Renaissance Builders

Quality, Craftsmanship, Original Thought

www.renbuild.net
863-8316

Jonathan Abbott
SSI / Disability Attorney

If you can't work, let me work for you.

tel: (413) 253-0052 Amherst, MA
In Home Appointments
jabbottesq@verizon.net

It Figures!

Kate McGrath, MBA
Accountant
413-768-9095

For all your accounting needs
Accountant Specializing in QuickBooks
Now accepting new accounting clients

2ND STREET BAKING CO.

Lunch Delivery for orders of \$50 or more
Hot Soup Daily
call ahead for Special Order Cakes

69 2nd Street
Turners Falls
863-4455

Closed Mondays

Tue - Sat 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Check out our Great Lunch Menu
Now Open Sundays 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Cakes, Pastries, Coffee, Soup and Bread

CREATIVE HAIRCUTTING PERMS & COLORS
Men, Women & Children

CASTINE'S HAIR CREATIONS

Gift Certificates Available
863-2022

Marie Castine
Richard DiGeorge (Thursdays)

74 PROSPECT ST.
TURNERS FALLS

COST from pg 1

Northampton, gave a brief but damning overview of Pentagon spending.

To begin with, Hellman showed a pie chart of federal spending, which showed that in the fiscal year that began October 1st, 2011, the United States is spending 6% of every tax dollar on interest on the national debt, 59% on mandatory programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security, and the remaining 34% on discretionary spending. It is from this last slice of the federal pie, roughly a third of every tax dollar spent, that all funding for social programs like education, health, transportation and the military comes.

Drilling down into the data, Hellman showed that out of the \$1.24 trillion devoted in FY'12 to discretionary programs, 58%, or about \$750 billion, is devoted to the military. The remainder of the discretionary budget is divided up among all other national priorities, with 6% going to environmental protection, energy and science; 6% to education; 6% to government; 5% for health; 5% for housing and community development, 4% to international affairs (including billions to foreign countries like Israel and Egypt to purchase weapons from the United States), 2% for transportation, and so on.

Examining the military slice of the federal pie more carefully, Hellman said the Pentagon's base budget for the current fiscal year is \$553 billion. The amount allocated for the war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan is reduced somewhat with the winding down of operations in Iraq, from the FY'11 total of \$160 billion to \$118 billion. An additional \$19.3 billion is spent each year on maintaining and cleaning up past environmental problems from the nation's nuclear weapons program, Hellman said.

The Pentagon, which has never been able to pass a government audit of its books since Congress passed a law in the 70s requiring the Defense Department to do so, maintains a \$7.8 billion 'miscellaneous' account, said Hellman, a line

item he referred to as the Pentagon's "couch change."

An additional \$6.6 billion is given to the military budgets of other nations, ostensible allies like Pakistan, to purchase weapons, and to pay for reconstruction from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, he said. He called the \$2 billion annual foreign aid bill for Israel, which is used to buy weapons from the United States, "a subsidy for the U.S. defense industry."

Next, Hellman showed an interesting slide that showed a breakdown of total global expenditures on military spending, with the U.S. leading the pack with 42% of the global total in 2008. Our NATO allies together spend just 24% of the global military spending total, while the rest of the world combined to spend 34%, except for a small sliver Hellman broke out denoting possible adversaries like Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan and Somalia, which combined to make up less than 1% of global military expenditures.

The United States spent almost eight times more on the military than China, its nearest competitor in this category of

spending, spent in 2008.

In the decade since 9/11, Hellman said, the United States has spent \$7.6 trillion on the Pentagon and related programs, including \$1.3 trillion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Adjusted for inflation, he said the Pentagon budget had risen 43% since 9/11. There has been a 21% increase in the budget for nuclear weapons during the same time period, although the nation's nuclear deterrent lacks a credible adversary since the fall of the Soviet Union. Homeland Security has witnessed a 301% increase in the last decade, Hellman said.

Prior to 1977, even during times of war, Hellman said military procurements never exceeded the sums allocated for discretionary domestic programs in the United States.

Now, with the 43% increase in the military budget since 9/11, Hellman said the Pentagon is crying poverty as it faces the prospect of a 4%, \$450 billion cut over the next decade, as part of a budget compromise negotiated to avoid a default on the national debt. Meanwhile, the non-defense portion of the discre-

tionary budget, a much smaller slice of the federal pie, has grown by just 10% over the last decade, and faces a proportional \$450 billion cut in the default sequestration compact.

To put federal spending in clearer perspective, Hellman noted that for every dollar a taxpayer sends to the government, 27.4 cents goes to the Pentagon, while children's health care gets 2/7ths of a penny, and Head Start programs receive a fourth of a penny.

Hellman concluded his primer on the Pentagon budget in just 20 minutes, then fielded questions, beginning with one seeking to know how, with the parameters of the debate on cutting the Pentagon seemingly set by the sequestration agreement of last summer, which requires the Pentagon to cut just 4/10ths of 1% of its budget for the next ten years, "Do you think we can ever achieve meaningful cuts in defense spending?"

He answered, "If I was a sentient Democrat, I'd be really pissed at the current administration on this issue. Achieving true deficit reduction requires going after the military. Ultimately, you have to ask the

military to do less if you give less to it. I have not seen a more favorable opportunity to do this," than the present moment, Hellman said.

He added, "The type of exercise Leverett is now doing is an object lesson which other communities will want to copy. We [at the National Priorities Project] will shop it around... The fact that what you pay in Leverett in taxes for the military exceeds what you spend on your local budget, it's staggering."

Sitting in a circle after Hellman concluded, the residents who had gathered to hear him spent a few minutes talking about how they would prefer to spend one quarter of the amount of money Leverett taxpayers send to the Pentagon each year, a sum that would total \$1,744,417.

The list they came up with began with a full time public health nurse for the town, and included many other items, such as broadband internet hook-ups for all households, solar fields, energy efficient affordable housing, and raises for paraprofessionals at the elementary school.



Greenfield 50 YEARS 1962-2012

Blacksmithing Instructor John Passiglia, left, teaches GCC President Bob Pura, right, in the art of bending iron.

Greenfield Community College • www.gcc.mass.edu

Try something new this Spring!

- Personal Enrichment
- Distance Education
- Workforce Development
- Health Care
- Stillpoint Advanced Massage Education
- Workshop Information: www.gcc.mass.shopcreditfree
- Credit Course Information: www.gcc.mass.edu/credit

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

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

Rau's Auto COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR



(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics



Irish Seisiun Music

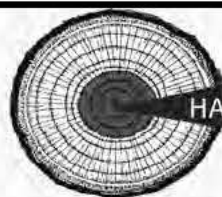
Thursday 4 - 7

Friday 9 - 1

GREAT SEAFOOD & GOOD TIMES

163 Sunderland Rd. • Amherst

(413) 548-6900



HARTWOOD TREE SERVICE

Licensed and Insured

Christopher J. Morin, owner
7 Kimberly Lane
Turners Falls

413-522-6119

**EXCELLENCE IN
TREE CARE**

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

DOLAN & DOLAN ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP



KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

BY SALLY PICK

MONTAGUE - Last fall, the Leverett Energy Committee published *Leverett in the Time of Environmental Crisis, An Energy and Climate Handbook for Town Residents*. It is chock full of energy saving testimonials by Leverett community members, and other resources on how to save energy. Residents' donations to the New England Wind fund resulted in a grant to the town of \$6,795, some of which the energy committee used to

LEVERETT ENERGY CORNER

Leverett Energy Handbook Neighbors Acting Locally

produce this booklet.

The booklet takes a page from social marketing pros who suggest the best way to inspire people to take action on climate change is to show how many of our neighbors are doing it. Indeed, if the numerous testimonials in this informative booklet are any indication, it appears that a great many Leverett neighbors are finding all sorts of ways to save energy.

For example, Lillian Black of Hemenway Road recycles, has some energy-saving light bulbs, and turns off lights. Marjorie Hancock of Montague Road closes off her upstairs with plastic over the stairwell, because she

doesn't use the second floor, keeping heat on the first floor. She lives without a car, getting rides from her children, and is slowly changing out appliances for energy-saving Energy Star ones.

Shirley and Brooke Thomas of Long Hill Road have taken a deeper dive into energy conservation, reducing their household energy use by 30% in two years by turning off unneeded lights, changing most light bulbs to compact fluorescents, insulating the walls of their old house with blown-in cellulose, insulating cellar walls, washing clothes in warm or cold water, air-drying them on clothes racks, taking

shorter showers, replacing their fridge and freezer with Energy Star models, installing a power-save capacitor on their electric box to reduce energy surges, insulating and air sealing attic hatches, and installing a solar hot water system. They may qualify as what the introduction refers to as "green fanatics."

Toward the end of the booklet is a list of fun facts about energy use, such as how Leverett town buildings have reduced their energy use by 25,000 kilowatt hours (saving about \$2,400 annually), and more universal facts such as how installing water-saving devices can eliminate 460 pounds of CO2 from the atmosphere and save 7,800 gallons of water each year.

The final section has tips on

how to save energy, reminding people the best way to reduce one's impact on the climate is with efficiency first and then with clean energy alternatives. Tips include turning your lawn into food; choosing local, grass-fed beef if you eat meat; line drying clothes, (best not done under where birds perch); keeping your fridge at 37 to 40 degrees; and driving the speed limit (driving 55 mph instead of 75 saves up to 30% on fuel costs).

If you'd like a copy of this booklet, it is available at the Leverett town hall and the library. The testimonials in the booklet, along with additional personal accounts, are also available at www.leverett.ma.us/content/energy-committee.

Sally Pickis is a member of the Montague Energy Committee.

PATRICK from pg 1

asked if anyone in the room had ever seen live ducklings, and laughing when he said something funny. Towards the end of the story, Mrs. Mallard tells the ducklings to say, "Thank you," at which point a young boy asked, "How does a duckling say thank you?"

Patrick answered, "Quack, quack."

The governor moved on to Betsy Burnham's second grade class which was engaged in a lesson that looked a lot like arts and crafts but was intended to explore the properties of solids. Each student was given a piece of brown construction paper with a wide curved piece of blue paper pasted across it, representing a piece of land with a river running through it. They were asked to design a way across, and given a variety of materials to work with, including modeling clay, pipe cleaners, tongue depressors, and tin foil. No reference was made to the nearby Gill-Montague bridge, halfway through a four year,

\$40.7 million renovation.

Patrick joined right in, sitting in the middle of the students' desks and working right along with them as they all tried to figure out the best way to complete the project. The students talked easily with the Governor, exchanging ideas and getting to know each other.

Patrick stopped into a few classrooms to say hello and then sat down for a more serious conversation with teacher Joanne Flagg's sixth grade class. Students asked Patrick about his efforts to build trade relationships with foreign countries. Patrick approached this as lesson, asking students questions first then answering theirs.

He told them Brazil has a growing middle class, and has recently announced a "huge find" in oil reserves. His trade missions to Brazil and Chile were part of his efforts to build trade with these growing economies.

Patrick said for a governor like him, an overseas trip is a way to open doors, to introduce

Massachusetts to other countries and make sure they find a clear pathway to trade, easing the way for foreign partners to connect with Bay State businesses, and then getting out of the way. Patrick said building trade with the international community will help to build the economy here in Massachusetts. He noted that the internet has made communications with foreign countries much easier, opening up opportunities for trade around the world.

This was his cue to mention his efforts to bring high speed broadband fiber hook-ups to underserved communities in Central and Western Massachusetts, saying it is only fair to make sure everyone in the state has equal access to the internet.

Patrick's last stop was Ms. Rinaldi's third grade class, where he stood at the front of the room and answered questions. He discussed growing up in Chicago, his childhood, and early experiences. He said one of his priorities as governor is to create safe

schools and, proud as he was to have signed the anti-bullying law, he knows the problem of school bullying cannot be solved through legislation alone. He said the state is funding education at the "highest level," despite recent studies showing Massachusetts remains in the midrange of support nationally for public education as a percentage of a state's economy.

In answer to a question of how he will ensure the arts will continue to be funded in spite of the recession, Patrick said the data shows academic success correlates with arts education, and that is why his administration promotes a 'whole child' approach to education, including the arts, physical education, community service and experiential learning.

Joining the governor in his visit was secretary of education Paul Reville, who complimented the sixth graders saying, "It was nice to hear such good questions." Reville said he and Governor Patrick try to visit at least one or two schools every week.

In a statement to the press, Patrick said he was visiting Gill Elementary School Thursday in part to congratulate its selection as a Commendation School, one of 127 schools to achieve that recognition statewide for improvements in student achievement this year.

Commendation Schools were selected by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for progress in closing proficiency rates and helping all students achieve at higher levels. This year, more Gill students reached proficient status or better on the state's MCAS exams in Grade 5 English Language Arts (ELA) and Math, and Grade 3 ELA.

"The students and teachers at Gill Elementary School worked hard to achieve their Commendation School status and they deserve our praise," said Patrick. "Gill Elementary is providing a world class education for its students by applying best practices in innovative teaching and learning."



SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
DOORS & OPENERS

Devine Overhead Doors

Gerry Devine

106 West Street
Hadley, MA. 01035

Hampshire: 586-3161
Franklin: 773-9497

Simply Computing

Onsite Software
Support on PCs and
Macs from Windows
to Office to
QuickBooks

Debbe Dugan
863-5030



mww
Montague WebWorks . com

make the web work for your business

michael muller
owner
413.320.5336

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

PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU

CONSULT US
PZ

25 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-4331
www.pzinc.com

Visit Our Tip of the Week at www.pzinc.com

INSURANCE

French King Bowling Center



Company Parties,
Birthday Parties,
All kinds of Parties!
The Bowling Center —
where FUN happens.

55 French King Highway, Erving
413-423-3047 www.bowling4fun.com

THE COUNTRY JEWELER

Buying Silver & Gold

Top Dollar Paid On The Spot

DIAMONDS • COINS • JEWELRY, BROKEN
CHAINS, CHARMS, SINGLE EARRINGS,
UNWANTED JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, ETC.
IN ANY CONDITION

We'll Sort It For You!

Mon.-Thurs. & Sat 9:30-5:30, Fri. 9:30-7:30

Corner of Main & Chapman Streets, Greenfield | 772-0859

Site Work

- Bulldozer and Backhoe Work
- Driveways
- Land Clearing
- Septic Systems

Residential and Commercial

L & D Builders
413-648-0110



REAL PICKLES

Naturally Fermented & Raw



Now available
at Food City!

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

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 Melen
"The perfect remembrance"





JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - Q. Is there any cure for psoriasis?

There's no cure for psoriasis yet, but there are many ways to get relief from the symptoms of this troublesome disease.

Psoriasis is one of the most common skin ailments. More than 125 million people throughout the world have psoriasis. This chronic disorder affects people of all ages. Psoriasis seems to be inherited.

Psoriasis causes skin redness

THE HEALTHY GEEZER: Treating Psoriasis

and irritation that can appear anywhere on the body. Most people with psoriasis have thick, red skin with flaky, silver-white patches. There is no known way to prevent psoriasis. It is not contagious.

Psoriasis is the most common autoimmune disease. Researchers think it probably occurs when the body's immune system attacks healthy cells mistaking them for dangerous substances. Up to one-third of people with psoriasis may also have arthritis, an autoimmune disease; this is called "psoriatic arthritis."

In many cases, psoriasis goes away and then flares up again. The triggers that bring on psoriasis include: stress, dry air, infections, skin injuries, some medicines, too much or too little sun, cold weather, drinking too much alcohol and smoking.

If you have a weakened immune system, you can suffer more from psoriasis. A weakened immune system comes with rheumatoid arthritis, chemotherapy and AIDS.

There are a variety of psoriasis types. These include:

- **Plaque.** This is the most common type of psoriasis. This produces thick, red patches of skin covered by flaky, silver-white scales.

- **Erythrodermic.** This is the least common type of psoriasis. The skin redness is very intense and can cover your entire body with a red, peeling rash that can itch or burn intensely.

- **Guttate.** This affects people younger than 30 and is usually triggered by a bacterial infection such as strep throat. It's marked by small sores on the trunk, arms, legs and scalp.

- **Inverse.** The symptoms of

inverse psoriasis include skin redness and irritation in the armpits, groin, and in between overlapping skin. It's more common in overweight people and is worsened by friction and sweating.

- **Pustular.** This is an uncommon type of psoriasis that can occur in large patches. It generally develops pus-filled blisters after your skin becomes red and tender.

- **Nail.** The nails of fingers and toes become pitted. They can grow abnormally with discoloration. Psoriatic nails may become loose and fall off.

- **Scalp.** Psoriasis on the scalp appears as red, itchy areas with silvery-white scales. If you scratch your scalp, flakes of dead skin fall to your shoulders.

There are three basic methods for treating psoriasis: topical medications, internal medications and photo therapy.

Most cases of psoriasis are treated with medications that are

placed directly on the skin. These include: creams and ointments, dandruff shampoos, moisturizers, medicines containing vitamin D or vitamin A.

Severe psoriasis may be treated with medicines to suppress the body's immune response. These medicines include methotrexate or cyclosporine. Also, new drugs called "biologics" are used to specifically target the body's immune response. This include: Adalimumab (Humira), Alefacept (Amevive), Etanercept (Enbrel), and Infliximab (Remicade).

Photo therapy is a medical treatment in which your skin is carefully exposed to ultraviolet light.

Home remedies include oatmeal baths that soothe and loosen scales, moderate sun exposure, and relaxation techniques such as meditation to relieve stress.

If you have questions, write to fred@healthygeezer.com.

SONAM from page 1

Sonam's business property, the intriguing Tibetan Plaza on Route 5, is strung with Tibetan prayer flags and showcases his stone work with a small temple, decorative walls, and a stone facade along the storefronts. In his latest entrepreneurial renovation, he's created the Tibetan Inn of Deerfield, a bed and breakfast in his home at the plaza. The rooms are accented with authentic Tibetan wood carvings.

Sonam began his work as a young man in Tibet, rebuilding monasteries that were destroyed during the Chinese Cultural Revolution in the 1960s. He

offered his stonemason skills to one of his first friends in the United States. "I barely spoke English," he recalled, "and my first wall was for my English teacher."

He has kept an eye out for opportunities, and his business has been thriving ever since.

Sonam oversees a full crew and a fleet of several trucks that can be spotted all around the Valley. Seven years ago, another business opportunity came his way.

"I lived in Greenfield and I always took Route 5 on the way to work. I saw this place empty for many years," said Sonam, referring to the site of the cur-

rent Tibetan Plaza. After considering it for a while, he negotiated a price and bought the property, once the site of an old motel. He knew it had potential to become something special.

The buildings were in severe disrepair. All of the floors and walls had to be gutted. Finding the right businesses to fill the storefronts would be his next challenge - Sonam wanted to bring in businesses that "were doing something good - that weren't bad for the environment, that were good for people's health."

He has achieved this dream to perfection. The Tibetan plaza on Route 5 in Deerfield is now

home to El Jardin organic bakery, Hillside organic pizza, Himalayan Views (specializing in fair trade treasures from Tibet, Nepal, and India), and the Spiritual Healing Temple, a non-denominational sacred space that holds regular events.

"I think right now I've achieved most of my goals," Sonam nodded, and smiled.

The plaza's gorgeous stonework and decorations extend onto Sonam's home that can be seen off to the side of the parking lot - a two story building with vinyl siding. With hand painted wooden carvings and stone pieces worked into its exterior, it is the perfect site for a two bedroom bed and breakfast in a newly renovated wing.

During a trip to Tibet last year, Sonam special ordered the painted carvings that now adorn the dining room, representing the Eight Auspicious Signs. He waited while they were carved and painted, until each dragon's ear and fish scale was detailed. The carvings cover the windowsills inside and out, the corners of the ceilings, and the bedrooms upstairs as well.

Apart from his many business ventures, Sonam has kept busy as a leader of the area's Tibetan community for many years, after Tibetan refugees from India and Nepal began coming to Western

Massachusetts in some numbers after 1989. He served on the board for the Tibetan Association of Western Massachusetts, until the group disbanded in 2008. He now heads up a chapter of the Chushi Gangdruk Volunteer Force, a political group that seeks to achieve Tibetan freedom, with only a few chapters in the United States.

In Greenfield, Sonam is on the board for a Buddhist meditation center that will be open to Valley residents in the coming year. Members of the Tibetan community pray there with a high lama who recently moved to Greenfield from Tibet.

"He prays all day long - it's amazing," Sonam said. "Three o'clock in the morning he gets up, praying and meditating and chanting. He takes two to three hour breaks during the day, then starts all over again."

Sonam can often be seen hopping in and out of one of his business trucks, or meeting with his crew or members of the Tibetan community. He seems laid back and cheerful, yet intensely focused. He has a lot of projects in mind, and a lot of energy to keep them going. Keep an eye out for the many ways he's beautified the Valley with Tibetan stonemasonry next time you're out and about.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Assault and Battery, Hit and Run, and Vandalism at the Shea Theater

Wednesday, 1/11

8:52 p.m. Straight warrant arrest of [REDACTED]

9:13 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Avenue A. Services rendered.

10:09 p.m. Vandalism at the Shea Theater on Avenue A. Advised of options.

Thursday, 1/12

2:14 a.m. Neighbor disturbance on Main Street in Montague. Dispersed gathering.

10:30 a.m. Burglary, breaking and entering at the Shea Theater on Avenue A. Report taken.

11:24 a.m. Missing person on Fourth Street. Report taken.

11:33 a.m. Motor vehicle theft on Turnpike Road. Referred to other police.

8:20 p.m. Animal found on Eleventh Street. Services rendered.

Friday, 1/13

9:50 a.m. Hit and run accident at Survival Center on Fourth Street. Services rendered.

Saturday, 1/14

7:10 a.m. Threatening, harassment on Fifth Street. Services rendered.

6:23 p.m. Neighbor disturbance on Chestnut Street. Investigated.

11:01 p.m. Arrest of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Sunday, 1/15

2:38 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Davis Street. Advised of options.

9:06 p.m. Arrest of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], for trespassing, violation of a restraining order, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, and attaching plates to a motor vehicle.

Monday, 1/16

8:49 p.m. Assault and battery on Griswold Street. Peace restored.

Tuesday, 1/17

4:32 p.m. Assault at school bus stop in Millers Falls. Referred to an officer.

Carol's Beauty Nook
29 G Street, Turners Falls
Open Tue, Thurs, Fri
Ann Bagnell & Carol Demers
Gift Certificates Available 413-863-2888

Greenfield Imported Car Sales
Formerly LaBelle & Leitner
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS
WHERE ECONOMY IS KING
AFFORDABLE, SAFE, RELIABLE PRE-OWNED CARS
Toyota, Honda, Subaru, Hyundai

413-774-5517
335 High Street, Greenfield
greenfieldimportedcars.com (sales)
GICP.com (parts: 774-2819)

EDWARDS TREE SERVICE
Matthew Edwards
Certified Arborist
Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture
Residential / Commercial / Municipal
60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping
Fully Insured With Workers Comp. • Insurance and Liability
WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM
Wendell, MA
Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties
413-325-7823 or 978-544-7452

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

• Clay/Stone Sculpture
• Pottery
• Fine Art Drawings and Paintings

BY CHANCE OR APPOINTMENT.

TELEPHONE 413.863.9299
email: carriagehouse@signedinstone.com
65 CANAL STREET • TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

SINCE 1888

A.H. Rist
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
159 Ave A Turners Falls
413.863.4373
www.ahrist.com

BUNDLE UP FOR SAVINGS!

Ferry Meadow Farm - part XXIII

Turners Falls 2017

BY ELOISE MICHAEL - The hacking of the banks' computers is all over the news. The banks blame outside contractors they pay to take care of internet security and assure people that their money is safe. In interviews they calmly report they are close to solving the problem.

The banks recover quickly. By lunch we are back to business as usual. The strikes continue, though, around the world. I wonder whether I accomplished anything through my part in the action.

Also, I realize there were many people involved in hacking the computers. I feel like I am part of a group, though I have

never met any of its members.

And I feel guilty for hurting the company that pays me every other week. If I don't like the bank, I should just leave my job, I tell myself, not sabotage the company from the inside.

Jason thinks that hurting a corporation is different from hurting people. It's true, I realize, that no person got hurt, though some wealthy people may be slightly less wealthy this week.

Jason has told me that they need me. They could never do what they do without help from the inside.

"And what do you do, exactly?" I asked him once, before he disappeared.

A Knock at the Door

"Try to keep them honest, you know, expose their secrets when we can. This summer we'll fire a shot across their bow. Let them know we have power."

I wonder if he is thinking of me today. Part of me knows that he is and that this is the reason I helped him in the first place.

Someone knocks on my door at 1:15 in the morning. I know immediately by the loud, forceful knock that it is not Jason. I have the only StreetLevel camera on my street, since some of my neighbors don't even have electricity. They are squatting in their houses. Jason told me this, but I pretended that I already knew it. He said they are lucky to live in this town because the water department will leave the water on. He said that it's better for

everyone because squatters will take care of the houses, not let them fall to ruin.

I have my own camera bookmarked as a favorite on StreetLevel, so I get there quick. I can see my street, with a car parked on it. No one on this street drives a car but me. There used to be parked cars, but in winter you can't leave them on the street. Back in November people pushed some of those cars off the street and into driveways. The ones that still worked got driven somewhere. The street has been empty since then.

The person knocks again, louder this time. I figure it makes sense for me to take a while getting there. A normal person would be in bed at this hour. I rumple my hair and wonder

whether I should change into my pajamas quickly. I decide that my exercise clothes could pass and go to the door.

"Who's there?" I ask, trying to sound sleepy.

"FBI, ma'am. May we have a few minutes of your time?"

"Umm, sure," I say, trying to slow my heart. I open the door.

There are two of them. They show me their badges and say their names, which I don't register.

"Umm, why don't you sit down?" I say, leading them over to the couch, where one sits. The other perches on the front edge of a chair. I sit nervously in the other chair.

"Kind of late for you to be up, isn't it?" asks the one on the couch.

- Continued Next Issue

A Year Spent Coordinating Local Food

BY DAVID DETMOLD

WENDELL - "The small-scale, diversified Massachusetts farm is a living emblem of our cultural heritage — where deeply egalitarian, openly democratic towns were organized to collaborate with the efforts and resources of subsistence farmers for common economic prosperity. With this in mind, the town of Wendell seeks supplemental funding to continue to develop a pilot program that promotes regional economic development by supporting local food and agriculture."

So reads the prologue to the final report of the first year of the Wendell Local Food Project, authored by Wendell's first in the region local food coordinator, Liz Carter.

As preparations advance for a February 28th special town meeting vote on whether Wendell will continue the pilot program for a second year, Carter, who will not be seeking to continue in the role of local food coordinator, took time this week to reflect on the successes and some of the challenges of her groundbreaking experience working to increase food security for the town of Wendell.

"It went really well," began Carter, the mother of young twins, who lives in the South End of Turners Falls, and worked five to ten hours a week for \$100 a week to encourage the growing

and purchasing of local foods by Wendellites. "When I walked into the project, the energy committee had identified food security as a crucial ingredient in meeting the town's energy goals."

But neither the energy committee, nor its ad hoc local food subcommittee, had laid out clear guideposts or goals for the position, and the subcommittee disbanded partway through the summer, leaving Carter to negotiate directly with the energy committee for a defined job description.

Nonetheless, by her own account, and according to others who worked with her, Carter, a plant and soil sciences major from UMass who had an extensive background in farming and community organizing, was able to accomplish a great deal.

"I spent the first few months getting acclimated to Wendell's food culture. We held farmers' forums and skill sharing workshops." She called all the farmers in town, and soon concluded, "There are quite a few people who've been producing food in Wendell who have all the skills they need to teach new gardeners."

Nina Keller, who has farmed on Mormon Hollow Road for decades, accepted the post of Ambassador to New Gardeners. Keller held consultations with new gardeners and invited them

into her kitchen for food canning and preserving workshops.

Meanwhile, Carter worked through contacts with nonprofit groups and companies like the Keep America Beautiful Program and High Mowing Organic Seeds to gather over \$1000 worth of donated seeds, which she distributed to growers in town. About 30 Wendellites got together to make a cooperative purchase of mulch straw. New gardens went in, old gardens expanded, and Carter felt confident most or all of the donated seed was planted.

"Wendell is kind of an independent place. It's hard to keep track. But I heard from a lot of people that they did plant them, and I fielded a lot of follow up questions."

Carter recalled the day when she got a call from one resident asking advice on a problem with rhododendrons. After hanging up on that call, she took another one from a Wendell resident who wanted to know what she was going to do to fight the federal farm bill.

That's when she began pushing the committee for a clearer job description.

With Carter's support, workers from the Seeds of Solidarity Farm in Orange brought their Grow Food Everywhere program to Wendell, planting two plots in the community garden behind

the town office building to supply fresh produce for the Good Neighbors Food Pantry, which meets across the common in the town hall. She said the plots were planned to require minimal care, were tended by volunteers from the food pantry and people working under court sentences of community service. Those plots produced "tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, kale, collards, and many other crops" for the food pantry.

In general, Carter said she encouraged "extremely low input" growing and gardening in Wendell, where the population of 850 is aging and the available work force for agriculture is small. She attempted to organize interns to meet with farmers and growers to develop a network of

shared labor, but that effort got off to too late a start in the growing season.

One of the goals articulated by the energy committee was to encourage the growing of food in public spaces, but Carter said, "That approach requires a workforce to maintain it."

Instead, with the support of the open space committee, the focus shifted to developing a permaculture garden to grow perennial food crops in a space adjacent to the community garden. Carter helped to bring in an expert in this field — Lisa DePiano — to advise the dozens of residents who gathered to work on this project.

Responding to one farmer's request, Carter put time into

see LOCAL page 16

MONTAGUE from page 6

cleanup of an oil spill from an aboveground storage tank and failed to eliminate the potential for spills of oil from other storage tanks and drums present at the property."

The Phase I report from the FRCOG's brownfield program just arrived at Montague Town Hall on Tuesday before the selectboard meeting, so the board could provide no comment on the results. From the FRCOG's brownfield brochure - "A Phase I ESA assesses a site's potential contamination by conducting historical research and reconnaissance of

the site. A Phase II ESA assesses the impact of potential contamination through sampling and laboratory analysis of soil, groundwater, or building materials. If contamination is found in sufficient concentrations, a Phase III Remediation Plan outlines how to conduct the cleanup."

Town planner Walter Ramsey provided a written update to the selectboard stating he has taken a part time job as the town of Leverett's conservation agent. He will do this work on Fridays, when Montague's town hall is closed, or during the evenings, Ramsey



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK. (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666

Great Rates, Fully Insured!

Greenfield Co-operative Bank
A Great Financial Partner

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

MEMBER FDIC
MEMBER SIF

Brian R. San Soucie
Locksmith - CRL

Serving the Area for over 30 years Certified • Bonded • Insured

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

28 Montague Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

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

863-2471

Nina's
Nook

Closed for month of January
Reopening with special exhibit on February 1st

10% off your purchase when you donate a story to the 'Omnium Gatherums' story collection project.

125a Avenue A,
Turners Falls
413.834.8800
www.ninasnook.com

art . craft . design

TNT PRODUCTIONS
DJ & KARAOKE SPECIALISTS
We Know Entertainment

* Free Consultation
* State of the Art Sound
* Best Music for all Ages and Occasions
* Rental Karaoke System

Steven Therien
413-522-6035
www.tntproj.net

The Wagon Wheel Restaurant

Now Serving
Burgers & Beer
in front of the fire

BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
7 days a week
Route 2, Gill • 413-863-8210

T.L.C.
URNS LAWN CARE
Specializing in all aspects of Lawn and Property Maintenance.

Located in the Heart of Montague Center.
Now accepting calls for new clients for snow removal within 12 miles of Montague Center

Residential & Commercial - Fully Insured

45 Main Street, PO Box 926, Montague, MA 01351
Gary Turn, Owner Phone: 367-0230 Cell: 522-2563

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

Loomis Band, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21st
Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Marc Pinansky*, country, folk, melodramatic pop, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Wildcat O'Halloran Band*, 9 to 11 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rockit Queer with DJ Greg2000*, 9:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *AfterGlo*, Classic Rock, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd
Deerfield Community Center: *Enough is Not Enough: 19th-Century Food Preservation*, Historic Deerfield's Winter Lecture Series: Gathering, Gardening, Preserving: Exploring Local Food, 2 p.m.

Montague Bookmill: Free Films for the Frozen, *The Gleaners and I*, 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple*, Jim Henry, Guy DeVito, Doug Plavin & Tommy Boynton, 8 to 10 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25th
Deja Brew, Wendell: *Harmaniac Brothers*, 8 to 10 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26th
Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Side Street Band*, blues and rock, 8 to 10 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Ray Mason*, solo, 8 p.m. Free.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Open Mic Night*, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27th
Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Fourth Friday Children's Story Hour*, Have you even seen a moose? After the story, make your own set of antlers, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Nature Prose and Poetry Night*.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Ray Mason*, indie rock, 8 p.m.

Montague Grange: *Sam & Joe of Critton Hollow String Band*, 7 to 10 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Reprobate Blues Band*, 9 to 11 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th
Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Investigation Station: Why do squirrels squirrel away their acorns?* 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

New England Youth Theater, Brattleboro: *Brattleboro Music Center's 5th Annual Northern Roots Traditional*

Music Festival, 12 - 9:30 p.m.

Arts Block Cafe, Greenfield: *Heather Maloney* with special guest *Jim Henry* on guitar, *Chris Dorman* to open the show, 8 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Velocity*, Classic Rock, 9:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Luke Mulholland Band*, 8 p.m.

Montague Grange: *Gender free Contra Dance*, 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Wendell Free Library: Free movie, *Silent Running*, 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Larry Berger Band*, Original, local, folk, country-rock, 9 to 11 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *John Grand and Grant Wicks*, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th
Warfield House Restaurant, Charlemont: *Zydeco Connection at the Annual Chili Cook-off*, 4 - 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *John Sheldon*, 8 - 10 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 30th
Deja Brew, Wendell: *All Small Caps A Night of Spoken Word*, 7 - 10 p.m.

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31st
Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Matthew Latkiewicz's Sloshed School* lecture, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd
Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poets Series*, featuring *Ellen LaFleche* and *Jennifer Miltello*, 7 p.m.
Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Open Mic Night*, 9 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Relics*, 8 - 10 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd
Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Caught In The Act*, 9:30 p.m.

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th
Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Pamela Means*, with special guests *Pat Hull* and *Michael Chinworth*, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5th
Leverett Library: *Rattlesnake Gutter Trust: Trail of Time at Grand Canyon: Talking and Thinking about Geologic Time in Context with Michael Williams*, Dept. of Geosciences, UMass, 2 p.m.

AUDITIONS!
Montague Grange: *Mutton and Mead auditions!* Saturday, January 21st through Monday January 23rd. Mutton & Mead is a Robin Hood-themed the-

atrical event & festival held in Montague at the Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club on June 23rd & 24th. Mutton and Mead is in search of actors, singers, musicians and dancers both novice and professional to help us bring the streets of the village alive! Visit www.MuttonAndMead.com for details.

The Brick House COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
24 3rd Street Turners Falls
VOLUNTEER and INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
* Teen Center Coverage: Tues.-Sat., 2:30 to 6:00
* Seeking Facilitators & Volunteers for the Summer Workshop Series
Contact Erin (413) 863-9576
emyers@brickhousecommunity.org

Draft Beer Fine Wine Great Food
Friday, 1/20 9 to 11 p.m.
Josh Levangie & The Mud, Blood, & Beer Band
Saturday 1/21 9 to 11 p.m.
The Wildcat O'Halloran Band
Sunday, 1/22 8 to 10 p.m.
The Surly Temple and More!
978-544-BREW
57A Lockes Village Road
Next to the Wendell Country Store
www.DejaBrewPub.com

The Rendezvous
you know you wanna
NFL PLAYOFFS --- BIG SCREEN!
SUNDAY 3pm til Karaoke Time!
THURS 1/19 8PM FREE
Peter Siegel and Friends (radical roots)
FRI 1/20 9:30 \$3
Diamond Stones Mountain Interval (jam/indie)
SAT 1/21 \$3
ROCKIT QUEER
w. DJ GREG 2000
SUN 1/22 9pm FREE
TNT KARAOKE
78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS
THEYOO.NET 413-863-2866

EVERY TUESDAY
Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Craft Night*, 7 p.m.

EVERY THURSDAY
Between the Uprights, Turners Falls: *Acoustic open mic*, with *Dan, Kip and Shultz* from *Curly Fingers DuPree* host. 8:30 - 11:30 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT
Montague Inn: *TNTKaraoke*.

NOW until JANUARY 29th
Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Artwork by *Leonore Alaniz*.

NOW until January 31st
Ursa Major Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Paintings by Michael Katz*.

NOW until January 29th
Green Fields Market: Photography exhibition, *All Five Senses: The Open Air Market* by *Daniel A. Brown*.

NOW until February 29th
Wendell Free Library: Wendell resident *Christine Texiera*, presents *Asana*, oil on paper drawings, library hours: Tuesday 3 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

NOW until APRIL 1st
Gallery at Hallmark, Turners Falls: *Imitating Art*, a student photographic

exhibition featuring attempts to photographically reproduce an original work of art. Open Friday thru Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19th
Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners



Sam and Joe of Critton Hollow String Band, play at the Montague Grange Friday, January 27th, 7 - 10 p.m.

Falls: *Wood Comes from Trees and other fascinating revelations*. How much wood do we use? How do our local forests fit into the picture? Join Forester *Peter Grima* from DCR to learn about the consequences of our wood consumption, 7 - 8:30 p.m. Free.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Tommy Filiault & Friends*, Acoustic Rock, 8 to 10 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Peter Siegel and Friends*, blues/roots, 9 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Open Mic Night*, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20th and 27th
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21st & 28th
Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Country Players presents *Play On!* Matinee also on Sunday, January 29th.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20th
Burrito Rojo, Turners Falls: *Chandler Travis, Three-O*, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Josh Levangie & The Mud, Blood & Beer Band*, Singing Johnny Cash favorites, 9 to 11 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Diamond Stones, Mountain Interval*, indie, jam, rock, 9:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls:

THE LADY KILLIGREW:
Awesome Beer
Amazing Food
Amazing, Awesome Employees!
440 Greenfield Rd, Montague MA
7 Days / 8am - 11pm (at least)
(413)367-9666

LAPINE MULTIMEDIA
DVD~ MINI DVD~DVC~VHS/VHS
C/SVHS~BETA~REGULAR/HIGH &
DIGITAL 8 MM~HOME MOVIES/SLIDES~
CD'S/REEL TO REEL/8 TRACK/WIRE
AND OTHER FORMATS.
"MULTIPLE COPIES QUICK AS A BUNNY"
WILLIAM & KATHY WHITE
(413-773-7747)
LAPINE MULTIMEDIA
21 MOHAWK TRAIL BOX 259
GREENFIELD, MA 01301
LAPINE@VERIZON.NET

Animal Crackers
Saturday Fish Special
Fun stuff for pets and their people.
Aquarium Plants
Saltwater Fish & Lots of Critters
Open 7 Days
Animal Crackers
Aquarium & Pet Supplies
44 Deerfield St. (Rte 5 & 10)
Greenfield, MA 413-774-7346

Arrowhead Bait & Tackle Shop
Hunting, Fishing & Archery
Ammo * Black Powder * Knives * Live Bait
1105 Mohawk Trail ~ Route 2 West
Shelburne Falls, Mass. 01370
Garry and Cindy Pelletier (Owners)
Arrowheadbaitshop.com
413-625-3090

Northfield Coffee and Books
Locally Roasted Organic Coffee and Espresso
Gourmet Chocolate, Caramels and Fudge
Kids Area, Gifts & Cards
Books to Browse or Buy
105 Main St, Northfield
413-624-7119 • www.coffeeandbooks.net
50% OFF Any USED BOOK with this AD

The Shedsmith
Sheds, Chicken Coops and More
Home Repairs and Maintenance
Todd Muller
413-775-3575
theshedsmith@hotmail.com
www.theshedsmith.com

Bryan G. Hobbs
Remodeling Contractor
Blown Cellulose Insulation • Airsealing • Energy Audits
Replacement Doors & Windows • Roofing • Siding
Home Repairs • Spray Foam Insulation
Call Now for Free Energy Audit
413-775-9006
Bryan G. Hobbs
346 Conway St.
Greenfield

Silent Procession at Vermont Yankee Ends in Arrest

MARCIA GAGLIARDI
VERNON, VERMONT - In what they called 'a walking meditation,' 14 women from the Shut It Down affinity group returned to the driveway of the Entergy Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant on Wednesday, January 18th, to mourn cancer deaths they believe have been caused by radioactive emissions, and were arrested by Vernon police and Vermont state police when they refused to leave.

All were transported to the Vernon police station for booking.

The arrest marked the fourteenth time since 2005 that women from the group have been arrested either at the nuclear power plant or Entergy headquarters in Brattleboro, in an ongoing protest against the continued operation of Vermont Yankee.

The state of Vermont is

engaged in a federal court battle over Entergy's attempt to extend Vermont Yankee's operating license for 20 more years beyond its original expiration date of March 21st, of this year. In 2010, the Vermont senate voted 26 to 4 to withhold a certificate of public good for the reactor's continued operation, effectively forcing the reactor to shut down this March, barring court action.

Mindful of possible slippery conditions from cold weather and icing, on Wednesday the women took particular care to guide the steps of their friends Nelia Sargent, who is legally blind, and Frances Crowe, 92, who recently experienced a fall down stairs.

Others arrested included, from Vermont, Julia Bonafine, 43, of Shrewsbury and Nina Swaim, 73, of Sharon; from Massachusetts, Ellen Graves, 71, of West Springfield; Anneke Corbett, 69,



MARCIA GAGLIARDI PHOTO

Once again, the Shut It Down Affinity Group blocked the Entergy Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant driveway in Vernon, VT on Wednesday, to commemorate the lives of friends, family, and others who have died from cancer.

of Florence; Cate Woolner, 61, of Northfield; Sandra Boston, 71, of Greenfield; Betsy Corner, 64, of Colrain; Paki Wieland, 68, Susan Lantz, 71, and Nancy First, 82, of Northampton; Marcia Gagliardi, 64, and Nestel, 72, of Athol.

"No corporation has the right to poison our air, water, environment, and the future of humanity. We come to Vermont Yankee today representing the harbingers of death that emanates from this reactor.

"We cry for the suffering and poisoning of the aquatic life in our Connecticut River and for all life that surrounds it and is polluted by it," said the women, in a prepared statement released after the arrests.

LOCAL from page 14

helping a farmers market get started in front of the Wendell Country Store. That was not the first time a Wendell market has been attempted in the last decade, and both times it turned out a critical mass of vendors and shoppers was lacking.

Looking back over the year, Carter said, "You can't invest time in every idea from every committee member. I was really interested in this position because the New England municipality is a very powerful and accountable institution in this area. It has a huge influence over land use and economic development and in my opinion it's a seriously underutilized tool in farm protection and food production."

Reflecting on the first year of the pilot program, Jonathan von Ranson, who worked with the

local food subcommittee of the energy committee, said, "The vote planted the idea that food security, like road maintenance or public health, is something we can assist by the powerful instrument of government. Seed distribution, the permaculture meetings, the intense flurry of programs Liz developed, all nourished that idea. Wendell made a statement that there's no need for a life's essential like food security to be purely a matter of private control and profit motive."

Von Ranson said he noticed, "A big upsurge in the amount of attention and activity around local food, in many forms. What we found out is that Wendell has a nucleus of people that are very interested in local food, and there are declining levels of interest when you go out from that nucleus."



DETMOLO PHOTO

Elizabeth Carter

Though some projects, like the farmers market, failed to gather steam, they pointed the way to more practical solutions, like community supported agriculture (CSA) farms and group buying clubs, he said.

Von Ranson added, "The third harvest dinner," held in fall in the town hall, "was by far the biggest yet. It was just mobbed. The whole town hall was filled. The local food effort was involved in that, and increased the visibility of it. This was all based on the idea of local harvest."

Laurie DiDonato, who chaired the energy committee at the time Carter was hired, said she felt the

first year of the program was "a definite success."

DiDonato said in addition to educational and outreach efforts, and the development of a section of the town's website devoted to Wendell's farming and gardening community, Carter "started a seed swap and got the beginnings of a seed bank going. We tried to bring cooperative efforts together like straw hay as a bulk order. And a fair amount of consultation went into the idea of shared labor, though probably not a whole lot of workers were interviewed," in the first season.

With only 20% of its land base suitable for agriculture, Wendell

currently supports less than a dozen farms and large scale growers, DiDonato said. But a great deal of food production in Wendell is based on home gardens.

She said when the issue comes back before town meeting at the end of February, the focus of the pilot program to develop Wendell's food security may shift to include cooperative efforts to regionalize the project with neighboring towns.

She said, "If we can teach people how to grow food, if we can build relationships with other nearby towns on growing food, then overall our food security is increasing. It takes a longer view. We're never going to be able to grow huge fields of corn up here, but at least we can increase our ability to afford and grow more of our own food."

Carter concluded her look back on the first year of the project with this analysis: "For the first time in many, many years towns in this region can promote farms as a viable alternative to commercial and industrial development."

Carter has done the research to back that statement up; and we will report on her findings closer to February 28th special town meeting.



spinach greens tossed w. a ginger, brown butter, & lemon dressing, bacon, roasted red onions, blue cheese, toasted nuts, & roasted roots

WARM SPINACH SALAD

a.m.a.z.i.n.g

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL (413) 863-8666

• Pizzas
• Entrees
• Salads
• Full Bar & Patio

magpie

magpiepizza.com
21 Bank Row, Gfd.
413-475-3570

woodfired pizzeria

Patty Smythe
Licensed Massage Therapist

Myofascial Release
Sports Massage
Thai Massage

50 Chapman Street • Suite 5
Greenfield

413-774-0517
pattysmythe@hotmail.com

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

TURN IT UP!

MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309

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.

CopyCat Print Shop
Loves You More

Check our other ad in this newspaper

CopyCat PRINT SHOP
We Specialize in Impossible Deadlines!

scan this to know more about us

(413) 774-3500
greenfield@copycatprintshop.com