



CURIOSITY
at the
Discovery Center

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LEGENDS
of the
Summer of 1942

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LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 10 – NO. 38

also serving Erving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JUNE 21, 2012

Turners Wins State Division 3 Softball Title... Again!

BY JEFF SINGLETON

WORCESTER – The Turners Falls Indians women’s softball team shut out the Cardinals of Joseph Case High School (Swansea) for the second year in a row to win the state Division 3 Championship. This was not the come-from-behind roller coaster ride of the previous two Turners playoff games, but it was played at an extremely high level, much closer than the score might indicate. Two of Turners three hits accounted for all four runs. Meanwhile, Indians pitcher Dakota Smith-Porter held the Cardinals to only one hit.

That one Case hit came in the second inning, a leadoff double to Cardinal pitcher Shannon Orton. It led to a turning point of sorts. Sam Gouveia, courtesy pinch runner for Orton, moved to third on a sacrifice. With only one out, the Turners left fielder, freshman Amber Caouette, took a short fly and drilled Gouveia at the plate for the double play.

“That was a very big play [because] the first run can relax your offense and defense,” said coach Gary Mullins after the game. The throw was even more important in the context of the “lights out” pitching of Orton, the Cardinals ace. Orton struck out the first six batters she faced, mostly with high, hard fastballs, some of which appeared to be well out of the strike zone. The fans, and no doubt the Indians coaches, urged Turners batters to lay off the high stuff. By the fourth inning the public input seemed to be having an impact, as the Indians batters became a good deal more patient. In addition, Orton, who was playing with a serious knee injury that may require a post-season surgery, was losing a bit of speed and control.

Turners led off the fourth inning

with two straight walks on a total of ten pitches. That brought up pitcher Dakota Smith-Porter, who helped her cause by drilling an outside fastball into left-center. The double scored two runs and, as Mullins suggested, relaxed the Turners players a bit. The Turners fans also seemed to relax, becoming a good deal less critical of their team’s tendency to swing at pitches out of the strike zone. Everyone relaxed still more in the bottom of the sixth, as Tanisha Sanders clobbered a two out, two-strike pitch over the fence in left center, scoring two more runs. “I saw it and thought, ‘well there it is, I better hit it,’” Sanders told me after the game.

The post-game ceremonies were simple and direct, with an absence of oratory. Mullins and soon-to-be high school principal, Pat Gardner, handed out medals together. Reporters, gathered around Mullins, first asked him about the controversy concerning his future coaching status. “I don’t want to talk about that,” he responded. “Let’s talk about the game.” Good point; you could not help but notice that this is a classy, well-coached team that projects spirit and professionalism from the moment the players walk on the field to the moment they head for home. The same should be said, by the way, for the opposition Case team from Swansea, and particularly their pitcher, Orton. She is an outstanding athlete who has suffered two straight losses in the Division 3 finals and played through a serious injury. Hopefully, her knee injury will clear up so she can enjoy college sports.

Orton probably does not want to think about it this way, but her skills made the victory even more satisfying for Turners, a team that has faced and overcome many obstacles of its own this year.



Tanisha Sanders, proudly holding the ball she slugged into a two run homer, and her nephew, Silas Kopera.

Crosswalk Action in Greenfield



CLAUDIA WELLS PHOTO

Court Dorsey leads protesters in Saturday’s crosswalk action.

BY MORT FONTANA – If you and your family were asked to evacuate, what would you bring with you? Some answers were on display next to the Greenfield Common during the “Evacuate the Nuke” intersection occupation last Saturday, a dramatic event staged by the SAGE Alliance and Occupy Franklin County. Participants came dressed up as refugees from a meltdown at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, carrying,

pushing, and dragging their worldly belongings and signs as they “fled” the effects of a meltdown in Vernon, en route to Greenfield Community College, the designated evacuation center for seven towns.

The action, a hybrid of a flash mob and a traditional moving picket, was designed to stay within the law, while highlighting the unpreparedness of local governments to deal with a nuclear emergency. The “radiation refugees,” including over 50

humans and a poodle, gathered at the crosswalks on Main, Bank Row, and Federal Streets. Each time the walk signal lit up, they crossed from every corner to every other corner, both straight and diagonally, to great visual effect.

Marchers argued that the residents of the seven Massachusetts towns within the 10-mile evacuation radius of Vermont Yankee –

see ACTION page 5

Warren Announces a Greenfield Field Office



Massachusetts’ Democratic candidate for US Senate, Elizabeth Warren

BY PATRICIA PRUITT – Once again Elizabeth Warren came to Greenfield; this time on a fundraising effort, raising her supporters’ enthusiasm and announcing the opening of a campaign field office on Main Street in Greenfield, planned for early July.

Last Thursday’s fundraiser gathering at the Arts Block on Main Street was somewhat smaller than the one in February, but this group paid a minimum of \$100 each to be there to give their support for Warren. After making the

rounds and greeting people, Warren took the stage.

With humor and verbal vigor, Warren hammered the issues home to her supporters: reproductive rights, equal pay, support for public education, support for working and middle-class families, and lower-interest loans for education, to name a handful.

She went on to criticize the voting record of her opponent for the US Senate seat, Republican Scott Brown, on bills such as lower student loan interest, women’s rights, unemployment benefits, tax

raises on \$1 million or higher incomes.

One audience member asked Warren how she would overcome Brown’s appeal as a guy who spoke “from the gut.”

She answered that she believes deeply in basic values such as the importance of supporting middle- and working-class families and of making opportunities for our kids” “When we operate out of these values, America is a place of promise, and delivers on the promise. These are my ‘gut’ issues.”

PET OF THE WEEK

Little Bit, Lotta Toes



Little Bit

Hi, my name is Little Bit and I'm a five year old medium hair female cat who needs a home.

I'm a sweet girl, a little shy at first, but I warm up after a few minutes. I am polydactyl, which just means I have a few extra toes that enhance my endearing appearance.

I'm in the Lonely Hearts Club, so you can adopt me at half price!

To find out more about adopting me, please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or info@dpvhs.org.



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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
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The publishers reserve the right to
refuse advertising for any reason and
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Local Subscription Rates:
\$20 for 1/2 Year

MONTAGUE PUBLIC LIBRARIES NEWS

Summer Reading and Nature Walk

Children and teens can sign up for the summer reading program at the Carnegie, Millers Falls or Montague Center Libraries. The kick-off event is a Pirate Party at the Carnegie Library on Tuesday, June 26th, at 10:00 a.m. Costumes are optional. There will be many fun activities.

On Friday, June 29th, Dawn Marvin Ward will lead a nature walk

in the Montague Center Conservation Land, sponsored by the Montague Cultural Council. The program will start at the Montague Center Library at 10:00 a.m. It is intended for families and beginning adult naturalists. Heavy rain will result in rescheduling.

For more information, call (413)863-3214.

M.N. SPEAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Star Wars Symposium and Summer Reading

The Union #28 Community Network for Children and the M.N. Spear Memorial Library present the Star Wars Symposium and summer reading kick-off on Friday, June

22nd beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Shutesbury Town Hall on 1 Cooleyville Road.

For more information, call the library at (413)259-1213.

NEW SALEM BLAST OFF!

Rockets: There and Back

This free Museum of Science program will take place in the New Salem town hall basement on Tuesday, June 26th. There will be two session times; 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The hands-on workshop explores the science behind rockets and space exploration. Children ages six and

up will create an air rocket that launches across the room. Participants will use their imagination to plan, build and test their own design.

The program is funded by the New Salem Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

WENDELL FREE LIBRARY PRESENTS:

Arsenic and Old Lace

The Wendell COA Film Series will screen *Arsenic and Old Lace* on Sunday, June 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Wendell Free Library. Admission is free.

Arsenic and Old Lace (1944, B&W), a witty adaptation of a hit Broadway play, is a blend of the bizarre and the mundane. A mild-mannered drama critic (Cary Grant) learns that his two loveable, but somewhat dotty aunts have a pecu-

liar hobby: helping lonely old gents by poisoning and burying them in the cellar. Two murderers move into the aunts' house with the idea of adding a few corpses of their own. Then it gets worse. This madcap comedy was directed by Frank Capra.

About ten minutes of minimally edited video of the Promageddon Parade video footage will be shown as a short feature beforehand.

THE HEALTHY GEEZER:

The Mysterious Yawn



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ – Q. Why do we yawn?

There are several theories on the cause of yawning. One that has been gaining more advocates is the theory that yawning air-conditions the brain.

In a recent paper published in the Journal of Medical Hypotheses, scientists Gary Hack of the University of Maryland and Andrew Gallup of Princeton University wrote that during yawning, the sinuses act like bellows to cool off the brain. Those suffering from sinus congestion might yawn more.

"Brains, like computers, operate best when they are cool," the authors said.

The findings may explain why people yawn when they are tired. When deprived of sleep, brain temperature rises.

Yawning is catching; we mimic yawners. Human beings are highly social and suggestible; we watch and emulate one another. In one

yawning study, scientists found that the application of cold packs to the subjects' heads nearly eliminated contagious yawning. Nasal breathing, which also promotes brain cooling, had a similar effect.

Most animals yawn. Dogs, cats, rodents, birds, fish and snakes yawn. Human fetuses yawn at 11 weeks.

The brain chemicals that seem to cause yawns are serotonin, dopamine, glutamic acid and nitric oxide. The more these compounds are activated in the brain, the greater the frequency of yawns.

Walter Smitson, professor of psychiatry at the University of Cincinnati, contends that yawning is a way to express emotions.

"Often, for whatever reason," he said, "people are not comfortable verbalizing anger, boredom, disagreement or rejection. Thus, the yawn states for them, 'I'm rejecting you. I'm not interested in what you have to say. I'm not interested in you as a person.' It can serve as a passive-aggressive means to express hostility, anger or rejection when an individual isn't able to articulate those verbally."

Because a yawn may express anti-social feelings, people often cover their mouths with their hands. Smitson said he notices men yawn more than women. He theorizes that



Mahar Champion Basketball Team Tours State House

State Representatives Denise Andrews (D-Orange) and Anne Gobi (D-Spencer) along with Senators Stephen Brewer (D-Barre) and Stanley Rosenberg (D-Amherst) recently welcomed the Mahar Senators MLAA Division II State Champions basketball team to the State House in Boston.

Accompanied by Coach Chad Softic and Team Managers Nate O'Lari and Dylan Robichaud, the team met with members of the legislative delegation representing the four towns of the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School district.

The team was treated to a personal tour of the Senate and House chambers led by Senator Rosenberg and Representative Andrews.

SLATE MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Drumming Away the Blues and Children's Poetry

The summer reading kick-off party will be held on Saturday, June 23rd. Register for the summer reading program, pick up a game board and get ready to read!

At 11:00 a.m. musician and educator, Craig Harris, will lead a drumming circle on the Slate library lawn. Join the percussive journey through creative expression. With guided vocal imagery and interactive participation, everyone from preschoolers to senior citizens can discover the joy of playing rhythm instruments.

Join a morning poetry writing workshop on Saturday, June 30th

at 11:00 a.m.. Awarded winning poet, Diane Bilyak, will lead this program for older elementary age children and teens. Participants will read poems aloud, investigate a variety of poetic forms and participate in writing exercises. Bring a favorite poem and your imagination.

Both events will be held at the Slate Library in Gill.

The National Spiritual Alliance
is sponsoring a
Psychic Fair
on Saturday, June 30th,
from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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the Lake Pleasant post office
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SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES – June 25th - 29th

GILL-MONTAGUE Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Kerry Togneri is the meal site manager. Council on Aging director is Roberta Potter. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted. For information, meal reservations, or to sign up for programs, call 413-863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine if the center is not open.

Monday, June 25th
10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
1:00 p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday, June 26th
9:00 a.m. Walking Group
Wednesday, June 27th
10:00 a.m. Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo

Thursday, June 28th
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, June 29th
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 congregational 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. Call the Center to confirm activities, schedule a ride and find out when the next blood pressure clinic will be held.

Monday, June 25th
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
10:00 a.m. Osteo-Exercise

Tuesday, June 26th
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
12:30 p.m. Painting
Wednesday, June 27th
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
12:00 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, June 28th
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10:00 a.m. Posture Perfect
Friday, June 29th
9:00 a.m. Bowling

LEVERETT Senior Activities
• Take-It-Easy Chair Yoga – Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. at the town hall. Drop-in \$4.00 (first class free).
• Senior Lunch – Fridays, 12:00 p.m. Call 413-367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation. For information, contact the Leverett Council on Aging at 413-548-1022, ext. 5, or at coa@leverett.ma.us.

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



Local Briefs

COMPILED BY DON CLEGG – The 2nd Street Bakery Co., 69 2nd Street, Turners Falls, will feature an exhibit of Turners Falls High School digital photography students titled **“Picture This: Student Photography on Display.”** The exhibit will run from through Friday, June 29th, and was made funded by the Gill-Montague Education Fund.

Oops! The library with the pooch poop doggie doo problem is not in Montague Center but in Millers Falls. Millers Falls: take notice. Montague Center residents: stop calling the library out of con-

cern.

Meet **local author Amy Gordon of Gill** on Saturday, June 23rd, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Greenfield Saving Bank, 282 Avenue A, in Turners Falls. Gordon is the author of ten children’s books. Her most recent is titled *The Show Collector’s Apprentice*. Stay for a reading, booking signing and refreshments.

Come to the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, in Turners Falls on June 23rd, Saturday morning from 11:00 a.m. to noon to learn about over 350 species of Massachusetts’s **native**

bees. Look at some of them under a microscope to see how beautiful they are. Learn about bee ecology, where they nest, how they pollinate flowers, and what you can do to make your yard a friendly place for these fascinating and vital insects.

Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity will celebrate the completion of a home in Montague City with a festive dedication starting at 3:30pm on Saturday, June 23rd, at 11 Warner Street. The home, soon to be owned by Storm Cinder and Andrea Chesnes and their family, was built with volunteer labor and donations from generous individuals and businesses throughout Pioneer Valley. A major contributor to the completion of the project included the Franklin County Technical School students and staff. The public is invited to the dedication and a tour of the home.

For information about the Pioneer Valley Habitat for

Humanity, call (413)586-5430 or visit www.pioneervalleyhabitat.org.

The Montague Community Band will hold their first **summer concert** at Peskeomskut on Avenue A, in Turners Falls on Monday, June 25th, starting at 7:00 p.m. Bring a blanket, chairs, and picnic supper, and enjoy one of the oldest community band traditions in America.

Join **naturalist Dawn Marvin Ward** for a hands-on science program about wetland creatures at the Leverett Library on Wednesday, June 27th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children of all ages (accompanied by an adult) are welcome, however the program is geared for 3rd graders and under.

The program will start inside with an introduction slide show then venture outside (weather permitting) for a walk to a stream. Please have appropriate footwear and insect repellent. In case of inclement weather, there will be

indoor activities. This free program is funded by the Leverett Cultural Council. For more information, contact Dawn at (413)367-9562 or dmward@crocker.com.

Join **local author and conservationist, Matt Rigney**, for a book signing and power-point presentation on his new book, *In Pursuit of Giants: One Man’s Global Search for the Last of the Great Fish*, at World Eye Book Store on Main Street in Greenfield on Wednesday, June 27th, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. A percentage of the June 27 book sales will be donated to the “Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center.”

Wendell Farmers Market starts on Saturday, June 30th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Wendell Country Store. The market will offer Chinese cabbage, peas, herbs, fig trees, rhubarb, garlic scapes and more.

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

Household Hazardous Waste

Drop-off Hours Changed Due to Holiday

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District’s household hazardous waste drop-off sites are open year-round for disposal of common hazardous wastes. These ‘supersites’ are located at the transfer stations in Bernardston, Colrain, and Conway. The sites in Bernardston and Conway are open once a month; the Colrain site is open every Saturday.

The supersite in Bernardston will be closed on July 7th. The facility is located at the Bernardston transfer station on Nelson Drive (off Merrifield Road). This site is regularly opened the first Saturday of the month in the morning and will be open as usual on Saturday, August 4th.

The Conway facility is located at the town transfer station on Old Cricket Hill Road. The supersite is open from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. the first Saturday of each month.

The Colrain supersite is located

at the town transfer station on Charlemont Road (off Rt. 112). The site is open every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The supersites provide a place to dispose common hazardous materials, including: motor oil, oil filters, anti-freeze, oil-based paint, fluorescent light bulbs, ballasts, rechargeable batteries, thermometers, thermostats and mercury-containing switches. Charges apply for some items.

District residents are from the towns of Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Leyden, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Sunderland, Warwick, Wendell and Whately. All residents of those towns may use any of the supersites.

For more information on solid waste disposal, visit www.franklin-countywastedistrict.org.

Asthma on Rise During Summer Months

Nine people die from asthma every day in this country. While the dog days of summer have most of us seeking shelter and guzzling liquids, for those with asthma, the high heat and humidity can leave them gasping for air. A recent American Medical Association report sheds light on the fact that asthma has reached an all-time high. Medical experts believe one trigger is global warming, which leads to more allergies and pollution.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has created an “Asthma Action Plan”:

Keep a journal about what triggers your asthma. Work with your doctor to find simple solutions to reduce asthma triggers.

Be prepared for an asthma attack to happen at any time, anywhere. Parents should advise teachers, babysitters, etc. about what to do and who to call if their child has an asthma attack.

Know your healthcare options and where to go if you or your child needs to be seen by a physician right away. Map out locations based on you or your child’s daily routine.

Take all medications as prescribed. Many people don’t understand why they’re on medication or how it works. Discuss this with your doctor. Steroid inhalers take a number of days to start working and will not help someone having an asthma attack.

Check pollen counts and air qual-

ity daily. If your asthma trigger is allergies (environmental), avoid outdoor activities when the pollen counts are high and air quality is poor – this is often later in the morning. Warm, breezy days tend to be worse than cool, damp days. If spending time outdoors, change your clothes or shower immediately when you get inside to wash away irritants and allergens. Also, wash your bed sheets often.

Do not use cough suppressants if you feel a cold coming on. These often make asthma worse. Instead use your rescue inhaler and an expectorant (a medicine that helps bring up mucus and other material from the lungs).

Gill-Montague: Free Food and Fun

Kids 18 and under can enjoy free activities and meals all summer long

In Gill-Montague, the Summer Food Service Program is gearing up to provide free, nutritious meals to area children.

Gill-Montague will host four sites across the city beginning June 25th. Sites are open to kids 18 and under and meals are free. No registration is required.

Location	Address	Dates	Service Days	Service Hours	
Sheffield Elementary	43 Crocker Avenue, Turners Falls	6/25-8/9	Monday-Thursday	Breakfast: 8:00-9:00	Lunch: 11:00-12:00
Turner Falls High School	222 Turnpike Road, Montague	6/25-8/9	Monday-Thursday	Breakfast: 8:00-9:00	Lunch: 11:00-12:30
Unity Park	56 First Street, Turners Falls	6/25-8/9	Monday-Thursday	Breakfast: 8:00-9:00	Lunch: 11:00-12:00
Montague Catholic Social Ministries	41 Third Street, Turners Falls	7/1-8/10	Wednesday, Friday	Lunch: 11:00-12:00	

Please Note:

All sites are closed on July 4th.

All sites are serving locally grown food as available.

All sites have rain facilities as needed.

For more information, call Project Bread’s

FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333 or visit www.projectbread.org/summermeals.

Project Bread is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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Editor
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Layout & Design
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Circulation
Janel Nockleby

Founded by
Harry Brandt David Detmold
August, 2002

"The Voice of the Villages"

Arthur Evans

Garden of Eden

BY DAVID DETMOLD

When we finally got to the Garden of Eden, it was closed.

Up a long hill, even by Vermont standards, along a verdant river valley, past working dairy farms, well tended grade schools, cluttered auto repair shops and abandoned country stores, lies Eden.

The Eden country store was closed too. The Garden of Eden, a garden supply and nursery in better days, looked like it was just temporarily shuttered, but there was no chance of a return visit on this bicycle tour of Vermont's 14 counties, so we left a leaflet urging an immediate shutdown of Vermont Yankee on the mailbox, and pedaled on.

The highland towns, the Northeast Kingdom, and Vermont's Connecticut River valley seemed to have escaped the worst of the destruction of Hurricane Irene last August. But in the center of the state, evidence of a flood of Biblical proportions is still widespread.

The fields at Evening Song Farm, along Route 103 in the small town of Cuttingsville, had supported an organic farm a newly transplanted young couple had poured their life savings into, until Irene washed all their dreams and fields away, leaving a scree of boulders, gravel and uprooted trees in its wake. Trailer homes and farmhouses lay in twisted heaps of beams and rubble in Pittsfield, as in many other communities. Flooded storefronts, town offices, anchor businesses and restaurants in the center of towns from Wilmington to Waitsfield are still being renovated, or await the wrecking ball.

Vermont has become all too intimate with the ferocious potential of natural disaster, and its citizens are justifiably proud of the way each affected community rallied in response. Stories are legion of spontaneous relief efforts, ongoing fundraising for affected homes and businesses, volunteer bridge build-ings, road repairs handled locally rather than wait for state or federal aid, potlucks bringing people of all walks of life together, people who under normal circumstances may never have exchanged the time of day but after August 28th found themselves pitching in together to help those worse off.

Now you know why "I Am Vermont Strong" has become the new post-Irene must-have license plate and unofficial motto of the Green Mountain state.

Against this backdrop, Vermont's first in the nation legislative effort to close an aged, accident-prone nuclear reactor in Vernon, with over 700 tons of high level nuclear waste stored in concrete casks or in a seventh story swimming pool on the flood plain of the Connecticut River, takes on an added dimension of urgency. Having experienced a terrible natural disaster, the people of Vermont have no wish to add high level radiation to the mix should New England's largest river again be subject to the kind of flooding that once wreaked havoc along the Connecticut in the 1930s.

With chaotic weather patterns now commonplace, a "hundred year flood" could strike again any-

time. If the containment building that houses the lethal radioactive inventory at Vermont Yankee were undermined – like so many other structures across the state were wrecked by Irene – there wouldn't be enough strength in the whole State of Vermont to bring Windham County back to its antediluvian verdure. To say nothing of the counties in Massachusetts just downwind and downstream.

Vermont has routinely taken first in the nation stances over the course of its history. Vermont was the first state to ban slavery, was the first to provide civil unions for same sex couples, and is now the first to ban fracking for natural gas. It is no surprise that Vermont is the only the state in the nation to vote to close a nuclear reactor within its borders. It is critical that its effort to retire Vermont Yankee succeed before a major accident at the reactor puts entire New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Vermont counties permanently out of business.

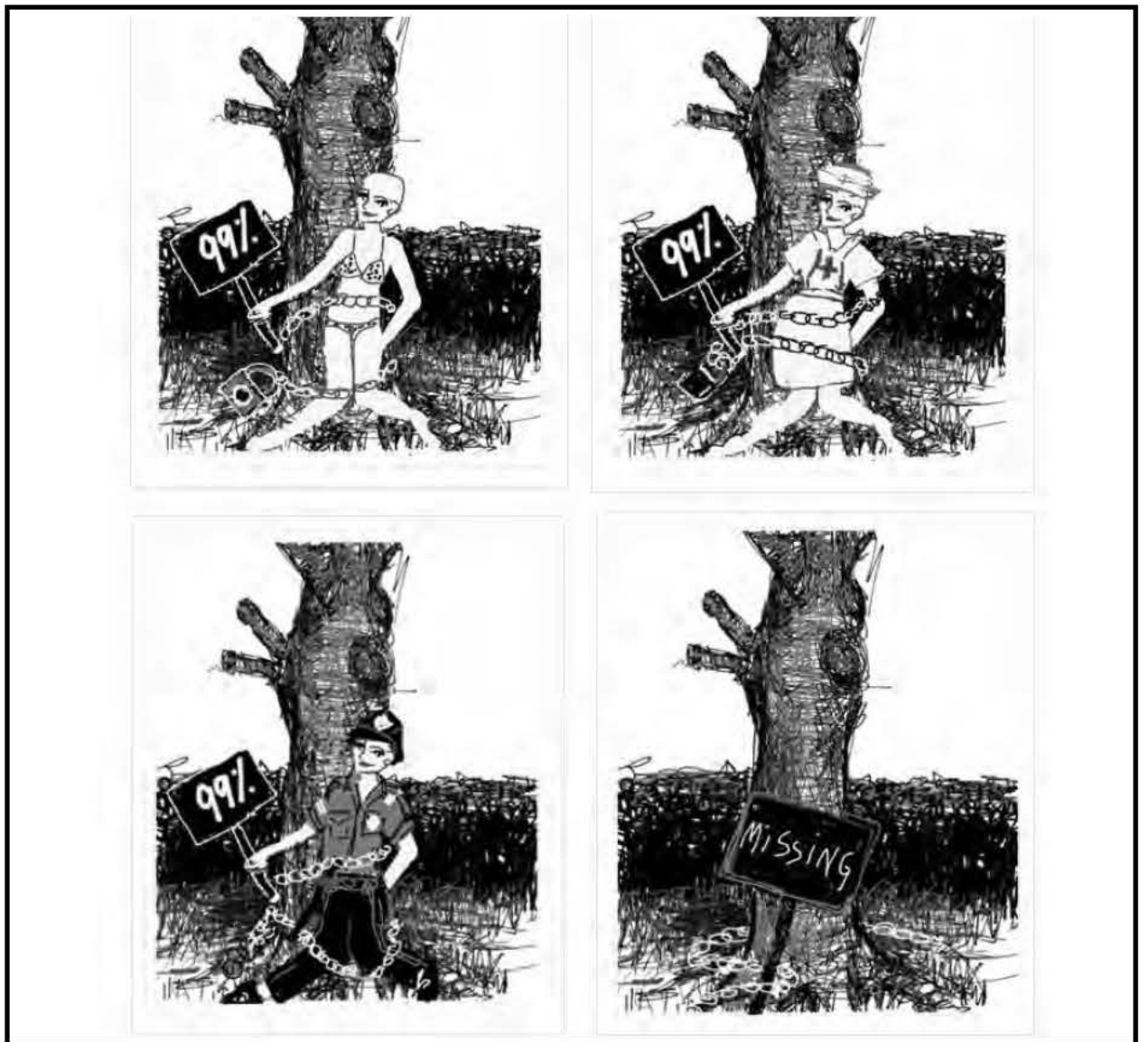
Is it not the height of arrogance for Entergy, the mega corporation based in New Orleans, to continue, in pursuit of profit, to operate a nuclear reactor that threatens the entire Connecticut River Valley with destruction in defiance of the democratically expressed will of the people? Did Entergy's CEOs learn nothing about the limits of disaster planning in New Orleans after Katrina?

Vermont utilities are no longer buying power from Vermont Yankee. The New England power grid operator, ISO New England, recently stated that Vermont Yankee was irrelevant to New England's power needs.

While the federal court case between Entergy and the state of Vermont awaits a hearing at the Second Circuit in New York City, while the Vermont Public Service Board gears up for a new round of public hearings on the corporation's bid for a state license for another 20 years of operation, and while environmentalists push to halt Entergy's use of the Connecticut River to cool the reactor in a direct loop – discharging hot 105-degree water and disrupting the river's environment – citizens of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts are determined to shut the reactor down. Trained in nonviolence, affinity groups will gather at the gates of Vermont Yankee on July 1st to reiterate that message to the corporate directors of Entergy: it's time to close the 40-year old reactor permanently.

This is a delicate time. With Vermont Yankee's fate in doubt, Entergy is cutting corners on ongoing maintenance of vital safety systems, like the \$200 million steam dryer, where cracks repaired with epoxy led to a recent slowdown in the nuke's power production. (The new normal is for VY to run at 120% of its original design capacity, courtesy of the ever-indulgent Nuclear Regulatory Commission.)

After a 2004 transformer fire spread to the containment building, underground pipes leaking radioactive tritium contaminated the river, workers exposed to excessive radiation, misplaced nuclear fuel, stuck valves, cracked pipes, and collaps-



MAGGIE NOWINSKI ILLUSTRATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Public Participation on School Committee Agenda

A number of years ago, when I was on the GMRSD School Committee, I received a call from a parent troubled by a bullying incident. She had followed all the proper channels to complain, but continued to feel that the larger issues behind bullying weren't being acknowledged and wanted an opportunity to present the issue to her elected School Committee members. She asked the Superintendent to put the topic on the agenda, but he refused.

She asked: "What recourse do I have as a parent to address my own school committee? Is the only option to mail or call each of them individually? Why don't I have a right to talk to them as a group?"

I thought that was a fair question. I asked the Superintendent to reserve

a small portion of the SC agenda upfront for a period of "Public Participation." We obviously wouldn't be able to discuss any new item extensively, let alone make any immediate decisions, but at least the Public Participation period would give parents and community members a way to put an issue on the "screen" of their elected representatives, for further reflection or action, as SC members deemed appropriate. The portion of the agenda was confined to fifteen minutes and worked quite well for many years.

Now I read in the Recorder that this open period of civic participation has morphed and hardened, as dictated by the ever-present "legal counsel," into a "Public Comment" period and is restricted to comments on

items already on the agenda.

So much for District responsiveness and civic engagement! Out the window they go, along with so much other common sense.

I hope SC members will take back their Committee! No matter what lawyers or other "professional" advisers tell them, they can and should trust their own good instincts. They should take cautions into consideration, certainly, but I hope they won't let anyone convince them that they aren't "allowed" to be responsive, creative, open, and just. It's what those who elected them should be able to expect.

— Patricia Crosby
Gill

The Emperor Has No Clothes: Challenging the Myth of Corporate Personhood Precedents

Your May 31st article by Shira Hillel, "Local Governments work to Curb Corporate Rights," is excellent, and I commend the Reporter for publishing it. However, it contains an important, oft-repeated error that needs correcting. The supposed precedent for corporate personhood rests on the 1886 *Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad* case, but this case did NOT, as is commonly stated, rule "that the Fourteenth Amendment equal protection clause granted constitutional protections to corporations as well as to natural persons." The ruling itself makes no such assertion, though the ruling's 'Headnotes' do. But Headnotes are specifically NOT part of the court's work, but rather are summaries written by a court reporter.

The court reporter for *Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad* was a former president of the Newburgh and New York Railway Company, J.C. Bancroft Davis, who wrote the following in the headnote:

"One of the points made and discussed at length in the brief of counsel for defendants in error was that 'corporations are persons within the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.' Before argument, Mr. Chief Justice Waite said: The court does not wish to hear argument on the question whether the provision in the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which forbids a State to deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws, applies to these corporations. We are all of the opinion that it does."

In short, the Court refused to rule on the issue, while stating that all the justices agreed with the concept of corporate personhood. The distinction is important. The supposed foundational legal precedent for corporate personhood does not exist. We need to challenge this myth of precedent at every opportunity. The emperor has no clothes.

"We the people" ARE sovereign. In the coming years and decades we must build on alternative forms of ownership such as cooperatives, and build local sustainable economies and nurturing, resilient communities even as we push for three things: 1) a constitutional amendment to deny all elements of personhood to corporations, and to state that money is not speech, 2) corporate charter reform to require profits not be made at the expense of the environment and social needs, and 3) campaign finance and lobbying reform to remove the undue influence of money from governance. It is no exaggeration to say our health, our futures, and even the survival of a humane civilization depend on our success in this endeavor. As challenging as this will be, I can think of no effort more worthy of the human spirit.

— Respectfully,
Paul Lipke
Montague

ing cooling towers, we have every right to be fearful for our lives and property. We must take concerted action to support Vermont's efforts to retire the nuke, and demand that Entergy employ its skilled workforce for years to come "cleaning up" the mess they made on the banks of the Connecticut. (Though

we know there really is no way to "clean up" radioactive wastes; wherever they are eventually stored, they will remain lethal for tens of thousands of years.)

Vermont has seen what the force of nature can do to carefully constructed concrete roads, buildings and bridges. They do not want to wait for the Supreme Court, or the Vermont Public Service Board, or any other governmental body to confirm what is patently obvious. Vermont Yankee is a threat to our

lives and future generations. We shouldn't have to live with environmental degradation for corporate short-term profit. Our children's children should not be forced to face genetic damage from continued cumulative build up of radiation in our air, food and water from nuclear facilities we built, in our pride and folly, on Earth's living, shifting crust over the last 60 years.

Vermont is strong and its people are strong. Having bicycled through the state for the last three weeks, talking to potluck groups, radio talk shows, average citizens on the streets, on farms, and on the rural byways of this beautiful New England state, I can tell you the overwhelming majority of Vermonters are united in their resolve to see the struggle to close the nuke through to victory.

It is a long climb back to the Garden of Eden, but with Vermont in the lead, we might make it.

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Consumer Awareness: Stay Informed and Safe When Making a Purchase

BY CARESS KENNEDY – The need for safety is often associated with actions such as driving and swimming. But as a consumer purchasing a product or service, safety should also be top of mind. You need to make informed buying decisions to safe guard against physical harm and financial loss.

According to ConsumerReports.org, last year could have been considered the year of awful consumer product news, judging by the number of safety recalls ordered by regulatory agencies.

As a consumer, there are resources available to help. There are laws enforced by the government on national and state levels to protect consumers against fraud and scams, unsafe products, and deceitful business practices.

Consumer awareness is defined as the understanding by an individual of their rights as a consumer concerning available products and services being marketed and sold.

According to Consumers

International, there are eight basic rights to protect consumers when making purchases.

- *The right to be heard*
- *The right to choose*
- *The right to consumer education*
- *The right to a healthy environment*
- *The right to be informed*
- *The right to redress*
- *The right to safety*
- *The right to satisfaction of basic needs*

It is necessary for agencies to create laws to protect consumers from crooked business and to warn shoppers about deceitful claims. However, it is important to educate yourself to make sure you are making informed and safe buying decisions. If nothing else, be smart and follow your instinct when making a purchase.

Research First

Organizations such as Consumer Reports, the Federal

Trade Commission and others of the liking, deal particularly with issues that touch the economic life of every American. They can be a vital resource for product and safety information and recalls.

- *Consumer Reports*
- *Federal Trade Commission*
- *Federal Reserve System*
- *Recalls.gov*

Consumer review websites can also help the research stage of a purchase as they gather information and feedback from product users and make it available for potential purchasers. Once you make a purchase, you can post feedback so that others can also become better informed.

Buy Smart

While consumers need to be proactive and responsible, consumer agencies have made significant strides in ensuring product safety.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission works to

ensure the safety of consumer products which has contributed significantly to the 30% decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

Consumers should make product choices based on desired functionality and intended user. Ensure that purchases for children are age appropriate and do not contain dangerous substances or small parts.

Use your best judgment when buying for children as you know the child's maturity level and can best decide if the toy is suitable or not.

Food and other products with expiration dates should be carefully selected. You can research expiration dates on the Food and Drug Association's website.

If there is a problem or recall on a product, act on it. Discard, return, repair or discontinue use of the product until you have been informed of the proper next steps.

• *U.S. Consumer Product*

Safety Commission

- *The Food and Drug Association*
- *National Highway Traffic Safety Administration*

Use as Directed

Directions supplied with products inform users of proper procedures for the item and safety standards.

Remember to always gather as much information as possible about a product before making a purchase. You and your family's safety depend on it.

About the author: Caress Kennedy is a Vice President at AlliedBarton Security Services.

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On the Avenue: Ice Cream, Movies and Good Old Days



JOHN FURBISH PHOTO

Audience member Sue Hastings listens intently to Montague Library director Susan SanSoucie's talk about the history of downtown Turners last Saturday

BY JOHN FURBISH

TURNERS FALLS – Last Saturday, June 16th, Susan SanSoucie, director of the Montague Public Libraries, gave a presentation at the Greenfield Savings Bank branch in Turners on the 1950s glory days of downtown Turners Falls.

Several in the audience could remember going to a movie at the Shea Theater, or going to the former

Colle building (now the Hallmark building) for vaudeville on the 2nd floor and bowling on the 3rd floor, and then crossing the Avenue for ice cream. SanSoucie retold details from that bygone era, such as how the Carnegie Library's white bricks were imported from Ohio, to make the library stand apart from the standard redbrick buildings that came from local brick factories.

Be Courteous When You Curse

BY LAURIE SCHLOFF – Cursing is controversial. Some believe that people who utter four-letter words are immoral, others call them crude, and still others view them as uncivilized and annoying. The town of Middleboro, fed up with the spate of cursing on downtown streets, passed an ordinance that fines public cursers \$20 for each 'bad word' said in public.

On the opposite end of the cursing controversy, linguistic libertarians believe words are neither bad nor good. They believe free speech, including the right to verbalize rudeness, is guaranteed in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and that only threats to cause physical harm to listeners (yelling 'bomb on board,' for example) are bad.

No matter where you stand on swearing, communication specialists recommend sensitivity to others if you have the urge to say anything strong. Here are three things to consider before cursing in public:

1. *Know who's listening to you.* Cursing serves as a verbal expression of anger, frustration, or disappointment, but your issues are not everyone's business. Particularly, with a client, think before using an expletive. The salesperson who instinctively blurts out the "s-word" when she breaking a fingernail during a call with a prospective customer may cost herself more than the price of a manicure.

2. *Err on the conservative side at work.* Even if everyone's "doing it," it's better to be called a prude than to prove yourself profane or just at a loss for more descriptive words. If you are focused on career growth, your linguistic flexibility in forming ideas, not expletives, will be a major factor. If you need a thesaurus, by all means, get one... and learn new ways of expressing yourself in a professional setting so others don't wonder if you're an appropriate candidate for a promotion (or, these days, even for keeping your job!).

3. *Save it for later.* If you truly

must let loose by cussing, consider waiting until later when you're with buddies to vent. Adjust your vocabulary accordingly when in mixed company.

Since swearing can be a well-honed habit, it helps to find alternatives. Squeeze your fingers together, make a fist, or tighten your toes when you feel a curse coming on. If you must mouth off, have a few milquetoast alternatives ready such as *darn*, *shoot*, *rats* or *fudge*. Or be creative and develop your own customized curse word – one busy bartender says hockey puck to let off steam.

Folks in Middleboro may be onto something. They know that excessive cursing can offend, and as a wise speech professor once said, "Freedom of speech is not always free."

Laurie Schloff is a Senior Coaching Partner with the Brookline-based Speech Improvement Company.



One desperate evacuee brought a furry companion on her journey. In the event of an actual emergency, pets will not be welcome at the evacuation center.

ACTION from page 1

Bernardston, Colrain, Gill, Greenfield, Leyden, Northfield and Warwick – would place an insurmountable burden on Greenfield's healthcare and emergency preparedness systems. They further argued that the zone's radius is arbitrary, citing the radiation from Fukushima's melting and exploding reactors, which spread as far as 50 miles away.

SAGE is also planning an "Energy Independence Demonstration," to take place at Vermont Yankee on July 1st.



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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Should the Town Permit Public Alcohol Advertising?

BY JANEL NOCKELBY
TURNERS FALLS – For several years bar manager, Lew Collins, has hosted a number of summer outdoor music café events on the sidewalk just outside Between the Uprights on Avenue A in downtown Turners Falls. Collins worked with the town of Montague to make sure the events allowed sufficient sidewalk access to passersby, that all the correct paperwork was completed, and that the events were well managed to ensure no liquor law violations. Some Between the Uprights outdoor café events have been held on the same day as the Turners Falls Block Party.

This year the Gill-Montague Community School Partnership is sponsoring and managing the block party on August 11th for the second time. However, as described in a letter to potential block party vendors, the Partnership's goals are very different than those of Collins. "The Partnership is a community collaboration that uses a positive youth development approach to promote a healthy, safe, nurturing, and caring environment for our community youth. The goal is to help reduce violence and substance abuse, as well as create a respectful appreciation for diversity."

At issue is the role of alcohol advertising for the outdoor events that Collins manages. The banners, umbrellas, free hats and shirts, and equipment used to block off non-customer access to the outdoor café include prominent mention of Collins' sponsors, such as Bud Light or LandShark Lager. Without free paraphernalia that includes advertising from liquor distributors, Collins explained to the selectboard on Monday, June 18th, his establishment could not

afford to have outdoor events. Collins came before the selectboard to officially request the appropriate real estate and liquor licenses that would allow the events to happen all summer long. The selectboard approved the paperwork, and the requests were forwarded to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission in Boston for final approval.

Kara McLaughlin of the Partnership reminded the selectboard that research has shown this type of advertising encourages underage drinking. "Advertising works best on young people," McLaughlin said. "They become the sacrificial lambs of our culture," she elaborated.

Additionally, McLaughlin noted that underage drinking is among the top three causes of underage death. She said the Partnership's recommendations for community events include no alcohol advertising be visible to the public, so that would mean "no advertising signs, hats or t-shirts" and they prefer the use of "plain plastic cups and wrist bands for customers who have been identified as over twenty-one."

Collins explained the summer outdoor events are an important revenue generator for his business, allowing him to stay afloat. "It has not been a good summer," Collins said. "We can get two weeks of income in one day," Collins stated. His staff is trained to not serve alcohol to anyone already visibly intoxicated or under age twenty-one, he said.

In his comments on the subject selectboard member Mark Fairbrother acknowledged that Collins is trying to run a business. "He prints checks with black ink," Fairbrother said. Interim police chief, Chris Williams, stated that there have been no incidents reported to police

regarding the Between the Uprights outdoor café being open on the day of the block party. McLaughlin countered that she heard of a problematic interaction at last year's block party on First Street between an intoxicated individual and a family with young children.

McLaughlin said a half-million dollar grant for the Partnership is dependent on the group's ability to run events that support its mission to reduce underage drinking.

Collins does not want his business singled out. If town alcohol advertising policies change, he wants all businesses on Avenue A to be treated the same, including any outdoor advertising at Jakes and DiPaulo's.

Selectboard member Pat Allen recommended that the issue of the outdoor café on the date of the block party be revisited at the next selectboard meeting on Monday, July 2nd to work on the question of "can the advertising be toned down."

In other news, Sandy Facto presented the selectboard with suggestions for improvements in handicapped accessibility to businesses in town. "Many doors in town are quite heavy," she explained, and recommended that buzzer systems or push button door openers be installed to allow access to all customers. Allen noted that Facto's suggestions should be part of the upcoming downtown Turners Falls livability plan headed by town planner Walter Ramsey. Ramsey encouraged suggestions and invited Facto to the next livability plan meeting. Ramsey said a request for proposals from consulting firms to get started on the vision and implementation of the livability plan is scheduled to open on July 11th.

Town administrator Frank

see MONTAGUE pg 7

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Erving and Northfield

Discuss Shared Ambulance Service

BY KATIE NOLAN – Members of Northfield's emergency response team and the Baystate health ambulance manager, William Travis, met with the Erving selectboard to discuss ambulance services for Erving at the June 11th selectboard meeting.

Northfield's Mark Fortier noted that Erving and Northfield cooperate in other areas, so "why not ambulance service?" Currently, Baystate Health and the Orange fire department provide ambulance service to Erving. Selectboard chair and Erving fire department member, Eugene Klepadlo, said he would like to have further discussions with the Northfield selectboard and emergency

response team to decide if the Northfield ambulance service would be "a good fit" for Erving. Klepadlo cautioned that plans were "very preliminary," and said he didn't think the towns would be considering an agreement anytime soon.

Travis said he wanted to "stop the rumor" that Baystate ambulance will end operations in Franklin County. He said Baystate just signed a three-year contract with Montague, and would be investing in new equipment for use in Franklin County. He said he has never received any complaints about response time to Erving.

Church Street area residents Charlene McDonough, Tina Johnson, and Marcia

Bernard asked the selectboard about shutting down Church Street to hold a block party later this year. Selectboard members agreed that they liked the idea, but that they need more information about potential liabilities for the town. They asked town administrator, Tom Sharp, to check with town counsel about legal considerations for block parties. The block party request will be revisited at the June 25th selectboard meeting.

Klepadlo mentioned that portions of the fence at the former Usher Plant are falling over, and there are gaps "that someone could fit through." Bids for site cleanup are due June 29th.

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Increase in Filing Fees and Regulation of Large-scale Photovoltaic Installations

BY KATIE NOLAN – Erving voters will meet this week at a special town meeting to vote on amending zoning bylaws that raise special permit filing fees and regulate exterior signs and large-scale photovoltaic installations. The meeting will also consider purchasing emergency generators for the senior and community center and town hall, an electronic

water meter reader, a new police cruiser, and a radar speed trailer.

The proposed sign bylaw will regulate exterior sign size and lighting, and prohibit signs that "flash, move or display movement or generate music or an audible message." Already existing signs that don't conform to the bylaw will be grandfathered in.

Under a separate planning board proposal, solar photovoltaic systems structurally mounted on the ground with a minimum capacity of 250kW may be constructed on properties of at least 40 contiguous acres, or 20 acres by special permit. Proposed large-scale systems will require site plan review by the planning board and will

see ERVING pg 7

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Soliciting: Advised of Options

Wednesday, 6/13
 12:39 a.m. Domestic disturbance on Fourth Street. Investigated.
 10:28 a.m. Suspicious person on Walnut Street. Referred to other police.
 1:52 p.m. Suspicious situation on Old Sunderland Road. Advised of options.
 4:20 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Avenue A. Peace restored.
 11:28 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Montague Street.

Thursday, 6/14
 1 p.m. Structure fire at the Farren Care Center on Montague City Road. Referred to other agency.
 4:35 p.m. Assault at Community Health Center on Montague City Road. Services rendered.
 6:12 p.m. Shoplifting at F. L. Roberts on Third Street.
Friday, 6/15
 5:18 p.m. Soliciting in Turners Falls. Advised of options.

Arrest of [REDACTED]
 for domestic assault and battery.
 10:21 a.m. Neighbor disturbance on Park Street. Services rendered.
 6:59 p.m. Threatening, harassment on Central Street. Services rendered.
Sunday, 6/17
 12:16 a.m. Fight at East Main Street residence. Services rendered.
Monday, 6/18
 2:20 p.m. Fraud reported

Saturday, 6/16
 1:37 p.m. at Greenfield Savings Bank on Avenue A. Referred to an officer.
 4:22 p.m. Restraining order served in hand on Fairway Avenue.
 5:17 p.m. General disturbance, domestic assault and battery on South Prospect Street.
Tuesday, 6/19
 1:10 a.m. Suspicious person at Basically Bicycles on Third Street. Verbal warning.
 4:16 p.m. Neighbor disturbance on Franklin Street in Millers Falls. Investigated.

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Buried History Brought to Life



PAM RICHARDSON PHOTO

Paul Wawrzonek presents his Wendell treasures to the Wendell Historical Association

BY PAM RICHARDSON

WENDELL – Members of the Wendell Historical Association gathered recently for a presentation on relic-hunting given by Paul Wawrzonek of Palmer, MA. Wawrzonek has been using two high-performance metal detectors in Wendell for many years and has discovered some interesting bits of town history. Artifacts on display at the meeting included old rings, cutlery, musket balls, hardware for horses and carriages, buttons, coins, parts of tools, buckles and assorted miscellaneous pieces. Some of the artifacts can be dated back to the mid-to-late 1700s, the very earliest days of Wendell's settlement. Wawrzonek's talk covered topics ranging from modern microprocessor-controlled metal

detectors to stories about close encounters with unusual people and animals in his off-the-beaten-track hunts to historical data about some of his findings. For example, in researching small balls of soft lead imprinted with teeth marks he found, Wawrzonek learned that before the discovery of lead's toxicity, people (notably soldiers and hunters) in the 18th and 19th centuries used to chew musket balls and buckshot much as gum is chewed today.

A Spanish two-reale coin, uncovered on a roadside, and an 18th century pocket-sized sundial and compass were of keen interest. An old wedding band lost near a well and a thimble and key buried in the Town Common drew more emotional responses.

The evening was a true presentation in every sense of the word: not only did Wawrzonek give his audience an absorbing and informative talk, he also gifted the Wendell Historical Society with every single item he has found in Wendell. While some of his finds do have a certain monetary value, their historical value is immeasurable. Too often relic hunters take objects for their own pleasure or profit, depriving a town of its culturally significant artifacts. In this case, Wawrzonek's generosity contributes enormously to both the hard data and the personal stories that constitute history.

Many of Wawrzonek's finds will be on display in the Wendell Library for six weeks beginning Saturday, June 23rd.

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Abbondanzio noted that past town grants have incorporated handicapped accessibility into the historic preservation of the town streetscape, although he noted that it takes time to implement the grants.

Facto invited all three members of the selectboard to participate in a handicap challenge on Friday, July 6th at 5:30 p.m., starting in the Food City parking lot on Avenue A, to see how well they can navigate the area in wheelchairs.

Facto also described the litter situation along Avenue A as "depressing." She said she takes time to pick up litter along Avenue A, only to see just as much litter there the next day. "They ought to be caught and fined by the health department," she requested.

Following the advice of the national congress, Montague Parks and Recreation director, Jon Dobosz, came before the selectboard to request that July 2012 be designated Park and Recreation Month. The selectboard agreed. Among the many reasons Dobosz listed for appreciating local parks and recreation opportunities were that they improve the quality of life for community members, are

integral to the community, improve the health of community members, and increase economic and environmental well-being. Additionally, property values go up, tourism and businesses are strengthened, and parks and recreation activities help keep people active, reducing disease and improving mental and emotional health. He further elaborated that parks improve water and air quality, and that they create vegetative buffers for wildlife.

Earlier this month, the parks and recreation department learned of the good news that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program has approved federal funding for Phase II of the Unity Park improvement project. Phase I improvements are now underway, although they are running a couple of weeks behind schedule, Dobosz said. Work continues on the parking lot and the playground, but "we are still taking registrations for summer programs," he added. Bruce Hunter of the Franklin County Regional Housing Authority, who administers the CDBG process for the town, explained

the need for a change order expense for the project's current phase so that important safety features can be completed. The selectboard approved the additional spending of \$3,557.72 from the unallocated program income fund.

The selectboard also approved signing an agreement with the International Brotherhood of Police Officers. Officer Chris Lapointe is the local representative for the union.

Allen Ripingill was appointed as an associate member of the zoning board of appeals until June 30th 2013.

A request for proposals for a wage and classification study was granted to Stone Consulting, at a cost of \$16,225. The study is meant to determine optimal staffing and compensation levels for town employees.

MD

An Interview with Bob Avery

BY PATRICIA PRUITT

TURNERS FALLS – At the June 5th school committee meeting, a group of supporters of recently-resigned athletic director and current Softball State Champions coach Gary Mullins – including the softball team itself, parents, and community supporters – charged spokesman Bob Avery with the task of asking why Mullins was being let go.

Before Avery could present his inquiry, he had to clear the hurdles to get listed on the school committee agenda. He managed to extend the allotted five-minute public participation time by 12 additional minutes, while trying to find out the precise requirements for getting on the agenda.

After being told to write a letter explaining the reasons for wanting to be on the agenda, Avery was assured by the interim superintendent that the topic of hiring protocols would be discussed at the next scheduled school committee meeting. Avery and those in the group were not satisfied with the committee's response, and were determined to be included in the next

meeting's agenda.

Avery said the group composed the letter requested by the school committee chair after consulting with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, and in fact presented it to the school committee chair the very next day. Their letter was rejected.

At the following school committee meeting, on June 12th, a group of parents, student athletes, and Boosters were once again in attendance. There was another lengthy discussion as to whether and for how long the group could speak. On this occasion the school committee gave the nod to allow the spokesman and others to speak. John Putalla asked for clear answers about the hiring of two school principals, and wanted to know who was on the administrative team. Next, Booster chair Becky Forrest expressed concern over there being no information on the upcoming academic year's curriculum offerings, pointing out that parents and students need that information to plan college preparation. Lastly, Avery had his turn, reiterating the need for hiring transparency.

Avery said the group wants to be helpful, but insists on greater transparency around hiring. Candidates need to be fully vetted. It has become clear, said Avery, that parents and community know little or nothing about the staff selection process. After the meeting he and others reported feeling frustrated and suspicious. The group decided to continue to attend school committee meetings. While he said it was Mullins' situation that initially motivated him and others to get involved, the group now views the matter of overall transparency as important in general staff hiring and curriculum changes.

Avery remains hopeful that Mullins will retain his coaching appointment.



CHRIS SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

Softball State Champions coach Gary Mullins

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be required to comply with setback and other design requirements.

The planning board also proposes to raise special permit, variance, or appeal filing fees from \$150 to \$300 for residential projects and \$500 for commercial projects.

The spending articles recommended by the finance committee include transfer of \$60,000 from sewer main inspection and repair for purchase of an emergency generator for town hall and fire station #1, transfer of \$50,000 from the senior community center capital project for purchase of an emergency generator for the cen-

ter, \$40,000 for a new police cruiser, \$8,000 to replace the town's radar speed trailer, and \$10,778.10 for an electronic water meter reader.

The meeting will be asked to correct the amounts paid for the treasurer, tax collector and town clerk from the figures voted at the May 9th annual town meeting, raising the elected officials salary line item by a total of \$5,546.

The selectboard submitted an article requesting authorization to appoint Margaret Sullivan to the Council on Aging.

The special town meeting will meet in Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. on June 25th.

MD

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Scat Plugs and Other Intimacies of Nature



Mary Holland's photograph of red fox kits

BY JC PRUITT

TURNERS FALLS – I love to pop in on the Discovery Center when they have a lecture or presentation happening. It feels like a civic duty completed, and inevitably I come away more intelligent and well informed each time – delightful bonuses for merely sitting and gently receiving, in a most pleasantly cool and comfortable community room.

Last Saturday, June 16th, I watched screen photos as the 2011 National Outdoor Book Award

Winner, writer and photographer Mary Holland, presented on the annual cycle of nature in this New England area. Holland is best described using her own words: she is “naturally curious.” Like her aptly titled book *Naturally Curious*, Holland in person was full of bursting with tales of the curiosities of nature, as she arrived with tails and curios, appearing an archetypal naturalist.

As I listened to Holland's lecture, what became clear was the discipline

and obsession required to study nature thoroughly, properly. The year begins in March, Holland informed, when the skunk cabbage is absorbing oxygen, staying at a comfortable 72 degrees in its “cave.” The cave, it turns out, is also a great insect warming hut.

Precise and luscious, simple and honest, Holland's accompanying photo was an intimate shot of nature “awakening” delicate snow crystals clinging gingerly to husk-like skunk cabbage caves.

And with that, we were off on a twelve month extravaganza of bountiful information and beautiful images from nature's life cycle in the North East.

We learned of the transformative nature of April by meeting birds who flee and flop, feigning broken wings to lure predators away from the nest of newborns. We watched young turtles play in stacks, living Jenga® towers of tiny turtles, built purposely at kilter to elicit hilarity upon collapse. (OK, so I don't know if turtles giggle during their games, but it sure looked like they were having fun.) The audience enjoyed a good gross-out moment as we heard tell of black bears ejecting plugs of hair and needles while defecating and urinating for the first time in five months. Holland could hardly contain her satisfaction as she invited us to stay to examine her black bear plug sample at the end of her presentation.

Each month had its own function in the year: June, July, and August were “Engagement,” “Maturation,” and “Dispersal,” respectively. Over the next few months we can be on the lookout for Damselflies, cousins to the Dragonfly, who live solely to mate over the course of their 30-day life cycle. We may see the frothy bubbles of the spittle bug as it drinks the sap from leaves and grass. And if we're particularly patient, we may come across the Organ Pipe Mud Dauber, who paralyzes spiders and packs them away with its Mud Dauber larvae, which, upon hatching, have a ready supply of living arachnids to feast on.

Nature is gruesome, sexy, sloppy, slick and gooeey, and Holland portrays its intricacies with raw camera

work, capturing moments in delicately framed detail. Whether the kill of the hawk or the cheeks of the chipmunk, Holland puts her viewer nose-to-nose with her subjects, reminding us how much is happening around us as New England seasons change.

For those of us who have nature buffs, naturalists, or animal lovers in their lives, I recommend *Naturally Curious* as a wonderful gift. The text is dense, colorful, easily organized and fun to read. Holland's prose is engaging and light, yet thorough and enlightening. Her photos are captivating, and the additional charts and graphs accompanying the text are sure to be revisited season after season.

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Village Sketchbook

Legends of the Summer of 1942



STATE CHAMPIONS—Turners Falls High baseball team, nicknamed Indians, and winners over Arlington High in the big state final at Fenway Park yesterday. Left to right, Arthur Burke, pitcher and right fielder; Harvey Welcome, catcher;

Paul Whiteman, left fielder; Walter Kostanski, pitcher and right fielder; Capt. Francis Bourdeau, shortstop; Tech Mucha, third baseman; Mike Milewski, center fielder; Ed Myleck, second baseman; Ray Zukowski, center fielder; John Togneri, first baseman; Coach Earle Lorden, and mascot Donny Burke.

L - R: Arthur Burke, Harvey Welcome, Paul Whiteman, Walter Kostanski, Francis Bourdeau, Theodore (Tech) Mucha, Michael Milewski, Edward Myleck, Raymond Zukowski, John Togneri, Earle Lorden, and mascot Donny Burke.

BY DAVID BRULE

TURNERS FALLS – It was a fine June day, just last week, when I made my way along a quiet Crocker Avenue and turned onto Davis Street. A fine June day, that is, meaning rain showers every hour, followed by bright sunshine, causing the tree-lined streets to glisten, before the rain came back drumming on the newly green leaves of the maples.

Up the steps to the Kostanski home I went. The doorbell rung, the door opened, and a warm welcome by Virginia Kostanski. Our man Walter waited inside, ready to talk baseball. For we are coming up on the date of June 20th, when, in 1942, Walter and his teammates had played a game in Fenway Park, forever celebrated in this town.

I wanted to talk to Walter to get a sense of what it was like that day, before the surviving members of the team gathered for their reunion the following noon. Eventually we got around to baseball, but before that we

talked about everything under the sun. Walter is a Millers Falls boy, where I have deep roots, and although a generation separates us, there are plenty of village characters, family relations, and oral history that we have in common. Virginia herself was exceptional in recalling details of those days when everyone knew everyone, and for that matter, it seemed like everyone had family connections!

The occasion that prompted my visit was the upcoming 70th reunion of the Turners Falls High School baseball team that won the State Championship back in 1942.

If you know your history – and there are still many around here who lived through it – 1942 was a dark year indeed, called by some historians The Year That Tried Men's Souls. Things were going badly for America in the Pacific and in Europe. Pearl Harbor had been attacked in December of 1941. Hitler's troops had stormed through

Europe, and were preparing to invade England. At home, gas rationing, food rationing, and the draft were changing everyone's daily existence. The Greatest Generation was gearing up for its greatest challenge.

Against this ominous background, the sports teams in our town were providing welcome distraction and

respite from the bad news. Especially the TFHS baseball team. The Turners' juggernaut was plowing through the competition; the Powertown team was knocking off adversaries left and right. The effort was headed by two dominant twirlers, Walter Kostanski and Artie Burke, backed by canny and effective base running. "We had good pitching, and good speed on base," Walter says. By the time the play-offs came around, Walt had 73 strikeouts and 3 shutouts; Artie Burke had fanned 32, while his teammates, especially Hennick Welcome, Tanny Bourdeau, and Chucky Mucha, had stolen a total of 51 bases! "We had speed! A lot of those guys were on the track team too, and they knew how to run, you'd better believe it!" adds Walter.

Turners began the play-off march to Fenway Park by defeating Amherst 1-0 in the semis, then knocking off West Springfield, and next taking the Western Mass Championship, handily beating Classical of Springfield 8-4.

The stage was set to face Arlington High School in Fenway Park on June 20th. It has to be noted here that in those days there were no divisions in schoolboy sports based on school size, or town population. It was a free-for-all, and the best teams in the state were matched up to slug it out. So small but powerful Turners was slated to take on the big-city town of Arlington.

Much has been written about that great battle in Fenway. The Turners' teams under coach Earle Lorden had already made the finals in 1937 and 1940, losing in heart-breaking defeats to Lynn English and then to Belmont. This time they were determined, and destined, to take it all.

They arrived in Boston by bus, the day before the game, and after spending the night on the 7th floor of the Lenox Hotel (for good luck!) the

team was rested, ready for action. Turners fans had taken up a collection so that the team could take the trip to Boston the night before and get some sleep for the game. The Arlington boys, of course, slept at home.

June 20th turned out to be a beautiful day when the game started at 3:00 p.m. The line-up listed the following: Tanny Bourdeau shortstop, Artie Burke right field and pitcher, Hennick Welcome catcher, Ted Mucha third base, Walt Kostanski starting pitcher, Mike Milewski center, Ray Zukowski center, Paul Whiteman left, Ed Mlezcko second base, John Togneri first base. Also on the roster and eager for action were younger players Jack Bassett, George Bush, Ray Hilliard, Bill Martin and Edward Neipp.

Quickly, things took a turn for the worse for the Powertown team, and they were behind 4-0 by the seventh inning. But then, the tide turned and the game headed for one of those thrilling, pulse-pounding Hollywood endings. In the 7th, Mlezcko doubled, bringing in a run. Then in the 8th, hits by Bourdeau, Kostanski and Mucha set up a chance to add to the score. Gump Zukowski stepped up to the plate and knocked a powerful double that caromed off the left field wall to bring the runners home, and the score was tied.

By the bottom of the 9th, the tension continued. It looked like the game would go extra innings, when Burke got on board with a single. Then mighty Welcome stepped up to the plate and powered a fat pitch into a soaring triple off the center field wall, driving in Burke, while pandemonium broke out in the stands. Burke made his way around the bases, pouring on the speed, heading for home. Jack Mullen, the home plate umpire, threw a body block on one Turners fan, just to clear the way

see LEGENDS pg 12



Turners Falls fans go wild as their team ties the score in the 8th inning.

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Estate Planning: Five Necessary Steps

BY LEE WICKS

MONTAGUE – According to Seunghye Cha, a lawyer who gave a presentation to nearly 20 people at the Montague Senior Center in June, many people misunderstand estate planning. “An estate is not necessarily a big house with a long driveway,” she said. “All your belongings comprise your estate, and an estate plan is not just a Will. It’s a living document that helps you plan for your lifetime and answer hard to ask *what if* questions: *What if you become ill or disabled? Who do you trust to manage your affairs? And, how do you want your possessions distributed after you die?*”

A will is a chance to dictate your desires from the grave, and having one is necessary, but it is not the only thing needed for a comprehensive estate plan. In fact, on a list of the five most-needed documents to cover those *what if* questions, a will is placed last. The other four are necessary to ensure quality of life, and they require soul-searching, thought, and the help of a lawyer.

The first and most dangerous document you will ever sign, said Cha, is a designation of *Financial Power of Attorney*. This document authorizes another person to do anything you can do under your name. They can sell your house, borrow money, or open a bank account. *Durable Power of Attorney*, which goes into effect immediately upon the determination that a person cannot make his

or her own decisions, is honored by banks. This can certainly be a good thing if financial resources are required at once, though choosing the person who will hold so much power may not be an easy decision.

Presentation attendees were surprised to learn that married people cannot assume spouses may act for each other. And any *Durable Power of Attorney* naming the spouse must also name successors. Here’s where the frightening *what if* questions come into play: A couple could suffer grave injuries together in an automobile accident. Then who would make the decisions? Or: an out-of-date document might designate the spouse, but what if he or she suffers from dementia by the time decisions need to be made?

With today’s blended families, the pitfalls are many: A son from a first marriage could end up controlling the finances of his father’s second wife. Gay marriages are honored in some states, but not in others. Cha told listeners that lawyers well versed in these issues can help clients ask and answer complicated questions.

The second document an estate plan needs is a *Health Care Proxy*. This person will be empowered to make decisions about end-of-life health care, and must be someone who knows your wishes and can separate them from his or her own needs. If you do not want extraordinary measures taken to prolong your life if you are in pain or

unaware of your surroundings, do not designate a Proxy who would do anything to keep you alive.

A *HIPAA Release Form* is third on the list. HIPAA protects personal privacy about health. We have all signed HIPAA forms at the doctor’s office noting what information can and cannot be shared and with whom. Usually people allow specialists to share information with a primary care physician and leave it at that. But what if you get sick while out of town? How can you be sure that doctors in a strange place have the information they need to treat you? What about loved ones calling the hospital to find out how you are, only to be told that that information can’t be shared? The HIPAA Release Form allows vital information to be shared with the appropriate people. Cha’s firm, Oasis Law, LLC in Amherst, provides computer storage for this data. A sticker on your license would lead health care providers to the source.

The fourth document is a *Homestead Declaration*, which gives protection against creditors of up to \$500,000. This is an easy do-it-yourself piece of the puzzle that can be executed at the Registry of Deeds.

Finally, there’s the *Will*, the only document that will affect your family more than it will affect you. A will names an executor who will be responsible for paying bills and taxes and distrib-

see ESTATE page 14

Attention Elders: Hints for Handling the Heat

People age 65 and older are more prone to heat stress because: Their bodies do not adjust well to sudden, dramatic changes in temperature.

They may have a chronic medical condition that changes normal body responses to heat.

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When temperatures rise, elders should rest, remain indoors, drink cool nonalcoholic fluids, wear light clothing, and seek air-conditioned spaces. If your doctor has limited your fluids, check with them about hydrating in hot weather.

If you are concerned about an elders’ well being, call Franklin County Home Care at 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259.



JOSEPH A. PARZYCH PHOTO

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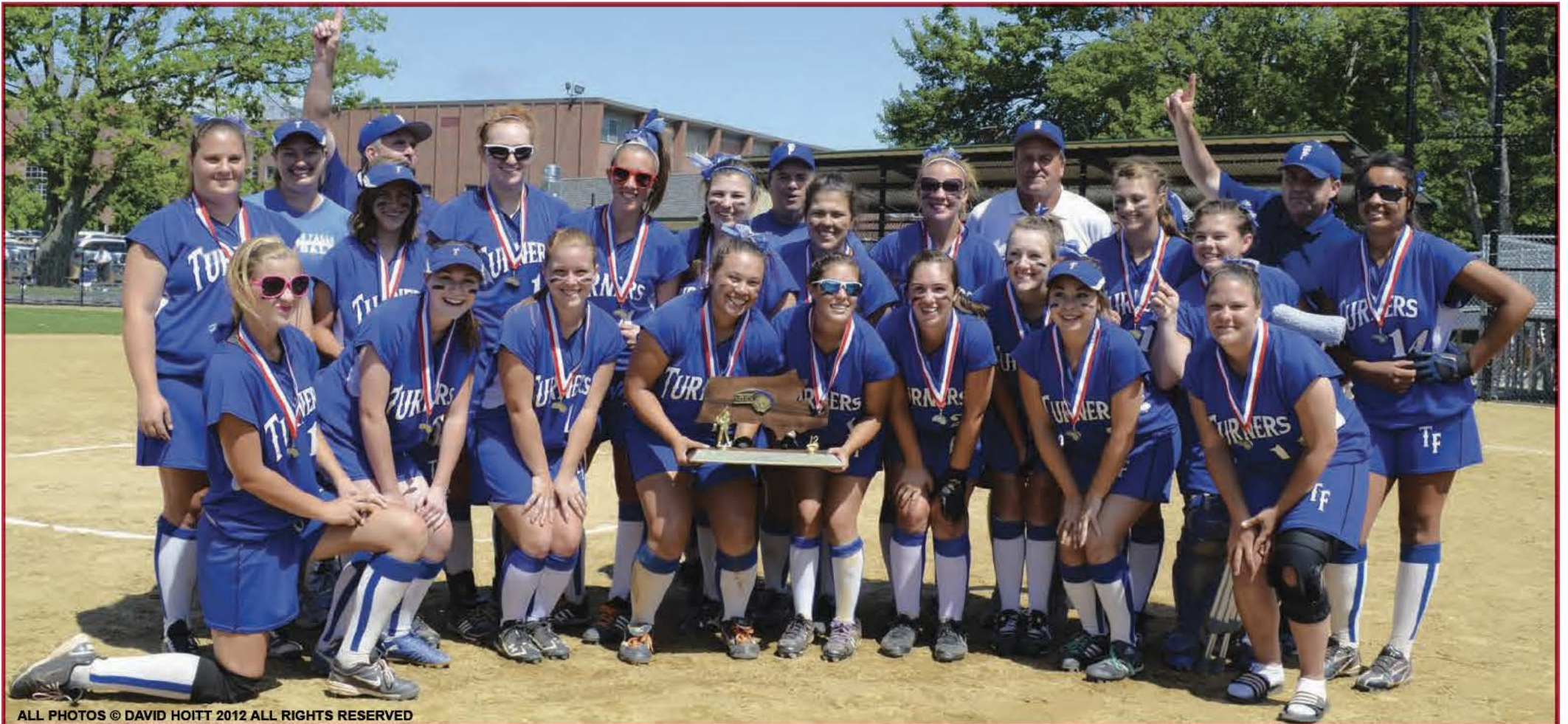
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Catcher Morgan Ozdarski receives a perfect throw from outfielder Amber Caouette and tags the Case runner to prevent Case from scoring.

Ferry Meadow Farm - part XLV

Somewhere in New England 2017

BY ELOISE MICHAEL – I dream I am at Ferry Meadow Farm. It's too dark to see anything, but I know that Jason has arrived. I hear his voice and soon after feel the warmth of his body near me in the night air.

"Resa," he whispers, and puts his arms around me.

I lean into him and feel safe. In the darkness I hear footsteps approaching; it's Marissa.

"Ready?" she asks, her voice sounding too loud in the night. I panic and want to run. Even Jason flinches at the sound of her voice, but his strong arm guides me toward Marissa's truck. He opens the passenger door and gives me a gentle push. Then I don't know where he is

and feel frightened all over again.

"It's OK, Resie," his voice says behind me. He's in the back seat.

Marissa starts the engine, and we leave the farm. I feel like I will never see it again. But that's silly, I tell myself. Of course I will. We ride in silence. The headlights illuminate a small patch of road ahead of us, which changes in shades of gray. Sometimes there are gray bushes at the edges or dark branches of overhanging trees. Beyond the lights is utter blackness. We pass no cars at all.

Still, I feel like we are too visible, with headlights streaming into the night, and I'm relieved when Marissa finally cuts the lights and

shuts off the engine. She reaches over and puts her hand on my leg. "Good luck," she whispers. Then she nods at me. Jason has already slipped from the back seat. He opens my door, and I go out.

We both want to put as much distance as we can between the road and ourselves before we speak. We set out quickly on a grassy trail. Even though it is wide, we lose our way in the dark, stepping into the bushes. Jason makes a quiet sound like a laugh. Then we take a step back and feel our way onto the right track.

The sky begins to turn gray by the time we leave the rutted dirt road, taking a path uphill. This is how we planned it. Marissa told us we would never see the path in the dark, and she was right. We almost miss the white trail blazes in the gray morning light, but I spot them as we are about to pass the

trail. I grab Jason's arm and pull him onto the narrow, rocky path. It gets easier to stay on the trail as the sky grows lighter.

"We need to hurry," I say. "We need to be off this trail before dawn."

"We're OK, Rese," Jason tells me. "No one's following us. Not the FBI, not hikers. Anyone would have to start where we did, remember. No one's going to do that in the dark."

I know he is right, but still I want to go faster. Marissa has been here ahead of us. She marked the place where we should leave the trail. I am panting by the time we reach it. "Here," I say. There's a ribbon tied on a tree branch. We leave the ribbons for now. Jason will collect them on his way out.

The forest floor is covered with needles, and our steps fall quietly under the pines that rise around us.

"Sorry for the way this turned out," Jason says when there is room to walk side by side.

"It's OK. You didn't know."

"You could be living peacefully, with your bank job, earning a hundred thousand a year."

"More," I correct him.

"See! And never having to sleep."

"Jay, actually I'm happier now. There are no hard feelings. Well, maybe Diana and Neil have hard feelings," I add after a pause.

"I knew you weren't really the corporate type," Jason says, his spirits seeming to lift.

"I'm glad you had faith in me." I stop to listen. We can hear the water. There will be no more markers now.

—Continued Next Issue

LEGENDS from page 9

so that Burke could cross the plate to make it official!

Newspaper accounts of the jubilation that followed describe the scene as Turners fans swarmed the field, but that celebration was dwarfed by the welcome the team received back in Powertown. After a hearty meal during which the team devoured late edition newspaper accounts of their victory, they caught the last train home, going west. Kostanski described the long ride on the "milk train" that stopped in every station along the way, but the boys had a little more room when they dropped soldiers off in Ayer for Fort Devens. "Besides, in those days, trains ran on coal and I tell you, it was a smoky, sooty ride and it smelled pretty bad," recalls Kostanski.

Meanwhile, the word among Turners fans back home was spreading fast. Much in the tradition of Paul Revere, the word spread through the five villages to gather at the Turners fire station at 1:45 a.m. to head out for the Greenfield train station. Townspeople organized a parade: Chief Charles Earley got the Hook and Ladder ready to lead the caravan over to Greenfield; the police there granted permission for the procession, the only condition being that the revelers "refrain from using sirens and horns when passing the hospital." The organizers had even scrambled to find a

band for the parade. After scouring the town for musicians and finding none available, someone remembered that a Cowboy band was playing at the Rhythm Inn, and they were recruited on the spot to provide the music!

The train arrived around 2:00 a.m. and all was dark. The team disembarked the train and suddenly all the lights came on and more than 1000 townspeople in over 210 cars burst into cheers. It was to be a sleepless night for the ball team!

With the fire truck leading the way, the cavalcade left the station, quieted down when they passed the hospital in respectful silence, then resumed the noisy celebration filing down over Canada Hill, across the bridge, down Avenue A, 7th Street and L Street, up to Crocker Avenue and back downtown to gather under the arc light in front of McCarthy's the Clothier on the Avenue. Burke was called on to give a speech, but finding few words, he decided to start the crowd singing the "Alma Mater" of TFHS, while many of the players dried their eyes. It was reported that Lorden called himself the "luckiest man in New England" that night. Others noted this was the most spontaneous celebration locally since the Armistice in 1918 that ended WWI. One sport swag, who clearly had his eye on the ball, wrote: "many styles of ladies' pajamas were noted on the streets of

Turners even as late as 4:00 a.m. Some had coats over the gaily-colored print material, and some did not bother to cover up the attractive material and chassis." End quote!

That was then, 70 years ago.

So last Friday, the 8th of June, 7 surviving members of the team got together for lunch, as they do every five years, at Frank Prondecki's French King Restaurant. Attending were George Bush, Mike Milewski, Ted Mucha, Paul Whiteman, Gump Zukowski, and Walter Kostanski. Teammates Jack Bassett and John Togneri were unable to attend. George Richason, the assistant coach of the '42 team and still teaching chemistry at UMass, proved to be the elder, at 93! Also present was Joel Lorden, son of Coach Earle Lorden. Kostanski remarked he could see a lot of the elder Lorden in the son. "Same gestures and shoulder shrugs as the Coach," chuckled Walt.

Brian Miner, currently working on a book dedicated to the '42 team, presented the group with an inscribed brick from Fenway, with words to commemorate the team: "State Champs June 20th, 1942. The Boys of Summer." In the Dwight Evans section of the field, a similar plaque is placed, to recall the Turners 1942 victory, a legendary game for the ages.



BERNETTE REINKE PHOTO

Nancy Reinke, Fargo, ND Montague Reporter subscriber reading the paper across the street from the famous Fargo Theater

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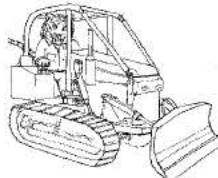
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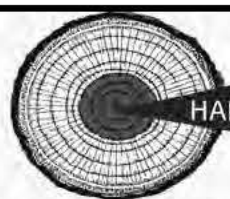
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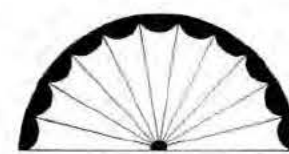
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EVERY WEDNESDAY Avenue A, Turners Falls: *Great Falls Farmers Market*, 2 to 6 p.m.

Winterland, Greenfield: *TNT Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

Jake's Tavern, Turners Falls: *Shag*, 6 to 8 p.m.

EVERY THURSDAY Between the Uprights, Turners Falls: *Acoustic open mic* with Dan, Kip & Shultz from *Curly Fingers DuPre* hosting, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

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

EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY Montague Inn: *TNT Karaoke*, 8:30 p.m.

ART SHOWS:

NOW through JUNE 30th Wendell Free Library: Watercolors by Jean Kozlowski of Northfield.

NOW through JUNE 29th Second Street Baking Company, Turners Falls: *Picture This*. Turners Falls High School student digital photographs on display.

NOW through JULY 22nd Gallery at Hallmark, Turners Falls: *Photo Coterie*, year end images of the class of 2012 at Hallmark.

JUNE 29th through JULY 29th Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Photographs of a Frosty Window* by

David Eade, Cool down this July with this amazing look at ice! Reception: Sunday July 8, 2 to 4pm with Jazz Sax by Loren Feinstein.

JULY 1st through JULY 30th Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: David Ryan's "40 Years Later" is the Easthampton native's first solo show in 40 years. Artist reception,



The Equalites play at Mocha Maya's in Shelburne Falls on Saturday, July 7th at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jul. 7, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

LOCAL EVENTS:

THURSDAY, JUNE 21st Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Tawdry*, 8 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 29
SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 30
SUNDAY, JUNE 24, and JULY 1 Shea Theater, Turners Falls: New Renaissance Players presents *The Norman Conquests*.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd & SATURDAY JUNE 23rd Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: Pothole Pictures presents, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. Movie: 7:30 p.m. Music: 7 p.m. Friday: *Drew Payton*, Saturday: *Dan Lederer*.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd The Night Kitchen, Montague: *The Alex Snyderman Trio*, featuring *Miro Sprague* on piano, *Alec Darien* on bass & *Alex Snyderman* on drums, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Watershed History: The Grand Trunk Hotel*, 6 p.m. Free.

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Ben Levin*, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Thaddeus Hands*, 9:30 p.m. Free.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23rd and SUNDAY, JUNE 24th Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club, Montague: *Mutton & Mead Festival*, The Mutton & Mead Tavern is hosting its annual festival for your enjoyment! Games, music, food, & art. Meet Robin Hood & his Merry Men as well as Maid Marian! Advanced tickets now available. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23rd Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Samirah* with *Jill Conely*, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Voo Prom*, (60s-70s funk, 80s-90s hip hop music and theme) w. DJ Cool Breeze, 9:30 p.m. Free.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Moose & the High Tops*, 9:30 p.m.

Living Memorial Park, Brattleboro: Vermont Theatre Company presents *Henry V*, for its 23rd Shakespeare-in-the Park, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29th & JULY 6th
SATURDAY, JUNE 30th & JULY 7th
SUNDAY, JULY 1st & JULY 8th Arts Block, Greenfield: Old Deerfield Productions presents *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, a play with *Linda McInerney*, with *John Sheldon* and *NECCA Circus* performers. 7:30 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29th The Night Kitchen, Montague: *The Charlie Apicella* guitar trio, gypsy, swing & jazz guitar, 6:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Bright Lines*, *Abe Loomis*, & *Justin Hillman*, 7:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Dubs & Frenchy*, 9:30 p.m. Free.

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Jim Kaminsky*, 10 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Loomis Band & Flabberghaster*, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30th Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Water Under the Bridge*: historic bike tour of the bridges of Turners Falls & Montague City along the canal-side bike path, 12 to 2 p.m. Free.

Thompson Temple, Lake Pleasant: National Spiritual Alliance presents a Psychic Fair, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

St. Kaziemerz, Avenue A, Turners Falls: *Feast for the Arts*, ticket price includes dinner and a vote for the new artistic crosswalk to be installed across Avenue A this summer. Ticket proceeds will directly fund the winning proposal. Info at www.turnersfallsriverculture.org, 6 p.m.

The Night Kitchen, Montague: *The Alex Snyderman Trio*, with *Miro Sprague* on piano, *Alec Darien* on bass, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Kristin Hoffmann*, 8 p.m. Free.

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Fenibo*, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 7th Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Peachy's*, Americana, Blues.

TUESDAY, JULY 3rd Playing fields on School Street, Montague Center: Montague Center Fire Association presents *the Annual Bon Fire*. Food is available from 6 pm on, fire is lit at dusk. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Please do not bring debris to the site.

Gill Commons: *Common People Summer Concert Series* presents *Andy Davis*, Folk music for Gill folk, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4th Deja Brew, Wendell: *Fourth of July Backyard Music Bash*, Captain-Salls Orchestra, 8 to 11:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 5th Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poet's Series* featuring *Peggy O'Brien & Dawn Potter*, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 7th Great Falls Discovery Center: *Watershed History: The Patch*, meet at the corner of Avenue A and Eleventh

SUNDAY, JUNE 24th Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Canal-side Nature Walk*, meet at main entrance, 8 a.m.

Wendell Free Library: *Arsenic and Old Lace*, film showing, plus a short film on this year's Promageddon, for all ages, 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple* 8 to 10 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Free

MONDAY, JUNE 25th Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Dada Dino's Open Mic*, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26th Gill Commons: *Common People Summer Concert Series* presents *Zydeco Connection*, flavors of New Orleans, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Bok Choy Trio*, 8 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27th Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Creative Networking Buzz*, Slip away from the daily grind and steal a few hours to meet with the creative community, 6 to 8 p.m.

Leverett Library: *Frogs & Friends* for Families, presentation by *Dawn Marvin Ward*, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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LEE WICKS PHOTO

Atty. Seunghee Cha cleared up some common misunderstandings regarding estate planning at the Montague Senior Center.

ESTATE from page 10

uting your assets.

Embedded in any discussion of aging is the potential need for long-term care, and Cha said that this must be considered in an estate plan. “If you are 66 years old or older, there’s a 1 in 4 chance you will need long-term care for help with bathing, toileting, dressing and eating, and those numbers are on the rise as people live longer. The average amount of time this care is needed is two years, except in cases of dementia, when it can last much longer. How to pay is a huge issue. Nursing home care can cost \$100,000 a year,” Cha said.

Long-term care insurance is very expensive, and many people believe they have no choice but to spend down almost all their assets until they are eligible for Medicaid. “People tend to wait until they are in crisis to have this

conversation,” said Cha, “when the time to talk and plan comes much earlier.”

Complicated asset formulas, trusts and benefits planning are difficult for lay people to unravel, but they offer hope and a chance to fund some services that Medicaid won’t. Mass Health will pay for in-home care, which is less expensive than nursing home care and preferable to some people.

Laws change; people’s circumstances change. After the presentation, we went home to review our documents. They were crafted ten years ago, long before we retired. They did not reflect my daughter’s marriage or the birth of our two grandchildren. Phone numbers were wrong. We made an appointment to meet with our lawyer to review and revise what made sense back then. Cha’s presentation convinced me that this is a good idea for everyone.



Unity Park Construction Update: Water Park to Come

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH

TURNERS FALLS – Operators for Mass. West Construction Company have backfilled the unearthed Turners Falls Coal Company silo foundations, and graded the site. Warner Brothers of Sunderland paved the greatly enlarged parking lot as smooth as a billiard table. Mass West workmen have excavated, hand graded, then planted a sunken flower garden to be watered by run-off from the water park and play areas. Artur Dias, foreman for Mass West Construction Company, pointed to a stake, just east of the sunken garden, as the center of a 20-foot-diameter water park designed to periodically shoot alternate jets of water into the air, to the delight of kids running around underneath. Runoff drains will water the sunken garden where a grated catch basin is already in place to handle excess water. Workmen have taken down the swings, but they will be replaced in another area as the

park continues reconstruction. For now, the slides remain in place, probably permanently.

“The project is on schedule and there are no problems,” Dias said, as

he paused from grading with a Cat crawler loader while two laborers hand-graded and compacted walks with red rock gravel in preparation for paving by Warner Brothers.



JOSEPH A. PARZYCH PHOTO

Artur Dias, foreman for Mass West Construction Company, stands in front of sunken flower garden at the new children's play area now under construction at Unity Park. Enlarged parking areas in the left background have been paved by Warner Brothers of Sunderland. Walkways are next.



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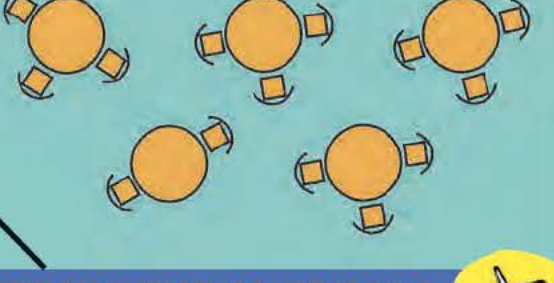
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