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Art Panels ON the Strathmore

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YEAR 10 – NO. 35

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MAY 31, 2012



Pg 8

Wendell Selectboard

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WORK TO CURB CORPORATE RIGHTS

BY SHIRA HILLEL

NORTHAMPTON - People, in community, have more power than any corporation, and it is power that is just begging to be exercised, Paul Cienfuegos of the Community Rights Movement told a crowd at Northampton on May 15th.

"We the people have forgotten that we are sovereign – that we have authority," Cienfuegos told the group during a talk organized at the Unitarian Church hosted by Occupy Northampton. The Community Rights Movement is part of an effort to combat the growing power of corporations, and the legal view that, in the words of Mitt Romney, – "Corporations are people, my friend."

In contrast, Cienfuegos asked, "Should corporations have the same constitutional rights as people? Should money be treated as free speech?"

For decades Cienfuegos has traveled around the country organizing local citizen groups to work effectively for grassroots democracy. He has come to believe that many interlocking issues are merely symptoms of corporate rule, as corporations have gathered legal victories and won numerous constitutional rights.

"These corporate laws are hidden in plain sight," said Cienfuegos. He contends that working on issues such as energy policy, transportation, militarization, health care reform, nuclear power plant proliferation, clear cut logging of forests, and genetic modification of seeds used in agriculture, to name a few, are only attempts to treat the symptoms, not the disease, of corporate control of society

Cienfuegos argues that activists are fighting a losing battle by continually struggling to put out small fires that are part of the larger single issue of corporate rights.

Cienfuegos highlighted the Community Rights Movement, a spreading legal movement of communities that have passed local ordinance laws that strip corporations of constitutional rights. They have banned corporate activities they consider harmful, but which are legal by state law.

Constitutional commerce laws grant corporations the right to sell, see **CORPORATE** page 9

The Movies are Coming! The Movies are Coming!



Academy Award winner Kate Winslet

BY JANEL NOCKLEBY

TURNERS FALLS - Josh Slates from Frank's Pie Co., LLC on Wednesday night presented the selectboard with a proposed filming schedule in Montague for scenes for the feature film Labor Day, "a romantic drama starring Kate Winslet who plays a single mom and Josh Brolin who plays a wrongly accused fugitive."

After hearing a thorough description of the filming process, various tractor trailer parking scenarios, and traffic control, the selectboard approved Slates' request to allow filming in both Turners Falls and Millers Falls on town streets and town properties on June 8th. Access agreements with private property owners (like First Light Power and Southworth) along the path of filming are being negotiated separately, explained Slates. Rain dates for filming will be June 13-15th. Filming locations include the Strathmore Mill on Canal Road, along the Connecticut River on First Light property below the Turners Falls dam, and inside the Millers Pub.

Slates said that Labor Day director Jason Reitman "fell in love with Western Massachusetts" when he visited several years ago, and has been determined to film here ever since, "even though it would be

more inexpensive to film in Los Angeles. "There will be a stunning shot of the river below the fish ladder," Slates said, noting that this backdrop will aid in telling the story of first love between a teenage boy and girl.

Then, film production will head to Millers Pub during the evening of June 8th where filming will try to recreate the atmosphere of the Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Gill in "the vein of 1967". Aspects of the Millers Pub's interior "date back to the 1930s and 40s," Slates said, and "the production designer loved the interior of the Millers Pub."

There will be no lack of commotion to make this all happen. Where do you put all of that camera equipment, hair and makeup, dressing rooms, costumers, and actors? Slates said to expect five tractor trailers, eight to nine RV-style trailers that will need to find parking spaces during the filming, precision truck driving, traffic control provided by Montague police (on the dime of the filming company), security guards as needed to protect idle equipment, and even the possibility of a temporary roadway down to the river near the dam for safer filming.

Slates said that film crews aim for as "low impact" movie making see **MONTAGUE** page 5

2ND Street Bakery Buys a Permanent Home 2ND STREET BAKERY ON 4TH



Bakery owners Laura Puchowsky and Christa L. Snyder

BY PATRICIA PRUITT

TURNERS FALLS - Last week a SOLD sign appeared on the realtors sign on the corner of the brick three story at Fourth and L Streets, once the home of Patty-Cakes, then less happily, the home of the Bodega. It had said FOR SALE for about two years.

It's a great building. Wonder who bought it? The answer is 2nd Street Bakery in the persons of Laura and Joshua Puchowski. Laura Puchowsky is one of the original founders of the 2nd Street Bakery which is now four and a half years old.

Asked why the bakery was moving, Laura and Joshua's answers were several.

Chief among them was the desire for a permanent space for their business. At 69 Second Street they are renters and the building is not handicap accessible, whereas the new building is accessible to all and also has a handicap accessible bathroom. They were looking for that capacity to serve all their customers, regardless of their mobility.

They believe their new home will prove close enough to their first location and will not seem inconvenient to their regular customers. Furthermore there is plenty of parking in the immediate vicinity.

They have the option of creating

some outdoor seating on a side patio which will expand their dining area. Eventually they plan to add a glass enclosure over the patio, making it an all season seating area, which will be an exciting addition to their bakery.

Laura said the bakery's mission is to "evolve the art of baking." That idea will be reflected in the décor of the interior dining area.

Although their present space is quite large, the new building's kitchen is set up for more efficient operation. In fact, Laura said, the ovens the bakery now uses were purchased over four years ago from the previous owner of the new building. Those ovens will soon be moved back into the kitchen at the corner of Fourth and L.

Laura and Josh plan to add some new employees to the staff, including a celebrity cake decorator specializing in sugar art and fondant work.

Laura expressed the reality that people's tastes change and vary with the seasons from simple to complex flavors. But first the new space has to be made ready to receive their loyal as well as new customers. They expect to be open on Fourth Street in early October, right about the time of the Bakery's fifth anniversary.

Congratulations 2nd Street Bakery on your new home!

Art Gilmore Need Worry No More About Dry Hill Cemetery

BY PATRICIA PRUITT

MONTAGUE - Art Gilmore, Millers Falls resident and recently retired long-time town meeting member, has long had an interest in solving the problem of no access to Dry Hill Cemetery, and therefore no maintenance of the grounds or the graves, despite the presence of a veteran of the Revolutionary War buried there. In his efforts to encourage a solution to these prob-

lems, Gilmore joined with others in precinct two in 1999. This group's help was sought by the late Mr. and Mrs. Ellis who were unable, due to the poor condition of the road and the unwillingness at that time of Mr. James Senn to allow passage over his property to the cemetery, to take care of their departed relative's grave.

Eventually the impasse made its way to the selectboard. Senn felt certain there was no public way going across his land. After legal research and surveys and, just as important,

Senn's acceptance of the fact that indeed a public way did cross his property, public access was once more demarcated over the west side of the pasture on Senn's property. Unfortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis were not able to visit the cemetery in their lifetimes.

Every year Gilmore raised the issue of the maintenance of the cemetery, which is required by law as the proper respect due deceased veterans of all wars.

Unbeknownst to Gilmore were the quiet efforts of selectman Mark Fairbrother. At this year's town meeting Gilmore learned of

Fairbrother's work at Dry Hill Cemetery. This year when Gilmore brought up the maintenance of the cemetery, he also asked for appreciation for Fairbrother's initiative.

Fairbrother explained he liked to go up to Dry Hill when the mood struck him and mow, cut saplings or clear the heather around other flowers such as lupines growing there. After several years, he goes fairly regularly in the spring and the fall after the leaves are gone. He has identified many of the gravestones belonging to the Revolutionary War veteran Joel

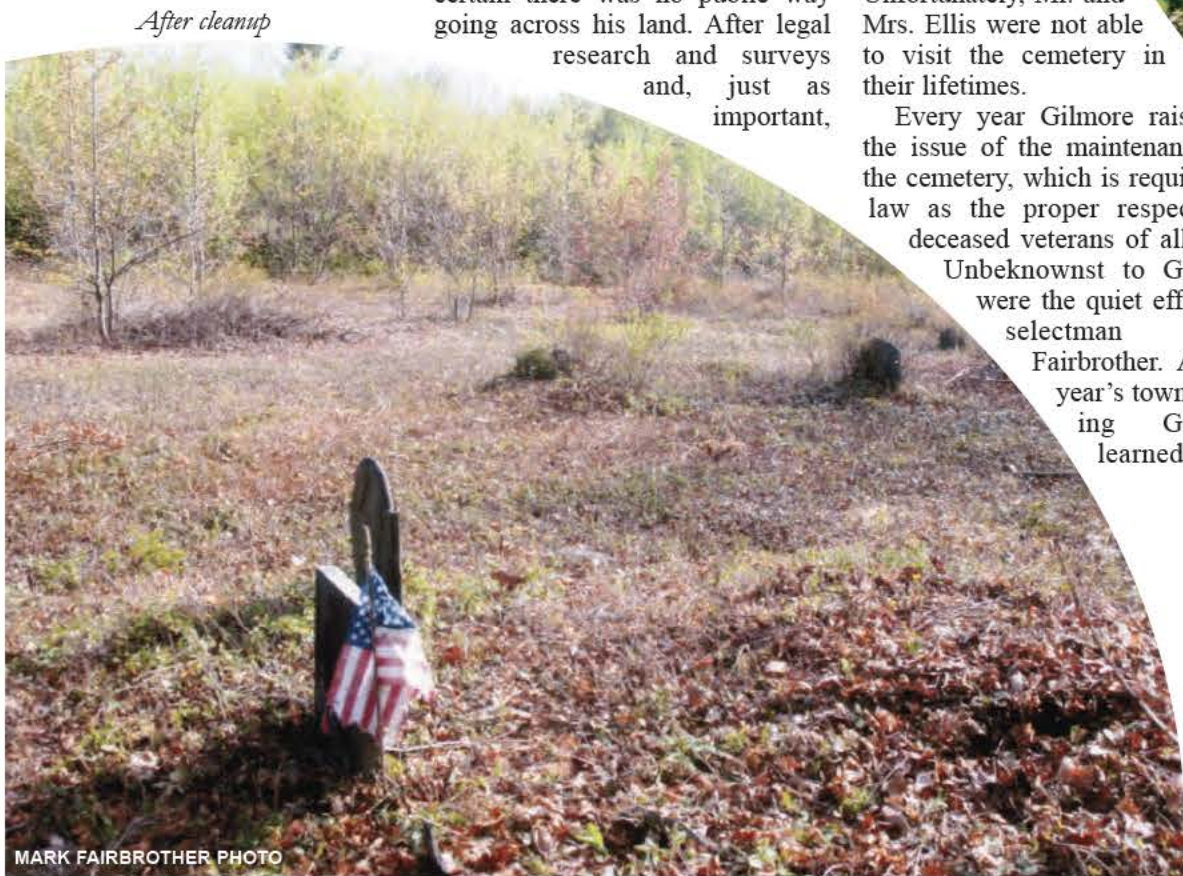


ART GILMORE PHOTO

Before cleanup

Benjamin

and his family. Although there are 25 historical graves identified by names of the deceased, Fairbrother says there are many more than 25 graves there. Fairbrother is content working in the cemetery on his own time and seeks neither remuneration nor assistance. He says quite simply: "It's just something I like to do." For Memorial Day, Fairbrother placed a flag at each veteran's grave.



MARK FAIRBROTHER PHOTO

PET OF THE WEEK

A Survivor Seeks a Saviour



Molly Brown

I'm Molly Brown, a six-year old female short hair cat in need of a home. Allow me tell you a bit about myself. I have been living on this nice lady's porch for some time now. She has been feeding me every day and I stayed on her porch at night because I felt safe there. But now, I need a home that I can call my own. I am a sweet girl and I am very affectionate! As my name indicates I am a survivor! I am FIV positive. FIV is a cat-only disease and cannot be spread to humans or other non-felines. FIV cats most often live long, healthy, and relatively normal lives with no symptoms at all. I have had a rough start in life, but I so look forward to a long and happy life with a new family! For more information on adopting me, please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or info@dpvhs.org.

WENDELL NEWS

The annual Wendell town meeting will be held on Monday, June 4th at 7:00 pm at the Wendell town hall.

Please come out and participate in a rare and beautiful form of democracy - come have a say.

For more information visit: www.wendellmass.us.

ERVING SENIOR CENTER

Healthy Aging workshop from Franklin County Home Care

Healthy Eating runs for six Mondays at the Erving Senior Center beginning June 4th from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Participation is free. Caregivers, family members or friends are welcome to attend

any of the above workshops.

For more info or to register, contact Lesley Kayan at lkayan@fchcc.org or 413-773-5555 x2297 or 978-544-2259 x2297.

SOLARIZE MONTAGUE:

Montague Munch

You are invited this Saturday, June 2nd, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. to Montague Center to munch, mingle, dance and learn about Solarize Montague.

The traveling potluck schedule is: 4:00-5:30 p.m.: Open house featuring solar power 'PV' at the home of Jill Bromberg and Howard Blodgett, at 44 Main Street.

Appetizers, Solarize Montague info booth, solar/green building book display, and tour of weatherized features at the Library.

5:30-6:30 p.m.: Potluck and pasta dinner at the 1st Congregational Church, with a brief presentation by

Sheryl Sadler-Twyon, long-time Montague resident, on her journey to solar.

6:30 p.m.: Dessert at the Grange followed by a community square dance.

Please bring food to the potluck according to the first letter of your last name or bring what you'd like.

A-G - Appetizers, non-alcoholic beverages to the library or 44 Main Street from 4:00 p.m.

H-O - Desserts to the Grange at 6:30 pm

P-Z - Dinner items to the 1st Congregational Church at 5:30 p.m.



Over ninety people attended the interactive play "To Bee or Not to Bee" on May 15th at the Carnegie Library in Turners Falls. The play portrayed the current plight of honeybees with live music and puppets for young children. Pictured above, the audience pretending to be growing corn plants. It was produced by Piti Theatre Company of Shelburne Falls with support by the Montague Culture Council, which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

NEW SALEM LIBRARY

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Introducing Evergreen, a new software that makes your library even more accessible. Order books, DVDs, from more than one region using one catalog.

Laurie Flye will be teaching Basket Weaving on Tuesday June 5th and Tuesday June 12th from 5:30 - 8:00 pm.

GREEN RIVER YOGA

Continuum Movement

Continuum Movement Teacher Megan Bathory-Peeler will be offering "Finding Ease in Your Changing Body: Continuum Movement for Pregnancy & Beyond" on Sunday, June 3rd, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at Green River Yoga & Movement Arts, 158 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Greenfield, MA, (above World Eye Books).

For more info, visit www.GreenRiverYoga.com

THE HEALTHY GEEZER: Side Effects of Chemo



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - Q. I may have to have chemotherapy. Will I go bald?

Hair loss is not certain with chemotherapy. Whether you lose hair depends upon the medication and dose your doctor prescribes.

Chemotherapy is a systemic treatment that uses drugs to kill malignant cells, bacteria, viruses and fungi. Chemotherapy drugs are used to treat cancer, bone marrow diseases, rheumatoid arthritis and lupus. The drugs can be given by injection or taken orally. There are also topical creams.

Chemotherapy is usually given in cycles. These cycles may last one day, several days, a week or more. There will usually be a rest period between each cycle. A rest

period may last for days, weeks, or months. Different chemotherapy drugs may be given simultaneously or in sequence.

Chemotherapy is employed in a variety of ways. It can be used to cure the cancer or to slow its growth. It can be used alone or in conjunction with radiation or other therapies. Chemotherapy treatments can be given in a hospital, outpatient facility, a doctor's office or at home. In adjuvant therapy, chemotherapy is used to attack hidden cancer cells after other treatments such as surgery.

In neoadjuvant therapy, chemotherapy is used to shrink a tumor so that radiation or surgery are possible. Palliative chemotherapy is employed to ease symptoms of advanced cancer.

Chemotherapy drugs attack rapidly growing cancer cells. They also attack other rapidly growing cells in your body such as those in your hair roots. Each patient reacts differently to these drugs. Some newer chemotherapy drugs may cause fewer side effects.

Hair loss from chemotherapy is not confined to your head. It can affect hair all over your body. In most cases, hair loss from chemotherapy is temporary. Patients usually re-grow hair three to ten months after treatment ends.

Hair loss is just one possible side effects of chemotherapy. Others include: Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea, Constipation, Pain, Fatigue, Fever, Bleeding, Bruising, Poor appetite, Weight loss, Mouth sores, Reduced immunity.

Many side effects can be prevented or treated. Most subside after treatment ends. There can be persistent side effects such as lung damage, heart problems, infertility, kidney problems, nerve damage and risk of a second cancer.

In our next column, I will provide information about how to combat the many side effects of chemotherapy.

Send your questions to fred@healthygeezers.com.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES – June 7th - 11th

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 4th
10:00 a.m. Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
1:00 p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday, June 6th
9:00 a.m. Walking Group
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting
Wednesday, June 6th
10:00 a.m. Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, June 7th
NO Tai Chi

10:30 a.m. - Noon: Brown Bag
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, June 8th
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. Please call the Senior Center to confirm activities, schedule a ride and to find out when the next blood pressure clinic will be held.

Monday, June 4th
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
10:00 a.m. Osteo-Exercise
Tuesday, June 5th
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
12:30 p.m. Painting

Wednesday, June 6th
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing/Zumba
10:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic
12:00 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, June 7th
8:15 a.m. Foot Clinic
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10:00 a.m. Posture Perfect
11:00 a.m. Brown Bag
12:30 p.m. Bowling
Friday, June 8th
9:00 a.m. Bowling
11:30 a.m. Out-to-Lunch - Johnson's Farm

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 COA 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.

RECYCLE PAPER!
Week of June 4th in Montague

more info? call: 863-2054

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JESSICA LARWIN ILLUSTRATION

Local Briefs

COMPILED BY DON CLEGG - The Leverett Historical Society, with its two locations, one in Moores Corner, on the road to Lake Wyola, and the second, in the center of town, will both be available for visits this summer season. The Moores Corner location, a former church/schoolhouse, houses artifacts and historical papers from the villages of North Leverett and Moores Corner, including recent Glazier family donations. The curator is Dr. Dan Bennett, who will be at the museum on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and can be reached at 413-367-2656.

The Leverett Family Museum, in the center of town, is the former Field Library, which was transformed into a museum following the building of a new town library. The building contains similar displays of the center village. The hours are Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or by appointment. The contact for the LFM is Edie Field who can be reached at 413-548-9452.

Both buildings are treasure boxes for anyone interested in Leverett history or that (in a smaller fashion) of the surrounding area. Admission is free to both museums and donations are welcome.

Summer is almost here — time for long weekends, vacations, and an increased need for blood donations. Baystate Health Blood Donor Mobile will host two community blood drives at Baystate Franklin Medical Center during June. On Tuesday, June 5th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the blood mobile will be behind the main hospital building (enter via the parking lot on the north side of Sanderson

Street). It will return on Tuesday, June 19th, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., when it will be located in the parking lot of Baystate Franklin Medical Center's 48 Sanderson office building.

"Blood donations tend to decrease in the summer, as donors are busy enjoying time off with family and friends," said Suzanne Stockley, blood donor recruiter, with the Baystate Health blood donor program. "We need your help to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply is available all summer long."

All blood types are needed. Eligible blood donors will receive a Baystate Health Blood Donor Program beach towel and will be entered into a raffle to win two tickets to Six Flags New England.

The public is invited to witness one of the rarest of astronomical events: a transit of Venus, at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Sunwheel from 5:30 p.m. until sunset on Tuesday, June 5th.

Astronomy professor and department chair Stephen Schneider will introduce the transit and the Sunwheel. During the transit, which is similar to an eclipse except that Venus is so far away it only blocks a small part of the sun, observers can see Venus as a small disk moving across the sun.

"Transits are extremely rare because the sun, Venus and Earth have to be in almost perfect alignment," says Schneider. "Venus passes by Earth every 19 months as it orbits the sun, but in all the conjunctions for the next 105 years, Venus will miss to the north or south of the sun from our vantage point on

Earth, so it will pass by unseen. An observable transit won't happen again until 2117. I'm delighted to share our excitement about astronomy and help everyone to observe this event safely."

The actual transit begins at 6:04 p.m. and visitors may watch until sunset at 8:23 p.m. Rain cancels the event, but light clouds will not.

The Museum of Industrial Heritage is offering an enjoyable and educational stroll through the Green River Cemetery on Saturday, June 9th, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.. The rain date is June 16th. Garry Earles, noted local historian, will lead the tour through this Victorian Era style cemetery. This is a fundraising event for the museum and you can register by calling 413-336-8275.

The Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A in Turners Falls, is now open 7 days per week from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. On Friday and Saturday evenings throughout the summer the center will be open until 8:00 p.m..

Come one, come all! Linda Ackerman (branch manager of Greenfield Savings Bank) will be guest caller for family bingo on Saturday, June 9th, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. GSB will provide cards, prizes and light refreshments. Seating will definitely be on a first call, first reserve basis. Place your call now to Aliesha, Linda or Kerri at 413-863-4316. GSB will continue this as a monthly event with different callers. If you don't make it this month, look for a future date. No one will be admitted without a reservation. Greenfield Savings Bank is at 282 Avenue A in Turners Falls.

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



ELLEN BLANCHETTE PHOTO

Students from the Tech School Renegades Drumline marched in the Turners Falls Memorial Day parade.

Turners Falls RiverCulture Call to Artists: Artistic Crosswalks

TURNERS FALLS - RiverCulture is requesting proposals for crosswalk designs at the main intersection in downtown Turners Falls across Avenue A at Third Street. The crosswalk will be painted on the street using leftover paint the town cannot use in its current street sprayer. Current colors on hand are white, yellow and blue. If the artist chooses to use additional or other colors, they will have to be purchased separately by the artist using award money.

The public will vote on the winning proposal at Feast for the Arts June 30th, 6:00 p.m. at St Kazienierz in Turners Falls. The award is \$1,500.

Design images will be accepted via email by June 27th deadline. For more info, visit: www.turnersfalls-riverculture.com.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Larceny of a Mannequin; Sick Fox

Thursday, 5/17

9 p.m. Arrested subject for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol in Jan's Package Store parking lot.

Saturday, 5/19

9 a.m. Resident of Main Road reported larceny of a mannequin.

8:45 p.m. Reported domestic dispute in the elementary school driveway. Motor vehicle left prior to officer arriving.

10:15 p.m. Burglar alarm set off at residence on French King Highway. Officer investigated.

Sunday, 5/20

10:20 a.m. Assisted party with sheetrock that had fallen out of their truck on Route 2 at Riverview Drive.

3:50 p.m. Reported motor vehicle hit and run at Shutes Club. Located suspect in Montague. Under investigation.

5:30 p.m. Reported sick fox on Chappell Drive. Officer provided options for reporting party.

Mutton & Mead Medieval Festival

Sat & Sun, June 23-24

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Crushing College Dreams

On the very day that student loan debt reached the \$1-trillion mark, Senate Republicans blocked a vote to extend the 3.4% interest rate on student loans for another year.

BY MARC MORIAL

As graduation season swings into high gear, a new economic crisis confronts thousands of this year's high school and college grads — crushing college student loan debt.

America's student loan debt recently reached the \$1-trillion mark. That's more than our total credit card and other consumer debt.

94% of the students who get a college degree take out these loans, up from 45% in 1993, according to The New York Times. The average college grad is saddled with more than \$20,000 in debt by the time she dons her cap and gown. This is a tremendous burden for young graduates, many of whom are having trouble landing that first job.

Faced with the prospect of even more debt, many delay plans to attend graduate school. And for those lucky enough to find work, high monthly student loan bills may mean working two jobs or moving back in with mom and dad. While everyone agrees that a college education is the pathway to greater success in America, student loan debt is leaving too many graduates stalled at the starting gate.

"Higher education can't be a luxury," said President Barack Obama. "It is an economic imperative that every family should be able to afford."

Recognizing the relationship between education and economic growth, Obama has made boosting America's lagging college graduation rates one of his top priorities. It's no secret that rising tuition costs are a major cause of stagnant or declining graduation rates, especially in communities of color. Currently, Obama is urging Congress to renew a 2007 bill that lowered the federal student loan interest rate from 6.8% to 3.4%. If Congress fails to act, the current rate will double by July 1, increasing the average student debt burden by \$1,000 over the life of the loan.

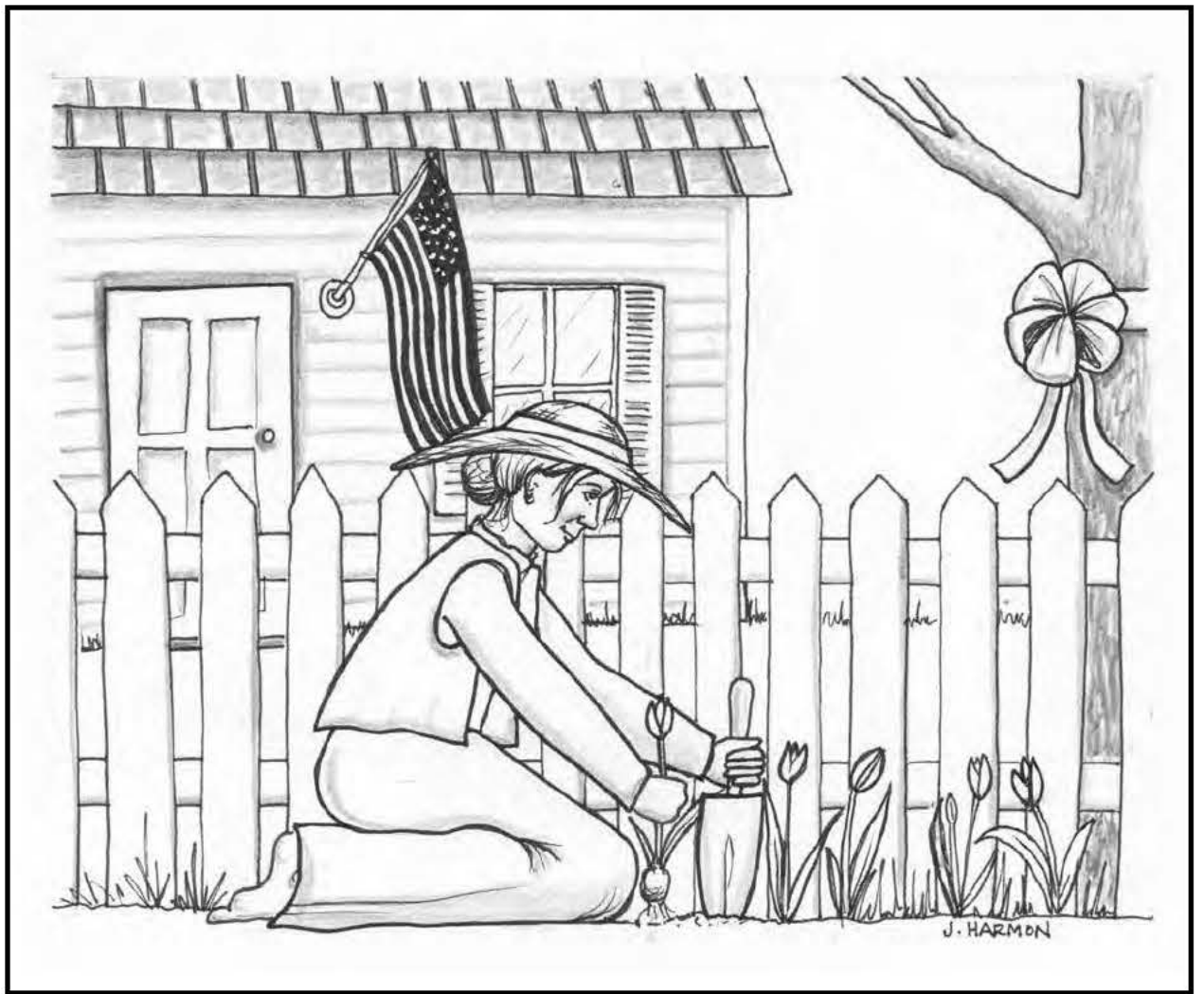
The irony of this debate is that both sides in Congress support an extension of the 3.4% rate. But like earlier fights over raising the debt ceiling and extending the payroll tax cut, lawmakers are arguing over how to pay for it.

Senate Democrats would cover the \$6-billion cost of the bill by closing some tax loopholes on high earners. Republicans continue to balk at any perceived tax hikes on the richest Americans and have made a counter-proposal to cut funding for a preventive health initiative that is part of Obama's Affordable Care Act.

On the very day that student loan debt reached the \$1-trillion mark, Senate Republicans blocked a vote to extend the 3.4% interest rate on student loans for another year. It reminded me of an old African proverb: "When elephants fight, the grass suffers." Thousands of low-income students and their families are suffering while the two sides in Congress engage in ideological warfare.

College graduation is as important to our national security as a strong military. But when it comes to funding, education seems to always take a back seat to war. How much would graduation rates for African Americans and Latinos rise if they did not have to overcome the added economic barrier of high student loan debt?

Marc Morial is the president and CEO of the National Urban League and the former mayor of New Orleans. www.nul.org. Taken from OtherWords.org.



JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

TFHS Football in the 50s: Three Anecdotes

The Forearm Blast

Rules were different then; we were allowed to use the "forearm blast" to break the momentum of the opponent directly opposite. Other teams had forearm pads; we didn't. So it was bumps and bruises, contusions and inflammation of the forearms. Monday through Friday we thought we were cool wearing short sleeve shirts that exposed our bruised forearms and the results of controlled violence on the gridiron.

A Loss is a Wash

Once during my three years on the varsity team, we had a three

game winning streak. One of the seniors said, "We can't change our athletic supporters until we lose a game." Fortunately, shortly after that, we lost, and Boy! Was I glad!

Two High Points

One of the greatest moments of my high school career was the game we played against the Green Wave of Greenfield. It was a fiercely competitive game with a very close victory for the Green Wave. We left all we had out on that field. In those days we didn't do the single line handshake at midfield, which I truly like. After the game

some of the Wave players came into our locker room and congratulated us on a very spirited and athletic game. That was a noble gesture of good sportsmanship.

Now, fast forward to Thanksgiving 2011 and the Indian Victory. Congratulations to the coaches and players for beating the Wave in another close game!

—David Yez
Monmouth, IL

Renaming a Working Forest

BY TANYA CUSHMAN

LEVERETT - On Tuesday, May 29th, a big tent was set up on the recently preserved Teawaddle Farm property in Leverett. The staging of Brushy Mountain, where the Paul C. Jones Working Forest is located, was the perfect backdrop for the event — the dedication of that forest's new conservation restriction.

The people under the tent were a who's who of land preservation, forestry and politics: from Governor Deval Patrick, U.S. Forest Service Chief, Tom Tidwell, Senator Rosenberg and Congressman Olver, Representatives Kulik and Story to Cinda Jones of W.D. Cowls, Kristin DeBoer of the Kestrel Trust and Richard Hubbard of the Franklin Land Trust. Members of Rattlesnake Gutter and Kestrel Trusts were spotted, as were a small unit of Environmental Police. In all, about 100 people were in attendance.

The Amherst Regional Middle School Concert sang a welcome of patriotic songs, including "This

Land is Your Land..."

After an introduction by Secretary Richard Sullivan of the Mass Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Governor Patrick, wearing jeans and t-shirt, gave us some numbers: "97,000 acres of Massachusetts land has been conserved" and there has been "an 8% increase in protected space in ten years." The Paul C. Jones Working Forest is about 5.4 square miles and is "the largest contiguous block of land conserved in the Commonwealth." He stressed our "generational responsibility" to the children of the future to save "open space and working farms and forests."

Congressman Olver called the forest the "jewel crown of land protection in this area."

Cinda Jones, still owner of the forest as President of W.D. Cowls, said she was "proud of this conservation restriction...the best thing we've ever done, made possible by our family for hundreds of years."

Her dad, Paul C. Jones, had

taught her about the "critical balance between development and conservation." He had been able to buy land piece by piece over the years by using the proceeds from development - "can't have one without the other" - like Riverside Apartments in North Amherst "and other clustered smart growth."

She spoke less glowingly about conservation restrictions than did the politicians. "This APR (on the Teawaddle Hill Farm) couldn't have solar panels, our land couldn't have wind towers." If she wanted to take a few acres of the forest and turn it into tillable land, she cannot, due to the language in the restriction. She hopes that in the future, restrictions on land will "allow more diverse uses."

The Amherst Regional Middle



Governor Deval Patrick

School Chorus ended the ceremony with Smokey the Bear by Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins - "You can take a tip from Smokey that there's nothin' like a tree, cause they're good for kids to climb in and they're beautiful to see."

U.S. Casualties in Afghanistan as of 5/29/12

Wounded:

15,332

Deaths:

1,989



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Deval Patrick in Leverett

MARA WASKIEWICZ PHOTO

Falcon Chicks Successfully Hatched

AMHERST- The installation of a video camera atop UMass Amherst's W.E.B. Du Bois Library is providing new information about the mating pair of peregrine falcons that have taken up residence each spring for the last decade on the 274-foot perch. Thousands of watchers have followed along in real time since mid-April as three of four eggs hatched successfully and the falcon parents began feeding the chicks. The FalconCam site: www.library.umass.edu/falcons.

"For the first time, we can share the experience of sitting on several eggs waiting to hatch and anticipate the excitement of watching the chicks as they grow and are pushed out of the nest," says Director of Libraries, Jay Schafer.

Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife experts and curious viewers alike can see how the parents share childcare duties 50/50. Falcon watchers saw how the birds nest by creating a berm of gravel, which allows them to sit on the berm and not on the eggs while covering them for incubation. The chicks are growing rapidly and the

parents are feeding in earnest. Prey is mostly starlings and grackles with some bluejays and other birds.

One viewer wrote: "I observed the changing of the guard last evening when one bird arrived at the nest box with food and the other departed. All three chicks were fed to satiation two of them more aggressive in their insistence on receiving tidbits from the parent bird. ...I have not previously had the pleasure of watching this drama unfold..."

Four eggs were laid in mid-April and three hatched successfully in the first week of May. Experts speculate cold weather might be the cause of the unfertilized egg. It is unclear if the parents have removed it from the nest or if it is still inside. One egg lost last year was collected for analysis. Infertile eggs are analyzed for pesticide content and other pollutants. Since the falcons are at the top of the small-bird food chain and thus accumulate pesticides, the data is important for human health studies as well as bird studies.

"The falcons will be banded sometime in mid-

May, and will begin fledging (flying) after that," says Richard Nathhorst, capital project manager, Facilities Planning, at UMass Amherst. Each spring, staff from MassWildlife and UMass Facilities Planning Division band the chicks after they hatch. Since the first nest box was installed at the Library in 2003, 27 falcon chicks have hatched and fledged from this site.

The banning of DDT in 1972 and subsequent restoration efforts brought the peregrine back from the brink of extinction in Massachusetts and across the country. Banding the young has been an important scientific tool in measuring the success of restoration programs, learning about raptor survival rates, dispersal distances, habitat preferences and causes of death. The peregrine falcon was removed from the federal Endangered Species list in 1999, but is listed as Endangered under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act.


A fact sheet on peregrine falcons can be found at: www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/falco_peregrinus.pdf.

from MONTAGUE pg 1 as is possible, and will use local hotels and trash management companies along the way. "We want to represent the film industry well, in case another film company wants to make a film

here too someday," Slates said.

Flyers will be posted a few days before filming around both Turners Falls and Millers Falls filming locations, giving residents a heads up on parking restrictions and traffic flow pat-

terns they can expect, said Slates.

Scenes for Labor Day will also be filmed in Shelburne Falls, Buckland, and Belchertown, and other locations in Western Massachusetts during June. 

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

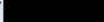
Hit & Run; Larceny at the Fish Ladder; Restraining Order


Wednesday, 5/23

11:05 a.m. Domestic disturbance on Central Street. Advised of options. 3:58 p.m. Restraining order served in hand on Central Street.

8:19 p.m. Suspicious person at Town Hall on Avenue A. Unable to locate.

Thursday, 5/24

8:51 p.m. Neighbor disturbance on Third Street. Arrest of 


 on a straight warrant.

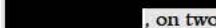
Friday, 5/25

2:55 p.m. Fraud at Greenfield Savings Bank on Avenue A. Referred to an officer.

5:43 p.m. Hit and run accident on Avenue A. Advised of options. 7:36 p.m. Domestic disturbance on South Prospect Street. Peace restored.


9:59 p.m. Domestic disturbance on East Main Street. Investigated.

10:07 p.m. Arrest of 

 on two default war-

rants on Federal Street.

Saturday, 5/26

12:49 a.m. Arrest of  for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, operating to endanger, failure to stop for police, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, speeding, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle, giving an officer a false name or address, marked lanes violations, failure to signal, three default warrants, and being a minor transporting or carrying alcoholic beverages on J Street.

12:50 p.m. Fight next to Millers Pub. Peace restored.

1:18 a.m. Domestic disturbance on East Main Street. Peace restored.

7:22 a.m. Hit and run accident at Fifth Street and Avenue A. Report taken.

6:37 p.m. Larceny at the Fish Ladder on First Street. Referred to an officer.

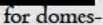
9:59 p.m. Threatening harassment on Avenue A. Advised of options.

Sunday, 5/27

12:18 a.m. Neighbor disturbance on Central Street. Verbal warning. 11:17 a.m. Burglary, breaking and entering at Black Jungle Terrarium. Report taken.

12:32 p.m. Structure fire on North Taylor Hill Road. Investigated.

4:57 p.m. Domestic disturbance on N Street. Services rendered.

4:58 p.m. Arrest of  for domestic assault and battery on N Street.

9:45 p.m. Restraining order violation on Randall Wood Drive. Referred to an officer.

10:37 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Avenue A. Investigated.

Monday, 5/28

7:56 a.m. Trespassing in the area between the Railroad Salvage building and the Housing Authority. Referred to an officer.

10:15 p.m. Suspicious person at the bridge after the railroad tracks in

Millers Falls. Services rendered.

Tuesday, 5/29

8:15 a.m. Unwanted person on Fifth Street. Advised of options.

12:09 p.m. Burglary, breaking and entering on Fourth Street. Services rendered.

1:45 p.m. Restraining order violation on Central Street. Referred to an officer.

6:25 p.m. Fraud on Linda Lane. Advised of options.

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The Alex Snyderman Trio

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FRIDAY JUNE 15TH

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Featuring Miro Sprague on piano, Alec Darien on bass

early set at 6:30 / late set at 8:00

FRIDAY JUNE 22ND

The Alex Snyderman Trio

Featuring Miro Sprague on piano, Alec Darien on bass

early set at 6:30 / late set at 8:00

FRIDAY JUNE 29TH at 6:30 PM

The Charlie Apicella guitar trio

An evening of gypsy, swing & jazz guitar featuring standards & original compositions.

SATURDAY JUNE 30TH

The Alex Snyderman Trio

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and Alex Snyderman on drums

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Ordinary People



Cellar Hole

BY PAM RICHARDSON

WENDELL - On December 31st, 1799, a young couple went to the town clerk in the tiny hill town of Wendell and registered their intention to marry. Ruth Holmes was 22 years old, ten years younger than her fiancé, Benjamin Bufford. The new year, the new century and what they must have hoped would be a long life together filled their intention with promise.

A few days earlier, Benjamin had taken possession of a 100-acre lot on the mostly unpopulated, northern slope of Bear Mountain in Wendell and started clearing the land and building a house, which he situated just above a fast-running stream.

On January 6th, he officially bought the property for four hundred dollars from James Bowdoin III, Esquire, of Boston, the son of the former governor of Massachusetts. (Governor Bowdoin's father-in-law, John Erving, Esq., had given him this and several other lots of land in northern Wendell, formerly Ervingshire, for speculative purposes.)

The exact date of Benjamin's marriage to Ruth is lost to us; we know only that it took place sometime between January 13th, (couples had to wait two weeks after filing their intentions before they could marry) and February 26th, 1800, because on February 27th, Benjamin Bufford died. He was felling trees in the woods when one toppled on him, fracturing his skull and breaking his

arm. He was found dead, presumably by Ruth, pinned under the trunk of a tree two hundred feet from their house.

Historical records are silent about the young widow until two-and-a-half years later, on August 7th, 1802, when she, Ruth Holmes Bufford, and Joshua Bancroft recorded their intention to marry in Warwick, Joshua's home town. Ruth was pregnant at the time of their filing and their first child, Elvira Bancroft, was born exactly four months later in Wendell. The Bufford place became the Bancroft place and, in 1804, Joshua and Ruth's second child, a son, was born. They named him Benjamin Bufford Bancroft. Over the course of the following 22 years, Ruth gave birth to four more girls and six more boys in her Bear Mountain home.

The record makes no note of the joys - other than births - of this family, but it does chronicle their losses. In 1818, the Bancrofts sold off 15 acres of their property and their 4-year-old son, David, died. (Many in Wendell were afflicted that year with dysentery.) In 1819, another son, Jonathan, 8 years old, died; in 1822, 3-year-old Philinda died; and in 1826, one of their 3-year old twin boys died. Also in 1826, on four separate occasions, Joshua sold off more of their property.

Finally, in 1830, Joshua and Ruth sold all their remaining land except for the one acre surrounding their house. That, too, they eventually

sold and in 1840 - when Joshua was 67 and Ruth 63 - the couple was living with their teenage son, the remaining twin, in Erving. Death came calling for the fifth time in 1844 when that twin died and again on August 7th, 1847, when Joshua Bancroft, age 74 and ill with dysentery, passed away.

Ruth lived on for nearly two more decades with her son, Jonathan Franklin Bancroft, and his family in Erving, dying in 1868 at the age of 91.

In my romps through the woods near my house, I have often walked by this Ruth/Benjamin/Joshua cellar hole, never knowing anything about it. It lies not far to the east of the confluence of Lyons Brook and the Millers River. A few weeks ago, my curiosity got the best of me and I set about consulting old maps, vital records, genealogies, census data, old church records and Google. The facts related above are what emerged. I wish, of course, that I could find a diary or letters, something to round out the hard facts. Besides losing a husband so soon after marrying him and, later, suffering through the deaths of five of her twelve children, what was life like for Ruth? Her 'neighbors' also owned 100-acre properties, and today the trails they made between their homes are still evident. They must have called on each other for help with things like raising houses and barns, birthing, sheep shearing,

see PEOPLE page 9

Inland Paradise



JOSEPH A. PARZYCH PHOTO

Dale Kowacki's contemporary home with a well fenced garden in the foreground, designed to discourage his furry neighbors from feasting therein.

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH

WENDELL DEPOT - Not far from the Buford-Bancroft cellar hole described in the article on this page, Dale Kowacki has a place in the sun on a peaceful paradise on an island of land, at the end of a mile and a half of gravel road, surrounded by the Wendell State Forest. His only close neighbors are deer and other wild animals. His garden is well fenced to keep them from munching on his veggies.

Kowacki crunches numbers, as an accountant, and works for the county retirement board. He has electricity and running water to supply his Garden of Eden in the quiet of the surrounding forest. Kowacki likes the solitude but is not averse to company, at least when a roving reporter stops by. He's a former Gill inhabitant, so he can't be all bad.

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~ J. R. Kelley ~



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Reflecting Artwork Brightens Strathmore



Reflecting Panels at the Strathmore Mill

BY JOE PARZYCH
TURNERS FALLS - People walking or riding along the bike path next to the power canal in Turners Falls pause to gaze at what appear to be gently fluttering window panes on the façade of the Strathmore Mill building. They study the panels reflecting the action of the rushing canal waters and find them intriguing. “But what is the intent,” they ask. Northfield artist Terry Marashlian took time from photographing the panels to answer that question. “This display is designed to reflect the canal as a river of mirrors that incorpo-

rates wind, water and sky,” Marashlian said. “In California, I put up a whole hillside of these reflecting mirrors. When a strong wind is blowing, the panels flip over, showing the black, momentarily. People find them very dramatic.” He explained that there are 460 small panels set in 26 frames. The five foot square frames contain 16 reflecting panels, while the five by six foot frames hold 20 panels. The panels are constructed of half-inch pine board. The reflecting side is covered with aluminum lithographic plates, only 20 thousandths of an inch thick. The back is painted black. Marashlian attaches plastic bushing to the panels and strings them on stainless steel rods so the panels can freely swing in the wind, sometimes flipping up to show the black side in a strong breeze. So what is the purpose of it all? see STRATHMORE page 12

Beekeeping in Changing Times

BY JONATHAN VON RANSON
WENDELL - The mysteries of beekeeping have been noted for centuries. Henry David Thoreau’s comment, “The keeping of bees is like the direction of sunbeams” flirts with the notion that it’s impossible. There are countless variables in keeping bees, and you can get lost in the tantalizing similarities, and strange differences, between their social behavior and ours.

Today, the progressive contamination of the environment makes the work much harder. The arrival of the often fatal Varroa mite in the mid-1980s and early 1990s had beekeepers already discouraged. The chemicals brought in to counteract that blight contaminated honey harvests and made many beekeepers and honey consumers uneasy.

I was keeping un-medicated bees then, in hives way out on Bear Mountain in Wendell, holding my breath, so to speak. My unusual success lasted around seven years until the bears finally got wind in 1992.

Not long thereafter, the emergence of an amorphous killer called Colony Collapse Disorder deepened the whole enigma, which had now become really basic: how to keep bee colonies alive, let alone chemical-free, in the agriculturally shifting, ever more developed, increasingly polluted and hormone-laden U.S. landscape.

Maybe beekeeping can be a little less mysterious, if you refer back to some of the most basic patterns of nature, said Dean Stiglitz and Laurie Herboldsheimer when they spoke at the Wendell library. Keeping bees is still a mixture of science and intuition, but perhaps beekeepers need to consider, for example, whether the natural selection process is being stymied, even steered counterproductively, by centralized queen-rearing, and by less obvious factors like the limiting of drones.

The few male bees in the hive have long been considered moochers. Foundation – a sheet of embossed wax or plastic set in the

frame – was invented and designed in part to discourage hives from rearing them. Beekeepers have long been instructed to crush drone brood cells.

And what about the slightly, but unnaturally, enlarged hexagons of today’s foundation? It developed a bigger bee with the desired longer tongue for reaching into certain flowers, but it’s a slower-gestating critter, and the one-day difference gives the hive’s mites, gestating simultaneously, a crucial head start.

Stiglitz and Herboldsheimer, a married couple from Leominster, brought their response to these issues to their talk. They’re both beekeepers at heart, possessed by the passion of people who know they’re onto something important. They’re also authors of the book *The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Beekeeping*, and are counted among the tiny group that’s trying the ‘treatment-free,’ more natural and patient way to favor honeybees and the processes that govern bees’ lives and reproduction. Eleven years ago they

studied the groundbreaking reexaminations and back-to-basics experiments of beekeepers like Dee Lusby in Arizona, and Kirk Webster in Vermont. Since then they’ve dedicated themselves to cooperating intelligently with the honeybee – not just for the challenge and fun, though they clearly enjoy their work. It’s so this insect society can do its fabled hard work and thrive while benefitting agriculture and human society.



A honeybee forager visits fall asters

see BEES page 12



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NOTES FROM THE GILL MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

New G-M Interim Superintendent Selected



ELLEN BLANCHETTE PHOTO

Mark Prince, as he left the meeting of the Gill-Montague school committee Tuesday night after his interview for interim superintendent position. The school committee later decided to offer him the position.

BY ELLEN BLANCHETTE

There was strong agreement among school committee members at Tuesday night's meeting that candidate Mark Prince should be offered the job of interim superintendent.

Current interim superintendent Nadine Ekstrom will be leaving the district by the end of June. With the short time frame, the school committee worked quickly.

The search committee members, Sandy Brown, Marjorie Levenson, Jane Oakes and Joyce Phillips, met several times in the last week to review candidates who had applied for the position. By Tuesday night they had reduced their choices to two: Mark Prince, director of academic effectiveness in Northampton Public Schools, and Morgan Williams, middle school principal in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

The meeting was structured to give each of the two candidates an hour interview based on a set list of ten questions designed to give them an opportunity to

present their ideas on education and budgets, and to display their knowledge of turn-around plans and other issues related to the status of the district and how they as superintendent would move the district forward.

In their public deliberation following the interviews, all of the members agreed both candidates had excellent histories and experience and either one would be good for the district.

Members noted that Williams had a lot of experience with turning around a school district, improving student performance and working with teams. He displayed knowledge in working closely with teachers and students and dealing with parent issues successfully.

Committee members said Prince showed extensive knowledge of state policies and regulations, as well as experience in the development of budgets.

Prince had the style and knowledge the members felt the school district needed at this time.

Mark Prince described

his current job as having all the responsibilities of an assistant superintendent but "on the cheap." He previously worked for the Massachusetts Department of Education as an Education Specialist. He is a graduate of Boston College and the University of Maine.

In his interview he displayed extensive knowledge and understanding of how testing and educational mandates affect students and teachers as they implement requirements. He spoke about the particulars involved in meeting the requirements of the Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP). His extensive experience working with the bureaucratic framework of the various state and federal mandates should be very useful as the district navigates its way out of Level 4 status.

The G-M school committee voted unanimously for Prince to become the next interim superintendent.

Committee Chair Joyce Phillips called Prince to inform him of their decision, and he confirmed his acceptance of the position pending contract negotiations. The committee then went into executive session to discuss the next step in developing a contract.

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

June 4th Annual Town Meeting, Swift River Changes Payment Method

BY JOSH HEINEMAN

The last regular meeting of the Wendell selectboard before Wendell's June 4th annual town meeting was short because the Finance Committee did not have all the money figures for the town meeting warrant, and so there was no reason to discuss them. The warrant must be ready by Friday, May 25th so it can be posted on that day because Monday May 28th is a holiday and does not count in the full week posting period required before an annual town meeting.

The warrant as posted proposes an operating budget of \$1,960,277 in the regular article 4. Loan payments for the town building construction projects, the Fiske Pond purchase, the town office building property, and the Mahar construction project are in one article totaling \$108,932.50.

One article would take \$65,789 from stabilization to make an extra payment on the building loans. Other articles that are out of the ordinary would spend \$40,000 for a new dump truck; \$20,000 to pave part of the highway garage lot so that any future leak in the grader will be seen immediately as a puddle and will not soak the ground; \$3,000 to pave the parking area between the playground and the road; and \$6,000 for a new town office copier.

Article 24 would have fees collected by the town clerk and tax collector (fees, not taxes) turned in to the treasurer and put into the general fund starting in fiscal 2014.

Article 26 would have the town clerk to send letters to Massachusetts and federal representatives instructing them to vote for a constitutional amendment defining a person as a human being.

Article 27 would expand the evacuation zone around a nuclear generating plant from ten to 25 miles, the emergency response zone from 25 to 50 miles and the ingestion pathway zone from 50 miles to 100 miles.

One suggestion the finance committee made to the selectboard was to move forward article 17, which would authorize \$10,000 for dam work at Fiske Pond to make sure it is voted on the the first evening of the meeting. Assuming it passes,

work can start Tuesday, June 5th.

As the meeting began, selectboard member Dan Keller said that New Salem voters at their town meeting chose to approve paying their share of the Swift River School budget according to the statutory method of assessment instead of an equal per student assessment as has been the custom and as was the agreement when Wendell and New Salem formed the Swift River School region.

This change would shift \$25,000 of the school's operating expenses from New Salem to Wendell, and since the statutory method is the default method established by education reform, there is little that Wendell can do.

The first official action of the meeting was to follow the recommendation of school committee members and appoint, by unanimous selectboard vote, Jessalyn Zaykoski to the school committee. Committee member Dick Baldwin said the appointment brought the school committee up to its full complement. Zaykoski has two young children and so her interest in the schools will be long term. She will face an election in May 2013.

Town Coordinator Nancy Aldrich said she got an email from Promageddon organizer Donna Horn asking whether they need a permit for the performance art and parade from Deja Brew pub to the town hall that will begin the Promageddon dance. The organizers already have spoken with police chief Ed Chase and fire captain Asa de Roode.

Aldrich also reported that the guidelines for the community development block grant that has given loans to citizens to bring their houses up to code have changed and become more involved, possibly in an effort to reduce the number of applicants because there is less money available.

She also reported that the town had bought flags for display on Memorial Day. Franklin County Technical School delivered the brackets

which will hold the flags. They were made in the welding shop and Aldrich said they will last forever. The brackets available to the town through catalogs were flimsy and expensive, and Peter La France, FCTS vice principal and Wendell Resident, offered the school's services.

Seaboard Solar has eight contracts ready for solar installations, and needs a signature from the Wendell selectboard chair for each contract for its connection to National Grid.

Building and grounds coordinator Ted Lewis and Tom Chaisson of Tri County Construction went through the town hall and estimated the cost of the small and larger repairs and maintenance that the building needs at \$6,000 to \$7,000. There is a hole in the siding that needs to be patched, but Lewis thinks it is a better idea to replace all the clapboards on that side of the building.

Selectboard member Dan Keller reported that the documents cleaned by ATI are back in town and ready to be returned to the vault. The vault is closer to ready for them. The first time those documents came back they still smelled of mold, and they were returned to ATI to get irradiated. There they sat. After several months, town Clerk Gretchen Smith wrote a letter to ATI giving the history of the documents and ATI's handling of them; within three she days got a return call, and within a week the documents were back in town.

After the meeting as he was looking over the boxes of documents with selectboard chair Christine Heard, Keller said he was not terribly worried about losing the documents at ATI, because it is a reputable firm. He said Wendell's job, 40 boxes of documents, is a small order for them, and they were forgotten until a reminder came. The delay was exacerbated because the man who took Wendell's order and would have followed it through to completion is no longer with the company.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WENDELL POLICE LOG

Copper Stolen from Cell Tower; Cemetery Vandalized

Thursday, 3/29

11:50 a.m. Brian from T-Mobile reported theft of copper from cell tower on Mormon Hollow Road.

Friday, 4/13

7 p.m. Removed a bunch of pallets from Thompson Road sand-pit.

Sunday, 4/22

4:20 a.m. House alarm on Jennison Road. All

secure.

Tuesday, 4/24

11:05 a.m. Mailbox vandalized on Montague Road.

Saturday, 4/28

9:30 a.m. Tool room at transfer station broken into. Nothing taken.

Sunday, 5/13

11:13 a.m. Locke Hill Road resident reported hearing shooting late at night over past weekend.

Tuesday, 5/15

7:40 a.m. Cemetery supervisor reported one headstone tipped over in Center cemetery.

10:22am Report of dogs barking all night at Depot Road residence. Informed Dog officer.

Thursday, 5/17

7:45 a.m. Report of utility pole on fire on New Salem Road. Notified National Grid.

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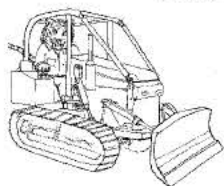
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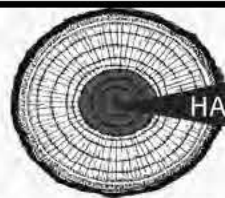
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Ferry Meadow Farm - part XLII

Philadelphia, PA 2017

BY ELOISE MICHAEL

In the morning, I wake up in Philadelphia. After breakfast Diana and I go to look at the apartment. The owner shows us around, and I ask a few questions, just to make it feel more authentic.

"I showed the apartment yesterday," she informs us, "and I have someone else coming this morning. If you are interested, I suggest you let me know today."

"I will," I say, and then thank her for her time.

While we walk back, Diana and I are able to talk.

"What will you do?" she asks in a low voice, as though the FBI might be anywhere on the sidewalk.

"I don't want to wait too long," I say. "I need the doppelganger gone."

Now. So I can go on with my life." She nods.

"Diana, I'm really sorry," I say, "for listening to Jason."

No reply.

"I think - I think I was really lonely," I say, "and he was good company in the middle of the night."

"Resa, you should have just moved to Philadelphia with us."

"It's a little late now."

"You still could," she says hopefully. She wants to be my friend - even now - I think to myself.

"I don't have a job," I point out. "That apartment we just saw costs \$2500 a month."

"Yeah," she says, trailing off.

We have lunch together at Diana's. Then I pack up and leave

for Massachusetts. I don't get far, though, not even to my car, which is parked down the block. A man with a shaved head and goatee approaches me. He looks familiar, and since I'm in the neighborhood where I grew up, for a second I think he might be someone I went to school with. Then it hits me that this is the very person I have been afraid of seeing. Only I expected to see him with his partner.

"Ms. Marconi," he greets me.

"Hello."

"Agent Woods. Maybe you remember me."

I nod. "Yes, I do."

"Do you have a moment, Ms. Marconi? I want to ask you a few more questions."

"Sure," I say. My mind is far away, imagining his partner who, I am sure, is at my house right now. When he doesn't find the doppelganger there, where will he look next? I have to remind myself that he has no reason to go to Ferry

Meadow Farm. I don't really hear what Woods is saying to me.

He repeats himself. "I said, 'It's a beautiful morning.' Shall we walk and talk?"

"Yes!" I say, snapping back to attention. "That would be fine."

"I understand that it is hard for the doppelganger to be awake in two places at the same time," he says. "In fact the SpareTime executives thought it was impossible, but another young man I spoke with tells me that you might be able to control two bodies at once, as long as you were sitting down. Or not talking. Now I won't ask your opinion on this, because of course, you don't have one?" He phrases this like a question and looks at me expectantly.

I decide that it is best to say nothing.

"I understand you lost your job at Case Pearman," he says, changing the subject.

"Yes," I say, my fear that they are watching me confirmed.

"I'm sorry to hear that."

"Well," I say lightly, "these are hard times, right? Hardly anyone has a job."

"Yes," he agrees. "Hard times for everyone. Will you be looking for a position at another bank?"

"I guess I'll have to see what's out there."

"I'm sure your skills would be useful to many organizations."

I laugh. "I think there are five computer programmers for every one job in the U.S."

"So you're not happy with the way things are in the United States?"

I look at him, trying to figure out whether I will incriminate myself by saying what everyone's thinking - that this economy is never going to get better the way we're going.

"There will never be jobs as long as it's cheaper to ship them overseas," I say, deciding that it is better to act like I have nothing to hide.

- Continued Next Issue

CORPORATIONS from pg. 1
manufacture and transport products in communities that would rather they not be there. "We've lost our capacity to prohibit dangerous activities by corporations in our local communities, even if the majority wants to," said Cienfuegos.

Constitutional commerce laws grant corporations the right to sell, manufacture and transport products in communities that would rather they not be there. "We've lost our capacity to prohibit dangerous activities by corporations in our local communities, even if the majority wants to," said Cienfuegos.

"Corporations don't vote but they do pick our candidates at the state and federal level," Cienfuegos added, speaking of the power of unfettered corporate financing of political campaigns.

While state preemption authoriz-

PEOPLE from page 6

and cider pressing. Weaving hats from palm leaves was a cottage industry in Wendell at the time; did neighbors get together to do this? What did Ruth dream of? Did she miss her Bear Mountain home when she left for Erving?

Knowing now what I do about the people who once labored and loved here adds a new dimension to my walk past this old cellar hole. My imagination fleshes out what the records cannot. I make up answers to all my questions and suddenly the two centuries that separate Ruth and me are bridged. I step over the stone retaining wall behind her house and head to the water rushing down the hillside. There, two more retaining walls are built into both banks of the brook, a space probably occupied long ago by a waterwheel. Ruth must have made this trip from the house to the water many thousands of times. I cock my head, listening to the sound of nothing but gurgling water and birdsong, and wonder: Did Ruth ever imagine me?



es the power of states over municipal governments (thus local governments cannot overturn larger state laws), small communities have been passing anti-corporate ordinances anyway. Such ordinances are in fact acts of civil disobedience because they clearly violate state preemption and corporate rights by refusing to concede state preemption. They are not against state laws per se, only against states setting a public safety ceiling. They object to local communities not being allowed to set more stringent safety laws.

Cienfuegos believes that by writing new laws that were not previously in existence, and passing them by majority rule, small municipalities are slowly eroding corporate rights. He argues that this strategy leaves corporations with only one recourse; should they attempt to fight back they will be forced to sue local governments and thus, make unpopular and absurd legal arguments across small-town America.

To challenge town ordinances, lawyers of the targeted corporations will have to come to the local courthouse and argue that corporations have greater rights than natural persons and local communities. "Pass the law and dare them to stop us," said Cienfuegos. "We shouldn't be scared of courts being against us. Take back the power."

Cienfuegos explained that such local ordinances present fundamentally different language and thus, brand new legal territory. They have encountered virtually no corporate challenges because they are designed to require a specific challenge. These laws are worded in such a way that the issue is not safety but who has the right to decide policy, people or corporations. The effort is changing the focus to the rights of people, and Cienfuegos hopes that shifting argument will alter our entire cultural dialogue.

The Community Rights Movement includes both rural and urban, left and right wing people

working together across the nation. Local governments are fighting to take back power from corporations not by demonstrating or picketing but through the courts, which are, Cienfuegos reminded his audience, "Where corporations get all their power."

Background and History

Corporate personhood is the legal concept that corporations, like natural persons or unincorporated associations of persons, have certain rights. Treating corporations as "persons" is a convenient legal fiction that allows corporations to sue and be sued, provides a single entity for easier taxation and regulation (or "tax evasion" as Cienfuegos put it), simplifies complex transactions that would otherwise involve up to thousands of people, and protects the rights of the shareholders.

While the doctrine does not hold that corporations are "people" in the literal sense, it does form the legal basis for corporations, as groups of people, to exercise certain rights under the common law and U.S. Constitution. As a matter of interpretation of the word "person", U.S. courts have extended to corporations some constitutional protections.

Multiple Supreme Court decisions have granted corporations increasing constitutional rights in many areas of law, including property rights (which includes both tangible property and intellectual property and ideas), and First Amendment free speech rights. A few examples include:

The 1886 Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad Company Supreme Court decision was instrumental in laying the foundation for modern laws regarding corporate personhood, ruling that the Fourteenth Amendment equal protection clause granted constitutional protections to corporations as well as to natural persons. The case has had clear constitutional consequences affirming the protection of

corporations under the Fourteenth Amendment.

The 1976 Buckley v. Valeo Supreme Court decision found that spending money to influence elections is a form of constitutionally protected free speech. Cienfuegos sarcastically referred to it as the "money equals speech" decision.

Citizens United, a landmark decision by the United States Supreme Court in 2010, held that the First Amendment prohibited restricting independent political expenditures by corporations and unions.

Cienfuegos explained that in the past, before the Community Rights Movement, real citizens had no way of protecting their safety interests. Nevada tried to get rid of nuclear power and failed to do so legally; Texas towns attempted to ban large semi-trucks in the 1960s but failed to curtail corporate transportation of goods; and corporations argued in court that first amendment free speech includes the constitutional right not to speak - they won, and thus, food products are not required to label possibly dangerous ingredients such as chemicals and GMOs.

So far, Pennsylvanians have been in the forefront of the Community Rights Movement with 150 ordinances passed in the Keystone State to date. 30 of them contain language granting nature the right to thrive and exist.

Cienfuegos mentioned several examples.

In Pennsylvania, a mostly conservative Republican small farming town passed an ordinance that banned "non-family run" (factory) farms.

Pittsburgh, situated on top of shale deposits, banned hydrofracking, halting 200 nearly complete fracking leases. Corporate lawyers threatened to sue if the city passed the law. It passed; so far the threatened lawsuits have not been filed.

A New Hampshire community passed an ordinance at annual town

meeting granting their town "the right to scenic preservation" and "sustainable energy preservation." The ordinance prohibits unsustainable energy systems, which they define in the ordinance as "non-locally owned or non-renewable fuels," or projects that would damage sustainable energy systems.

In Maine, two communities passed rights based ordinances to ban Poland Spring, the water bottling company owned by the Nestle Corporation, from entering their community.

An Oregon county, where the Monsanto agricultural corporation has put many small organic farmers out of business, is currently drafting an ordinance to ban genetically modified organisms from the county, to promote biodiversity in agriculture and curtail agri-business corporate rights.

A Washington state city is drafting a rights based ordinance to ban coal transport through the town. This would stop cargo trains from reaching sea ports on the coast.

A similar phenomenon is occurring at the state and federal level as well. Federal law preempts state law and has sole authority over all drug legislation. Yet, 16 states have passed medical marijuana laws through voter ballots. "What is the federal government going to do? Arrest the elected legislators of these states?" posed Cienfuegos.

Cienfuegos encouraged audience members to get involved. "Any time the people are organized and have a majority, we have tremendous power." He pointed out that "local resolutions can be the building blocks towards community ordinances that diminish corporate rights."

The Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (www.CELDF.org) runs programs that give legal defense council to communities.

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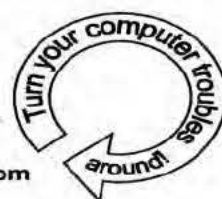
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The Poetry Page

A Certain Degree of Monotony

But for the day-after-days
Woven into one another,
Creating a singular thread
To keep us tethered,

We would all be clamouring
For something to hold onto.

(so how is it that
that is still all we do?)

—Idil Karacadag
Istanbul, Turkey

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

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

—William Carlos Williams

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Dr. Robert Koolkin, Montague Dental Arts,
Carlin Barton, and Michael Muller

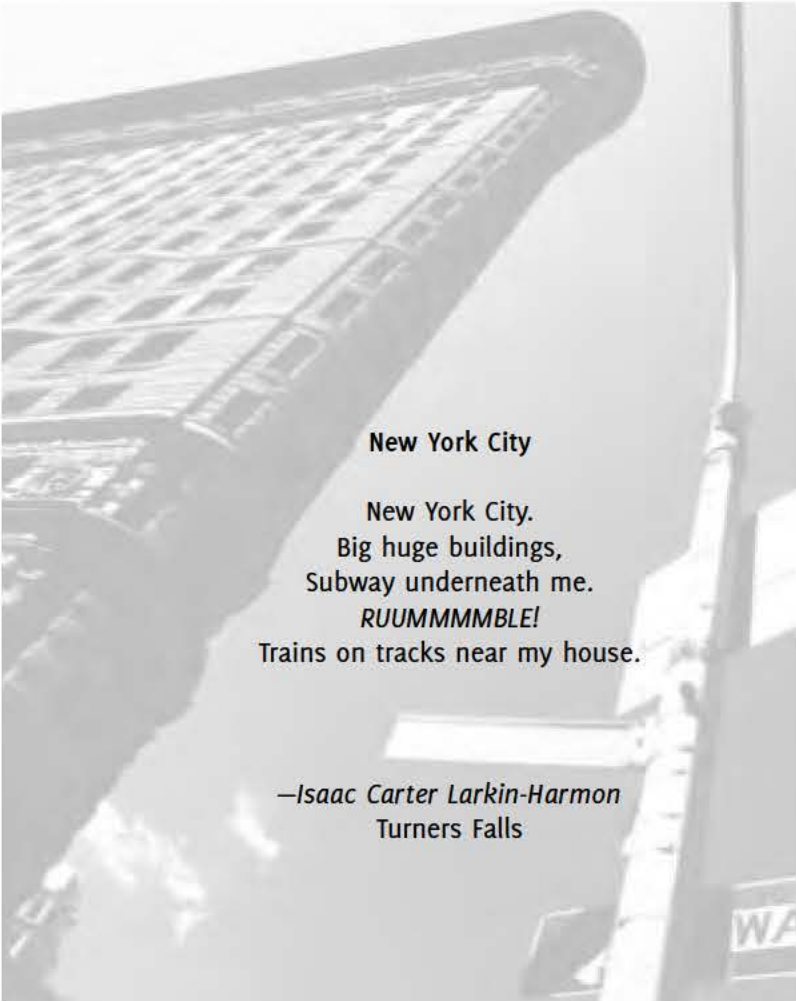
Readers are invited to send poems to the Montague
Reporter at 58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376; or
email us your poetry at reporter-poems@montaguema.net

Dá Mbeadh

Dá mbeadh mé níos saibhre
Cheannóinn a lán,

Cheannóinn...
Bláthanna deas 'is ,
Cheannóinn Ferrari dearg dar gluaiseán
Cheannóinn...
Linn snámha 'is ,
Cheannóinn milseain ,
Cheannóinn...
Seacláid 'is
Cheannóinn cabheár le arán ,
Cheannóinn...
Drithleach diamant 'is,
Cheannóinn oileain ,
Cheannóinn...
Báid 'is ,
Cheannóinn caisleán !
Ach nílimsa saibhair agus ní feidir liom iad a
cheannach
Ach is cuma liom –
Toisc go bhfuil cairde agus teaghlach agam.

—Alice Ní Spealáin
Graiguenamanach, County Kilkenny, Ireland

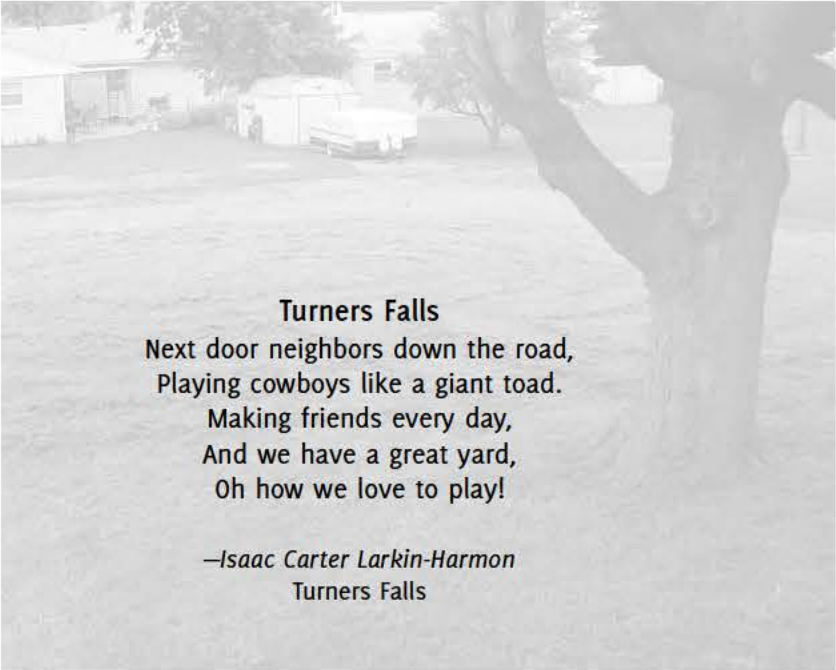


If

If I was richer,
I would buy a lot,
I would buy...
nice flowers and
I would buy a red Ferrari for my car,
I would buy...
a swimming pool and
I would buy sweets
I would buy...
chocolate and
I would buy caviar with bread
I would buy...
diamonds and
I would buy an island
I would buy...
a boat and
I would buy a castle!

But I'm not rich and I can't buy those things
But I really don't care
Because I have friends and family

—Alice Spencer
Graiguenamanach, County Kilkenny, Ireland



Contributors' Notes:

Isaac Carter Larkin-Harmon lives in Turners Falls and Bernardston, MA. Loves to read and making friends.

Idil Karacadag was born in Istanbul in 1991. She is currently an undergraduate in the American Culture and Literature department at Kadir Has University, in Istanbul. In 2010-2011 she was an Erasmus Scholar at Bath Spa University in Bath, England. She also translates Turkish poetry. This is the first time her poetry has appeared in print.

Alice Ní Spealáin Spencer, age 11, lives on a farm in Graiguenamanach, County Kilkenny, Ireland. Her poem, *If (Dá Mbeadh)*, came in third at the Sixteenth Annual Limerick City International Poetry Festival, hosted in Ireland, Cúisile, in the young entrants section. The poem is presented here in both English and Irish. Her favorite aunt is a regular visitor to Turners Falls.

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WEDNESDAYS through SUNDAYS UNTIL JUNE 17th

Fish Ladder at Unity Park, Turners Falls: Come see *migrating fish* navigate the fish ladder in Turners Falls, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Avenue A, Turners: *Great Falls Farmers Market*, 2 - 6 p.m.

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

EVERY THURSDAY

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

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

EVERY FRIDAY

Burrito Rojo, Turners Falls: *Song Shop Open Mic*, 8 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 the artist Jean Kozlowski of Northfield.

Vermont Center for Photography, Brattleboro: *Cowscapes*, a Juried Photographic Exhibition.

NOW through JUNE 10th

Gallery at Hallmark, Turners Falls: *Images from the '50s*, by Martin Karplus.

NOW through JUNE 16th

Paper City Studios, Holyoke: *Hidden in Plain View* featuring works by Nina Rossi and Ariel Jones & others.

NOW through JULY 1st

Salmon Falls Artisans Showroom: *ARTx5: Group Show*.

LOCAL EVENTS:

THURSDAY, MAY 31st

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Blue Pearl*, blues, jazz, 8-10 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 1st

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Drew Paton's 1940's Hit Parade*, 7 p.m. Free.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Stray Birds*, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Captain-Salls Orchestra*, 9-11:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Jimmy Johnson & the Funk Dept.*, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2nd

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Family Fish Day!* 7th Annual Family Fish Day is free & open to everyone. Free raffle for everything from fishing gear to fishing trips! No need to bring any equipment. Learn to tie flies, cast fly fishing rods, & go fishing at Unity Park. Face painting & fish printing! 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Artist Reception*. Brookline based artist C.J. Lori. 1 - 3 p.m.

Montague Center Commons: *Montague Munch*, 1st annual traveling potluck featuring this year's topic, Solarize Montague. Residents from all five villages of the town are invited, from 4 - 7 p.m. Schedule: 4 - 5:30 p.m. Appetizers, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Potluck pasta dinner at 1st Congregational Church, 6:30 p.m. Dessert at the Grange.

Iron Horse, Northampton: *Heather Maloney*, 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Eilen Jewel with Los Straitjackets*, 7:30 p.m.

The Night Kitchen, Montague: *The Alex Snyderman Trio*, featuring *Chris Pattishall & Marty Jaffe*, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Chicken Yard*, with *Annalise Emerick* 7:30 p.m.

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

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Kristin Ford with Ana Rae*, 9 - 11:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Planemo, Piles and Piles*, 9:30 p.m. Free.



The Sky Blue Boys will perform at the Great Falls Coffeehouse on Friday, June 8th at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3rd

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Ben Cosgrove*, 2 p.m.

Leverett Crafts and Arts, Barnes Gallery: *Leverett Community Theater*, a stage reading of *Henry IV* by Luigi Pirandello. 7 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Willie J Laws Blues Band* Benefit for Rays of Hope, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 4th

Shutesbury Town Hall: *Slate Roof poets Janet MacFadyen & Ed Rayher* with *Mark Hart* read, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5th

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Movie Night, Jabberwocky*, 9:30 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6th

Industrial Park, inner loop, Turners Falls: *Montague Training Criterium Bicycle Race* (Think NASCAR without the noise and pollution). Two Races (A "B" race-"fast" and an "A" race-"faster"). Come watch the races & if you feel strong come race in them. 5:30 - 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7th

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Traveling Thirsty Thursday with Lazer* 99.3, 5 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Ruby's Complaint*, 7 p.m. Free.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poets Series*, featuring *Alexandria Peary & Wally Swist*, 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Falltown Sting Band*, 7:30 p.m. Free.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 8th

Great Falls Discovery Center: *The Sky Blue Boys perform at the Great Falls Coffeehouse*. 7 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Pothole Pictures* presents, *Special Riverfest Weekend*, inspiring documentary *Green Fire*, about the life of Aldo Leopold, father of the modern sustainability movement. Film at 7:30 p.m. Music at 7 p.m. with *Doug Creighton & Bob Snope*.

Arts Block Café, Greenfield: *Chandler Travis*, 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Glenn Roth*, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Mend the Pocket*, jazz, 9:30 p.m. Free.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9th

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Renewable Energy*, activities exploring water, wind, and solar power. And a craft! 10 a.m.

The Night Kitchen, Montague: *The Carl Clements Quartet*, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Pothole Pictures* presents, *Special Riverfest Weekend*, documentary, *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*. Film at 7:30 p.m. Music at 7 p.m. with *Daniel Hales & the Frost Heaves*.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Freres & Pere (Roland) Lapierre*, indie rock & roll, 9:30 p.m. Free.

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 10th

Leverett Town Hall: Meet to carpool for the *Rattlesnake Gutter Trust's Annual Meeting*, Reception and Field Trip. 1 - 3 p.m.

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

COMING SOON:
SATURDAY, JUNE 23rd and
SUNDAY, JUNE 24th

Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club, Montague: *Mutton & Mead Festival*, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. both days.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14th

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Dance Party with DJ Bobby Falco*, 8-10:30 p.m.



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Bustin' Out June

BY LESLIE BROWN

MONTAGUE -
It's official!

We are past the danger of hard freezes and are happily maintaining temperatures at fifty and above overnight. It seems safe to plant hot weather crops like beans, peppers, squash, melons and cucumbers and pumpkins.

Of course, we DO live in New England where almost any weather is possible. New England gardeners are used to risk taking. We'd never garden at all if we weren't comfortable sticking our necks out.

The tomatoes I put out a couple of weeks ago experienced a couple of stressful days as they endured removal from their pots, the distur-

bance of their roots and then planting in a cooler soil environment. The survival of a couple seemed questionable. I watered twice daily and waited. Today they look hale and hearty.

After the extremely dry winter and early spring, we are having plenty of rain. The soil is absorbing it just fine so far. We still have a water table deficit, yet I hope we won't have the prolonged rainy season we had last year which was disastrous for vine crops that long for heat and dry spells.

Like everything else, my blooming shrubs are early this year. The peonies and roses are in magnificent bloom; the mountain laurel is fully budded. My favorites, the lilacs, daffodils and lily-of-the valley came on too soon and left as they do in a short ten days' time. I am thankful for the David Austen roses which, though they are blooming already, are repeat bloomers throughout the summer season.

We have harvested leaf lettuce,

thinning the rows, and continue to tend the onion, garlic, kale and chard plants. We have let the asparagus ferns develop to feed the roots for another year and look forward to a larger harvest next time. While the daffodils have finished blooming, we are similarly allowing the foliage to feed the bulbs before cutting it back next month. The pea vines look thrifty and we should be picking in late June and early July.

All in all, the yard is lush and green. The wild Nova Scotia blueberries planted several years ago blossomed profusely and are dense with green fruit for the first time. I'll have to rig up a bird defense this year because there will actually be a small crop worth picking for muffins or pancakes.

Wild Phlox has volunteered and spread in the back of the yard near the bike path. The pink, violet and white flowers are tall and fragrant and have required no work on the part of the gardener.

watching for seed pods and hope to harvest some seeds to store in the refrigerator until late winter. Then I'll see if can get a new plant or two started in the greenhouse.

The same catalogue tempted me with Lady Slippers, but those were fifty dollars apiece, which seemed like a steep price for what would be a gardening gamble. Now I see it's possible to buy two hundred seeds on eBay for five dollars plus shipping. I may see if I can't start some of those inside as well. Wild flower plantings would embellish the woodsy garden in a whole new way and it sure would be satisfying to have grown them oneself.

None of this gardening time would be possible if I hadn't begun my retirement last summer. Leaving the school has been a bumpy journey during which I learned that I would need to re-invent myself. You don't realize how much of who you are is connected to what you do until you

stop. I miss the students and my colleagues and being intensely involved in the school overall. I can't say it was an easy, overnight change, but I can share that I am well into the journey now, and am looking forward rather than back.

Now it's time to figure out my next career. This doesn't mean that I am looking for a new job; just in search of what will fulfill me with a sense of meaning and satisfaction in the next phase of my life. This, unlike education is an inner journey, a search for another part of the soul. Perhaps I'll find it in the garden or in writing. Travel and the study of new things should keep me open to new ideas and inner connections. There is more time for looking inward, time that was only minutes hard won in the midst of busyness.

I'm planning to attend graduation again this year to cheer for my old students as they begin the first major life transition in search of who they are and what they want. Being around young people all day is draining but also energizing. It's not unlike watching the garden. There's always something new and often much joy.

Here's to finding love, joy and peacefulness in your lives, and happy gardening.

STRATHMORE from page 7

"It is art, for people to enjoy. As art, it also draws the attention of artists who then may consider using the old mill for studios. It opens up the possibility of artists or developers buying the property and putting it to good use. It also reflects the lives of men and women who worked in the mills at very repetitive jobs," says Marshlian.

At age 17, Marshlian began adult life by joining the Navy, where he

worked with electronics. After discharge, he migrated to California, studied art and graduated from San Francisco State University with a Masters Degree in Fine Arts. After a residency, he taught wood sculpture and Conceptual Art at the University.

"Conceptual Art," he explained, "is recreating things of the past that look like the original, but are made of other materials."

Marshlian won financing for the project through a design competition

held by the RiverScaping program with backing of the Five Colleges, Inc. Lisa Davol is in charge of RiverScaping in the Town of Montague and has been instrumental in efforts to revitalize Turners Falls.

The panel display is part of the RiverScaping Project that reconnects Springfield, Holyoke, Hadley and Turners Falls, emphasizing sustainable energy using wind, water, thermal and geo-thermal sources of power. At one time, all these towns had industry powered by water provided by the canals running through them. A General Electric generator

still churns out electricity, unattended, in the Strathmore, decades after the mill shut down. The idea of RiverScaping originated in Hamburg, Germany where they have a similar river flowing through several towns with mills once run by water power.

Marshlian rented a platform lift to install the frames and panels. He avoided drilling holes or marring the façade of the building, in any way, by attaching the frames to the building with compression clamps

Marshlian has no plans to retire to a life of leisure on the Riviera with

the proceeds from this project. Liability insurance, alone, set him back \$1,100. The platform lift cost him \$1040 a week to rent for installation. And he will have to rent the platform lift, again, to remove the panels, and arrange transportation to his aptly named Art Suicide Company on 38 School Street in Northfield. What remains of the \$7500 grant will probably be enough to buy his parakeet a packet of seeds, if all goes well. His prime motivation is his love of art.



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BEES from page 7

"Every approach works, and every approach fails," Stiglitz said, meaning there is no formula. Still, the couple seemed well on the way to developing a coherent approach. For example, they use a smaller-sized foundation imprint, which lets them raise 'regressed,' smaller, faster-gestating bees. They allow as many drones as the hives want to raise. They zealously protect the environment for the microbial life of the hive, steering clear of chemical treatments and feeding nothing but real honey. Their breeding program is sophisticated in juggling both outbreeding and inbreeding. They stress the importance of raising your own queens – an element widely disregarded in standard beekeeping.

I learned a lot at their talk, including that the honeybee in the wild doesn't produce a surplus. It chooses a comparatively snug space, fills it with brood and honey stores, quickly experiences overpopulation, and swarms. That means the old queen flies off for good with around half the hive's bees. A new queen is then

reared in a specially shaped queen cell, matures, goes off on her mating flights, and takes over the original colony.

Stiglitz and Herboldsheimer's innovative approach is to proactively thwart a colony's inclination to swarm by removing a five-frame nucleus ('nuc') early in the spring – not from the stronger colonies, but from the weaker ones. The workers of the new nuc are given a queen raised from a strong colony. The idea is to perpetuate the best genetics and cull the worst. The nuc has the whole foraging season ahead of it to build up population and food stores able to last the winter. Stiglitz noted that colony growth is limited by the number of nurse bees available, not by the number of eggs a queen can lay.

Meanwhile, the strong colonies are intact, and with ample space pro-

vided, tend to raise lots of brood and lay in stores. In other words, produce the good old unnatural surplus.

All of this and more of the thinking and strategy of Stiglitz and Herboldsheimer, developed by looking at bee culture afresh, is covered in their book, whose title, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Beekeeping*, they laughingly disclaim. Signed copies can be ordered from their website, www.BeeUntoOthers.com. The same subject matter will be covered in a four day conference July 26th to July 29th in Leominster, at the Northeast Treatment-Free Beekeeping Conference.



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