



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 11 – NO. 46

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

75¢

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

## FRTA Board Votes To Approve Route Changes... or Do They?



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

By CHRIS SAWYER-LAUCANNO with JEFF SINGLETON

**GREENFIELD** – The advisory board of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority appeared to endorse a set of route changes proposed by its staff. Yet it was not clear what the board actually voted for and whether this included eliminating Route 23, the direct route from Greenfield through Montague to Amherst.

The meeting began with a plea by Montague resident Jeff Singleton to maintain the current route from Greenfield to Amherst, or implement a proposed alternative to Sunderland Center. Singleton argued that eliminating direct service from Montague to the largest employer in the region was “bad public transportation policy.” Low ridership on the current route, he argued, is a product of FRTA policy. The transit system currently charges twice the ticket price and provides much less service to Amherst than comparable routes.

Singleton also questioned why the board, most of whose members have no “fixed routes” in their towns, would eliminate a route that Montague primarily pays for and

wants to keep. He noted that there had been virtually no communication between the FRTA and Montague officials concerning the route changes.

The Montague selectboard has endorsed a letter from its town planner opposing the elimination of the Amherst route unless there is comparable alternative. The letter endorsed the proposal to reroute a bus through Montague to Sunderland Center, where passengers could connect with a Pioneer Valley Transit Authority bus to Amherst.

That alternative proposal was not discussed at the September 19 board meeting, and it was not clear whether the FRTA staff had considered it.

The FRTA board discussion that followed showed support for the staff proposal but a good deal of concern over the impact of the proposed elimination of the Amherst route. There was particular concern about the opposition of Montague, which pays most of the “local share” of Route 23. Mark Fairbrother, Montague selectboard chair and representative on the FRTA board, complained that the town had not been consulted or even contacted on the proposed changes. Several FRTA officials noted that there had

see FRTA page 10

## Regionalization Pace Slows for Union #28 Schools

By KATIE NOLAN

**SHUTESBURY**—On September 24, Shutesbury’s Michael DiChiara told the Joint Union #28 Committee that the pace of regionalization for the Amherst, Leverett, Pelham and Shutesbury schools had slowed. He said that initially the regionalization planning committee for the four towns planned to present a pre-K to grade 12 regionalization plan to the towns this fall, potentially allowing formation of a new region by September 2014.

However, because sentiment in Shutesbury favors retaining a separate Shutesbury pre-K to grade 6 program, the regionalization planning committee is now researching two “hybrid region” options as well as the pre-K to grade 12 option. One hybrid option is to have one central office running a pre-K to 12 region for Amherst, Leverett and Pelham that includes Shutesbury for grades 7 to 12, and with a separate pre-K to 6 school district in Shutesbury. The second hybrid option would have a central office running the Amherst, Leverett, Pelham pre-K to 6 and grades 7 to 12 for all the towns, and a second governing unit for Shutesbury pre-K to 6. DiChiara said that the earliest that the final plan could come before the towns would be spring town meetings, with the earliest formation of a new region in September 2015.

If Leverett and Shutesbury move

see UNION page 9

GILL SELECTBOARD

## Historic Designation Sought for Riverside District



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

The Somerberger House, in Riverside, was built about 1870.

By DAVID DETMOLD

The Gill selectboard unanimously supported police chief David Hastings’ request to sign onto a proposed countywide mutual aid law enforcement agreement, deplored the one-vote defeat of the recent debt exclusion vote to purchase a new highway truck, and delayed action until the meeting scheduled for Monday, October 8 on a proposed National Register of Historic Places designation for the Riverside Mohawk Trail section of town.

Pam Shoemaker, of the Gill historical commission, told the selectboard the designation for Riverside would not limit residents in the use of their own property. Instead, the designation, if granted, would involve listing the historic and architectural resources of the neighborhood in the National Register, placing signs at either end of Route 2 announcing the designation, and

perhaps mapping the area’s historic features.

In accompanying documentation, the historic commission notes that Riverside, bounded by the Fall River on the west and the Connecticut on the east and south, was formerly an important Native American fishing area, which subsequently developed “as somewhat of a suburban district of Turners Falls after the Civil War. Housing was available to many who came to work in the factories, as well as in the logging industries that developed along the river. Just as it was a place of business, Riverside became a community with several stores, a school, a community hall, and other amenities.”

Among the architectural treasures in the area, Shoemaker mentioned the “Old Red House,” on the north side of Route 2, probably the oldest building still extant in Gill,

see GILL page 8



MARSIA SHURON HARRIS PHOTO

Three-year-old Hayden McNally tries out the new swing in front of the mural.

## Next Saturday: Wendell Library Playground Grand Opening Celebration

By ROSIE HEIDKAMP

Fun for all ages!! Games, a puppet show, music, refreshments, and of course the playground itself.

Join friends and neighbors on Saturday morning, October 5, from 11 a.m. to noon for the official opening of the newly refurbished playground at the Wendell Free Library.

Enjoy the kids’ festival or just watch others enjoy the custom-built tree house, the puppet playhouse, the musical pipes, a chalk board, the elegant glider big enough for the whole family, the reenergized basketball court and play space, and the wonderful 30-foot long mural whose mountain scene includes

Mount Monadnock and the Millers River.

Fire Captain Everett Ricketts will bring the town’s fire truck for kids to explore.

Sylvia Wetherby will have parachutes, tunnels, and group games for pre-schoolers, and Wendell teens will host an obstacle course. Refreshments thanks to the Friends of the Library. Join us for all these kinds of fun and so much more.

Special thanks to mural artist Julia Rabin, local puppeteer Nicole Wanderer, New Salem musician Richard Chase, and to the hard-working Playground Design Committee. And to Tom Chaisson and Dennis Hudson for their labor, skill and creativity in

translating the Design Committee’s ideas into reality. And to all who helped with the new fencing, paving, and landscaping.

Thanks too for the funding from the 2011 Wendell Town Meeting, the Community Policing Fund, the Friends of the Wendell Free Library, an anonymous donor, and to all who shared their ideas, materials, skills, interest and enthusiasm to make this new playground possible.

Come and play!! Come and celebrate autumn and the Wendell community spirit!!

Rain date Sunday, October 6 from 11 a.m. to noon. Call the Library (978-544-3559) for more information.

## Medical Marijuana Dispensary Zoning Hearing Continued

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

**TURNERSFALLS**—The Montague Planning Board at their meeting on Tuesday, September 24, decided after a lengthy discussion of the new proposed medical marijuana dispensary zoning by-laws, to continue the hearing until October 22 at 6:30 p.m. The reason for the continuation was to gain a better understanding of what the State zoning regulations actually are. After an hour of lively back and forth conversation, it became clear to the board that they needed more information in order to approve the new zoning.

The specific issue revolved around the distance from a school, playground or day care center that a medical marijuana dispensary needed to be sited. A model by-law, prepared by municipal attorneys, Kopelman and Paige suggested that a registered marijuana dispensary (RMD) should be no closer than 500 feet from a school or place where children frequently congregate.

Town Planner Walter Ramsey, in his draft zoning by-laws, had required that an RMD be separated by 200 feet from a school. His reasoning was that this would allow more flexibility

in siting an RMD in certain locales. He pointed out, for instance, that requiring an RMD to be 500 feet from a school or playground would not allow a dispensary to be located in much of the downtown. A 500-foot radius from the playground in Peskeomskut Park, for example, would mean that an RMD could not be placed in most of the Food City mall nor at the vacant former Greenfield Savings Bank building.

Building Inspector, David Jensen, weighed in from his seat in the audience: “Why not just state that a dispensary cannot be an immediate abutter?”

Board member Fred Bowman said that could be a possibility but he was concerned that the State might have something different to say about it. “We need to know what the regulations really are.”

Member Bruce Young said he was concerned that if Montague enacted a by-law that was less stringent than that of the state, it would be ruled illegal. “You can make a more restrictive regulation but you can’t make a less restrictive one,” he said.

Member Bob Obear said he felt that the separation issue was not as important as perhaps it appeared on the surface. “These things are

fortresses,” he said. Ramsey, in apparent agreement, also pointed out that there are a great many restrictions already imposed by the state. The facility must have extensive security, is accessible only by appointment, and signage is limited to only the name of the RMD. No images of marijuana plants are permitted. But this did not solve the problem of how far away a facility needed to be from a school or playground.

Chair Ron Sicard, therefore, motioned that the hearing be continued so that more information could be gathered to allow the board to properly write the new by-laws. All agreed.

There was unanimous agreement that an RMD would only be permitted in Montague by Special Permit and a Site Plan Review. The board also agreed that the only areas acceptable for siting an RMD were the zones of General Business, Industrial, Central Business, and Historic Industrial. Additional requirements would include that the special permit would not be transferable. Further, the permit would be renewed only after a complete local review of the operation and performance during the time the

see ZONING pg 8



## Pet of the Week

### Lonely Heart



### “Alessandra”

I may not be the international supermodel, but I am still one beautiful lady!

Six years old and going strong – I just keep getting better with age. I may appear shy at first, but do not be fooled, I am a real socialite! I love to make my appearance and get all the attention I deserve! I also have a gorgeous gray coat and just look at my ears! A true beauty, I know.

Please come down to Dakin and make my acquaintance. I always love making new friends!

*Interested in meeting this lonely heart? Maybe even in taking her home with you?*

*Head down to the Dakin Animal Shelter in Leverett and ask about her. Visitors are always welcome!*

## Medicare Recipients: Open Enrollment Begins October 15

If you have Medicare, during the month of September you will receive an Annual Notice of Change mailing from your Prescription Drug Plan or your Medicare Advantage Plan. Review the letter to ensure the plan still works for you. This is the time when you can join, drop or change your insurance, and the new coverage will begin on January 1, 2014.

Does it still cover all your medications? Did you get a letter from your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan that your plan is changing? If you've been reassigned to a new plan, contact the new plan to assure it will cover your current medications. If not, you must switch before December 7. Also, if you've never joined a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Part D), you can do it during this time. Review and save all letters from your plan!

During the Open Enrollment (October 15 - December 7), you will have a chance to change your coverage for next year. You can decide to stay in Original Medicare or join a

Medicare Advantage Plan. If you are already in an Advantage Plan, you can use the Open Enrollment to switch back to original Medicare with a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.

Visit [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan) to use the Medicare Plan Finder.

Your recent “Medicare and You” handbook has plans in your area. Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and say “Agent.” Help is available 24 hours a day, including weekends.

State-certified SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders) Counselors can help you understand your plan changes. The program provides free, confidential and unbiased health insurance counseling for Medicare beneficiaries. Make your appointment early. To reach a certified counselor in your area, contact the Regional Office at 1(800) 498-4232 or (413) 773-5555, or contact your local Council on Aging. A complete list of local sites is available at [www.fchcc.org](http://www.fchcc.org).

### THE HEALTHY GEEZER

## Dizziness Isn't Just Vertigo



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION  
By FRED CICETTI

*Q. I have had some nasty allergies all of my 72 years. Usually, my head gets clogged up. Recently, my ears became involved and I experienced vertigo for the first time. Is this common?*

We have to define terms first. Vertigo is the feeling that either you or your surroundings are spinning. It is more than being just lightheaded or dizzy, because you are subjected to the illusion of movement.

If you feel your body is moving, you have *subjective vertigo*. When you sense that your surroundings are moving, you have *objective vertigo*.

If you are experiencing vertigo, you should see a doctor for a check-up. Vertigo can be a symptom of a serious health problem.

About one in ten people over 65 experience difficulty with balance. More than 40 percent of Americans will go to a doctor complaining

of dizziness. Getting older is only part of the problem. Inner-ear disturbances are the primary cause.

The inner ear consists of a system of fluid-filled tubes and sacs called the labyrinth. The labyrinth serves two functions: hearing and balance.

Labyrinthitis is an ear disorder that involves swelling of the inner ear. If you get labyrinthitis, the parts of the inner ear become irritated and inflamed. This inflammation disrupts the transmission of sensory information from the ear to the brain. This disruption causes vertigo, dizziness, and difficulties with balance, vision and hearing.

The following raise your risk for labyrinthitis: allergies, viral illness, drinking large amounts of alcohol, fatigue, smoking, stress, and some drugs.

Labyrinthitis usually goes away within a few weeks. Medications that may reduce symptoms include antihistamines to reduce inflammation, compazine to control nausea, meclizine to counter dizziness, and sedatives.

There are other causes of balance problems. Here are few major ones:

\* Benign paroxysmal positional vertigo (BPPV). With BPPV, one of the most common causes of balance problems, you get vertigo when you change the position of your head.

## Senior Center Activities – September 30 to October 4

### GILL and MONTAGUE

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

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

#### Monday 9/30

10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:55 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle  
3 p.m. Balance Boot Camp

#### Tuesday 10/1

10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga  
12 p.m. Lunch  
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting

#### Wednesday 10/2

10 a.m. Aerobics  
12 p.m. Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Bingo

#### Thursday 10/3

9 a.m. NO Tai Chi  
10:30 a.m. Brown Bag  
10:30 a.m. SNAP Applications  
12 p.m. Lunch  
1 p.m. Pitch  
**Friday 10/4**  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:55 a.m. Chair Exercise  
12 p.m. Pizza Party  
1 p.m. Writing Group

### ERVING

**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.

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 24 hours in advance. Call Mealsite Manager Rebecca Meuse at (413) 423-3308, for meal information and reservations.

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

#### Monday 9/30

9 a.m. Tai Chi

## FACES & PLACES



Andrew (A.J.) Fisher tries out the driver's seat in Madison on the Avenue's cart. On the day of the race, the axle broke as the cart was being delivered, so 102 never got to race. The cart and A.J. seem quite at home on the sidewalk alongside Rodney Madison's store.

## Painting at the Senior Center

The Gill Montague Council on Aging will be offering a six week painting class with David Sund beginning Tuesday October 8. The class will meet on six successive Tuesdays (excepting Election Day) from 1 to 3 pm at the Gill Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street in Turners Falls.

David Sund is a well known local painter whose landscapes, florals, and architectural paintings are regularly exhibited at 11 South Gallery in Bernardston. David is the Vice President of the Deerfield Valley Art Association, and has taught semi-annual painting classes at the Gill Montague Senior Center for a number of years. David's work may be viewed on line at 11 South Gallery in Bernardston and on their

You may also experience BPPV when you roll over, get out of bed, or when you look on a high shelf. BPPV is more likely in people over 60.

\* Ménière's disease, which also can give you intermittent hearing loss, a ringing or roaring in the ears, and a feeling of fullness in the ear.

\* Blood-pressure medications and some antibiotics. If you are taking any drugs in these categories and feel off-balance, it's worth discussing with your doctor.

Questions? Send them to [fred@healthygeezers.com](mailto:fred@healthygeezers.com).

website [11southgallery.com](http://11southgallery.com).

The class is open to senior painters of any skill level, seniors who have never painted and would like to start, and painters who would like to work on their own in-progress works with in-class support from David. Attendance will be limited to twelve and materials will be provided.

The fees for the six-session series are \$10 for Gill and Montague seniors, and \$15 for seniors from other towns. You may register by calling the Gill Montague Senior Center at 863-9357.

### DEMERS LANDSCAPING

Fencing - Patios - Walks + Walls Installed - Tree Work  
Loam - Compost - Mulch  
Stump Grinding - Excavating  
Septic Systems Installed  
ESTABLISHED 1970  
[demerslandscaping.com](http://demerslandscaping.com)  
863-3652

on Avenue 1 for over 10 years

Jay K's Liquors

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

Open Mon-Thurs 10am-10pm  
Fri & Sat 10am-11pm • Sun Noon-5pm  
59 Avenue A • Turners Falls  
863-9900

NANCY L. DOLE BOOKS & EPHEMERA



now located at  
20 State Street,  
Bucklandside  
Shelburne Falls  
413-625-9850  
[ndole@crocker.com](mailto:ndole@crocker.com)  
closed Mondays

## WE HEAT FRANKLIN COUNTY

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



(413) 773-3622

## TURNERS FALLS WATER DEPT.

## WILL BEGIN READING METERS

MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 30

## RECYCLE BOTTLES & CANS

Week of September 30 in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

## The Montague Reporter

Published weekly on Thursdays.  
Every other week in July and August.

No paper last week of December.  
**PHONE (413) 863-8666**

Please note new email addresses:  
**editor@montaguereporter.org**  
**ads@montaguereporter.org**  
**bills@montaguereporter.org**  
**circulation@montaguereporter.org**  
**events@montaguereporter.org**  
**info@montaguereporter.org**  
**poetry@montaguereporter.org**  
**subscriptions@montaguereporter.org**

Send address changes to:  
**The Montague Reporter**  
177 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
Advertising and copy deadline is Monday at NOON.

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

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





Compiled by DON CLEGG

The **United Arc of Franklin and Hampshire Counties**, located at 294 Avenue A in Turners Falls, will hold an **open house** on Friday, September 27th, from 4 to 7 p.m. Come enjoy food and drink with friends, tour the beautiful new building, view the displayed local artwork, meet the United Arc's Board of Directors and Staff, hear local politicians share their remarks, and enjoy a ribbon cutting ceremony at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please turn your browser to [www.unitedarc.org](http://www.unitedarc.org).

It's a party, "**An American Girl Party.**" Come and join the fun at the Turners Falls Branch of GSB on Saturday, September 28, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and make sure you bring your American Girl with you. Molly McIntyre is retiring and GSB wants to send her off in fine fashion. Tabby Martinelli, a local

lover of American Girls, will be the hostess of this morning tea and cookies party. Martinelli will share her expertise on skin and hair care for your American Girls, as well as offer up her own creations for any character and any season. Seating will be limited for this unique, first-time event, so please call Christina or Kerri at (413) 863-4316.

Local industrial-era mills, businesses, tenements, and homes were built from the ground up quite literally from the clay of the banks of the Connecticut River right here in Montague City. Come learn about **local brick manufacturing** and architectural styles and designs with brick in Turners Falls at the Great Falls Discovery Center on Saturday, September 28 from 2 to 3 p.m.

The **Swift River Valley Historical Society** in New Salem, MA is having special open hours, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm on Saturday, September 28, to celebrate

Smithsonian Magazine's national Museum Day. Sunday, September 29, is the last open day of the 2013 season, from 1:30 to 4 pm, with a Closing Day "Remembrance" Service in the Prescott Church (on museum property) at 4 pm.

This has been a splendid year for apples, and many with apple trees have falls galore. The Montague Common Hall is offering a **Cider Making Day** on Saturday, September 28 starting at 10 a.m. Bring your own apples and containers. For more information call (413) 367-9923.

Also on September 28, the **Old 78 Fall Festival** returns to Warwick. The festival, held at the Old 78 Farm at 823 Orange Road, is growing year by year, and this year will feature two stages of music as well as championship BBQ, farm goods, and various vendors (last year featured home-made clothing, face painting, a massage table, and henna tattoos), and a bonfire after dark.

This year's bands include regional favorites the Roots of Creation, the Alchemisfits, Girls Guns & Glory, Talking Heads tribute Start Making Sense, Hot Day at the Zoo, Adam Ezra, Wildcat O'Halloran, Melanie & the Blue Shots, and Mr. Noizy

& the Sparkplugs. Gates open at 11 a.m. and entertainment will go from noon to 10 p.m. The event is open to all ages and admission is \$10.

This Monday, September 30, will see the annual **Canal Draw Down** in Turners Falls. The limited-registration, collect-and-release program sponsored by Northfield Mountain and the S.O. Conte Lab was all booked up at the time this paper went to press, but if you're in town, take a look that day at the canal emptied of water for its maintenance.

Come enjoy the art show of "**Light in the Dark**" by Misha Coggeshall-Burr on Saturday, October 5, from 5 to 8 p.m. at The Barn Gallery, 70 Main St., Montague Center. Also enjoy some wine and snacks (featuring garden delights) and a bit of fire if the weather is right. This is a child friendly event.

The North Quabbin **Garlic and Arts Festival** is the place to be on October 5 and 6. Celebrate and be inspired; it's the 15th anniversary of "**The Festival that Stinks,**" consistently rated in the Top Three Local Festivals by the Valley Advocate 'Best Of' readers poll. Celebrate the fully volunteer organized, community revitalizing event and during the weekend

a small plane will take off from Orange's very own airport and drop 1,500 'Garlic and Arts Bucks' from the sky to help everyone enjoy the wonderful wares of the festival exhibitors and support local.

To get to the festival, take Route 2 eastbound to exit 16, or Route 202 from the south, and follow the signs to the main parking area and shuttle lot on the corner of Holtshire and Fairman Roads to catch a free, five-minute ride right to the festival entrance gate. Parking at the festival site is reserved for carpools of three or more or those with handicap tags. Or Hike! Exercise enthusiasts can hike 45 minutes from the shuttle lot through the forest and over the hills to the festival via the Chestnut Hill trails.

Get full directions and travel details at [www.garlicandarts.org/directions/](http://www.garlicandarts.org/directions/). No pets are allowed on the festival site or left in cars. Visit the website at [www.garlicandarts.org](http://www.garlicandarts.org) for the complete 2013 schedules of exhibitors, music, entertainment, kids activities and games, chef demos, renewable energy, local living and healing arts workshops.

Send your local briefs to [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org).

## Director of RiverCulture Town of Montague

The Town of Montague seeks a part-time coordinator to manage an established cultural economic development program in the village of Turners Falls. Director will work with the RiverCulture steering committee to support cultural events and expand programming; create opportunities for local businesses to benefit from cultural activity; implement a marketing program; and maintain a project website.

Bachelors degree and 3 years experience; experience in arts or business administration; experience working with community groups; ability to work independently. Social media, fundraising, and grant writing experience desirable. A grant-funded contract position for the 2014 and 2015 fiscal year; compensation \$20 to \$30 per hour depending on education and experience; no benefits. Flexible schedule, 25 hours per week.

Resume and 3 references to Town Planner, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376. Applications accepted until position is filled; Hiring expected in November. AA/EOE.

Job Description available at [www.turnersfallsriverculture.com](http://www.turnersfallsriverculture.com)

## Town of Montague: Tax Bills Due

A reminder to Town of Montague taxpayers that the first half of the Fiscal 2014 Preliminary Real Estate and Fire District taxes are due by Tuesday, October 1, 2013. Payments received after this date, are subject to 14 per cent interest. To obtain a receipted bill, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and both copies of your bill with your payment.

For the convenience of the Town of Montague residents, you are

able to pay all real estate, district, and personal property bills online. To pay a bill online, go to [www.montague.net](http://www.montague.net), click on Departments, Treasurer/Collector, Online bill payments, then complete each screen to process your payment. It's fast, convenient, and secure.

The office is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday until 6:30. The Town Hall is closed on Friday.

## Madison Applies for Permit to Place Objects on Sidewalk

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

**TURNERS FALLS** – Rodney Madison, of Madison on the Avenue, at 102 Avenue A, applied for a permit to the Montague Board of Selectmen on Monday to place objects on the sidewalk in front of and alongside his store. Since Madison was unable to attend the meeting Monday night, the selectboard moved a decision to next Monday, September 30.

Madison said he felt confident that matters could be worked out with the town regarding the use of the sidewalks. He said he had no problem with being asked to apply for a permit: "It will help both of us [the town and Madison] to understand what can and what cannot be done." He also said he was willing

to buy insurance to offset any potential liability.

Resolving the issue of the planters (see *The Montague Reporter*, September 12) will take another meeting with the Streetscape Committee. Madison again expressed optimism that he and the committee could come to an agreement.

"I think we can resolve the planter issue," he said. "I'm not putting anything into the ground, and it really is only seasonal."

Building Inspector David Jensen, following a request from the selectboard, said that he asked Madison on September 19 to apply for the permit. He said that the aim of the town was "to encourage use of the streets for public engagement."

Jensen said that the reason for the permit request was centered around the "use of public space and public

taste." He stressed that the permit was only for Madison's placement of items along the sidewalk and that it was separate from that of his use of the planters.

A meeting between Madison and the streetscape committee is planned for the near future. Jensen said he felt that the streetscape committee had complicated the matter "by weighing in on hefty political matters with mixed and conflicting results that had resulted in mixed messages to Mr. Madison of approval, disapproval and ambivalence." He said he expects to be able to work with Madison to resolve issues relative to the sidewalk.

Madison, too, said he looks forward to working with Jensen. "I'm fully willing to comply," said Madison.

## Cindy Sheehan To Address Tax Resister Gathering

**WILLIAMSVILLE, VT**—Peace activist and war tax resister Cindy Sheehan will give a presentation on Friday, September 27 between 7:15 and 9 p.m., at Amazing Planet Farm & Justice Center, 218 Depot Road, Williamsville, Vermont, close to Brattleboro (for directions go to <http://www.amazingplanetfarm.com/>). Her talk is titled, "Peace Mom: A Mother's Journey through Heartache and Activism."

Cindy's son Casey was killed in the U.S. war on Iraq. In 2005 she and many others camped outside former President Bush's Texas ranch. On April 4, the 8-year anniversary of the day Casey was killed in action, Cindy began a "Tour de Peace" from his gravesite in Vacaville, CA. This cross-country bicycle trip ended in Washington, DC, on July 3.

Cindy's presentation and the

Sept. 27-29 weekend gathering of war tax resisters and supporters are open to all. The rest of the weekend will look at war tax resisters and the large network of supporters and family members connected to them. For those attending Cindy's Friday evening presentation only, we suggest a donation of \$10 to defray her travel costs. The gathering admission is sliding scale. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.


**Nina's Nook**  
Uniquities, Frivolities & Unnecessariums

125a Avenue A, Turners Falls  
413.834.8800 [ninasnook.com](http://ninasnook.com)

weds 4-6  
thurs 4-6  
fri & sat 1-6

art . craft . design .

**IN GOOD COMPANY**  
SKILLED, INTENTIONAL  
COMPANIONSHIP FOR  
ELDERS AND OTHERS



SITA LANG 413-834-7569  
HOSPICE TRAINED  
CPR CERTIFIED

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE CALL 863-8666

**TE chair and table rentals**

Tammy Young  
owner  
1-413-221-3228 / 413-863-0293  
[Teyoung0201@verizon.net](mailto:Teyoung0201@verizon.net)

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

11 Paradise Parkway, Turners Falls Mass 01376

Summer hours: Mon-Wed 10-6, Thurs-Sun, 10-8

**BOOK MILL**  
440 Greenfield Rd.  
Montague, MA 01351

413-367-9206 [www.montaguebookmill.com](http://www.montaguebookmill.com)

Books you don't need in a place you can't find.

**CopyCat PRINT SHOP**

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

We Specialize In Impossible Deadlines! (monday-friday - 8:30 am to 6 pm)

**27 Years of Making Copies and Still the Original!**

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

180 Main Street, Greenfield • 413-774-3500 • [greenfield@copycatprintshop.com](http://greenfield@copycatprintshop.com)

**BUY, SELL & TRADE**

**Madison On The Ave**

**Arts, Collectibles and the Unexpected**

102 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA  
413.522.7743

**Good Dirt Pottery Studio**

38 Main Street, Montague  
413-367-0155  
[www.gooddirtpottery.com](http://www.gooddirtpottery.com)

**TABLETS!**

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

151 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
413.863.5447  
[www.about-facecomputers.com](http://www.about-facecomputers.com)



*Now Serving*  
**BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER**  
7 days a week

**The WAGON WHEEL RESTAURANT**

Route 2, Gill • 413-863-8210

**GREENFIELD FARMERS COOPERATIVE EXCHANGE**  
Locally Owned Since 1918

269 High Street - Greenfield  
(413) 773-9639

**Local Farmer-Owned**

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

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

[www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com](http://www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com)



# The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

**Editor in Chief**  
Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno

Patricia Pruitt, Associate Editor  
Mike Jackson, Managing Editor

**Editorial Assistants**  
Hugh Corr  
Gloria Kegeles

**Layout**  
Pauline Miller

**Distribution Manager**  
Don Clegg

**Technical Administration**  
About Face Computing

*Founded by*  
Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold  
August, 2002

## The Impending Government Shutdown: Politics At Its Worst

Next Tuesday, unless Congress can come to some sort of agreement on a continuing resolution, the government will shut down.

Last week, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives passed a resolution which will only fund the government if the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act – which they have convinced us all to call “Obamacare” – is delayed by another year.

Since neither the Senate Democrats, nor the President will ever agree to legislation that defunds the healthcare law, it's likely some sort of impasse will continue. The upshot is that the government may very well “shut down.”

It's rather hard to see what this will gain for Americans. It's even harder to see why healthcare for all is such an issue for the right wing.

To be sure, we're not great fans of Obamacare either: we'd like to see a single-payer system, a system such as Veterans' Services, a system such as Medicare, a system that most of the rest of the world uses.

To shut down the government because of a compromise plan that utilizes private health insurance companies to sell health insurance to the otherwise uninsured seems ridiculous. But a shutdown would not simply be ridiculous.

The Congressional Research Service has estimated that a shutdown could have a fairly major impact on an economy that is, at best, fragile. Some estimates put the loss at one-tenth of a percentage point of annualized growth during the fourth quarter, per day.

On the surface it doesn't seem like much, but over ten days it means a full point or more for the GDP. Mark Zandi, chief economist and co-founder of Moody's Analytics, told a congressional committee last week that this much of a loss would cause “significant economic damage.”

This very likely is what the right wing of the Republican Party is really after. An improving economy under President Obama is exactly what they don't want to have happen, since it likely will have an effect on the midterm elections. If the economy does not rebound, the Republicans might.

Obamacare, finally, has less to do with the fight than the Republicans seizing what they perceive as an opportunity to gain a few seats.

We feel this is politics at its very worst.

A shutdown would not affect “critical services,” such as air traffic controllers, the military, or postal delivery. Social security checks will still go out – at least for a while.

This doesn't mean, though, that paychecks will still be going out to those employed in the critical services area. Military personnel will receive IOUs, as will others. Senators Mark Udall, D-Colorado, and Jerry Moran, R-Kansas, last January introduced legislation that would have protected pay for the troops during a shutdown, but House Speaker John Boehner never brought the proposed bill to the floor.

The chairman of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Representative C.W. Young, R-Florida, was quoted by the *Air Force Times* as saying “All military personnel will continue to serve and accrue pay, but will not actually be paid until appropriations are available.”

But if you're planning a trip to a national park – don't. They'll be closed. As will the Smithsonian and other federally-funded museums.

Locally, the Great Falls Discovery Center, which is a state-federal partnership, will be curtailing its activities and offerings. The state interpreters will continue to work, but on the days they are off, no one will be picking up the federal side.

The S. O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Laboratory, also in Turners Falls, will be shuttered and the employees furloughed.

Need a passport? You'll have to wait until those who process the little blue booklets go back to work.

Taxes, of course, will still be collected. That's a Critical Service. The technically private Federal Reserve won't shut down either. But the National Institute of Health will. And those who rely on research funds from this major institution, such as researchers, won't be getting paychecks either.

The U.S. has operated without a budget since 2009 and has avoided a government shutdown with last-minute deals.

It's time for the Republicans to stop playing politics, and learn a thing or two about the responsibility of governance.



KHALIL BENDIB OTHER WORDS.ORG

## Letters to the Editors

### Heads Up: Delays on Millers Falls Road

The Highway Department Superintendent, Tom Bergeron, has advised me that the sewer line work on Millers Falls Road and Industrial Blvd will be starting back up again on Thursday September 26. Expect significant traffic delays on these roads and please try to plan accordingly.

The roadways will be narrowed down to one lane of travel while the project is taking place. The company doing the work, Baltazar, has informed the Highway Superintendent that they are going to keep the work days limited to Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Unless an emergency occurs, or

it is absolutely necessary, no work will be performed on Friday or Sunday. Some work has already been scheduled for at least two Saturdays, and will hopefully be complete by 1 p.m. on these days.

This Saturday, September 28, the water feeding Industrial Boulevard will be shut off for about 2 hours while some necessary work is going to be done on the water main. It is unknown, at this time, when the water will be shut off. If we have any further information, we will pass it on.

Tom has advised me that a company representative from Baltazar will be personally going to all of the

businesses that will be affected by this work and will be letting them know the schedule.

The company has 40 days to complete the project which means we can expect this construction to be going on into early November.

Tom also wished to let everyone know that Millers Falls Road is going to be redone with black top. It will not remain in the current condition it is in now with all the bumps. That is a temporary repair until the project is complete.

Thank you.

– Chief Chip Dodge  
Montague Police Department

### An Open Letter to the GMRSD

Management of the School Committee has confounded us and confused me, as perhaps it has you. I want us to all get on the same page even when we do not agree on everything.

Some of us have believed that the power and control of the School Committee is democratically centralized. I do not.

School Committee members are elected as equal colleagues with other members. We elect the Chairperson and assign her or him the duty to arrange and conduct meetings of the committee and to perform other duties which in no way grant any power more than that of any other member. Often, this is referred to as

“First among Equals.”

When a majority of the Committee votes to direct any member, including the Chairperson, to act on behalf of the committee, that member speaks on behalf of the Committee upon the authority in the vote.

An individual member has only the power conferred by being elected by the citizens. No member has the authority to take any action for the Committee other than administrative duties, such as arranging meetings, events and public functions.

All powers of the School Committee are derived from the people's election. This does not prevent a member from stating his or her

opinion on Committee business and/or behavior, except to the extent that the Open Meeting Law specifies otherwise.

I have insisted that as a duly elected School Committee member I am responsible to my constituents and to the students in the system. I accept the duty to honor my community by acting in an open, transparent and public manner.

Finally it is clear that, contrary to certain allegations, neither I, Ms. Brown nor Mr. Singleton have disrespected the GMRSD, members or officers.

– Marjorie Levenson  
Lake Pleasant

### Thanks for Derby Day Help!

MCTV is thanking so many people in the community for their support of this past Sunday's Montague Soapbox Derby that you will really have to visit the website over the next week to see them all.

Here we thank the many intrepid volunteers who joined the film, operations and logistics crews on Montague Soapbox Derby race day and survived the technical difficulties, including our perennial MCTV

video volunteers who are far too patient with us.

And the articulate announcers Russ, Pat and Michael, the trophy makers Nina Rossi and Joe Landry (who is also our resident engineer and mentor), our Montague Parks and Recreation host, Jon, who set up and cleaned up all weekend, the vendors who cranked out pizza, french fries, hot dogs, ice cream, and beer, and our generous sponsors without whom we could not put on the event.

We are particularly grateful to those sponsors that sent volunteers, sponsored racers and provided equipment and materials: Hale Custom Signs, Sirum's, Silver Screen Design, Greenfield Savings Bank, Kostanski Funeral Home, DJ Greg Stewart, and Easthampton Community TV.

Anne Harding and her merchandise/raffle crew staffed our booth all day.

I have to put in a plug for my husband and daughter, who tracked the miles per hour crouched over a hay bale with the Erving Police Dept's radar gun (I had that job last year).

We especially thank Derby committee member Deb Bourbeau for her tireless volunteer recruitment and for officiating over the race stats, keeping all informed and fielding rude interruptions from the sidelines.

Of course the event would not exist without MCCI Board member and all-around community guy Mik Muller, who provided overall race direction, recruitment, and web and logistics work and MCTV's staff, who are the backbones of the whole operation.

We recognize the hard work that racers from near and far put into their carts and we so appreciate the time they took from their other pursuits to join us on that beautiful day as summer turned into autumn.

We hope that kids, teens and adults in the audience were inspired to make their own gravity-powered carts for some creative and challenging fun.

– Cindy Tarail  
Outreach and Communication  
Coordinator, Montague  
Community Television

## Sign Me Up!

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

## The Montague Reporter

177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**WE WELCOME  
YOUR LETTERS!**

Montague Reporter

177 Ave. A, TF, MA 01376

editor@montaguereporter.org



# More Letters

Our recent coverage of the Turners Falls Streetscape Committee's new planter regulations has gotten quite a response. Here are excerpts from two incoming letters.

- Eds.

## Process, Not Product, For Planters...

The overly-bureaucratic streetscape group seems to visualize Turners as a quaint little settlement that should be trapped in the Victorian era. For them, cute little posies are to be the only function of the genteel planters, and their hastily enacted regulations were meant to be the final word on the matter.

The committee's narrow focus on beauty as they define it could unintentionally result in stifling business and crimping the appeal of downtown for tourists ....

Mostly, all the planter decisions seem to have been made by four town employees....

The TFSC regulations should be immediately rescinded and revoked – and the composition of the TFSC should be augmented to reflect an aesthetic that will promote immigration to Montague, commerce & tourism in the downtown. No planter “regulations” should be adopted until the TFSC becomes more heterogeneous and opens its ears to the community.

The forthcoming new coordinator of River Culture should be added. The Historical Commission should have a seat; the Montague Business Association; the Great Falls

Discovery Center; and the Montague Cultural Council should be on the TFSC to represent science, music and the arts, and the humanities, as well as a downtown resident or two; perhaps other town resident(s) with appropriate expertise.

For the content of specific planters, the TFSC could reach out to the GCC permaculture group, GCC sculpture classes, UMass Landscape Architecture classes, pro-senior growers, and pro-indigenous agriculturalists, to name a few possibilities.

In order to keep downtown from dying, the use of planters must be advanced from the parochial consideration of “one planter, and the one store that it is in front of.”

Downtown planters should be viewed holistically and revitalized to supplement and support our four main walk-to-and-through spots, namely Nina's Nook, Gary's Coins and Antiques, Madison on the Avenue, and LOOT.

Our downtown has been in a decline since the mills disappeared more than 50 years ago, and new approaches are desperately called for to help us evolve.

The current TFSC proce-

dures and policy would drive more nails into the coffin of downtown with all its boarded-up storefronts. There must be a broader TFSC group that could come up with new ideas and a novel approach to refurbish the Avenue.

With a little bit of networking and outreach, the central downtown planters could be revitalized into some sort of Pesky (Peskeomskut) minipark that would, as Neil Young Cloaca wrote last week, “entice the meandering motorist to stop, walk around, and see what is going on.”

Do we want to grow to resemble regional meccas like Noho, or will we be content to shrink into a well-manicured graveyard?

I say, “Let's refurbish the Avenue” with low- and no-cost additions to the central 23 planters (13 on the east and 10 on the west) of Avenue A, between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Lest you think I'm a complete anarchist, let me conclude by saying that the planters in front of Karma and the Shea seem perfect, as is.

– John Furbish  
Turners Falls

## ... Volunteers Just Trying To Enforce Guidelines

I've been trying to think of what the recent headline about the planters (“Streetscape Committee Swoops Down on Madison on the Avenue” 9/12/13), and the following week's editorial cartoon, reminded me of. Finally, it came to me. In high school, there was an alternative student newspaper called *The Weed*, where earnest young journalists, including myself, would write stories about the oppressive actions of “the Man” that were heavy on drama and short on facts.

I've been involved with the Streetscape Program since its inception (only recently stepping back as Christa Snyder steps up – thank you, Christa) and I have loved how the town has supported the gardeners with information and concrete resources with few restrictions, even when some would have liked more uniformity along the avenue. Plastic flowers, army figurines and white picket fencing have all made an appearance in the planters, illustrating the eclectic flavor of our village and allowing the gardeners freedom of artistic expression.

Because the [TFSC] has relied on a dwindling volunteer base, one of the things long overdue... was to write up some common-sense guidelines about planter use that would clarify their purpose and things they are not intended for, such as commer-

cial or political advertising.

I am one of the people who has enjoyed Rodney Madison's ever-changing displays in the planter in front of his shop, but also knew that there was a lot of feedback coming in to the town about it – some supportive, some not.

In a conversation with Rodney, he and I acknowledged that often when someone pushes the envelope, it prompts policies to get clarified, which can be a good thing. In the many conversations and a preliminary meeting around the issue, I observed that everyone acknowledged and appreciates the incredible energy and attention that he has brought to this corner of the avenue.

At the same time, the planters aren't the property of the businesses that abut them, but of the town. And the town has many considerations to balance, which many don't have reason to consider. The suggestion that the town is not supportive of artistic expression is laughable, given the enormous investment that it has made for years in supporting the arts and in building a creative community.

The town has not told the gardeners that they cannot put any artwork or interesting objects in the planters, but simply that the plants must remain the focus, things should be safe (eg: no saw blades), and the planters shouldn't be

used to advertise merchandise or political beliefs. Pretty reasonable guidelines. And other avenues for displays remain, which include permits for temporary art installations on public property.

A few things bothered me about the paper's coverage of this issue. One is the suggestion that prior to Rodney tending the planter that it was filled with trash. The truth is, before Rodney opened his store, Carriage House Designs was tending the planter, and years before that, it was none other than *The Montague Reporter*, so while no one can compete with the attention that someone who is there all day can provide, the planter has been tended for many years now.

What has bothered me the most about the tone of the headline and the cartoon, is that it set up an “Us vs Them” scenario, which I see as counterproductive and unhelpful.

I love living here and being part of a diverse community of new-comers and old-timers. I think that for the most part, we are moving forward as a community with respect for each other, but it often requires that we stretch a little. There will be more opportunities for discussion around this issue, and, as always, the Streetscape Committee welcomes new participants.

– Anne Jemas  
Turners Falls

## GUEST EDITORIAL

## Franklin County Needs Real Suicide Prevention Programs

By GARRY L. EARLES, LICSW

In the recent past, Franklin County experienced the suicide deaths of two of its youth. No doubt there were many more attempts. Such information is not usually publicly available due to the sensitive nature of suicide and its impact on family and friends. It is an issue, though, that demands our attention, one that can no longer be ignored.

And, while “bullycide” (a suicide associated with bullying that became the public face of bullying) continues to generate press coverage (see the front page article in *The Greenfield Recorder* of September 14, 2013), the real overarching issue has always been and remains, child and adolescent mental health exemplified by youth suicide. Yet, tragically, this preventable situation is not only downplayed, it is ignored by those who should know better and be working to institute prevention programs:

- As a community member of the Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD) Bullying Task Force in 2010, I inquired as to whether or not the district had a suicide prevention program. Despite repeated requests for an answer, not even a simple yes or no was proffered. The end result was a bullying policy

that took no notice of youth suicide and made no comment or provision whatsoever concerning, or even considering, a suicide prevention program as part of a comprehensive bullying policy. It seemed clear that the generation of the mandated bullying policy report to the state took precedence.

- As a member of Greenfield's 4SC (Safe Schools Smart Schools Coalition) group, I've raised the prevention program issue there as well. School officials, who have attended the meetings, defended themselves, as did the GMRSD (“we take care of these kids”), commenting that clinical staff are on top of the issue. Being available after the fact to counsel students (“post-vention”) is not sufficient and certainly does not qualify as any sort of prevention program.

- Over the past three summers (2011 -2013), the Collaborative for Educational Services (Northampton, MA) has held a professional development academy for Franklin and Hampshire County educators. In those years there were over 100 offerings. None addressed student mental health. As local educators were on the academy committee, I approached the GMRSD representative about the lack of any mental health offerings. I was met with stone-cold silence.

- Over the past many years I have attempted to impress upon institutions of higher learning the need for prospective teachers (i.e. those in the certification programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels) to be required to take at least a one-semester course in basic child and adolescent mental health, a glaring omission in their required educational curriculum in light of today's classroom realities.

Although GCC sponsors the early childhood mental health roundtable and awards degrees in early childhood education, human services and nursing, they have repeatedly rebuffed efforts to offer such a course or to schedule appropriate workshops on the topic via its continuing education division. To be clear, suicide is THE critical mental health issue with known antecedents such as depression. In the United States, suicide is the THIRD leading cause of death in the 10-19 year age range.

As a clinical social worker with specific expertise in child and adolescent mental health and accompanying issues, I know only too well the devastating effects of youth suicide. I've worked with suicidal youth and their families, counseled school districts on bullying and suicide prevention and have presented workshops on both topics.

Although suicide associated with bullying (“bullycide”) continues to attract significant attention, declaring a specific cause and effect link between being bullied and committing suicide is problematic. Although youth suicide garners little attention it, rather than bullying, is a much more preventable situation. Frankly, I'm at a loss as to how to enlighten and work with those who continue to ignore this issue. Despite repeated efforts to do so in a conducive, behind-the-scenes manner, ears are deaf and doors remain shut.

While anti-bullying programs cost thousands of dollars and way more often than not are ineffective, suicide is preventable.

Resources and programs are free for the asking and can also be downloaded on-line. See SAMHSA: Suicide Prevention Toolkit for High Schools - <http://tinyurl.com/samhsa-preventing>. Another source is the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention ([www.afsp.org](http://www.afsp.org)); see their pages on Role in Prevention and Resources for Schools.

There are, unfortunately, many myths about suicide that continue to be perpetuated by lay and professional persons alike. Myths such as “if you talk about suicide it makes things worse,” and that if “you prevent it now they will only do it some

place else” have been debunked by credible research. Many clinicians today are at a loss as to what to do in the event a suicide occurs and are remiss in performing a suicide assessment with incoming clients.

Sadly, the media continues to sensationalize suicide. It's time for Our Community, and everyone else's communities, to step up to the plate and consciously and directly address child and adolescent mental health issues, especially that of youth suicide.

Let me be clear here. My intention in writing this is to shed light on this critical issue, not to embarrass or to demean any individual, agency or school district. That “this secret” continues to be kept is what needs to change. For those who think it's one of those “It couldn't happen here events,” it already has.

My condolences to those who have lost a loved one to suicide and my continued good thoughts to those who have survived their own attempts.

And, please, if you are considering suicide or if you know of someone who is, talk to a friend, a school counselor or other trustworthy person. Please try to talk to someone. And to those who are not - be available, reach out, listen, make connections.

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

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

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

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

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

Montague Mini Storage | Mike Fuller - owner  
**The Best Hiding Place in Town**  
48 Randall Road | 413-863-4680

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



## This Saturday: Three Chances To Shred in Greenfield

**GREENFIELD** – The Greenfield TRIAD / “Seniors and Law Enforcement Together” (SALT) Council, in partnership with the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office, Franklin Sheriff’s Office, and Pro-Shred, Inc. are sponsoring a “Community Shred Event” to be held on Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Greenfield Guiding Grange Hall, at 401 Chapman Street.

This three-hour event will be open to all Franklin County community members. This is for residential shredding, not open to businesses.

Franklin County residents are welcome to bring as many boxes of documents as they would like. Documents such as old bills, credit card information, cancelled checks or any materials that may have personal identifying information can be shredded. All documents will be shredded on-site.

Please join us in putting a dent in identify theft! For further information you can call Chris Geffin at the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office, (413) 437-5747 or Karen McCormick at Greenfield TRIAD at (413) 772-0306.



Rebel Base playing at last year’s Eclective

By DANIEL HALES

**GREENFIELD** – The 4th Annual Greenfield Arts Eclective – a day-long celebration of local music, theater, literature, indie record labels, artists and vendors – will take place this Saturday, September 28. The Eclective comes in two parts: from 2 to 8 p.m. in the Greenfield Court Square/Town Common, and from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Arts Block.

On the Common, the New Renaissance Players will present scenes from their new production of “Death of a Salesman.” Featured readers include fiction writers Jediah Berry and Corwin Ericson, and poets Lisa Beskin, Karen Skolfield, Ingrid Steblea, Christopher Sawyer-Launcan, and Patricia Pruitt.

Featured music will range from the anthemic indie rock band Fiesta Brava to the musical saw of Violet Walker. Independent presses, record labels, artists, craftspeople, and vendors will set up booths to display and sell their wares.

The first part of the event is all FREE, thanks to a Greenfield Local Cultural Council grant.

The Eclective will culminate with a “Velvet Goldmine” party at The Arts Block: local bands covering the great glam bands of the ‘70s.

The lineup includes: Sandy Bailey and The Spiders from Mars, as David Bowie; Daniel Hales, and the frost heaves. as Lou Reed & The Velvet Underground; The Original Cowards as Marc Bolan and T Rex; Rebel Base as Iggy Pop and The Stooges; Dylan Kingsolver and friends as The New York Dolls; Opel as Roxy Music; and Nott The Hoople as Mott The Hoople.

DJ Glitter will spin glam-rock-gold before, after, and between bands. This part is \$5 in advance, or \$8 at the door, proceeds to benefit next year’s Eclective.

This year’s event was curated by DJ Selah. For the full schedule and additional details, see facebook.com/events/175370239304110/.

## Habitat for Humanity: New Volunteer Coordinator, New Opportunities to Volunteer!

Bill Gemmell has recently been welcomed as the Volunteer Coordinator for Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Bill has a background of over 20 years in residential building and remodeling, mainly in the Southern Vermont area around Brattleboro, as a self-employed contractor. After moving here four years ago with his wife, he began to volunteer on Habitat builds and has grown to thoroughly enjoy the process and the people involved.

Located in Florence and serving Hampshire and Franklin Counties, Habitat provides affordable homes

for deserving families in the region who qualify.

The ability to bring home ownership to those who might not otherwise be able to afford it, is a prime motivator to volunteer. Gratitude, camaraderie, and friendships abound as people from diverse backgrounds work together to make dreams come true.

Since Habitat is largely staffed by volunteers, there is always a need to add to our base of skilled and unskilled people. Positions exist, not only in construction, but also for people with administrative, clerical, and computer skills.

One of our main goals at this time is to develop a base of skilled volunteers with some construction or DIY experience to serve as Site Supervisors and Crew Leaders for our builds. We need people who have experience with knowledge of technique, site planning, protocols, and the steps involved to build a home in order to direct and train our enthusiastic, but sometimes unknowledgeable, volunteers.

If you have any interest in helping to promote the growth of this incredible venture, please contact Bill at (413) 586-5430 or at [volunteer@pvhabitat.org](mailto:volunteer@pvhabitat.org).

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

## Substance in Road Determined To Be Soda

**Monday, 9/16**

1:41 a.m. [redacted] was arrested and charged with consuming alcohol on a public way; transporting/carrying an alcoholic beverage as a minor; and resisting arrest.

5:54 p.m. Neighbor disturbance on Central Street. Investigated.

**Tuesday, 9/17**

12:39 p.m. Caller reporting that his girlfriend’s vehicle was vandalized with bread and ketchup, presumably at their Eleventh Street residence. Advised of options.

4:20 p.m. Complaint of loud music coming from vehicles near Second Street basketball court. Peace restored.

8:37 p.m. Malfunctioning traffic lights at Avenue A and Seventh Street. Dick Clough advised.

10:22 p.m. Odor investigation on Church Street.

**Wednesday, 9/18**

1:01 a.m. Call reporting possible drug violations/grow operation at a Turners Falls residence. Referred to an officer.

5:44 a.m. Two calls regarding an ongoing problem with a vehicle being driven recklessly at high speeds on Davis Street and surrounding roads. Services rendered.

8:36 a.m. Shoplifting at F.L. Roberts. Report taken.

2:09 p.m. Two calls reporting a loose pit bull in the vicinity of Sheffield Elementary School and Scotty’s Convenience Store. Dog located but evaded capture. Owner spoken to.

2:43 p.m. Fight in progress at Avenue A and Eleventh Street. One female victim identified; same declined medical attention. Report taken, including witness testimony.

3:25 p.m. Smoke investigation near the old Railroad Salvage on Power Street. Three juvenile parties spoken to; campfire extinguished.

5:25 p.m. A thirty-two year old male was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery and threatening to commit a crime.

6:10 p.m. Work clothing stolen by a party at Franklin Emergency Center. Report taken.

11:32 p.m. Patron reported wallet, keys, and cell phone stolen while unattended in a booth at the Rendezvous. Report taken.

**Thursday, 9/19**

1:44 a.m. Following a motor vehicle accident which brought down power lines and forced the temporary closure of Greenfield Road at Sherman Drive, [redacted] of Montague was arrested and charged with speeding; marked lanes violation; operating to endanger; and operating under the influence of liquor (third offense).

8:50 a.m. Report of insufficient signage at road closure on Greenfield Road. Dick Clough advised.

1:44 p.m. Aggressive pit bull reported outside of front door of Carlisle Avenue residence; caller could not leave house. Dog pursued by police and animal control; eventually caught and transported to kennel. Owner notified.

7:30 p.m. Threatening/harassment near Power-town Apartments. Services rendered.

10:20 p.m. Officer requested to come to residence and view harassing Facebook posts. Advised of options.

**Friday, 9/20**

1:13 p.m. Violent domestic dispute on Fourth Street. Parties spoken to; statements taken; advised of options.

5:05 p.m. Report of female operating a small sports car speeding up and down the alley near the Pizza House. Unable to locate.

6:14 p.m. Report of drug activity near the bleachers on Second Street. Referred to an officer.

7:15 p.m. Smoke reported near Carnegie Library. Referred to Turners Falls Fire Department, who identified source as a nearby cook fire. Residents advised of cook fire procedures.

9:03 p.m. Officer flagged down and advised of kids running and lying in the road near Airport Curve. Unable to locate.

9:53 p.m. Summons issued for restraining order violation on Fourth Street.

10:29 p.m. Possible drug activity reported on Fourth Street.

**Saturday, 9/21**

12:45 a.m. Suspicious auto on Fourth Street; caller reported witnessing one occupant urinate in road. Responding officer determined that the

substance in the road was not urine, but rather soda. Vehicle sent on way, destination Shelburne.

9:56 a.m. Verbal warning to father for allowing son to practice for soapbox derby in roadway.

12:55 p.m. Report of motor vehicle traveling at dangerous speeds up and down alley between Second and First Streets. Unable to locate.

2:57 p.m. Report of group of kids riding the rails on the Eleventh Street bridge on bikes; caller asked them to move on; was given the finger. Last seen heading toward Cumberland Farms.

**Sunday, 9/22**

8:45 a.m. Male witnessed placing square wooden objects into trash cans along L Street. Services rendered.

2:41 p.m. Report of sick raccoon in Spring Street barn growling, hissing, and charging at caller. Unable to locate.

4:55 p.m. Complaint regarding speeding cars and kids on scooters on Park Street.

5:24 p.m. Single vehicle hit-and-run accident on Turners Falls Road; damage to Franklin County Bike Way sign. Witness reported that operator may have been texting. DPW notified.

5:43 p.m. Summons issued to two minors who were spotted on the roof of Hillcrest Elementary School.

10:06 p.m. Assault of one, possibly two people reported at Cumberland Farms. Investigated.

### Nichols Vision

Now in Turners Falls

Free, “no pressure” consultations  
Bring your prescription in today!



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

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

### LAMORE LUMBER POST & BEAM BUILDINGS



Sheds · Barns · Garages  
Additions · Screen Porches · Kits  
Red, Brown, New Black  
and Hemlock Mulch

25 Year Guarantee  
We Custom Build on Your Property  
[www.post-beam.com](http://www.post-beam.com)  
E-mail: [Lamore@post-beam.com](mailto:Lamore@post-beam.com)  
Phone (413) 773-8388  
724 Greenfield Road, Rte 5&10  
Deerfield, MA 01342

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

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
UPTON-MASSAMONT REALTORS

Donald J Mailloux  
GRI  
Recognized Top Producer  
(413) 665-3771 x104 Office  
(413) 834-1524 Cell  
(413) 423-3810 Home  
[don@cbumr.com](mailto:don@cbumr.com) E-mail  
4 Elm Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373  
[www.cbuptown-massamont.com](http://www.cbuptown-massamont.com)

Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated.

**LOOT**  
found + made

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

413-863-9500 · [loottheshop.com](http://loottheshop.com)  
62 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Your Local  
**STIHL Dealer**  
413-367-2481

**Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.**

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

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

Serving Home Grown  
Farm-inspired Food & Drink

**H & O**

44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301  
Ph 413 774 3150 | [hopeandolive.com](http://hopeandolive.com)

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

PIZZA, GRINDERS,  
DINNERS, SALADS, BURGERS

[www.turnersfallspizza.com](http://www.turnersfallspizza.com)  
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls ❖ (413) 863-8000

**Diemand Farm** Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell

Fresh Dressed Chicken  
Every Two Weeks

Check out our  
catering menu

Farm Store Hours:  
Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

“Come See What’s Cooking!”



# Greg Kilmer Speeds to Victory at the Soabox Derby: Emily Williams Wins Kids' Division; Kyle Kirkland is Teen Winner

By CHRIS SAWYER-LAUCANNO

**TURNERS FALLS** – On a Sunday tailor made for racing, 34 contestants roared down the hill on First Street in their snazzy home-made soapbox carts with high hopes of claiming a trophy. Eleven did.

The contest in the adult division was extremely close, with less than two seconds separating the first and third place winners. Taking first place in this division was Greg Kilmer of Sharon, Connecticut who beat out hometown racers Joe Landry and Greg Williams. Kilmer, whose peak speed was 38 miles per hour, ran the course in 51.6 seconds. Landry came in a second behind Kilmer at 52.6 seconds. His top speed was 37 miles per hour. Williams, who also reached 37 miles

per hour, made it down the hill in 53.1 seconds.

Emily Williams, 10, of Turners Falls won the kids' division with a time of 49.6 seconds and a top speed of 23 miles per hour. Andrew Nordell, 12, of Greenfield, came in less than a second behind Williams at 50 seconds, but managed to peak at 24 miles per hour. Ethan Jackson, 10, from Turners Falls, was the third place winner, with a time of 53.2 seconds and a top speed of 23 miles per hour.

In the teen division, Kyle Kirkland, 12, of Greenfield, who chose to race as a teen rather than as a kid, won with a time of 64.8 seconds. His top speed was 33 miles per hour. Leverett's Nick Karsten, 16, came in a second behind Kirkland to win the second place trophy.

He achieved a speed of 32 miles per hour. Ivy Muller, 13, of Greenfield won third place with a time of 75.8 seconds and a top speed of 29 miles per hour.

John Zellmann, of Turners Falls, won Joe Landry's custom "Landry Precision Award" for his fire-engine based cart design. New Salem's Dave "Bones" Larue was the recipient of Nina Rossi's custom "Rubber Chicken Award" for his unique industrial cart design.

Now in its fourth year, the Montague Soapbox Derby had many racers come from out of state, including four of the organizers of the Sharon, CT, race, and one racer from Brattleboro, VT. This year the race committee followed several suggestions to remediate the long delays experienced in the past by



Race organizer Mik Muller hands Emily Williams, first-place winner of the kids' division, her trophy.

installing a tow-up lane so carts could continually be brought back up to the top of the hill as the race

continued on. All in all, it was another great day of gravity racing in Turners Falls.



Racers set up on the ramp on top of First Street.



First and second place winners Greg Kilmer (l) and Joe Landry (r).

## Turners Falls Wins Home Opener, 36 – 20

By MATT ROBINSON

**TURNERS FALLS** – The Turners Falls Indians defeated the Ludlow Lions 36 – 20 on Friday, September 20th in their home opener. The Indians began where they left off last week in Belchertown. They marched down the field on their first possession and Jalen Sanders caught a Malcolm Smith pass for a touchdown.

Soon the score was 14-nothing when Trent Bourbeau rushed for a touchdown of his own and Turners was on their way to another lopsided victory.

The hometown crowd expected another rout and so did the players. But Schoolboy football is a funny thing. Sometimes, emotions can change the entire game. With the Indians driving up the field, a chop block penalty erased a first down and snuffed out their momentum completely. Turners gave the ball back and the Lions moved back up the field and scored a touchdown of their own. So instead of a three touchdown lead, the game was 14 – 8.

"I don't know what to tell you." Coach Chris Lapointe said after the game. "We were flat. There were



Offense meets defense as Turners battles to victory.

several times in the game when both the players and the coaches were flat."

But the Tribe wasn't flat for long. Coach Lapointe noticed that the Lion defense was back on their heels. "Keep it up. Keep the ball moving." He called from the sidelines. And Turners ran a rarely seen no huddle offense. They quickly moved up the field which culminated

ed in a Malcolm Smith keeper into the endzone. Turners went into the locker room with a comfortable 20

– 8 lead.

Turners added to their lead in the third quarter. Capitalizing on a Ludlow fumble, Turners moved more than 60 yards and Smith found an open Jalen Sanders who ran in for the score. That increased the lead, 28 – 8.

But as coach Lapointe lamented, his team played flat again. The Lions took the ball into the endzone

on the very next series, making the score 28 - 14. Turners was unable to get a first down on the next possession and was forced to punt. Much to the dismay of the home crowd, Ludlow ran the punt into the endzone. And the score was now 28 – 20.

But the high powered Turners offense answered. On the very next series, the tribe did what they do best, they scored. The confidence was back and the boys in blue calmly marched down the field and into the endzone.

And the defense did their part. With Ludlow forced to pass, the defensive backs could concentrate on the receivers and the line could concentrate on the quarterback. This combination led to a late game interception by Malcolm Smith.

Although Turners played flat at times, they still managed to score 36 points. This is a testament to their juggernaut running game and the hard blocking of the line. Trent

Bourbeau had another amazing day, rushing for 173 yards. But he wasn't the only ball carrier. Four different players ran the ball, three of whom averaged more than seven and a half yards per carry. This ground attack forced the linebackers to play the run and freed Malcolm Smith to throw for 118 yards and two touchdowns. The Ludlow defense was unable to key on any one player and as a result, the Turners Falls scoring, like their running game, was a team effort. Jalen Sanders and Malcolm each scored two touchdowns and each had a pair of two pointers. Trent Bourbeau added a touchdown of his own. Melvin Moreno kicked in two extra points.

On the other side of the ball, the defense bent but they didn't break. They played especially well against the pass. Melvin Moreno deflected a pass, Malcolm Smith had an interception and Tyler Charboneau made a very important play, he blocked a punt.

The team plays a home game against Frontier this Friday the 19th. Next week, they play at Athol.

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

**SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CO. INC.**  
SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

**Complete Masonry Supply**  
Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more. **Ideal**

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

**BAKER Office Supply**

20% off your Back to School purchase with coupon

310 MAIN STREET, GREENFIELD | (413) 774-2385  
WWW.BAKEROFFICESUPPLY.COM

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

**Booska's Flooring**

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member The Flooring Network. **Tile Lino Carpet**

**Mary Lou Emond**  
Certified Residential Specialist

**COHN & COMPANY**  
Real Estate Agency

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

413-773-1149 x142 • CELL: 413-772-9279  
EMAIL: MARYLOU@COHNANDCOMPANY.COM

**Peter Waters Painting Services**

Interior/Exterior  
Custom Residential  
Fully Insured

Home: (978) 544-6534  
Cell: (413) 461-5172  
Wendell, MA  
peterwaters@gis.net

**Serenity Home Organizing**  
decluttering, downsizing, deep cleaning

Jill Bromberg  
Montague, MA  
413-367-9959

clear your space, clear your mind



GILL from page 1

built in 1736 and opened within four years as a tavern by George Howland. "For many years thereafter, the Howlands kept public house for the convenience of the boatmen traveling the river."

Another landmark is the impressive three-story white clapboard house on the northwest corner of the intersection of Route 2 and Main Road, referred to as D. Neils Somerberger's house. Somerberger located in Riverside in about 1870 and was famous for a variety of patent medicine, including *Arrum Triphyllum*. He also built a sanatorium to house his patients.

Other historic features of the area include the stone marking the slaughter of hundreds of Native Americans in a refugee encampment at the hands of a colonial militia led by Captain William Turner in the dawn hour of May 19, 1676, a local turning point in the bloody regional conflict known as King Phillip's War, or Metacom's Rebellion.

The spring-fed Heal All Brook is noted as a source of drinking water for the district, long reputed to have restorative or healing qualities.

Stoughton Farm, just up Main Road from Riverside, was once regarded as a model farm, which attracted many visitors to the area. The French King Bridge, buildings associated with the former Turners Falls Lumber Company, and the Red Bridge abutments with their famous armored mudballs would all be listed in the historic designation.

Shoemaker said work preparing the application for the Massachusetts Historical Commission would be paid for by grant funding from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments; Bonnie Parsons would conduct the

architectural survey with help from local volunteers.

The selectboard will discuss the proposal at their next meeting, and residents with questions or concerns are invited to attend.

#### Police Without Borders

Chief Hastings said the police chiefs of Franklin County are hoping to enact a countywide mutual aid program that would allow any uniformed, on-duty patrolman to act in a law enforcement situation across town lines. If an officer, traveling in his or her cruiser across town lines, encounters "an egregious situation," that officer would legally be allowed to take action or make an arrest in another county town.

Hastings said this policy would be particularly useful for officers transporting people to Greenfield to the

to give the town borrowing authority to purchase a new dumptruck, plow and sander. On September 10, in a turnout of 77 voters out of a possible pool of 1080 residents registered to vote, the debt exclusion proposal failed on a vote of 38 in favor, 39 opposed. The town sought authority to spend up to \$155,000 to replace a 1990 dumptruck with over 8,000 hours of hard use.

Ann Banash said, "We're going to need a new truck. There's no question about it." She proposed bringing the issue back to the next special or annual town meeting, and budgeting money to pay for it.

Town administrative assistant Ray Purington said, "My hope, and my fear, is that it doesn't end up costing us more now."

Highway superintendent Mick LaClaire will price



The Old Red House, Gill's oldest house, dates to 1736.

hospital or the courthouse. Now, if a person being transported to one of these destination "flips out" in Greenfield, transporting officers are supposed to rely on Greenfield police to take action, Hastings said.

The selectboard endorsed the proposal, following similar action from Deerfield, Montague and Bernardston. Hastings said the agreement is modeled on a similar effort pioneered by law enforcement agencies in Berkshire County.

#### Truck Dumped

The selectboard ruefully reviewed options in the wake of the recent one vote defeat of a debt exclusion election

the cost of needed repairs, including repairs to the radiator, that may be needed to keep the old truck roadworthy during the upcoming winter months.

#### Heat & Sewer

Bart Bales, an energy efficiency expert hired to conduct a survey of energy efficiency upgrades that may be advisable in the town hall, Slate Library, and the Riverside municipal building, has turned in a preliminary report, detailing possible improvements to the heating system and building envelope of town hall.

Energy retrofits at the library may be complicated by the historic preservation

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

## Metal Detector Arouses Suspicion

**Tuesday, 9/17**  
5:20 a.m. Suspicious motor vehicle on Center Road. Checked out OK.  
8:30 a.m. Firearms issue on Boyle Road. Under investigation.

**Wednesday, 9/18**  
12 p.m. Suspicious person on Boyle Road. Subject was metal detecting.  
2:15 p.m. Reported gunshots heard near French King Highway and Pisgah Mountain Road.  
2:40 p.m. 911 misdial from Main Road business. All OK.

4:10 p.m. Motor vehicle accident in the Elementary School parking lot. Under investigation.  
4:40 p.m. Medical assistance in Lower Fields at Northfield Mount Hermon.  
6:50 p.m. Dog reported lost from Center Road.  
**Thursday, 9/19**  
8:20 a.m. Tractor-trailer unit stuck on Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. Assisted same.  
10 a.m. Located missing dog from Center Road on Main Road. Notified owners.  
6 p.m. Elementary school for a possible situation with

past employee.  
**Friday, 9/20**  
2:45 p.m. Tractor trailer unit stuck on Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. Assisted same.  
3:20 p.m. Debris reported on French King Highway in the area of the boat ramp.  
10:35 p.m. Suspicious motor vehicle reported on the Northfield Mount Hermon campus.  
**Saturday, 9/21**  
5:20 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with domestic situation in their town.

needs of that uninsulated cinderblock building. It is not likely that changes to the exterior of the library would be recommended – but the possibility of removing the drop ceiling to expose the original ceiling and balcony was discussed. Bales has not yet completed his report on the Riverside building.

The selectboard will schedule a round table discussion with the energy commission and Bales in the coming weeks, to consider next steps. The town has approximately \$135,000 remaining to spend on energy saving measures from a recent Green Communities grant from the Department of Energy Resources. The state will have to sign off on any recommendations by the town to spend those funds.

In the wake of Montague's recent decision at town meeting to raise the sewer rate for Gill from \$5.66 to \$5.75 per thousand gallons (a 3.24% hike), the selectboard, acting as sewer commissioners, will act soon in a public meeting to raise the rates for the Riverside district's 104 users to meet the cost of Montague's rate hike. Sewage from Riverside is piped under the Connecticut River to be treated in Montague.

The selectboard hiked the rates 58.8% last year, to cover an increasing deficit in the sewer district's balance of payments.

Still, Riverside resident Nancy Griswold said, "Our sewer bills are low, certainly not overpriced. It's so nice

not to have to worry about a septic system."

#### Other Business

The board accepted, with regret, the resignation of Carlene Millette, joint clerk for the zoning board, planning board, board of health and conservation commission. Budgeted at six hours a week, Millette worked a total of 99 hours in FY'12, Purington said, and 167 hours in FY'13, but resigned due to competing needs of her fulltime job.

Purington resisted the idea of cutting the number of budgeted hours the joint clerk would work in future, saying the new open meeting law had made the job more onerous, with posting requirements for agendas and minutes, and the clerk would have to be able to respond to the varying needs of the boards on a project by project basis.

Steve Hussey, director of the Four Winds School, a tenant of the Riverside municipal building, was scheduled to discuss lease arrangements with the board on Monday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, but failed to appear at the designated time.

Four Winds School, an independent middle school that has operated out of that building for a little more than a decade, had requested and received rent relief from the board in recent years due to declining enrollment. Hussey reported recently that 10 students are enrolled at Four Winds this year.

#### ZONING from page 1

original permit was held.

On Monday, September 23, the State Department of Public Health eliminated 21 applicants for medical marijuana dispensary licenses. Another company withdrew. In Franklin County only one of five applicants, Fotia's Inc, failed to advance to Phase Two, leaving six viable companies competing for five licenses. According to the state the six are: A New Leaf, Inc., Baystate Alternative Health Care, Franklin Holistics Specialty Care, Inc., JM Farm's Patient Group Inc., MR Absolute Medical Resources Inc. and Patriot Care Corporation. Ramsey said that so far no particular company had indicated specific interest in coming to Montague.

According to DPH Commissioner Cheryl Bartlett most of the applicants who were not selected for the second phase had incomplete applications or a lack of sufficient capital. Final applications for dispensaries will be approved in January 2014. Once a license is approved, it would take a minimum of 120 days for a dispensary to open. A \$30,000 nonrefundable application fee is required for Phase Two.

A meeting for Phase 2 applicants is scheduled for October 10 in Somerville, when DPH will address questions on this next and final application phase.

72% of Montague voters approved the medical marijuana referendum on the November 2012 ballot.

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

413-256-6217  
fine instruments  
bought and sold  
repaired and restored  
**Fretted Instrument Workshop**  
49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

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

**Great Rates, Fully Insured!**  
**Greenfield Co-operative Bank**  
A Great Financial Partner  
**BestLocalBank.com**  
Reach All Locations 772-0293  
Greenfield • Northfield • Sunderland  
MEMBER FDIC  
MEMBER SIF

**HK** | **Power Town Apartments**  
152 Avenue A  
P.O. Box 48  
Turners Falls, MA  
413-863-9433  
professionally managed by:  
**HallKeen Management, Inc.**  
rental office on the corner of Ave. A & 4th St.  
**Sharon Cottrell**  
Property Manager

**REAL PICKLES**  
Naturally Fermented & Raw  
Available at  
Old Depot Gardens,  
Upmngil, and Food City!  
www.realpickles.com  
(413)774-2600 Greenfield, MA

**mww**  
Montague WebWorks . com  
make the web work for your business.  
**michael muller** 28 Center Street  
owner montague, ma 01351  
413.320.5336 info@montaguwebworks.com

**DILLON CHEVROLET INC.**  
54 Main Street  
P.O. Box 729  
Greenfield, MA 01302  
**RON SICARD**  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE  
Bus. Phone (413) 773-3678  
Fax (413) 774-5746

**CopyCat PRINTSHOP**  
up-to-the-minute-technology  
old-fashioned personal service  
**27 YEARS OF MAKING COPIES AND STILL THE ORIGINAL!**  
• full color offset printing  
• oversized copies  
• files accepted by e-mail  
• digital copies  
180 Main Street, Greenfield • 413-774-3500  
GREENFIELD@COPYCATPRINTSHOP.COM

**DOLAN & DOLAN**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
174 AVENUE A  
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS  
01376  
413-863-3133  
PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP



## NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

## Fire Chief Mediation Continues

By KATIE NOLAN

Considering the September 9 resignation of former chief Almon "Bud" Meattey and five firefighters from the Erving fire department, Boston-based organizational management consultant Sophie Parker provided the selectboard with an updated scope of work for mediation within the department.

Parker noted that, "This dispute continues to affect the Fire Department, the Board, and the Citizens of Erving." She reported that she has already conducted information-gathering interviews with all three selectboard members, town counsel Donna MacNicol, police chief Chris Blair, town administrator Tom Sharp, former finance committee member Gary Burnett, Meattey, current chief Philip Wonkka and five firefighters.

Parker wrote that she wants to work with Wonkka to come up with a statement of his goals for rebuilding the department, and what support he needs to do it.

She wrote that her goals as mediator are to improve communication, team dynamics, and the overall cohesion of the fire department.

Meattey's most recent three-year term as chief ended July 1, and he was reappointed on an interim basis until August 31. Wonkka was appointed chief September 3.

Selectboard members Margaret Sullivan and Andrew Goodwin expressed strong support for mediation activities.

The third selectboard member, Eugene Klepadlo, has recused himself from discussions and decisions regarding the fire department, because his son is an Erving firefighter, and the State Ethics Commission ruled his participation would be a conflict of interest.

## Roof Bids, Town Meeting &amp; New LED Light Bulbs

Three contractors submitted bids for stabilizing the roof of the former boiler building at the former Usher Plant. Bid amounts ranged from \$15,500 to \$16,160. Annual town meeting voted \$20,000 for the work. Highway, Water and Wastewater director Paul Prest will review the bids and make a recommendation to the board September 30.

The selectboard will

schedule a special town meeting in late October or the first week in November. The draft warrant articles include \$5,000 for the recreation commission and funds for a new police cruiser.

The board decided to invite all interested parties to the September 30 meeting in order to review expenditure information and prepare a final draft of the warrant articles.

Prest announced that four of the streetlights near town hall have been changed to LED bulbs, to allow residents to see how the lights look. Sharp noted that the parking lot lights at the senior and community center already have LED bulbs.

Prest is discussing potential grants for installing LED bulbs in all of the streetlights with WMECO and will contact National Grid about possible grants as well.

Prest has prepared revised water department regulations, which he will present at the September 30 meeting.

Sharp reported that a new telephone system was installed at town hall. The selectboard voted to declare the old telephone equipment as surplus.

## NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

## Volleyball Court and Play Structure Proposed for Unity Park; Libraries Hire New Director

By PATRICIA PRUITT

Monday evening's meeting on September 23 opened with a public hearing on the FY2012 CDBG Grant for Montague and a proposal for program and budget revisions prompted by an excess of funds unspent in the Unity Park Project administrative budget.

M.J. Adams, Director of Community Development, explained that rather than return the excess to the state, it was proposed to add back two features – a sand lot volleyball court and a Sequoia Roots Play Structure – which had been dropped from the original park plan. The amount unspent was \$70,000. The FY2012 CDBG Housing Rehab Budget has fulfilled its commitment to rehab 5 units, but one other unit is in process with unhealthy living conditions, and the Housing Rehab Administration proposes to use \$18,000 of the

unspent funds for that rehab; the two park additions will use the remaining \$52,000.

Reallocation of these funds will preserve their use in the community, enabling the Town to add desired features to the park, and HRA to complete one more critical rehab of a housing unit.

Adams did announce that next year's grant will address rehab needs in Millers Falls; there will be a public hearing in October/November on items for the February 2014 grant application.

Sue Sansoucie, Library Director, came before the board with Trustees of the Libraries, Karen Latka and Karen Schweitzer. The three explained the process the Board went through, screening 21 applications, all but two received by email. They then selected a number of applicants to interview by telephone, and from that group chose three for the in-person interview in Mon-

tague. David Payne was the final choice and the enthusiasm for him as the best fit for the Montague Libraries was high.

Christopher Menegoni was approved for a transfer of liquor license from the former Burrito Rojo to CVB Harvest, d/b/a the Great Falls Harvest Restaurant.

Next was a pole location hearing. WMECO plans to install, jointly with Verizon, 22 new poles on Greenfield road replacing old or compromised poles and locating the new poles in order to avoid tree problems. Selectman Nelson was dismayed that they would not get to his section of Greenfield road this year, but the WMECO representative said the company will next year.

Finally, the BOS agreed to hear at their next meeting a sidewalk display permit request for Madison On the Avenue at 102 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

## Dogs Attack

Monday, 9/16

Assisted Comcast worker in retrieving cable boxes from French King Highway address.

Tuesday, 9/17

9:40 p.m. Hit-and-run motor vehicle crash on French King Highway, with seri-

ous damage to the guard-rail. Under investigation.

Saturday, 9/21

12:15 a.m. Larceny and breaking & entering at Old State Road. Under investigation.

8 a.m. Assisted Northfield PD with three-car motor

vehicle crash at Route 63 and Main Street.

Monday, 9/23

3 p.m. Dog complaint: two dogs came after subject in West Main Street area. Animal control spoke with owners.

## ERVING CULTURAL COUNCIL

## SEEKS FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR FY'14

Proposals for community-oriented arts, humanities, and science projects are due in October.

The Erving Cultural Council has set an October 15, 2013 deadline for organizations, schools and individuals to apply for grants that support cultural activities in the community.

According to Council spokesperson Megan Niedzwiedz, these grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Erving – including exhibits, festivals, short-term artist residencies or performances in schools, workshops and lectures.

The Erving Cultural Council will also entertain funding proposals from schools and youth groups through the PASS Program, a ticket subsidy program for school-aged children.

The Erving Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 local councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year.

Last year, the Erving Cultural Council distributed approximately \$3,870.00 in grants. Previously funded projects include Native American Artifacts and Birds of Prey at the Erving Public Library and Songbirds of the Northeast by John Root.

Contact Megan Niedzwiedz, Erving Cultural Council Chairperson, at 413-522-2447 or [megan.niedzwiedz@gmail.com](mailto:megan.niedzwiedz@gmail.com) for specific guidelines and information.

Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available on the web at [www.mass-culture.org/Iccpublic.asp](http://www.mass-culture.org/Iccpublic.asp). Please be sure to supply the Cultural Council with 7 (seven) copies of your application.

## UNION from page 1

to a new region, Erving, New Salem, and Wendell will be left to fund Union #28 central office operations, a likely financial hardship for the remaining towns.

The joint Union #28 committee considered the prospect of hiring a superintendent for the 2014-2015 school year. Because the future of the union is uncertain, current superintendent Robert Mahler was appointed for one year, ending July 2014. With Shutesbury and Leverett unlikely to move to a new regional system by September 2014, Union 28 may need another one-year superintendent.

The joint committee de-

cided that the Budget and Personnel subcommittee would meet in October and develop a process for hiring a superintendent for 2014-2015. The joint committee, which usually meets only four times a year (September, January, March, and June) would add a meeting in November to discuss the subcommittee's plan.

This would allow the hiring process to begin in January, the beginning of the typical season for hiring school administrators. Several joint committee members suggested that Mahler could be re-hired for another year. Mahler replied, that, with only six weeks on the job, he could not make a determination as to whether he was in-

terested in another year.

Mahler provided the joint committee with his goals for the year, which included conducting evaluations of the educators working for him, aligning the curriculum with the Common Core, and making sure all children are in classrooms that attends to their needs.

He spoke of his effort to connect staff throughout the Union #28 schools, to be creative in staffing, to have a cohesive administrative team, and to have open dialogue about regionalization. He said he had visited each of the schools in Union #28 and the Erving and Leverett selectboards this school year.



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

**BMW** **AJ's CYCLE** **MOTO GUZZI**  
274 Rt. 2, Gill, MA 01376

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

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

E-mail: [AJCYC@CROCKER.COM](mailto:AJCYC@CROCKER.COM)  
Web: [WWW.AJCYCLE.COM](http://WWW.AJCYCLE.COM)

**Renaissance Excavating, Inc.**

**COMPLETE SITE WORK**

Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam

Main Road, Gill  
**Douglas Edson 413.863.4462**

**Hartnett Plumbing**  
Water Heaters, Drain Cleaning, Remodeling, Repairs

*"We give you a place to go"*

184 Jacksonville Road  
Colrain 413-624-0044

**Serving all of Franklin County**  
Mass. License #13175

**Doug's Auto Body**  
Doug Smith - Owner

**PRECISION REPAIRS**

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph: (413) 863-2785 39 Center Road  
Fax: (413) 863-0120 Gill, MA 01354

**FREE ESTIMATES FREE LOANER CARS**

**Jonathan Abbott**  
SSI / Disability Attorney

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

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

**BASICALLY BICYCLES**

Come try the ultimate in performance and comfort.

Recumbents • Trikes • Electric Bikes

88 Third Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376  
(413) 863-3556 • [www.basicallybicycles.com](http://www.basicallybicycles.com)  
David Carr • [dave@basicallybicycles.com](mailto:dave@basicallybicycles.com)

**B. RUBIN & SONS INC.**

**COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS**

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

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236

**10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES**

MASS INSPECTION STATION: NO. 13051

**COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE**  
**KUSTOM AUTOBODY**  
MA Reg #RS2066

48 Randall Road  
Montague  
**Phone/413-863-3780**

**Mike Fuller, Owner**

**NEEDFUL THINGS**  
**SELLING QUALITY USED FURNITURE AND COLLECTIBLES**

**~ NEW ITEMS ARRIVE WEEKLY! ~**

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



## LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was on September 25, 2003: News from The Montague Reporter's archive.

### More Parking for Millers Falls

On Monday the selectboard ironed out a potential wrinkle in the Millers Falls Streetscape Improvement plan. John Mackin came before the board to ask to have parking spaces restored across from his commercial property at the northern end of Bridge Street.

"Up until fifteen years ago, it's always been parking over there," said Mackin. He said there used to be five parking spaces on that side of the street. The board voted to approve a plan with room for two.

### Colle Nearing Completion

Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio said the top two floors will hold space for three 1,000-foot offices, each with their own

heating, air conditioning, and electric hook-ups. The first floor has three retail spaces, one with a storefront on Third Street, the other two with storefronts on Avenue A.

"Linking all three of these for a restaurant is a possibility," he said. There is also 1500 square feet of basement space available. Saying "this type of project in rural Western MA could not have happened without public subsidies," he said the town would continue to own the building for at least the next thirty years.

Anticipating a spillover effect on investment in Turners, chair Ed Voudren said, "We've created a key link to the whole downtown."

### Whole Town to Clean Trailer

There will be a special Wendell town meeting October 22 to consider a request by the board of health for funds to clean up the site of a trailer owned by Mark CERIA that has been determined

to pose a threat to the health and safety of its owner and nearby neighbors in the Mt. Laurel trailer park.

Health board chair Andy Hamilton said his board has not yet set a final estimate for the job. Payment of an old phone bill and insurance bill will also be on the warrant.

### Mushrooms on the Plains

Thirty-one people and one friendly dog gathered at the Lake Pleasant Road entrance to the Montague Plains Wildlife Management Area for a wild mushroom identification walk led by Russell Cohen. We began with a basic primer on mushrooming.

Although we are near the end of the season, there is still a wide selection of wild mushrooms that can be harvested in the fall. The most important lesson: "If you do not feel confident about it, do not eat it."

before the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> but we were not successful in reaching Montague."

The potential confusion was magnified by the fact that immediately after the motion prevailed, the FRTA staff presented a new set of routes different from the ones shown prior to the vote. These changes apparently were not available when the meeting convened. The new routes mainly involved... Montague. The current route from Greenfield through Turners Falls to Millers Falls was combined with the current route to Orange to create a consolidated Route 34. This longer route would run 13 times a day as compared with eight times for the current Greenfield-Montague route.

The proposal also included a "Montague Center Shuttle" that would run from Montague Center to Greenfield at 6:25 a.m., 2:15 p.m. and 5:55 p.m. Presumably these would connect to the new UMass Connector to South Deerfield via Greenfield.

This new FRTA plan, ac-

## NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD State Health Official to Assist on Montague Road Health Complaints

By DAVID DETMOLD

The Leverett board of health is moving to conduct comprehensive surveys of conditions at the multi-family dwellings at 142 – 146 Montague Road, in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health district health officer Charles Kaniecki.

Kaniecki appeared before the selectboard on Tuesday, with a majority of the members of the Leverett board of health, to discuss the town's approach for dealing with the buildings, owned by absentee landlord David Biddle. The properties have been the source of repeated and ongoing complaints about code violations, trash buildup, and faulty septic systems for many years. Kaniecki said he remembered the buildings from the time when he served as the town of Leverett's health agent, fifteen years or more ago.

Kaniecki recommended the selectboard "take a giant step backwards," and leave the matter in the hands of the board of health, which have a broader scope of authority in dealing with public health issues.

"I suggest a comprehensive inspection of both buildings, from the peak of the roof to the basement. My office will work with [town of Leverett health agent] Steve Ball to write up the inspection, and give a timeline to the owner for repairs. If these repairs are not done, I will help file the court papers."

"How do we gain access?" asked Faye Zipkowitz, board of health chair.

"You have authority to get administrative search warrants to get access," said Kaniecki. "If they fail to let

you in, they can be brought to court."

According to members of the board of health, the rental properties have ongoing problems with failed or incomplete septic systems, interior mold, pervasive dampness, and plumbing problems, among other public health concerns. Piles of trash in the yard were recently cleaned up, said town administrator Margie McGinnis, but accumulated trash has been another ongoing concern.

On a brighter note, the selectboard awarded a bid to construct five pole mounted photovoltaic arrays on town owned land between the elementary school and the public safety complex to the Solar Store of Greenfield, for \$98,650. The money will come from the town's Green Communities grant for the Department of Energy Resources. The 15 kilowatt photovoltaic array, expected to be constructed this fall, will provide power to help offset the power demands for either the school or the safety complex.

Neil Brazeau, transfer station manager, came before the board to discuss complaints from some citizens in town who have been turned away from the transfer station due to lapsed windshield stickers. In fact, two of the three selectboard members had found themselves in the position of heading to the transfer station recently with lapsed stickers, having missed the deadline to renew them like many of the town's residents. Only Brazeau's dad, Rich, selectboard chair, had managed to renew his on time this year.

"I have a hard time with turning people away with

trucks full of trash," said Julie Shively.

But the younger Brazeau stuck to his guns, and insisted his policy of requiring valid stickers to be shown at the transfer station gate before entering to offload materials was working, and pointing out the town had sold several hundred more stickers in the year since he began requiring strict enforcement of the policy.

Apparently, in past years, not a few residents had banked on the good will, and perhaps the leniency, of station attendants, bargained their way in at the gate by promising to purchase a sticker at the office, and, once inside, dumped their loads and left the premises without fulfilling their promises.

In addition to posting prominent notice at the transfer station as to the dates when new stickers must be purchased, Brazeau agreed to send out postcards townwide next year warning people of the need to renew their stickers.

Firefighter Steve Sengebusch received an award last week as the "outstanding student" in his graduating class of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Richie Roberts has agreed to the settlement put forward last month by the Leverett Zoning Board of Appeals, and has dropped his court case against the town, partially clearing the way for Roberts to expand his gravel pit on Route 63. Before doing so, Roberts must first receive clearance from the ZBA on the technical requirements of gravel mining in an aquifer protection zone. More hearings are in store on that aspect of the proposed gravel pit expansion.

FRTA from page 1

been well advertised "public hearings" but Fairbrother argued that such hearings were not the same as direct consultation with local officials.

A number of other FRTA board members expressed concern about the lack of communication and felt there was "not enough information" to make a decision on the issue. Gill selectboard member John Ward, who voted against the motion to approve, argued that even with low ridership, the Amherst route was vital to an important segment of the community that needed the service.

Other board members argued that it was crucial to move forward with the planning process and that the Route 23 issue should not stand in the way of other important changes. The solution, endorsed by the board majority, was to approve the motion with an amendment that required meetings with Montague officials. Fairbrother, Ward and two other board members voted "no."

Several others abstained. The board barely had twenty members needed for a quorum.

Although the motion passed, there was a good deal of uncertainty about what had been approved. According to one board member, "We're endorsing the concept, not the routes... we're not setting anything in stone."

A FRTA staff member, on the other hand, stated that it would be impossible to move forward "without the board agreeing that this is what we would like."

The legal counsel for the FRTA stated that "I think that what we are saying [with the amendment to consult Montague] is that the elimination of Route 23 is not being endorsed...you have said it needs another look."

Tina Cote, manager of the FRTA, said that while there was a motion, there was no resolution passed at Thursday's meeting. "What we are going to do is meet with the town administrator and selectboard. We had hoped to meet with Montague officials

cording to Cote, increases service between Montague and Amherst: "We don't want to leave anyone stranded. There is still a way for people from both Greenfield and Turners Falls to get to Amherst. We are not proposing to take a route away; we are just proposing a different way to get to Amherst from

these towns... We are actually proposing to expand service and provide more options. Currently there are two buses a day from Montague to Amherst. We are proposing seven times a day through South Deerfield."

However, critics argue that requiring potential Montague passengers to go to

Greenfield to get to Amherst is not realistic.

"There must be a better way," said one Montague Center resident signing a petition against the route change. "That's just not how people get from here to there. Take a look at a map."



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

### PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU

CONSULT US  
PZ

25 Millers Falls Road  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-4331  
www.pzinc.com

Service 7 days a week, visit [www.pzinc.com](http://www.pzinc.com)

INSURANCE

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

### IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

413-883-7323

Easy in-town location

Secure 24-hour access

VARIETY OF  
SIZES  
THE BEST  
PRICES



OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

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

### Negus & Taylor, Inc. Monuments

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



MAIN OFFICE 773-9552  
10 Mill Street, Greenfield, MA

"The perfect remembrance"

### funk\*shun

FUN, FUNKY, FUNCTIONAL

Custom: Sewing, Upholstery, Slip Covers,  
Floors, Signs, Handbags, Pillows, Fabric Fun

38 3rd Street  
Christa Snyder - Creator  
Thur-Fri 11-6

Sat 10-5

Turners Falls  
413-863-0003  
Sun 12-4



SINCE 1970  
LICENSED, INSURED  
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, ALL PHASES  
POWER WASHING

BRIAN MCCUE, PRESIDENT

240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA 01351

PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896 • RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM



Joseph Cotter  
Sales Consultant

BRING THIS AD TO RECEIVE  
A \$200 ADD'L DISCOUNT!



Looking for a great deal  
on a quality new or used vehicle??

Ask For Joe!

- Over 3 years of Nissan Sales  
- 100% Electric Nissan LEAF Specialist

40 RUSSELL ST., HADLEY, MA • 888-702-1437 • COUNTRYNISSAN.COM

### Pipione's

SPORT SHOP

- Fishing supplies; Live bait
- Fishing & Hunting Licenses
- Paintball & CO<sub>2</sub> Refills
- Guns & Ammo

Open 7 am 7 days a week

101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246



### Simply Computing

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

Debbe Dugan  
863-5030



SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL  
DOORS & OPENERS

Devine Overhead Doors

Gerry Devine

106 West Street  
Hadley, MA. 01035

Hampshire: 586-3161  
Franklin: 773-9497



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

**ONGOING:  
EVERY SUNDAY**

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic session*, 10:30 a.m.

**EVERY TUESDAY**

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kiddleidoscope*, environmental program for ages 3-6 and their adults. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., free.

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

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

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

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

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

Avenue A & 2nd St., Turners Falls: *Farmers Market*. 2 to 6 p.m.

**EVERY THURSDAY**

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

**EVERY FRIDAY**

Between the Uprights, Turners

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

**ART SHOWS:**

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Flotsam*, photographs and collage by Trish Crapo on display through October 12.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Watercolors by Diane Nevinsmith*. On display in the Great Hall through September 28th.

**MUSEUM****EXHIBITS:**

Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association: *Indian House*, open 11 to 4:30 p.m. Weekends in Sept. to Oct 6.

Memorial Hall Museum Music Room, Deerfield. *Poetry to the Earth: The Arts and Crafts Movement in Deerfield*.

**EVENTS:****THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *And the Traveler*, jazz/funk, 9 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

Pothole Pictures, Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Chasing Ice*, a documentary of vanishing glaciers, \$, 7:30 p.m. with music before the movie: *Abdul Baki*, original piano works, 7 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague Center: *Bulldog & The Milhaly-Mogul Duo*, \$, 8 p.m.

Mocha' Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Adam Bergeron*, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Head Band*, reggae, 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Super 8 Players* with short silent films, 9:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Death of A Salesman* by The New Renaissance Players, \$, 8

p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

Old 78 Farm Fall Festival, Warwick. Music, food, vendors, rain or shine, \$.

Franklin County Tech School, Turners Falls: *Cool Rides Car Show*. Open to "Show and Street" cars, motorcycles, trucks and farm tractors. Kids activities, sample culinary delights prepared by Chef Pike and FCTS students, 9 to 1 p.m.

Greenfield Savings Bank, Turners Falls: "An American Girl Party" tea party, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Reservation needed, call (413) 863-4316.



June Millington, of '70s pioneers Fanny, plays the Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse on Saturday, September 28th at 8 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Institute for Musical Arts.

Swift River Valley Historical Society, New Salem: Open 1:30 to 4:30 in celebration of National Museum Day.

Court Square, Greenfield: 4th Annual Greenfield Arts Eclectic, New Renaissance Players present scenes from "Death of a Salesman", readings, poetry and music, 2-4 p.m. and at the Arts Block, Greenfield from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Watershed History: The Brickyards of Montague City*, 2 p.m.

Pothole Pictures, Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Chasing Ice*, a stunning documentary of vanishing glaciers, \$, 7:30 p.m. with music before the movie: *Ken Swiatek*, folk, 7 p.m.

Mocha' Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Katie Sachs & Dave Derham*, 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Death of A Salesman* by The

New Renaissance Players, \$, 7:30 p.m.

Wendell Full Moon Coffee House, Wendell: *June Millington*, \$, 8 p.m. with Open Mic at 7:30 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *The Women Songwriter Collective*, \$, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Wildcat O'Halloran Band*, guitar based blues, 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Avedis, Mark Schwaber, indie rock and singer/songwriter, 9:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Psycho Magnetic*, classic rock, \$, 9:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

Mocha' Maya's, Shelburne Falls: Patti Rothberg, 2:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Death of A Salesman* by The New Renaissance Players, \$, 2 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *T-Bone & His Uke with Bassist Extraordinaire Joe the Plucker*, 8 p.m.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus, Art Gallery: *Gallery Talk*, Joan O'Beirne discusses her Art professor Kelly Popoff discusses her current body of work, noon to 1 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *All Small Caps, A night of Spoken Word*, 7:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Dada Dino's Open Microphone*, 8 p.m. sign ups start at 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4**

Green Fields Market, Greenfield: *A Place At The Table*, film and discussion to follow with Dino Schelle, Center For Self Reliance and co-op members and staff. Free, 6 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Death of A Salesman* by The New Renaissance Players, \$, 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5**

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Death of A Salesman* by The New Renaissance Players, \$, 7:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Rock 201*, \$, 9:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6**

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Death of A Salesman* by The New Renaissance Players, \$, 2 p.m.

McCusker's Market, Shelburne Falls: *Co-op Jazz*, 2:30-4 p.m.

**THE LADY KILLIGREW:**

*Awesome Beer  
Amazing Food*

*Amazing, Awesome  
Employees!*

440 Greenfield Rd, Montague MA  
7 Days / 8am - 11pm (at least)  
(413)367-9666

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

CALL 863-8666

**FOUR WINDS SCHOOL**

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

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

413 863-8055 [www.fourwinds.school.info](http://www.fourwinds.school.info)



**Bryan G. Hobbs**  
Remodeling Contractor

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

Call Now for a Free Energy Audit: 346 Conway St., Greenfield  
(413) 775-9006 [bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com](mailto:bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com)



**GREAT SEAFOOD &  
GOOD TIMES**

**Irish Seisun Music**  
Thursday 4 to 7  
Friday 9 to 1

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

**[Pam Veith  
REALESTATE]**

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



75 Main Street, Suite 105,  
Northfield, MA 01360

Office: (413) 498-0207 x2  
Cell: (413) 834-4444  
Home: (413) 863-9163  
Home Fax: (413) 863-0218  
[bedson1@comcast.net](mailto:bedson1@comcast.net)

[www.PamVeithRealEstate.com](http://www.PamVeithRealEstate.com)

**Renaissance  
Builders**

*Quality, Craftsmanship, Original Thought*

[www.renbuild.net](http://www.renbuild.net)  
863-8316



**CRUISE & TRAVEL  
COMPANY**



**30 Montague St.  
TURNERS FALLS**



413-863-3143 | 888-763-3143  
[www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com](http://www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com)



**EDWARDS TREE SERVICE**

**Matthew Edwards**  
Certified Arborist

Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals  
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture  
**Residential / Commercial / Municipal**  
60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping  
Fully Insured With Workers Comp. Insurance and Liability

[WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM](http://WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM)  
Wendell, MA

Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties

413-325-7823 or 978-544-7452



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

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

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

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

28 Montague Street  
Turners Falls, MA 01375

Beeper 290-1162  
**863-2471**  
Fax 863-8022

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

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

**Nancy Paglia**

Massage Therapy  
Yoga Classes & Private Yoga Sessions  
Women's Yoga Circles  
Workshops & Retreats

Montague, MA

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

ASK us  
about our  
discounts for  
new clients this fall!



# MONTAGUE REPORTER ON THE ROAD...



TOM OLSEN PHOTO

Joseph Robert Parzych of Gill recently returned from a trip to Colonial Williamsburg, VA. While he was there he visited a 1700s Psychiatric hospital and the Stocks. (A newspaper completed the punishment!)

## ... & ON THE AVE!



DAWN MONTAGUE PHOTO

The Montague Reporter Corporation, a nonprofit headed by a Board of Directors, was formed to oversee our newspaper in 2006. According to our mission statement, we “serve as a vehicle for sharing the ideas, concerns and opinions of the residents in fostering well-informed, cohesive, economically vital communities.” This summer we moved to a new office at 177 Avenue A in Turners Falls. Stop by and lend a hand!

Announcing the Opening of the  
NEWEST and MOST MODERN  
of Franklin County's TAVERNS

**The Rendezvous**

78 THIRD ST., TURNERS FALLS

Open Every Day, Lunch, Dinner, and Late Night.  
With a Complete Line of Your Favorite Beers, Ales,  
Wines and Liquors

BALLANTINE ALE — HAMPDEN ALE — BLUE RIBBON LAGER  
Come and Spend Some Time with Us. You Will Find Our Beverages and  
Service Unequalled.

ALBERT L. SAULNIER, Prop.



MICHAEL REARDON PHOTO

Skyler Clark-Williams, an FCTS midfielder, drives down the field for a goal.

## Franklin Tech Girls' Soccer to Host Second Annual Fundraiser

By MICHAEL REARDON

**TURNERS FALLS** – The Franklin County Technical School and Applebee’s Restaurant have joined together to offer great food while at the same time raise money for the school’s Girls Soccer team.

For the second year in a row, the FCTS Girls Soccer team will host a fundraiser at Applebee’s Restaurant, located at 141 Mohawk Trail in Greenfield, on Wednesday, October 2, beginning at 4 p.m.

Patrons who want to participate and help out the team can pick up a flyer at FCTS, or receive one via email or download one from the school website. Simply take the flier to the restaurant on the night of the event and present it to your server for either dine-in or take-out meals and beverages and the team will receive 15 percent

of the total bill.

Last year the event raised \$350 for the program. FCTS Girls Soccer Coach Jenna Carne said every donation helps keep the program vibrant, and was grateful to all those who came out last year. She asked that diners who participate in this year’s event sign-in at the restaurant so the soccer players can send them personal thank you notes.

“I was really appreciative and impressed by how many people came out to support the girls last year,” she said. “It would be great to get a bigger crowd this year. Budget cuts are always a concern so any way that we can keep the pressure off of the program through fundraising is very important.”

Carne continued, “I also want to thank Applebee’s for hosting this event. The girls and I are very appreciative of their support.”



JOHN FURBISH PHOTO

“Nightclub 9/19,” held at Madison on the Avenue during September’s “Third Thursday” event, featured “Jazz Classics by Moonlight and Morning Star.” Moonlight Davis and Morning Star Chenven sang two magical sets of world jazz from the 1920s on. Décor and lighting amplified the music. The 5-man combo for the evening, going from the left, was Bill Shortz on sax, flute, background vocals; Moonlight Davis mc, vocals, storytelling drum; Morning Star Chenven vocals and percussion; paintings by Max Armen; and Stephen Cage on keys.

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

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

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

**woodfired pizzeria**

**The Gill Tavern**

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

Now serving Sunday Brunch! 10am-2pm

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

**SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS PROVIDE 60-80% OF YOUR HOT WATER!**

Eligible for MassSave Heat loan program!

\$25,000 at 0% interest for solar hot water, insulation and heating upgrades.

Great MA State rebates cover 25% of cost

**SOLAR STORE** Call 413-772-3122 or claire@solarstoreofgreenfield.com

**TURN'S LAWN CARE**

Landscape Design & Maintenance

Now Scheduling Fall Cleanups

**522-2563**

www.TurnLawnCare.com

Geri Johnson, Realtor  
ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES  
413-863-9736 • GeriJohnson@Realtor.com

**Don't settle for less**  
Choose a CRS (Certified Residential Specialist)

Only 4% of all REALTORS hold this prestigious designation. The CRS is my badge of expertise and your shield of assurance. Put your trust in the best to get the job done. Whether buying, selling or referring, always choose GERI JOHNSON, CRS 30 years of experience.

66 French King Hwy., Gill  
(413) 863-9736 • WWW.GJAR.COM

**TURN IT UP! MUSIC & MOVIES**

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309