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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MARCH 9, 2017

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Montague Searches For New Airport Manager

By JEFF SINGLETON

The Montague selectboard at its meeting Monday, March 6 received official notice that Turners Falls Airport manager Michael “Mickey” Longo had resigned as of February 28. The news was conveyed by airport commission chair Peter Golrick, who told the board that Longo had moved on to a full-time job with benefits. The current airport manager is employed for nineteen hours per week, and is not eligible for benefits.

Golrick stated that next week, the commission would begin a hiring process, “casting it fairly locally.” He said the position would be ideal for a retired person “who wants to keep his hands in the aviation field.”

In the meantime, the airport would be administered by members of the commission on a volunteer basis. Each member has his own “area of expertise,” according to Golrick.

Golrick said the commission was also looking for three members of “the public” to serve on a search committee for a new manager. Town administrator Steve Ellis indicated that his other duties would make it difficult for him to serve on the committee, but that he would stay in touch with Golrick by telephone.

Golrick also requested that the commission be allowed to undertake a “performance appraisal pilot” for evaluating the work of the new manager. He said the current evaluation contained “five or six categories”
see AIRPORT page A7

Pipeline Foes Honored at Environmental Conference

By ANNA GYORGY

BOSTON – “We are not only about knowledge, but for building the political power of our constituents,” Sylvia Broude, director of the Toxics Action Center, told a packed room at Northeastern University’s impressive modern Curry Student Center on Sunday. Broude was greeting hundreds of regional activists to her organization’s 30th annual Local Environmental Action Conference.

The Toxics Action Center was formed in 1987, after helping residents of Woburn, MA link leukemia deaths and illness to W. R. Grace and Co.’s chemical waste poisoning local drinking water. The Center has worked with over 900 New England communities since then.

The conference’s partner organization, the Massachusetts Climate Action Network, works with local chapters across the state on climate
see PIPELINE page A8



At the Boston conference, activists from No Fracked Gas in Mass, North Quabbin Pipeline Action and Climate Action Network were recognized for their work.



Parquet Diem: Turners’ Maddy Chmyzinski seizes the game-high score with 23 points against the Quabbin Cougars during the Division IV semifinal at historic Curry Hicks Cage, UMass-Amherst.

The Week in TFHS Sports: The Season Ends in the Semis!

By MATT ROBINSON

This week, both Turners Falls High School basketball teams won grueling quarterfinal matches, but ultimately lost in their semifinal cage matches.

The boys’ team, whose roster includes six seniors, refused to end their season and their high school careers on their home court. They outlasted Murdock, and returned to UMass to face first-seeded Hopkins.

The girls’ team, which has no seniors, dug deep and waded through injuries and foul trouble to pull off an overtime victory – and ventured into uncharted territory.

Boys Basketball
TFHS 73 – Murdock 63
Hopkins 73 – TFHS 60

On Thursday, March 2, the fifth-seeded Murdock Blue Devils came to town to challenge fourth seed Turners Falls in the West D4 quarterfinals. The gym was about as loud as I’ve seen it, with kids and adults reacting to every single point, foul and turnover.

A couple of errant passes and a late foul put the Devils up 3 points after a quarter, 13-17. The Devils kept the lead for most of the second, but a resilient Powertown team never quite let them pull away.

Then late in the period, Turners reversed a 5-point deficit into a 4-point lead, 33-29, but a foul and a
see TFHS SPORTS page B2



Frequent Flier: Tionne Brown gets some air on the way to the hoop as Turners Falls defeats Murdock 73-63 during the Division IV Quarterfinal at Turners Falls High School.

Learning Through Creative Movement

By ANNA HENDRICKS

TURNERS FALLS – When I step into a classroom as a creative movement teacher, I ask students and teachers to break a variety of classroom norms. We take off our shoes and socks, move with big, fast energy through the room, and interact with each others’ bodies in new and exciting ways.

This past month, thanks to sup-

port from the Mass Cultural Council’s STARS residencies program, I had the pleasure of being in residence as a Creative Movement educator in the first grade classrooms at the Hillcrest Elementary School. With the support of caring and talented classroom teachers and support staff, the students at Hillcrest were able to dive into the fun of a new experience, while maintaining a classroom culture of

safety and respect.

Creative Movement is a rather elusive term, so let me clarify up front: Creative movement is dance that is not based on performing specific steps but rather on exploring the range of movement our bodies can perform in time and space.

This is basically what six-year-olds do all of the time. I am reminded each time I work with a new group of children that all young children love to dance, especially once they figure out that dance doesn’t just mean twirling like a ballerina.

Favorite dance moments from the Hillcrest Residency included: a very silly rhyming warm-up, with a reference to a mouse needing to pee; a dance story featuring the covert transformation from inanimate to dancing objects; a partner dance where one person pretends to be a lump of clay and their partner moves their body to turn them into an interesting sculpture; and a dance where each child moves alone across the room in their own style, the results

see MOVEMENT page A3



Hillcrest first-graders move around the classroom in new ways.

One Simple Trick to Enrich the Earth?

By PETER WACKERNAGEL

BRATTLEBORO – The economy that we live within encourages and rewards waste. The things we buy are made to be destroyed and bought anew, which produces profit. Chemical fertilizers grow food, which we eat, digest, and flush into the abyss.

Against this current, the Rich Earth Institute, based in Brattleboro, Vermont, is resurrecting the Yankee virtue of thrift. Rich Earth believes that much of the waste of our communities – even our biological waste – can be reused.

The idealistic, yet pragmatic, vision of the non-profit research institute is to close the gap in the nutrient-food cycle, eliminating the steps that generally result in titanic material waste. Rich Earth proposes to recycle the nutrients produced by our towns and cities by collecting them, and then applying them to agricultural land to grow food.

At the draft horse-powered Fair Winds Farm, a 2011 proof-of-concept study, followed by a 2012 field-strip trial, indicated that reclaimed nutrient fluids led to yields as high as those

produced using synthetic fertilizer.

In a separate study, Rich Earth determined that pharmaceutical products found in urine, while producing nauseating frog mutations in our waterways, are broken down quickly by soil bacteria.

Despite receiving significant grant funding from organizations like the EPA, the National Science

Foundation, the USDA’s Sustainable Agriculture, Research, and Education Program (SARE), and the Water Environment and Reuse Foundation, Rich Earth exists somewhat on the fringe, mostly outside the halls of institutional science. Neither founders Abe Noe-Hays nor Kim Nace were research scientists

see ENRICH page A4



Neil Patel of the Rich Earth Institute, with the 275-gallon urine collection tank at the Rich Earth office in southern Vermont.

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The Healthcare Coverage We Deserve

This week, Republican party leaders unveiled their plan to roll back the Affordable Care Act and restructure Medicaid.

The plan was criticized by the American Medical Association, American Hospital Association, and the AARP, as well as by America's Health Care Plans, the largest insurance industry lobby. And that's just the beginning of the alphabet.

So far, it seems unlikely the proposal will be able to move forward – 60 votes will be needed in the Senate to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, and the plan is drawing criticism, not just from society's left and center, but from conservative Republicans.

"We're going to have something that's going to be much more understood and much more popular than people can even imagine," the nation's president announced.

But the backlash from the right was strong. "We promised the American people we would drain the swamp," said Utah senator Mike Lee, who called for the repeal of "Obamacare" before a "process" to replace it begins.

Rand Paul, senator from Kentucky, agreed. "*Th House leadership plan is Obamacare Lite. It will not pass. Conservarives are not going to take it,*" he tweeted on Tuesday.

Later that day, Paul called in for an interview with Alex Jones on his website, Infowars. (Jones has built a career pushing various *interesting* theories, such as that the Boston Marathon bombing and Sandy Hook school shooting tragedy were "false flag" operations cooked up by a vast globalist conspiracy; his website is now in the White House's press distribution list.)

"People are saying, 'oh, we should replace it with some *government programs*,'" Rand scoffed, saying he had a "free market replacement bill" that "sort of gives people more choices."

Rand said he thought the president was "open to listening" to the idea of repealing the ACA without a replacement, which would continue "the taxes, the subsidies, the mandates" he found objectionable.

"Paul Ryan is on the Soros payroll," Jones pointed out. "He's all behind this."

Rand's major idea seems to be that citizens should create their own healthcare plans by joining

together in "health associations," comparable to credit unions.

"I'm trying to transfer the power from *the man*, which is the insurance companies, to *the people*, which is the consumer, and the average ordinary American who needs to buy insurance," Rand explained.

"You are really like the leading liberty light," Jones told him. "And then Trump seems to be responding and listening."

The two moved on to discuss spying, and Jones complained that intelligence agencies were "sabotaging a president that's only trying to turn our economy back on."

"*I feel sure that my friend @RandPaul will come along with the new and great health care program because he knows Obamacare is a disaster!*" the president tweeted Tuesday afternoon.

Senator Rand took being singled out as a good sign, and doubled down on Wednesday. "I don't feel isolated by this. I actually feel emboldened," he told *Politico*.

Most people in our country – depending on how you ask them the question – support the idea that everyone should be able to afford proper healthcare. Over 70%, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation survey last year, thought Bernie Sanders' "Medicare for all" was a good idea; earlier this year, a Pew Research poll found that 60% think the government "should be responsible for ensuring healthcare coverage for all Americans."

The Affordable Care Act was a political compromise, but several cohorts of Republicans have campaigned on its repeal. Now, even as they squabble over whether to destroy it by tax give-backs to the wealthy or just by ripping it down in favor of some cockamamie vision of *the people* buying insurance through their Boy Scout troops, they face a revolt in their own base, as tens of millions of sick, injured, tired, working poor Americans realize that either of those solutions will leave them to suffer and die.

The hard right, for all its talk of liberty and the individual mandate, simply believes that *not everyone* deserves health insurance, because they believe that there are *some people* who do not deserve health.

In the current debate, they are exposed. It's a perfect opportunity to clearly, loudly, and forcefully promote universal social values.

Everybody deserves care.



Letters to the Editors

Agrees with Pumped-Storage Critique

Wow. What an incredibly in-depth, fully thought out, well reasoned article on the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage (NMPS) Station by Karl Meyer in your March 2, 2017 issue.

I knew about the erosion problem, but shedding light on the whole picture – including the gravy train of "capacity fees" where they're actually doing *nothing* and it still brings in 40% of their annual income – is sickening. This affects everyone. Everyone.

- Do you love to fish? Shut down the Northfield Turbines' daily drawdown.
- Do you want to pay lower electric rates? Shut down the Northfield Turbines' daily drawdown.
- Do you want your electricity to come from LOCAL renewable sources? Shut down the Northfield Turbines' daily drawdown.
- Do you want the river to return to its pre-1974 shoreline health? Shut down the Northfield Turbines' daily drawdown.

It's pretty clear that this is a bad deal for everyone, except First-Light, which is why the company keeps getting bought and sold over and over again. Buyers see a cash cow, local rate payers and our river be damned.

Perhaps we as a community could start a movement to change the status quo: enact legislation that will remove the "capacity fees" from our bill, and regulate / zone the river such that draw downs can only happen to replenish emergency turbine energy sources, which would shut the turbines down for daily generation.

Just a thought.

**Mik Muller
Greenfield**

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

We got a couple things a little bit wrong last week in our report on the the Gill-Montague Regional School District budget and school committee (March 2, "Power Lines Bring School Budget Relief," pg. A1).

First of all, we wrote that Montague finance committee member Michael Naughton told us the expected rise in his town's "affordable assessment" was driven by new growth, "the result of personal-property assessments in and around Cabot Station, including transformers and new transmission lines."

Cabot Station itself is owned by FirstLight Power Resources. The substation next to it is owned by Eversource. Montague's director of assessing, Karen Tonelli, tells us that "The new growth figure of \$13,706,289.00 was reported to us by WMECO, dba Eversource Energy."

"The majority of the new growth (approx. \$9M) is the result of renovations and new equipment at the substation located off Montague City Road (behind the Faren). The balance is related to transmission line upgrades located throughout town."

So, not in Cabot Station, and not having to do with its owners' taxes.

Second, we reported that, "the Gill-Montague Community School Partnership is the recipient of a grant from the Community Foundation of Western MA... The program will be administered by Clinical and Support Options."

Once again, close but no cigar, which in this biz means *wrong-o*. Jen Audley of the Community-School Partnership clarified that the grant itself is going to Clinical and Support Options. "They applied at the Partnership's suggestion and with our support, and the Partnership will be involved in implementation, as will a team from GMRSD," she writes, "but the award is to them."

Both of these distinctions are important, and we apologize to our readers, and all involved parties, for our errors. Thanks to Michael, Karen, town accountant Carolyn Olsen, and Jen for help with these corrections!

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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Remember “spring forward, fall back” – then set your clocks ahead before you go to bed Saturday night!

Presidential elections got ya down? Feel like they used to be respectful and dignified and not such a mess? Well you’re wrong!

The Franklin County Tech School Players present: “Every U.S. Election Ever with the FCTS Players” at the Shea Theater, 71 Avenue A, Turners Falls on Friday, March 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

In this madcap play you’ll get to see every presidential election this country has ever had, with all the dirty tricks, low blows, and unqualified candidates the US is known for! With songs, parodies, and a dancing Richard Nixon! A comedy that proves politics can be educational and entertaining.

Join local coin and antique dealer Gary Konvelski of **Gary’s Coins and Antiques** at Greenfield Savings Bank, 282 Avenue A, Turners Falls this Saturday, March 11, from 10 to 11 a.m.

Konvelski will access or appraise any treasures that you may be curious about a value. He has been a collector for decades of jewelry, coins, currency, books and other antiques. Do you think you have some valuables? Might you want to turn them into cash? Bring them along, as Konvelski will be prepared to take a look and discuss money with

you. Want to buy something? Maybe he has it at his store.

This event also includes local history of the hometown Crocker Banks, as GSB welcomes anyone wanting to come and share. Feel free to drop by and have some free snacks and beverage.

The bank is also honored to have a display of Van Gogh Plaster Paintings in their lobby, created by the **Great Falls Middle School sixth grade class**.

Come learn at the “**Backyard Goat Dairy**” on Saturday, March 11, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Laughing Dog Farm, 398 Main Road, Gill. This is an introductory level class on keeping and managing a small herd of dairy goats for milk, cheese, yogurt and educational purposes, on small acreage farms, or even a tiny backyard...

Participants will experience “barn life,” socialize with the herd, handle goat kids, milk, and learn the basics of keeping and breeding dairy goats.

The class will cover different goat breeds, housing, fencing, nutrition, hoof trimming, worming, and breeding/birthing basics. Attendees will make and sample fresh chèvre with greenhouse greens. Suggested donation: \$25 to \$35; no one turned away. RSVP requested at 863-8696.

An “**Ask the Trainer Clinic**” will be held at the Franklin County Dog Shelter, 10 Sandy Lane in Turners Falls on March 15, 6 p.m. The clinic will be presented by Susan Miller, the “Canine Counselor.”

This is your chance to ask questions about your dog and go home with some ideas on improving a behavior you are having difficulties with. Leave your dog home, listen to dog questions that people have, and learn some dog training tips to try on your own dog. Call the shelter at (413) 676-9182 and they will sign you up for this great opportunity!

Learn how simple it is to **grow mushrooms at home**. Julia Coffey from Mycoterra Farm will talk about growing mushrooms, and strategies you can use to grow them at home.

The talk will include an overview of the mushroom life-cycle and the basic ecology of saprophytic fungi. She’ll cover basic DIY mushroom growing techniques, using a variety of species of mushroom growing kits, and an in-depth introduction into mushroom log culture.

Held Thursday, March 16, at 7 p.m. at the New Salem Public Library, 23 South Main Street, New Salem. Admission is free, and mushroom growing kits will be available for purchase. For more information, contact nsagcommission@gmail.com. Sponsored by the New Salem Agricultural Commission.

“**It’s a play, a prayer and a mystery**”. Make this Lent one to remember by joining on Friday, March 17, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Church, 90 Seventh Street in Turners Falls for the Mystery Players, from Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown, New York, who will present, “The Way Of The Cross.”

Since 1981, IHC Seniors have been bringing the stories of Jesus’ birth and death on the Cross during the Advent and Lenten seasons. Their performances, prayerful meditations, are powerful. They combine an austere but dramatically effective use of acting, narration, music, and lighting to captivate their audiences of all ages. Admission is free, and

there will be a free-will offering.

This year’s “**Friends of Gill**” **pancake breakfast** will be held Saturday, March 18 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. at the Gill Congregational Church. Regular or blueberry pancakes, sausages and bacon will be served.

Prices are \$7 for adults, \$3 for children under 10, and free for 4 and under. Proceeds benefit the Friends’ college scholarship program.

The **Turners Falls Athletic Club** is in the midst of their Annual Membership Drive. This begins the 83rd year since the club was organized in 1934. Club members support the charitable giving that the Club sponsors each year through its Scholarship Trust Fund, which was established several years ago.

Each year, through the efforts of some 150 members, college scholarships are offered to seniors of both the Turners Falls High School and the Franklin County Tech School. Along with the college scholarships, the Trust Fund is able to make donations to support various youth sports activities, including: Babe Ruth Baseball; Newt Guilbault Little League; American Legion Baseball; YMCA Youth Programs; Montague Park & Recreation Summer Youth Program; and other local programs.

The TFAC Motto is “For Our Youth” and with the help of local individuals we have been able to continue to keep the tradition alive. **Applications for the 2018 Scholarships** will be available at both TFHS and Franklin County Tech School guidance offices, and must be turned into the guidance office by April 21.

For further information about the TFAC, contact: TFAC, PO Box 11, Turners Falls, MA 01376 or TFAC@gmail.com.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

MOVEMENT from page A1

of which ran the gamut from walking on hands, to balletic leaps, to silly chicken walks.

I have been teaching creative movement to young children for 16 years. For the past ten years I have taught at my own studio, located at the Brick House in downtown Turners Falls, as well as in over 20 area schools. As a resident of Gill who frequents downtown Turners Falls daily, I relish the chance to work in the Gill-Montague public schools. This residency marked my fifth, and largest, opportunity to do so.

The academic hook for this year’s residency was to bring in dance material to support the Simple Machines unit the first graders would be studying. In preparation, I read through eight first grade level books on Simple Machines. I’m not sure if concepts such as force, pulleys, and levers, were just not valued at my progressive urban elemen-



SARAH BURSTEIN PHOTO

The author’s teaching residency at Hillcrest Elementary was made possible by the Massachusetts Cultural Council’s STARS program.

tary school or if my brain has always had less patience for absorbing this sort of information.

Turns out, I’m at the first grade level when it comes to simple machines. I have no recollection of having studied any of the concepts covered in these books. It also turns out that a unit on simple machines is not about training children to create high-tech robots – which was, embarrassingly enough, my initial reaction to hearing about the unit – but rather, a very practical lesson in understanding how to, for example, move a heavy object without breaking your back.

Feeling motivated to help the kids who, like myself, learn concepts by doing, I crafted lesson plans exploring grip, counterweight, push and pull, strong and light force, and incline planes through our bodies.

What did this look like? We spent one class exploring dancing with strong force and light force. We flexed our muscles and exerted maximum energy as we jumped, slashed, stomped and pressed. We relaxed our muscles as we floated, glided, and swung through space. We experienced the tight grip of our hands clasped around a partner’s wrist, and the force it takes to find counterbalance with a partner of a different size as we leaned away from each other, our feet close.

In a famous TED talk in 2016, on creativity in education, world-renowned education expert Sir Ken Robinson asked why dance is not taught in schools every day. “Creativity,” he said, “is as important in education as literacy,” and he cited dance as a vital form of physical creativity. Watching 18 six-year-olds move expressively and blissfully through space to music is always a powerful reminder of how beneficial creative dance is for human beings.

Learning how to stay aware of our own bodies so we can move safely among other bodies, and how to express emotions through creative physical embodiment, are just a few of the skills creative movement teaches. Imagine the emotions released by pumping your fist in the air to a steady beat.

This residency was also a powerful reminder that for some students, learning academic concepts through the body is a powerful teaching aid. What a pleasure to be able to learn about incline planes alongside a group of six-year-olds as we leaned in towards our partners – bodies straight, hands connected, and pushing with strong force against each other.

There are some amazing first grade teachers at the Hillcrest school. Ms. Saylor, Ms. Smith and Ms. Matrishon have created safe and respectful classroom cultures and earned the respect and admiration of their students in the process.

I was really impressed, both as a teacher and a parent, to see that in these classes each student’s individual needs are taken into consideration. During my residency, that care looked like allowing a particularly exhausted kid to nap through lunch, making sure I wore a clip-on microphone so the student with impaired hearing could fully participate, and allowing some children to opt for down time alone *in lieu* of the whirlwind of dance class.

During February’s all-school meeting, one of the first grade classes had the opportunity to present several dances to the extended school community. During the demonstration, preschoolers, kindergartners, and parents alike participated in small movement explorations from their seats: dancing with fingers, then eyes, and then shoulders.

The support I received from staff, administrators and parents after our demonstration was extremely encouraging. Clearly, Hillcrest administrators, teachers and parents are dedicated to bringing our town’s youngest students a diverse and arts-inclusive education.

Anna Hendricks is the founder and director of Great Falls Creative Movement, a Franklin County based school for creative movement education. For more information, see www.greatfallscrativemovement.com.



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ENRICH from page A1

before creating the Rich Earth Institute in 2011.

Their approach is instead based on cultivating a supportive and engaged community of local people who believe in their visionary mission. It is through this practice of community science that the Rich Earth Institute has gathered a stable of over 100 voluntary urine donors, who collect their own urine in 5-gallon tanks and pump them into a 275-gallon tractor tote in Nace's garage, which fills up about every two weeks.

"With enough money and technology," says Nace, "there are countless ways we could recycle urine into fertilizer. But we want our program to be replicable in the real world, so we have tried to do as much as possible

with off-the-shelf equipment, and fabricate what we must using accessible and inexpensive technology."

The Institute employs several means of collection. In addition to these volunteers who collect secretly, the organization will also harvest at large public events, like Brattleboro's annual Strolling of the Heifers. They partner with Best Septic, of Westminster, VT, who use their own custom porta-potties to collect urine. In addition to having four different grades of porta-potty, including one suitable for "upscale events," their potties come with a mysterious "'secret ingredient' to ensure that your portable toilet *never* smells like a portable toilet."

Rich Earth also attempts to inspire through competition, sponsoring a yearly contest called the "Piss-Off," in which the winner receives a certificate. Last year the winner was Judy Zemel, who collected 267 gallons. Neil Patel, Rich Earth's research assistant, explains, "Once people start collecting, they don't want to stop collecting."

Civilization and Waste

The Rich Earth Institute understands that the success of their ideas to affect our waste management and food system hinges on how the greater public feels about urine. "If people don't adopt this technology or these concepts," says Patel, "none of it matters."

There are two schools of thought on urine. The dominant one is that urine is waste, is gross, and should be disappeared from public view as quickly as possible, through sewerage or other infrastructure. It should be disavowed and disassociated from the self.

This opinion has been championed since the beginning of public health in America – the formation of the Metropolitan Board of Health in New York in 1866. While it achieved great success in dealing with the epidemics that had swept New York in the 18th and 19th centuries by cleaning the streets, dealing with human and animal waste, and improving living conditions in the tenements, the Board of Health may have inadvertently contributed to the modern condition of alienation.

In the context of the 19th-century urban war on cholera, it was reasonable to quarantine human waste, but the enforced division between ourselves and our bodily processes has resulted in a kind of loss. This negative view of our own digestion, which can manifest as disgust and self-hatred, has also resulted in much damage to our environment – despite the extremely expensive systems installed by well-meaning cities and towns.

The other perspective on urine is one that embraces it, sometimes to the point of fetishization. Modern urine therapy in the West was promoted by British naturopath John W. Armstrong.

In his book *The Water of Life*, Armstrong uses his experiences treating himself and others as anecdotal evidence that urine therapy is the cure for nearly all disease. He argues that ecosystem processes like composting are akin to urine drinking: "The idea that nature is wasteful is erroneous. She only appears wasteful to us because we do not understand her. Therefore why should a principle which applies throughout Nature not apply (with certain reservations) to the human body?"

While this is a strong literary metaphor, it is not necessarily a medical one. Armstrong backs up his thesis Biblically, using Proverbs 5:15: "Drink waters out of thine own cistern."

Armstrong impels the urotherapy neophyte to not be concerned with the taste: "The taste of healthy urine is not nearly as objectionable as, say, Epsom salts. Fresh morning urine is merely somewhat bitter and salty. But as already mentioned, the more frequently it is taken the more innocuous does it become..."

Asian medical traditions also use urine as a curative. The Damar Tantra, an ancient Sanskrit work, describes urine as a therapeutic substance, referring to it as the Water of Auspiciousness.

In India, the practice was most recently promoted in the middle of the last century by Gandhian social reformer Raojibhai Manibhai Patel, and there are many urine therapy practitioners in India today.

Biodynamics, the system of scientific-spiritual agriculture created by Waldorf School founder Rudolf Steiner during the inter-war period, understood the cosmic nature of urine: "Urine is nothing else but the expression of the astrality within us," Dr. Karl König, an Austrian anthroposophist and pediatrician, explained in the 1950s.

A Clean, Thriving Planet

People have more recently become interested in DIY human waste management in the course of their quest for freedom through off-the-grid living. Many participating in different waves of back-to-the-land living view legally-required building infrastructure as a means of state control over one's autonomy. During the hippie era, *Goodbye to the Flush Toilet* (1977) instructed people in these skills. The self-published *Humanure Handbook* (2005) has recruited a new generation in this century.

While these composters may gain a sense of independence, freedom, and satisfaction through taking responsibility for their own excrement, many live in fear of discovery by the authorities or neighbors, despite the fact that composting toilets are, according to Massachusetts environmental code, legal.

According to Gina McNeely, Montague's director of public health, "people have been fined for improperly disposing of seepage... As they should be."

The founding impulse behind Rich Earth is rooted more in the environmental ethics of anti-plumbing human-waste composters than in pure scientific research. Abe Noe-

Hays, one of Rich Earth's founders, builds and sells composting toilets that claim to smell less than flush toilets, and are available in wood, porcelain, and plastic.

Noe-Hays' cofounder, Kim Nace, says she came to urine recycling after experiences working as an elementary school principal, where "the kids... like all of us, need a clean, thriving planet to live on," and later in India, "in a city of 8 million people where several million people had no access to toilets."

"Imagine monsoon season there with water levels rising in the street and diseases from fecal coliform sweeping through the population," Nace says. The need for sanitation, combined with the need for sustainability, drove her to research low-tech, ecologically sound solutions for waste management.

One Loaf a Day

Somehow, in a time when violence, fear, and hatred have become electable ideas, the Rich Earth Institute has managed to maintain a level of non-partisan fame. Their Facebook page does not show the presence of trolls. Possibly owing to the sensational nature of their project, they have received a lot of attention from the press, nearly all of it positive.

After an exhaustive search of the internet, I only turned up one piece of negative press: an article titled "Billions in Wasteful Spending," by Gary Baise I, who has a column called "Defending Agriculture," distributed by media organization Farm Futures. Citing Oklahoma Senator Tom Colburn's *Waste Book 2013*, which catalogs what Colburn perceives as excessive government spending, Baise voices opposition to a \$15,000 USDA grant awarded to the Rich Earth Institute.

Expressing his own possibly alienated, urophobic bias, Baise writes, "cabbage fertilized with urine grew faster and larger; however, the sauerkraut from cabbage grown with urine tasted different. Surprise! Surprise!"

In a life-or-death conflict with nature, most survivalists agree that you could drink your own urine a couple times, although the military's multi-service guide *Survival, Evasion, and Recovery* recommends against it.

Our farms, however, can in fact quench their thirst for fertilizer indefinitely through application of human urine. Rich Earth has produced many facts on the matter.

One states that every day, each of us pees enough nitrogen to grow enough wheat for one loaf of bread. In the US, that equates to 9 million pounds of fertilizer per year, which is about 20% of the total synthetic fertilizer farmers use.

Last year, Rich Earth Institute fertilized six acres of hay around Brattleboro. This year they hope to do ten.

Relieving Sounds

Nutrient reclamation from urine is a low-tech idea whose benefits could



A mixing barrel at the Institute.

be widely distributed, rather than concentrated upwards, like many ideas promoted by agricultural corporations. Urine reclamation has the potential to restore humanity's connection both to ourselves and to the land that supports our civilization.

Because of regulations that set a "total maximum daily load" of nutrients – such as nitrogen and phosphorous – entering a body of water, many municipal wastewater plants are required to expensively monitor and manage their output of these elements.

Reclamation of nitrogen, therefore, is about more than its use as a factor in agricultural production – it also would reduce nutrient pollution, one of the biggest challenges to our waters.

While the Clean Water Act has done a decent job at regulating most pollutants, turning rivers like the Connecticut from industrial drainage into swimming holes, it so far continues to struggle with nutrient pollution. The 5,000-square-mile "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico is the most well-known example of nutrient pollution, but it is a problem in many places – even at the mouth of the Connecticut, in the Long Island Sound.

These domains of demise are caused by *hypoxic* water, water which does not contain enough oxygen to sustain marine life.

Excessive nitrogen and phosphorous from human activity, causing oxygen-devouring algal blooms, is the ultimate cause. Much of this is caused by agricultural runoff, but municipal wastewater and septic systems contribute to the problem.

The Rich Earth Institute believes that "source separating" urine technology – means of diverting urine from feces at the beginning of the waste stream – along with storage and field application of urine will soon become logical economic choice for municipalities.

Patel even prophesies that "Urine diversion, today, is like recycling in the '90s!"

For more information on the Institute's research, or how to make a contribution yourself, visit richearthinstitute.org.



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Jacob Sak
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NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Flagbuying; Parting Words, Power Negotiations; Pump Cheats; Disappearing Shelves

By KENT ALEXANDER

The Gill selectboard met Monday night without Greg Snedeker who was absent for the evening's meeting.

First on the agenda was a well-prepared presentation by Chester Kuzontkoski, representing the town's memorial committee. Kuzontkoski began by stating that the committee's purpose for attending the night's meeting was to "update the selectboard about work they had been doing for the past five months" concerning placing American flags on utility poles around Gill Center.

Kuzontkoski noted that he had researched the project thoroughly by writing to, or speaking with, various other local communities such as Turners Falls, Greenfield, Northfield and Conway, who were already engaged in the practice of displaying the flag on utility poles between Memorial Day and Veterans' Day.

As the selectboard listened, Kuzontkoski demonstrated with a concise hand-drawn cardboard map the various places throughout Gill where the flags, once purchased, would be hung. He went on to describe that each of the 20 flags would measure 3' by 5', and be suspended via brackets approximately 10 feet from the ground. The committee's current plan calls for some 17 flag units to be placed, with three kept for backup should an accident occur.

Kuzontkoski detailed the research done concerning the cost of procuring the flags through two businesses, Carrot-Top Flags and a local business, Century Uniform. After discussing the itemized pros and cons of both, Kuzontkoski stated that he and the committee strongly recommended purchasing the flags from Century, since not only were they a local company, but their prices were also less expensive.

The memorial committee plans to fund the project by asking for donations from Gill businesses, organizations, and individuals using the Gill newsletter, the *Recorder*, and the *Montague Reporter*. Kuzontkoski stated that after the Memorial Day services, the committee planned to publish the list of donors using the same publications, as well as send them personalized *thank-you* cards.

Selectboard chair John Ward inquired about the number of poles that had an existing light. Kuzontkoski said he wasn't sure of the number, and selectboard member Randy Crochier thought there might be as few as three lights on town utility poles. All agreed the flags should be placed high enough

to deter casual vandalism.

The selectboard thanked Kuzontkoski and the two other committee members who accompanied him for their work on this project.

Tree Warden Retires

The board accepted the resignation of Ernie Hastings as tree warden, an elected position. Ward noted that Hastings had served the town in this position since 1978, through a series of one-year terms that eventually became 3-year terms.

Ward then asked if they should appoint an interim warden, to which Purington replied that any interim appointment would only be good until the scheduled May election. He instead suggested that he'd "be tempted to wait it out, and collect possible names to add to the May ballot."

Ward asked what the town would do if a tornado, such as the one that recently hit Conway, were to hit Gill before a new warden was elected. Purington replied that should such an event occur, the town would turn to the assistant tree warden. Purington then went on to say that should no one get elected in May, the selectboard could then consider an interim warden.

Crochier interjected that he thought the selectboard should send a letter of thanks to Hastings for his 40 years of service to the town. All agreed this was a very good idea.

Administrative assistant Ray Purington updated the board on a meeting held the prior week to address illicit sump pump usage in the Riverside sewer district.

More Sunshine

The board had a detailed conversation about an upcoming meeting regarding Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of FirstLight's power generating facilities. In question is the current way that FirstLight defines its confidentiality agreement.

Purington stated that he and others were pushing FirstLight to come up with an agreement that all concerned parties could live with. He noted that several stakeholders represent public bodies, and were not in a position to speak for their entire organizations.

Both Ward and Crochier said that while they agreed with what FirstLight was trying to do, they strongly disagreed with how they

By ROB SKELTON

The Leverett selectboard declined, at its March 7 meeting, to change the date of its annual town meeting to suit the needs of residents who plan to attend a climate-change protest in Washington that day, despite the participants' view that without them, quorum may be unattainable.

"I don't want to move the town meeting date," said selectman Tom Hankinson, with a pained expression, twice.

"Maybe it'd be better to have less people," said selectwoman Julie Shively.

"Anyone can fly to Washington, get a hotel, and march around with a sign," board chair Peter d'Errico suggested. No action was taken. "We considered it, and it's done," he concluded.

Department heads, finance committee, and selectboard met with the capital planning committee, whose charge is financial planning for big-ticket items. The bulk of its time was taken up discussing whether a third police cruiser, cur-

rently in use but not accounted for in the capital planning schedule, should be added officially.

Police chief Scott Minckler reiterated his case from two weeks ago that his department needs a third vehicle, and capital planning committee member Ricky Roberts explained the process by which former chief Gary Billings, instead of trading in his department's oldest vehicle, kept it going from PD resources, since it was already paid for.

Roberts said Billings did the town a favor by his Yankee frugality and his fleet maintenance, in direct contrast to previous administrations whose wear and tear on the fleet was significantly rougher.

Capital Planning and Finance volleyed for an hour on vehicular lifespans and whether to include the third cruiser in its long-term outlook, with fin com member Ann Delano against. A mind bending conversation ensued amongst the committees' members around the "ghost" cruiser — real enough to drive and use, but non-existent in the accounting ledger.

Fire chief Ingram, tailed by his however, mean that each customer would need to grant access to the assessor.

The other possible plan would be to mandate an annual fee for every sewer customer in the district, then grant a rebate to any customer that accepted inspection by the assessors and was found not to have an illegal sump pump connection.

Purington promised to keep the selectboard apprised of the progress and decision.

Easing Into Easement
The board discussed the Oak Street easement requested by resident Bob Callery. Purington began the discussion saying that he had "no issues" with what has been proposed.

Ward stated that when he first heard that the property owner wanted to keep the shed that impinges several feet onto Oak Street, he believed that while the property owner gained something from the easement, the town did not. However, after walking by the property, he realized that the shed adds property value that would, in turn, mean the town would gain from future assessments on the property, making it a win-win situation.

Crochier wondered aloud if granting the easement would set a precedent, and asked both Ward and Purington if the minutes from the January 9 meeting clearly stated that the selectboard would decide these matters "case by case." Both agreed that the decision was clear concerning this matter.

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Less People; Old Brush Truck, Dumpster Alternatives; Ghost Cruiser

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Fire chief Ingram, tailed by his

lieutenants, spoke to the need for a new brush truck. The old brush truck is out of service; a brush tanker gifted by the state Department of Conservation and Recreation, an old army truck, has "not been used in a while," the chief said.

"We've got a lot of younger people who can't handle driving a military vehicle...," Ingram added.

Ananda Larsen of the transfer station suggested, and the selectboard agreed, to rent instead of buy dumpsters, thus freeing up monies earmarked by capital planning for other needs. Larsen also announced that she had secured grant money to purchase a container for "bulky rigid plastic."

The historical commission presented its strategic planning document to the selectboard, eloquently led by Susan Lynton, a newer town resident whose organizational skills have been greatly welcomed, according to commissioner Betsy Douglas.

The main thrust of the document is to assess the historical priorities of town residents, and then execute them.

Purington then suggested that if they "were okay with this" then the next step would be to have the highway superintendent have his surveyor create a written document for the easement. The motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Other Business

Purington shared an email he'd sent out in February to all Gill departments, offices, boards, and committee members concerning the de-cluttering of the museum space at the Riverside building.

In the email, he'd stated that there were two large double-sided shelving units that were no longer needed. If no one spoke up to take these two empty units, the plan would be "to have the selectboard declare the shelving units to be surplus and embark on making the shelves go away."

The evening's final agenda items were two public service announcements. The first was a reminder that the Friends of Gill Pancake Breakfast will take place on Saturday, March 18 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. at the Gill Congregational Church. Further details can be found on the town website and Facebook page.

The second announcement concerned the CodeRED emergency notification system and the need for residents to sign up for inclusion. Purington stated that anyone who needs to sign up should go to the Gill website.

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Aquí se habla español

Esta es la página en español del periódico The Montague Reporter. Aquí podrán encontrar cuestiones acerca de la comunidad hispana, eventos de interés, curiosidades, y noticias en español. Si quiere colaborar o compartir alguna sugerencia, envíenos un correo electrónico a: spanish@montaguereporter.org. Esperamos su participación.



Más allá del debate de la mascota

Por VICTORIA MAILLO

El 14 del mes pasado, mientras algunos estaban celebrando una romántica cena de San Valentín, unas 80 personas se reunieron para debatir acerca del cambio de nombre y el logo de la mascota de *Turners Falls High School* llamada hasta este momento, *The Indians*.

Después de un acalorado debate de una hora, el Comité Regional de Escuelas de Gill-Montague decidió cambiar el nombre de la mascota por los votos de 6 contra 3. Esa noche no se esperaba esa votación, a la que se llegó después de cinco meses de debate enfrentado entre partidarios de conservar el nombre, y los que deseaban cambiarlo.

La tensión había ido aumentando entre ambos bandos, con la creación de grupos en Facebook, y algunas descalificaciones que rozaban lo personal. El auditorio del instituto de Turners Falls se encontraba casi al completo para escuchar el debate.

Una de las personas que subió al estrado fue el superintendente Michael Sullivan, que ofreció su opinión desde un punto de vista pedagógico. Sullivan dijo que “había una media de tres estudiantes nativo-americanos por curso, y que merecían la misma protección de sus derechos que el resto de sus compañeros”. Sullivan también añadió que “los indios no son como los vaqueros o los vikingos, es una cultura que pertenece a gente real, a nuestros vecinos, y es inapropiado tratar a este grupo o a cualquier otro grupo racial, étnico, religioso o de género, en alguna manera que perpetúe y legitime los estereotipos.”

Una mujer perteneciente a al pueblo indígena Nipmuc, Jasmine Rochelle Godspeed, fue contundente al preguntar a la audiencia, y más concretamente a los partidarios del no cambio de la mascota, cómo se sentirían ellos si ellos fueran la mascota.

Uno de los representantes a favor de la permanencia del nombre de la mascota declaró que para ellos el nombre representaba una tradición y una forma de honrar a los nativo-americanos.

The Indians no es la única mascota que ha cambiado su nombre en los últimos años. A principios de 2016, Amherst College decidió abandonar el nombre de Lord Jeffery que hasta



Vajilla original de Amherst College. El dibujo del borde representa ingleses a caballo armados con espadas persiguiendo nativo-americanos a pie.

el momento había sido la mascota de sus equipos deportivos. Esta decisión generó también una controversia entre los antiguos alumnos y las nuevas generaciones más abiertas al cambio. Lord Jeffery Amherst, el militar que dio nombre al pueblo de Amherst, es conocido también por sus planes de regalar mantas infectadas con el virus de la viruela a los nativo-americanos.

Existen diversos estudios sobre el tema de las mascotas con nombres que representan estereotipos. El más conocido es un informe publicado en 2014 en la página web de *Center for American Progress*, realizado por Erik Stegman y Victoria Phillips y titulado *Missing the Point*. En esta investigación se establece la relación directa entre los nombres racistas de las mascotas en los equipos deportivos y un ambiente hostil en la escuela, y la baja autoestima de los miembros pertenecientes a dichos grupos.

Este debate se produce en “Massachusetts” que es el nombre que los habitantes indígenas dieron a este territorio. Es precisamente el lugar donde la colonización anglosajona protestante dio inicio a la construcción de los EE.UU. y a la destrucción de las naciones indígenas originarias. La narración

de los vencedores dio lugar a la tradición del Día de Acción de Gracias tal y como la conocemos hoy en día, totalmente fantaseada e idealizada para contar el hecho histórico desde la perspectiva de la colonización.

No tenemos más que abrir el periódico cada día para ver que los pueblos indígenas llevan luchando contra su exterminio desde hace más de trescientos años. Conflictos como el de Standing Rock en Dakota del Norte y su lucha contra el proyecto petrolero de Dakota Access pasando por su propio territorio nos indican que esta lucha todavía continúa.

Recientemente, unos días después de la decisión adoptada por el comité educativo de Gill-Montague, asistí a una charla en el Great Falls Discovery Center sobre Williams Apress, un activista de la nación Pequot y que ayudó a organizar la llamada revolución Mashpee. Apress nació en Colrain, MA en 1798 y murió en Nueva York en 1839. Plasmó en su libro la anulación sufrida por los pueblos indígenas en las Costa Este de los estados Unidos.

Charlas informativas y educativas de este tipo serían necesarias para curar las heridas abiertas en la comunidad.

Tablón de anuncios de la comunidad

• Intercambio de idiomas español / inglés

El colectivo La Mariposa en las últimas 6 semanas ha comenzado a ofrecer una clase de español para principiantes e intermedios para las personas de la zona. El objetivo de las personas inscritas es poder comunicarse mejor con sus vecinos de habla hispana.

La Mariposa quiere comenzar un intercambio de idiomas español / inglés, donde compartir comida, socializar, jugar, escuchar música, para practicar inglés y español en un ambiente único. En principio esta actividad se desarrollaría los domingos por la tarde a partir de las 2:30 p.m.

Si quieren saber más, por favor contactar con Annie en el teléfono (508) 237-1654 o con Felipe en Mariachi Shoe Repair. También puede enviar un correo electrónico a mariposacollective@gmail.com o en Facebook “La Mariposa”.

• Planificación para emergencias familiares

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• Cuidado de niños gratis

El Colectivo La Mariposa ofrece un grupo de voluntarios dedicados al cuidado de niños gratuito para familias de habla hispana. Actual-



mente ofrecen este servicio durante las clases de ESL impartidas por el CNA, los martes de 10 am a 12.30 pm y los miércoles de 12 a 2.30 pm.

La Mariposa desea conocer las necesidades de la comunidad para poder ofrecer otros días y horarios en que las familias hispanas lo necesiten más. Si desean compartir sus ideas pueden contactar en español a través de Felipe, Mariachi Shoe Repair en el 111 de Ave. A, Turners Falls o llamando al (413) 626-8435 (Ya-Ping). También pueden enviar un correo electrónico a mariposacollective@gmail.com o a través de su Facebook “La Mariposa”.

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El Colectivo La Mariposa ofrece clases de chino gratis para niños y jóvenes de 7 a 18 años. El horario es sábados por la mañana de 11 am a 12.30 pm. Si quieren inscribirse, llamen al (413) 626-8435 (Ya-Ping).

• Noches de cine, de baile, y más

El Colectivo La Mariposa quiere que su espacio comunitario sea utilizado por la comunidad de habla hispana de la manera que sea de mayor interés. Algunas propuestas son noches de cine en español, noches de baile de música latina, y mucho más.

La Mariposa tiene interés en conocer otras ideas y qué día y hora es mejor para la comunidad. El colectivo está abierto a nuevas actividades en Turners Falls que sean divertidas y no requieran gastar dinero y están dispuestos a ofrecer su espacio para reuniones, actividades lúdicas y construir comunidad.

Si quiere ofrecernos sus ideas, nos gustaría saber de usted. Llame a Annie al (508) 237-1654 o contacte con Felipe en Mariachi Shoe Repair. También puede enviarnos un correo electrónico a mariposacollective@gmail.com, o en Facebook bajo “La Mariposa,” o pase por 111 Avenue A en Turners Falls.

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AIRPORT from page A1

which are not consistent with the [manager’s] job description,” and that the change in manager would be an ideal time to “roll out” a new evaluation.

Ellis stressed that the new evaluation was in fact “a pilot.” The choice of words was humorously noted in the selectboard’s motion approving the request.

The Age of Solar Power

In a related development, town administrator Steve Ellis requested that the board send a request for a zoning change involving property owned by the Elks Club to the town planning board. The change, from “Agriculture-Forestry” to “Industrial,” would allow a company called Omni Navitas to develop a 650 Kilo-watt solar array on the property.

The board approved the request, but not before Golrick noted that the proposed project sits right in the line of the airport runway. Expressing concern about glare from the solar array, he said that the project would need to be approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the state Department of Transportation. He also noted that Eversource had reoriented the direction of its solar panels in the design of a much larger project slated for the south side of Millers Falls Road.

In its letter to the selectboard, Omni Navitas says it is preparing a “glare study” as required by the FAA.

The Age of Water Power

Steve Ellis reported on the bidding process for Strathmore work required by the state fire marshal and funded by a \$100,000 appropriation approved by last week’s special town meeting. He said the scope of work will be strictly limited by the terms of the “Request for Proposals.” This will not include roofing and repairs to the sprinkler system, which will also be funded by the town meeting appropriation.

Ellis said he hopes the bidding process would be completed by early April, so the work could be done in the spring.

When asked if this timeline had the support of the Turners Falls fire chief and state fire marshal, Ellis responded that he was “confident we are going to get to a positive place on this.” He also noted there had been no evidence of “significant intrusion” into the building as a result of recent security measures, including a more frequent police presence.

Ellis informed the board he and town planner Walter Ramsey would be attending a meeting the next day about the FirstLight relicensing process. The meeting, which is being organized by the power company FirstLight, will take place in Burlington, Massachusetts.

The process, currently before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), is divided into two “projects.” One covers the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility, which pumps water

up the mountain to a reservoir and then releases the water back down to produce power at night and during emergencies. The other project involves the Turners Falls dam, the power canal, and two hydroelectric power generating stations.

A “pre-application document” issued in 2012 states that the Northfield Mountain project received its previous license in 1968, while the Turners Falls project license was last issued in 1980. Both licenses expire on April 30, 2018.

Appointments

The selectboard approved multiple requests from police chief Charles “Chip” Dodge related to the retirement of Sergeant Richard Suchanek. The board took Suchanek off of 111F injured on duty status, approved his retirement as of March 3, and then appointed him to the position of reserve officer.

Dodge then asked the board to officially request promotional lists from Civil Service to fill the position of Sergeant, and another list to fill the position of Patrolman that would be left vacant by hiring the Sergeant “from within.”

At the request of David Detmold, the board also appointed Zhaohong Wen as Millers Falls’ representative on the Tree Committee. The appointment only lasts until the end of June, when all committee members must be reappointed.

There was discussion of appointing committee members to

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staggered three-year terms. Detmold said he would need to “poll the committee” about the issue. He also noted that the committee had been meeting with other tree committees in the region, and that the state now has an official tree committee adviser.

Other News

The board approved a request by Bruce Hunter of the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority to disburse a total of \$4,500 to Berkshire Design for oversight of the Avenue A and Pes-

keompskut Park Lighting Project.

Berkshire administered the bidding process that chose ML Schmitt to install new lighting on the street and park in downtown Turners Falls. Hunter assured the board that the new lights are “exactly the same” as the current lights on the Avenue A.

The board adjourned into an executive session to discuss litigation involving the moratorium on new customers by the Berkshire Gas company, currently before the state Department of Public Utilities. The next scheduled meeting will be on March 13.



NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Updates, Upgrades, Expenditures, and an Outburst

By MIKE JACKSON

MONTAGUE – Last Thursday, March 2, Montague’s town meeting members convened for a special town meeting, and passed all ten articles on the warrant. Six of these concerned the town’s wastewater department; one was simply a report from the committee planning a new highway garage; another allocated \$100,000 into work on the town-owned Strathmore mill complex.

Before the meeting addressed the warrant articles, David Detmold of Precinct 5 proposed a preliminary motion, saying he had neighbors who “feel like town meeting has too big a block of public employees who are, in some sense, deliberating for the whole town on their own salaries or the benefits of their family members.”

State conflict of interest law explicitly exempts elected town meeting members. Detmold suggested that any members who were paid by the town should stand to identify themselves before taking any votes that affected them. After some discussion, the idea was voted down.

Ken Morin gave a twelve-minute presentation, technically **Article 1**, on the progress made by the public works planning committee, which is working on a proposal for a new highway garage on Sandy Lane.

“There’s been a couple articles in the local papers pertaining to this,” Morin said, adding that new information would be posted to the town website. On April 4 the committee will host an open house and tour at the current garage at the end of Avenue A, followed by a question-and-answer session at 6:30 p.m. at the town hall.

Morin said his committee investigated and dismissed existing town buildings, as well as renovat-

ing the current garage. “It’s pretty well antiquated,” he said, and the roof would have to be lifted to accommodate modern trucks. The committee scouted sites, and hired a firm to perform feasibility studies and preliminary design work.

“The number’s out there, and it’s relatively high,” Morin said, referring to publicly circulating estimates of over \$11 million for the new facility. “We’re looking at different designs.”

The costs that would accumulate over the coming decades, Morin argued, by continuing to store many of the department’s 32 vehicles outdoors must be taken into account in the town’s investment in a garage to house them properly, as would fuel costs saved by siting the garage near the town’s road salt and fuel depots.

Jeff Singleton of Precinct 1 asked whether the capital improvements committee (CIC) was “in the loop”. Morin said his committee had met with them, and that the CIC had voted on the idea: “Three abstained, and one no.... They were looking for more information, which we’re still working on,” he said.

CIC chair Fred Bowman added that they had approved the general idea of a new building for the department.

Bob McDonald, the new superintendent of the town’s water pollution control facility (WPCF), represented his department for **Articles 2 through 7**. McDonald said he was originally drawn to the plant due to its unconventional sludge reduction process, but that before he was hired, understaffing forced employees to revert to a traditional process, and after that, the state Department of Environmental Protection tasked the town with a

one-year “pilot study” documenting the novel one.

McDonald has hired three new employees, and asked the town to create a chief operator position to serve as second in command. “We lost five employees, and replaced four,” he said, explaining how the new position, as well as grade increases he requested in four others, should result in a roughly even departmental staffing budget as compared with the previous fiscal year.

Town administrator Steve Ellis said the new pay classifications were appropriate to the employees’ revised job descriptions, and McDonald said he had polled similar plants around the county and state during the restructuring. Memoranda of understanding have been signed with the United Electrical Workers and the Town of Montague Employees Association.

“This pilot study gets us started,” warned selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz. “There needs to be substantial changes to the plant if we continue... It could literally mean millions of dollars of upgrades to the facility, to operate this to its highest potential.”

All six articles were passed.

Article 8 established a special fund to pay for medical bills for police injured on duty, or overtime pay to cover their leave, that the selectboard would be able to spend from. Town accountant Carolyn Olsen explained that this was prompted by the state Municipal Modernization Act, which required that insurance reimbursements go into the town’s general fund rather than a revolving fund.

“Montague has gone through hell, in the past, dealing with overtime,” said Sam Lovejoy of Precinct 1. “This is a management question, and it goes to the heart

of, how do you oversee the police department?”

Olsen clarified that the fund could only be used to pay overtime for officers filling in for other officers injured on duty.

Discussion of the article featuring contentious digression ensued.

From the floor, David Detmold challenged police chief Charles “Chip” Dodge to explain to the meeting why his department had been suspended since summer from the regional prescription drug drop-off program, as well as the Anti-Crime Task Force, two programs overseen by the Northwest District Attorney’s office, and why he had been suspended for three days last June.

Town moderator Ray Godin attempted to cut Detmold off. “You are out of order,” he said.

“I’m not out of order, you’re out of order,” Detmold replied, and the argument escalated. Detmold appealed to his fellow town meeting members, but found no support for his demands.

Godin read MGL Chapter 39, Section 17, which empowered him to have “disorderly” persons removed from town meeting if need be, saying that in twenty years of moderating he had never had to read the statute. Detmold removed himself to the hallway, to return later.

The article was approved.

Article 9 allocated an additional \$3,000 toward the project to develop a master plan for the town airport. Airport commissioner Peter Golrick said new regulations raised the master plan’s cost from \$167,000 to \$225,000. After some discussion, including questions about why a plan cost so much money, the article also passed.

The final article, **Article 10**, allocated up to \$100,000 for board-

ing windows, removing debris, and repairing roofs at the town-owned Strathmore mill complex. The building has been damaged by intruders and a recent sprinkler break, and according to Ellis, the highway department does not have the capacity to carry out the work necessary to comply with recent fire and building department orders, including an order “received with the push of the state fire marshal’s office.”

Ellis said he hoped bids would come in around \$85,000, leaving some money to spend repairing the sprinkler system.

Town meeting members were critical of the continued spending on the property, which has yet to attract a suitable developer after a decade of public ownership.

“When are you guys going to stop? It’s ridiculous,” said Dave Thompson of Precinct 4.

“The first step is being made to remove that building, which is to remove the hazardous materials,” said building inspector David Jensen. “So, if you are in favor of demolishing that building, step one is finance that.”

Ellis gave an estimate of \$4 to \$5 million for demolition of the complex, and some discussion ensued about the idea of demolishing a section of the complex, though Jensen spoke against the idea.

\$385,000 was appropriated by a previous town meeting for abatement of asbestos and other hazardous materials, but that work has not yet been done. Ellis said the town was looking for grants that could pay for the work.

“I hate to see us put more and more money into this building,” said Kuklewicz. “But really, it’s become a public safety issue.”

The article passed, and the meeting adjourned.

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MONTAGUE REPORTER



Jane and Stephan Smith of Turners Falls browse the Montague Reporter in Sonoma, California.

Going somewhere? Take us with you! Send photos to editor@montaguereporter.org.

ON THE ROAD

PIPELINE from page A1

and related pollution issues. Women are in the forefront of these fights: the conference leadership, the two powerful keynote speakers, many workshop presenters, many honorees at the close of the day, and most participants were women – of various ages, although with few participants of color.

The conference focused on citizen action, not theory. But the shadow of Trump-era environmental policy, and “the polluter-industrial complex,” hung in the air. Broude mentioned \$2 billion in pending cuts to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), asking, “Where do we go from here?”

“When neighbors join together for common goals,” she answered, “then hard times can bring us together.”

That was the case here in our own area, when residents of towns in western Massachusetts and New Hampshire joined to fight – and eventually defeat – the Kinder-Morgan NED pipeline, planned to carry fracked natural gas across the region. Several local women from North Quabbin Pipeline Action, Climate Action Network, and No Fracked Gas in Mass were among those honored for determined and successful resistance.

Especially moving was the morning keynote talk by Kandi Mossett, of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara indigenous communities, whose ancestral lands surround the Missouri River in North Dakota. A lead organizer from the Indigenous Environmental Network, Mossett presented the background to the Dakota Ac-

cess Pipeline struggle, from the 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty’s theft of traditional lands to the environmentally and socially devastating effects of hydraulic fracturing for oil.

She described the rapid development of fracking in the Bakken Shale from 2006, and many dangerous side effects: cancers; violence against native peoples; contamination of water; and “spills every single day.” Contaminated and radioactive wastewater from fracking is dumped on roads, has spilled massively into a creek leading to the Missouri River, and contaminated the local Lake Sakakawea.

The speaker tearfully described terrible deaths of loved ones related to fracking development. And then, the months-long determined actions of the water protectors at Standing Rock, and violence used against them.

Mossett urged support for the ongoing struggle at Standing Rock by joining in actions this week, and working to defund that pipeline project. (Videos of her talk, and more, can be seen at www.facebook.com/ToxicsActionCenter.)

Workshops offered information and skills, from improving social media to labor and environmental relations (“in the Age of Trump”), corporate connections of contaminants and climate, and much more. It was hard not being able to go to all, but the many exchanges during workshops and conference were clearly energizing, with many communities represented – and active.

The final speaker, Lois Gibbs, is best known as the housewife

Local Connections...

On Saturday, March 11, there will be a “Rally to Stand with Standing Rock and Native Nations” at noon on the Greenfield Town Common. See also www.defunddapl.org.

On Sunday, March 26, from 4 to 6 p.m., North Quabbin Energy will hold a program on “Local Actions for the Climate” at the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main St., Athol.

Dr. Nathanael Fortune, Smith College science professor and Whately energy committee member, will speak on “The Science and Basics of Climate Change.” See northquabbinenergy.org.

founder in 1978 of the Love Canal Homeowners’ Association, successfully campaigning for relocation from their heavily contaminated community on the chemical waste-filled Love Canal near Niagara Falls. In 1981, Lois founded the DC-based Center for Health, Environment & Justice.

Retelling the story of Love Canal, she urged participants to “talk to neighbors, stand together... Don’t use violence, but don’t back down!”

Anna Gyorgy lives in Wendell and works on the international website www.wloe.org.



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WEST ALONG THE RIVER: Kim Gregory's Time Machine

Kimon C. Gregory (February 13, 1924 – February 24, 2017) was a World War II veteran, former CBS news programmer in the era of Edward R. Murrow, gentleman, and raconteur. He was the last of the Town Criers of Old Deerfield and of the Town of Erving where he resided in his retirement.

The following story about him appeared as a "Village Sketchbook" column in the Montague Reporter on July 22, 2010.

By DAVID BRULE

ERVINGSIDE – It's not every day you get to take the road down to Boston with the Father of the Country in the car, along with John Field, 18th-century tavern keeper, plus Kim Gregory, Town Crier.

The old Jeep could have been getting crowded that day with all of us in the front seat!

Luckily for me, the Tavern Wench had stayed home nursing a sore back. But we did miss her salty tongue and fine skill at cursing....

As it was, the Tavern-keeper was keeping us entertained, and fortunately the Jeep had no sunroof, otherwise George would have stood up all the way through Athol, Fitchburg and Concord, much as he had done in that boat on the Delaware. He did keep us amused with stories of his youth, and by the way, confirmed that the business with the cherry tree and wooden false teeth was just a lot of hogwash. Never happened.

When things quieted down a bit, the trip became a little more manageable as GW's current incarnation, Kim Gregory of the multiple historical personalities, filled me in on his current mission.

As we motored down Route 2 towards Logan Airport, Gregory shed the various other identities he assumed as an historical actor to be just Kim Gregory, the 18th century Town Crier. And today, his tri-cornered hat was safely stowed away in the luggage and replaced by a jaunty driving cap.

So there we were on the road to Boston in early June. Gregory was on a mission for



Historical accuracy: Kimon Gregory and his wife Carol, in character at Old Deerfield, in this undated file photo.

sure. He had been chosen, one of four, to represent the US at the International Town Crier Competition in Chester, England.

This would be a sentimental journey of sorts for Gregory, since he had spent a good part of his younger days in Europe as a Marine in the Army Intelligence Corps, and later as a news correspondent.

But more about that in a bit.

This current chapter started out when Gregory, as official greeter for Historic Deerfield, Inc., knee britches, colonial tricorner and all, entered a town crier competition, as a member of the Town Criers' Guild. An original essay (a piece of cake for a former news reporter), and a few recommendations, and there he was, a finalist.

Chester, England was hosting the event, which included

criers from Canada, Australia, France and Germany, 30 in all, including a woman crier from New Zealand. The event was funded by the participating businesses in Chester.

The competing criers were to compose four cries: one mentioning numerous times Gregory's sponsor, Philip Zay, president of Historic Deerfield, another (in Gregory's case) an upper echelon chain store featuring high-end women's apparel, and two of personal choosing.

Gregory wrote an original cry touting Old Deerfield and his *pièce de résistance* was to be a cry reminding Boston residents (of the 1700s) not to have a Merry Christmas, because in puritan New England, Christmas was banned.

His eyes twinkled as he told of the mischievous way he would turn his phrases, and

see **CRIER** page B6

A History Not Often Told: The French in New England

By NINA ROSSI

TURNERS FALLS – "I have a story to tell you," began Jeanne Douillard, speaking to a large audience Saturday at the Great Falls Discovery Center. As the crowd sat thawing their digits frozen by sub-zero wind chills on the way to the Great Hall, Jeanne spoke earnestly about what prompted her research into her French roots some 35 years ago.

"My questions started in Colorado in the 1970s with a couple of experiences I had there. Though it took years to connect them, what I heard and observed there became something that changed my life." Jeanne explained that when she observed how Mexicans were treated with derision, and she found herself identifying with them, having experienced prejudice growing up Franco-American in Springfield, MA. The second thing that happened was that people there were "awed" that she could speak French. This is not how her ability to speak French was perceived at home; growing up, it was more about shame than pride.

She returned to New England in the 1980s and began to do genealogical work. In searching for her own roots, she discovered the larger story of the French emigrants in North America, a story she feels eager to



In Québec, this little dancing man is called a Gigau. Jeanne Douillard has him tapping his way through a traditional French céel during her talk at the Discovery Center.

share with a wider audience. Her work was included in a Republican Newspapers publication *Building a Better Life: The French-Canadians in Western Massachusetts* in 2015. She has also published *I Remember...Je Me Souviens* about the *Québécois* and *Acadiens* heritage in New England. Recently, she has applied for Massachusetts Cultural Council grants to give presentations of her

research in various towns.

One important realization she made through her research is that there is no "Canuck" or French-Canadian language. The dialect of the French settlers who came to the Maritime provinces of Canada in the early 1600s simply did not change under outside influences like the language did in France. People are pronouncing the

see **FRENCH** page B4

THEATER PREVIEW:

The Lion King Jr. at TFHS

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

TURNERS FALLS – Performances begin next week for *The Lion King Jr.* at Turners Falls High School.

According to musical director Kayla Roth, about 35 students from both Turners Falls High School and Great Falls Middle School are taking part in this production, participating as actors, stage crew, sound and lighting technicians.

Masks are being created by Jonathan Chappell with the help of students in his special effects classes. The show features a lot of music and dancing, with students on stilts, a rock wall and some fantastic gymnastic cho-

reography by Assistant Director Sue Dresser.

The Lion King Jr. is a special version based on the original animated film and Broadway musical, developed for school performance with music and lyrics by Elton John and Tim Rice.

Performances are on Thursday and Friday, March 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 18 at 2 p.m. in the TFHS auditorium.

Tickets are \$6 for students and senior citizens, and \$8 for the general public. Tickets will only be sold at the door.

This promises to be a very enjoyable show with good entertainment for the whole family.



Students at TFHS practice walking on "stilts" for the musical The Lion King Jr.

Bead Craft & Mosaic Art in Wendell

By ROSIE HEIDKAMP

WENDELL – Jane Litwin Taylor's *Catching The Light* is a collection of mosaic art and beadwork on display case greeting patrons in the main lobby at the Wendell Free Library. The collection consists of eight round mosaic pieces, between 8 and 12 inches in diameter, made with recycled stained glass on wood and an assemblage of beadwork using glass seed beads, crystals and gemstones.

Completely self-taught in the mosaic arts,



One of Jane Taylor's glass mosaic works.

Litwin Taylor clearly brings a deep passion to her process of taking small fragments and transforming them in to works of richness, beauty and luminescence.

From the woods of Wendell, the artist draws much of her inspiration from the extensive gardens she and her husband tend to, stating that "these pieces invite the viewer to imagine themselves amid the splendid floral textures and patterns of a summer garden."

As an accomplished bead artist for 28 years, Litwin Taylor has taken her formal training in traditional Native American beadwork craft to create contemporary wearable and decorative art, many pieces of which are on display in this collection.

The artist describes her work as not only a metaphor for examining and healing our collective and individual brokenness but also a form of therapeutic release for her own daily struggle with debilitating pain and illness.

Catching The Light is a vibrant body of work that exudes passion, depth, and radiance. The exhibit will be on display for the month of March and April. Library hours are Tuesdays noon to 7 p.m., Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Sundays 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Pet of the Week

Hi ya! I'm Grayson. I'm nervous at first but then I love to hang out on the couch, or entertain myself (and you) with toys.

I'm a handsome indoor boy and don't like to mess up my silky long hair out of doors. I'm good with kids and dogs, but I need a few minutes to warm up to strangers. I love to be scratched along my neck and chin, but leave the belly alone – I'm too cool for that nonsense.

I'm a bit of a night owl and I'd really like to snuggle and cuddle with you then. I was born right around Christmas in 2015 and I think the best belated Christmas present you could give yourself is... ME!

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



“GRAYSON”

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The Gill Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at Noon.

Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11:00 A.M. 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. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. 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.

Tues–Thurs Noon Lunch
M, W 10:10 a.m. Aerobics, 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
Monday 3/13
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday 3/14
10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
Wednesday 3/15
9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach
12:30 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 3/16
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:15 a.m. Mindful Motion
1 p.m. Cards & Games
Friday 3/17
Liberty Tax Prep Appts.
1 p.m. Writing Group

LEVERETT

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

Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free).

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

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregate meals.

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 2 days in advance. Call (413)-423-3649 for meal information and reservations.

For information, call Paula Batters, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity.

Call to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out about the next blood pressure clinic.

Monday 3/13
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
12:15 TV Family Feud
Tuesday 3/14
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
9:30 a.m. COA meeting
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
St. Patrick's Day Lunch
Wednesday 3/15
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
9:30 a.m. Blood Pressure
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Bingo, Snacks & Laughs
Thursday 3/16
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors
Friday 3/17
9 a.m. Quilting Workshop
9:30 a.m. Fun Bowling
11:30 a.m. Pizza & Dessert
12:30 p.m. Downton Abbey

WENDELL

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

FACES & PLACES

On Tuesday, New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski paid a visit to Sheffield Elementary School in Turners Falls. Gronk's visit was the school's prize for winning the statewide One Mission Buzz Off Challenge, raising nearly \$17,000 in the last few months for kids with cancer.



TFHS SPORTS from page A1

last-second basket knotted the game at 33 at the half.

It remained close until halfway through the third, when the Devils scored 6 straight points to take the lead 47-41.

Later in the period, down 46-51, Turners committed another foul. The Murdock player responded by head-butting the Turners player.

That was the spark that Turners needed. The crowd who had chanted “You can’t do that” after every Devil mistake now chanted “You can’t head-butt” in unison. Turners chipped away at the Devils’ lead, and Turners went into the final quarter down by a point, 52-53.

The mood in the gym was now filled with quiet desperation, and a fan behind me sighed hopefully, “Well, at least we’re only down by 1 point.” And as the fourth progressed, the home crowd cheered their Tribe on, not quite ready to say goodbye to the 2016-17 season and to their six seniors.

Then at 5:30 of the period, Turners finally took the lead, 58-57. And that was it for the Devils—they were out of gas. Turners sprinted out to a 10-point lead before Murdock scored another basket, and Powertown took the game 73-63.

Tionne Brown led the team with 19 points. He also had five rebounds and five assists. Kyle Bergmann had 15 points, six rebounds, and a steal.

Nick Croteau finished with 12 points, two assists and five rebounds, while Tyler Lavin had 11 points, two assists and two steals.

Anthony Peterson put up 9 points, grabbed 14 rebounds gave 10 assists; Javonni Williams helped out with 4 points, six rebounds, a steal and a block; Jeremy Wolfram also scored 4 points, with six rebounds and a steal, while James Vaughn ended with two rebounds, three assists, and a steal.

Five days later, on Tuesday, March 7, the boys played a cage match against the Hopkins Golden Eagles. It was the last contest of the night at the Curry Hicks Cage, and because two of the previous games had gone into overtime, this game didn’t start until after 8:30. But that didn’t dampen the spirit of the Boys in Blue, or the True Blue faithful who came to cheer them on.

Bergmann scored the first points of the game, and was hacked on his way to the hoop, but in a harbinger of things to come, he missed the foul shot. The Eagles began beating Blue on the boards, and shot out to a 7-2 lead. Gold increased the lead to 10 points late in the first period, though the Tribe scored the last 4 points of the quarter to make the score 18-12 after one.

Powertown came within 4 points early in the second, but then Hopkins went on a run, and led by double digits for the rest of the half. When the half ended, Turners was down by 14 points, 37-23.

The teams battled back and forth in the third. Blue was unable to cut into the lead, and after three, the deficit remained 14 points, 56-42.

Turners fought valiantly in the last quarter of the season, cutting the spread to 11 early in the fourth. But that’s as close as they got, and with the score 71-56, Coach Mullins sent in his subs, and the crowd applauded the retiring seniors.

In the last game of his high school career, Brown again scored in double digits with 12 points. Fellow senior Bergmann also hit double digits with 10. Freshman Peterson scored 9, while Wolfram and Vaughn each popped in 8. Croteau scored 6 points and Lavin got 3. Reserves Chase Novak and Kyle Dodge also scored baskets for Blue.

Girls Basketball
TFHS 51 – Lenox 47 OT
Quaboag 76 – TFHS 40

On Friday, March 3, the Turners Falls Blue Ladies beat the Lenox Millionaires in an overtime squeaker and in doing so, earned a ticket to the Cage to face the Quaboag Cougars.

The fouls came quick and furious in the opening round, keeping the score in single digits after a period, 7-3. The game continued to be very physical, and at one point in the second stanza, Abby Loynd was knocked to the ground and her shoe came flying off. It didn’t stop her from hitting a foul shot and a 2-pointer a minute later.

Although the penalties kept coming, both teams managed to score 12 points in the second, and at the half, the margin remained 4 points, 19-15.

In the second half, the fouls continued to mount. Both teams fought for rebounds and loose balls, and by the end of the game, an incredible 55 shots were taken from the charity stripe. The third was more of the same, and while the margin remained 4 points, both teams were in severe foul trouble heading into the final quarter of regulation.

At the end of the fourth, with the score tied and Turners going for the last shot, Lenox stole the ball and were fouled on the way to the hoop. The Turners players and fans watched as the Lenox player sunk two free throws to put the game at 39-37, with only six seconds left to play.

A lot can happen in six seconds. A person can breathe twice, a sprinter can bolt more than 60 yards, and in this case, Turners could success-

fully inbound and Aliyah Sanders could tie it up, sending the game into overtime.

Going into the fifth quarter, Maddy Chmyzinski, Chloe Ellis and Sanders all had four fouls, while Kylie Fleming and Loynd had three. Chmyzinski scored a bucket and then fouled out in the first minute of overtime. Then with 40 seconds left, Fleming was fouled, and hit both free throws to give Blue a 3-point cushion, 47-44.

But the Millionaires were not done yet. Lexi Lacey was called for her fourth foul, and Lenox sunk one to make it a 2-point game with 36 seconds on the clock. With time running out, however, Lenox was forced to intentionally foul, and Blue chipped in four more freebees to take the game 51-47.

Loynd was a monster on the court, shaking off a head injury to return to the contest. She finished with 16 points and took ten rebounds. Chmyzinski had 10 points, seven defensive rebounds, and made a steal.

Fleming scored 9 points and pulled down seven rebounds, while Sanders had 8 points, eight rebounds, three assists, and made an incredible five steals. Ellis had nine rebounds, two steals, and finished with 7 points.

Lacey hit a foul shot and made a steal. Hailey Bogusz had a rebound and an assist, and Emma Miner had three rebounds, while Taylor Murphy had two.

On Monday, March 6, the Blue ladies traveled to UMass to take on reigning champions Quaboag in the Curry Hicks Cage. They were all there. Cheerleaders, TFHS students, parents, faculty, boosters, the media and a very good, senior-laden Quaboag girls’ basketball team.

The Cougars came out fighting tooth and nail, and shot out to a 16-2 lead. But the Blue Tribe regained their composure and narrowed the margin to 16-6. Then at the end of the first, Quaboag hit two foul shots and a 3-pointer to go ahead 21-6.

Blue came storming back in the second and pulled within 8 points, 21-13, but that’s as close as it got. The Cougars outscored Powertown 43-22 in the middle quarters, and matched Turners’ 12 points in the fourth.

Chmyzinski dropped in four 3-pointers and five free throws, giving her 23 points in the game and 987 career points.

Fleming had 8 points, including two 3-pointers. Sanders finished with 3 points. Loynd and Miner both hit two foul shots, while Lacey and Sarah Waldron hit one each.

Next Week: Winter Stats!

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MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

Greetings from Montague Community Television! We hope your March is off to a good start. Spring is right around the corner...

This week, we'd like to draw your attention to two new MCTV videos available on our website.

The first features singer Moonlight Davis, performing at Greenfield Savings Bank. Moonlight Davis also talks about the many traditions that make up his heritage as a musician and a person. He makes a point that while this program was scheduled as part of Black History Month, it is important to acknowledge that black history is much bigger than something that can be fit into one month, and is part of every single day of the year.

Some of the songs he performs are "Smile," a gospel song by Kirk Franklin, and the popular "Happy" by Pharrell Williams. Learn more about Davis and find his event schedule by visiting moonlightand-morningstar.wordpress.com.

The second video is a presentation by Evan Pritchard on connecting sacred sites in the Nolumbeka area. He speaks to the fact that the destruction of sacred sites at Standing Rock has recently had some attention in the media, and that our local area is also rich in sacred sites, and the destruction of them in recent years has gone

unreported by the media.

Pritchard opens his presentation by quoting a call from Chief Arvol Looking Horse, Keeper of Prophecies, that the solution to turning "these terrible times" lies in the protection of sacred sites, and that to do this it is crucial to understand the importance of these sites.

In our area, Pritchard explains, there are many sacred sites in the forms of islands used for millennia as meeting places, crossroads of ancient pathways, waterfalls used for landmarks, prayer and fishing, confluences of rivers and streams, mountain tops, stone chambers and other stone structures with alignments to the sun, moon and stars.

Pritchard has done research mapping out these structures and finding where they congregate, throughout the rivers where canoe based societies lived and traveled regularly. Pritchard's idea is that by understanding the connectivity between these sites we can begin to grasp the sites' importance.

Something going on you think others would like to see? Get in touch to learn how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment. Contact us at (413) 863-9200, infomontaguenv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 Second Street in Turners between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We'd love to work with you!

UNOS: Saving Lives Each Day

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

UNOS, which stands for the United Network for Organ Sharing, helps many people get the organs they need to save their lives.

UNOS, a private organization that's not run for profit, manages the country's organ transplant system in service to the federal government. They help match people with organs by matching factors, including blood type, height, weight, and other medically relevant things connected to organ transportation. Geography is another important factor, as is with organ size.

Hearts, livers, kidneys and lungs each have individual factors that determine who should get one of them. With the exception of kidneys, medical urgency is also a major factor. All four have distance from the donor hospital involved with matching them up.

UNOS is an organization that many hospitals use when getting organs for people. The Tufts Medical Center in Boston does heart and kidney transplant surgeries. Melissa Parente, who has been director of the transplant service since August 2016, told me that with such surgeries "dozens and dozens" of medical people are involved – "somewhere between 10 and 15 per surgery," she added.

When it comes to living donations of kidneys, I learned from her that Tufts done "about 40" each year. I also know that O negative is the hardest match to find with organs and person's blood type. Parente states that "in our region, blood

type A wait time is the shortest."

Also apparently, there is basically a place in New England that helps people with finding organs they need. It's called the New England Donor Services. Laura, the community and development coordinator for seven years at the place, described UNOS this way: "They're in charge of the waiting list for organ transplant. They work with other organizations to make sure the distribution of organs is done in a way that's sufficiently fair, where it saves the most lives."

Her organization has supported, as of 2016 "1,033 transplants." She also indicated that the organ they transplant the most would be "the kidney."

"In most cases," she said, "it is the lungs that are the longest wait, when it comes to finding a match for someone."

According to the official website for UNOS, they set a new record when it comes to transplants: "more than 33,600 US organ transplants in 2016." Well, it would seem, just from the amount of people who are getting transplants just from the New England Donor Service alone, that people have done a wonderful job when it comes to helping organ donations and transplantation happen.

UNOS has certainly done that, and maybe they will even break a record again in 2017. I hope very much for that to happen. It will mean they will have helped save even more lives than they did in previous years. To keep doing better every year is a very good thing, because it means people's lives are saved.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Warrant Arrests; Loose, Lost, and Violent Dogs; Unruly Male Party; Wobbly Skunk; High Winds

Sunday, 2/26

1:06 a.m. Motor vehicle stop on Third Street. Citation issued; stop sign violation.

1:29 a.m. Motor vehicle stop on Avenue A; verbal warning for stopping completely at flashing yellow with no other traffic.

8:19 a.m. Caller reporting a small tree across Riverside Drive. Officer advises tree will need to be removed with heavy equipment. DPW notified; tree removed.

9 a.m. 911 caller reporting his small dog was just attacked by a fox. Fox looked "sick" with no hair on its tail. Animal control officer will be responding. Officer checked area for fox; unable to locate.

2:06 p.m. Checking X Street address for female with active warrant.

3:44 p.m. Caller states that there is a business sign down in the area of Avenue A and Seventh Street. Officer reports sign was not down, just unhooked on one side; not a danger to anything or anyone.

3:56 p.m. Shelburne Control advising tree down on South Prospect Street; chainsaw may be needed to cut up and remove it. Mass Highway contacted.

7:21 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a default warrant.

Monday, 2/27

12:26 a.m. Motor vehicle stop on Montague City Road. Citation issued for number plate violation.

8:26 a.m. DPW reports a damaged vehicle that appears abandoned in the parking lot near the skate park since Friday.

10:25 a.m. [redacted] on a probation warrant.

11:11 a.m. Walk-in reports that he had a "Free Junk Removal" sign stolen off of his truck while he shopped at "the Barn" in Greenfield. He was advised to make a report to Greenfield PD.

10:36 p.m. Hadley PD requests K9 unit to assist in their town.

Tuesday, 2/28

1:43 a.m. Arrested [redacted] on a default warrant and straight warrant at F.L. Roberts on Third Street.

10:05 a.m. Report of a loose black lab in the area of O Street. Animal control located the dog and brought him home.

10:15 a.m. Caller reports receiving a scam call from someone claiming to be his grandson, saying he needed money for bail.

10:18 a.m. Parks and Rec reports a red sedan with smashed windows parked outside the field house at Unity Park. Upon arrival, vehicle owner approached

officer and advised it had a flat tire. Officer advised him to have it moved within an hour.

3 p.m. Report of items dumped on the sidewalk on Park Street, including a small bookcase, a mop, and an empty bag of kitty litter. Will call DPW in the morning to request items be removed.

4:05 p.m. Report of sick-looking skunk, last seen wobbling from James Avenue to Morris Avenue into a backyard behind a shed.

4:07 p.m. Abandoned 911 call at Family Dollar. Simultaneous citizen complaint of a male party in the area. [redacted] arrested on a straight warrant.

9:16 p.m. Caller reports her vehicle was broken into while she was at St. Stan's earlier that evening. No forced entry; her window was down a couple inches.

9:38 p.m. Received two reports of breaking and entry into a Park Street garage. Garage cleared; no one inside. Erving PD and state police helped check the area.

11:25 p.m. Accidental burglar alarm at Heat-Fab.

Wednesday, 3/1

1:22 a.m. Call reports "shotgun shots" in area of Eleventh Street. Unfounded.

8:06 a.m. Complaint of tractor-trailer unit idling in Food City parking lot. Caller is concerned that the exhaust is polluting the environment. All units tied up at this time.

11:43 a.m. Walk-in party attempted to file a missing person's report on his daughter. Her last known address and hangouts are in Greenfield. Referred to Greenfield PD.

12:28 p.m. SSgt. Williams, off duty, called to advise of a crew working without a detail on North Leverett Road. Officer Miner was unable to locate. SSgt. Williams requested extra patrols, as the crew is supposed to be continuing work in the area.

12:31 p.m. Officer conducted a motor vehicle stop in front of Rite Aid; registration status was showing expiration as of today. Owner renewed in the officer's presence.

6:08 p.m. Caller reported

she was parked on First Street near the bridge abutment when a woman in another car parked next to her, rolled down her window and began singing loudly; then parked behind her car, got out, and took pictures of the caller, her fiancé, and her license plate, then drove toward Avenue A. Advised of options.

8:49 p.m. Avenue C caller reports that the tenants in the basement unit were being loud, and that her husband had gone down to speak to them and an argument had ensued. Peace restored.

Thursday, 3/2

9:15 a.m. Report of trash bags that blew into the road on Chestnut Street.

9:40 p.m. Report of a recycling bin and contents that blew into the road on Fourth Street.

2:43 p.m. TF Fire Department reporting a white Jeep that passed a school bus on Millers Falls Road. Unable to locate.

2:44 p.m. Two-car accident, Route 47 and 63 crossover. No injury, minor damage. Pontiac Vibe owner at fault.

3:49 p.m. Caller reports her jacket and car keys were stolen from the Franklin County Technical School teachers' lounge. Incident being investigated by school resource officer.

4:37 p.m. Report of a construction barrel being blown around James Avenue by the wind. Resecured.

8:35 p.m. "C1" requesting officers respond for an unruly male party at the town meeting at the high school. Male party has calmed down and has been allowed back into the meeting.

8:41 p.m. Caller reports he was just rear-ended by another vehicle at the high school.

10:01 p.m. Center Street caller reports a suspicious vehicle. Called back and believes it is just people empty sap buckets from trees.

Friday, 3/3

11:27 a.m. Davis Street caller requests removal of unwanted female. He did not recall the female's name but described her as [redacted]. Female was intoxicated last night and spent the night, and

now is yelling and locked out of caller's apartment. Peace restored. Female left. Units standing by.

12:02 p.m. Report of loose dog at Route 47/63 crossover. Dog returned home.

12:12 p.m. Caller from Davis Street reports the female returned, forced her way inside his apartment, and assaulted him. Parties could be heard yelling at each other throughout the call. Officers en route. Peace restored; female left.

2:56 p.m. Elm Street caller reports her dog missing when she returned home. Later called back; he returned safely.

3:28 p.m. Report of a hypodermic needle on the bike path near Greenfield Road. Needle located and disposed of.

4:47 p.m. Report of a wire down on G Street. Appears to be a phone wire. Verizon notified.

6:06 p.m. Caller reports that when her son was walking their dog on Millers Falls Road earlier, a large pit bull, not on any leash, came running and attacked it. Her son fought the pit bull off and it went back to its yard. Their dog has multiple puncture wounds and other injuries and was taken immediately to the vet. Caller made contact with the pit bull's owner, who said he would take full responsibility for the bills. Animal control officer notified.

Saturday, 3/4

7:30 a.m. 911 call: Central Street resident just arrived home from work, smells gas. Building checked and cleared by fire department.

2:19 p.m. Caller reports finding a large bulldog walking loose on Turners Falls Road in Greenfield. She picked it up and took it to the shelter on Turnpike Road, which was closed.


Another call reported two people had walked into her driveway and took (stole) her dog. Parties advised to come to the PD parking lot; officer will mediate return of dog.

7:34 p.m. Motor vehicle stop on Second Street. Verbal warning for going the wrong way down a one-way street.

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FRENCH from page B1
old French of Louis XIV.

There has been much language suppression of these old French speakers both in Canada and elsewhere. Growing up, Jeanne remembers that a nun at her parochial high school told students in a French language class “not to listen to those kids – they don’t know how to speak French!” about those who had grown up speaking it.

The French settlers who came in the 1600s to what is present-day Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, Prince Edward Isle, and portions of eastern Quebec to the Kennebunk River in Maine, were called Acadians. Those who settled farther inland in the French territory of *Canadie*, or Canada, were Canadian, and developed a slightly different identity than those in the Maritime provinces.

France of the 1600s was still feu-

dal: Louis the XIV ruled for 72 years under the divine right of God, subject to no man, and the French Catholic church was a very strong authority, running the hospitals and schools and owning most of the land.

Traditions of subservience were carried over onto the new continent of North America. The French emigrants, Jeanne found, “were a good people, an obedient people.” They were kept powerless by church and state in the French territories, and practiced habitual subservience to the Catholic church.

In the maritime provinces, settlers successfully farmed a surplus on marshland unwanted by the natives, using a unique system of dykes to drain the fertile land. The English gained the lands of Acadie in 1713 in the Treaty of Utrecht. A group of British Americans from Massachusetts decided to expel the

Acadiens from that good land, strategically located at the mouth of the St Lawrence River, in what became known as the Great Disturbance.

Starting in 1755, thousands were taken from their homes and put on cargo ships for transportation to ports up and down the coast and as far south as Louisiana (the people there became “Cajuns”). In all, over 11,000 were deported, according to Jeanne’s research, with conditions on board these resettlement ships bad enough that many died on the journey. This ethnic cleansing went on for nine years.

In 1763, the French territories were split up between England and Spain. Those French who remained in Acadie were oppressed and poor. Education was not encouraged in Acadia or Canada; women were encouraged to breed large families; there was a general subjugation of the populace.

Jeanne paused several times in her talk to sing songs from the past. Music and family, were intertwined in her Franco-American heritage, as were “burdens of in superiority and rage...which I didn’t understand until I learned this story.”

The original settlers lived within a feudal system in Canada. “it’s all they knew,” explained Jeanne. “Priests told them what to do. The British started using the power of the Church very consciously after an 1830s event called the Patriote Movement in Montreal. It was a rebellion, they were fighting back against the British and they were crushed very badly.” Jeanne wants to assure people she is not interested in bashing the Church, but certain things happened and the truth should be told. “Then the British got the Church complicit in keeping them down, suppressing them, admonishing them, and of course, they were obedient to the church.”

After the Civil War and the gearing up of the Industrial Revolution in the US, recruiters came up to Canada to get workers for the new mills. The French who came to New England often found themselves despised and at odds with other



Author Jeanne Douillard.

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was March 8, 2007: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.

New Bakery Opens in Turners Falls

Sometimes two heads – or bakers in this case – are better than one. Such seems to be case for the two Pattys of “Patty Cake Patty Cake,” a new bakery that opened its doors yesterday at 104 Fourth Street.

Patricia McClellan of Montague, former owner of Blue Skies, the bakery and cafe that operated in the same location four years ago, and Patrice Young, of Turners Falls, agreed to join forces last summer to offer a wide array of delectable cakes, pies, whoopee pies, muffins, scones, cupcakes, coffee cakes, wedding cakes, fine desserts and much more – all homemade from scratch with loving care – at 95 Main Street in Northfield.

Now, just three months after opening there, they are spending their days closer to home, beating batter and whipping frostings into a flurry in the space most recently occupied by the *bellybowl* restaurant.

Can Montague Afford Curbside Recycling?

The finance committee held a hearing on the costs and benefits of continuing the town’s curbside recycling program on Wednesday. DPW superintendant Tom Bergeron explained the program costs the town at least \$47,000 a year, not counting labor for the two truck drivers who pick up recyclables for residents and businesses three days a week. That figure takes into account the approximately \$20,000 the town gets back from Materials Recycling Facility in Springfield for bringing their marketable recyclables there.

Bergeron said the program’s cost escalates due to ongoing maintenance to the recycling trucks’ brakes, every three to six months, which totals at least \$10,000 a year. He said the town has to purchase a new recycling truck every seven years, and the new ones will have to meet California emission standards, adding \$10,000 to their price tag. The best price he could find recently for a new recycling truck was \$148,000.

Work Continues to Prepare Skate Park

Under mounds of snow sits the Montague Skate Park. The snow didn’t stop a crew of community members from spending the afternoon of February 24 in 20-degree weather attending to some necessary repairs.

In fact, it was the second time during the month of February that a group has spent the afternoon working away at the list of tasks that must be completed before the skate park can safely reopen.

Under the tutelage of Jeff Aho, director of the Brick House, volunteers spent their afternoon replacing damaged sheets of plywood and adding cross-bracing to the largest ramps to provide extra strength and stability. With the goal of having the park reopened for the summer of 2007, this crew of dedicated volunteers has worked to cross tasks off the list, one by one.

With the new fence installed at the beginning of the year, and the dangerously damaged ramps removed, the light at the end of the tunnel is growing brighter. The short list of tasks to complete now consists of replacing a few more sheets of plywood, installing some metal edging, removing debris, and receiving final safety approval from the town.

groups, such as the Irish immigrants, who were pushing for labor rights. The French from Canada were uneducated, because this was not promoted by the Church, but they were desirable to the mill owners because of their habit of obeisance.

Growing up in her *La Petite Canada* neighborhood of Brightwood, she experienced “a great deal of self deprecation – it wasn’t really funny stuff, people just felt they had nothing to contribute, nothing to say. But they are a proud people. It broke my heart when I became aware of the pain behind all of this.”

Jeanne invited the audience to think about the expression “Pardon my French.” I had never thought about this before, but learned that this is not poking fun at a European country, but a put-down of a language associated with dirty, uneducated mill hands.

More shocking than the ethnic cleansing of Acadia in the 1700s was the forced sterilization of thousands of Franco-American and Abenaki women in Vermont during the 1930s. Vermont was the only state in the nation to legalize sterilization on the grounds of maintaining racial purity.

Jeanne ran across a reference to this in a novel and pursued it because she could hardly believe it was true, but, it turns out that over 130,000 women were sterilized in Vermont in the name of eugenics.

There are stories to be told, aren’t there? “Too often it is the victor who tells the story,” noted Jeanne, “and this story, the story of the French in New England has been suppressed. I met a man from Washington State at a talk I gave in Worcester, and he handed me a copy of a book he had written on this very same subject! I was amazed. There is a current and we are in it, we are having these conversations and telling these stories...”

Jeanne Douillard will be at the Chicopee Public Library on Tuesday May 23 at 4 p.m. to give her talk on *The Silent Presence*. On Wednesday June 7 she will present at the Greenfield Public Library at noon as part of the First Wednesday lecture series. She is online at silentpresence1.wordpress.com or email silentpresence1@gmail.com. She lives in Greenfield.



Gill Emergency System Goes Online

GILL – The town of Gill has implemented the CodeRED system, a high-speed emergency notification service provided by Ormond Beach, Florida-based Emergency Communications Network.

The CodeRED system will serve as the backbone of the town’s emergency planning and communications outreach to both citizens and town personnel by using the system capabilities to send telephone calls, text messages, and emails in an effort to effectively inform residents to protect life and property.

CodeRED, among other notification systems available, was selected for its unrivaled reliability and accuracy, as well as the system’s global use. Learn how the system

works at vimeo.com/119148502.

“The CodeRED system will provide Gill officials with a reliable, easy-to-use interface to quickly distribute critical information to our citizens during emergencies. We are very eager to use this technology to enhance our emergency preparedness plans,” said emergency management director Gene Beaubien.

The town anticipates using the system to notify residents and businesses town-wide or in specific geographic locations of road closures, detours, flooding, and other emergency conditions. The system will also be used to provide important general notices such as holiday- and weather-related changes to the trash & recycling collection schedule.

The town has been provided an initial database of residential and business telephone numbers. However, all residents living within Gill town limits are encouraged to visit www.gillmass.org and click on the CodeRED logo to enroll additional contact information, including cell phone numbers, text and email addresses. No one should automatically assume they are in the emergency contact database.

Public safety officials across the United States have credited CodeRED notifications for many successful events including locating missing children, apprehending wanted criminals and issuing timely evacuations. Learn more at vimeo.com/emergcommnetwrk/videos.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ONGOING EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY

McCusker's Co-op Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians of all levels welcome to play traditional Irish music. 10:30 a.m.

Underdog Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Jazz Night*. 6 p.m.

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

EVERY MONDAY

Greenfield Harmony Spring Session; come join the community chorus. No auditions. 6:45 p.m. Contact mcbraas@vermontel.net for location and details.

EVERY TUESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: Crafts and activities for children of all ages. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time*: Stories, projects, and snacks for young children and their caretakers. 10:15 a.m.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Tales and Tunes Story Hour*. Ages 0 to 5 and caregivers. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Homeschool Science. Hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)* activities for homeschoolers of all ages, with Angela or special guest. 1 p.m.

New Salem Public Library: *Teen and Tweens*. Program for 11 to 18 year olds. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Jazz Series with Ted Wirt and his Hammond B3*. 7 p.m.

3rd WEDNESDAY MONTHLY

Root Cellar, Greenfield: Roots at the Root Cellar. Reggae DJs mixing up roots, dub, dancehall, steppas and more. 9 p.m. Free.

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY

Arts Block (4th floor), Greenfield: *Creacion Latin Big Band*

& *Late Night Open Mic JAM*. 20 piece ensemble play son, salsa, chacha and much more. 8 p.m. Open Mic starts at 9 p.m. Free.

EVERY THURSDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson*. Children and their caregivers invited. 10 to 11 a.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Open Mic*. 6 to 8 p.m.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Franklin County Pool League*. 6 to 11 p.m.

The People's Pint, Greenfield: *Derek Bridges*. Live acoustic guitar. 7 p.m.

2nd AND 4TH THURSDAY

Hubie's Tavern: *TNT Karaoke*. 9 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *It's Kidleidoscope!* Each Week includes a story, interactive games, and a craft to introduce you and your child to the natural world. Program recommended for ages 3-6 with a parent or guardian. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Dickinson Memorial Library, Northfield: *Story Hour with Dana Lee*. For pre-schoolers and their caregivers. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 8 p.m.

The Alvah Stone, Montague Center: *Eli Catlin*. Country Blues.

EVERY FOURTH FRIDAY

Community Yoga and Wellness Center, Greenfield: Greenfield Circle Dance. 6 to 8 p.m. \$

FIRST SATURDAY MONTHLY

Dickinson Memorial Library, Northfield: *Harry Potter book discussion*; trivia, activities and a snack. Each movie will be shown the following Friday evening. 1 to 3 p.m.

EXHIBITS:

Artspace, Greenfield: *The Real Remembered by Esther S. White*. Closing reception Friday, March 24, 5 to 7 p.m.

Domestic Darlings, Turners Falls: *Rumpled Beds*, photographs and collages by *Trish Crapo*. Through March.

GCTV, Greenfield: *Alice Thomas's "Whispers" series*; paintings about endangered and extinct species in nature. Through March 28.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Montague Favorite Places Exhibit*. Fans of Montague created art about their favorite places in all of our villages. Come see the results! Through April 23.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls:

What Does Your Flag Look Like? Three-dimensional lines of paint, wire, cloth, wood, metal and more consider how the symbolic language of the flag can be used to communicate who we are in the year 2017. Until March 25.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Nathan Hanford: Friendship Thread*; portraits of friends and *Artworks by Veterans of Soldier On*. Embroidery, Mixed Media. Reception, Saturday, March 11, 4 to 6 p.m. Music: Blue Moon Trio. Through April. Also, Lower Gallery: *Mohawk Trail Middle & High School Visual Arts Showcase*. Through April.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery: *Guest Exhibit by Lana Fiala*, featuring recent paintings focusing on children. Reception Saturday, March 12. Through April 2.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Spring Preview*, a group show by member artists. Through March 27.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Jane Litwin Taylor's Catching The Light*. Mosaic art and beadwork. Through April.

SUBMISSIONS:

Call for Art: *Exploded View* is curating a community art show at the Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls in May. Artists living in Western Massachusetts can submit wall art on the theme of rivers and water for this "Catch and Release" exhibit. Deadline April 22. Submit up to three jpegs to explodedviewma@gmail.com. Questions? 413.834.8800.

Conway's Sestercentennial (250th birthday). Request for Proposals for one act plays to be performed on Friday, June 9, and Saturday, June 10th, 2017 at the Sportsman's Club Pavillion. Send all proposals and questions to Mike at verybratty@aol.com.

GCC's literary journal, *Plum*, announces the Michael Doherty Writing Contest open to all writers from the W. Mass., southern VT, and southern NH. Cash prizes. Deadline April 20. Submit to: plumeditors@gmail.com. Questions?: mwilliams-russell@gcc.mass.edu

Slate Roof Press announces the 2017 Elyse Wolf Prize for their annual poetry chapbook contest. Deadline June 15. Details at: <http://slateroofpresscontest.submittable.com/submit>.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Full Circle School, Bernardston: *Full Circle School History Fair!* Students portray scientists and inventors. 5:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Doug Plavin All Stars* with special guest *Richard Chase*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

It's Kidleidoscope! This week it's coyotes. See Friday, OnGo-

ing Events for details. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Sloan Theater, GCC, Greenfield: *Morning and Evening*, GCC Chorus spring semester concert series preview. 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Franklin Country Tech. School presents Every U.S. Election Ever* by Ian McWethy. 6:30 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Rise Up and Sing with Annie Patterson & Peter Blood*. [Reported last week as happening 3/3; this is the corrected date]. 7 p.m. Donations.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Simon White & Friends*. Reggae/Soul. 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Franklin Country Tech School presents *Every U.S. Election Ever* by Ian McWethy. 6:30 p.m. \$.

Montague Common Hall, Montague: *Open Mic Night #10*, Big town performance art in a tiny village. 7 p.m.

Wendell Old Town Hall, Wendell: Full Moon Coffeehouse presents *Wendell's own Homegrown Variety Show with Beat Poetry, Women Drummers and Giant Gas Planets*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Friends Meetinghouse, Leverett: *Reggie Harris*, singer/songwriter, and *Pat Wictor*, innovative slide guitarist, share the stage. 7:30 p.m. \$

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Apple Hill String Quartet : Mozart at the Bookmill, with special guest violinist Jesse Holstein*. 8 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Bucky Hayes and the Commonwealth*. Roots rock. 8 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Charles Allin, Pussyvision, Jen Gelineau, and Scott Allison*. All ages / substance free. \$.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Barrett Anderson*. Hypno Boogie Blues. 9 p.m.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *First Saturday Free Throwback Dance Party*. Ladies night. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Blu-Groove Organ Trio*. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Crow's Rebellion*. Warped Americana with Steve Crow, Peter Kim, and Joe Fitzpatrick. 8 p.m.

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

MONDAY, MARCH 13

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scotty K's Open Mic*. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Longfellows*. Funky Blues with Tommy Filiault, Doug Plavin, and Klondike Koehler. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half-Shaved Jazz*.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Wet Tuna, Noise Nomads / Matt Krefling duo, Trevor Healy, and Green Hill Builders*. 8 p.m. \$

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Uncle Hal's Crab Grass Band*. Americana-ana. 6:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Four Rivers Charter School presents Sherlock Holmes and the West End Horror*. 6:30 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Jess Klein*, singer/songwriter, and *Joseph Parsons*, pop rock. 8 p.m.



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CRIER from page B1

how he had talked the Santa Claus at Yankee Candle out of a bag of snow (artificial that is) to be used as his *coup de théâtre*. He would doff his tri-cornered hat at the end of his warning about Christmas and taking a bow he planned on waving his hat with its brimful of Yankee snow! This, said Gregory, was going to be fun.

My job in all this was to make sure George Washington, the tavern keeper, and Kim Gregory all got to the airport on time. As I mentioned, unfortunately the Tavern Wench was home nursing a sore back, so Carol Gregory herself was not making the trip.

As the Jeep ate up the miles, Gregory regaled us all with tales about his WWII adventures and later capers as correspondent for CBS after the war. Good talk shortens the road, and good talkers are never lacking in stories.

Gregory took us back 66 years when, just after D-Day, he landed in France, working in military intelligence (a wisecracking friend would call that an oxymoron). He was with the 97th Infantry, 3rd Army, and was headed through the Ruhr towards Czechoslovakia.

Gregory's job was to move along with General Patton's army, just behind the front lines, so close they could hear the bullets ripping through the air, and liberate and clear sensitive sites such as government offices or officers' headquarters used by the Germans. Documents needed to be secured before

they were damaged or removed by soldiers clearing the town and looking for souvenirs. Gregory's unit had to hold documents before valuable evidence was lost. Some of this evidence eventually would help convict and hang German war criminals at Nuremberg.

Other adventures were on the humorous side; one that he could tell, and we could print, involved the priest of the unit, who ran out of wine for the Mass one time in Normandy. Gregory and a few others volunteered to go out looking for some *vin rouge*. The mayor of Fécamp in Normandy opened his wine cellar to them, gave them what they needed, and then some!

Gregory chuckled in telling how his group of buddies turned over most of the wine to the priest but kept a few bottles for personal use. They also managed to liberate a few bottles of Benedictine brandy. "We had excellent breakfast for days," commented Gregory. "That brandy sure went well with our powdered egg rations!"

Shortly after the war, Gregory was taken on by CBS to work in various European news desks. London, Paris, Rome, Bonn were part of his beat. He remembered having accumulated ten weeks of paid vacation, and you can believe he cashed in on that debt. He spent every last day of it visiting Europe and CBS news desks, and included a visit to his parents' homeland in Greece.

Before we knew it, we were standing on the curb at Terminal E at Logan, with half our stories fin-

ished. Out came the luggage from the back of the Jeep, Gregory adjusted his sporty cap, and stepped into the terminal, off to challenge the world for the Town Criers' Cup.

A few weeks later, Gregory provided the postscript to his visit to Mother England. The competition was strong, he said. Some of the costumes and wardrobes were even extravagant.

Gregory had opted for a conservative set of clothes, feeling that was more in keeping with his identity as a New England Puritan. He had worn his homemade cloak with pride, elegant and simple as it was, and stitched by his wench, er, wife! Carol. But clearly many of the competitors had invested hundreds and hundreds of dollars in their outfits.

Gregory counted on the inspired originality of his cries, touting the businesses supporting him, Historic Deerfield, and reminded all of the ban on having any sort of fun at Christmas.

In the end, the first and second places were taken by the English Criers (are you surprised?), but the 3rd place went to a member of the Abenaki tribe from Quebec, whom Gregory allowed was outstanding. Many spectators felt Gregory deserved a place in the top three, but that was not to be.

Back in his home in Erving, Gregory was satisfied with his trip and effort. Besides, he said, with a sly look in his eye, there was a tavern in Chester in his hotel, and there they make a most excellent ale.



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