



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 15 – NO. 32

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MAY 25, 2017

GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## Levenson Resigns From School Board; Progress on Team Name; A Dire Warning

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – The Gill-Montague school committee learned Tuesday, in the wake of a contentious district election, that Montague member Marjorie Levenson had resigned. They also heard superintendent Michael Sullivan's new plan to pare back on staffing to meet cuts for next year's budget, and a warning

from Gill's finance committee chair that the district faces a "true emergency" the following year. They approved criteria for selecting a new high school team name, and agreed to continue that process after appointing Levenson's replacement.

Levenson, who was elected last year to a third term on the committee, has been on leave for much of the spring. She submitted her resignation

Monday, citing the health of a family member.

Levenson told the *Reporter* that her decision came after a doctor's appointment last Thursday. "I wish them all the best of luck," she said. "I'm glad to see they're moving forward in a straightforward, judicious, and fair manner."

She added that she felt that in her time on the committee, it had become more open to the public. "Transparency was an ugly word when I first joined," she said. "Now there's a big difference."

According to district policy, the remaining eight members of the committee will appoint a replacement to fill the vacant seat until the next spring election. Residents are invited to submit letters of interest to the superintendent by Monday, June 5, and the committee will select one at their next regular meeting on June 13.

see GMRSD page A4



JACKSON PHOTO

The committee held a lively and well-attended meeting Tuesday night.

WENDELL SELECTBOARD

## Board Hears of Sick Trees, Aging Dam, Barbed-Wire Fence, and Land Conservation

By JOSH HEINEMANN

The Wendell selectboard's agenda for their May 17 meeting was long, but the board moved through it quickly by filling time between scheduled visitors with individual agenda items as time allowed, and the meeting was completed by 9 p.m.

Citizen Mary McBride brought a complaint about a barbed-wire fence that citizen Ed Hines installed around his property, the old parsonage on Montague Road. She said the road is a major bike- and horse-riding route, and someone being tossed from his bicycle or from his horse would have the injuries from that mishap made much worse by the barbed wire. She said two people

have advised her that barbed wire is not allowed in a residential area.

Hines answered with a short history of the property, and said that he moved the wire fence back behind the stone wall and that it is at least 25' from the road, behind a stone wall. He said the property has always been subject to trespassing, but the privacy violations now seem to be increasing. He gets frequent requests for permission to hunt, but only grants permission to one person. Still other hunters come onto his property from the back, the north side, and he has heard shots close to his house.

When former tree warden Dan Bacigalupo was doing some Chapter 61 tree cutting on part of the land, two of

see WENDELL page A5

## Greenfield's Haywood Street Grows Greener



MARY CHICONE PHOTO

Arborist Todd Beals gave a tree-planting demonstration on Haywood Street last Saturday.

By DAVID DETMOLD

"It's wonderful to keep trees in the neighborhood. I love seeing neighbors come together to help neighbors," said David Blake on Saturday morning, as more than two dozen residents of Haywood Street got together for a tree planting party.

Three hours later, one block of Greenfield had gotten a whole lot greener, with the help of homeowners and volunteers from the Greenfield Tree Committee.

David and his wife Sally moved to High Street, just around the corner from Hay-

wood, three years ago, only to find the mature red maple in their front yard was dying.

They hired a tree company to take it down, and in the process discovered the tree had succumbed to "root girdling." This is a problem that develops over time when the root ball of a container-grown tree is transplanted into soil without first pulling and trimming the roots out of the tight circular pattern formed during the years the tree was confined to a small plastic container in the nursery. If the tree's root ball is not first loosened up, the roots will continue to grow in tight

see PLANTING page A8

## Party in the Hollow:

### A Celebration of Conservation, Local Farms, and Community Spirit

Above: Bill Facey, of the newly conserved Sugarbush Farm, baling. Facey helped spearhead the Mormon Hollow Working Lands project in May 2015 when he gathered his neighbors together at the Diemand Farm barn.

COURTESY MOUNT GRACE LAND TRUST

By ANNA FORBES GYORGY

WENDELL – There will be some unusual noises Sunday, June 4 at Diemand Farm. Instead of the customary sounds of wildlife and farm equipment, visitors will hear live music, and the sounds of celebration, as Mount Grace Land Trust comes together with local farms and neighbors to host "The Party in the Hollow": a party and community barbecue to commemorate and benefit Mount Grace's Mormon Hollow Working Lands Initiative, a project which has helped ten local landowners permanently protect a large swath of farmland, woodlands, and forest in Wendell, Montague, and Orange.

"We're helping neighbors conserve over 700 acres of working farms and forests, wildlife habitat, wetlands and streams, while creating miles of new recreational

trail connections and increasing climate change resiliency for our region," said Jamie Pottern, farm conservation program manager at Mount Grace.

The new acquisitions begin at Mormon Hollow Brook near Wendell Center, and conserve many properties abutting the Wendell State Forest. In total, they establish a 30,000-acre corridor stretching from the Connecticut River to Quabbin Reservoir, and include access to the New England National Scenic Trail, the Robert Frost Trail, and many unique natural features.

Mount Grace, which has been working on the initiative for the past three years, acquired conservation easements on properties using funds from a \$790,300 Landscape Partnership Grant provided by the state and with the cooperation of the towns of Montague and

see PARTY page A7

## AGAINST FORGETTING



MIKE JACKSON PHOTO

Roger Longtoe Sheehan, chief of the Elnu Abenaki tribe, leads songs following last Saturday's "Day of Remembrance" ceremony at the Great Falls Discovery Center. The event commemorated the May 19, 1676 massacre of Native people at the Falls.

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## I Just Called To Say...

Last week, we complained in this space about Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan, whose henchmen beat the living snot out of a bunch of peaceful protestors in our own nation's sunny capital, in plain view and on camera.

Plenty of politicians, Democratic and Republican alike, have talked tough about it, and the State Department says it has questioned two members of the Turkish security detail, but our own president, an outspoken admirer of Erdogan as well as his host in the city, has taken no leadership on the matter, choosing to remain silent.

For its part the Turkish government has issued a statement about the "aggressive and unprofessional actions" taken by the Metropolitan Police who'd bumblingly pulled the goons off the bloodied victims.

Week by week, we prefer some thematic variation in these editorials. But on Tuesday, a rather remarkable document about another of our president's counterparts was leaked to the press and public.

When Rodrigo Duterte, long-time mayor of Davao City, was elected president of the Philippines last year the world took notice. Duterte's tenure as mayor had been marked by his administration's apparent cooperation with a vigilante force known as the Davao Death Squad, believed to have executed over a thousand petty criminals over the course of a decade.

Duterte, a shoot-from-the-hip kinda guy, ran a fantasy right wing presidential campaign: promising to rebuild the nation's steel industry, simplify the tax code, pardon police and military accused of human rights abuses, and eradicate the nation's crime in half a year by killing tens of thousands of criminals. His presidency, he promised, would be "a bloody one."

To whip up fear, Duterte cited figures claiming that there were 3.7 million "drug addicts" in the nation of 100 million – the real figure is closer to 1.8 million *users*, according to his own government's statistics and corroborated by the UN.

And the majority of those are marijuana smokers. But Duterte focused on the epidemic of *shabu*, methamphetamine, claiming without proof that three-quarters of the nation's crime was related to drugs.

Duterte was elected with 39% of the vote. "I have to slaughter these idiots for destroying my country," he said in his inaugural address. And indeed, over the first ten months of his presidency, vigilantes

and official police death squads are estimated to have carried out over 8 thousand extrajudicial murders.

"Are they humans? What is your definition of a human being?" Duterte goaded human rights agencies in August. "Hitler massacred there million Jews," he explained in September, undercounting. "There's three million drug addicts... I'd be happy to slaughter them."

We will advise you to skip the next paragraph if you don't want to read about violence.

The killers work in pairs, often riding together on a motorcycle. They target dealers or even those suspected of simply being users, overwhelmingly in poor neighborhoods. Sometimes they shoot their victims in the street; other times they kick down the doors of their homes. Frequently, the corpses are dumped on the roadside with their heads wrapped in masking tape, marked with signs so their deaths will not be investigated.

In the face of this terror, nearly 800,000 drug users have surrendered themselves to the state, and are now packed into prison camps.

On Tuesday, the public was leaked the transcript of a telephone call between our own president and Duterte.

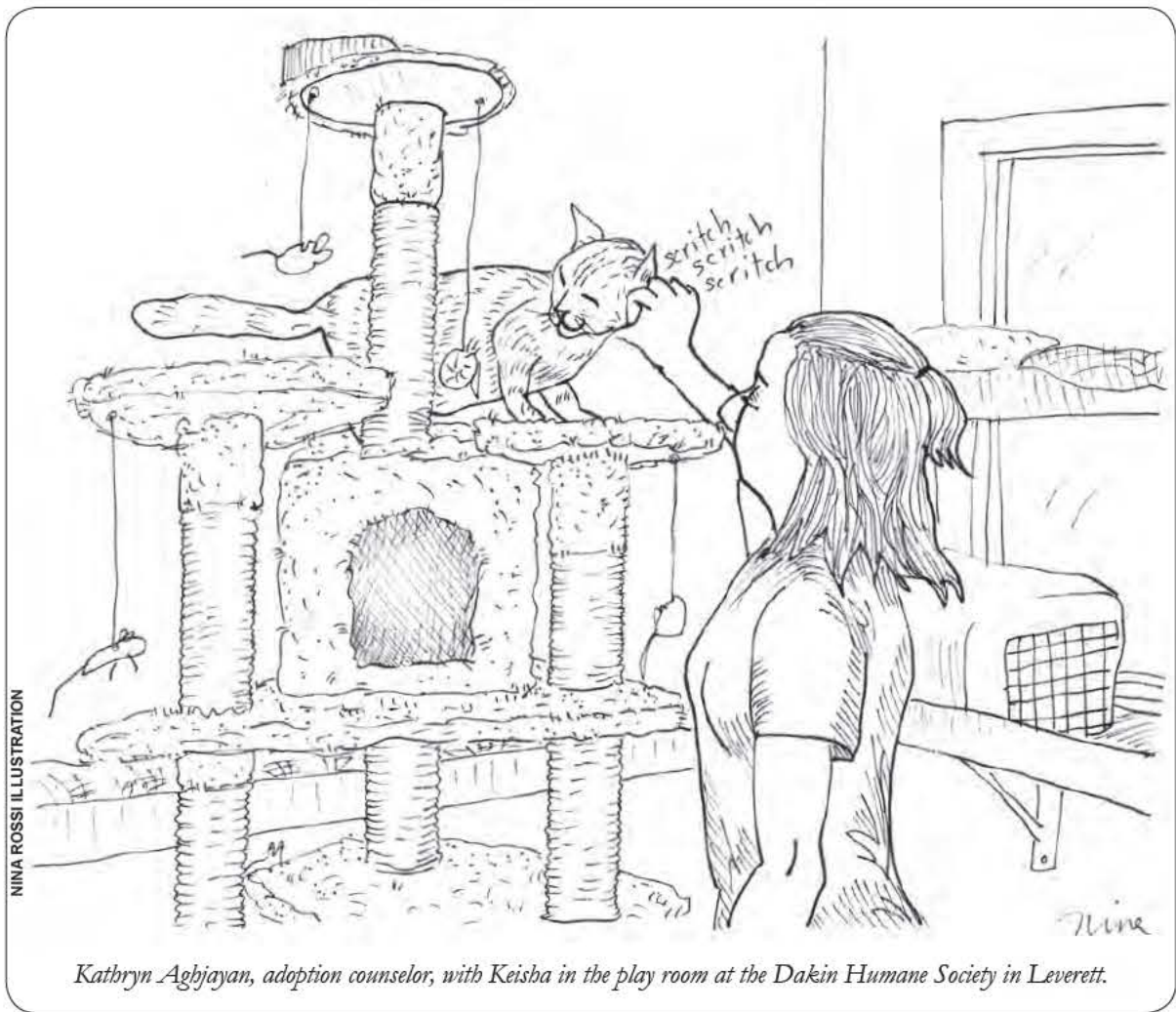
"I just wanted to congratulate you because I am hearing of the unbelievable job on the drug problem," Trump told him. "Many countries have the problem, we have a problem, but what a great job you are doing and I just wanted to call and tell you that."

"Thank you, Mr. President," Duterte replied. "This is the scourge of my nation now, and I have to do something to preserve the Filipino nation."

"I fully understand that, and I think we had a previous President who did not understand that," Trump then said.

The US attorney general, Jeff Sessions is making clear that the War on Drugs is going to be back on. We are returning to the days of Just Say No, high mandatory minimum sentencing, federal private prisons – and a proposed 2018 budget that would slash opioid treatment programs, gut the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, and shift funding to policing.

These policies may not be vigilantes on motorbikes, but they, too, will result in deaths in our communities. And they will come hand in hand with a scapegoating of users, and a denial that addiction is a condition of our entire society.



Kathryn Aghjayan, adoption counselor, with Keisha in the play room at the Dakin Humane Society in Leverett.

## Letters to the Editors

### Has Anyone Ever Thought About That

Having followed the "Indians" naming conflict from the beginning, I thought that this quote, from page 61 of "The Little Book of Answers" by Doug Lennox (2003), might be of interest:

"Why is the Cleveland baseball team called the Indians?"

"Controversy generally surrounds the choice of Native American names for sports teams, but not in Cleveland. The city's baseball team is named in honor of one of their star players from the 1890s. He was Alex Sophalexis, a Penobscot Indian so respected that in 1914, one year after his death, Cleveland took the name 'Indians' to commemorate Alex and what he

had meant to their team."

Could it have been that the Turners Falls sports teams were named the Indians to commemorate their esteem for the Native Americans who died at the falls?

Why not re-consider and retain the logo & mascot in honor of those who did die at the falls? Perhaps this approach might aid in ending this *much too long* division in this great community of Turners Falls.

Or should the Cleveland baseball team change their name & logo also?

Jerry Collins  
TFHS '52  
Casa Grande, AZ

### A Fellow Puzzler

The answer to our May 25 "Montague Cryptojam" was "For several weeks only Deb Brazeau has been playing! Anyone else out there?"...

I'm out here!

The cryptojam is one of my favorite features of the MR. It's a little brain candy. An overly busy life means that I sometimes don't get to it for a few weeks after the paper comes out.

Congratulations to Deb Brazeau for solving the puzzles *and* sending in her answers.

Chris Wings  
Wendell

## Things Not Going Well

Now we have cyberwar. Now we have global networks running ransomware. Hackers can now bore deeply into your personal data, steal it or simply freeze it so that you cannot get to it without paying up. We're talking about your most sensitive communications, all your bank accounts, credit cards, your immediate locations, all of your relationships, your medical records, your criminal record, etc.

Much more of our lives have drifted into the public domain. We the people, who have sought to make the governments that represent us more transparent, have become much more transparent to governments which do not care about our privacy.

Dark clouds are roiling, deepening along the horizon. America the empire is drifting more and more into the cold-blooded, authoritarian mode. Where she is going is

becoming clearer to the populace otherwise numbed-out by the demands of living which are artificially imposed by those who would enslave us, those who would enrich themselves without a qualm upon our misery and sorrow.

We keep fighting the war that protects the privilege of the few from the legitimate claims of the many. What a waste of human energy. Instead we could be building the coalitions – across racial, religious and economic lines – that become the soil out of which emerges the true spirit of democracy.

Since the invasion and take-over by hordes of white Europeans fleeing oppression America has aspired to the status of empire. The white Europeans brought with them, among other scourges, the ideology of capitalism and as the empire grew she began intruding upon the lands, upon the peoples, of other nations.

Although she had dedicated herself to the principles of democracy and thereby garnered great stature, she began violating her own best ideals in her zeal to make the world safe for capitalism.

No matter where on earth the social movements were pressing toward the establishment of true democratic institutions, the US military and deep state apparatuses stomped them out viciously, often influencing events behind the scenes so that ruthless despots are propped up in leadership roles with promises that they will do the bidding of empire. In the heart of hearts of capitalists the only real value is profit. Nothing else matters.

Into these hands we entrust our privacy. Slowly we are giving over our lives to the all-seeing eye.

Ralph J. Dolan  
Haydenville

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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

**Dakin Humane Society** is asking the public for help in stocking the shelves for Nick's Nursery, the kitten intensive care unit. Starting in June, Nick's will begin its seasonal operation of treating ill, underage and/or orphaned kittens with the goal of getting them healthy and adoptable. Dakin hopes you can help get the word out that supplies are needed, and they are hoping to stock the shelves by Memorial Day Weekend. For more information, call (413) 781-4000 x122.

**The Farley Five** return to Greenfield Savings Bank Turners Falls, on Saturday, May 27, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This mainly stringed group of local musicians has been featured at the bank several times in the past, and is sure to once again delight both young and old alike. Come listen to this talented group playing a very unique, country-sounding venue.

On Saturday, May 27, the Wendell Energy Committee and North Quabbin Energy are sponsoring a potluck supper and viewing of **Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock**, a new

documentary that follows the resistance at the Standing Rock Sioux reservation to the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The potluck begins at 6 p.m. at the Wendell town hall, followed by the film showing and a panel discussion including local participants in the water protectors' struggle. The event is free, with donations welcome to support the Indigenous Media Fund and Pipeline Fighters Fund.

The **Native History Hike** scheduled for two weeks ago by the Nolumbeka Project was postponed, due to weather, until this Sunday, May 28. Hikers will gather at the Third Street parking lot in Turners Falls, and hike the ridge from Canada Hill in Greenfield to Woolman Hill in Deerfield. Pre-registration is required; contact [nolumbekaproject@gmail.com](mailto:nolumbekaproject@gmail.com).

Celebrate all things maple at **Maple Day at the Great Falls Farmers Market** on Wednesday, May 31, from 2 to 6 p.m. There will be information on how maple syrup is made, plus samples, recipes, music, fresh veggies and plants for your garden, and lots of maple syrup from local

producers.

The market, held on the lawn at the corner of Second Street and Avenue A in Turners Falls, accepts SNAP/EBT, and this month, thanks to CISA, they will double SNAP dollars up to \$10.

Nova Motorcycles, located at 151 Third Street in Turners Falls, is hosting a **motorcycle road rally** on Saturday, June 3. For details and registration, see [UnsprungMoto.com](http://UnsprungMoto.com). Check-in starts at 8 a.m., and the morning course begins at 10 a.m.

The day will culminate in an **open house at Nova**, who are celebrating the first anniversary of their move to Turners Falls, with an awards presentation, music, and food. The open house is free and open to the public from 3 to 9 p.m. View a collection of vintage bikes, eat some great local food, and be part of the western MA motorcycle community.

The **7th Annual Langstroth Bee Fest** will be held Saturday, June 3, starting at 9:30 a.m. at Court Square in Greenfield. The Franklin County Beekeeping Association will be there with a demonstration hive and many experts to answer your questions about pollinators and beekeeping. The Langstroth Lecture series will feature Kim Flottum of *Bee Culture Magazine*. There are thousands of dollars of items available in raffle baskets and silent auctions.

New this year is a garden contest called Bee Spaces Pollinator Garden Award. Awards for 2017 will be presented, and information on how to apply for the 2018 awards will be

available. The beautiful award has been designed by Molly Cantor, a potter from Shelburne Falls.

All the fabulous children's activities are also back: bee parade, piñata, tea party and free gift bags. And it is all free. Follow the "Langstroth Bee Fest" Facebook page to get a sneak preview.

Adults and children of all ages are welcome to the Great Falls Discovery Center, Barton Cove, and Turners Falls Fishway for the **12th Annual Family Fish Day** with loads of free fishing fun and activities on Saturday, June 3.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., head over to Barton Cove in Gill for free fishing. The Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center will provide a free shuttle bus between the Discovery Center and the Cove starting at 9:45 a.m. Equipment is provided – please bring your fishing equipment if possible. No fishing license is needed. Also at the center during this time there will be fly tying and fly casting demonstrations.

The Turners Falls Fishway will be open for fish printing from noon to 2 p.m., so bring a clean t-shirt or scarf. This is also a great opportunity to see migratory fish in the viewing area.

The day's events conclude at the Center with a Fishing Story Hour in the Great Hall, with DCR and Montague Public Library staff, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. This is a rain or shine event, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

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## NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

## Avenue A Changes Dominate Selectboard Agenda

By JEFF SINGLETON

The future of downtown Turners Falls dominated the May 22 Montague selectboard meeting. The board approved change orders for the Peskeompskut Park lighting project, a "Master Plan" for the smaller Spinner Park, and entertainment licenses for a business that will feature 22 pinball machines.

The meeting began with the announcement that the state has designated a section of the downtown as an official "cultural district." This designation will help the town apply for grants, and encourage tourism in Turners. The award comes with a small grant of \$5,000, which according to Turners Falls RiverCulture director Suzanne LoManto will probably be used for cultural district signage.

Town planner Walter Ramsey defined the district as "roughly a five-minute walk, in any direction, from the intersection of Avenue A and Third Street." That includes the area from the Turners Falls-Gill bridge to the Carnegie Library, and from Unity Park and the bike path next to the canal. The district is required to be a "walkable area" as one of its criteria.

The town had applied for the designation in 2011 but, according to Ramsey, was told "we were not ready, so they were really impressed with what we had done in the past six years."

LoManto stressed the current low vacancy rate in the area: "the number of buildings that have been bought, renovated, and rented was a big change." "The skate park got built, Unity Park was finished, and

the Discovery Center has expanded its hours," noted Ramsey. "In my opinion, it is an affirmation of all the investment that has been going into downtown over the past couple of decades."

Ramsey said that Boston's Roxbury neighborhood, Provincetown, and Wellfleet were also given the cultural district designation at the May 18 meeting of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The meeting, which took place at the whaling museum in New Bedford, was attended by Ramsey, LoManto, and Lisa Davol of the Montague Cultural Council steering committee.

In related news involving downtown Turners Falls, LoManto requested that the board close Third Street from Avenue A to Canal St. on June 17 from 1 to 5 p.m. for a "Rock, Paper, Scissors" event, to celebrate the installation of a recently-completed sculpture by that name on the corner of Avenue A and Third. The piece, by local sculptor Tim deChristopher, symbolizes the geology, industrial history, and social life of Turners Falls.

LoManto said the day's activities will include a geology walking tour, free hot dogs, and music by the Expandable Brass Band. She said there will also be a "real rock-paper-scissors competition, according to international regulations – there is such a thing." There is a signup form for the competition on the RiverCulture website.

The board approved LoManto's request.

The board also approved a change order of \$18,888.30 for the Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project, also on Avenue A. The

change reflects increased costs for trenching and boring. However, the town expects the broader Avenue A Streetscape Project, funded by community development block grants, to have a positive balance of just over \$100,000 when completed.

## Licenses Granted

In yet another development involving downtown Turners, the board held a program hearing and allocated \$7,500 to create a master plan for Spinner Park on Avenue A. Ramsey portrayed the small park as in dire need of an upgrade.

The board approved "amusement device licenses" to Mark Hankowski of Mystic Pinball, LLC. Hankowski is creating a pinball business at 104 Avenue A, which he hopes to open in time for the June 17 event.

The business will feature "up to 22" vintage pinball machines, and will initially be open to the public for three days a week.

The board approved the request, along with a reduced fee, after selectboard member Michael Nelson objected to the 22 licenses' cumulative \$990 price tag. The board also agreed to revisit the license fee schedule in the future.

Lew Collins, owner of the bar Between the Uprights on Avenue A, came before the board to request licenses for five events during the summer and fall.

Traditionally these events, which take place on the sidewalk in front of his business, involve music. But this year, due to tighter town regulations involving outdoor noise, Collins will be experimenting with activities which he termed "Bar

Olympics." The board approved the request.

## Other Business

The board approved two "rate changes" for highway department employees: the hourly rates of Raymond Quinones, the town transfer station attendant, and Mark Stevens, who is taking on the new position of "group leader/grounds." Highway superintendent Tom Bergeron said he was considering eventually increasing Quinones' hours so the transfer station could stay open later in the afternoon.

Town administrator Steve Ellis discussed a change in a recently proposed "pilot" email policy for volunteer and elected town board members. Ellis had originally proposed to provide town-based email addresses for all members of such boards, but the cost, at over \$100 for each new address, seemed prohibitive, and a number of board members with multiple accounts indicated they did not wish to add another.

Under the new proposed policy, board members would be encouraged to create their own separate accounts for town business, and given some limited technical assistance.

The board approved a request by Ellis to change the zoning designation of the Episcopal Church at 2 Prospect Street in Turners Falls from its current status as "public/semi-public" to "neighborhood business." The church is being closed as part of consolidation and the building owners seek to market the structure for other uses.

The board's action moves the zoning change on to the planning board for its consideration.

Ellis announced that the state is making funds available to support local "community readiness and resilience to climate change disasters and issues." This refers to floods, storms and other events seen as related to climate change. The potential grants, called Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grants, will be used for "facilitated workshops," and Ellis said the town would work with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments as the facilitator.

The board took no action on the proposal, which was submitted by Ellis and Ramsey.

Ellis gave an update on the activities of the tree committee. He said he had been on a walking tour of Miller Falls with the committee the previous Monday, observing the trees in that village.

He went on to state that the committee, which now contains nine "active members," was in the process of creating a charter and a set of priorities, which include investigating tree bylaws of other cities and towns as models.

The committee is also considering establishing something called a "wood bank" that could "target a specific population" in the community to receive fuel wood.

The board appointed April Reipold to the historical commission. Her term will run only until June 30, at which point she will probably be reappointed along with other volunteer committee members in Montague.

The board adjourned to an executive session to discuss litigation involving the Berkshire Gas moratorium. The next scheduled selectboard meeting will be on June 5.

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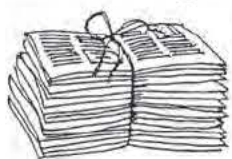
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week ending 5/19/2017:

#### Grade 6

Sabrina Raymond  
Noah Wiles

#### Grade 7

Jada Jurek

#### Grade 8

Karissa Olson

### GMRSD from page A1

On Tuesday, Marisa Dalmaso-Rode joined as a non-voting Erving representative. Erving students enroll at the high school, but the seat has been vacant for the past year. "We're glad to have another one on board," chair Timmie Smith told her.

Student representative Riley Wood bade the committee farewell, and introduced, in addition to his main successor Aly Murphy, an alternate, rising sophomore Korey Martineau. Murphy explained that Martineau would fill in when she is unable to attend meetings due to her busy athletic schedule.

The committee thanked Wood, who is heading to Rochester Institute of Technology in the fall, for his service, and wished him luck.

### Austerity

A plan to lay off a teacher at Gill Elementary and combine the school's fifth and sixth grade classes has been scrapped, Sullivan said, after rising enrollment estimates in the sixth grade would have made the combined class prohibitively large.

He outlined a proposal to instead reduce the expenses by making the middle and high school librarian a halftime job, and paring back on hours for two counselor positions.

"The current librarian, Chani Craig, has just resigned her position to relocate out west," Sullivan explained, adding that Craig would be "sorely missed." He said that Pioneer Valley and Franklin County Technical School had both also cut their librarian positions to halftime, and suggested that one employee might end up splitting time between two schools.

The rest of the missing money, he said, could be made up by cutting counselor services at Gill Elementary from three to two days, and one of the counselors at Sheffield Elementary from four to three.

Sullivan reported that the district had retained a law firm specializing in healthcare law, Bulkley & Richardson, to investigate the circumstances behind a major recent loss of revenue for the district: an abrupt change in what paraprofessional services to Gill-Montague students the state is willing to reimburse via Medicaid.

Sullivan also said that he and business director Joanne Blier had met with Gill's finance committee and selectboard, and that "members of both bodies expressed interest in taking actions in support of increasing state funding, and otherwise supporting the district with its financial needs in the days ahead."

During the meeting's public comment period, Gill fin com chair Tupper Brown, one of the authors of the 2010 "compact" between the district and its member towns, spoke in a personal capacity about the future.

"We currently do not see a path to a workable 2019 budget," Brown said, recounting the meeting with Sullivan. "There is nothing left to cut that will allow us to provide an acceptable level of education to our students."

Brown laid out alternative futures including merging with adjacent districts, assessing the towns beyond the calculated "affordable" level, or "an increase in state funding beyond what the current Chapter 70 rules allow."

"We can't wait until next fall to attack this emergency," Brown said. "Parents and residents have to hear that the school system is at risk.... I hope you will not be diverted by matters of less importance to the education of our children."

"I appreciate and agree with Tupper's call for all of us to start working together soon on next year's budget, and the budget challenges into the foreseeable future," Sullivan told the *Reporter* on Wednesday. "[W]e have really run out of room to make budgets work through staff reductions without having a significantly detrimental impact on students' experience."

### Sports

The committee voted, unanimously, to adopt a set of seven criteria they finalized on May 9 for the selection of a new high school team name and logo. The fifth of these specifies that the new name "should not reflect, represent or be associated with a particular group based upon race, ethnicity, or culture."

"We have gotten quite a few emails about the criteria," Jane Oakes said, adding that the public was "very happy" with the draft.

During the meeting's public comment period, Chris Pinardi of Montague Center called on the committee to "put aside the process immediately," following a non-binding referendum last week that indicated a clear majority of Montague voters favored keeping the former team name.

"We demand that the board act on the will of the people," Pinardi said. "While it's our wish that this committee will respect the will of the community on its own, we stand ready to take any action necessary to make sure this happens."

Though the school committee does not typically engage public commentary in dialogue during the meeting, Dalmaso-Rode suggested that under the circumstances, "it would be fair to [Pinardi's] request to say that we're not going to do that right now. We're moving forward with this, and thank you for bringing that up, but this is how we're prepared to act on this right now."

After voting to approve the criteria, members scheduled a special working session for June 20 to brainstorm about the rest of the process, particularly how new name suggestions should be collected, and who should make final recommendations to the committee.

"Nobody was happy with the last process," said Christina Postera. "Give us some ideas about the process, so we can take them into consideration. Everything that comes across our email... is for us to consider." Messages can now be sent to the school committee online via a button marked "Send Us A Message" at [gmrsd.org](http://gmrsd.org).

### Other Business

Former member Sandy Brown of Gill recommended the committee delegate a new representative to the Collaborative for Educational Services, which would be meeting the next day, and which serves dinner at its meetings, in addition to being the source of crucial material resources for the district. Wednesday's meeting was too short notice, but Cassie Damkoehler was elected to attend future sessions.

Blier reported that, following an incorrect 1099 filing the district made with the IRS in March 2016, a number of employees have been contacted by the IRS over inconsistencies with their tax returns. The district sent in the corrected form in February, but the government, which accepted the correction, continues bothering employees as if it hadn't.

Blier apologized to anyone who had received an audit notice, and the committee discussed the difficulties of dealing with the federal agency. Sullivan added that he had met with the president of the teachers' union, and that the district would continue to send out information and assist current and former employees with the issue.

Newly elected member Shawn Hubert made an announcement responding to *Greenfield Recorder* columnist Chris Collins' analysis that he, Damkoehler and April Reipold constituted a "voting block" capable of firing Sullivan in

retaliation for his support of the discontinuation of the Indian name.

"I can tell you right now that neither Cassie, April, myself, or anybody else here on this table, have I had a conversation with about your job," Hubert told Sullivan. "That's not what I'm doing here. I'm here to support the community... I want to be part of this group of people."

Hubert also responded to a letter printed in last week's *Montague Reporter* by David Detmold that described him as the "chosen candidate" of *Reporter* reporter, and former school committee member, Jeff Singleton.

"He had a 0.000 mark on me making this decision," Hubert said, "and will have that same amount moving forward.... The more we work together, the more we discuss things, I think you'll all realize that we're going to take this group and we're going to head in the right direction, and we're going to do it the right way."

The Massachusetts School Building Authority has rejected the district's application for reimbursement for a new roof at Gill Elementary. The state received many more applications than it could fund, Blier explained, and the Gill roof did not meet the new standard chosen to reduce their number: namely, being thirty years old.

The committee's next regular meeting will be held June 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Turners Falls High School.



## Habitat for Humanity Building Homes in Greenfield

*Applications now available for this homeownership opportunity!*

**GREENFIELD** – Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity is pleased to announce that applications are available for an energy efficient single-family home in Greenfield.

The application deadline is June 15, 2017. The sale price for the homes will be \$139,900 or less. Eligible applicants will have incomes up to 70% of area median income, which is adjusted for family size.

Families interested in submitting an application are invited to attend one of the following information sessions to learn more:

- Tuesday, June 6 at 6 p.m. at the Greenfield Public Library, 402 Main Street, Greenfield;
- Saturday, June 10 at 10 a.m. at the Greenfield Public Library, 402 Main Street, Greenfield.

During the information session, potential applicants will learn about Habitat's selection criteria and how to prepare a complete application. The selection criteria include housing need, ability to make mortgage payments of \$700 to \$1,100 per month, and willingness to partner with Habitat, such as participating in the construction of the home and other Habitat projects.

Thanks to a donation from local company PV Squared, this two-bedroom, single-story home will also

have solar panels! All Habitat-built homes are restricted to income eligible buyers in perpetuity.

### About Habitat for Humanity

Since 1989, Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity has built decent, affordable homes with 37 low income families in Hampshire and Franklin counties. We build our homes with volunteer labor and donations of material, supplies, land, and services.

At the onset of homebuilding, a family is selected and enters into a long-term partnership with Pioneer Valley Habitat. Future homeowners contribute 250 hours of labor during the construction of their home, alongside volunteers from the community.

Upon completion, the home is sold to the family with an affordable mortgage.

Habitat is a hand-up, not a hand-out: the organization has a perpetual legacy in that all mortgage funds received are reinvested to build more homes. We are a housing organization helping to bring stability to families, bringing more stability into our neighborhoods and communities.

See [www.pvhabitat.org](http://www.pvhabitat.org) for more information.

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**WENDELL** from page A1

his machines were sabotaged. One motion-activated camera that he installed was taken, and another showed a person spotting the camera and turning back. He once found one strand of the three-strand barbed wire folded under. Now he has a welded wire fence with flagged barbed wire over it, high enough so that a deer that trips over it will not get tangled.

Selectboard chair Christine Heard said she checked the law with Aldrich and police chief Ed Chase. Montague Road is not legally laid out, so the line between right of way and private property is by custom. The barbed wire is on private property, flagged, behind the stone wall, and 25' or more from the roadway, and so is legal as far as the town is concerned.

**Trees and Their Wood**

National Grid arborist Donald Crocker arrived early and waited quietly until his scheduled time to speak to the board. His mission, because Wendell elected no tree warden at its May 1 vote, was to inform them about National Grid's plan to cut the 27 trees that they have determined to be a direct threat to their primary line between the Wendell Depot substation and Route 2A. National Grid has contacted the owners of the properties on which those trees stand.

Selectboard member Jeffrey Pooser asked whether the company had considered townspeople who might oppose such cutting, and Crocker responded that all the trees selected are a direct hazard to the electric wires, and show signs of weakness, splitting, a weak base, or other signs of disease.

Pooser then asked about disposal of the wood, in a town where many households use wood heat, and about the chips left from smaller branches. The first claim on cordwood is the property owner's, and if they are not interested, it belongs to the town. Heard suggested contacting the highway department about storing the larger pieces at the highway garage, for sale at a town auction.

Crocker said the chips are a real problem for the tree crews, and Pooser said that there are people in town who want them. The tree crews do not want to be making arrangements with individual householders about delivery times and places, and Pooser suggested that he could collect names and addresses and deliver them to Crocker. Homeowners should clearly mark where chips should be dumped, and be flexible about the delivery schedule.

Tree cutting is expected to start a month or six weeks after this meeting, the last weeks of June or the beginning of July.

Separately, National Grid estimated \$40,000 for cost of pole relocation needed for reconstruction of the Wendell Depot Road bridge over Whetstone Brook. It may already be too late for that project to go out for bids in time to avoid disruption of school bus routes in the fall.

Another tree that is becoming a threat is the large maple in the playground by the library. It provides much-appreciated shade, but the trunk is split, and the librarian got two separate opinions that it has become a danger. The Friends of the Wendell Library are willing to pay to have a replacement tree planted.

**Energy and Conservation**

Energy committee chair Nan Riebschlaeger told board members that the cost of new circulator pumps for the office building and the library got approval for being paid with Green Communities grant money. She also said the town needs to extend by one year the time within which the town can use the remainder of the grant money.

The energy committee is also working with the FRCOG's community food assessment project to determine what food is produced locally, to encourage property owners to allow their suitable land to be farmed by young people who want to start growing food but do not own land. FRCOG is looking for a contact person in town, but the energy committee would like to be involved and informed also.

Laurie DiDonato and town treasurer Carolyn Manley told the selectboard that the energy committee got a \$1,250 grant from Common Good to hold a workshop run by Broadfork and continue planting and development of the food forest garden, which was started and fenced near the town office parking lot. Common Good provides financing for community projects with a credit card format, and Broadfork is a worker-owned collective that creates edible ecological landscaping. The workshop will take place at 9 a.m. on June 11, at the permaculture plot. In order to get the grant the town, the energy committee, or even a private person has to become a member of Common Good with a bank account linked to the town's account.

Mount Grace Land Trust representative Jamie Pottem met the board for what she said would be the last time until late June. She needed board signatures to close on a conservation restriction on 32 acres, with public access allowed, still owned by the Diemand Farm.

An additional two-acre landlocked "bump out" attached to that piece of land seems to be owned by the town, and an article on the annual town meeting warrant would allow a release deed so the small piece stays with the big piece.

Pottem had posters and sought additional publicity for a joint Mount Grace - Diemand celebration of completing restrictions on several individual pieces of land, totaling over 700 attached acres. That celebration will take place on Sunday June 4, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Diemand Farm, with music, food, beer from Element Brewery, and tours of the property. Tickets are available at [mountgrace.org](http://mountgrace.org) or (978) 248-2055 x15, and money raised will be used to preserve more open space and wildlife corridors.

**No One's Dam**

Ellen Trousdale, the property owner, has already spent \$3,800 for studies about the dam that creates MacAvoy's Pond in south Wendell. The dam was built without written permission, before that was called for. Tighe & Bond engineering estimates \$10,000 to \$15,000 for engineering studies about stabilizing the town-owned part of the dam, which is on Lockes Village Road just north of the concrete structure. Trees need to be cut, and the root balls removed, and each of those steps will cost.

Pooser suggested that if the town allocated money for part of the project, it would give more weight to the idea that the town owns the dam, but the board suggested putting a \$10,000 request to the fin com. Crocker, arborist of National Grid, said his tree workers get \$75 per man-hour.

**Other Business**

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich told board members that the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association, the town's insurance provider, "got killed" by claims on uninhabited buildings and announced their plan to cancel the town's insurance on the meetinghouse on July 1.

The town still owns the building, and may buy separate insurance on the open market. Heard asked Aldrich to get a quote for a separate insurance policy, and also suggested that the Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse might pay for the required insurance.

Heard said that Sarah Koehler has been selling starter plants on Saturdays by the gazebo before the agriculture commission asked for permission to leave a sign there through the summer. The normal policy is that a sign may be put up only if someone is there with it, or with permission of the selectboard.

The town-owned property at 97 Wendell Depot Road has two full storage trailers, and the highway department, which owns those trailers, wants them for their own use. The contents need to be removed and sold at an auction.

Selectboard member Dan Keller added that there is an unneeded drafting table in the conservation commission room, also surplus. Heard said the table should be offered to other town departments, and if none of them want it, it should also go to the town auction.

Keller will rewrite a request for proposals for insulating the town hall floor to allow for Pooser's suggestion that a wand might spray and fill gaps where the crawl space is too small for a person to fit and install insulation.

If that is not possible, the total job will require digging out under the town hall, and then placing a plastic sheet to prevent ground moisture from wicking up and keeping the floor and its supports damp. A layer of dirt or sand will hold the plastic sheet in place.



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## MONTAGUE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN PUBLIC FORUM

Wednesday, May 31 - 6:00 p.m.  
Montague Town Hall

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Montague Open Space and Recreation Plan  
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Contact Walter Ramsey, Montague Town Planner, at  
[planner@montague-ma.gov](mailto:planner@montague-ma.gov), (413) 863-3200 x112 for more information.



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

- William Carlos Williams

edited by Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno  
Readers are invited to send poems to the  
Montague Reporter at: 177 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
or to: [poetry@montaguereporter.org](mailto:poetry@montaguereporter.org)

May’s Featured Poet:

Joshua Michael Stewart

Homage By Way Of Writing Through

For Ellen Doré Watson

My mother never wished for her sons  
to stop painting the world’s moans  
and glitters.  
You were a blooming brushstroke  
to the canvas. Like my brother  
I could see the Taj Mahal  
in the grain of an oak pew.  
Unlike my brother I’m no splinter  
inside the smooth wood.

I know my trees.  
I know your barn boards and the shed  
moving towards ruin.  
I know your poems  
living in my lungs.

Because of you, I’ll notice  
every exploded headlight in the endless parking lot.  
The trouble with the space between us  
is it’s a sadness made beautiful over time.

The man who loves  
my mother’s wonderful dark hair  
is all shallow breath and false teeth.  
My stepfather says she’s a woman  
with an iron mind standing in an ornery river.  
Her outbursts are haphazard scattershot  
appropriate in a chaotic universe.  
She says with each passing day  
he looks more and more like a rusty earthmover.  
Bless the brain  
that never wanted a glamorous job.

He eats her leftover donuts and heartache.  
If she were milk, she’d be sour on his breath.  
Their ugly intentions grew too big  
for the skin of their house.  
They’re not allowed to live in the same nursing home.  
She wants to know if they broke the things  
they thought they could save.

Forgive me if I miss her wild blueberries.

I’ve removed pain by hacking at daylilies unworthy  
of a place in the body’s garden.  
What are poems  
if they don’t flip the switch  
from trying to forget to wish to remember?

I’m forgetting how to stutter guiltily  
through life. I’m learning how to belong  
with clumsy and disobedient crows.  
I refuse to think about the hundred and thirty-eight ladybugs I’ve killed.  
My arms are always full of eggshells.  
You’ve given me so many dumb  
& beautiful  
chickens.

I’ll remember gentle.

You found me a white heap  
of dough, and tonight I’m cooking to West-coast jazz  
with no thought of waiting out the big storm alone.  
Tomorrow promises  
the catbird’s nonsense and forbidden love’s sweet birdcage.  
It doesn’t matter  
who’s upstairs holding Polaroids of my nakedness.  
What I bring to bed is a ticket-tape parade.  
What I bring to bed is the howling in the chimney.

I’m just another band geek  
blaring *Ode to Joy*, through the car stereo.  
I must shape a planet in my hands  
and I come to this with only nine good fingers.  
Ellen, you said – try to push back  
the tangible. Be properly scared.  
Be here first.  
Love something.

Ghost Notes

In my head the album never recorded:  
Hendrix and Coltrane are two hawks  
in a canyon, fighting midair over the same prey,

tearing at the flesh of a note that does not exist  
while thunder from hammering minor chords

on a piano echoes off walls of rock and clay.  
Elvin Jones is a river. He’s drowning  
in his own current of energy, flails his arms

above white-water cymbal crashes. I’m a man  
that swims in wonder and augmented memories.

I’ve no use for the mapped-out terrain  
of a symphony, or the prim etiquette  
of a minuet. Give me the oldest folksong

and I’ll embellish every phrase. Come hear  
me play. Let down your red loose curls.

Shed your yellow summer dress. Open  
your hymnbook, and I’ll improvise  
the dirtiest blues over holy harmonies.

Unlatch your ribcage. Take your instrument  
from its beat-up case. Build yourself a stage

in the middle of a field, they’ll come  
not to hear you sing, but for you to wail  
until dried blood flecks off the fretboard,

until you grit your teeth,  
until you break every string.

Nothing You Can Do

For Chanel

I’m boring. I know this.  
I wake early in the morning,  
walk around in boxers and socks,  
listening to a classic Blue Note recording.  
You don’t care for Coltrane, you  
think socks and boxers unattractive,

but you’re not here, so I spend hours  
at the window, coffee, cigarettes,  
watching the neighbor kick his dog  
for digging up roses. I think about poems,  
how many trees I could put in them;  
birch, pine, hemlock, maple.  
On the other side of the grove,

traffic rolls down the highway.  
The interstate is a belt holding up  
the greasy work pants of the world.  
My fifth cup of coffee: I’m buzzing –  
worried by the sugar rotting my teeth  
and the way you’ll say you love me  
when you walk into the kitchen

after a day at the office:  
*I love you, Sweet Butt,  
my box-of-imperfection,  
my little ball-of-shit.*  
Grinning in the bathroom mirror,  
I peel my lower lip down to my chin.  
My teeth, sickly refugees huddled

on a tiny raft breaking apart in open ocean.  
I teeter on the idea of calling a dentist,  
but like a childish god I’m patiently waiting  
for all my toys to sink to the bottom of the tub.  
*What did you do today?* you’ll ask,  
flopping down a stack of paperwork.  
Wearing a maroon bathrobe, I’ll look

up from a Frank O’Hara poem, and say, *Nothing.*  
You’ll shake your head, run your hand  
through my slicked back hair, and click-clack  
into the next room with a *You’re so boring.*

I’m transfixed by the miniature whirlpool  
I create with a spoon. The earth whips  
around the sun. I’m clinging to its pant-legs.

Contributors’ Notes

We are pleased this month to offer our readers the work of Joshua Michael Stewart who lives in Ware, MA. Joshua has had poems published in the Massachusetts Review, Louisville Review, Rattle, Night Train, Evansville Review, Cold Mountain Review, and many others. His first full-length collection of poems, Break Every String, was published by Hedgerow Books in 2016. Visit him at [www.joshuamichaelstewart.com](http://www.joshuamichaelstewart.com).

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## PARTY from page A1

Wendell, and the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game.

These grants exist specifically to preserve “large, un-fragmented, high-value conservation landscapes including working forests and farms.” The terms of the grant identify that these types of parcels must “enhance stewardship of conservation land, and provide public recreation opportunities.”

The Mormon Hollow Working Lands Initiative fulfills both of these terms, ensuring that the protected farmland will remain farmland, and adding trails through many of the newly conserved properties. These trails will increase public access to existing trails, the Connecticut River, and even some popular rock climbing sites in the Wendell State Forest.

Now that agreements are in place with the landowners, Mount Grace will shift focus this summer towards mapping and blazing these trails through the corridor.

“This important location connects conserved lands, which promote not only agriculture but also wildlife of all kinds. In the past, development ideas included an air field, a ski slope and possibly a



*A beef cow at Jerusalem Hill Farm in Wendell. Owned by Dan Keller, Jerusalem Hill is an organic farm that raises vegetables, hay, and grass-fed beef. The Kellers have placed 48 acres under a conservation restriction.*

golf course, and we are very happy it is to be conserved for farming,” said Laurel Facey, of the 75 acres of Sugarbush Farm, owned by Bill Facey, which is now conserved as a key parcel in the initiative.

Sugarbush is situated between two other large tracts now protected by Mount Grace: Diemand Farm, and Nina and Dan Keller’s Jerusa-

lem Hill Farm.

Indeed, the Mormon Hollow initiative is a representation of deep investment in land conservation by citizens of Wendell, Montague, and the greater Quabbin. Community involvement was particularly apparent this past November, when over 40 volunteers helped to clear the sixth generation Hunting

Farm on East Chestnut Hill Road in Montague, to aid landowner Willie Hunting in readying his property for conservation.

Next weekend’s “Party in the Hollow” will be an opportunity for the broader community to show their support for the ongoing efforts of the land trust, and celebrate the accomplishments of their neighbors.

Anne Diemand, who runs the farm store on her family’s farm, expressed gratitude to her neighbors and her excitement to welcome the community to a celebration on her land. “Diemand Farm is happy to work with our neighbors the Faceys, the Kellers, and the Smiths and others on the Mormon Hollow Corridor Project. To ensure that farmland will remain farmland is a comfort to us all,” said Diemand, “We are looking forward to the Party in the Hollow, and want to welcome folks to our farm.”

Festivities will begin at 10 a.m. with a 7K “Chicken Run” trail race along a scenic trail through Wendell State Forest. There will be live

music from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with performances by **The Equalites**, **Shokazoba**, and **The Gaslight Tinkers**. There will be walking tours of the farm and surrounding land, farm animals and activities for children, and stories celebrating local farmers throughout the day. Food and drink will be provided by Diemand Farm, Flayvors Ice Cream, Dean’s Beans, and Element Brewery.

For adults, \$10 “early bird” tickets are available through May 25; after that they are \$15. Children under 12 get in free. All tickets must be purchased in advance at [mountgrace.org](http://mountgrace.org) or by calling (978) 248-2055 x15.

A barbeque lunch, provided by Diemand Farm, will be served from 12 to 2 p.m. for an additional \$10 per adult, and \$8 for kids 12 and under. Registration for the Chicken Run is also \$10, and the first 50 entrees receive a free t-shirt.

Ticket sales are limited, and the event will be held rain or shine. More information can be found on the Mount Grace website.



## NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

## Fin Com Gives Nod To Backhoe

By KATIE NOLAN

The Erving selectboard and finance committee met jointly on May 22 to consider the draft warrant for the June 20 special town meeting. The fin com voted to recommend that the town put “as close to \$500,000 as possible” into stabilization.

After discussion about the wisdom of repairing the 21-year-old highway department backhoe for an estimated cost of \$70,000, versus purchasing a new one for \$125,000, the fin com voted to recommend purchase.

The finance committee also voted to recommend accepting an undevelopable, landlocked conservation property from the Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, voted to accept a Massachusetts General Laws provision regarding revolving accounts that allows the town to give these accounts permanent authorization, and voted to pay for replacing the current cobra-head street lights with LED lights, subject to reimbursement.

The fin com made no recommendation on an article regarding accepting Care Drive as a public way.

The board approved re-establishing the position of assistant treasurer, and promoting treasurer’s clerk Jean Fountain to the position. Recently elected treasurer Julie Wonkka, formerly the treasurer’s payroll/human resources assistant, said she prepared a job description for the assistant treasurer that includes the payroll and human resources work and other responsibilities. The assistant treasurer will

work 25 hours per week.

## Water Tower; Fire Jobs

The board and the Usher Mill re-use committee discussed a survey of town residents regarding the unused water tower near Riverfront Park, which is being constructed at the former mill. The initial draft survey requested opinions on four possible actions: remove the tower; remove the tower and install a replica; remediate and restore the tower (at an estimated cost of \$150,000); and “other.”

Re-use committee chair Jeanie Schermesser said the committee had not been informed about the survey, and wanted to have input. Selectboard member Scott Bastarache suggested using a “simple, two-question” survey on paper, Facebook and on the town website. The two questions he proposed were: “what town do you live in?” and “what do you think should be done with the water tower?” The board will finalize the survey at its June 5 meeting.

The board discussed the full-time firefighter job descriptions prepared by fire chief Philip Wonkka. Board members asked Wonkka to prepare a more comprehensive list of essential functions, and expand the section on confidentiality.

Asked about the requirement for training, Wonkka said he preferred local Firefighter I and Firefighter II training, rather than sending the new hires to the state fire academy. Wonkka will make revisions and present a final draft to the board at its June 5 meeting. He said he ex-

pected that the two full-time firefighter positions approved at the annual town meeting would be filled by the first week in August.

## Other Business

There are four trash disposal containers at the edge of the town hall parking lot, for use by North Shore Road summer residents. Administrative coordinator Bryan Smith said that he was waiting for a reply from Orange as to whether North Shore Road residents would be allowed to use the Orange transfer station, with Erving paying the disposal fees. The board asked highway foreman Glen McCrory to install an enclosure for the containers, to make the parking lot look neater.

The board agreed to sell water to paving contractor Warner Brothers while the company is paving Route 63 from Amherst to Northfield.

The board signed a FY’18 gasoline and diesel purchasing contract with low bidder Roberts Energy LLC of Springfield.

All of the selectboard members said they planned to attend the Memorial Day celebration on Monday, May 29. The Memorial Day parade will start at 10 a.m. at the corner of West Main and North streets, continue up North Street and then head down Church Street, ending at Fire Station 1.

At approximately 11 a.m., in Erving’side, flags will be lowered and a wreath placed at the Veterans’ Memorial on Moore Street. A wreath will be tossed from Bridge Street into the Millers River.

LOOKING BACK:  
10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

*Here’s the way it was May 24, 2007: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.*

Ten Contestants in  
Running for Valley Idol

Who needs corporate television? If you’ve ever seen the singing competition “American Idol,” you won’t have missed a thing if you watch our homegrown version, “Valley Idol,” a benefit event for the Shea Theater on Avenue A in Turners Falls.

In its second year, Valley Idol is an undeniable crowd-pleaser, and cheering the vocal talents of your own community is far more fun and appreciated than cheering the TV screen.

There is no age limit for contestants, so anyone who pays the \$35 registration fee can attempt to win the \$1,000 prize and local celebrity status.

Mixed Message on  
Montague Center School

On a mild, sunny Monday, the voters of Montague took a long-simmering family feud into the voting booth, and emerged with a muddled mandate on closing Montague Center School. A non-binding opinion question was placed on the town ballot after a petition drive, mounted by a group called the Organized Taxpayers of Montague, garnered the signatures of 900 registered voters calling for the Montague Center School to be closed.

The proponents of closing added slightly to those numbers in Monday’s non-binding poll, with 965 voters (57.3%) backing the

school closing; 719 voters (42.7%) opposed the proposition.

Montague Center voted overwhelmingly against the question, 80-372, while the hill and the patch voted heavily in favor of it. Lake Pleasant, Millers Falls, and downtown Turners were evenly split.

The school committee has the responsibility of making decisions on school closings or grade configuration, and on the G-M school district ballot the results of Monday’s balloting were also mixed. Two of the four pro-closing candidates – Joyce Phillips and Linda Kuklewicz – got elected, with Phillips ousting two-term incumbent Richard Colton, the committee’s most stalwart Montague Center School proponent, 782 to 602.

Gill Voters  
Defeat Overrides

For Gill selectboard chair Ann Banash, the resounding defeat on Monday of the \$300,000 town and school budget override question, along with the second override question for \$125,000 to buy a single axle dump truck for the highway department, means it is time to go back to the drawing board.

“What we do first is go back to the budget and start cutting,” she said. “I think we’ll be cutting as much as possible without decimating the services in this town.

“We’ll go to the fire department, we’ll go to the police department, but [the budget] was bare bones to begin with. We have another town meeting set for June 11. Whether we finish [the budget] in June or whether it will go on later, I don’t know.”

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# FACES



# & PLACES

ABOVE: At the end of his last day of 33 long years on the Montague Police Department, detective Brian Dobosz found himself at a surprise party at the Schuetzen Verein. BELOW: Well-wishers packed the private clubhouse at Barton Cove when the guest of honor arrived.

## PLANTING from page A1

circles until they choke the life out of the tree.

The maple they took down had been planted years ago by workers for the Town of Greenfield, the Blakes said.

On Saturday the Blakes planted a young red maple in their yard, making sure to first follow the directions laid out in a brief workshop by certified arborist, and tree committee member, Todd Beals in front of Pam Parmakian and Elizabeth Bridgewater's house, halfway down the block.

The Blakes made sure they trimmed or straightened out the roots before planting it in the soil.

The maple was one of five dug from a holding area on Wells Street, and delivered by Greenfield tree warden Paul Raskevitz on Friday. The rest of the trees planted on Saturday were purchased using tree committee funds supplemented by donations from some Haywood Street residents.

Beals, a graduate of the UMass Urban Forestry program, also showed neighborhood volunteers how to measure the hole before planting a young tree. Whether a tree is delivered from the nursery with its roots wrapped in burlap or in a plastic container, Beals said the hole should be dug roughly one and a half to two times the diameter of the root ball, but to a depth only equal to, or slightly shallower than, the root ball's depth.

"Never plant the tree too low," Beals cautioned.

He showed the volunteers how to determine the point where the roots of a young "Liberty" Elm flared from the trunk. That is the point where the tree should be planted level with the existing grade. After discarding the turf and mixing a little peat moss in with the soil in the freshly dug hole, Beals hefted the disease resistant hybrid elm into position, packed the hole with loose loam, and watered the tree twice with a

five-gallon bucket of water.

Sonia Lindop, who has lived on Haywood for 15 years, said that "trees have been disappearing" from the tree belt on her block over time. "If you notice, there are less and less trees on this street," she said. "So I am very glad this is happening."

Donna Bliss, who has lived on Haywood for 28 years, said she remembered the night more than a decade ago when lightning struck a large maple in front of her home. The tree was removed, but not replanted. Until Saturday.

Bliss said she had asked for a red maple, "because red maples are so beautiful in the fall." But she received a hybrid elm instead. Greenfield DPW director Don Ouellette was concerned about the roots of a red maple pushing up the sidewalk, according to tree committee member Mary Chicoine.

"We are losing a lot of our older trees," Beals, a working arborist, told the gathered neighborhood volunteers in Greenfield. "We think it is so important to plant more trees on the tree belts or in front yards, for shade and beauty."

New resident John Bottomley was thanked for going door to door on Haywood to gather neighborhood support, donations, and involvement for the tree planting.

By Sunday morning, Haywood Street had been transformed, with two dozen or so young trees, including ornamental cherries and London plane trees, planted proudly in front of the volunteers' homes.

In decades to come, those trees will have grown to provide a new generation of Haywood residents with beauty and shade, improving their property values, while combating climate change and helping to keep the Green in Greenfield's streetscape.



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YEAR 15 – NO. 32

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MAY 25, 2017

B1



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK PRINT

## THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

### Family and Community

By LESLIE BROWN

**MONTAGUE CITY** – We have been distressed by the rift in our community over the high school mascot question. It awkwardly reflects the national divide over who is, and is not, welcome in our country.

When there is no room for compromise or mediation, democracy suffers. We have forgotten that we are not the original settlers of this land. We have returned to a very limited, nationalistic place.

Last week we visited Ken's family in Rhode Island. They are a large group of relatives, especially compared to my dwindling one. Yet even in this group of blood kinship, there are several members who are not on speaking terms.

When I was little, there was more extended family. Although my mom was an only child, her mother was connected by marriage to another large, extended family. On my dad's side there were three siblings, so my sister and I had cousins and even great-grandparents briefly.

Still, there were unsteady relationships and family members who were considered favorites. My dad's older brother and the father of several cousins disappeared as a connection when my family moved

East from Chicago and theirs moved West. When my dad became critically ill, his younger brother came out from Arizona and stayed until he passed, but we heard nothing from the west coast family.

The mystery was only solved a few years ago when one of the west coast cousins connected with my sister online to share her research into the family genealogy. She also shared her early onset diagnosis with Alzheimer's from which her dad had apparently also suffered, as did his father. In a short time, she too stopped communicating.

Sad to think of all the support we could have shared at so many times in our lives, if only one or two of us had been communicating. Too bad to learn this lesson so late.

Community is a larger version of family. We often don't learn how excommunicated some members feel until things boil to a level of covert, or even open, confrontation. All this breeds mistrust at that very time that open communication is so critical. Factionalism prevents progress, and the loss of connection causes pain to many.

Immersed in this gloomy line of thinking, we retreat to the garden to consider the value of companion planting.

Companion planting is not new. Ages ago, Native Americans

see **GARDENER'S** page B6

## The Week in TFHS Sports

By MATT ROBINSON

This week, the Turners Falls High School softball team went 3-0, outscoring their opponents 22-1. The girls' tennis team ended their season, the boys' tennis team improved to 9-5, the baseball team struggled, and the Franklin Tech track team competed in regionals.

Also this week, teams prepared for the postseason, while their seniors prepared for the rest of their lives.

It's Senior Week and as we said goodbye to those graduating, I couldn't help but reminisce about how far those kids – adults – have come. Many of these student athletes I've known for years and as they move on, they and their parents will be sorely missed. But we still have a few more weeks of sports, so let's get on with it.

### Track and Field

Last Saturday, the Franklin Track Team competed in Western Mass Individuals held at Mohawk High School.

"We did OK," coach Roman Tsipenyuk conceded. Roman was alluding to the fact that only two of his athletes qualified for the Western/Central track meet scheduled for May 27 at Westfield State College.

Owen Ortiz, who finished first in the triple jump and third in the long jump, will be jumping next week. He also qualified for 100m, which he decided not to run. Calin Giurgui, the Javelin thrower, is the other athlete who will compete in Westfield. Other Tech players who competed in the Mohawk meet but didn't qualify for Westfield were Ricky Smith who Put the Shot 38-6 and the 4x100 Relay quartet.

### Girls Tennis

TFHS 4 – Palmer 1  
Greenfield 5 – TFHS 0  
Frontier 4 – TFHS 1

On Wednesday, May 17, under



DAVID HOITT PHOTOS

Turners' Kortney Thurber wins the second singles match against Palmer 6-3, 1-6, and 6-0.

brutal conditions, the Turners Falls girls' tennis team defeated Palmer, 4-1. With temperatures in the 90s and the sun beating down, the fans at the adjoining middle school softball game were sitting under umbrellas and drinking ice water. A few feet away, the girls on the tennis courts were baking.

Late afternoon, the sun slowly sets and begins to cast shadows, one court at a time. The first doubles court enjoys the shadow first, while the first singles court remains lit until late in the afternoon.

The second doubles match finished first because of a Palmer injury, and Amber Taylor and Isabelle Farrick took a 2-0 forfeit. Amber kept the heat at bay by keeping a melting bag of ice on her head for the remainder of the afternoon.

The first singles court gets the shadow, last but Alysha Wozniak mercifully made quick work of her opponent and was able to rest in the shade after winning 6-2, 6-0.

The second doubles match and the third singles match both had

the luxury of having shade for their second sets, and were able to finish their matches in relative comfort. The second doubles duo, Kaili Lynch and Carlie Kretchmar, won the first set in a tiebreaker, and were shut out in the second set, but won the rubber-set 6-3 to take the match 2-1 while Hailey Trott dropped the third singles match 3-6, 2-6.

In the second singles match, Kortney Thurber won the first set, 6 games to 3, but in the second set, she began to get overheated. She dropped the second set 1-6 and began to cough. "I can't breathe," she gasped.

Coach Victor Gonzalez then made an executive decision and moved her to a shaded court. Rejuvenated, she took the third set 6-love.

Two days later on Friday, May 19, Greenfield came to town and avenged their earlier loss to the Blue Girls. With Thurber and Farrick out of the lineup, Coach Vic had to make some adjustments. Trott was moved up to second singles, eighth-grader Taylor advanced to third singles, and

see **TFHS SPORTS** page B4



Counterclockwise from left: Michael Armstrong, Kasey Giguere, Holly Elmer, Alicia Hemmingway, and Omeed Goodarzi.

By MATT ROBIDOUX

**TURNERS FALLS** – "Music at the Discovery Center" is a monthly afternoon concert series, free and open to the public, aiming to present adventurous and accessible programming and a general vibrancy to the Discovery Center's Great Hall.

The third concert in the series will be held Tuesday, May 30, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Great Hall, located at 2 Avenue A in Turners Falls.

The series is presented by Community Enterprises, a non-profit, CARF-accredited community agency that provides supported employment, education, and living services to people with disabilities. The goal of the series is to establish a forum for people of all abilities to experience and engage with the arts close up, with performers who will donate their time and talents, and explain their craft.

Tuesday's installment will feature multimedia artist and finger-style guitar composer Omeed Goodarzi alongside the Community Enterprises Players featuring Kaia Jackson. Earlier this month, Omeed was interviewed by four participants

of Community Enterprises' community-based day program, Kasey Giguere, Michael Armstrong, Alicia Hemmingway, and Holly Elmer, to discuss his relationship to music. The following is a transcript of that conversation.

**MA:** What kind of music do you perform? Do you perform classic rock, things like country?

**OG:** I perform all different kinds of genres of music! I've made albums that are all different genres of music – each song being different. I like to have a lot of variety, and I like to make music about my childhood.

**AH:** Like how you grew up, how you feel during the day, and what's going on in your life?

**OG:** Yeah. A lot of the people I grew up around while I was living in the state of Connecticut were people that I shared few values with, and had little in common with. A lot of the music I write is about that experience, and what it's like to be an immigrant family.

**AH:** I like to write that way, but see **MUSICIANS** page B4

## Pop-up Adventure Playground Comes to Wendell



JOSH HEINEMANN PHOTO

Josiah Coy paints a house at last year's Boxville event.

By ROSIE HEIDKAMP

**WENDELL** – The Wendell Library is once again hosting an opportunity for young children to build and play in an improvisational "pop-up playground" on Saturday, June 3, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Wendell town common directly across the street from the library.

This is a free event, open to all; children 10 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Families are encouraged to bring along snacks or a picnic lunch. Last June the Library's pop-up playground was known as "Boxville," a three-hour event at which over 100 kids and adults constructed a cardboard box village of 50 houses, complete with a miniature main street and a zoo.

This year's invitational, short term play event is

offered in partnership with The Play Workshop, a local company offering pop up playgrounds throughout Franklin and Hampshire counties. The Play Workshop arrives with a box truck full of "loose parts" such as cardboard boxes and tubes, duct tape, fabric, rope and hay bales – the kinds of things most adults remember playing with when they were young.

Their playgrounds are staffed by trained volunteers and rely on reused materials primarily donated by local businesses or gathered by community members.

The materials provide a platform for participants to create whatever it is they imagine. According to Pandora Redwin, owner of The Play Workshop, "the materials are engaging to children in part because they do not say "play with me in this way".... they can and will be used a hundred different ways by different children. Kids can create, improvise, build and invent empowered by their own ideas, passion and competence. Adults are there to support children's ideas as they explore, never to drive the action. The result is a play environment where children feel free to take healthy risks and discover their own skills and interests."

Combining the freedom of her Ashfield farm roots, a long career in outdoor experiential education and training

see **PLAYGROUND** page B4



PHOTO COURTESY THE PLAY WORKSHOP

The Play Workshop will provide raw materials.



# Pet of the Week

Are you looking for a snuggle buddy, who will gently put her paws on your shoulders when you pick her up? A quiet, affectionate lap cat extraordinaire? Tinkerbell might be the perfect match for you!

This friendly indoor cutie is good around older kids and was friends with a dog and cat. While she can be a couch potato, she also enjoys pouncing on toys and is intrigued by water. Unfortunately, her family is moving to a place that doesn't permit pets. If you're looking for an easy going gal to be your special pal, stop by and visit this pretty girl.

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



CHRISTOPHER CARMODY COLLAGE

## “TINKERBELL”

### Senior Center Activities MAY 29 TO JUNE 2

**GILL and MONTAGUE**  
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, F** 10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
**Monday 5/29 CLOSED**  
**Tuesday 5/30**  
9:30 a.m. Tech Tutoring  
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga  
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting  
**Wednesday 5/31**  
9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach  
11:30 a.m. Friends Meeting  
12:30 p.m. Bingo  
**Thursday 6/1**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10:15 a.m. Mindful Movement  
1 p.m. Cards & Games  
**Friday 6/2**  
1 p.m. Writing Group

**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 Better, 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 5/29 CLOSED**  
**Tuesday 5/30**  
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics  
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance  
Homemade Lunch  
**Wednesday 5/31**  
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Chair Yoga  
12:15 p.m. Bingo, Snacks, Laughs  
**Thursday 6/1**  
8:15 a.m. Foot Clinic  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones  
12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors  
**Friday 6/2**  
9 a.m. Walking; Quilting  
9:30 Bowling!  
11:30 a.m. Pizza Lunch  
12:30 p.m. Painting Workshop

**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.

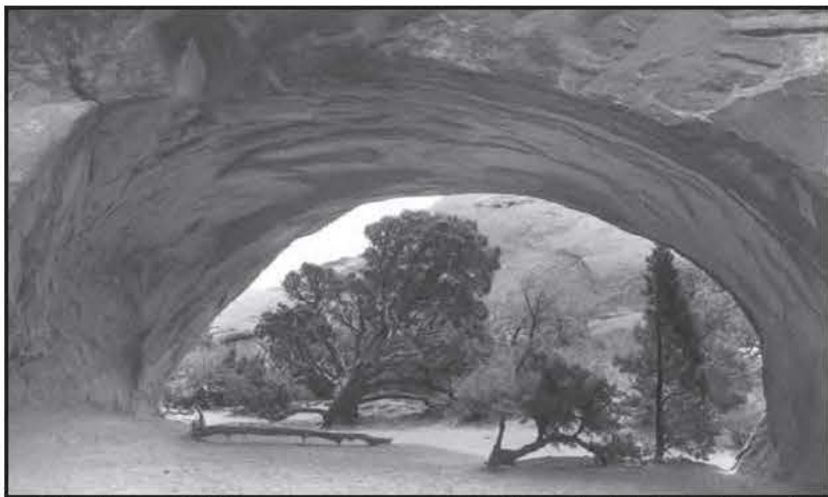
**LEVERETT**  
For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or [coa@leverett.ma.us](mailto:coa@leverett.ma.us).  
Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free).

# “Portals and Passages” at Arts Coop

**SHELBURNE FALLS** – Come find your way into the world of “Portals and Passages” at the Shelburne Arts Coop this June. “Portals and Passages” presents a collection of platinum/palladium and gum bichromate prints of windows, doors, stairways, bridges, gates and pathways by photographer Amanda Quinby.

First discovered in the 19th century, gum printing was one of the earliest means of bringing color to the photographic process. These prints are made using light sensitive potassium dichromate and water colors suspended in gum arabic. The images are built up over several layers, each color applied as a single layer, exposed, developed, and dried before the next color is added. Color density and exposure time are all variables that can be manipulated to affect the look of the final print.

During the 19th and early 20th centuries, the platinum print was one of the most popular photographic printing techniques, supplanted by silver when the price of platinum soared during the first World War.



Like the gum bichromate process, the paper for these prints is hand-sensitized. A solution of palladium, platinum, and light sensitive ferric oxalate is brushed onto art paper and allowed to dry, then sandwiched under glass with a negative, exposed to UV light and then developed using a solution that renders the image into pure platinum and/or palladium.

Unlike most other printing techniques, platinum/palladium images are embedded in the paper rather than resting on top, giving the print a depth unrivaled by other printing methods. The warmth and tonal range of the platinum print, coupled with its archival qualities (unlike silver, platinum images do not deteriorate and will last as long as the paper on which they are printed), helps account for the continued practice and popularity of platinum printing.

An opening reception with the artist will be held on Friday, June 2 at 5 p.m. The Shelburne Arts Co-op is at 26 Bridge Street, Shelburne Falls. Information at [shelburneartcoop.com](http://shelburneartcoop.com).

## June 4: Eagle Musical, River of Words at the Great Falls Discovery Center

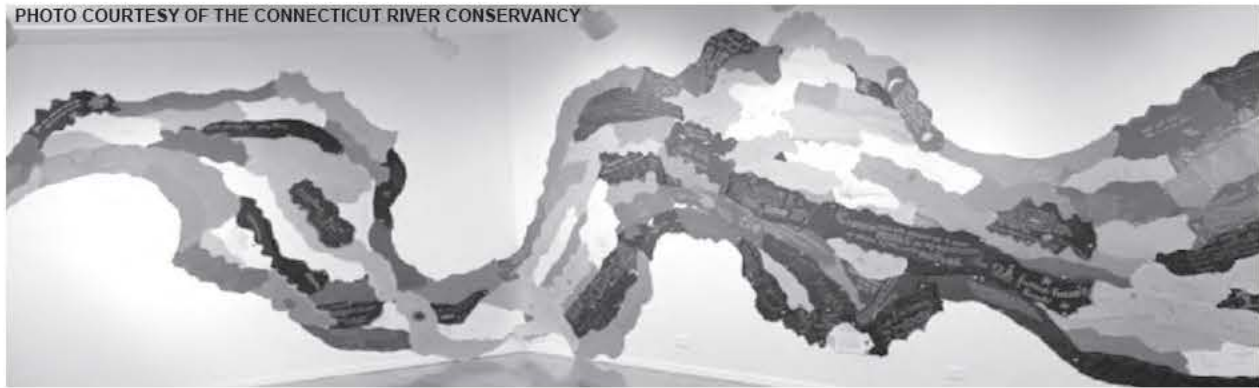


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER CONSERVANCY

*The art installation by the Connecticut River Conservancy called The Power of Water / The Power of Words. Participants are invited to add to this mural, which will be displayed at the Great Falls Discovery Center in the fall, as well as at many other sites throughout the year, in order to raise awareness about citizens’ wishes for the Connecticut River as part of the pending relicensure of 16 hydroelectric dams.*

**TURNERS FALLS** – Next Sunday, June 4, two events at the Great Falls Discovery Center highlight the watershed and its inhabitants.

“Great To Be an Eagle!” is an original musical about bald eagle restoration written by Deer Paths nature program’s older students and staff. It is an educational experience for young and old, with information about bald eagles and Connecticut River fish, industrial history, environmental activism history, and current issues affecting rivers and climate, told with “a whimsical flair.” You will be moved to sing along to catchy original songs, with accompaniment by professional musicians Carrie Ferguson, Garrett Sawyer, and James Rutter.

There will be an Eagle Story Time at 10:30 a.m. followed by the musical, which will begin at 1 p.m. This is a free program.

The Deer Paths nature program is a non-profit environmental education program founded in 2005. The program offers full day nature classes for children on seven acres of land in Wendell, and monthly classes for older students engaging them in in-depth field studies.

The Connecticut River Conservancy will then host a multimedia presentation about Connecticut River fish species and the impact of hydroelectric dams on the river at 2:30 p.m. At 3 p.m., audience members of all ages will be invited to create a statement or drawing for the public art installation called “The Power of Water/The Power of Words.” It is being used to help effect legislation on parameters for relicensing the Connecticut River’s hydroelectric dams.

“We are working together to bring a public opinion art installation to the state and federal government,” says Andrew Fisk, executive director of the Conservancy. The government is in the process of making decisions about how these dams will operate over the next 30 to 40 years.

“You have a unique opportunity to influence how 200 miles of the Connecticut River and its tributaries, from Montague to north of Hanover New Hampshire, will be managed, restored and improved” for all who live here, Fisk says. “We are building an inspiring and influential

art exhibit that is made up of your stories and aspirations for our rivers. Our voices do have the power to influence positive change.”

This is a massive and influential collage of stories, and all are invited to come and add their voice and engage in this interactive art project at the Discovery Center.

To learn more about the “The Power of Water/The Power of Words” project, call the Conservancy at (413) 772-2020 x206.


This free, all ages event is made possible by a generous grant from the Wendell Arts Council, and support from the Great Falls Discovery Center and the Connecticut River Conservancy. The museum will be open all day with special eagle exhibits and scavenger hunts from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, please write to [deerpaths@gmail.com](mailto:deerpaths@gmail.com) or go to [deerpaths.org](http://deerpaths.org). Please help spread the word!



Arin, a student at Deer Paths Nature School, performs in “Great to be an Eagle!”

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# June 2-3: A Weekend of Jack Golden at the Shea

By REPORTER STAFF

**TURNERS FALLS** – Who is Jack Golden? Find out what you didn’t already know about this local performance artist during two special shows at the Shea Theater on June 2 and 3.

Jack has evolved his own alchemy of clowning, story, and movement that belongs to him alone. *You Don’t Know Jack* shares the story of his life through his life’s work in ways that will bring laughter, tears, and reflection. You’ll find yourself in the company of a guide who has it all: a red nose, an open heart, and a finely tuned compass for comedy. And you will come to know Jack.

Jack Golden has spent almost a half a century traveling the country as a performance artist. Early on, he was bestowed his clown shoes by the renowned Pickle Family Circus (where Bill Irwin got his start), and honed his expressive body with Tony Montanaro, all the while telling stories to inspire and tickle.

Jack created a piece for *You Don’t Know Jack* inspired by his former friend the late Matt Leighton, a much beloved Greenfield artist who was known for creating humorous and intricate sculptural wall pieces out of found objects.

When asked what it was like to create the “Mr. Leighton” piece, Golden said, “It was a joy and it was a celebration. It was also embracing pain and loss. It was a lot of things. On that list of things, it was the luxury of investigating friendship. As I was developing the piece, I had a funny realization that I was writing a clown piece – which was not my intention at all. But the further I got into it, the more I saw that I was using a clown’s logic. That what was happening could only take place in a clown’s world.

“I also realized “Mr. Leighton” wasn’t just a retrospective about my friendship with Matt, it was also a retrospective about my life. It started in one place, going down one path with one thought in mind, but it led me through a forest, that opened up on a bluff overlooking the ocean.”

Eggtooth Productions and Jack



Jack Golden will perform two very different shows next weekend at the Shea Theater.

Golden present *You Don’t Know Jack* on June 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Shea Theater. Tickets are \$15 and available at [eggtooth.org](http://eggtooth.org) and at the door. A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Franklin County Community Meals Program.

## Plus: a Children’s Show on Sunday

Jack Golden will also perform as America’s favorite trashologist Dr. T, in a rare local appearance of *GaRbAgE Is My BaG!* on June 4 at the Shea at 2 p.m.

Dr T has a Ph.D. in Garbology, a zany and irresistible personality and a marvelous Trash-to-Treasure recycling machine. He juggles and jokes his way through a world of waste, delving into a mountain of trash – and an even bigger bag of vaudeville and circus tricks – to explore the serious issues of solid waste.

Dr. T delights his audiences while sharing his knowledge that rubbish is a resource that is just too good to throw away. Since 1989, *GaRbAgE Is My BaG!* has been helping hundreds of thousands of people around the country explore the serious issues of our wasteful habits in the hilarious context of a professionally staged variety show.

Adults \$10, and all kids are free! Children must be accompanied by adults.



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

# Kayak Theft; “Illegal Things”; Arbor Dancers; Political Turmoil; OK-Seeming Chickens; Hammer Throwers; Sheetrock Dropoff

Monday, 5/15

6:58 a.m. Caller reporting that a news van is blocking the pedestrian walkway at the intersection of Turnpike and Vladish. Officer spoke to Channel 3 news van occupants and advised them to move. Officer returned because they still hadn’t moved; van now parked in high school lot.

9:53 a.m. Party into lobby to turn himself in.

██████████ was arrested on a default warrant.

5:30 p.m. Caller from L Street reporting that his Indians sign has been vandalized; requests that incident be put on record for now, but would like to press charges if MPD locates responsible party.

6:45 p.m. Caller from Montague Senior Center reporting female inside the Precinct 5 voting booth yelling, screaming, and refusing to leave. Officers on scene.

8:24 p.m. Caller requesting to speak with available officer in regards to her neighbor “doing illegal things.” Officer called back; caller is concerned for neighbor who is dating men off Facebook. Caller advised.

Tuesday, 5/16

11:29 a.m. Food City manager reporting a man out in front of the store drinking beer. Male party left area and went on to a trail behind the building. Unable to locate.

6:45 p.m. Caller from Griswold Street reporting that two male subjects are walking their dogs off leash and are letting them attack the chickens at a neighbor’s house. Units in area; parties advised of complaint. All chickens seemed OK.

8:17 p.m. Caller from Newton Street advising that his kayak was stolen. Officer confirmed that a group of kids threw the kayak into the river; a high school student witnessed it and is going to show officer where the responsible parties live. Caller later located his kayak but is not going to attempt to get it in the dark; it appears to be hung up on a log, and he will go back for it in the morning.

8:20 p.m. Caller requesting to speak to officer regarding incident yesterday at the polls in which she was involved. Officer advised caller of options.

8:49 p.m. Caller from Vladish Avenue reporting that a raccoon got into his chicken coop and killed one of the chickens; raccoon has since climbed up into a tree. Officer advised; will re-

turn call.

11:23 p.m. Caller from Montague Street reporting large bear in a tree adjacent to her property; bear earlier chased caller’s dog across yard. No contact or harm to dog. Caller advised to keep her animals and family in for the night and that the bear will leave on its own; advised to call back if bear attempts to break into building.

Wednesday, 5/17

9:45 a.m. Caller from Vladish Avenue reports that her neighbor blows his grass clippings into the road; she has been cleaning up the clippings out of concern that they could pose a safety hazard to cyclists. Advised of options.

12:40 p.m. Caller left voicemail for Chief Dodge regarding trespassing issue; believed to be related to mascot papers that were being given out a few days ago. Officer returned call; message left.

2:42 p.m. Multiple reports of vehicle vs. motorcycle accident with injuries on Millers Falls Road. Officers, MedCare, and TFFD en route. Road closed; LifeFlight requested. Written warnings issued to two operators for following too closely.

4:05 p.m. Walk-in who was referred to MPD from post office is highly upset about a flyer that was left in her mailbox regarding the mascot. Report taken.

4:25 p.m. Caller requesting to speak to an officer ASAP; did not want to disclose anything other than her neighbor possibly doing “illegal things.” Officer called back and left message.

7:17 p.m. Caller from Union Street reporting that his wife called him; she is nervous because a male is knocking on their door stating that he is from the census but cannot provide any proof. Responding officer spoke with caller’s wife; will patrol area to see if anyone is going door to door.

7:28 p.m. Caller from Connecticut River Liquors reporting that the “Arbor Dancers” are in front of his store. He would like them moved along as they are impeding his business. Group moved along.

8:19 p.m. Caller from Highland Street reporting kids racing up and down street on lawnmowers with no lights on. Unfounded.

9:23 p.m. Walk-in party from Grove Street requesting to have on record that her Turners Falls Indians sign was vandalized.

Thursday, 5/18

8:41 p.m. Caller from Second Street reporting that his sister and the downstairs neighbor just got into a physical altercation. Sister has lacerations and bruises on her face. Officers on scene advised that MedCare can be cancelled; units clear.

9:35 p.m. First of multiple calls reporting trees and wires down around town.

9:40 p.m. Report of transformer on fire on Turners Falls road. MCFD en route.

Friday, 5/19

1:08 a.m. Caller states that for the last nine hours her sister has been yelling at her. Parties advised of options.

8:12 a.m. Caller from DPW reporting that one of his employees backed a town dump truck into a private vehicle in the DPW lot last night. Investigated.

11:15 a.m. Caller requesting to speak to an officer regarding her neighbor doing suspicious things. Officer advised caller of options.

1:51 p.m. Wallet reported stolen from vehicle on Canal Street. Report taken.

9:44 p.m. Caller reporting that people are playing basketball on the Unity Park court after the park has closed for the night. They are loud. Officer advised parties of rules; parties moved along.

Saturday, 5/20

7:50 a.m. Caller from

G Street suspects that a female in front of his building is buying drugs. Unable to locate.

1:45 p.m. Caller from Meadow Road reports that three property markers of his were damaged by equipment from a neighboring farm. Advised of options.

9 p.m. Caller from Federal Street reports that men in a white pickup threw a hammer at his mailbox while driving by. They missed the mailbox but hit the post and damaged it.

Truck stopped; male got out and grabbed hammer. Truck then drove by and somebody threw the hammer at a stop sign. Truck now parked at the Pioneer Tavern. Shelburne Control notified. Northfield PD reports making contact with vehicle at registered owner’s residence. Report taken.

Sunday, 5/21

9:21 a.m. Caller from Taylor Hill Road reports that her mailbox was smashed sometime last night. Report taken.

1:23 p.m. Caller from Willmark Avenue reports that she left her home for about 30 minutes, and in that time somebody entered her locked garage and left some items. Officer determined that somebody did leave an old tent and three pieces of cut sheetrock. Report taken.

5:52 p.m. Caller from N Street reports that her dog got out of the house and ran into her neighbor’s yard. She has since retrieved the dog; however, the neighbor threatened to kill the dog. No police response requested; caller just wishes to have incident on record.

8:45 p.m. Officer advising that someone is stumbling around in the Fourth Street alley. There is also a van in the area; looks like people may be camping out. Officers out with male party at Seventh and L. One male transported home.

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TFHS SPORTS from page B1

Rachel Turker and Victoria Veaudry teamed up for second doubles. In first singles action, Wozniak lost a heart-breaker in a second-set tiebreaker to complete the Green sweep.

Then on Tuesday, the ladies traveled to South Deerfield to take on the Frontier Red Hawks in their last match of the season. It was a pretty emotional match, as both coaches said goodbye to their seniors.

Lynch/Kretchmar were the lone winners for Powertown, winning first doubles 6-1, 6-3, while Farrick/Turker dropped their mixed doubles match 2-6, 0-6.

Wozniak and Celia Speth had some wonderful rallies, and first singles was the only match to go to a third set, with Speth coming out on top. Trott and Taylor dropped their matches in straight sets to give the Birds a 4-1 victory.

Softball

TFHS 11 – Mahar 0  
TFHS 3 – Greenfield 1  
TFHS 8 – Mohawk 0

On Wednesday, May 17 the Powertown softball team traveled to Orange and blanked Mahar, 11-0. The Tribe burned out 21 hits, with Gabby Arzuaga (three), Cassidhe Wozniak (two), Abby Loynd (two), Katherine Garcia, and Olivia Whittier all smashing doubles. In the circle, Peyton Emery struck out 10 while giving only one base-on-balls and scattering four hits.

Then on May 18, Powertown beat Greenfield 3-1. Green’s only run came in the top of the fourth after a 1-out double over the right fielder’s head and a couple of errors.

Turners took back the lead in the same inning as Arzuaga led off with a double, Aly Murphy and Loynd both got on base, Emery batted in courtesy runner Garcia, and Taylor Murphy knocked in Aly. But Blue was unable to put up more runs as the inning ended on a double play, and after 4, the Tribe led 2-1.

The Wave threatened in the next inning, but Melissa Hersey caught a right-field fly and whipped it to home for a double play to end the threat, and the inning. Turners scored an insurance run in their fifth off an Arzuaga double and an Aly Murphy base hit.



Turners’ Aly Murphy hits a single as Turners Falls overpowers the Green Wave 3-1.



Turners’ Aly Murphy hits a single as Turners Falls overpowers the Green Wave 3-1.

On Tuesday, the Blue Tribe traveled up Route 2 and defeated the Mohawk Warriors, 8-0. It took Powertown three innings to score their first run, but they put up 3 runs in the fifth inning and 2 more in both the sixth and seventh.

Aly Murphy was the long-ball hitter for Blue, hitting a double and a triple and batting in three runs. Taylor Murphy (three), Wozniak, Emery, and Whittier all hit singles, while Arzuaga walked in two RBIs. In the circle, Emery only allowed one hit, while K-ing 12 and giving only one base-on-balls.

Baseball

Belchertown 5 – TFHS 4  
Hopkins 9 – TFHS 2  
TFHS 10 – Lee 0  
Frontier 7 – TFHS 1

The Turners Falls baseball team shot out of a 6-3 record at the beginning of the season, but after losing six of their last seven games, they now sit at 9-10. This week the Blue

Boys lost to Belchertown, Hopkins and Frontier – all teams they had beaten earlier in the season – while their only victory was a 10-0 trouncing over Lee.

After a disappointing 5-4 loss to Belchertown on May 18, Powertown was upended by Hopkins the very next day. Hopkins scored in the first inning, but Turners tied it up 1-1 in the third. Turners took a 2-1 lead in the top of the fourth, but then Hopkins scored 8 unanswered runs to take the contest 9-2.

On Monday, the Blue Tribe traveled to the Berkshires and blanked Lee 10-0. Kyle Bergmann was the hot hitter for Blue, registering three RBIs on three hits. Nick Croteau and Quinn Doyle had extra base hits, with Croteau clocking a triple and Doyle blasting a double. Jon Fritz (two), Tionne Brown, Jeremy Wolfram, Ryan Campbell, and Will Roberge all hit singles, with Don Carne batting in a run.

The next day, Senior Day, the Tribe hosted the Frontier Red Hawks. This game was nothing like their last matchup, when Turners scored early and often in route to a 7-1 victory.

In Tuesday’s game, it was Frontier who scored early and often, taking a 2-0 lead after one inning and coasting to a 9-1 win. Turners’ only run came in the bottom of the fifth when Brown batted in Mike Babcock.

Turners was held to just three hits, with Brown getting two of them and Babcock getting the other. Turners finishes their regular season on Thursday, May 25 when they host league-leading South Hadley.

Boys Tennis

The 9-5 boys’ tennis team defeated the Sabi Bulldogs 3-2 on Thursday, May 18. Although Turners dropped first and second singles (Jimmy Vaughn 0-6, 4-6 and Ricky Craver 2-6, 3-6), they took the match 3-2.

Brian Porier swept his singles match 6-0, 6-0, while Giovanni Ruggiano/Nick Morin took first doubles 6-1, 6-love. The Dogs forfeited the other doubles match to give the Tribe a 3-2 win.

Next Week: The beginning of the end.



PLAYGROUND from pg B1

in Playwork methodology, Pandora Redwin endeavors to bring back simple yet powerful child-directed play to lives of local children. She hopes that The Play Workshop will be a long term community presence in the Pioneer Valley. Providing free Pop Up Playgrounds since 2014, the organization is working towards a permanent site for a full, European style adventure playground where children literally build their own play spaces. Learn more at [theplayworkshop.com](http://theplayworkshop.com).

Families are welcome to bring additional materials to the event for use by participants. Others may call the Wendell Free Library at

(978) 544-3559, or The PlayWorkshop if they have items they’d like to donate: (978) 544-3559.

A rain date is set for June 4 also from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The June 3 Wendell event is sponsored by the Wendell Free Library with funding support by the Friends of the Wendell Free Library and the Wendell Cultural Council.

In addition to the event in Wendell, The Play Workshop is hosting several other Pop Up Adventure Playgrounds, including at the Common School in Amherst on June 10, at the Westhampton Public Library on July 27, and from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on September 22 at Beacon Field in Greenfield.



MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

Check out the latest video on our website and on our TV channel! Heroes, Horses and Hounds comes to Greenfield Savings Bank and we learn about miniature horses and their use as service animals. Plus, meet Levi, the mobility horse. This video, recorded at the May 12 event, is 47 minutes long – find it in the schedule at [montaguetelevison.org/p/55/TV-Schedule](http://montaguetelevison.org/p/55/TV-Schedule).

Another new addition to our TV schedule is the March 18, 2017 North County Line Dancers at Greenfield Savings Bank.

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, [infomontaguetelevison@gmail.com](mailto:infomontaguetelevison@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!

MUSICIANS from page B1

with my dreams – from my dreams I do that sort of thing. About my childhood, how my parents have been taught over the years... I write music and I like to take that and use other people’s dreams to put into my music and make books out of them.

OG: Wow, I would love to see those books!

AH: I want to make more books. I want to make a team book club.

OG: That sounds like it hasn’t been done before. Team book making about your dreams – that sounds amazing.

MA: I’m wondering if I could introduce you sometime too? You know, in the past I’ve introduced [past performers in the series] Wayne, Lysha, and I’d like to introduce you at the concert.

OG: I think it’d be great if you introduced me as “Omeed Goodarzi: Vampire Hunter.” [Everyone laughs.]

KG: You have good songs. What songs do you have? [Of] what country do you sing?

OG: I’m singing about this country. I’m singing about what it’s like to live in this country and not be from here, and about how [people who live here] feel about people who are from where I’m from [Iran], why they have a lot of the prejudices they do...

I try and map them out for them. They’re kind of like instructional songs, in a way.

AH: Sounds good, anyway!

HE: Do you have any love

songs, or songs about romantic stuff? I like romantic stuff.

OG: Yeah, I do that all the time. I did that when I was 15 years old. Writing romance music is all I did, very devotional music.

MA: Do you love your music as well as you play it?

OG: Yeah, I think it’s good – that’s why I play it. I don’t hate my music.

MA: Well some people, you know, go the other way.

OG: That’s really sad to me!

MA: That’s really sad, I think.

OG: I wouldn’t want to be that at all. I used to hate my music... I used to be in a band that had to play the same songs over and over again the exact same way, and we’d tour around the country and we’d go: “OK, same songs, same way, over and over again.”

AH: That’s why it’s changing every single year. That’s why I’m trying to change classic to rock to bass to Reggae, change it seasonally, that’s what I’m trying to do.

KG: What do you play for emotional songs, the songs you play?

OG: I’ve been playing a lot of Harry Nilsson songs lately. I just did a covers show of Nilsson songs, and I find those songs emotional, and songs I love to play a lot.

My own songs are pretty emotional too, but I like Harry’s more.

HE: I like the Frozen songs. [Sings “Let it Go” in its entirety.]

Matt Robidoux is a day activities coordinator at Community Enterprises.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## ONGOING EVENTS

### EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

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

### FIRST SUNDAY MONTHLY

Green Fields Market, Greenfield: *Co-op Straight-Ahead Jazz*. Balcony. Afternoons.

### EVERY MONDAY

Greenfield Harmony Spring Session. No auditions. 6:45 p.m. Contact [mcb Brass@vermontel.net](mailto:mcb Brass@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.

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

### 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.

### 3RD WEDNESDAYS

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

### EVERY THURSDAY

Montague Center Branch Library, Montague: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie David-*

*son*. Children and their caregivers. 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.

### FIRST THURSDAYS

Underdog Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Open Mic*. 7 p.m.

### EVERY THIRD THURSDAY

Tilton Library, S. Deerfield: *Book Discussion*. 6:30 p.m.

### 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY

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

Rendezvous Turners Falls: *Scotly K's Open Mic*,

### EVERY FRIDAY

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

### EVERY THIRD FRIDAY

Free Arms Library, Shelburne Falls: *Open Prose and Poetry Reading*. Arrive before 7 p.m. to sign up for 5 or 10 minute slots. 7 p.m.

Element Brewing Company, Millers Falls: *Brule's Irish Band*. 6 p.m.

### EVERY FOURTH FRIDAY

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

### FIRST SATURDAY MONTHLY

Montague Common Hall: Montague Center. Montague Square Dance. Family fun, October through May. 7 p.m. \$

## EXHIBITS:

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Eric Grab Paintings*. Through June.

Artspace, Greenfield: *Photography by Trish Crapo*. Exhibit through June 2.

VonAuersperg Gallery, Deerfield Academy: *Peter Kemble*, digital prints. Through June 12.

Easthampton City Arts, Easthampton: *Long Days, Long Nights, Swim Often*, prints, drawings, and paintings by *Hannah Hurricane Sanchez*. Through May.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Catch and Release*. Exhibit of river and water-themed art by western Mass. artists. Through May 29.

Hope & Olive, Greenfield: *Anja Schutz exhibit "Photographs"*, landscapes, portraits, still lifes, and dogs. Through May.

Leverett Crafts and Arts: *The Loss You Feel* by Buzzy Napoli. Images and videos.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Paintings by Louise Minks and her students*. Through June.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *The Time Tunnel*. Installation by Adri-

an Montagano. Over 200 clocks! Through June 24.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *The Nearest Faraway Place* by Christin Couture. Encaustic landscape paintings. Reception Saturday, June 10, 4 p.m. Also: *Winter's Bone*, digital photography by Carl Nardiello. Through June 25.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery, Montague: Ongoing art offerings by gallery member artists.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *A World Beneath our Feet*, exhibit of rag rugs and floor cloths by Lynda Faye and Joanne Gold. Through May 29. Starting May 31, *Portals and Passages*, a collection of platinum/palladium and gum bichromate prints by Amanda Quinby. Through June 26.

Wendell Free Library: *Michael Wing Drawings*, paintings, wooden toys and metal sculptures. Through June.

## SUBMISSIONS:

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

Slate Roof Press announces the 2017 Elyse Wolf Prize for their annual poetry chapbook contest. Deadline June 15. Details at: [slateroofpresscontest.submittable.com](http://slateroofpresscontest.submittable.com).

Springfield Central Cultural District: Artists Needed for Springfield Pop-Up Galleries. Contact [Morgan@SpringfieldCulture.org](mailto:Morgan@SpringfieldCulture.org) for details.

## EVENTS:

### THURSDAY, MAY 25

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *The Big Empty*. Indie folk. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Nite Caps*. Classic honky-tonk for 2-step, waltz, & swing. 8:30 p.m.

Arts Block Ballroom, Greenfield: Hawk & Reed present *David Wax Museum*. 9 p.m. \$

### FRIDAY, MAY 26

Berkshire Pizzeria, Charlemont: *Zydeco Connection*. 6 to 9 p.m.

Ashfield Town Hall: *Ashfield Community Theater* presents the comedy *A Delightful Quarantine* by Mark Dunn. 7 p.m. today, Saturday, May 27 and Friday, June 2. Sunday, May 28, has a 2 p.m. matinee, and a show at 7 p.m. also. \$

Underdogs Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Bollocks*, (*raucous Celtic*), and *Thud* (*country style covers*). 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *The North Star Players Present: From the Sea, To Somewhere Else*. North Star: Self-Directed Learning for Teens. 7:30 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Long Journey*. Folk. 8 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Head-Band*. Reggae and funky soul. 8 p.m. \$

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Franklin County Sweethearts*. 8:30 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *RuckZuck, Jarva Land, Patchouli Cloners*, and *Flaming Dragons of Middle Earth*. All ages, substance free space. 8:30 p.m. \$

Arts Block Ballroom, Greefield: Hawk & Reed present *Home Body/Tang Sauce*. 9 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Vimana and Friends*. Psychedelic. 9:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, MAY 27

Leverett Town Hall, Leverett: Leverett Historical Society will be having their annual Plant Sale fundraiser. 9 a.m. to noon.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *The North Star Players Present: From the Sea, To Somewhere Else*. North Star: Self-Directed Learning for Teens. 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. \$

Underdogs Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Robin Lane with John Pfister on bass*. 7:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Village Hill*. High-bandwidth Jazz. 8 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *The Fawns, Treefort, Beach Honey*. 8 p.m. \$

Arts Block Ballroom, Greenfield: Hawk & Reed present *Ladies in Jazz; Samirah Evans & Wanda Houston*. 8 p.m. \$

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Metivier/Blehar*. "Music for bird watchers". 8 p.m. \$

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Surly Temple*. 8:30 p.m. \$

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Throwback Dance Party*. 9 p.m.

### SUNDAY, MAY 28

Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge, Colrain: *An Exploded View project*. Exploring relationships to the river by presenting information and posing questions. Third installation of the River Cube. Poetry and photo opportunities. 1 to 3 p.m.

Northfield Mountain Recreation & Environmental Center, Northfield: *Original Northeastern Primitive Rendezvous at Bennett Meadow Wildlife Management Area on Rt. 10*. Historic recreating of the period of the 1750s through the 1840s. For all ages. 1 to 4 p.m.

Underdogs Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Rosie Porter*. Singer/songwriter. 6 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Shokazoba* presents "Forest Fusion Test 2017". Music by *Shokazoba* (Afro-beat blends jazz and old school funk), *Colorway*, *Jam-*

*atam-abina*, and *DJ Vibe Wise*. 6:30 p.m. \$

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

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *PaintBox Theater presents: The Tortoise and the Hare*. 10 a.m., \$

### THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Collected Poets featuring Jayne Benjulian, and Jim Cul-leny*. Poetry Reading. 7 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Jim-Joe's 61 Ramblers, Ray Mason and Dez Roy*. 8 p.m. \$

### FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Charlemont Academy Student Art Reception*. 6 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *You Don't Know Jack -- Yet*. Evening of story-telling, juggling, etc. with Jack Gordon. Portion of the proceeds to benefit Franklin County Community Meals Program. 7:30 p.m. \$

Underdogs Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Bok Choy*. Jazz trio. 7:30 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Big Bad Bollocks, Rev Dan and the Dirty Catechism*. 8 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Equalites*. Reggae Fantastico. 9 p.m. \$



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**SAT 5/27 no show**

**SUN. 5/28 9pm**  
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**GARDENER’S** from page B1  
practiced it in growing the “three sisters:” beans, corn and squash.

It’s a simple but effective practice. The beans and corn are planted in hills, and the squash seeds set around those plantings. The prickly growth of the squash plants help protect the plants from animals; the corn plants stake the pole beans, and the beans fix nitrogen in the soil, feeding the corn. The squash plants benefit from the growing space in which to sprawl.

Other plantings help protect crops from harmful insect pests. Radishes planted among hills of squash or cucumbers deter cucumber beetles. Growing radishes in beds of broccoli or cabbages will collect the cabbage maggots. If you lose some radishes in this manner, there are always more, but you will have healthier broccoli and cabbage.

Bush beans and potatoes make good buddies, as the combination repels potato and bean beetles.

Growing flowers and herbs in the midst of your vegetables not only adds a dash of color and visual interest, but choosing the right flower will attract beneficial insects to help protect food crops.

These beneficial insects include lady beetles, spined soldier bugs and tiny parasitic wasps. Attract these helpers by planting neighborhood groups.

Tomatoes, pepper and eggplant benefit from the company of basil, parsley, Queen Anne’s lace and any

flower in the aster family. Potatoes, beans and peas like the company of marigolds, cosmos, daisy, dill and rosemary.

Squash, corn and pole beans benefit from nasturtiums, sunflower and dill as neighbors.

There are many books and publications about companion gardening. *Great Garden Companions* by Sally Jean Cunningham happens to be on our book shelf. Of course, the internet is another readily available resource.

We all know gardening can be synonymous with hard work. So to simplify the process of developing community neighborhoods in your garden, make three short lists.

Start with a list of favorite vegetables you enjoy eating.

Make a garden plot plan so that your favorite vegetables live next to good companion plants.

Next choose an herb and a flower which will attract “beneficials,” predatory insects like lady bugs, soldier beetles or tiny wasps, to your garden neighborhoods.

These three basic plans will give you a happy garden community with healthy, tasty results, with no need for chemical intervention.

Lastly, grow just one extra plant of each of your favorite vegetables to share with a non-gardener friend.

Good gardens make good neighbors.

Happy gardening to all who enjoy!



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