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YEAR 15 – NO. 35

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JUNE 15, 2017

G-M School Committee Picks Mike Langknecht to Fill Seat

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – By a 6-1 vote, the Gill-Montague school committee chose Tuesday night to appoint recently ousted member Michael Langknecht to fill a seat vacated by Marjorie Levenson.

Langknecht, who came in third in a race for two Montague seats on the regional committee last month, said that he felt a “certain additional obligation... to be a good team player” on the committee, and promised to support Valeria “Timmie” Smith of Gill in her chairmanship.

The appointment, which will last until town elections next spring, restores the body to its full complement of nine members. Langknecht was chosen over the only other volunteer for the seat, Joyce Phillips; both were former long-term members of the committee.

“It’s a tough call,” Smith said after the committee made its choice. “It’s no fun to do.”

The procedure took several steps. First, Smith and Montague representatives Leslie Cogswell, Cassie Damkoehler, Heather Katsoulis, Christina Postera, and April Reipold nominated Langknecht, while Shawn Hubert of Gill nominated Phillips.

Next, Cogswell, Damkoehler, Katsoulis, Postera, Reipold, and Smith voted for Langknecht, while Hubert voted for Phillips.

Though district policy states that “the individual receiving a majority of votes of a quorum present will be the individual serving until the next election,” the committee held an additional vote to formalize Langknecht’s appointment. Cogswell, Damkoehler, Katsoulis, Postera, Reipold, and Smith voted in favor, while Hubert cast a vote against.

Gill’s Jane Oakes was not in attendance. Phillips congratulated Langknecht, and wished him good luck.

Langknecht, who called himself the “low

see GMRSD page A7

Housing Authority to Sell Turners Falls Headquarters



The building, at 42 and 44 Canal Road, includes unfinished warehouse space behind the offices. The HRA’s next location is unknown.

By JEFF SINGLETON

Last Thursday, the Franklin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) issued an “invitation for bids” to find a new owner for its building at 42 and 44 Canal Road. The agency’s director, Fran Pheeney, sought to reassure the public and town officials that “the goal is to stay in Montague.”

Pheeney, joined by finance

and personnel coordinator Hugh Mackay in a telephone interview, stated that the authority’s current building, which sits between the Turners Falls power canal and Connecticut River, is too small to house its many functions.

The building consists of two condominiums used for offices and an attached, unfinished garage and warehouse space, which is “in poor to fair condition,” in the words

of the bid document.

The HRA has played an important and visible role in the recent development of downtown Turners Falls. In addition to running a variety of programs for low-income renters and home buyers, the HRA administers Community Development Block Grants for numerous towns in the area, including Montague.

The Canal Road building also houses Rural Development Incorporated (RDI), a non-profit organization created by the HRA. Pheeney is the director of RDI, which played a central role in the rehabilitation of both the Crocker and Cutlery buildings in downtown Turners.

Montague town administrator Steve Ellis stated that he was “pleased that the HRA is committed to remaining in Montague. Our biggest concern is that they remain here and continue to play a vital

see HRA page A7

Still The Best In The West!

By MATT ROBINSON

TURNERS FALLS – They did it! Again. The Turners Falls Softball Team overcame the weather, miscues, and determined foes for the right to vie for the Massachusetts State D-III Title.

Powertown has won two straight state championships, and eight since 2004, tying a state record. If Turners wins on Saturday, they will hold the record for the most titles in the state.

This season, the team had to endure the

loss of some of the best players in the state, and had to replace those vets with untested rookies. And 2017 has been anything but a cakewalk for the Blue Tribe.

In the first half of the season, they played inconsistently: dominating playoff perennial Southwick, then eking out an extra-inning win against Athol; needing the long ball to beat Frontier, but trouncing D-II champs Hampshire. After mercying cellar dweller Hopkins and playing tough against powerhouse Wachusett, they lost to Greenfield.

see SOFTBALL page A6



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Turners’ reign on parade: Blue returned home last Saturday with their thirteenth Western Mass D-III championship title in fourteen years.

LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Town Likely to Contract Out Administrative Assessor Job

By KATE LINDROOS

The Leverett selectboard, along with administrative assessor Steve Schmidt and Tom Maczka from the board of assessors, discussed finding a replacement for Schmidt, who has worked his current position since 1999 and is retiring this August. Extensive research has been conducted as to how best to proceed, and the current thinking is that Leverett should join neighboring towns in hiring outside contractors.

Everyone decided that going with a small, yet affordable, local company – as opposed to a large, national one – would be in the best interest of the town.

Everyone also agreed that, though there is an option to have only one member, which in this case would be the contracted employee, keeping three members on the Board of Assessors would be crucial moving forward. This way, residents will always have a say.

Looking Toward the Future

The Rattlesnake Gutter Trust requested that the town hold the conservation restriction rights on land the Trust owns. The reason for this request is that, legally, one cannot both own land and hold the conservation rights on that land.

Eva Gibavic, from the Trust, pointed out

see LEVERETT page A5

Seabrook ‘77... Redux

By DAVID DETMOLD

WENDELL – The Wendell energy committee has been busy hosting potlucks and examining what sustainability looks like in the hill towns of Franklin County, where alternative energy has been promoted since the days when photovoltaic electricity, as Wendell’s Alistair MacMartin recalled, still cost \$50 a watt. At February’s energy committee meeting, MacMartin said he’d just installed a 200-watt photovoltaic panel on his Wickett Pond house for \$172 – about 60 cents per watt.

On Monday, June 12, the committee was back at the Wendell Town Hall, viewing the high water mark of the anti-nuclear movement as Robbie Leppzer screened his documentary, *Seabrook 1977*, to a crowd of 32 people, a third of whom attended that demonstration 40 years ago.

The origins of the worldwide antinuclear power movement can largely be traced back to New England in the 1970s – indeed right back to Montague where Samuel Lovejoy, singlehandedly and at great risk to his own life and limb, brought down the 550-foot



Robbie Leppzer, filming the 1977 mass protest.

weather tower at the site of Northeast Utilities’ planned twin 1150-megawatt nuclear reactors on the night of Washington’s Birthday in 1974. Had he not acted, in all likelihood, the Montague Plains would today be home not to a permanent nature preserve but to giant nuclear cooling towers and containment vessels venting carcinogenic isotopes over the villages of Montague and our region.

see SEABROOK page A5

NEWS ANALYSIS

Teacher Numbers Decline In State’s Public High Schools

By ALIYAH SANDERS

GILL-MONTAGUE – Why is there a dramatic decrease in the amount of teachers and staff at Turners Falls High School and many other schools in western Massachusetts? What are the effects of losing a great amount of teachers?

Turners Falls High School plans to cut a health teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. According to superintendent Michael Sullivan, this would result in health classes for Great Falls Middle School being switched to a half semester instead of a full year. The current middle school teacher would also teach the High School health class and Child Development course.

This also would lead to the elimination of a current full-time gym teacher, which increases the number of classes for the athletic director and current gym teacher.

It has been said that cutting teachers leads to bigger class sizes, fewer options for classes and electives, and added stress to other teachers who are now in charge of more classes. Cutting teachers does not only reduce the staff numbers, but also cuts programs being offered in the school.

Pioneer Valley Regional School also plans to reduce their staff by 13% for the upcoming school year. An article written by Shelby Ashline in the *Greenfield Recorder* from January covers the changes at PVRS as

see TEACHERS page A2

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At Both Ends

On Tuesday, the nurses’ union at Greenfield’s Baystate Franklin Medical Center gave formal warning of a one-day strike on Monday, June 26.

Represented by the Massachusetts Nurses Association, they have been working without a contract since January, with sticking points in negotiations including the hospital’s use of mandatory overtime and rollbacks in their own health insurance.

93% of nurses in the unit voted to authorize a strike, and they report that understaffing at the hospital has led to unfair overwork. “3,940 times in the past 12 months nurses had to work longer than 12 hours because there was no one to relieve them,” a public statement issued by the union asserts.

Strikes of caretakers are difficult, and while we haven’t been in the room during negotiations, we are sure the threat means the Greenfield nurses are genuinely at the end of their rope. We hope for a speedy resolution, because our county depends on that hospital.

Our broader region is still reeling from the surprise closing of the North Adams Regional Hospital in March 2014. We have no reason to believe a similar calamity is in store here, but everyone’s feeling the same squeeze for the same reason: the people who hold the power in this country – and no, we don’t mean nurses in unions – no longer view sufficient medical care as a universal right.

This is a gradual grinding down. It didn’t start with the most recent election, though that probably won’t help. The bottom line is that if you don’t really intend to employ people, you don’t have a stake in educating them or keeping them alive longer, either.

In 1960, healthcare spending accounted for around 5% of the US gross domestic product. In 2015 it had reached 17.8%. Given that over the same time period wealth became vastly more concentrated in fewer hands, it is no wonder that we are struggling to provide a basic standard of care for an increasing number of people.

American politics rules out the provision of universal goods: there need to be spikes in the bottom of the pit, after all, for us all to stay so wonderfully motivated.

And so we have crowdfunding, a throwback to a simpler time of mutual aid societies – and poor-houses, and competing private fire departments. Of the first \$2 billion donated through *GoFundMe.com*, it is estimated that \$930 million went to campaigns to defray individuals’ medical costs.

Check out the site, and get out your wallet. In Erving, Ivan has an unstable fracture of the fibula and back of the tibia, Keri has been hospitalized for migraine-type symptoms, and Nancy is fighting breast cancer. In Turners Falls, Patrice is facing surgery and her disability pay won’t cover recovery expenses; Claudia has cancer, and Perry’s is stage 4 brain cancer. Elsewhere in Montague, Carlos went in for a routine procedure and flatlined; he’s doing OK but has ongoing medical expenses; Stephen had infections rupture inside his abdomen; and Mark is in last year of life care. In Leverett, Barbara is slowly recovering from brain injury after a crash.

These are real people – chances are good a typical reader of this paper already knows one of them – and they are only the tip of the iceberg. There’ll be more. And if *GoFundMe* isn’t enough, check out who’s trying *YouCaring*, *CrowdRise*, *GiveForward*, or *Fundly*.

YouCaring’s CEO told *Bloomberg* this week that “the weight of healthcare costs on consumers will only increase,” which means medical crowdfunding is “highly, highly scalable and has a ton of runaway,” a fancy way of saying good news for those taking a cut, like him.

But how much extra cash will we have to give our needy neighbors? How much time do we have to figure out who is deserving? Do nurses deserve to have their employers cover their healthcare costs? Are our medical bills high enough to fully staff hospitals?

There’s gotta be a better way.

TEACHERS from page A1

they reduce staff members. The author states: “According to Pioneer principal Jean Bacon, ten full-time positions are being cut, as well as one administrator, and one district wide technical support staff member will be reduced to half-time.”

So what is the cause in the downfall of the teachers? Where is all the money going?

Teacher layoffs are based on the school’s budget. In an article from the *Montague Reporter* from September 2016, the amount of money being put into charter schools is discussed. The towns of Gill and Montague send students to four different charter schools, including Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter in Hadley, Four Rivers Charter in Greenfield, Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter in South Hadley, and Hilltown Cooperative Charter in Easthampton.

Charter schools cost a substantial amount of money which have a

massive impact on schools’ budgets. The article contains the tuition cost per student during the 2015-2016 school year. Pioneer Valley Immersion was roughly \$12,573, Four Rivers was \$14,543, Pioneer Valley Performing Arts was \$17,275, and Hilltown was \$17,429.

Each year since 2007 the amount of money put into charter schools has increased dramatically, causing the number of teachers and staff to decrease in many traditional schools. The state has cut higher education spending, causing the tuition and fees amount to increase, which takes more money out of public schools’ budgets. This money vanishing results in teachers’ job loss, and students losing out on class opportunities.

So now the big question is: What can we do about the lack of money to support teachers?

Some believe that more state money would be a way to reinstate the original school budget. State money should be spent to fund education adequately and equitably. The towns of Gill and Montague could stop funding, or even close, charter schools that are underperforming. This would return money to school budgets, allowing them to have and keep more teachers.

If students living in this region attended their public high school, the schools would save tremendous amounts of money. Although many students may feel more comfortable attending charter schools rather than traditional schools in their district, reducing the number of charter schools that the district funds would save tens of thousands of dollars, and ensure equality of opportunity for all students in the region.

Aliyah Sanders is an 11th grade student at Turners Falls High School. This article was originally written as an assignment in Mr. Smith’s Current Events class.



Jordan Prickett, commercial printing manager at the Daily Hampshire Gazette, and our distribution manager, Don Clegg. Don and our board volunteer Lyn Clark went to Northampton to pick up our May 18 edition, and got a tour of the Gazette’s printing facilities. The Reporter has been printed at the Gazette since 2012, and they do a solid job.

CORRECTION

“Town manager Steve Ellis” appeared in last week’s Montague selectboard notes (June 8, “Jensen: Elks Solar Zoning Change Not a Case of ‘Spot Zoning’”). One sharp-eyed reader pointed out that Ellis is a town administrator. There is substance to the distinction. We’re not sure why we let it print. Montague could decide to have a town manager, but it does not. We apologize for our error.

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

This Sunday, June 18, is your last chance to visit the Turners Falls Fish Ladder to witness the 2017 migration season. The viewing area is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Great Falls Discovery Center will be starting their 2017 summer extended hours on Sunday. The center will be open seven days per week, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

And Sunday is Father's Day.

The Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center will once again host Ragnar Trail New England on Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17. The Ragnar Trail Relay begins on Friday and continues into Saturday. This overnight running relay race makes testing your limits a team sport.

Camaraderie-focused, these ad-

venture style relay races have exploded in popularity over the past decade. Find some friends, lace up those running shoes, and hit our trails to get in shape for this fun 24-hour event. For more information, got to www.ragnartrail.com.

Also on Saturday morning, the Brick House Community Resource Center is holding its second annual Brick House 5K in downtown Turners Falls. Pre-registration starts at 9 a.m. at the parking lot at the top of the bike path, and the race starts at 10 a.m. Sliding scale registration, \$10 to \$20 suggested.

Clinical Notes, Baystate Franklin Medical Center's women's a cappella chorus, will perform its annual summer solstice concert, "How Can We Keep from Singing," on Tuesday, June 20, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the hospital's main conference rooms at 164 High Street, Greenfield.

The concert is free and open to hospital staff, patients and visitors, and the general public. Contributions to help defray the cost of music are welcome.

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, 84 K Street, Turners Falls, is holding their annual giant tag sale next Saturday, June 24. Stop by between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and browse the wide range of goods and see what treasures you can find. The tag sale will be held rain or shine.

The Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center Annual Meeting, which is open to the public, will include a Museum Tour with Muralist Frank Gregory on June 24, starting at 1 p.m. Meet the Friends and learn how you can become one. Then join them for a special tour and presentation with Frank Gregory, the artist who painted all of the amazing murals in the center's exhibits. Get the behind-the-scenes scoop on how the museum was born. You don't need to be a Friend to attend this rare opportunity!

"We're Proud and We're Stronger Together" is the message the LGBTQA community will celebrate during Franklin County Pride events being held in Greenfield on Satur-

day, June 24. Organized by a group of community volunteers, Franklin County Pride events will start with a 1 p.m. march from Greenfield Middle School, 195 Federal Street, to the Energy Park at 50 Miles Street in downtown Greenfield. The Energy Park will host the Franklin County Pride Rally from 2 to 4 p.m.

The theme of the event is "Stronger Together," which is also being used by Pride events around the country this year.

And the same day, June 24, will be the grand opening celebration at Erving's Riverfront Park. The new park will be open to the public from 1 to 7 p.m., and there'll be a ribbon-cutting, speakers, vendors, face painting, an antique car show, raffle, fire demonstration and live music.

Local officials will be joined by state senate president Stan Rosenberger, Erving Paper president Morris Housen, and Cheryl Toney Holly, chief of the Nipmuc Nation. Speakers will begin at 2 p.m., and the ribbon will be cut at 3 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. For more background on the park project, see "West Along the River" on page B1 of this issue!

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GUEST EDITORIAL

By JOHN FURBISH

A long time ago the river was covered over by a big pond where a gigantic Beaver lived. He made havoc among the fish which he ate. When these failed to supply food he would come ashore and devour the People. Warriors could not stop the beast, he was so large. In a pow-wow, the People complained to spirit Hobomak that the giant Beaver was greedy, consuming their resources and even eating People.

Hobomak resolved to help them. He fashioned a stake from a large tree, and splashed through the water after the Beaver, and found him, and hotly chased him. Giant Beaver tried to escape by digging underground, but Hobomak saw what he was doing and with his great stake jammed the Beaver's head off.

The giant Beaver's body and head both settled at the bottom of the lake, and turned to stone.

— from a Pocumtuck legend about "Mount Sugarloaf" (edited)

In my opinion as a reporter who likes local history, the Beaver is a better and more meaningful mascot for the Turners Falls High School than the "Indians" ever were or could have been, and the Gill-Montague Regional School District is advised to adopt this natural mascot, not just for the high school, but also for all of the district's grade levels from preschool through twelfth grade.

The basic justification for having the Beaver as mascot for Gill and Montague schools is our relation to Mount Sugarloaf in nearby South Deerfield. In the prehistoric time of the forests, modern North American beavers (*Castor canadensis*) definitely did reside around here — as the Indian legend of the Prelude proves — and this story alone could be used to adopt the beaver as a mascot.

At the end of the "Indians" mascot for TFHS, it was decided to have four teaching modules in the high school about local Indian history and culture. The "Beaver" mascot suggests to continue this, along with three more modules for the middle school, all to support an understanding of Mount Sugarloaf.

One new module could cover the Paleo-Indians, and two additional, primarily-science modules could teach about local history from 25,000 to 20,000 years ago as our terrain was severely eroded, sometimes down to bedrock (as in Turners Falls), by the 1- to 2-mile-high-glacier of the Ice Age. Later, the local terrain took its final shape after the draining of glacial Lake Hitchcock. Thereafter, the Connecticut River and the former Great Falls formed.

Long before these mascot studies, G-M preschool and elementary school students could be exposed to the Beaver through both interesting facts about the animal and Indian stories and art from throughout the United States and Canada. These

wouldn't be formal curriculum — but simply as interesting topics to spice up the fall term, during the time of the 29-day "Beaver Moon" around November each year.

This earliest, non-tested exposure would contribute to the students' empathy for animals and other peoples so the later modules would have more meaning. In doing all this, the GMRSD would then have a total approach to its Beaver mascot, and not just a name.

With the Beaver as mascot, the GMRSD schools could have a total, coherent approach for its "brand," starting in preschool. A local mascot of the Beaver meets or exceeds all of the five major "criteria" that the school committee has set to judge its new mascot:

1. **Marketability:** This vivid section reviews the prevalence of beavers in North America in the past as explaining why so many businesses, schools, and other organizations have made the beaver their mascot.

2. **Gender Neutrality:** This shortest section is based on the simple fact that female beaver outweigh male beavers, which is used to suggest how that might inspire female students in the school system to do their best during the school years and afterwards.

3. **Inclusive/Non-discriminatory:** This varied section uses several parts of beaver behavior as a parable for humans. There would be a boost to the schools' STEM courses from the beaver mascot, while the students' exposure to In-

dian Beaver stories and Indian art would provide support for all creative, expressive modes.

4. **Core Values:** This complex, lengthy section has particular relevance to sports, because of beavers' legendary perseverance.

5. **Community Relevance:** The main reason for GMRSD to adopt the Beaver as its mascot is the nearby beaver-shaped Mount Sugarloaf, which relates to both the town's first seasonal inhabitants (Paleo-Indians) and the later Pocumtuck Indian tribe. An interpretative display panel at the entrance to the football field could show Mount Sugarloaf and tell the Pocumtuck legend of the gigantic Beaver.

A final word: The Gill-Montague Regional School district is requested, *at the very least*, to adopt the Beaver as its new mascot, and *in addition* to advocate for the return of beavers to more and more of the North American waterways.

GMRSD students might lobby to correct the mistakes of history. Just because the English colonists had forgotten what beavers look like, is no reason to keep our beaver-shaped mountain named after a loaf of sugar. It could and should be renamed "Beaver Mountain" — and GMRSD students might help convince the Commonwealth's bureaucrats and politicians to do that.

John Furbish lives in Turners Falls. The above was condensed from a recent letter to the GMRSD school committee.

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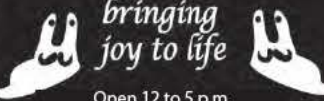
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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Wendell Dips Into Stabilization, Extends Franchise to Minors

By JOSH HEINEMANN

Close to 60 Wendell residents took just under three hours inside the town hall on a beautiful sunny Saturday morning, June 10, and passed the entire annual town meeting warrant, most of it unanimously.

The town's operating budget, which passed unanimously, increased from \$2,277,715 to \$2,450,798, fueled to a large extent by an increase in the Swift River School assessment. That was offset by level funding, or in some cases a decrease in the amount authorized for town departments, and a reduced scope of capital expenses. The tax rate increase was also kept down by judicious use of the stabilization fund.

As people took their hard metal seats in the town hall, they were entertained by the Fin Commanders, a musical group made up of the finance committee and one daughter of a fin com member.

There was also a moment of silence in respect for Wendell residents who passed away since the 2016 town meeting.

School Costs

School committee chair Johanna Bartlett defended the increase in the Swift River School assessment with several arguments. Wendell's agreement with New Salem has each town pay according to a rolling five-year average of students sent to the school, and Wendell's population of school-aged children has been growing faster than New Salem's.

Among towns in Franklin County, Wendell is lucky to have children being born and raised here, but that good luck costs money. And students are coming to Swift River with more problems: homelessness, hunger, trauma. She said the cafeteria leaves lunch leftovers, and students take them home.

Swift River has programs to meet special needs, and those programs cost extra, but far less than the cost of the out-of-district placements that would be required without them.

State aid is decreasing consistently. Bartlett said Wyoming has a \$300 per-student supplement for large districts with low population density, and implied that Massachusetts would do well to follow that example. She encouraged citizens to go to Boston and make noise.

Other Spending

Answering citizen Don Stone's question about a 50% increase in

the assessment for ambulance service from Orange, fin com chair Doug Tanner said that Athol hospital gave transfers, which make money, to a private contractor, leaving the Orange ambulance service to cover only emergency calls, which cost the service money. In addition, a modern ambulance is "a moving hospital."

Answering citizen Morgan Mead's question of why Wendell would pay \$1,000 dues to WiredWest, broadband committee members combined to say that WiredWest has changed its former assumption of holding a regional system co-owned by member towns to offering management services to the towns, and that the legal and other fees justified the cost.

Overall, the town took \$219,950 from stabilization to pay for things that in richer times might have been paid through taxation. The town then replaced that money with \$173,989 from free cash and \$30,000 from the insurance reserve fund. Tanner said that the savings on a higher deductible insurance plan did not justify holding \$60,000 in the insurance reserve fund.

Energy, Health, Youth

The town voted to release "any rights that may exist on the so-called schoolhouse lot" located within the conservation restriction (CR) area of the Diemand farm. The lot had uncertain ownership until this meeting, a fact that was discovered in the process of getting the CR.

The town voted to be in support of 100% renewable energy, but removed language from that article that would have required all boards to "consider municipal decisions in light of bringing the town closer to 100% renewable energy." Conservation committee chair Robin Heubel objected to those words, saying the con com's jurisdiction "is limited to a box": wetlands.

Citizens approved unanimously a resolution supporting "Medicare for All" in Massachusetts, endorsing House bill #2987 and Senate bill #619.

Johanna Bartlett spoke against the article that allowed 16- and 17-year old residents to vote in town elections, saying, "I have worked with them, I love them, I respect them," but that they have not developed the ability to control their impulses.

Someone in the back of the room said he knows of (chronological) adults who also have poor impulse control. The article passed, by a hand count.

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Board Finds Grant Eligibility Question A Moot Point

By MIKE JACKSON

The Gill selectboard met Monday night with Fred Chase II and administrative assistant Ray Purington to discuss a proposal, which Chase has been pushing, for a town machinery maintenance committee. In its current form, the proposal would give the committee oversight over repairs for any "asset that has a combustion engine and a new replacement cost more than \$500, or any attachment to such an asset, if the attachment cost is over \$500."

"Nowadays, that includes a chainsaw," Chase pointed out.

"A good chainsaw, yeah," Purington said, "but not a weed whacker."

Selectboard member Greg Snedeker wondered whether the town would always have volunteers "willing and able" to serve on the committee.

The board tried to figure out what sort of equipment the group would deal with — whether, for example, a shredder was more like a truck than a computer — and whether they'd be more of a committee or a commission. Commissions, Purington pointed out, are usually the ones started by town meeting, though town meeting created the capital improvement planning committee. Chase suggested the group could also be referred to as "consultants."

"However you word it, the most important thing is to evaluate what you own," Chase said. He praised the police department for their "immaculate" record-keeping.

John Ward moved to create the committee, effective "as soon as we can populate the committee," and the idea was unanimously approved.

2017 COPS Grant

Purington told the board the police department had considered applying to the US Department of Justice for a hiring grant which would reimburse a portion of a new hire cost for the first three years, but that the application stipulated that the town "needs to sign acknowledgment of compliance with 8 USC 1373 — that has to do with saying that you don't have prohibitions or restrictions on sending to, requesting or receiving from, maintaining or exchanging information on citizenship or immigration status, including any prohibitions or restrictions imposed by, or established by, a state or local entity or official."

Last month, the selectboard instructed town police not to hold non-criminal immigrant detainees on behalf of the federal government,

so the department believes it is not eligible for the grant.

Ward pointed out that the town's ordinance did not place restrictions on any exchange of information.

Snedeker said that he had researched the grant in question before voting for the ordinance, and that it was targeted toward "violent crime," "immigration," and "infrastructure that is of national importance to security," and that he doubted Gill would win such a grant.

"If we had a third officer," he continued, "we'd still be on the hook for 25%, so we're not saving something, we're just not taking on an expense."

"I don't feel that we really lost much," chair Randy Crochier said, pointing out that the grant would phase out. "If we're going to go to a third officer, a grant like this would be great... but I'm not big on staffing by grant, because eventually the grant goes away."

Ultimately, the selectboard agreed that the town should decide whether it should add a third police officer, and then investigate questions of funding. The grant application deadline was felt to be too soon to drive a decision, regardless of the open questions of the town's eligibility.

Other Business

The town received a reminder from the Franklin County Technical School that it does not currently have a delegate on its school committee. The selectboard voted to recommend Sandy Brown, who was in attendance at the meeting, to the town moderator for appointment.

Brown has served on a school committee before. "I hope I know what I'm getting into," she said, still.

The board approved the use of the rear parking lot at the safety complex for Baystate Franklin Medical Center's "Wheeling for Healing" cancer benefit bike ride on August 13.

"They've been wonderful every time they've set up, and it's a great cause," Crochier said.

The board went into an executive session "to discuss the employment of, or strategy regarding, security devices, i.e. fire apparatus."

The Reporter is grateful to the Gill cable committee for videotaping the above meeting, which we were unable to cover in person. If you or someone you know may be interested in helping us with this beat, get in touch!

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LEVERETT from page A1

the fallacy of the assumption “that once [the Trust] owns a piece of property it’s protected in perpetuity.” Without the town’s help, she said, “if something happened to the Trust, the property could be sold and not be in conservation anymore.”

Rocky Adriance from the Rattlesnake Gutter Trust and Alain Petyroy from the Franklin Land Trust joined Gibavic in arguing for this “double layer of protection.” The 24-acre parcel in question, located on Cave Hill Road, was donated by Elise Kroeber.

The motion was quickly approved and notarized on the spot. Now the town, at no cost, holds the interest in the conservation restriction, and therefore can ensure that the land is protected.

Water, Water, Water

The town plans to apply for a grant from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program, which is a federal-state partnership that provides communities with funds for water quality infrastructure projects. The grant would be used to bring a water line from Amherst to the five properties near the capped landfill, which have been without clean drinking water for years now.

Applying for the grant is a com-

petitive process, and the project would be an expensive one, but all present agreed it was worth a try.

In somewhat-related news, an inspection of the elementary school water supply has recently been conducted. The report requests that the school’s “abandoned well” be shut down, though the selectboard believes this is an error and that all wells are currently connected at the school.

The board will follow up with school officials and facilities to clarify the findings.

Energy, New & Old

The board discussed plans to install solar panels, most likely carports, at the elementary school. The town is eligible for a \$12,500 technical assistance grant to help plan and design the project. The next step is to establish a working group with members from various departments in the community.

For fueling various vehicles, the police and fire departments have asked to open a rewards-based credit card for use at certain gas stations. Pros and cons were weighed, and the ultimate decision was that these cards are worth pursuing, but carefully. Certain restrictions will be placed on the cards’ usage to ensure accountability.

In related news, the board voted unanimously to award bids for gas and diesel fuel awards for FY’18. Sandri submitted the low bid for diesel, and O’Connell Oil the low bid for gasoline.

Other Business

The board signed a document allowing negotiations to begin on health insurance benefit changes for town employees. The changes are intended to offset premium increases. The Hampshire Council of Governments provides this insurance for many members of the community.

Leverett’s selectboard approved the re-negotiation of the existing police union contract this Tuesday night. Everyone there, including officer Mike Gralenski, who is union president, seemed pleased upon the document’s signing.

In keeping with the festive mood, the selectboard then reviewed the invitation to be sent out for the upcoming Independence Day Picnic.

The event, which is co-sponsored by the selectboard and the Leverett Alliance, will be held on the grounds of the elementary school on July 4 from 4 to 7 p.m. The invitation will be sent out by town email to those who are signed up for these notifications.



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SEABROOK from page A1

But Lovejoy’s crowbar also rang the death knell for an industry still thrashing in its prolonged post-Three Mile Island, post-Chernobyl, post-Fukushima throes. Lovejoy turned himself in to the Montague police that night, stood trial, brought dissident nuclear scientist John Goffman and other experts to testify in Greenfield Superior Court, and was ultimately acquitted.

A wave of civil disobedience against the use of commercial and military nuclear power soon spread worldwide – from the tectonic fault line at Diablo Canyon in California to the fishing boat blockade of the Kudankulam reactor in Tamil Nadu, India. But not before the Clamshell Alliance, taking a leaf from Gandhi, the Quakers, and Martin Luther King, peacefully occupied the site of two planned nuclear reactors at Seabrook, NH in May of 1977, bringing the “perils of the peaceful atom” to international consciousness.

Eighteen-year-old Robbie Leppzer was there with his video camera, taking it all in. With his youthful production crew he documented every aspect of the struggle, which culminated in the arrest of hundreds of “Clams” who had come to the New Hampshire Seacoast from all corners of New England and beyond in an ardent attempt to block with their bodies what the democratic process had failed to prevent – the construction of the Seabrook Nuke.

Leppzer, a longtime Wendell resident, has gone on to make documentaries on the nuclear freeze campaign, war tax refusers in Colrain, the shutdown of Vermont Yankee,

and others. But *Seabrook 1977* was his first major production, co-directed with Phyllis Joffe. They were the right people at the right place at the right time. They captured for the future a piece of grassroots history the like of which had never been seen before.

Through the lens of Leppzer’s camera, and those of his colleagues, we watch as 2,500 mostly white, mostly young, entirely earnest Clams train in the discipline of non-violent civil disobedience, camp out at homesteads of Seacoast supporters, and march onto the Seabrook construction site on the morning of April 30, 1977.

Within 24 hours, one of the largest mass arrests in modern US history resulted in the two-week incarceration of 1,414 anti-nuclear activists, and generated international headlines on the growing concerns and controversy surrounding the commercial use of nuclear power.

In the wake of that event, Richard Nixon’s plan to build 1,000 nuclear reactors in America by the year 2000 failed. Seabrook Unit II was canceled. When Unit I finally went on line in 1990, it was 11 years behind schedule and \$5.2 billion over budget.

And for the next 34 years, not a single nuclear reactor was built or ordered in America. (There are four in various stages of construction now – two in Florida, two in Georgia.)

Leppzer captured not just the enthusiasm of Clamshell activists determined to halt the nuclear industry in its tracks. He also interviewed local residents opposed



An affinity group awaits arrest at the 1977 protest.

to the reactors’ construction, like neatly coiffed grandmother Carlene Perusse, who was asked why the two townwide referenda she helped organize to poll Seabrook residents on whether or not to build the nuke – majorities opposed construction both times – were considered non-binding. Perusse replied, “Well, it was just that our votes didn’t count, evidently.”

He caught the perplexities of law enforcement officers tasked with dealing with dozens on dozens of autonomous affinity groups comprised of disciplined activists. NH National Guard Commander General John Blatsos offered, “The planning that went into [their] operation would put many military staffs to shame.” He added, “It was my first experience, oddly enough, with vegetarians.”

Leppzer also recorded the ramblings of New Hampshire governor Meldrim Thompson, whose decision to keep the non-violent trespassers

jailed in armories for the next 13 days elevated their stand to an international *cause célèbre*. Thomson opined, “I think that their whole approach is very un-American. They are approaching the problem in terms of violating laws. America wasn’t built that way.”

And he captured a chilling interview with Australian anti-nuclear campaigner Dr. Helen Caldicott, whose findings on the medical effects of ionizing radiation informed activists then as now.

Caldicott calmly explained that radioactive isotopes, leaking from the nuclear fuel cycle and from operating reactors concentrate in the food chain and are taken into our bodies. “You can’t taste it; you can’t smell it; you can’t see it, so therefore you don’t know, for instance, that you’re drinking some milk containing strontium 90 or radioactive iodine.... You don’t know that you might be breathing some air containing some plutonium....

“Nuclear power won’t kill them like that – it’s going to take a long time for them to get their cancer; 15 to 40 years to get their cancer and 5 years to get the leukemia and we know this from the bombs that were dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki,” she said. “We know these statistics.”

At evening’s end, Harvey Wasserman, a mainstay of *Freepress.org*, whose efforts to inform the public about the dangers of nuclear power has never ceased since the day Leppzer interviewed him at Seabrook, offered brief remarks about the state of the nuclear industry in America today.

“We’re pretty close to wiping out the nuclear industry,” he said. “There are 99 reactors still operating – all are on the brink of shutting down. It is cheaper to buy new solar or wind than to operate nuclear power plants.”

He said a key court case was about to commence in New York State, where the governor would like to invest \$7.5 billion to bail out four upstate nukes. If that effort is halted, Wasserman predicted the nation’s aging nuclear reactors would begin shutting down in rapid succession.

“Solar power is now a trillion dollar industry,” he said. “There are a quarter million jobs in solar; one hundred thousand in wind. This is where the future lies.”

More information on Seabrook 1977 is available at www.turningtide.com/SEABROOK.htm.



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SOFTBALL from page A1

But after those two losses, they began a winning streak which survives to this day, beating Newton North – who just lost the D-I semifinals – every team in the Western Mass MIAA Tournament, and Central Mass champs Hopedale.

This Saturday, Turners goes on to face the Austin Prep Cougars, a team Turners beat in the finals last year off a hit and two Cougar errors.



What a relief! Pitcher Peyton Emery retires to the dugout during the seventh as Turners overpowered the Green Wave, 8-0, in the Western Mass semifinal.

Thursday, June 8
TFHS 8 – Greenfield 0

This game was important for the Ladies in Blue. But it wasn’t about revenging their only league loss, or the cross-river rivalry. In fact, it wasn’t about Greenfield at all. In the end, it was only about beating the team in front of them and advancing in the playoffs.

But last Thursday, the team in front of Turners Falls was the Green Wave of Greenfield., and Powertown dispatched the Wave in businesslike fashion. The Tribe scored runs in four of the first five innings, while keeping Green off the scoreboard *en route* to an 8-0 victory.

In the first inning, Blue scored two runs off alert base running, defensive indifference, and a shallow single. The rally began when Gabby Arzuaga was awarded first base after getting hit by a pitch. Lexi Lacey, who took her place at first, advanced on a wild pitch. Aly Murphy took a base on balls, and when the ball passed the catcher, took second base while Lacey sprinted to third.

Jordyn Fiske then hit an infield grounder. The ball was thrown home, but Lacey beat the throw, and Fiske made it to second. The second run came when Taylor Murphy slapped a single to shallow left field, sending Fiske home. But the damage was over as both Fiske and Taylor got out on the base paths.

Turners put four more across in the third. Their first two were unearned, off a routine grounder and multiple errors.

After Cassidhe Wozniak reached on a walk, Gabby hit a ground ball to third. She booked it to first, trying to beat the throw while advancing Woz to second. But the throw went wild. First-base coach Eddy Marvell sent her to second, while third-base coach Sully waved Aly all the way home. Gabby took third when the ball was bobbled, and Sully gave her the green light to keep running when the Wave was unable to get control of the ball.

Just like that, Turners had expanded their lead to four. Fiske reached on a base hit, stole second, and was batted in by Taylor Murphy. Taylor eventually scored and Turners led 6-0 after three full.

Turners scored their last two runs off the long ball: Arzuaga blasted a RBI double in the fourth, and Maddy Johnson clocked a triple in the fifth.

Defensively, Turners played with clear communication and precision, with Fiske making several golden-glove catches. In the circle, Peyton Emery struck out three, gave one walk and scattered three hits, while Jade Tyler retired the last Green batter.

Saturday, June 10
TFHS 15 – Mount Everett 1

On Saturday, after a first-inning scare, Turners won the D-III Western Massachusetts Championship with a 15-1 victory over #2 Mount Everett.

Everett earned a run in the first inning. And

I do mean earned. The leadoff batter hit the first pitch deep to the outfield, but Fiske snagged it. The second batter was out after Abby Loynd made a terrific diving catch. But the Mounties are hitters, and the next three batters hit safely.

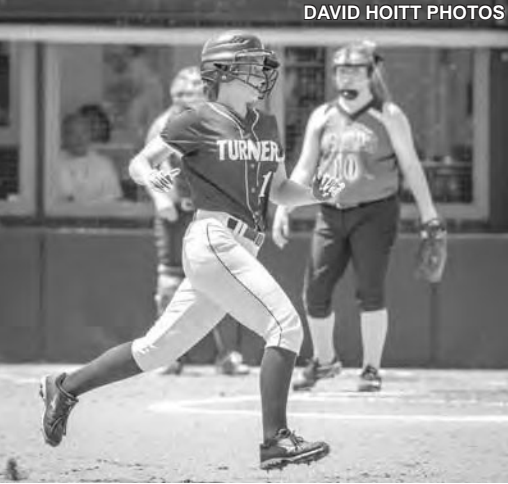
A bloop single and two deep flies to the left-field wall gave the Mounties a 1-0 lead. After a double steal, Powertown was forced to take a deep breath and hunker down. Wozniak caught the final out and the Mounties were retired, stranding two in scoring position.

In the bottom of the first, Woz drew a walk but a double-play popup dampened the Tribe’s hopes. But Aly Murphy laced a line drive to right field, and Fiske hit a double over the center fielder’s head to knot the game at 1.

Neither team could score in the second, but the mood on the field began to shift. In the top of the inning, Emery struck out the leadoff man, Taylor Murphy called everybody off and made the second out, and after a walk, Fiske made another long catch.

In the bottom, Turners threatened but couldn’t cash in. Maddy Johnson was beat to first by a step, Loynd reached on a walk and stole second, and for the final out of the frame, Whittier sky-ed the ball deep to center.

Then came the third. The scoreboard at UMass could not satisfy the Powertown run tally. There wasn’t enough room to fit all 10 runs on the board, so the Keeper only posted 9, which led to some confusion on the sidelines.



Maddy Johnson heads to second base on her hit at the Western Mass D-III Championship Final.

Fourteen Turners players came to the plate in the inning as Mountie errors supplemented their hit parade, and after three full, the game was out of hand. There is no mercy rule in the Championship so the game wasn’t called even when the deficit ballooned to 14 runs in the sixth.

Leading by such a margin could lead to a relaxing of focus, but the Tribe’s defense stayed on point, and fittingly, Arzuaga made the final out, a sky-high popup at the back edge of the press box.

Nine different Blue Ladies had the 15 hits for Turners. Also of note, Fiske received the first Gary Stacy Most Valuable Player Award.



Turners’ senior slugger and catcher Gabby Arzuaga blasts out a double during the Mt. Everett game.

Tuesday, June 13
TFHS 2 – Hopedale 1

Then on Tuesday, Turners played the Central Mass champs, the Hopedale Raiders under oppressive 95-degree heat. Turners had the coolness advantage, wearing blue while Hope were clad in black. But it was hot for everyone, and the announcer warned us to hydrate and use plenty of sunscreen. We were also informed

that we would have to go to our vehicles if the heat broke and lightning struck.

Coming into the game, Turners was the odds-on favorite, if there’s such a thing in high school sports. They had rolled through the playoffs, outscoring other great teams 32-2, and a MIAA official told me after the game that Turners was predicted to win by double digits.



Jordyn Fiske gets a hit during the fourth inning of Tuesday’s state semifinal. Melissa Hersey had the only other hit against Hopedale.

Looking at the tournament stats sent to me by Coach Gary Mullins, it certainly seemed that his team could do pretty good against anybody. Twelve different Blue Ladies had hits against some of the best pitchers in the West, with six different girls smacking extra-base hits.

In the field, the Blue D had been perfect, making incredible catches and crisp throws while committing zero errors. And in the circle, Peyton Emery had allowed only two runs against some pretty potent hitters.

So it seemed the game would be a washout, but Hopedale had other ideas. They came into game invigorated, and loud, and ready. It could have been the heat or overconfidence, or simply that Powertown had looked past this game, but the Blue Bats, as well as their dugout, were noticeably silent.

Hopedale, on the other hand, came out swinging. Their first two batters got base hits and the third hit a sac fly. The throw from Hersey beat the runner coming home, but she slid under the tag and the Raiders took a 1-0 lead with only 1 out.

Emery and the Blue D got out of the inning, but the Raiders took the field leading by a run and filled with pep. Turners managed to get men on base in the bottom of the first without getting a hit, but a double play and a 6-3 grounder preserved the Raider lead.

Turners shut down Hope for the next two innings, but in the fourth a dropped ball, defensive indifference, and a flubbed throw almost broke it open. But Powertown again got out of the inning with no damage.

It wasn’t until the bottom of the fourth that Turners got their first hit when Fiske hit a 1-out single and went to second on an error. So there was a little hope for Turners, but two hard shots directly to fielders retired the side.

In the fifth, Hopedale hit a one-out double and the runner advanced to third on the second out. But again, Turners got the last out, and again, Hope left a man stranded on third.

In the Blue fifth, Turners got their second – and final – hit of the afternoon. Bogusz got the hit but was retired on a fielder’s choice. In the top of the sixth, Turners committed another error but the next three batters were retired in order.

Then came the bottom of the sixth. While the Raider pitcher was warming up in the circle, the Blue players were completely silent, and one of the coaches screamed: “You’re Western Mass Champions. Act like it! Do you want it?” And the Blue Ladies came alive.

I like to have fun at the games and I told those around me, “At least we don’t have to bat in the seventh.” The two Whiteman fathers tried to use a little logic on me. After all, Turners’ back was to the wall and had only managed two hits in the entire game.

“That means Turners will have to score at least two runs in this inning,” one of them said.

I replied, “At least two. But they won’t bat in the seventh.”

This comes from my years of watching sports, and my mother’s mantra: “It’s only a game.” And in the end, it is just a game, and

it’s best not to take it too seriously. If they win, they win. If they don’t, that’s OK too. Might as well expect the best.

And the best – or the worst – happened in the sixth, and Turners didn’t have to bat in the seventh after all. Arzuaga led off and reached on an error. Aly made it to first, while courtesy runner Lacey was thrown out at second. *1 out.*

Fiske came up next, and a wild pitch sent courtesy runner Katherine Garcia to second. Fiske was then thrown out at first, while Garcia advanced to third. *2 outs.*

Next, Taylor Murphy hit a grounder – but as luck would have it, the ball was bobbled, so instead of getting the third out, Taylor reached base while Garcia scored the tying run. Maddy Johnson was next up for Blue, and a wild pitch sent Taylor, and the go-ahead run, to second. Then *another* wild pitch sent her to third.

It did look like the game would go to the bottom of the seventh when Maddy hit a routine ball to the infield. But neither Taylor nor Maddy slowed down. The ball was mishandled, and Maddy was safe at first while Taylor scored. Loynd hit a hard shot to the outfield for the third out, and the sixth ended for the Tribe.

With the wind out of their sails, Hopedale went 1-2-3 in the seventh, and Turners earned a date in Worcester.

Best Bat Forward

It’s hard being the reigning state champions: You can’t improve on last year’s season, you can only repeat.

If you search online for Turners Falls Softball, decades of stories will come up from all over the state. And if you read the stories, what stands out is not the multiple titles, but the girls themselves, and the lifelong friendships that developed when they played together at that little school on the Connecticut River. So it’s not the wins you remember, it’s the relationships.

That said, I’ve been keeping track of the entire MIAA tournament. It would have been nice if Hampshire won D-II and Newton North beat Wachusett in the D-I final, mostly because Turners played all three teams in the regular season. But in the end, Turners can only control their own destiny.



Hopedale’s baserunner dives back to first as Turners’ Aly Murphy gets the throw during the state semifinal at UMass-Amherst.

After Tuesday’s game, the mood in the dugout was more disappointing than celebratory. The team took deep breaths, quietly congratulated each other, packed their equipment up and left the dugout. A woman who was in the molly for the end of the sixth inning told me later that she thought Turners had lost, because of how downcast the team was.

But I see it as more of a wakeup call. You can’t take any team for granted, and you can’t get discouraged after a poor performance, especially when your next game is for the Title. Powertown dodged a bullet, and in the end, found a way to win.

And on Saturday, put your best bat forward and if you win, that’s great. Don’t take yourselves too seriously. Remember, it’s still only a game.

Also this week in TFHS sports...

Alysha Wozniak of Turners Falls was named to the All Tri-County first tennis team.

The honor was well deserved. I’ve seen Alysha play several times this year. She always drew the toughest opponents as the first-singles player, and her technique and stamina made her a standout on the court. She frequently played in long rallies, and knew how to play to her opponents’ weakness.

Congrats, Woz!

Next week: Austin Prep, again.



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GMRSD from page A1

man on the totem pole,” was delegated as a liaison to Montague’s capital improvement committee, while Hubert agreed to take the corresponding position in Gill.

Collaboration and Strategy

The committee heard a presentation by Jen Audley of the Gill-Montague Community School Partnership of a district self-assessment made possible by a state Safe and Supportive Schools grant the Partnership had written, and received, last year for the district.

Audley said that the study helped identify ways the district could “make better use of resources we already have,” particularly in terms of personnel, in order to strengthen the schools’ relationships with students, families, and outside organizations and address systemic problems such as “why some kids are chronically absent.”

“It was really cool to have... guidance counselors and teachers have a little bit of time to sit down together and talk,” Audley said, adding that “folks in the district are really hungry for... more collaboration time.”

Superintendent Michael Sullivan and the board discussed the idea of convening meetings to talk about the cash-strapped district’s future, involving selectboards and finance committees from multiple towns.

Members discussed ways to make such a meeting both inclusive and productive. “When the cameras are off,” Postera said, “we actually make more progress in collaborating.”

Hubert suggested holding large meetings, but with “breakout sessions” in which smaller groups could address specific goals.

Damkoehler spoke of the benefit of “getting everyone together.” “It’s solidarity,” she said, “everyone discussing the same goals, initially.”

Langknecht recalled the process nearly a decade ago that led to the formation of a “technical panel” to address budget challenges, and noted that state fiscal contributions to the district have not kept up with

levels that panel had hoped for.

“[Gill finance committee member] Tupper Brown was talking about the budget – dire predictions – and I don’t disagree with him, but I’d like to know exactly what he’s talking about,” he said.

Sullivan recommended hiring an outside facilitator for the process. No decisions were made.

Questions and Answers

During the public comment period, Montague resident and parent Tammy Young asked why the district had decided not to fund a school police officer for the coming school year. A 2015 Massachusetts state law mandates that every chief of police, “subject to appropriation,” assign an officer to local schools, though the law also allows for schools to ask that the requirement be waived.

Young, who said she was “speaking for the parents and the taxpayers,” expressed concern over student safety, and asked whether grants were available to fund such a position. “I’d like to know how many times a year the police are called to any of the schools in Gill-Montague,” she said.

Young’s statements prompted a discussion, later in the meeting, about the frustrations some residents have expressed about not receiving answers to questions posed to the committee.

“It’s important the public realize we’re not the movers and shakers with problems in the schools,” Postera said. She added that she herself remembered being frustrated when, as a parent, she brought her concerns to the committee.

“We are a policy committee, and this is our business meeting,” Smith said.

Langknecht suggested periodically soliciting questions from the public well enough in advance of meetings that members could legally confer in open session and agree on answers all are comfortable with.

Everett Smith of Montague also asked for the committee to create such a day for residents’ questions

to be answered. “Sometimes we ask and it’s kind of pushed aside,” he said.

“People have asked about the logo,” Smith said, when asked to give an example. “Altering the image to keep it, instead of just having the head – making it look more like the one flying on the flag out in front of the school, for the state emblem. I think that is a fair thing that we should be able to get some feedback, saying it’s an option.”

Other Business

The committee discussed the pros and cons of forming a budget subcommittee, but made no decision on the matter.

Alternate student representative Korey Martineau reported that the student council had not yet recruited a new advisor to replace librarian Chani Craig, who is leaving the district.


Martineau also said that the freshman class at the high school is selling baseball caps with the letters “TF” on the front for \$15, as a fundraiser.

Sullivan reported that for the second summer in a row, the local area will host a Summer Jobs and Beyond program, employing 25 juniors and seniors. The program is still looking for employers to host student workers at no cost.

Sullivan also reported that Donna Fitzpatrick, the district’s director of teaching and learning, had given her notice after receiving an offer to serve as assistant superintendent in another district.

“I do not anticipate filling her position the same way,” Sullivan said, describing Fitzpatrick’s departure as “an opportunity we need to take advantage of with our difficult financial situation.”

The committee will hold a “working session” on Tuesday, June 20 at the high school to brainstorm a process for replacing the high school sports team logo.

Following that, regular school committee meetings are scheduled for June 27, July 11, and August 8 and 22 at the Turners Falls High School. 



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LOOKING BACK 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was June 14, 2007: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.

ing to strip copper wire from a live 13,800-volt transmission line.

Arrest Made in Strathmore Blaze

Jonathan Tanzer, 43, of 5 Chestnut Lane in Turners Falls, was arraigned in Greenfield District Court on Tuesday, and charged with breaking and entering in the nighttime, burning a building, and burning personal property. Tanzer is being charged with setting the fire that burned down Building 10 of the Strathmore Mill on the morning of May 26, and thereby destroying the personal property of mill owner Jerry Jones.

The case rests on a statement made to the Montague police Tuesday morning by Tanzer’s girlfriend, Amber Hewes, 30, also of 5 Chestnut Lane, who told police she drove Tanzer to the Strathmore Mill at about 1:45 a.m. on the morning of May 26, and acted as lookout in case Jones should arrive and find them there.

Hewes said Tanzer told her he was going to take some stripped copper he said was stored in a closet in the mill and sell it for scrap. According to the statement, Hewes told police, “I asked where the copper was [when Tanzer returned empty handed], and Jon stated that Jerry took all of the copper out of the building. So Jon stated, ‘I lit the fucker on fire.’ I asked him what he meant, and he again stated that ‘I lit the fucker on fire. I was pissed and I walked by a bale of paper and lit it on fire.’”

Hewes said she then drove Tanzer back to their house and went to sleep, to be awakened at 9 a.m. about news of the fire.

According to numerous reports, Tanzer had been badly injured at the Strathmore Mill on May 6, while working under the direction of mill owner Jerry Jones, attempt-

Jones Pleads Indigence in Housing Court

Confronted in the hallway outside Courtroom #2 in Northampton District Court on Monday by Montague building inspector David Jensen and Turners Falls fire chief Ray Godin, Jerry Jones, owner of the Strathmore Mill, mostly let his attorney, Jack Mason, speak for him.

Mason engaged the town officials in a brisk back-and-forth about the town and fire district’s demands that Jones secure the Strathmore Mill and reactivate the sprinkler and fire alarm systems, damaged in a fire of suspicious origin that destroyed the mill’s 19,000 square-foot Building 10 during the early morning of May 26.

When the discussion turned to what Jones could do to assist the town in smoothing a transfer of the distressed property to an interested buyer – John Anctil of the Swift River Group, who is interested in buying the mill to set up a film and television school and production studio – Jones said he would not stand in the way of the town’s tax taking proceedings.

The town is already moving forward to seize the Strathmore for the \$165,254.60 in back taxes owed on the mill. Jones indicated he would be willing to work with the town to smooth the way for a new owner to take control of the property. At stake is the need to restore electricity to activate the elevators and alarm systems in order to remove the stored paper from the mill.

Jones, claiming indigence, was having none of the court and town official’s insistence that he be financially responsible. “The town has to get the fire alarm going, and the sprinkler system done,” Jones claimed.

HRA from page A1

role in the development of downtown Turners Falls.”

Two condominiums in the building were sold to the HRA by the Couture Brothers Inc., in 1991 and 1992. The third unit, the unfinished warehouse space, was sold to RDI in December 2002.

Chris Couture, who describes himself as the “historian” of the property and stresses that his business is called the Couture Bros., says the current building was part of a much larger paper mill linked to the Keith Paper Company. A fire in 1960 destroyed large portions of the structure. The building was sold to Chris Couture’s father in the same year. Couture believes that by that time, the facility was no longer making paper, but was primarily being used for storage.

Couture did not express interest



RDI, its owner since 2002, has not developed the rear section of the building.

in owning the building again.


Phoeny suggested that the HRA will be casting a wide net in its efforts to find a new owner. She mentioned the potential for both public agencies and non-profit organizations like the HRA to bid for the property.

When asked about a timeline for the sale, Mackay stated that six months would be “beautiful,” but that twelve months might be a

more realistic expectation.

“Well, it’s another building we need to consider,” said town planner Walter Ramsey, when asked how the HRA decision fits in with Montague’s plans for the development of the “canal district.” Ramsey was careful to note that the sale of the building will be in the hands of the HRA, but “obviously, the community has a vested interest in what happens there.”

Ramsey noted that the former mill has a number of advantages over others along the canal: “It has parking, access and electricity.” He did not mention either the vacant and town-owned Strathmore mill complex, which has struggled with parking and access, or the former Railroad Salvage building, which recently burned to the ground.

“It has a lot of potential,” he told the *Reporter*. 

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Lyn Clark reading our local paper to interested hippos at the St. Louis Zoo last month. (Lyn says she doesn't believe in zoos in general, but feels that so long as they exist, she can at least bring the critters a little news of the outside world.)

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YEAR 15 – NO. 35

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OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

JUNE 15, 2017

B1



POLLY FRENCH ILLUSTRATION

WEST ALONG THE RIVER: Celebration Down By the River

By DAVID BRULE

ERVING CENTER—One Saturday in June, the 24th to be exact, this small town center, tucked between rocky ledge backbone and rushing river, will add a gemstone marking a new date in its renaissance.

There will be music, games, distinguished speakers including political and environmental leaders, selectmen, and the tribal president of the Massachusetts Nipmuc Nation, upon whose homelands Erving was built. They will all assist in ushering in the new riverside park in Erving.

The gateway to this park is a stone archway through which you pass and step into a small, neat, restored landscape of green with the Millers River as a backdrop. Where once was a bustling mill complex, then a brownfields wasteland, rubble, scrub brush and weeds, there is now green lawn, bandstand, picnic pavilion, and interpretive trails about the history and nature of this restored site.

But it didn't happen overnight.

Nor were the local politics involved leading to this result very easy. This site where Kee-up Brook joins the Millers River had seen generations and more than one hundred and fifty years of manufacturing concerns: a pail shop, grist mill, tanning yard, a producer of heels for women's shoes, and all. By 1964 Erving Paper Mills had taken over the site and owned it until 1990.

But by the time the site was abandoned in 1990 there was little sign of the varied bustling enterprises of a century before. It had become one more blight along the river, one more of the abandoned mill town ruins typical of our New England riverscape.

Sold to a salvage firm called Patriot Environmental of Worcester in 2007, it devolved into an eyesore of dangerous decrepitude and controversial occurrences, including arson, and designation as a brownfield due



A nice spot for a park: The Usher site, after cleanup and before park construction.

to asbestos contamination. A real nightmare in the center of town.

Then a group of dedicated, driven citizens had the wild idea of transforming the blight into a town park. With both Route 2 and the railroad running through downtown, other than Zilenski field, there was not much of a gathering place for townspeople. These citizens had visions of a place along the riverside where people could gather, a place for farmers markets and community gardens, a venue for concerts, easy access for kayakers to the river, nature trails and observation platforms, and a picnic pavilion, among other possibilities.

By January 2012 the Usher Mill Re-Use Committee was appointed, and over the following years a small group of Erving citizens: Sarah Vega-Liros, Linda Downes-Bembury, Gary Burnett, Deb Lapinski, Melissa Shiner, Jeff Dubay, and Jeanie Schermesser, shepherded the new park into existence.

In February 2012, the Town of Erving acquired the property. The above citizens dug in their heels, and through a combination of pluck, determination and tenacity, brought the park project along.

Supported by FRCOG, the committee had in hand a "conceptual design" by January 2015. An engineering firm was hired by the town to develop the engineering design and assist in applying for a PARC grant in July 2015.

The PARC grant, administered by the state Division of Conservation Services under the Office of Environmental Affairs, would go hand in hand with matching funds voted by the Town of Erving, which put up \$775,000.

Things were moving fast by now.

In December of 2015, a PARC grant of \$400,000 was awarded. The engineering firm of Malone and MacBroom finalized the design in April 2016, and ground was broken for the new park in August of that year. The construction company Mountain View was awarded the contract to build the Erving Riverside Park in the fall of 2016, and they had eight months to complete the project, which they did by May 31, 2017.

Which brings us to where we are today.

The new park, which will be see **WEST ALONG** page B4

A TRUE, KIND, AND NECESSARY ARTIST: ADRIAN MONTAGANO

By GEORGE BRACE

MILLERS FALLS — Wendell artist Adrian Montagano has an artist's reception for a show in Turners Falls this Saturday, June 17, and an opening at his gallery in Millers Falls later in July. We spoke with him in his studio recently to learn a little more about him and his work.

Adrian was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, but moved to Manhattan as a young man in the 1970s, where he lived for many years. He looks back on this time as being an important period both personally and artistically. While he has gone through many changes in his art and life over the years, including major ones, this background and time remain an important element of who he is and what he does.

It was in New York that he was exposed to the Fluxus movement, or "attitude," as some might prefer to describe it. Fluxus is a rich, varied, and experimental area of art whose influence is felt in Adrian's work and the world of art at large.

While not easily definable, Fluxus includes principles such as simplicity, fun, anti-commercialism, and connectedness. Its forms are many, but notably include performance art and installations, both of which it helped to expand and promote. The Fluxus movement has also been known to poke fun at modern art.

Adrian has been living in Wendell for 22 years, during which time he has worn many hats and has evolved both personally and artistically, though certain themes

see **MONTAGANO** page B4



Adrian Montagano holds one of his paintings, "Transmission #137," inside his Millers Falls studio space.

Three Remarkable Shows Next Week from Eggtooth

From combined sources.

FRANKLIN COUNTY — Eggtooth Productions has once again created several reasons to get up and out of your house or apartment and go enjoy local drama, dance and... a bawdy game show spoof where you can take it to the top and down the other side again if you so choose.

The first event, this Monday evening, June 19, is *Match Game 413 at the Shea*, a hilarious redux of the classic '70s *The Match Game*. Contestants match wits with six local panelists to supply the missing word in a phrase or sentence presented by the host. In two rocking rounds, contestants "fill in the blank" and try to win their game — and a prize from a local business.

Eggtooth warns, "Match Game tends to get bawdy, with double entendres, innuendo and risqué humor.

Leave the kids at home because it's guaranteed to get raucous!"

Reappearing as panelist favorites are: Lindel Hart and the Joe Duluide II as Brett Somers, with Dave Neil, actor and pastor of the United Church of Bernardston, and Hilary Price, a cartoonist known for her newspaper comic strip, "Rhymes with Orange."

Maureen McElligott will judge the madness, and Rod Hart will emcee. Eggtooth promises that the "genius guitar stylings of Sam Perry of Old Flame [will] bring out your inner Goldie Hawn."

Show starts at 7 p.m.; doors and bar open at 6. Tickets are \$10 at the door. "What happens at the Shea, stays at the Shea!"

Fine House and Perception

For a more sedate evening, find see **EGGTOOTH** page B2



SLOAN TOMLINSON PHOTO

The newly formed Dance Co-op explores its theme, Perception, in Deerfield.

MISS STEMPLE RECALLS THE PAST

Part XIV (August 20, 1941)

In browsing the archives of the Turners Falls Herald (1940-1942) we were delighted to find the paper had tracked down Antonia J. Stemple, who had worked in various escalating capacities at the Turners Falls Reporter (1872-1922), and encouraged her to submit a regular column of her recollections.

We are reprinting that column, which ran irregularly in the Herald over an eight-month period under the title "Looking Backward," in our own pages.

— Montague Reporter eds.

There was one girl employed in the Reporter office, who was such a delight to the eye that it seemed all wrong to have such a natural beauty confined in our dingy workrooms to say nothing of expecting those lovely lily white hands with their tapering fingers to dabble in smelly glue or get stained from colored padding cement.

Rose had enormous, lustrous dark eyes and I loved to gaze upon



One of at least three buildings occupied by the Turners Falls Reporter office, above the "N.B. Hall Dining Room," now the Between the Uprights sports bar.

her and admire her. But alas! beauty and brains seldom come together, experience teaches, and this was the case with this beauty. Without any exception she was the worst numbskull in skirts ever known in our office. She was almost incredibly stupid and couldn't learn a thing.

Her appearance and her pretty manners naturally were in her fa-

vor and she would have been given her walking papers long before they were if she had been an ordinary looking girl. She was clever enough to trade on her good looks, however, and every male in the place worshipped at her shrine.

They would secretly make fun of her dullness and then come see **STEMPLE** page B8

Pets of the Week

Nimbus is a docile little senior darling who is quiet, affectionate and friendly. If you have your heart set on a kitty who likes to be petted all over and picked up, Nimbus is the girl for you. An indoor kitty, she has lived with adults and children of all ages and got along well with all. When she isn't nestled in a cozy spot, she's playing with her

toys and chasing bugs. Nimbus enjoys being around other cats, but dogs are out of the question. Unfortunately, her guardian cannot take her to his new residence. Come down and check out her adorable little face in person. Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at info@dpvhs.org.



“NIMBUS”

Senior Center Activities JUNE 19 TO 23

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 6/19
8:15 a.m. Foot Clinic appts.
Noon Pot Luck and Bingo
Tuesday 6/20
9:30 a.m. Tech Tutoring
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
Wednesday 6/21
9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach
12:30 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 6/22
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:15 a.m. Mindful Movement
1 p.m. Cards & Games
Friday 6/23
1 p.m. Writing Group

LEVERETT

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

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

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

ERVING

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

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

For information, call Paula Betters, 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 6/19
9:30 a.m. Healthy Bones, Balance
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi
Tuesday 6/20
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
11:30 a.m. Homemade Lunch; Friend's Business Meeting
Wednesday 6/21
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12:15 p.m. Bingo, Snacks, Laughs
Thursday 6/22
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors
Friday 6/23
9 a.m. Walking; Quilting
9:30 a.m. Bowling; Food City
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.

EGGTOOTH from page B1

your way next Friday and Saturday to the Hess Theatre at Deerfield Academy for a two-part experience called *Fine House* and *Perception*, also produced by Eggtooth.

Fine art and fun house collide in the lobby of the Hess as the audience enters *Fine House*, a gallery of moving installations. Said creator of *Fine House* and show organizer, Lori Holmes Clark: “This is the first time I’ve had the opportunity to explore my love of art history, and classical and experimental theater in one event. *Fine House* is a mash-up of the quirkiness of a Fun House, think distorting mirrors, and Fine Art, as in a gallery or museum.”

Clark says that as folks arrive, the ensemble will invite them to enter the lobby which has been transformed into “an energetic gallery of moving installations inspired by visual art. The displays physically embody how art can affect us and inform our daily experience. I desperately want evocative art to exist among us, as a part of our daily experience!”

Clark’s friend, the makeup artist Joe Dulude, who she worked with on Broadway, will be part of *Fine House*. “He has hand painted his whole being with bold brushstrokes to become an interpretation of Van Gogh’s painting and essence. It sounds crazy but when you see it you will get it,” explains Clark.

From that experience, the audience moves into the auditorium to enjoy new work from some of the region’s finest choreographers and dancers as the newly formed Dance Co-op explores its theme, *Perception*, through varied lenses meant to challenge and delight participants.

The Dance Co-Op “seeks to invent an experience that stretches our ways of perceiving the human form and the art created by that form.”

With *Perception*, they present several different pieces choreographed by various members of the Dance Co-op, guided by a couple of clowns played by Lori Holmes Clark and Jack Golden. They seed to “traverse a varied landscape of new choreography and what we hope is a thoughtful, artful, and emotional journey of discovery, beauty and wonder.”



Eggtooth brings the Match Game to the Shee on Monday.

Said co-founder of the Co-op, Meg Van Dyck: “We are thrilled to share this work in this beautiful space and it’s a big moment for us. Our intention is to unite western Mass professional choreographers and dancers with the hope of bringing modern dance to the forefront of the local arts scene.

“I founded the Co-op with Christie Clovis. We are excited to welcome contributions from select artists who want to share their work with the greater community. In *Perception*, we ask and seek answers to the question, ‘Do you see what I see?’”

Bound by this common theme, the group investigates how “individual chemistry and experiences shape how we see ourselves and the world around us. We explore our singular consciousness and ponder its relationship with the external world.”

Eggtooth Productions and the Dance Co-operative present *Perception*, and *Fine House* by Lori Holmes Clark, on June 23 and 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hess Theatre at Deerfield Academy. Tickets are \$20, or \$15 for students and seniors, and are available at eggtooth.org.

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

It’s starting to feel like summer! On Saturday, June 17, join the unveiling celebration for the new downtown public art ROCK PAPER SCISSORS, by Tim deChristopher. The full schedule is available at www.turnersfallsriverculture.org and you can see pictures of the sculpture at deChristopher’s website, timdechristopher.com.

We encourage you to learn more about Tim deChristopher as

a sculptor, who lives and works in Montague, by browsing through this website.

In MCTV-related news, the recent Gill special town meeting from June 5 is now available at MontagueTV.org. To learn more about what else is showing in our TV schedule, visit MontagueTV.org/p/55/TV-Schedule.

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, infomontaguetv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 Second Street in Turners between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

Interested in becoming a board member for Montague Community Cable, Inc. (MCCI)? Visit montaguetv.org to learn more, and call the above number to set up an appointment with a current board member! The board’s next meeting will be Wednesday, June 21, at 6 p.m.

Barbecues and Fire Safety

By CAPT. KYLE COGSWELL

MONTAGUE – The Turners Falls Fire Department and the Department of Fire Services office of the Fire Marshal want you to have a safe and happy summer. The warm weather is here to stay and we understand citizens will be using their grills to prepare and cook food. We would like to give you some safety tips that will ensure for an enjoyable time.

Many people enjoy barbecuing in the summer months. But when grills are not used safely, things can go horribly wrong. Between 2011 and 2015, Massachusetts fire departments responded to 431 fires involving grills, hibachis, and barbecues. These fires caused 20 civilian injuries, three firefighter injuries, and \$3.5 million in property damage.

For safe grilling, always follow your owner’s manual and practice the safety tips provided here.

- Always grill outdoors.
- Grills cannot be used on a

porch, balcony or deck with a roof, overhang or wall (other than the exterior of the building).

- Grills can only be used on open first floor porches, decks or patios if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or the porch is at ground level.
- Grills must be 10 feet from the side of a building unless the manufacturer’s instructions say it can be closer. Make sure grills are not underneath overhanging branches.
- Grills cannot be used on fire escapes.
- Place grills away from the house and deck railings.
- Keep all matches, lighters and lighter fluid away from children.
- Keep children and pets three feet away from grills. Children should never play near grills or propane cylinders.

Charcoal Grills


Propane is the most common grilling fuel, but many people use charcoal grills. Here are

some charcoal grill safety tips:

- Use only charcoal starter fluid. Gasoline and kerosene should not be used to start a fire in a grill. Never add lighter fluid to burning briquettes or hot coals. Doing so may cause a flash fire and result in serious burn injuries.
- Charcoal briquettes give off carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. Always use charcoal grills in a well-ventilated area. Never use charcoal grills indoors.
- For proper disposal of grill ashes, allow the coals to burn out completely and then cool for 48 hours before disposal.
- If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, thoroughly soak them in water before putting them in a metal container.

Capt. Cogswell serves on the Turners Falls Fire Department.

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Michael Lee Babcock

Kyle Everett Bergmann

Artyom Nikolaevich Bocharnikov

Tionne Lamont Brown*

Jaynise Oliveia Burton

Tahner J. Castine

Nolan Hugh Courtemanche

Richard Roland Craver

Nicholas Patrick Croteau

Madison Rose Currier

Jack Richard Darling

Keara B. Deery

Desmond Riley Demers

Savannah Doyle Donahue*

William Joseph Doyle V*

Jordyn Rylie Fiske*

Terrell Michael-William Goodyear

Jenna Hackett

Hattie Glynna Harvey

Melissa A. Hersey*

Tess Casey Hunter*

Amilee Anne Jarvis

Madelyn Ruth Johnson*

Bryn Meredith Kruzlic*

Kristen Lynne Leamy

Jeruel Lopez De Victoria Vega

Kaili Austin Lynch*
- Zachary McDaniel

Alison Maura McKenna

Ian Alexander Moriarty*

Nicholas Paul Morin

Owen Michael Ortiz*

Haleigh Rochelle Paulin

Alexsys Christine Perkins

Will Thomas Roberge*

Patrick Christopher Salls*

Veronika Sankova

Frederick William Smith

Alexandria Soucie

Nicole Taylor Thibeault*

Kortney Lynn Thurber

Hailey Marie Trott

Wileshka Lee Vega

Mark R. Waite

Emily Marie Watrous

Jeremy Ryan Wolfram

Riley Wood*

Alysha Marie Wozniak

Jacob Robert Wright

Jordan Lynn Wyman

*National Honor Society
- Student speakers:

Class President: Riley Wood

Salutatorian: Ian Moriarty

Valedictorian: Jordyn Fiske

MOVIE REVIEW

King Arthur and the Legend of the Sword (2017)

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

I once saw a movie about the story of King Arthur in theaters. But it was done more from a historical aspect, and I didn't really like it.

The latest one is a mystical take on the whole story, in connection with the "sword in the stone" part. They keep some of the same characters connected to the story of King Arthur that everybody knows about. There is a woman that is a mage that is in Merlin's place in the story. Arthur is the son of Uther, which is part of the story of King Arthur. The Lady of the Lake is present, and she in fact returns the sword to Arthur's hands at one point after he throws it away.

The story begins when Arthur's jealous uncle Vortigern, played by Jude Law, takes Camelot from Uther, played by Eric Bana. His father tries to get Arthur and his wife to safety, but that doesn't happen. His father ends up in a sword fight with his uncle so Arthur is able to escape.

The man is raised by women in a brothel. He becomes a survivor, but that doesn't mean he doesn't have any morals. This man is loyal to these women from the brothel, and I believe the friends that make up his crew.

Perhaps very fortunately, he has learned to fight and handle a sword from a friend who is skilled in that area. Fortunately, because that is what a king would need to know how to do.

But then Arthur's destiny comes calling, and he and the sword are together – along with Vortigern coming after him.

Arthur doesn't really want this fate at first. He can't even control the sword's power, but he goes on sort of a vision quest to learn to control it, which does work for him somewhat, and gives answers to a vision that he had most of his life.

Vortigern is building a tower that will make him very powerful magically when it is finished. Arthur, his ragtag crew, and the resistance come up with a plan to strategically take care of the tower. They try to kill the uncle, but that doesn't work. They attack the castle and take it. A final battle between Arthur and Vortigern happens there.

But while Arthur does have control over the sword somewhat, he has not mastered it. The sword fight is going on between him and his uncle, who has his magic on his side. Then let's just say Arthur is given a blessing from his father that helps him master the sword.

I really liked this movie. I liked it much better than the last one I mentioned I saw, which is a version of the story of King Arthur. It was action-packed and had an offbeat quality to it that was fun to watch. Ironically, there is also an actress in the film who played a character in a prequel TV series of the story that I used to watch.

I am going to go see this movie again in theaters.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Smokepark; Hill Bear Has Two Cubs; Downtown Hit And Run Driver Arrested

Sunday, 6/4
11:13 a.m. Caller requesting to speak with an officer re: two subjects who may have been driving by his son's residence; caller believes they may not have good intentions for his son. Advised of options.
4:10 p.m. 911 caller reporting that a man is smoking at the skatepark where it says "no smoking" and that all the smoke is "clouding up the skatepark." Officer advised; unable to locate.
Monday, 6/5
8:07 a.m. Report of a mama bear and cubs in a back yard on Millers Falls Road. Several additional reports received for same, including one sighting on Turners Falls Road near Henry Avenue. Area checked; unable to locate. Animal control officer will monitor area.
12:29 p.m. Caller from Oakman Street requesting ACO assistance relocating four skunks that have taken up residence in her yard. ACO advised.
6:25 p.m. ACO reporting that there is an opossum in a yard on Avenue B; possum appears to be suffering and has no use of its legs. Officer attempting to locate to have it put down. Taken care of.
Tuesday, 6/6
12:35 p.m. Caller requesting to speak with an officer re: a family member repeatedly removing items from a gravesite that she had placed there. Advised of options.
Wednesday, 6/7
1:01 a.m. Caller from Industrial Boulevard reporting truck idling for the last few hours; noise is keeping him awake. Officer spoke to driver of truck, who will be leaving.
5:19 a.m. Caller reporting mama bear and cubs in a tree on Montague Street; is concerned for people's safety. Officers on scene.
9:45 a.m. Report of capped syringe in vicinity of community garden (Third and L streets). Services rendered.
11:25 a.m. Party at MPD to turn himself in. [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.
11:30 a.m. Caller from Oakman Street requesting to speak with ACO re: skunks in her yard. Ongoing issue. ACO advised; will be putting out a trap for the skunks at the caller's request.
1:08 p.m. Caller reports that operator of named vehicle passes him on a regular basis while the caller is riding his bike to work. Each time, the operator revs his engine, causing smoke to billow out for the caller to breathe in. Requesting that an officer place a call to the operator. Officer spoke with registered owner, who advises that her son operates the vehicle; she will speak with him.
5:43 p.m. 911 caller from Third Street reporting that her neighbor's smoke alarm has been sounding for about 30 minutes. FD and PD en route; confirm smoke alarm sounding, odor of burnt food. Officer requests Housing Authority be notified about CO and smoke detectors being removed from their installed locations. Message left.
Thursday, 6/8
9:13 a.m. Caller reporting seeing a bear and two cubs walking through the Sunset Drive neighborhood. Units advised.
10:49 a.m. Caller from L Street requests to have on record that she never received a package that was reported to have been delivered to her porch; she believes it was stolen.
11:48 a.m. Report of large pothole near train bridge on Federal Street that needs to be addressed by MassHighway. MassHighway notified; will be sending a crew.
8:19 p.m. Caller from Montague Street reports that a male is soliciting for a solar company; he has been in the area two or three times this week, and caller has declined his products several times. Officer en route; unable to locate.
9:21 p.m. Multiple 911 calls received for car vs. pedestrian and dog at L and Spring streets; vehicle has left scene. All PD units as well as ambulance and MedCare en route. [redacted] was later located, arrested, and charged with operating under the influence of drugs, leaving the scene of personal injury, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, as well as on a straight warrant and a default warrant.

11:46 p.m. Accident with property damage on Montague City Road. Under investigation.
Friday, 6/9
12:17 a.m. Report of suspected drunk driver at F.L. Roberts. Vehicle was parked in lot when caller smelled alcohol on the female operator while he was speaking with her. Last seen heading up Third/Unity Street. Area search negative.
6:33 a.m. Motorist reported to detail officer that they observed smoke coming from a house in the center of Millers Falls. TFFD and officer checked area; negative findings. Smoke could have been exhaust from a few dump trucks that were in the area.
8:35 a.m. Landlord would like officers to escort him to a Second Street apartment he owns to remove a barking dog; later reported that a family member came, picked up the dog, and took it away.
9:30 a.m. Party into station to report that while walking his dog on Montague City Road last night, two dogs came out from a neighbor's house and started attacking his dog. In the scuffle, he was knocked down and received a few injuries. Officer following up with dog owners.
11:44 a.m. Passerby reporting dead deer on side of Lake Pleasant Road near high-tension wires. DPW notified; will send somebody out.
1:26 p.m. Detail officer taking reports of a few baby raccoons on the side of the road on Federal Street. ACO notified and responding.
1:37 p.m. Report of two males yelling at each other at Hillcrest Homes. Peace restored; one involved male advised he is no longer wanted at this location.
2:35 p.m. Two-car accident with heavy damage on Turners Falls Road. Both vehicles towed.
2:49 p.m. 911 caller reporting that a highly intoxicated man has passed out in front of Between the Uprights. MPD units tied up with car accident; Greenfield PD sending an officer. GPD advises that party is up and walking around at this time and will be making his way home. MPD officer providing courtesy transport.
3:15 p.m. Call reporting FRTA bus broken down on General Pierce Bridge. No FRTA buses showing in area. Unit clear.
3:31 p.m. Car vs. pole at Seventh and L streets. MedCare, TFFD, and MPD en route. One party transported by MedCare. No apparent damage to pole, but power knocked out to the Elks. WMECO contacted and en route.
9:33 p.m. Caller reporting after-hours basketball game at Unity Park. Responding officer found no game occurring, only one teenager, who is going to move along.
Saturday, 6/10
1:19 p.m. Multiple reports of altercation in alley behind Fifth Street. First caller advised subjects have dogs with them. Third caller advised MSP that she believed a female was about to be shot; upon further questioning, she stated that she did not see a gun or hear mention of a gun and clarified that she meant that she thought the female was going to get hurt. Officer advises subjects gone on arrival. Female was reportedly giving a lot of attention to a male even though she has a boyfriend, sparking the altercation. Parties left in a gold Hyundai sedan heading toward Avenue A.
4:06 p.m. 911 caller reporting three-legged dog found on Main Street; no tags. Owner reunited with dog.
7:05 p.m. Caller reporting erratic vehicle operation on Fourth Street earlier today; vehicle almost struck two children. Officer following up; attempted to make contact with female operator, but she was not home. Caller advised of options.

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Saturday: Shake It Up: A Showcase of Youth Dancing

TURNERS FALLS – On June 17 at 4 p.m., the Shea Theater will open its doors to four out-of-the box youth dance troupes, coming together in a show they’ve dubbed “Shake It Up”.

Hosted by Turners Falls-based dance educator Anna Hendricks of Great Falls Creative Movement, Shake it Up brings together an eclectic assortment of kid-centered dance groups, performing in styles ranging from improvisation to hip hop.

What these kids have in common is their love of dance, and the huge part they have played in creating the dances they will share. Tickets are \$1 to \$10, sliding scale, and will be available at the door. Children get in free!

The show will feature Turners Falls-based dance groups:

Awesome Art in Motion, Great Falls Creative Movement’s own children’s dance company, presenting original choreography inspired by the changing seasons;

The Salt Shakers, a new dance troupe from the Brick House with a natural sense of flow and style. The Salt Shakers are inspired by classic and modern day music and trends. Rhythm is one of their many natural talents with influences of hip-hop and salsa. Dancing makes them happy, and they are very excited to share their Caribbean roots and flavor.

Folklorico Latin Spirit, a children’s dance troupe presenting folkloric and contemporary Mexican and Mexican-American dances and choreography. This will be Folklorico Latin Spirit’s second appearance at the Shea this season!

And, from Northampton, *Hatchery*: a new pre-professional contemporary dance company for 13- to 19-year-olds, run by the School for Contemporary Dance and Thought.

Children and families are encouraged to attend! For more information visit www.greatfallscreativemovement.com.

Is It OK to Swim in the River? “Is It Clean?” Website Tells You

FRANKLIN COUNTY – In time for the summer recreation season, the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC), formerly Connecticut River Watershed Council, and fifteen partners have launched the 2017 Connecticut River basin water sampling program.

Water samples are tested for *E. coli* bacteria as an indicator for all types of other pathogens that could potentially make you sick. River users can visit the “Is It Clean?” web page located at www.ConnecticutRiver.us/isitclean to find bacteria test results at more than 140 river access and recreation sites in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and northern Connecticut. The site is also available in Spanish at www.ConnecticutRiver.us/estalimpio.

Samples are typically collected at each site weekly or bi-weekly and test results are posted online 24 hours later, through early October.

“When weather gets warm, people head to our rivers to cool off and have fun, and they want to know if our rivers are clean. The data tells us that it is a good idea to stay out of the water for 24 to 48 hours after a heavy rain because bacteria levels could be high,” says CRC River Steward Alicia Charamut.

“Heavy rain is often the cause of high bacteria levels. Bacteria can spike after a storm due to combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and polluted stormwater runoff from urban, suburban, and agricultural areas,” notes Charamut.

“Cities and towns along the river are making significant investments to reduce pollution to our rivers and this has made a tremendous difference. We want people to be able to explore and enjoy this wonderful resource,” says CRC River Steward Andrea Donlon.

“Our rivers are certainly much cleaner than they used to be, but it makes sense for river users to pay attention to this information so they know when it’s clean for swimming

or boating.”

Water sample results are color-coded and map-based to offer guidance about whether the water is clean enough for swimming and boating. Results are a snapshot of river conditions at the moment the sample was taken, but give river users information they can use to make informed decisions and prevent potential illness.

The website provides bacteria data for the Connecticut River and more than 20 tributaries, including the Chicopee River, Mill River (Northampton), the Scantic River in CT, the Saxons River and Black River in VT, and many more.

The water sampling project is now in its tenth year. Partner organizations include Connecticut River Conservancy, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Southeastern Vermont Watershed Alliance, Putney Rowing Club, Black River Action Team, White River Partnership, Ottauquechee River Group, Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee, Greater Northfield Watershed Association, Greenfield Health Department, Deerfield River Watershed Association, Millers River Watershed Council, Connecticut River Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Scantic River Watershed Association/University of Saint Joseph, Goodwin College, the CT River Academy, and USGS.

All of these organizations rely on trained volunteers to help with sampling. Every year, these organizations must apply for grants and request donations to keep their testing programs going. If you find this information useful, support your local watershed organization by becoming a member!

Since 1952, Connecticut River Conservancy has been the voice for the Connecticut River watershed, from source to sea. To learn more about CRC, or to make a contribution to help protect the Connecticut River, visit www.ctriver.org.

MONTAGANO from page B1 have remained a constant. One theme is a desire to be of use and help to people, a principle which is deeply embedded in his art.

He is never sure of where he is going with a piece, saying that there is a call and response aspect to his work: He does something, the painting replies, and he continues on with the conversation, trusting that the work will lead him in the right direction. This is key to him: the process, not the product, and it has a significant spiritual component. He says he feels closer to God when he is painting.

There are guiding principles to his work however, which can be both conscious and unconscious. He described one of them by saying, “My painting is about letting go and finding comfort in the mystery of the unknown.”

There are also three questions he asks himself when he’s uncertain about how something will be received: *Is it true? Is it Kind? And is it necessary?*

These are questions which he feels are important to ask in his everyday life and interactions as well.

Adrian spoke of having an epiphany several years ago which has led to a change in his work, from more narrative and figurative art to art involving symbols, glyphs, mysticisms, and ancient cultures. This epiphany had to do

with seeing the same processes going on in a wide range of natural phenomena: for example, the blooming of a flower being like a supernova, both in how they look, but possibly in other ways as well. This vision is also influenced by his foundation in mysticism, Gnosticism, and mythicism and can be seen and felt in his paintings.

Adrian has two major projects going on at the moment. The first is an installation entitled “Portals of Time” at Nina’s Nook in Turners Falls featuring clock-based pieces. The second is the opening of his gallery at 27 East Main Street in Millers Falls in July.

The clock project features over 200 vintage items repurposed as clocks. One thing he noted about this is how nice it is to give new life to the original items, while at the same time adding something and creating something new. Meet and greet Adrian at Nina’s Nook from 3 to 6 p.m. this Saturday.

As for the Millers Falls gallery opening, he had a lot to say. First and foremost was his appreciation for the generosity of the building’s landlords, Tammy Berard and Ed Tolzdorf, in helping to make the space possible. Adrian says he views art as mental and emotional nutrition, and believes Ed and Tammy are making a valuable contribution to the community.

Regarding nutrition and art,

Adrian noted, “Some people need greens, some people need meat. We will have both, and more.” And when asked beyond this why people should drop by he said, “To say hello.... have some tea.... paint something.”

While Montagano and fellow artist Mez Ziemba will be the primary artists in the studio, there will also be an ongoing crew of local artists working and displaying there on a rotating basis. In addition, there will be monthly workshops for which there will be a fee, but also a number of free admissions to local residents available.

Adrian also expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the community of Millers Falls, doing so from the perspective of being in his “later years” and having seen, felt, and experienced a lot of life. His comment did not have the sense of a simple “Thank you,” though that was there too, but something which was meaningful to him in relation to a long expanse of time. He also feels he’s led a good life and wants to share what he can.

“Portals of Time” will be at Nina’s Nook through June 24. Stay tuned to these pages for notice of the Millers Falls gallery opening in July, and learn more about the artist on his website, portalsoft-ransmission.com.



The Usher mill site in 2011, before the brownfield cleanup.

WEST ALONG from page B1 officially opened on June 17, features improved fire protection facilities for the town center, a picnic pavilion, a playscape, a band stand, barbecue area, open conservation area and educational signage describing the Native American presence on the site, the manufacturing history of the Usher complex, and the ecological features of the riverfront. Thus is completed Phase I.

What will the future hold for the Usher Mill Re-Use Committee and its plans for Phase II and Phase III? Will the board of Selectmen re-appoint a new committee to begin conceptualizing Phase II? Politics and personalities will tell.

For the time being, the Recreation Committee will take over the responsibilities of oversight, maintenance, and programming.

The Erving Historical Commission has expressed interest preserv-

ing the historical structures remaining on the site: the water tower and the brick boiler room with its iconic chimney. Safeguarding these structures will be the subjects of discussion, study, and controversy in the years to come.

A potential Phase II will entail the restoration of another 7 acres of riverfront donated to the town by the Housen family, a re-use for the water tower and brick complex, better parking facilities, siting a farmers’ market and community garden, extended nature trails, viewing platforms near the river.

But for the time being, the Town of Erving owes a great deal of gratitude to the members of the committee who shouldered the project through the endless meetings, red tape, local politics, and the public’s hesitations over spending tax dollars on what had been an eyesore but which has been transformed into

a jewel in the center of the town.


In May, the Usher Mill Re-Use Committee received the Outstanding Municipal Award from the North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce Visitors’ Bureau. This Committee also received two citations from our state legislature: a citation from the Senate and another from the House of Representatives.

Now is the time for us too, the people of Erving and beyond, to recognize and congratulate our fellow citizens for their success.

The individuals who gave up countless hours in meetings, letter writing, and undaunted tenacity are to be applauded and recognized for what they have achieved for the town.

They will have their day on June 24, 2017, in Erving Center, down by the riverside.





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Turners Falls Water Department

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PWS ID#1192000

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report, covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2016. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Please share with us your thoughts or concerns about the information in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Michael Brown, Water Department Superintendent, or Suzanne Leh, Clerk/Collector, at (413) 863-4542.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the first Wednesday of each month, beginning at 5:00 p.m., at the Water Department Office, 226 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls. Our Annual Meeting of the Turners Falls Fire District is held the third Tuesday in April.

Our Department Board of Water Commissioners: Kenneth Morin, Stephen Call, Bruce Merriam. Pump Station Operators: Jeffrey Hildreth, Stephen Fitzpatrick, Brandon Breault.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The Turners Falls Water Department's main source of water consists of two artesian wells located off Center Street in Montague Center. These gravel-packed Wells #1192000 1G and #1192000 2G pump 1.2 to 2 million gallons of water per day to the filter plant. At the plant, the water is sand filtered for the removal of iron and manganese; the treated, filtered water is then discharged into the gravity-fed distribution system.

The new Hannegan Brook Well located near Lake Pleasant is up and running. This new backup water supply can yield 1.44 MGD to meet future water demands. The

water quality is good and only requires the addition of water treatment chemicals for pH adjustment. The storage facilities in Turners Falls have a total storage capacity of 6.3 million gallons. Lake Pleasant and Green Pond are emergency backup surface water supplies.

Please call Mike or Suzanne to answer any questions at (413) 863-4542, email turnerswater@yahoo.com, or www.turnersfallswater.com.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) prescribe regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As

water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Substances that may be present in source water include: Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife; Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and which may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Lead in Drinking Water

How does lead get in my drinking water?

In Massachusetts, most drinking water sources like reservoirs and groundwater are lead free. When lead is present in water, it is typically due to the water flowing through lead pipes or plumbing in homes with lead parts or solder. Service lines, which are the pipes that connect your home to the water main, could have lead in them. Inside your home, you may have lead pipes, copper pipes connected with lead solder, or brass faucets or fittings containing lead. Lead levels are highest when the water has been sitting in lead pipes for several hours. Hot water causes lead to enter water faster.

How does lead get into my body?

In many cases, most exposure to lead is from paint dust, paint chips and soil contaminated with lead. Lead can also get into your body by drinking or cooking with water containing lead. Young children absorb lead more easily than adults, and lead can be passed from a mother to her unborn child. For these reasons, lead in drinking water can be an important source

of exposure for pregnant women, young children, and infants that are fed powdered formula.

Lead is not absorbed through the skin. Bathing or showering in water containing lead should be safe.

What can I do right now to protect my family?

Run your water before using and use COLD water. Always use cold water for drinking and cooking. Do not use hot water for cooking or baby formula. Hot water usually has higher lead levels than cold water. Running the water before using will usually reduce any lead levels by flushing out the water that has been sitting in lead pipes for several hours.

Boiling water does not eliminate lead. If there is lead in your water, boiling it will increase lead levels.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water.

Here are a few tips: Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.

Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.

Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.

Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Write down the meter reading before going to bed at night or leaving for a day. Include all numbers, write down the new reading in the morning and subtract the prior reading. If there has been a change it is probably due to a leak.

What's a Cross-connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems), or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in

the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand), causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools, or garden chemicals.

Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. For more information, review the Cross-connection Control Manual from the U.S. EPA's Web site at <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/cross-connectioncontrol/index.cfm>. You can also call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source Water Assessment, Protecting Turners Falls Water Supply:

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) for the water supply source serving this water system. This report is a planning tool to support local and state efforts to improve water supply protection. Although the TFWD has many safeguards in place, the overall susceptibility ranking to contamination of the groundwater supplies is high, based on the presence of numerous high-ranking threat land-uses within the Zone II water supply protection areas. The report commends our water system on its proactive approach to source protection. A complete SWAP report is available at the TFWD, the Board of Health office, and online at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/swapreps.htm>. For more information, call the TFWD at 863-4542.

Things You Can Do to Protect Our Water Supply

Take used motor oil and other such fluids to the town's hazardous waste collection sites, use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly and do not use the river beds to dispose of any waste.

Turners Falls Water Quality Data

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community. Our next round of lead and copper sampling will be in 2017.

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Year Sampled	Action Level	MCLG	Amount Detected (90th %ile)	# of sites above action level	Violation	Typical Source
copper (ppm)	3/1/2016	1.3	1.3	.082	0/40	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
	8/26/2016	1.3	1.3	.10			
lead (ppb)	3/1/2016	15	0	1.9	0/40	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservation
	8/26/2016	15	0	2.2			

Definitions:

90th Percentile: Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant

is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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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 mcbress@vermontel.net for location and details.

2ND AND 4TH MONDAYS

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

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.

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAYS

The Perch (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.

2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAYS

The Wheelhouse, Greenfield: *TNT Karaoke*. 9 p.m.

EVERY THURSDAY

Montague Center Branch Library, Montague: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson*. Children and

their caregivers. 10 to 11 a.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.

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. \$

SUBMISSIONS:

Nina's Nook 4th Annual Triple S (Sensual, Sexual, Smut) Show scheduled for September is inviting artists to submit entries on the theme "from mild to wild"; limit size to 20"x30". Other details can be gleaned by contacting 413-834-8800. Deadline for submission is September 1.

EXHIBITS:

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Pioneer Valley Perspectives* by Susan Dion, who draws her inspiration from local buildings and landscapes. Through June 26.

Hawks and Reed Performing Art Center, Greenfield: *Emerging Forms* by Eric Grab. Through June.

Leverett Crafts and Arts: *Keeping Our Heads Above Water: Oil Paintings - Images of Leverett Pond*; and a series of tiny paintings entitled *Teetering* by Susan Valentine. Through July 2.

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

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *The Time Tunnel*. Installation by Adrian Montagano. Over 200 clocks! Artist reception on Saturday, June 17, 3 to 6 p.m. Through June 24.

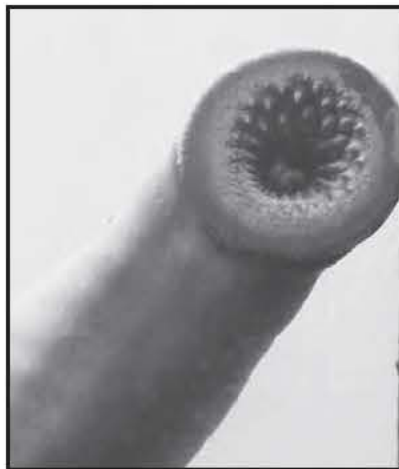
Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *The Nearest Faraway Place* by Christin Couture. Encaustic landscape paintings. Reception Saturday, June 10, 4 p.m. Also: *Winter's Bone*, digital photography by Carl Nardiello. Through June 25.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery, Montague: Ongoing art offerings by

gallery member artists.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *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.



Whoa! What is it? Come to the Northfield Recreation and Environmental Center and find out on Wednesday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. What a way to start summer!

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Energy Park, Greenfield: Coop Concerts presents: *Russ Thomas, Katie Clarke, Small Change*. 6 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half Shaved Jazz*. 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Shad Ladder Radio Hour*. Art, music, writing and more in a monthly live-recorded format. 7:30 p.m. \$

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Feldons, Warblers, Walking Ghosts*. 8:30 p.m. \$

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *House of Leafies #2*. 7 p.m. \$

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *The Water Project Reunion* (includes *Mama's Marmalade*, *Carrie Ferguson*, and *Emma June* playing Bluegrass, folk/pop, ballads), & *Theatre Truck*. Fundraiser. 7:30 p.m. \$

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *The Family Funktion w/ Russell Batische*. Funk. 8:00 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Original Cowards*, with special guest, *Jake Manzi*. Indie rock. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Eric Love and Smilin' Steve*. Classic rock. 8 p.m. no cover.

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Corin Ashley. "Beatley songs and originals"*. 8 p.m. \$

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Media Jeweler, Spirit Level, and Night School*. Rock. All ages, substance free space. 8 p.m. \$

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Josh Levangie and the Pistoleros*. 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

Avenue A & 3rd, and other venues, Turners Falls: Turners Falls River Culture's unveiling of *Tim DeChristopher's new public art sculpture, called Rock, Paper, Scissors*. Activities include a geology walking tour, free food, live music, exhibitions. 1 to 5 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Great Falls Creative Movement presents: Shake It Up! a Showcase of Youth Dancing*. 4 p.m. Donation.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Breaking Free (Recovery Project Reading)*. 4 p.m.

Mt. Toby Meetinghouse, Leverett: *Anne Feeney on her Summer of Resistance tour*. Presented by the Mt. Toby Concert series. 7:30 p.m. \$

1st Congregational Church, Ashfield: *Broadway Blitz*. Multi-generational cast from several New England states will be presenting old and new Broadway music. Benefit fundraiser. 7:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Grant Maloy Smith*. Country. 8 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Shokazoba*. Afrobeat blend of Jazz & Funk. 7:30 p.m. \$

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Troll 2 w/ The Ephemeral Stringband and Austin & Elliot*. "Bluegrass Soul Punk" and traditional stringband. 8 p.m. \$

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Cold Harvest*. 9 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Community Smokes*. Rock/reggae. 9:30 p.m. \$

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Oak Street, Vibetown, and Court Etiquette*. 9:45 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

First Congregational Parish, Unitarian, Petersham: *Village Lyceum* presents classical pianist, *Adam Bergeron*, in a solo performance "Nocturnes, Lullabies & Love Songs". 3 p.m. \$

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

MONDAY, JUNE 19

Peskeomskut Park, Turners Falls: *Montague Community Band 2nd Summer Concert*. 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Match Game 413 Round 3*. Bawdy live game show for prizes. 6 p.m. \$

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

Northfield Recreation and Environmental Center, Northfield: *In Search of the Mysterious Sea Lamprey*. Naturalist Kim Noyes gives an introductory presentation and a walk in search of this interesting creature. For ages 10+. 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

Energy Park, Greenfield: Coop Concerts presents: *Joe Graveline, Helen Arbour, Ursula Elmes*. 6 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *The Gypsy Wranglers*. Unique acoustic swing. 7:30 p.m. \$

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Jonathan Edwards*. 8:30 p.m. \$

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope Story Hour*. This week it's turtles! Includes a story, interactive games and a craft to introduce your child to the natural world. Recommended for ages 3-6 with a parent or guardian. 10:30 to 11:20 a.m.

Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls: *The Grapes of Wrath*. Movie at 7:30 p.m. Music: *Small Change*. acoustic swing. 7 p.m.

Hess Theater, Deerfield Academy: *Eggtooth Productions and The Dance Co-operative present "Perception"*, a theatrical evening of concert dance with *Fine House* by Lori Holmes Clark. 7:30 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scott Kuzmeskus and Friends*. 9:30 p.m.

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STEMPLE from page B1

around and make love to her. I think she got a proposal from everyone who wore trousers in the office, with the exception of “The Boss,” who liked brains.

The result of this constant stream of admirers idling where she was supposed to be at work upset the office routine so badly and destroyed the morale to such an extent that the lovely girl had to be eased out.

Then we had a girl the exact opposite of the lovely Rose. She was a chunky, stolid person and while she had no overplus of wits she knew enough to do as she was told and do it well. All her brains were in her hands and it was a pleasure to see her perform her tasks.

Laura never required watching. She was as faithful and dependable as a ship’s compass and made just about the same amount of noise.

She had one characteristic, however, which kept nearly everyone at a respectful distance.

I don’t know what diet she followed but an aroma like that of over ripe cheese clung about her. The boys never bothered her – the ones in the office, that is to say.

Nevertheless after a while a solid young local man recognized her worth and she went into a home of her own where she was quite as

successful and faithful as she had been with us.

Naturally most of our girls had their love affairs, generally outside the office. When a romance blossomed with one of the office boys the situation became somewhat involved and more or less amusing.

It was always easy to tell when the course of true love was running otherwise than smoothly for then the young lady in the case would be slow and blundering or else allowing salt tears to drop surreptitiously.

These girls in the throes of love were usually a decided nuisance and not seldom lost their jobs as a result.

It would be possible to continue on indefinitely telling of the girls who passed through the *Reporter* office and to trace their future careers. It would make a real human interest story but it would be violating confidences and in some cases possibly border on forbidden ground.

Enough has been written, however, to prove that working in a country newspaper office is anything but dull and to the right candidate offers real opportunities and a life which has often more color than monotony, however much there may be of the latter.



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