



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 15 – NO. 38

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JULY 13, 2017

## Saturday, July 22: GIANT BENEFIT TAG SALE!

**TURNERS FALLS** – The Friends of the Montague Reporter are sponsoring a tag sale to benefit this newspaper next Saturday, July 22 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the St. Stan's parking lot, next to our office at 177 Avenue A in downtown Turners.

There will be a bake sale and raffle, and our new "camper" style coffee mugs will be available for purchase – as well as a wide variety of items, priced to move! Be sure to get there early.

We are also seeking donations of goods for the fundraiser. We seek saleable items you no longer want (no electronics). To arrange for pickup, contact Lyn at 863-4779, Don at 863-5125, or [friendsofmontaguereporter@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmontaguereporter@gmail.com). Items may also be dropped off at our office from 1 to 5:30 p.m. on the Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday before the sale.

In case of rain, this event will take place Sunday, July 23.



*These handsome Montague Reporter coffee mugs will be available for \$10 at our tag sale on July 22!*

ERVING SELECTBOARD

## After Impasse, An In-House Hire For Town Wastewater

By ROB SKELTON

Qualifications lost out to connections at Monday's selectboard meeting, as an unlicensed town employee was hired over a more qualified out-of-towner for an entry-level job at the wastewater treatment plant.

Peter Walsh, who currently works as a building maintenance worker and part-time police officer, got the nod over Timothy Little, lead wastewater operator at Montague's plant, despite the reservations of selectman William Bembury.

"For me, this is easy," Bembury said. "The position calls for a license. Tim Little has it. 'Grade 4' was asked for; he has a '5'. I'd be in favor of Tim Little as opposed to Peter Walsh."

"I'm in favor of Peter," said selectboard chair Jacob Smith, acknowledging Little's qualifications and hinting he might be "overqualified."

see ERVING page A8

## Gas Moratorium Upheld By State Review Board

By MIKE JACKSON

**BOSTON** – Last week, the state approved Berkshire Gas Company's plan for the next five years, allowing the company to continue its moratorium on new gas customers in a number of western Massachusetts towns despite expert testimony filed on behalf of two ratepayer towns, Montague and Deerfield, that argued the moratorium was unnecessary to meet customer demand.

"It's not a surprise," said Montague energy policy liaison Ariel Elan of the Department of Public

Utilities' decision, "but it's a disappointment."

As Berkshire Gas customers, Montague and Deerfield were granted full intervenor status in the proceedings. The utility announced in 2014 that it would not hook up any new customers in eight Connecticut Valley towns, while it advocated for a major gas transmission pipeline proposed by Kinder Morgan.

That project did not come to pass, but Berkshire has not announced a plan to resume regular business in the region. Its main proposals are to

see GAS page A5

### SCENE REPORT

## Long-Missed Bridge Opens For Foot, Bicycle Traffic

By JOE KOPERA

**MONTAGUE CENTER** – The pedestrian and cycle bridge on Greenfield Road opened without much fanfare two weekends ago, after 17 years of having no structure by which to legally cross the railroad there. While there have been justified complaints regarding the bridge not accommodating non-emergency automobile use, the local cycling community has been abuzz with excitement.

As an avid cyclist who uses my bike to run errands and commute

to work around Franklin County, I headed down to the bridge on Saturday morning to meet some folks for a small, impromptu celebration.

About a dozen people crossed the bridge on their bicycles in the span of about 45 minutes. Several stopped to chat, including longtime residents of Greenfield Road and many folks on weekend rides to and from Montague Center.

"[I'm] excited because it is a love-lie, more direct, and less trafficked route on the Franklin County Bikeway," said Garth Shaneyfelt, a local

see BRIDGE page A6



*The new bridge connects what are now being called Old and New Greenfield roads.*

### MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

## Under Their Front Yard, Millers Falls Road Homeowners Find An Ancient County Right-Of-Way

By JEFF SINGLETON

"That's all it is. It's our front yard, all moved," Cathy Fistes told the Montague selectboard at their meeting Monday night. "We have been taking care of it for thirty years."

Fistes and her husband Robert, who reside at 186 Millers Falls Road, recently learned that the town – and county – have a right of way under this section of their property. There may be utilities, including a water main, under the land.

The Fistes had sent a request that the board deed the land to the current owners. They noted that an abutting household had once con-

fronted a similar situation, but the right of way had been eliminated back in the 1960s.

Town administrator Steve Ellis reported that the property had once been located on what was called the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike Road – now called simply Turnpike Road. When the northeastern section of the road was merged with Millers Falls Road, "sometime in the past," in Ellis' words, the right of way had not been updated.

How to resolve the problem? "Up until about five o'clock today we thought this was a relatively simple matter," Ellis said, "which

see MONTAGUE page A5

## RIDING IN STYLE



**RICHIE RICHARDSON PHOTO**

*This "Roaming Railroad" gave free train rides around downtown Turners Falls on July 1, as part of Greenfield Savings Bank's celebration of the 50th anniversary of its merger with the Crocker Institution for Savings.*

## Wendell Murder Suspect Apprehended After Manhunt

By REPORTER STAFF

**ORANGE** – On Monday, 53-year-old Lewis H. Starkey III of Wendell was arraigned on charges of murder, armed assault with intent to murder, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Starkey's bail was set at \$1 million.

On the night of July 4, police say, he shot and killed 48-year-old Amanda Glover with a shotgun at their West Street home in Wendell, in front of her adult son. He then allegedly drove to the trucking company he worked for in Chicopee and shot at a coworker, who was injured by broken glass. Starkey was arrested Sunday morning in Orange.



*Lewis Starkey*

Assistant Northwest district attorney Steven Gagne stated at a press conference Monday that the murder was "the culmination of some growing tension in the relationship" between Starkey and Glover.

## Rural Music Retreat Attracts Top-Notch Artists

By JOE KWIECINSKI

**GILL** – Now that Antenna Cloud Farm has launched its music festival and artists' retreat, co-founders Michi Wiancko and Judd Greenstein are starting preparations for the second retreat and concert of their inaugural season.

"We're extremely excited about the rest of our inaugural festival and retreat," said Wiancko. "We dreamed about living here on this 100-acre one-time dairy farm with its beautiful landscape amid our going back and forth to New York."

"We just didn't want to lose

contact with our friends, but with our hard work as we put together the festival, we were able to bring together our musical colleagues, friends, and our newfound western Mass. community. The local area is a warm, supportive environment."

Michi, Judd, and their toddler, Aki, have put down their roots in Gill. Michi notes that she and husband Judd love Franklin County and its encompassing area.

The official festival and artists' retreat began this month. Ayane Kozasa and Paul Wiancko, a viola/cello duo, gave the first concert last

see RETREAT page A3



**SUBMITTED PHOTO**

*A sold-out audience of 60 enjoys the sunset while waiting for the start of last Saturday's concert at the Antenna Cloud Farm in Gill.*



# The Montague Reporter

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## The Fastest and Greatest

Friday, July 7 was a day like any other. The leader of America was in Europe, and he was updating us as he went along. "My experience yesterday in Poland was a great one," he tweeted. "Thank you to everyone, including the haters, for the great reviews of the speech!"

(On Thursday, he had told the Polish people that "the fundamental question of our time is whether the West has the will to survive." He did not specify the boundaries of the West, but said that it was "the fastest and greatest community," a "community of nations," notable for its "symphonies" and "ancient heroes" but also under threat of having its essence sapped by "paperwork and regulations.")

"After Poland had a great meeting with Chancellor Merkel and then with PM Shinzo Abe of Japan & President Moon of South Korea," he went on to tweet.

"Everyone here is talking about why John Podesta refused to give the DNC server to the FBI and the CIA. Disgraceful!"

"I look forward to all meetings today with world leaders, including my meeting with Vladimir Putin. Much to discuss."

"I will represent our country well and fight for its interests! Fake News Media will never cover me accurately but who cares! We will #MAGA!"

The leader of America then set aside his main Twitter phone for an agonizing 14 hours of global leader summit photo ops. Though he did log in to his second, "work" Twitter account, where he retweeted posts by his vice president, by the White House account, by his wife, and by his director of social media.

Then he tweeted a link to a "review" of his previous day's speech.

"Mr. Trump is taking a clear stand against the kind of gauzy globalism and vague multiculturalism represented by the worldview of, say, Barack Obama and most contemporary Western intellectuals, who are willing, even eager, to concede the argument to critics of the West's traditions," the *Wall Street Journal* editorial board pronounced, adding that "his Warsaw talk offered a better form of nationalism."

The leader of America retweeted his press secretary, tweeted a link to his own weekly address, and retweeted his VA secretary.

He then met, for the first time, with the leader of Russia, and after that he retweeted a tweet by the state department saying his meeting with the leader of Russia was "constructive."

He retweeted his vice president (who'd said he, the leader of America, was "transforming our space policy to...unleash the infinite potential of the cosmos"), retweeted State again, and tweeted a shout-out to his homeland security.

It was almost midnight, Hamburg time, when he finally got back on his main Twitter, still clearly excited about that *Wall Street Journal* review. "Thank you!" he tweeted in response, posting the link again, and then he directed his staff to paste the most glowing parts of the editorial onto the White House website.

"Great first day with world leaders at the #G20Summit here in Hamburg, Germany. Looking forward to day two!" he later reported, throwing in an American flag emoji for good measure. Then he logged back onto his work Twitter, and retweeted his own tweet.

There was a time when the West pretended it was the whole world, aspired to include the whole world. That was the vision, paradoxically, that drove it toward its greatest violence, its greatest domination.

Today's nationalists seek to revive the domination, but trash the universalism, the "gauzy globalism." For them, the West is an identity to be used *against* the world.

They will use nuclear weapons.

Friday, July 7 was a day like any other. Representatives of 124 nations were in New York, where they had gathered to vote on the first legally binding nuclear weapons ban.

The first act of the UN General Assembly – Resolution 1 – created a "commission to deal with the problems raised by the discovery of atomic energy," and told it to "make specific proposals...for the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons..." It had been a rough 71 years, but here they were.

And granted, all the nuclear states – the US, Russia, Britain, France, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel – had boycotted the proceedings. As had Belgium, Germany, Italy and Turkey, who host US warheads. 20 more states had bowed out, saying it was "premature" to proceed without the armed nations on board, and another 37 just didn't bother. But even then, two-thirds of world's actual nations were represented in the room.

They voted, 122 to 1, with one abstention, to abstain from nuclear weapons, and "encourage States not party to this Treaty" to sign on.

It barely made the news.



NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION

*Kelli Clemens happily washes produce from the market garden at Uppingil Farm in Gill. She was a customer there for ten years, and now works at the farm all year round.*



## LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

**Bingo is back** at Greenfield Savings Bank, Turners Falls, on Saturday, July 15, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Carol Demers will be the guest caller. The bank will provide cards, gag prizes and some light refreshments. Due to limited space, no one will be admitted without a reservation; seating will be on a first call, first reserve basis. Place your call now to Hilary or Kerri at 863-4316.

The **New Salem Agricultural Commission** will be holding a Community Bouquet Tin Can Auction at Old Home Day on July 15, to help fund their ongoing workshop events. Bring your bouquet donations of home-grown flowers, herbs, and local flora to the Ag Commission booth on the Town Common no later than 10 a.m. on Old Home Day. Kids' bouquets welcome. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, and raffle winners will be drawn at 2 p.m. at the booth. The Commission will also be raffling a tantalizing Harvest Basket full of local goodies, as well as a beautiful begonia hanging basket graciously donated by Laurenitis Farm in Sunderland. Also, the community garden will be selling perennials to benefit garden development projects, and offering a garden tour at 10 a.m.

The *Montague Reporter* is having a **giant tag sale** on Saturday, July 22, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fundraiser, which will include a bake sale, *Reporter* coffee mugs, and a 50/50 raffle, is sponsored by the Friends of the Montague Reporter.

The majority of the tag sale tables will be set up in the lower portion of the St. Stan's parking lot next to 177 Avenue A, which is directly across from the Turners Falls Post Office.

**We are now reaching out to the community for donated items.**

For information about what items will be accepted, drop-off times and pick-ups, contact [friendsofmontaguereporter@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmontaguereporter@gmail.com) or call Lyn, 863-4779, or me, 863-5125.

Donations can also be brought to the MR office on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday prior to the sale from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Also on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., **Katherine Johnson** will be demonstrating her knitting and displaying her artwork at Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners. Katherine is an artist, Special Olympic bocce silver medalist, and volunteer. She works packaging tools at Mayhew Steel, but her real passion is art. Last year, she knitted hats for newborns and donated them to the Baystate Franklin maternity ward.

Katherine has donated multiple paintings to the United Arc which have seen intense bidding at recent fundraiser auctions, and has been delighted to sell her work via a display at the Arc. "I am using the money to pay for more painting classes," she says.

The Montague Common Hall is hosting a community celebration for the **retirement of Rev. Barbara Turner-Delisle** on Saturday, July 22, starting at 6 p.m. featuring a mini-potluck. Please bring finger foods, munchies, or a dessert.

Come see Todd Migliacci, "**New England's favorite magician**," on Monday, July 24, at 1 p.m. at the Erving Elementary School Gym. Admission is free, thanks to the Friends of the Erving Library and the Erving Recreation Commission. Migliacci is a national touring magician with two decades of experience up his sleeve. The winner of Disney World's "Best Specialty Act" brings his award-winning family magic

show to Erving. Migliacci fuses impressive tricks and illusions with comedy and a ton of fun. Refreshments will be available for purchase after the performance. For more information, call the Erving Library at (413) 423-3348, or e-mail [ervinglibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:ervinglibraryfriends@gmail.com).

After 30 years of service, Northfield Recreation Area has **retired the Quinnetukut II riverboat**. They are replacing the Quinnetukut II with a brand new pontoon-style boat. The Heritage riverboat should arrive from Florida shortly. Pending Coast Guard testing and certification of the new vessel, the Recreation Area anticipates starting cruises by the weekend of July 22 or 29. In the meantime, you can make reservations at [www.bookeo.com/northfield](http://www.bookeo.com/northfield).

The Erving open space committee, in collaboration with the FR-COG, has issued a **survey to all Erving residents**. The survey is designed to gather residents' feedback on existing recreational and open space resources, as well as preferences for future priorities. Responses are anonymous, and will be used to produce an updated Open Space and Recreation Plan.

A paper copy has been direct mailed to all residents, and should arrive the week of July 10. The committee is asking that all responses be submitted by August 31. Completed surveys can be mailed with the enclosed return envelope, or dropped off at the following locations: Erving Town Hall, Erving Public Library, Erving Elementary School, and the Erving Senior & Community Center.

Residents may also complete the survey online; details are included in the mailing.

The **Great Falls Discovery Center** had **2,854 visitors** during June. This is an all-time monthly high, and a 908-visitor increase over June 2016. For events at the center, visit [greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org](http://greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org) or follow them on Facebook. The center is open seven days a week during the summer, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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

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**RETREAT** from page A1  
Saturday, July 8 at Antenna Cloud Farm. Paul is Michi's younger brother.

"It was a wonderful opening night," said Michi. "The concert was a complete sellout with a packed house in the large performance room in our house. The responsive crowd gave Ayane and Paul a standing ovation.

"Attendees said they had a superb time. We received a lot of good feedback along with having a lovely reception during intermission. In addition, we enjoyed a spectacular sunset, which was similar to an incredible spontaneous halftime show."

"All artists," said Wiancko, "will be in residence for a week-long retreat leading up to their own concert. The residencies will provide artists with an opportunity to pursue their own work in a lovely environment free of distractions."

The second concert in the series is scheduled for Saturday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m. Innovative violinist and singer **Eliza Bagg** will create her unique sound on multiple instruments. Bagg is known for her mesmerizing vocals. *Pitchfork*, the American online magazine, has compared her original sounds to "a lovelorn alien reaching out from the farthest reaches of the galaxy."

Bagg performs with Pavo Pavo, an indie-pop band, in addition to the vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth. She'll be doing original solo music at the Gill concert, using vocal processing, violin, and synthesizers, along with collaborative work.

"Eliza is an artist of the present moment," said Michi. "We can't wait to see what she has in store for us."

Michi, herself an extremely gifted artist, will perform September 2 at 3 p.m. In demand as a performer,



*A small cabin overlooking fields and a pond proves to be an ideal creative workspace for musicians at the Antenna Cloud Farm in Gill.*

composer and arranger, and collaborator, Michi has worked with a plethora of musicians from Emmanuel Ax to Missy Mazzoli to the band EL VY.

Michi performed with the latter group on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. "My main memory is our backstage dressing room had extremely fancy cheese," she chuckled, "but seriously, the different protocols and exact timings were fascinating. We had to be ready to play at the exact moment we were introduced. It was fun to see how a talk show works with its behind-the-scene activities."

On September 2, **Michi Wiancko** will present a group of works for both acoustic and electric solo violin, using a loop machine – an electronic pedal that records her input to create multiple layers of sound. She will perform works ranging from classical music to electronic to folk, including a completely improvised work and an original composition entitled *Franklin*, which reflects her transplantation to Franklin County

from Brooklyn.

Meanwhile, **Raman Ramakrishnan and Melissa Reardon**, known internationally to followers of classical chamber music, will render a concert Sunday, October 1 at noon. The duo will bring together an outstanding group of musicians to perform in Gill that day.

"Raman and Melissa," said Michi, "bring a singular level of excitement, depth, and pure musical artistry to classical music. They've appeared in a number of top-tier ensembles."

Both soloists and chamber musicians, Ramakrishnan and Reardon have taken the stage at the Kennedy Center in Washington, collaborated with musicians from the Iraqi National Symphony Orchestra, and have toured with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra. They have also been a part of the Silk Road Ensemble with Yo-Yo Ma, and earned a nomination for a Grammy.

The grand finale takes place Saturday, October 14 at 3 p.m. with the appearance of **9 Horses**,

a jazz-folk trio consisting of Joe Brent playing acoustic and electric mandolin, Sara Caswell on violin and 10-string fiddle, and Andrew Ryan performing with the upright bass. The threesome's name was inspired by a poem from the pen of former American poet laureate Billy Collins.

Michi noted that this virtuoso group may have described their unique style best by writing, "This highly emotive music touches and communicates the essence of what it means to be an alive, feeling human being."

Judd Greenstein is also highly talented. Carnegie Hall, the Minnesota Orchestra, and the Lucerne Festival have each commissioned Judd for music, among other noteworthy institutions. Greenstein is also a distinguished curator of the Apples and Olives Festival in Zurich and the Ecstatic Music Festival in New York. He graduated from Williams College before garnering a master's degree from the Yale School of Music and is working for his Ph.D. at Princeton, remaining a dissertation away from his goal.

"I've been hammering away at the piano," he said, "since I was 4 years old." At nine, Greenstein composed his first song. How good was it? "It was all right for a 9-year-old," Judd said, with a wry delivery.

Tickets are \$12 and may be obtained at [antennacloudfarm.com](http://antennacloudfarm.com) or may be purchased at the door for \$15. For children 3 years old to 10, ducats are half off adult price.

Antenna Cloud Farm, situated in Gill at 25 Green Hill Road, is open two hours before every one of the four remaining concerts. Attendees are invited to appreciate the panoramic hilltop views, leisurely walk around the grounds, and picnic, if they wish.

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#### NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

## Housing Loans; Bridge Cameras; Radio Static

By HANNAH BROOKMAN

The Gill selectboard began their Monday meeting with a visit from Glen Ohlund, director of community development at the Franklin Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and his assistant Jennifer Morrow, who spoke on behalf of the interest-free loans that are currently available for Gill community members in need of health and safety improvements on their home.

Eligible improvements include: electrical and plumbing upgrades, structural repairs, accessibility modifications, septic repair or replacement, heating and hot water system repair or replacement, roof repair or replacement, window replacement, wells, lead paint abatement, insulation, and weatherization.

The loans can be up to \$30,000, and are available for low- to moderate-income owners of single and multi-family homes. They do not need to be repaid until the home is sold or transferred, and their balance declines by half over the course of 15 years if the owner stays in place.

Gill residents should expect to find more information about these loans in their water and sewer bills, and can contact Morrow at 863-9781 x137 for application assistance.

#### Energy Commission

Vicky Jenkins, chair of the energy commission, reported on a change that has been made to the application for a state Municipal Energy Technical Assistance grant for the town hall heating system. After further research, the committee has determined that air-sourced heat, with accompanying wall insulation, would be more appropriate for the cost and function as opposed to the originally proposed ground-source heat application.

The committee is also working to relieve Slate Library of its immense consumption of fossil fuels, and to make the building more efficient to heat and cool, while still maintaining its historical architecture.

The selectboard was unwilling to make decisions on the library until further numbers have been compared, but unanimously agreed to move forward on the grant for an air-sourced heating system for the town hall.

#### Fire Department

Fire chief Gene Beaubien reported on upcoming grant applications, presented the annual department expenses, and addressed the selectboard with an unresolved problem in the radio system, which he said has been nearly unintelligible for the last three years.

Not only is Chief Beaubien concerned with the danger posed by his staff's inability to communicate through the static, he is frustrated with the lack of assistance from the Franklin Regional Council of Government's radio commission, and suggested that the town withhold payment to the FRCOG next year until the problem with the radio towers is addressed.

The selectboard agreed to include this threat in an upcoming letter.

#### Bridge Cameras

The Gill selectboard is in the process of partnering with Erving to install two cameras on the French King Bridge. While Erving has seen the agreement, their selectboard was only discussing the prospect of the camera for the first time that night.

First-year costs will be paid by the MassDOT, while second year costs will be \$2,000.

The Gill selectboard was already planning funding options, and a long-term payment fund for maintenance and repair.

#### Other Business

Mitch and Kathy Lata of 23 Mountain Road came to the board with complaints that an increase in traffic due to the expanding day-care center on 27 Mountain Road has caused heavy water runoff,

which is destroying the Lata's lawn and driveway.

They were directed to address Jim Hawkins of the zoning board.

Kevin McBride, director of research at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, requested permission for metal detection on the town-owned Maria-mante property, as part of a project to research the 1676 massacre at Riverside made possible by an American Battlefield Protection Program grant.

Permission was unanimously granted by the selectboard, as it resembled a previous request which they had granted a few years back.

Due to an abnormally wet May, Riverside's sewer disposal cost is higher this year than usual. The selectboard unanimously agreed to pay the bill.

A new draft has been drawn extending the requirements of the town's Special and One Day Liquor License. It now more closely resembles Montague's license, though the selectboard agreed that applicants need not become TIPS-certified to apply.

School committee member Jane Oakes has stepped forward to fill the role as liaison to the town's capital improvement planning committee. The selectboard approved her appointment.

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## NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## Board to Address Referendum, Move Upstairs

By MIKE JACKSON

**GILL-MONTAGUE** – The regional school committee held its sole July meeting Tuesday night. Members voted to move future meetings to a dedicated second-floor room at the high school, put in place a policy addressing overdue lunch accounts, and agreed to discuss at a future meeting the May non-binding resolution that showed strong preference for the former high school sports team logo, the Indian, among Montague voters.

Montague Community Television station manager Dean Garvin informed the district that his station could no longer guarantee the broadcast of committee meetings from their current room at the high school, which is shared with students as a film studio classroom.

"We come in each week and you don't know what sort of shape everything's going to be in," Garvin said, adding that the equipment was deteriorating.

District superintendent Michael Sullivan added that regular setup and breakdown of the gear cost the district valuable hours of work by tech support staff.

The committee toured Room M-228, a larger, brighter room with a lower ceiling on the building's second floor, which has been in use as a middle school computer lab but could be dedicated to the committee's use.

After discussion, which established that other options were exhausted and the cost of the move would be minimal, the committee voted 7-0 in favor of the move, with chair Timmie Smith, who has raised concerns over an upstairs space's accessibility, abstaining.

Garvin said he would begin preparing the new room for broadcast Wednesday, and the next meeting may be held in it.

## No "One-On-Nine Dialogue"

The committee did not discuss in any depth the process to choose a new high school team name, though Sullivan passed along feedback from high school principal Annie Leonard that she held "some reservation about putting this whole process squarely in the laps of students."

"I think that's going to be the challenge," Montague member Christine Postera said. "Finding balance."

The committee expressed a consensus that student participation in the process should be optional.

More controversial was a request by an individual community member, tabled since the previous meeting, to be allowed to "engage and discuss" with the committee about the May nonbinding resolution, in which Montague voters expressed a strong preference that the team name should not have been changed.

"I move we put the results of the non-binding referendum on a future agenda," said Montague member Mike Langknecht, who went on to say he didn't "think it's appropriate to single out one person, which would seem to exclude other persons."

"So, again, you are going to deny the person who wants to speak the right to speak about that issue?" asked Gill member Shawn Hubert.

"They have no right, here, as such, so there's nothing to deny," answered Langknecht.

"They would have the opportunity to address it at the beginning of the meeting," said Smith, "but not to sit and have a one-on-nine 'dialogue' with the school committee trying to do its business."

"I know the individual involved, and have no problem hearing from the individual involved," Langknecht added, "but there are a lot of people with a lot of feelings about this issue.... We have the responsibility to discuss it. If we allow one person to come, and share that with them, how do we limit that?"



JACKSON PHOTO

Midway through the meeting, the committee checked out Room M-228.

The committee voted, 8 to 0, in favor of the motion.

## Meal Policy

Food service manager Mistelle Hannah, who acknowledged a "growing debt problem," asked for the board to approve a policy concerning unpaid student meal bills. The district was legally required to put such a policy in place by July 1, and was past deadline.

"It's not only required by the USDA," said Gill-Montague Community School Partnership manager Jen Audley, "it's also a good thing for the district to have it clearly stated."

Audley said many families were confused by payment policies that vary among the district's schools. "I do think you could do a better job of communicating with families about how school meals work," she said, offering the Partnership's assistance to that end.

"I worked to make sure there wasn't any language that communicates student involvement in collection of bill debt," Hannah said, "or conversations of any kind with students about the balances."

The policy caps at three, two, and one meals the extent to which elementary, middle, and high school students, respectively, can buy lunch on credit, after which point they will not be able to purchase "a la carte" items. For students eligible for reduced-rate lunch, the cap is six meals. Food service officials will call guardians of students who reach these caps.

Hannah stressed that no students would go unfed. The board unanimously approved the policy she had drafted.

## Other Policies

The policy subcommittee presented a bundle of proposed updates to district policies. Two, "Naming New Facilities" and "Naming School Facilities," were discussed at length. "An offer of a financial contribution to the School District may accompany the naming request," the first noted, and members wondered if that suggestion might be misleading or tacky.

In the end, the committee opted to send those two policies back to

subcommittee for more work. Executive assistant Sabrina Blanchard indicated that it would be simplest to vote for the entire bundle, which must next be approved by the state, all at once, so the entire bundle was tabled. The policy subcommittee will meet next in the fall.

## Super Report

Superintendent Sullivan had no news to report on a major budgetary wild card, the status of a significant sum of money by which the district may have overbilled the state's Medicaid program over a seven-year period.

Sullivan said the district was waiting to hear an estimate of the possible error from the vendor that had processed the reimbursements. "I need to sign something, certifying, saying 'We think this is what the proper expenditures were,'" Sullivan said, adding that he would need to review the figures with the law firm the district has retained in the matter.

Strategy meetings with the selectboards and finance committees of Gill and Montague have been scheduled for August 15 and September 6.

204 district families, as well as 62 families who send pupils to charter schools or choice out, have responded to a major survey about the district's schools that includes "quality of teaching," "student-to-student interaction," and "perceptions of bullying," Sullivan said.

The data is still being compiled, and will be reviewed at a future meeting.

## Other Business

The district is providing free breakfast and lunch, to anyone under 18 who shows up, through the USDA's Summer Food Service Program. Breakfast is served at 8:30 a.m. at Turners Falls High School, Sheffield Elementary, and the field house at Unity Park. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. at those locations, as well as the Brick House Community Resource Center on Third Street, and at noon at Highland Park in Millers Falls and at Erving Elementary.

The committee's next meeting will be held Tuesday, August 8 at the high school, possibly in a new room.

This Fall at GCC:  
"Real Talk and Fake News"

By MIKE JACKSON

**GREENFIELD** – Greenfield Community College librarian Tim Dolan reached out to the *Reporter* this week to share with our readers that he would be teaching this special topics course in the college's communications department this fall.

Tim writes: "It's a one-time offering focused on digital media, and the way that it's changing the information environment. It's pretty topical, so I'm hoping to attract at least a few folks who might not otherwise think of themselves as GCC students."

Enrollment is technically open until September 11, but enroll during August to make sure the class runs! And don't forget – Massachusetts seniors can enroll in GCC courses for free, or very low cost.

**CMN 240: Real Talk and Fake News: Finding Truth in the Facebook Age - Fall 2017, Tu 5:00-7:50**

Explores an information environment increasingly dominated by digital publications, many of which traffic in falsehoods, unverified facts, and partial truths. Students in this seminar-style course work collaboratively to develop skills and strategies to find, evaluate, use, and create credible information in personal, academic, and professional contexts.

Students examine the structure of Wikipedia and other crowd-sourced websites, changing paradigms of journalism, the implications of social media on information flows, and the ways in which scholars produce and validate research.

*Prerequisite: ENG 101. Fulfills humanities/fine arts general education requirement.*

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MONTAGUE from page A1

would be to simply refer it to the planning board for consideration, perhaps approval – and if approved, something we would take to town meeting to rectify. The question was always going to be whether they would have to do a survey of the property....

“But what [town planner] Walter Ramsey deduced was that the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike that was dissolved was a county road. That means that the Franklin Regional Council of Governments has to approve what amounts to a relocation of the county right of way.”

“So what do we do now?” asked a weary, and somewhat mystified, Robert Fistes.

Ellis recommended that the couple speak to Bob Dean at the FRCOG, the nonprofit entity that took the place of the Franklin County government after Massachusetts eliminated its counties, to facilitate action by its board. He also suggested that the selectboard still refer the matter on to the planning board for its potential support for FRCOG action. The selectboard approved this recommendation.

As for how the right of way on the neighbor’s property was eliminated decades ago, Ellis stated that “what kind of conversations between county and town government [took place] back in 1965, I don’t know. I was not born yet.”

Canal District

Ellis gave what he called a “Strathmore Update,” which in-

volved a report on the bidding process for finalizing “debris removal” from the town-owned former mill complex in Turners Falls. The town is under order from the state fire marshal to secure the complex and remove the remaining paper from the buildings, which was used as a recycling depot by a former owner.

Initially, the town was going to secure single bids for both security and removal, but found that the jobs would have to be completed by separate companies.

Ellis said that two companies offered the same bid of \$9,900 for the work. Eventually the project was awarded to BL Companies, who resubmitted a low bid of \$8,900. The board approved a “notice to proceed” and empower the chair to execute a standard contract for the services.

Ellis also reported that the town had secured a \$20,000 state grant to evaluate the Sixth Street Bridge. The bridge, currently blocked for vehicle use, traverses the power canal, ending between the Housing Authority and the former Railroad Salvage property.

The town’s long-term goal is to create, according to Ellis, “gateways... to what we hope will be a thriving canal district.”

Other Business

The board voted to execute a \$122,991.50 contract with Pereira Construction Company for sidewalk work on Montague and Griswold streets.

Ellis reported on a Green Communities Grant that had been ap-

proved by the state Department of Energy Resources (DOER). The grant will be used for a variety of purposes, including reconditioning of water pumps, motion sensors to turn off lights, and replacement of the rooftop units on the cafeteria and library, and library work at the Sheffield school.

The grant will also be used to replace the HVAC system at the Shea Theater, and for furnace work at the Carnegie Library.

The board voted to execute the grant.

Bruce Hunter of the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority came before the board to approve a number of change orders and fund distributions related to the Avenue A street lighting project in Turner Falls. The board approved his requests.

The board also approved the request of police chief Chip Dodge to execute a contract with the Med-Care company, which provides emergency medical dispatch services to the town.

Brian McCarthy of the Turners Falls Fire Department received approval for a helmet fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

The board approved a request by Richard Widmer of Millers Falls for a sidewalk art exhibition in that village. The event will take place on July 23.

The board adjourned in less than an hour. Its next meeting will take place on July 17 – not July 24, as originally scheduled.



Montague  
SEEKING CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS

The Planning and Conservation Department, through the Board of Selectmen, is seeking volunteers to serve in the following positions:

- Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (EDIC): Three members
- Montague Planning Board: One Alternate Member (non-voting)

The Planning Board meets monthly and shapes the future of the community through the development of community plans and zoning bylaws. The alternate member position is ideal for a candidate who is inexperienced, but interested in local government. The EDIC typically meets between 2 and 5 times per year, and assists the Town in developing industrial and commercial property. People with experience in real estate and municipal government are especially encouraged to apply to the EDIC.

Questions can be directed to Walter Ramsey, Montague Town Planner, at [planner@montague-ma.gov](mailto:planner@montague-ma.gov) or 863-3200x 112. Letters of interest can be submitted to the Board of Selectmen, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA.

*The Town of Montague is an equal opportunity provider and employer and strongly encourages candidates from diverse social and economic backgrounds.*

Montague Parks & Recreation Department  
PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, August 2, 2017  
Montague Common Hall  
34 Main Street, Montague Center

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 138, General Laws, as amended, the inhabitants of the Town of Montague are hereby notified that the Montague Parks & Recreation Department will be sponsoring a meeting regarding Montague Center Park on Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Montague Common Hall, located at 34 Main Street, Montague Center, MA 01351. Public participation is welcomed.

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Selectboard Discusses Mount Toby Meeting House Sanctuary Inquiry

By JEFF SINGLETON

At its Tuesday night meeting, the Leverett selectboard discussed an inquiry from the Mount Toby Friends Meeting, a Quaker meeting on Long Plain Road, concerning potential plans “to offer temporary housing for an undocumented person and perhaps two children, or in the case of 1984... two brothers.” The email was sent by Beth Adams, who is a member of the Committee for Immigrant and Refugee Assistance.

Adams states that she seeks to contact a town “code enforcement person” to ascertain the requirements for offering temporary housing, and to ensure that the meeting-house is in compliance with town zoning regulations.

The email also asks if “Town police would not come and arrest those we were protecting in the Sanctuary... Has Leverett agreed not to follow instructions of the President of the United States or ICE officials to cooperate with such requests, as Amherst did?”

Selectboard member Tom Hankinson noted that the town has supported liberal policies concerning local enforcement of federal immigration law, but added that the town is not a “sanctuary city.” He stated that “it is one thing to show care [for immigrants], but at what point do you actually have people [living in town]?”

“Can someone just live in the church?” asked town administrator Marjorie McGinnis.

“If it has the facility,” responded Hankinson.

“This is fine with me, but at what point does it become the town’s problem?” asked Julie Shively.

Shively said the board should respond to the inquiry by advising Mount Toby officials to contact the zoning board and police department to determine whether the church has the legal right to house people in their building.

On May 2, the selectboard passed a resolution supporting the proposed Safe Communities Act, which is currently before the Massachusetts legislature. The board’s statement notes that the legislation “[e]nsures that police resources are used to fight crime, not assist federal immigration enforcement.” The bill, it notes, pertains to state and local enforcement actions that are “based solely on immigration status,” but allows police to arrest or detain a person “in the course of a criminal investigation.”

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker has opposed the bill, but says he is open about changing his mind. “I have said many times that I think that decision should be made at the local level,” he told a recent press conference.

Rescue Truck

The board approved a proposed contract with a Vermont company named VTech to build a rescue truck for the town fire department. The truck will be used to respond to accidents and medical emergencies, but would also have the capacity to pump a limited amount of water in response to fires.

Company vice president Earl Everhart said fire trucks, particularly

those sold to smaller towns, are custom built rather than being sold “off the lot.” He stated that most departments the company deals with are volunteer departments.

“It is a unique business,” he said. “You have to have [fire trucks], but you don’t want to use them.”

McGinnis pointed out that the proposed payment schedule for the truck meant that 75% of total payments would be made before the truck was actually delivered. She suggested that this could well violate state law. Everhart responded that the issue had not come up in other Massachusetts towns that had purchased trucks produced by his company.

“This is Marjorie McGinnis,” explained Hankinson.

Other Business

The board appointed Isaiah Robinson to the zoning board of appeals, and Jonathan Block as an attendant at the transfer station.

The board voted to continue participating in the regional dog shelter, which is located in Montague. There was also discussion of whether the dog officer should be under the control of the police department. The board rejected this idea, but did not take a formal vote on the issue.

In response to an inquiry from the zoning board of appeals, the board discussed the so-called “Mullin Rule,” a state law that allows an absent board member to vote on an item that comes before a public hearing after reviewing the transcript of the hearing. Julie Shively said that a vote by town meeting would be required to adopt the rule locally.

GAS from page A1

build a new pipeline from the southern part of the state, or to build a large liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility in Franklin County.

The towns, local legislators, and state attorney general Maura Healey argue the company’s projections for growth in demand don’t take recent energy-efficiency improvements into account, and that the company could return to its older practice of “curtailable agreements” with large institutional customers who could switch to alternate fuels, such as heating oil, during periods of peak gas demand.

Deerfield and Montague brought in two expert industry analysts, John Rosenkranz and Kenji Takahashi, who delivered testimony to this effect. According to Elan, Berkshire’s representatives at the hearing passed on the opportunity to cross-examine the towns’ witnesses. “They didn’t want to get into the discussion of the merits of any of our expert recommendations,” she speculated.

The DPU recommended the company pursue peak-reduction strategies, but did not require it. But it did mandate the company develop separate projections for its “eastern” division – the Connecticut River Valley towns – and its “western” one in Berkshire County. A statement by the towns this week hailed this as a positive step that “may influence events moving forward.”

“From the standpoint of active intervention, we’ve kind of run our course,” Montague town administrator Steve Ellis said after last Friday’s news.

“We don’t see that Berkshire Gas has committed, in a specific way or by a specific date, to ending the moratorium. It appears that’s because they have a very specific set of interests that they want to satisfy on the way to doing so,” he went on. “And they don’t necessarily align with the interests of this individual community.”

Katy Eiseman, director of the Massachusetts Pipeline Awareness Network (PLAN), a group originally formed in opposition to the Kinder-Morgan project, said that from her perspective, “Berkshire has been trying to use [the moratorium] as a way to justify major buildout, but all of the companies – all of the businesses and homes – have been finding workarounds.”

Ellis said that many customers are looking toward propane, a fuel that can be easily replaced with natural gas if service is restored.

“Whenever there’s discussion of the development of a new business or facility,” he said, “or the expansion of an existing one, one of the conversations that we hear from those business interests is, ‘what can you tell us about the moratorium?’”

“My summer homework,” said Elan, “is to compile all the available incentives, resources, technical assistance, and contractors that can help businesses develop here without using natural gas.”

“I have actually found it interesting,” Eiseman told the Reporter, “that the town officials in the moratorium area, and not just in Montague, have not really been focused on needing to have an end to the moratorium – outside of getting involved, and wanting there to be a solution.”

Though activists, officials and legislators may have held out hope the DPU would require Berkshire to use low-impact measures to lift the moratorium, attention is now turning to the possibility of large infrastructure proposals. Over the winter, the utility formally started the process of investigating either a new regional pipeline or a major LNG site.

And Kinder Morgan recently held a new open season to collect commitments from customers for a new pipeline in the region, though it remains tight-lipped about the details.



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BRIDGE from page A1

business owner from Greenfield. “I use my bike for commuting and traveling the countryside, and some exercise... and will use the newly improved Greenfield Road more!”

Two more cyclists from Greenfield, who declined to be named, said they had moved to town last year due to the quality of the area’s roads, and the ease of getting around by bicycle. The couple enjoy the sport of randonneuring: bicycle endurance events where cyclists have to travel long distances of several hundred miles, completely self-supported, in a set amount of time. The Franklin County Land Trust’s nationally-famous D2R2 is one of these events.

John Armstrong, of New Salem, traveled to Montague Center to celebrate the bridge opening, and enjoy a Saturday bike ride down in the Valley.

“It’s nice to see that cycling infrastructure is seen as important,” Armstrong said. “I will miss the ‘adventure’ of crossing the tracks, but the bridge is safer, and may get more folks into riding. I can’t really see anything negative about it, though I have heard people complain that cars can’t use it. Too much is directed towards cars, in my opinion.”

After watching a train pass by, with a light tap of the horn from the engineer, the randonneuring couple roped us into joining them for lunch at the Bookmill before we all split off on our separate errands for the day.

En route we passed a lycra-clad pod of “roadies,” as they’re called, emblazoned with Northampton Cycling Club logos, as they made their turn towards Turners Falls Road for a detour, apparently unaware that the bridge was finally open.

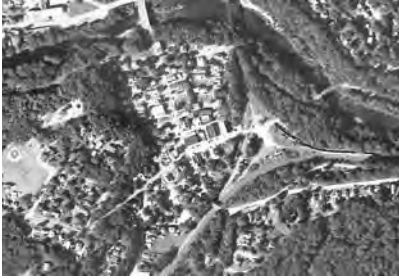


By MIKE NAUGHTON

The Millers Falls Improvement Association, an organization formed last year after a Veterans Day ceremony at Highland Park to help foster Millers Falls’ sense of community, has lately been gaining momentum.

A pre-town meeting on April 27 at the Millers Falls library produced a small group of volunteers offering to help, and then Montague’s annual town meeting in May approved \$1,500 for a community-building activity. Efforts are now underway to decide how best to spend it, and a meeting on June 15 at the former St. John’s Church began tossing around ideas.

Suggestions included setting up a village message board, having



a family movie night, throwing a village block party, and conducting a survey to assess community preferences. The group decided to pursue a survey and to continue discussions by holding more meetings on July 20 and August 17 (the third Thursdays) at 5:30 p.m. at St. John’s Church. All are welcome, and anyone interested in building and sustaining the Millers Falls community are encouraged to attend.

In addition, a community cleanup is planned for Saturday, July 22, from 1 to 4 p.m., a date picked, in part, in preparation for the “Millers Falls Calling All Artists” event scheduled for the following day (*see page B1*).

Volunteers will pick up trash, sweep sidewalks, weed bump-outs, and generally try to spruce up the neighborhood. Again, anyone interested is encouraged to participate. Organizers plan to meet in front of the Element Brewery on Bridge Street at 1 p.m., and fan out from there.

For more information or to offer comments or suggestions, please visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/millersfalls/](http://www.facebook.com/millersfalls/), or email [millersfalls.improvement@gmail.com](mailto:millersfalls.improvement@gmail.com).

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Town Prepares for Teenaged Vote, Fiber Buildout, Dam Work

By JOSH HEINEMANN

When Wendell voters approved the annual town meeting warrant article last month that gave 16- and 17-year-old residents the right to vote, it was not the end of that process.

Two young men, Aaron Nelson and Max Carr, worked for similar articles in Shelburne and Ashfield and they came to the Wendell selectboard’s June 28 meeting to move the process along for Wendell. The next step for the town is to petition the legislature to allow the change. The change must be approved again by voters by a ballot initiative, most likely when the town holds its next scheduled election in May 2018.

Nelson provided the board with a copy of a letter of conveyance for them to sign and send on to the legislature, with the hope that all the towns that have approved the extension of voting can be rolled into one change at the state level.

Nelson said that in a recent uncontested election in Tacoma Park, Maryland, where a similar statute exists, 40% of eligible 16- and 17-year olds participated. (In contrast, a recent contested local election drew 10% of eligible voters.)

The two young men said that Representative Steve Kulik supports the move, but they were not sure about Wendell’s representative, Susannah Whippis.

Town clerk, Gretchen Smith was there to listen, but did not ask questions. Selectboard member Jeffrey Pooser, away on vacation but participating by speaker phone, suggested that Smith might want help with the extra work involved, separating the younger voters, who would vote only on local elections and issues, from those 18 and older, who would continue to vote on everything.

Toward Fiber

Wendell was not in the first round of grants, but recently was

awarded \$750,000 toward building a fiber-optic internet connection to households in town. The town will contract with Westfield Gas and Electric, as recommended by the broadband committee, to do engineering and design work.

Al McIntire, speaking for the finance committee, said the fin com does not feel that a 3% bonding fee is necessary because WG&E is a large municipal utility and has a good track record in designing and creating fiber-optic networks.

Board members did not sign the agreement immediately, and waited for that change and a review of the entire document.

Dam Responsibility

Selectboard member Dan Keller asked if the other board members had seen the report from Lenart Consulting about the dam that creates McAvoy’s Pond. The right-of-way for Lockes Village Road is considered part of that dam, and so is a town responsibility. The rest of the dam is owned by the Trousdale Trust.

Lenart reported that the trees on that right-of-way should come down to meet state dam safety requirements.

Selectboard chair Christine Heard said she did not want to set a precedent of the town doing work on private property, and Keller said his personal feeling was that the town should pay 49% of the tree removal cost, and a smaller percent for longer term maintenance. He said he was to meet with a lawyer for the Trousdale Trust.

Pooser said there was a precedent for giving some help to specific private citizens set when the town bought the property on which the office building sits. He suggested that Chapter 90 money could be used for the tree cutting.

Heard said the fire department wants to install a dry hydrant on the right-of-way, if possible.

New Truck

Because of the mild winter, the highway department is finishing the fiscal year with a surplus. Their utility vehicle is a 30-year-old pickup truck, not in very good condition, and the highway commission asked if they could use the leftover money to buy a replacement.

Town accountant Brian Morton wanted selectboard approval before he approved the purchase.

Asked to get a price for a reasonably used truck, Phil Delorey reported \$27,000. A new truck from a dealer costs \$44,000, but from the state list it would cost \$33,000, and come with a guarantee.

McIntire said the fin com would approve the purchase. With only a few days left in the fiscal year, there was doubt about whether the purchase had to be made before July 1. McIntire preferred that the town “erred on the side of the purchase.”

Race to the Top

Wendell is giving town employees a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) of 0.8%. New Salem is giving theirs 2%. Two people are employed by both towns, fire chief Joe Cuneo, and town coordinator Nancy Aldrich. Cuneo has a separate contract with each town, so the differing pay rates, Social Security, and insurance do not create an issue.

But Aldrich has a single contract with both towns. The difference in pay over a year is not staggering, but the difference in benefits would be an issue. McIntire said he thought giving Aldrich the 2% COLA raise was the best way to make things equitable between towns, and that the rest of the fin com would agree. The selectboard agreed with him.

Town-Owned House

Heard said flags had been placed by the town-owned house at 97 Wendell Depot Road to store logs left over from tree work that National

Grid is doing elsewhere in town. She said that Dennis Hudson thought that seniors could do some of the work to fix the house up, possibly to rent, but that Council on Aging chair Nancy Spittle thought the work was too much. The roof is leaking.

Keller suggested a survey of the three acres needed for the proposed community solar farm on the property could be paid for out of the reserve fund. There is room on the property for a house lot, and maybe a flag lot across the street.

The energy committee is looking for a clerk, because present clerk Wanita Sears would be an abutter to the proposed community solar farm, and wants to recuse herself.

Other Business

Voters at town meeting approved revolving funds for the town’s plumbing and electrical inspectors. Before that vote, fees were paid into the general fund, and the town allocated money to pay the inspectors for their services. Any excess went into free cash, any shortfall had to be made up with reserve fund money or some other source. Now fees will go directly to the inspectors, and the town will add 10% for administering the process.

The Wendell tree warden gets a stipend, and an expense line. Ross Kahle, the new warden, is an arborist, and can cut and remove trees that need it and get paid by the hour, as would any contractor doing work for the town. Treasurer Carolyn Manley met the board to ask about insurance, social security and taxes.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich asked about the ethics of someone hiring himself for town work, and Manley answered that it has been done before. She asked, if there is no problem with state ethics law, if a job description was necessary.

Wendell has had an increase in the number of unlicensed dogs. The last time that happened, board mem-

bers divided the list among themselves and called delinquent dog owners. This year they plan to put a reminder in the town newsletter, get dog officer Maggie Houghton to give a list of those owners to the selectboard, and then post a notice on the town website and the listserv before taking further action.

After he changed his bid for demolishing the meetinghouse shed to include disposing of the remains, Tom Chaisson was still the lowest bidder at \$1,050. In accepting his bid, Heard and Keller thought to remind him to contact the cemetery commission, because there was some concern that grave sites may be on the shed’s footprint, or very close.

The board agreed on September 16 as the date for the regular auction of surplus town property.

Amy Palmer agreed to try to work as selectboard clerk, but she was concerned that the schedule might not allow it.

Lisa Hoag offered to join the historic commission, and the board members agreed to give her name to the acting member, Joe Coll.

Hoag also had a scheduled meeting with the board. Her mission was to alert them, or if that was unnecessary, make them more alarmed by the shredding of law books that is being done around the state in the effort to make documents available online.

This process is happening quietly, without public input, and she said that digital preservation is not archiving. Digital records can be compromised. Books dating back to the 1700s are being destroyed, and are the only primary record of land transactions, of interpretations of the constitution, and of legal precedents through America’s history.

Priceless books, property of the Commonwealth, its citizens, have been shredded, and the public has not been notified. The Franklin County law library has already lost part of its collection, she said.

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# NatureCulture: The Science Page

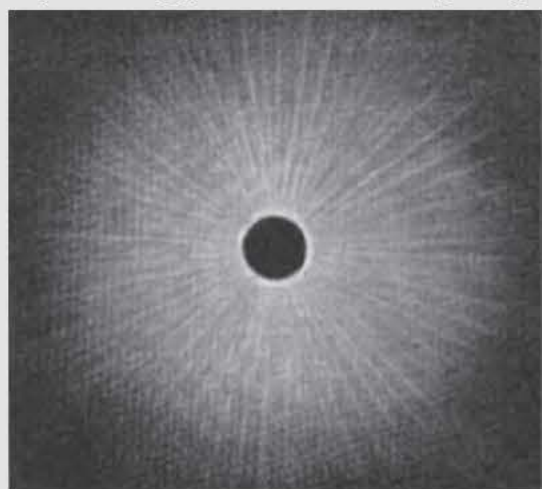
## August 21: Celebrate the Eclipse With Us!

The *Montague Reporter* and Mount Grace Conservation Land Trust are holding a joint Eclipse Party. The location, at the top of Alexander Hill Road in Northfield, will allow a great view of the eclipse on Monday, August 21, from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. **\$5 advance tickets include eclipse-safe viewing glasses.**

Send your check or cash to: The Montague Reporter, 177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376. Be sure to include your return address so we can mail you your ticket and glasses! Bring your own picnic.

In case you can't make it to the party, a partial view of the total Solar Eclipse will be visible from Montague and surrounding towns on August 21. It will start around 1:25 and end at about 4 p.m., with the maximum eclipse obscuring about 66% of the sun at about 2:45 p.m. Other parts of the country will be able to see the total solar eclipse.

It is not safe to look directly at the sun! For a guide to solar eclipse safety, visit [eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety](http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety), or purchase your eclipse viewing glasses from the *Montague Reporter*.



*This sketch by Spanish astronomer José Joaquín de Ferrer depicts the solar atmosphere, or corona, during a June 16, 1806, total solar eclipse. Before astronomical photography, observers depended on sketches of eclipses to study the sun's corona.*

### BOOK REVIEW

## Donna Haraway, *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene* (Duke University Press, 2016)

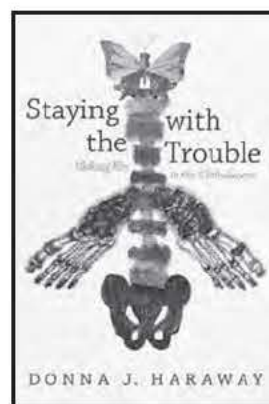
By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

This book, by feminist science and technology studies anthropologist Donna J. Haraway, is a playful attempt by a powerful and creative thinker to encourage readers to reject the idea that humans are separate from the rest of nature.

Haraway coined the term "NatureCulture," and she has thought deeply and written copiously on this subject for years. I have been a big fan of her work, but I found this most recent book less convincing than many of her earlier tomes.

It's a series of stories and artistic endeavors to encourage us to stay with the complexity of the relationships among humans and nature, and to make kin of denizens of the natural world like trees and animals.

For example, there are chapters on her relationship with her dog, and her experience in a workshop making up stories as a group with others. While I've long been convinced that we are all one web of life and that humans should not consider ourselves outside nature, I frankly found this book to be an-



noying. That may be more about me than about her.

Playing cat's cradle as a way to understand how it is to be another creature, or telling stories to one another, seem to me to be indulgences. Many of us have chosen to "stay with the trouble" of trying to sort out how to live more sustainably and equitably with nature, and take that conviction into political activism; while others, such as our area farmers, have no choice but to cope with the consequences of our not having done so effectively – such as climate change – on an everyday basis.

Art can be activist, but in this book Haraway did not convince me that she was doing anything beyond personally indulging in it. So while I think the book carries a good message, I felt it engaged it in a superfluous way.

I would recommend this book to any theory-minded readers who want to indulge themselves in playing with the idea of "NatureCulture," but not unless they have a lot of free time on their hands, and have decided they have nothing better to do with it.

## The Perseid Meteor Showers



NASA/MSFC/MEO IMAGE

*This Perseid fireball meteor was observed in the skies over Chickamauga, Georgia at 2:14:49 a.m. on August 11, 2013.*

By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

The Perseid meteor showers occur each year in the window of July 17 to August 24, when the Earth passes through the path of Comet Swift-Tuttle.

According to *space.com*, with a nucleus of about 16 miles wide, Swift-Tuttle is the largest object known to repeatedly pass by Earth. Its period is about 133 years: its last visit was 1992, and its next will be 2126.

The most meteors will be seen when we pass through the densest comet dust on August 12 and 13. On Saturday, August 12, moonrise is 10:45 p.m., and on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup>, it is 11:19 p.m.

The moon will be about three-quarters full, so before moonrise will be best to view the meteor shower.

About two to three meteors per minute are expected at the maximum rate. Meteors will seem to emanate from the constellation Perseus in the northeast, and shoot toward the southwest.

Native Americans in our area of the continent have long observed this astronomical event, during which some hold annual gatherings.

## Lunar Libration



*Earth Rise over the moon, taken by Apollo 16 crew.*

By LOU MAYO

Does the moon rotate on its axis? Many people would say no, because it keeps only one face (or hemisphere) pointed at Earth at all times. But, in fact, in order to do this it must rotate once for every orbit around the Earth it makes.

You can demonstrate this with a friend. Try walking around your friend and not changing the direction of your face. Even if you started out looking at your friend, you won't be after taking only a few steps.

Why? The moon and Earth pull on each other, distorting their shapes. The moon's pull on the Earth causes the ground to rise up about a foot in the direction of the moon. Earth's relatively larger mass distorts the shape of the moon even more. These "tidal bulges" shift the moon's rocky mass toward the Earth.

Over time, this has slowed the moon's rotational speed until it came to rest with only one side facing the Earth. This is the case for all large moons in our

solar system – Io, Ganymede, Titan, Triton, Charon – all large moons are tidally locked to their planet.

Now that you know this, I have to tell you that we actually do see a small portion of the other side of the moon! This is called "lunar libration," and there are a few primary reasons for it.

**East-West Libration:** Yes, the moon is tidally locked to the Earth, completing one orbit around the Earth in the same time as it makes one rotation on its axis (its day and year are the same). But because the moon's orbit is slightly eccentric (oval shaped), it moves faster in its orbit when near the Earth and slower when further away. This means that the moon appears to have a slight side to side rocking motion as we view it from Earth and so we can see a little beyond the east and west limbs of the moon.

**North-South Libration:** Another type of lunar libration is caused by the slight 5-degree tilt of the moon's orbit with respect to Earth's orbit around the sun. This means that sometimes the moon passes below Earth's orbital plane and sometimes above, allowing us to see a little further north and south.

Another, although much smaller, factor to consider is your location on Earth. If you live at high northern latitudes, you can see a little further north on the lunar surface, and if you live at high southern latitudes, you can see a little further south on the moon's surface.

All in all, taking libration into account, the moon presents about 59% of its surface to the Earth.

You can learn more about lunar libration at [svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4537](http://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4537).

Source for this article:  
[eclipse2017.nasa.gov/what's-lunar-libration](http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/what's-lunar-libration)

## Moon Calendar for July & August 2017:

Sunday, July 9:  
**Full Moon**

Sunday, July 16:  
**Last Quarter**

Sunday, July 23:  
**New Moon**

*From the most powerful telescope orbiting Mars comes a new view of Earth and its moon, showing continent-size detail on the planet and the relative size of the moon. This image combines two separate exposures.*



Sunday, July 30:  
**First Quarter**

Monday, August 7:  
**Full Moon and Partial Lunar Eclipse**

Monday, August 14:  
**Last Quarter**

Monday, August 21:  
**New Moon and Total Solar Eclipse**

Tuesday, August 29:  
**First Quarter**

*Sky Events Calendar by Fred Espenak and Sumit Dutta (NASA's GSFC).*

IMAGE: NASA, JPL-CALTECH, UNIV. OF ARIZONA

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**ERVING** from page A1

"In the past, we've brought in people who are unlicensed, with the stipulation that they get credentialed...."

"And they have not," finished Bembury. "I understand it's entry-level. Ultimately it requires Step 4 certification. I feel that the information we put out is not consistent if we're going to hire someone with no experience whatsoever just because he works here."

"I have concerns about someone in a lead role going to an entry-level position," said Smith, as well as "topping out the pay scale on day one." Unmentioned was the need to hire a replacement for Walsh.

Selectman Scott Bastarache was recused from this matter due to a conflict of interest, so the disagreement created an impasse.

"The position has to be filled," said Bembury.

"You have no interest in a second interview?" Smith asked him.

"I don't see how that will help me in any way," he replied.

Finally Bembury folded: "While I don't think this is the right choice, on a motion to appoint Peter Walsh, I would second it."

The board agreed to hire Walsh at \$18.08 an hour, with the stipulation that he get his license within one year.

A motion to dissolve the hiring committee was withdrawn after Bastarache, from the audience, noted that the offer was as yet unaccepted.

**Bridge Cameras**

A joint venture to install cameras on the French King Bridge hit a speed bump around ownership, maintenance, responsibility, and data-access rights. Originally this was to be a cooperative endeavor between Erving, Gill, and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. Now the state is asking

that Erving take sole responsibility for owning and operating the cameras, and the vendor has decided it wants to interface with one, not two, towns, placing Erving as the "lead" town.

Bastarache urged a meeting with Gill, saying it doesn't make sense to not have them at the table.

The current memorandum of understanding calls for data to be shared with MassDOT and the Mass state police, "upon request."

A motion by Bembury to sign the MOU was withdrawn as Smith and Bastarache balked, awaiting clarification of details.

**Lake Trash**

Ten Erving residents of Laurel Lake want expedited trash removal after the state, which owns the lake, and which traditionally provided it, pulled the rug out after a couch was left at the Laurel Lake dumpster.

Since then, the town has provided

containers behind town hall, which has been an imperfect solution.

The latest plan was to contract with the town of Orange for rubbish removal, which Orange declined. Warwick, which also abuts the lake, has no trash service.

"It's our right to dispose our trash here," said seasonal resident Robert Barney, speaking for those who may live hours away and don't want to drive home with their refuse.

"Legally, that's not so," Smith said.

A suggestion by highway boss Glenn McCrory to build a 10' by 10' shed behind town hall to house refuse from Laurel Lake, plus town facilities, gained traction and was agreed upon as a sensible next step by most in attendance.

Bembury told the group he was uncomfortable with a "loose association," he urged them to become a more formal organization on some levels.

**Committee Not Re-Used**

The board voted to formally disband the Usher Mill Re-use Committee, under the assertion that the town needed to turn its attention to other projects, even though a delineated Phase 2 of the project has yet to be undertaken.

The board thanked the committee and sought to hand off its purview to the recreation committee, to the chagrin of many members.

"I object, and don't agree with your statement," said member Jeanie Schermesser. "We'd like to continue on Phase 2. We don't agree with the board assertion that it has no time for this."

"We did a lot of work on our own. We didn't ask the board to do a thing. We did legwork, research."

The board thanked the committee again, and gave it the bum's rush out of town.



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## Calling All Artists: Art Fest in Millers Falls

By REPORTER STAFF

**MILLERS FALLS** – Something is percolating in Millers Falls these days: colorful artwork bursts from the storefront studios in the village center. Element Brewery is taking their enterprise one step farther into distilling spirits, and seven newly renovated apartments in the Powers Block are seeking “high-end” tenants. The Millers Falls Laundry Co. is ready to wash and rinse your dirty clothes, and the Millers Pub and the Branch Library are still there to relieve your weary mind. If you drive through the center, you can practically smell the paint!

There are four studios in the center of town, and these working artists have put their energy together with Richard Widmer of the Millers

Falls Arts Bridge and John Landino of Montague to create an event called the Millers Falls Art Fest to be held on Sunday, July 23 from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

In the old Ward Block, find Rodney Madison and others in his studio on the east side where the post office used to be. Rodney has been painting prolifically since leaving Turners Falls, and welcomes the public into his new space to see how his work has evolved.

Eric Grab works in the left front side of the same building, at the corner of Bridge and Main streets. Writes Eric, “If you drive through Millers, you can’t miss us!” He has recently left his job as a solar installer to become an artist full time. Take a peek at his work on his website:

see **ART FEST** page B6

NINA ROSSI PHOTO

Rodney Madison's moss-covered objects d'art provide an intriguing backdrop for his sign announcing the upcoming Millers Falls Art Fest.



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK PRINT

### THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

## Celebrations of Life

By LESLIE BROWN

**MONTAGUE CENTER** – My father is responsible for making me a diehard Red Sox fan since the late fifties, when we followed the game with the descriptive play-by-play of Ned and Jim on our small home radio. We knew all of the players and saw the games as if we were in a box seat.

He was also a great believer in the value of books. We never had a television in the house when I was growing up. When my best friend's family got an early TV, I once sneaked over there to see it, but the musical theme from Dragnet gave me the shivers. I scampered home; I was sure I heard my father's voice.

His other soulmate was music. Dad's mother was a pianist, and he grew up with classical music, as did my sister and I.

We were a television fifties family. Every weekday morning my dad drove the family car to our suburban station and rode to Chicago, where he wrote scripts for Coronet educational films. He came home in the late afternoon and read to his two daughters while our mother cooked supper. He also owned an American Songbook and sang to us as we three sat on the living room couch. I can still sing these unabridged folk songs, ballads and spirituals.

My father had a tough yardstick for me, his first-born.

“I can’t believe a daughter of mine can’t use a hand tool to fix this!” This cut me to the quick.

As my driving instructor, he was impatient and critical.

But season after season we listened to the Red Sox together, both impassioned with the game and our players.

I saw great pride in his face after my stage performances, and when I shared his love of teaching.

He was young to be a father – only nineteen when he married, and just twenty-one when I was born.

Generally, he was a gentle man. Raised a Quaker, he was a pacifist who did alternative service in a mental hospital while my pregnant mother shared housing with a girlfriend whose husband was in the service.

He was not afraid to be unconventional. Walking down the street, he sang at full voice as I walked behind, pretending not to know him.

He took up knitting to occupy his hands when he stopped smoking. His Norwegian sweaters were beautifully crafted.

As a writer, teacher and musician he found great joy in sharing his loves and his talents.

I adored him.

I think about him today, as we attend a celebration of the life of one

see **GARDENER'S** page B3

## Blowing My Own Horn... Sour Notes and All

By JEFFREY WEBSTER

**TURNERS FALLS** – In my next life I will be musical.

When I was at Turners Falls High School, there were some wonderful musicians. Two brilliant trumpet virtuosos stand out: Tommy Currier and Carl Hoynoski.

I remember a few other accomplished band members, including Paul Ellis on trombone, Raymond Welch and Ward Wheeler on saxophone, Judy Humphrey on flute, and Francis Remillard on clarinet.

My own sputtering musical journey began in fifth grade at the South End School in the Patch when someone suggested I should try the clarinet. I never took to it, and music instructor Ben Weiner wasn't encouraging. My mom was worried that it would exacerbate my overbite. So, the clarinet went back in its case.

My dad, Russell Webster, was a very good trumpeter. When I was younger, he played in the town's military band. As a kid, I just took it for granted that he could play. Now, almost 50 years after he died, I wonder how he learned. He hadn't finished school, yet he was self-educated on a broad range of subjects. He revered education more than just about anything, serving on the Montague school board for many years. He was always reading two or three books at a time and he was a math whiz. He taught himself algebra. So, I guess he just taught himself the trumpet, too.

My three sisters, Audrey, Judy and Joan had all played instruments in the high school band, and my brother, Russ, acquired a drum kit with which he “entertained” our neighbors on Third Street.

After my experience with the clarinet, I gravitated to (what else?)



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR

Turners Falls High School band member Jeff Webster in 1961, with his baritone, in front of the old high school on Crocker Ave. The car is his dad's 1956 Studebaker President.

the trumpet. Better for my overbite.

Sometime in the late 1950s, my parents bought me a used horn at Gribbon's. Then, when I was 12 or 13, they hired local musician Warren Parteneimer to give me private lessons. I remember him coming to our apartment on Friday evenings, when I would rather have been watching “Route 66.”

Mr. Parteneimer was invariably frustrated with my lack of preparation. His exasperation was justified; I rarely got around to practicing during the week. After my lessons came to an end, Mr. Parteneimer went on to live a long life. He died in 2008 at the age of

90, so I'm pretty sure my vexing lack of ambition didn't contribute to his demise.

My music-reading skills weren't that great, but I could satisfactorily follow the path of notes on a page. Somewhere along the way, I realized that I could play many songs by ear, instinctively knowing the fingering.

In eighth grade, the band director asked me if I would switch to the baritone and play with the high school band. My first thought was, “Hasn't he been listening to my honking? He must be desperate.”

Anyway, I agreed and was issued

see **OWN HORN** page B4

## NOTES FROM THE ROAD: IN THE LAND OF THE HAUDENOSAUNEE

Former Montague Reporter editor David Detmold is currently biking from Mashpee, Cape Cod to the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in North Dakota, in support of Native treaty rights. He filed this report from the road Tuesday morning.

By DAVID DETMOLD

I am in the library at Avon, NY, on the site of the former Seneca village of Conawagus.

The library sits at the intersection of Clinton and Genesee streets. Genesee Street is named not for a famous cream ale, but for a Seneca word meaning “beautiful valley.” It still is that, certainly.

Clinton Street is not named for the former senator and popular-vote winner of a recent presidential election, but for the former Revolutionary War general James Clinton, who along with General John Sullivan led 4,469 men, a quarter of the American revolutionary army, in a

scorched earth campaign to destroy the military and political strength of the Haudenosaunee – the Six Nations, or Iroquois Confederacy – in the summer of 1779.

Four of the Six Nations, the Mohawks, Cayugas, Onondagas, and Senecas, had chosen to ally themselves with the British and the Tories in the conflict, and commanding general George Washington's marching orders to Sullivan and Clinton left no doubt the importance he attached to its success:

*The Expedition you are appointed to command is to be directed against the hostile tribes of the Six Nations of Indians, with their associates and adherents. The immediate objects are the total destruction and devastation of their settlements, and the capture of as many prisoners of every age and sex as possible. It will be essential to ruin their crops now in the ground and prevent their planting more....*

*But you will not by any means listen to any overture of peace before the total ruinment of their settlements is effected. Our future security will be in their inability to injure us and in the terror with which the severity of the chastisement they receive will inspire them.*

The campaign was brutal, and succeeded in some of its aims. At least 40 Native villages – which amazed the rustic American troops with their extensive croplands and well-maintained longhouse structures – were destroyed.

And though their power to retaliate was not completely extinguished, and few Native captives were taken, thousands of the Haudenosaunee became refugees dependent on the British for relief in the coming winter.

Among the villages destroyed was a Cayuga town called Chonodote, also known as Peach Town, modern day Aurora, on the east bank of Cayuga Lake. My family lived there once; in fact I was nearly born there. We

see **NOTES** page B4

DETMOLD PHOTO



DETMOLD PHOTO

This commemorative monument in Canandaigua, NY lists some of the signatories among the thousands of Natives who attended the 1794 Treaty council with George Washington's emissary, Timothy Perkins.



# Pet of the Week

It's been quite awhile since I Love Lucy first aired, a friendly cat who will walk up and say "hi" right off the bat. This talkative and confident girl makes friends fast and has peacefully coexisted with other cats. Though she is FIV+, that doesn't slow her down a bit. Lucy enjoys chasing after toys and will monitor your home for any suspicious activities. Such as

cooking salmon! She is a sweet and very affectionate companion, who came to Dakin because her owner recently passed away.

Please ask an adoption counselor for more information about taking her home!

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



“LUCY”

## Senior Center Activities JULY 17 TO 28

### 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 7/17**  
8:15 a.m. Foot Clinic appts.  
Noon Pot Luck & Bingo

**Tuesday 7/18**  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

**Wednesday 7/19**  
9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach  
12:30 p.m. Bingo

**Thursday 7/20**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi

10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga  
1 p.m. Cards & Games

**Friday 7/21**  
1 p.m. Writing Group

**Monday 7/24**  
1p m. Knitting Circle

**Tuesday 7/25**  
9:30 a.m. Tech Support Appts.

**Wednesday 7/26**  
9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach

12:30 p.m. Bingo

**Thursday 7/27**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi

10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga  
1 p.m. Cards & Games

**Friday 7/28**  
1 p.m. Writing Group

### LEVERETT

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

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

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

### ERVING

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

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

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

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

**Monday 7/17**

9:30 Healthy Bones & Balance  
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi

**Tuesday 7/18**  
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics

10 a.m. Stretching & Balance  
11:30 Homemade Lunch

Friends' Business Meeting

**Wednesday 7/19**

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Chair Yoga

12:15 p.m. Bingo, Snacks, Laughs

**Thursday 7/20**  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics

10 a.m. Healthy Bones  
12:30 p.m. Movie & Popcorn

**Friday 7/21**  
9 a.m. Quilting

9:30 a.m. Bowling  
11:15 a.m. Music/Magic /Mvmnt.

12:30 Healthy Lunch

**Monday 7/24**  
9:30 a.m. Healthy Bones

10:30 a.m. Tai Chi

**Tuesday 7/25**  
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics

10 a.m. Stretching & Balance

**Wednesday 7/26**  
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Chair Yoga  
12:15 p.m. Bingo, Snacks, Laughs

**Thursday 7/27**  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics

10 a.m. Healthy Bones  
12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors

**Friday 7/28**  
9 a.m. Quilting

10 a.m. Food City Shopping  
11:15 a.m. Music/Magic /Mvmnt.

12:30 Healthy Lunch

### 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.

### ELEVEN CDS FOR ELEVEN BUCKS

## 3. Various Artists, *The Greatest Songs Written by Holland-Dozier-Holland*

By IVAN USSACH

This music cooks and tenderizes – but you may be tapping your feet so hard you don't notice. This is some of the best pop music ever made, in the mid-Sixties, a time of increasing social and cultural turbulence that would define the decade.

In "Reach Out I'll Be There," their #1 hit from 1966, the Four Tops sing: *Now if you feel that you can't go on / Because all of your hope is gone / And your life is filled with much confusion / Until happiness is just an illusion / And your world around is crumblin' down / Darling, reach out (come on girl, reach on out for me) / Reach out (reach out for me) / I'll be there, with a love that will shelter you / I'll be there, with a love that will see you through.*

When this song topped the charts in October of 1966, I was almost nine years old and didn't know much about 'nuthin', but I must have soaked up the aching vocals and driving rhythm like everyone else. The song still grips me from its first haunting



notes and never lets go.

I don't know if you can effectively analyze greatness, apart from recognizing the unique combination of elements that contribute to it. Suffice it to say, this song and the 19 others on this 1978 compilation are the handiwork of the prodigious H-D-H team: Brian Holland and Lamont Dozier composed and produced the music, and brother Eddie Holland wrote the lyrics. They were the leading songwriting team at Detroit-based Motown Records, for which they scored 25 #1 records from 1964-'67. Nine of them are on this disc – seven by

the Supremes.

Then there's the band: All of the music was performed by the Funk Brothers, a pool of over a dozen regular studio musicians who "played on more number-one hits than the Beatles, Elvis Presley, the Rolling Stones and the Beach Boys combined," according to the 2002 documentary film *Standing in the Shadows of Motown*.

The earliest song featured is "(Love Is Like A) Heat Wave," a #4 hit for Martha & The Vandellas in 1963: *I got a heat wave / Burning in my heart / I can't keep from crying / Tearing me apart.*

Yeah, these tunes bring a whole lotta turbulence alright, more obviously personal than political. Still, the cultural impact of the music was profound, with the African American-owned label's brand of popular soul music achieving tremendous crossover success into mainstream charts – and hearts. Always the struggle, but always the hope.

This is music that still resonates today: Reach out!

### MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

## This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

**ERVING** – Have you heard about the controversy surrounding the Erving Riverfront Park project?

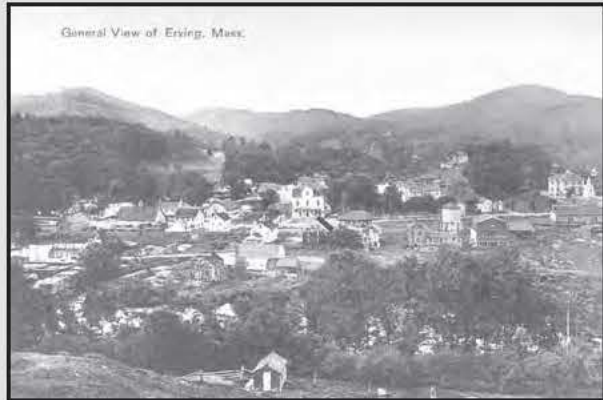
A beautiful community area has been unveiled, testament to the power of ordinary people working together across specialties. The work, however, is not done. There are still plans in place to add on 7 more acres of conservation land, complete with trails, expand the playspace to accommodate children of all ages, and preserve historical structures like the mill building for use as a community center.

Find out why these plans could be stopped in their tracks by listening to Jeanie Schermesser's speech at the park's opening celebration. Schermesser, as a member of the Usher Re-use Committee, has put long hours of work into the vision and leadership of the project. Her speech provides insight into what citizens who believe in the value of the project thus far can do to advocate for its completion.

Schermesser was one of ten speakers who came out for the June 24 celebration. You can hear them *in their own words* by viewing MCTV's coverage of the event, at [vimeo.com/223346263](https://vimeo.com/223346263), or on Channel 17. Upcoming viewing times for this program can be found in our TV schedule at [montaguetv.org](http://montaguetv.org).

This video is a mine of information to help you identify and connect with more of the players moving our communities forward. You'll find Schermesser's speech, mentioned above, at the video's 15-minute mark.

Other speakers include master of ceremonies Rich



Peabody, Erving selectman Scott Bastarache, state senate president Stan Rosenberg, FRCOG planner Mary Chicoine Praus, engineering consultant Mark Arigoni, Steve Corrigan of Mountainview Landscape and Lawncare, Mark Wright of the North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce, Erving Paper CEO Morris Housen, and David Brule of the Millers River Watershed Council and the town's historical and conservation commissions.

At MCTV we connect community members to local happenings through local access programming. If there's something going on YOU think others would like to see, get in touch and we'll set you up with a camera to capture the moment.

Contact us at (413) 863-9200, [infomontaguetv@gmail.com](mailto:infomontaguetv@gmail.com), or stop by 34 Second Street in Turners between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We'd love to work with you!

### WENDELL FREE LIBRARY

## Saturday, July 22: *The Last Days on Mars* (2013)

**WENDELL** – On the last day of the first manned mission to Mars, a crew member of Tantalus Base believes he's made an historic discovery: fossilized evidence of bacterial life. Unwilling to let the relief crew claim the glory, he disobeys orders to pack up, and goes out on an unauthorized expedition to collect further samples.

But a routine excavation turns to disaster, when the porous ground collapses, and he falls into a deep crevice and near certain death. His devastated colleagues attempt to recover his body. However, when another vanishes, they begin to realize: the life form they've dis-

covered is highly dangerous to all human life.

*The Last Days on Mars*, from Irish director Ruairi Robinson, is the next in the monthly series of Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movies at the Wendell Free Library, located in the center of Wendell. Admission is free.

Every normally scheduled Science Fiction / Horror movie in 2017 will begin at 7:30 p.m. with a half-hour episode of the 1952 sci-fi serial *Radar Men From the Moon*. Next Saturday's episode is Number 7: "Camouflaged Destruction."

The feature presentation will begin at 8 p.m.

Other upcoming movies in this series include:

August 19: *The Howling* (1981), starring Dee Wallace, Patrick Macnee, and Dennis Dugan;


September 16: *John Carter* (2012), starring Taylor Kitsch, Lynn Collins, and Willem Dafoe;

October 21: *Teen Wolf* (1985), starring Michael J. Fox, James Hampton, and Susan Ursitti; and

November 18: *Christmas On Mars* (2008), starring Steven Drozd, Wayne Coyne, and Steve Burns.

For more information about the Wendell Free Library, visit its web page at [www.wendellfreelibrary.org](http://www.wendellfreelibrary.org) or call (978) 544-3559.

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**GARDENER’S** from page B1

of Ken’s friends and golfing buddies. We meet his son for the first time and see his wife and daughter. There are wonderful pictures, and two awards for a hole-in-one at Thomas’. We are reminded of his many roles: husband, father, golfer and dancer.

My dad’s life was cut short when he was just past sixty. By then, we were a bit estranged. He and my mother had been divorced a few years before. Struggling to balance a second marriage and two stepchildren consumed him. Our contact diminished.

It was a painful time. But the emotional connection remained. I felt his loss doubly.

My dad was my first gardening mentor. I remember a wonderful strawberry patch in our suburban backyard. Through our several moves, we always had a garden. The last family one was in a huge field in Putney. It was wide open to the hungry critters of this country spot. Our border collie was great at taking out the woodchucks with one firm shake

of the neck, but the deer remained.

Dad made a trip to a Boston zoo to collect the manure of wild cats, because he read that their scent would keep the local animals away. He hung net bags of the manure around the fence. We were reminded of the story in *Never Cry Wolf* when the author urinates around his spaces to keep the wolves away from hearth and garden. They respected his boundary lines.

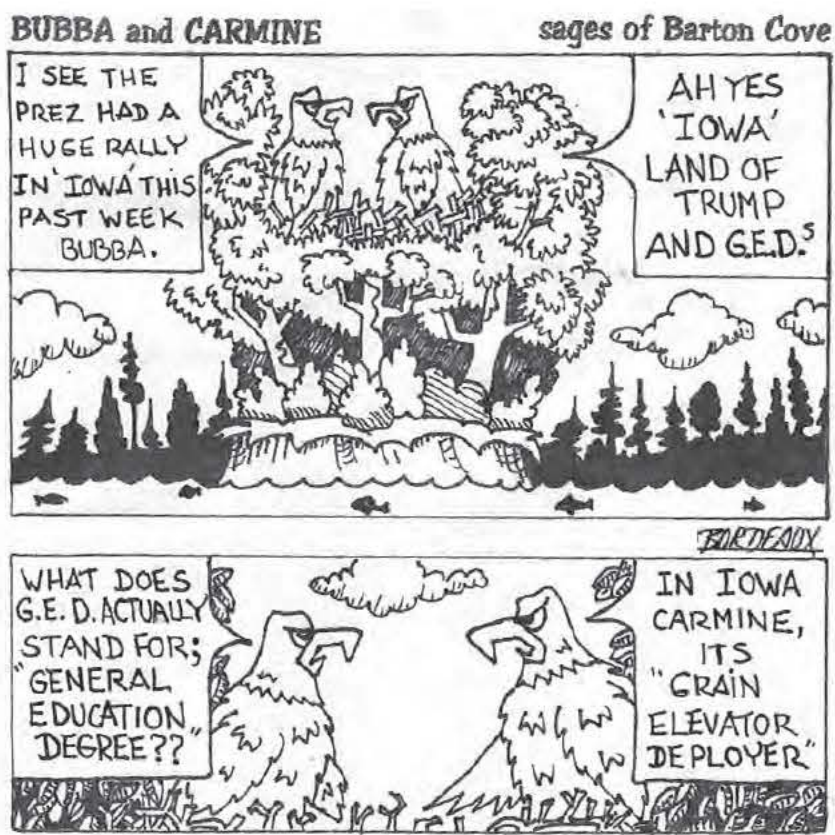
I don’t remember if a similar strategy worked in the Putney garden.

Now I prepare to hang rags soaked in ammonia to discourage the squirrels from jumping the fences around the corn and squash plants. We haven’t seen the woodchuck since I poured castor oil in any holes I could find in the yard. With all of the rain we’ve been having, it’s time to refresh the castor oil again.

The garden is a celebration of amazing life from tiny seeds to crops of edibles and flowers.

What a wonderful way to leave our mark on this earth as our celebration of living.

Happy gardening to all!



MUSIC REVIEW

The Rear Defrosters

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

The Rear Defrosters performed at the Rendezvous in Turners Falls on June 29. The group consists of nine individuals, three of them women. They sounded like they were playing for a country music jamboree when I first heard them. One fiddle player was involved, along with several guitar players, two banjos, and one man playing a very nice-looking bass.

The fiddle player played the instrument quite well. I am usually a person who prefers someone playing the guitar. But the fiddle player played well enough for that instrument to be second or third on the list of instruments I prefer to hear.

This group is not an orchestra. But they sounded enough like a perfect harmony for me to say they were like a well-organized orchestra.

However, after a little bit, some of their music sounded like it all blended together – you know, like the same song was being played over and over. Not that it was a bad song that was being played! Still I don’t think the audience at the Rendezvous, me among them, had too much to complain about.

They also sang a little bit, at one

point, to some of their music. The bass player ended up being the one to do most of their singing. It wasn’t a terrible voice. The singing was well organized within the group, like their playing.

The bass player sounded like he was the lead singer in the group when they ended up doing more singing. He even sang solo for one song I believe. The words that were part of the song sounded like they were out of a country music song.

I am a fan of country music, along with liking guitar music. So that was two ways the group’s music won my favor.

Turners Falls is kind of an artsy town, like I believe Northampton is. I have seen several theater events, along with local music events, in the town, all of which have been good. They have yet to disappoint me when I go to see those performances.

I don’t know how long the Rear Defrosters, who come out of Brattleboro, have been performing in Turners Falls, let alone in general. But they do have the possibility of a long future to their name if they continue performing the way they have been! They are a nice part of the music scene in Turners Falls.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Rattlesnake; Chainsaw Theft; Mudslide; Fireworks; Dried Blood; Bomb Threat

Monday, 6/26

12:20 p.m. Clerk from F.L. Roberts reporting that a man who appeared to be under the influence bumped into a pole protecting the gas pumps. Vehicle towed; male transported to hospital.

2:24 p.m. Employee reporting that a large black horse is wandering around the business’s parking lot on Industrial Boulevard. Animal control officer checked area; unable to locate.

3:02 p.m. Report of unknown male outside caller’s home on Park Street. Unable to locate.

4:30 p.m. Officer reporting that a male jumped off the Eleventh Street bridge to swim in the canal. Units clear; male party is from Worcester and decided to cool off in the canal after a beer tasting.

5:29 p.m. Report of broom in middle of road at Turnpike Road and Walnut Street. Unable to locate.

7:22 p.m. Caller reporting possible rattlesnake in his yard. Environmental police advised; provided number for caller to contact if it is still there in the morning.

7:51 p.m. Caller from L Street reports that there is a male on his front porch who has been selling drugs. Officer in area watching male party. Party has moved along from area.

Tuesday, 6/27

8:27 a.m. 911 misdial from town hall elevator.

3:46 p.m. Caller reporting that a sewer cover on Avenue A is steaming and popping up from the ground. Fire department advised and en route.

11:25 p.m. Caller into lobby reporting that her husband was bitten by a dog, possibly a pit mix, at approximately 5:30 or 6 p.m. today. Male was riding bicycles with a friend near Greenfield and Hatchery roads when the dog got loose from owner. Male sustained one puncture bite to the leg and is being treated at Baystate Franklin Medical Center. Possible owner identified. Dog info on record appears to be out of date. Call left for ACO.

Wednesday, 6/28

3:39 a.m. Caller reporting multiple parties in garage next door on Central Street being loud and disorderly. Officer en route. Disturbance quelled.

10:34 a.m. Caller requesting that animal control officer check on a fox on Kingsley Avenue. Fox was lying in the road for the past half hour looking lethargic; same just ran off toward river. ACO

checked on fox, which has mange. It appears that the fox will pass away soon. ACO advises that animal is likely suffering and if officers see it, it would be more humane to put it down.

6:31 p.m. Caller from L Street states that a group of 8 people are verbally abusing her. Both sides advised of options.

8:39 p.m. Caller from Hillside Avenue reporting theft of a chainsaw. Referred to an officer.

Thursday, 6/29

8:17 a.m. Party from Central Street into station to report ongoing vandalism to her vehicle. Advised of options by officer. Damage appeared to be accidental rather than intentional.

8:54 a.m. Caller from Central Street reports that her neighbor just returned home, got out of her vehicle, and began screaming at the caller accusing her of vandalizing her vehicle. Officer spoke with caller and witness who confirmed account. Advised of options.

2:17 p.m. Report of manhole cover out of place in front of Montague Elks. DPW advised.

9:39 p.m. Officer came upon intoxicated male at Second Street and Avenue A. Preliminary breath test reading .30. Party taken into protective custody.

Friday, 6/30

5:59 p.m. Officer reporting small mudslide in area of Randall and Greenfield roads. Not impeding traffic yet but could very soon. DPW notified.

Saturday, 7/1

6:13 a.m. Report of missing manhole cover at Seventh and High streets. Officers worked together to replace cover.

7:26 a.m. Caller from Seventh Street reporting that a manhole cover was sticking up out of the ground after the storm last night. Caller’s wife hit it, and now there is damage to their vehicle. Manhole cover had been fixed this morning. They will call DPW on Monday to lodge a complaint.

2:04 p.m. 911 caller reporting two males in fist fight in backyard of their apartment on Seventh Street. Officer advises fight had stopped prior to his arrival; speaking with males now.

Sunday, 7/2

8:08 p.m. Report of possible blue kayak flipped over under General Pierce Bridge; unknown if anyone is still in it. Montague and Greenfield police and fire responding. Officer advises that object is now on shore in Deerfield and it is a barrel. All units clear.

9:25 p.m. Report of fire-

works being set off in area of G Street. Officer advised.

9:29 p.m. Report of fireworks being set off in area of Walnut Street. Officer advising that an excessive amount of fireworks are being set off in town and to just log calls at this time.

Monday, 7/3

12:51 a.m. Clerk at F.L. Roberts requesting officer; customer reporting they were just verbally accosted in front of store. Officer en route. Courtesy transport to K Street provided for male.

6:36 a.m. Caller reporting that two vehicles were broken into overnight on South High Street; multiple items missing. Responding officer found that several vehicles were involved. Vehicle owners notified; report taken.

3:34 p.m. Caller from Third Street reporting a group of males setting off fireworks and aiming them on vehicles passing by. Parties advised of complaint.

9:37 p.m. Multiple 911 calls reporting a truck on fire on Turnpike Road. Flames extinguished prior to TFFD’s arrival.

Tuesday, 7/4

11:52 a.m. Party into station with a check that she received for \$1.325 million; inquiring whether it is a scam or authentic. Several inconsistencies suggesting a scam located within enclosed letter. Party advised of same. Party declined to shred letter/check but will not be cashing it.

1:40 p.m. Report of widespread power outage from Montague City to Montague Center; additional report of two loud explosions coming from Cabot Station, followed briefly by flames and a large cloud of smoke. FD and Eversource advised and on scene.

9:20 p.m. Multiple calls from Bridge Street reporting commercial-sized fireworks going off. Area searched; unable to locate.

Wednesday, 7/5

9:22 a.m. Male arrested on probation warrant.

10:10 a.m. Report of a female creating a disturbance on J Street, yelling in the street, possibly under the influence. Officer spoke with female, who was worked up because she just had an altercation with her mother but agreed to calm down.

10:52 a.m. Report of damage to port-a-potty on Meadow Road; damage appears intentional. Advised of options.

11:01 p.m. Caller states that he was struck by a vehicle on Turnpike Road. Could not get vehicle description, and vehicle is no

longer in area. MedCare advised; TFFD responding. Responding officer states male party is not sure anymore if he was struck by a car. Injuries all have dried blood around them so are not recent. MedCare transporting male party.

Thursday, 7/6

1 p.m. Caller from K Street inquiring about options for removing raccoons from his dumpster. ACO is on vacation. Advised of options.

2:34 p.m. Caller requesting assistance with a party who was suspended from a program and is reportedly outside now threatening to firebomb the building. Officer spoke with subject, who was upset that he was suspended from the program but denied any intention of harming the building or anyone on site.

7:52 p.m. Male arrested on warrant.

Friday, 7/7

8:07 a.m. Report of hit and run accident on Turners Falls Road. Operator of other vehicle later contacted MPD.

1:04 p.m. Firearms removed from an L Street residence.

8:43 p.m. Caller states that a male was taking photographs of people at Unity Park and the skatepark. When approached by caller, man scurried away, acting suspiciously.

9:16 p.m. Officer flagged down while passing by Cumberland Farms. After speaking with several people, inside and out, it was determined that there was no problem.

9:46 p.m. 911 caller reporting that a female inside the laundromat appears to be “out of it” and a male is yelling at her. Male party was very verbally aggressive and took a while to calm down. Verbal dispute only. Parties moved along.

Saturday, 7/8

12:08 a.m. Following a vehicle stop at Fifth and L streets, [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.

Sunday, 7/9

8:25 a.m. Report of breaking and entering in progress on Oakman Street; caller is not home but was alerted by neighbor that caller’s son, who does not have permission to be there, just entered the home, and son’s vehicle is parked on the property. Investigated.

6:26 p.m. F.L. Roberts clerk reporting that a customer passed her a counterfeit \$20 bill; however, customer remained on scene and did not know that the bill was fake. One male with active warrant placed under arrest.

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# Match Game – with Gong Show Producers!



“Match Game 413” panelists Joan and Mike Haley, who spent their working lives in the film industry of Hollywood with such directors as Mike Nichols and Francis Ford Coppola.

**TURNERS FALLS** – Remember how much you loved the Match Game in the ‘70s? Producer Linda McInerney of Eggtooth Productions promises that *Match Game 413* is even more fun now, and you can go to see it live on stage at the Shea Theater.

Contestants match wits with six local panelists to supply the missing word in a phrase or sentence presented by the host. Winners advance to the Super Match round, going head-to-head with panelists to “fill in the blank” and try to win their game – and a prize from a local business.

McInerney warns that *Match Game* tends to get bawdy, with double entendres, innuendo and risqué humor: “Leave the kids at home, because it’s guaranteed to get naughty!”

Featuring local characters as panelists: Lindel Hart, Joe Dulude II as Brett Somers, with Mike and Ellen Metzger (who met and fell in

love while producers of the Gong Show and the Newlywed Game with Chuck Barris), and Mike and Joan Haley of Conway.

Rod Hart will emcee, backed by the guitar stylings of Sam Perry of Old Flame, playing the infamous jingle as panelists write up their responses.

This month’s panelists include Mike Metzger, who was born and raised – but claims he never “grew up” – in Los Angeles, where he studied history and art at UCLA, wrote and produced TV game shows and comedies such as *The Gong Show* and the *Newlywed Game*, and played guitar and sang in groups. He and his wife, Ellen, who was also a TV producer, a fashion buyer in LA, a model for Emilio Pucci in Italy, and is a talented singer who has worked in improv comedy, moved to Chesterfield fourteen years ago, and have been mucking out barns ever since.

Joan and Mike Haley, who spent their working lives in the film industry of Hollywood with such directors as Mike Nichols and Francis Ford Coppola, recently co-produced *Six By Six By Six*, a series of short plays that was performed at the Conway Sportsman’s Club as part of their 250th Anniversary Celebration.

“The onstage chemistry promises to be unique, as the Metzgers and Haleys are long time friends and collaborators,” notes McInerney.

*Match Game 413 July Edition* is at the Shea Theater on Monday, July 17 at 6 p.m. The bar opens at 6, and the show starts at 7.

## OWN HORN from page B1

a baritone in a case that was bigger than me. I knew that wouldn’t do, so our family friend, Ed Reum, who played baritone in the military band, gave me a corduroy drawstring bag as a substitute for the hard case.

Even without the case, it was a struggle to climb up the steep Seventh Street “boardwalk” to the old high school with my books and the horn. It was also a challenge to play in the bass clef for the first time.

All in all, life was pretty good until one day, when we were supposed to be practicing marching band on the football field, it began to rain. The director ordered us inside and announced that we would transform ourselves into the TFHS concert band. So, we set up our music stands on the stage in the auditorium and prepared to dazzle him with our brilliance.

We were handed the score for *Guys and Dolls* (“I’ve Got the Horse Right Here; His Name is Paul Revere”). I was doing pretty well, until the music suddenly stopped. So did I. All eyes turned to me, and our director said in what might be called his fortissimo voice, “That’s your solo!”

Solo? Me? “Deer in the headlights” is such a tired cliché, but it’s an apt descriptor for what I must have looked like. When it became obvious that nothing resembling the notes on the page were going to emanate from my horn, he tersely asked the trumpets to play the cues.

I was embarrassed, and determined to redeem myself. For days, I practiced the piece and eventually played it as written, but I believe I remember the trumpets al-



Jeff and the cornet with which he now annoys his Green Valley, Arizona neighborhood. When he’s feeling empathetic, he softens the blaring with a mute.

ways accompanying me after that fateful day.

One other humiliation associated with the baritone occurred during a parade in Greenfield. We were on Federal Street approaching Main when my music slipped from its holder and fell to the street. I disrupted several rows of marchers behind me as I stooped to pick it up.

About the time that a new band director came along, I started going out with a girl who was a member of the Millers Falls Drum and Bugle Corps. The two-valve tenor bugle soon became my instrument of choice, and I traded in my Turners High blue and white uniform for the blue and gold of The Conquerors.

I played with the corps for two or three years. It was a thrill to march in competitions and I still love the sound of a drum corps to this day.

When my wife, Susan, and I decided to move to California, I sold my trumpet. But as it happens, she had played a cornet (similar to a trumpet) in the Greenfield High School band. We still have her horn, and I get it out once in a while. My *embouchure* is pretty weak, but I can play for about half an hour – until I can’t hit anything above middle “C,” and my lips look like I’ve had a Botox injection.

In my next life, I will be musical.

## NOTES from page B1

moved to Virginia seven months before I took breath.

The Cayugas’ peach orchards were all burned.

Yesterday, as I biked south on Route 90, I came upon huge, tattered lawn signs reading: “No Sovereign Nation; No Reservation; Cayuga Indian Land Claim,” put up years ago by a group called the Upstate Citizens for Equality. Some lawn sign campaigns just die hard.

Dan Hill, a Cayuga farmer who tends 76 acres of land above Union Springs, said when he first moved to the area in 2005, there were more than 60 of these imposing signs up on all the major roads. Now barely a dozen remain, he said.



One of the anti-Cayuga lawn signs the author saw along Route 90 outside Union Springs, NY.

The court case that inspired them was based on one of America’s oldest treaties: the Treaty of Canandaigua – by which George Washington, president now, sought once again to insure peace on the frontier with the Six Nations. His emissary, Timothy Pickering, signed the treaty in 1794 in the presence of Quaker witnesses from Pennsylvania, trusted by the Haudenosaunee, who had sent thousands of warriors and chiefs to the council.

The US still gives calico cloth and \$4,600 to Six Nation representatives on the courthouse lawn in Canandaigua each year, in recognition that the treaty is still in force with these sovereign Nations.

But the Cayuga were able only to prove in 2005, in Superior Court in New York State, that the treaty lands promised them had been taken from them illegally. The Court found for the Cayugas, but said there was no legal remedy whereby they could regain their lands, now occupied by descendants of the settlers Sullivan and Clinton cleared the way for.

Professors from nearby Wells College, where my father once worked, and Ithaca College pooled resources in 2005 to purchase the Cayuga SHARE Farm, which Dan Hill now caretakes for his nation. SHARE stands for “Strengthening Haudenosaunee-American Relations through Education.”

Each year, on the second weekend in June, supporters gather at the farm to plant a young peach tree, in recognition of all the Cayugas have lost to Colonialist expansion over the centuries, in hopes of restoring good relations, which may bear fruit in years to come. (Perhaps you might like to make a contribution to help purchase more peach trees on the Cayuga SHARE Farm. If so, mail a donation to Dan Hill, and earmark it for a new peach tree. The address is 4061 Truesdale Road, Union Springs, NY 13106.)

The Haudenosaunee have the oldest functioning democracy in the world today. They taught George Washington a thing or two – and the US Constitution, with its shared powers, is said to have been inspired by their model of intertribal governance. Clan mothers choose the chiefs – Seneca Falls’ suffragists in the 1840s may have been drinking more than temperance tea if they sampled the waters of the Haudenosaunee.

Learn more about the insights of these sovereign people, who have so much to teach us in these days of climate change and global crisis, from their own website: [haudenosaunee-confederacy.com](http://haudenosaunee-confederacy.com).

Readers can follow David’s journey at [bikeforstandingrock.org](http://bikeforstandingrock.org).

# “It Can’t Happen Here”: Foreseeing a Nightmare Presidency

**GREENFIELD** – Buzz Windrip promises every American \$5,000, wins the presidency, and immediately gets rid of all checks and balances to his power. Overnight, he eviscerates the Legislature, silences the media, and tromps on all sorts of civil liberties.

Novelist Sinclair Lewis imagined this nightmare in 1935 in *It Can’t Happen Here*, which many US residents are reading as a foreshadowing of a more recent presidency.

But few know Lewis turned the novel into a Broadway play. Last fall, the Berkeley Repertory Theatre adapted the play, and now it is having its east coast premiere at 7 p.m. July 17 at the Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center at 289 Main Street in Greenfield.

“This play has it all: pathos, suspense, drama, humor, and relevance. It even has a Greek chorus!” explained Jackie Walsh of Shelburne Falls, director and producer of the play. “The audience can’t miss certain connections between what Sinclair Lewis warned about 80 years ago and what is happening today in the U.S. It’s really interesting to see how quickly the country finds itself being led by a madman in the play and what happens to those who stand up and say, ‘No’.”

Walsh found a reference to Lewis’s play in the afterword of the novel, *It Can’t Happen Here*. The Works Progress Administration actually paid Lewis to convert the novel into a play for its theater works project that put unemployed actors and crew to work during the Depression. Before finding a copy of the play, Walsh had to follow a trail to a New York book repository, the Sinclair Lewis Foundation, and a New York talent agent.

Footlights at the Foothills, a new theater group Walsh has founded in Shelburne Falls, is producing the play. William Spademan, founder of Ashfield Community Theater,


plays Doremus Jessup, a Vermont editor who joins the Resistance. Marina Goldman plays tavern owner and Resistance member Lorinda Pike. Tracy Trimm of Greenfield plays Pres. Buzz Windrip.

The play is free, but audience members will be asked to make a donation, which goes to an October 28 Ray Charles Tribute Concert in Shelburne Falls.

The original poster for the 1936 play, “It Can’t Happen Here,” by Sinclair Lewis, which played at the Adelphi Theater in New York City. The play, about a despot who wins the American presidency, is being read for an audience at 7 p.m. Monday, July 17, at the Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center in Greenfield.



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# Karaoke Summer Tour, Part III: "A Bag of Chips"

By BEVERLY ANN  
FORBES-ALLARD

**HATFIELD** – Karaoke, for me, is like eating a bag of potato chips. It is almost impossible to stop after the first bite.

Last Friday I decided to go shopping in Northampton, taking the scenic route from Greenfield down Route 5 and 10. On my way through Hatfield, I passed the Hatfield Pub at the corner of West Street and North Hatfield Road. The sign outside the pub said "Happy Birthday" to several patrons, and "Karaoke on Friday Nights."

As I read the sign, my mind said: *Oh Boy, another chip to try on my way home tonight.* By the time I was returning, it was 7:30 – just in time to make a stop at the Hatfield Pub, sing a few songs, and round out my evening.

It had been about 15 years since I visited the Pub with a friend. The old front entrance is no longer there, and you now gain entrance from the rear parking area. The two-story brick building has a fresh coat of red paint with white trim. A new wood deck, with tables and chairs, is edged by a white lattice wall with hanging pots of orange and purple flowers adorning the sides. It makes an inviting entrance, as well as a place to sit and enjoy the summer evening.

As I entered the interior, the first thing to gain my attention, to my right, was the beautiful new horseshoe-shaped wooden bar – a recent remodeling job, I was told by the bartender. It has a highly glossed wood finish with new copper pennies embedded in the rail trim all the way around it. There is a center four-tier stand, double sided, with assorted bottles of every type of alcoholic beverage you could possibly desire. The bar edge has three new, shiny, multiple-beer taps with fancy pull-label handles, where seven specialty beers can be poured on demand.

The black and white checkerboard tile floor accents the red and white walls, with white louvered



shutters on the inside windows. Overhead, there is a row of glistering new brass-plated and wood-trimmed ceiling fans. Large framed mirrors and Budweiser signs of all types and sizes cover the walls, and there are multiple flat screen television sets, showing sports, movies, and Keno games. In the opposite end, to my left, are game machines, two pool tables, pinball machines, a huge fireplace, tables and chairs, and a wall dartboard.

The karaoke DJ is Rachael Jessica Gallo. She had karaoke equipment set up on a table in front of the fireplace. This event runs from 8 p.m. to midnight, and singers were already performing when I arrived.

Rachael calls up Brian, who was sitting at the bar, wearing a shirt and shorts and work boots and looking like he came direct from a job site. He sings his version of "King of the Road," and goes back to the bar as his friends rib him with comments like, "Don't give up your day job," while still cheering him on.

Molly comes up in shorts and a blouse and sandals. She has her hair in pigtails, and as she sings her friend comes up with her camera on her cell phone and takes pictures to send and post online.

John comes up from the bar area in shorts and sandals and sings "Easy like Sunday Morning"; everyone claps and applauds as he goes back to his seat. Rachael the DJ sings "End of the World," then puts on some rap dance music, Fifty Cent's "In Da Club," while she takes a break. A couple of people in shorts get up and dance to the beat of the song.

"We like to dance more than sing," they say, as they continue having some fun until the song ends.

I am called up by Rachael, now back from her break, and sing one of my favorites: Alabama's "You've Got the Touch." As I sit down again, another singer tells me it is one of her favorites also.

George is in work pants, suspenders and glasses; he is middle aged and also looks like he stopped in after work. He sings "All my Lovin'," and receives claps of approval as he sits down to finish his drink.

Megan the bartender comes up to sing "Walking after Midnight," then she returns to her job laughing, with the patrons that applaud her song. John and Molly sing "Beautiful from the Outside" as a friend takes pictures.

The evening is relatively quiet, as karaoke nights go; many patrons and singers are off on summer trips and vacations, the DJ and bartender explain. Some singers become so good that they enter local and national karaoke contests, where winning can take you all the way to the "Karaoke World Competition Finals" for the USA held this fall in Las Vegas, Nevada.

I sing one more song, and tell Rachael I enjoyed my evening. As I start to leave, Brian is called up to sing and calls out to me, saying, "Don't be a stranger, Bev – come back again!"

I think I may just do that, as the atmosphere was welcoming, and I enjoyed my evening out with fellow singers.

*For more information, call the Hatfield Pub at (413) 247-9005.*

## July 18: Traditional and Experimental Music, Together at the Brick House

**TURNERS FALLS** – The Northern Routes New Music Series will present an evening of traditional and improvisational music on Tuesday, July 18, featuring House and Land, Gracious Calamity, and Donkey No No at the Brick House Community Resource Center.

North Carolina-based **House and Land** (*at right*) is the duo of Sally Anne Morgan (fiddle, shruti box, banjo, vocals) and Sarah Louise Henson (12-string guitar, bouzouki, vocals). The two began playing together after Sarah opened for The Black Twig Pickers, for whom Sally plays the fiddle; they quickly discovered a shared interest in both traditional and experimental music, two strands they braid together to form the songs on their self-titled debut (Thrill Jockey).

House and Land's songbag includes traditional southern hymns and ballads that crossed the Atlantic to Appalachia hundreds of years ago; almost all were learned *a capella* from field recordings and from other musicians, with the arrangements tailored to capture the essence of each song. It is rich, vibrant and transformative music, forward-looking and yet respectful of its heritage.

**Gracious Calamity** was formed in the Whitehaus, the Boston area's famed DIY crucible for the arts. Kate Lee and Kit Wallach join in harmony over acoustic guitar and ukelele to create a sound best described as offbeat folk mixed with Americana.

"Kate and Kit's voices are earthly and heavenly alike, delivering their deceptively plainspoken lyrics with a



mystical matter-of-factness, although an air of sorrow and doubt lingers." (*Aquarium Drunkard*)

**Donkey No No** is a trio with an improvisation-only approach to playing. While their sound can touch upon folk and classical modes, the form of each Donkey No No performance is left to chance, with the improvisations of Jenifer Gelineau (violin) and Omeed Goodarzi (guitar) lifted to other-worldly heights by the bowed cymbal of Ted Lee. The trio's second album, *Tandoori Chicken: The Never-Ending Story*, will be released by Feeding Tube Records in August.

Tickets for this event are \$10 and are available at the Brick House on the evening of the concert; doors open at 7:30 p.m., and music begins at 8. The Brick House is an all ages, substance free venue.

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## LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

*Here's the way it was July 12, 2007: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.*

### Regional School Committee Meeting Set

The Gill-Montague school committee has set a date for an unusual regional district meeting, where all registered voters of the towns of Gill and Montague will be invited to vote on the school district's FY'08 budget of \$16,426,000 at Turners Falls High School. If even a quarter of the 5,500 or more registered voters in the two towns show up that evening, where are they going to sit?

"I don't believe we need to plan for 4,000, but we need to plan for 1,500 to 2,000, even if we think we'll get 750," said superintendent Ken Rocke. The high school auditorium seats 425.

At the committee's suggestions, Rocke will meet with facilities manager Tom Thornton and see if seating can be arranged in the gymnasium to accommodate most of the voters who attend, with spillover planned for either the auditorium, the cafeteria, or both. A live video feed to the other rooms would have to be arranged so all participants in what he called "a two-town town meeting" can hear all the proceedings and ask questions through the moderator.

### Midsummer Bonfire a Community Tradition

They're usually scrambling to extinguish fires, but one day each year the Montague Volunteer Firefighters get to set one. Lieutenant Larry Peters, president of the Montague Firemen's Relief Association, said he couldn't be sure when the tradition got started, but the annual Third of July bonfire on the edge of the playing field on Station Street, across from the old fire station, has been drawing an appreciative crowd since he was a young boy.

Bill Aubry, who joined the fire department in the '50s, said the bonfires have been going on

longer than that. "We used to put quite a lot of work into them," he said. "We built them with used railroad ties. One of the guys had a connection with the B&M, and he'd find out where the ties were piled up, and we'd go all over Franklin County in a truck to get them. Boy, that was a job. It takes two men to lift them."

In those days the fire department would set up a pole with a pulley on top to house the heavy ties into place using Bobby Pierce's tractor, then fill in the middle of the pile with scrap wood. Later, a crane was borrowed from Mackin Construction.

Mark Fisk said the bonfire has been "downsized" in years since. "It used to be a true celebration," he remembered. "Fireworks weren't as big back then."

None of the hundred or more people who gathered last Tuesday seemed disappointed.

### Bascom Hollow Farm Preserved

Some call it the Magic Valley. With the bridge from Greenfield washed out in an October flood two years ago, the only way in is down a sloping dirt road through a dim green tunnel in the pinewoods. As you travel west, you feel centuries slip away, and when you come out to the terraced flats in the fertile bowl-like opening that runs along the Fall River for a mile and a quarter to see the old weathered barns and farmhouses resting in the slope of the land on their stone foundations, you feel you have traveled back in time to the first homestead in Gill. You have.

You've come to Bascom Hollow, and thanks to the concerted efforts of a group of residents who are dedicated land preservationist, assisted by Mt. Grace Land Conservation Trust and the town of Gill, and two families of conservationists from Weston who will soon make their homes and farm here, 170 acres of Bascom Hollow will remain pretty much the way they are now – unspoiled, undeveloped, and expansively beautiful – in perpetuity.

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CORRECTIONS:  
Our “Summer Reading List”

Montague Center toxicologist Emily Monosson, author of *Natural Defense: Enlisting Bugs and Germs to Protect our Food and Health* (Island Press, 2017), which was reviewed in our June 29 edition, wrote to let us know that methyl bromide has been phased out last year from strawberry production, so the industrially grown berries our reviewer mentioned seeing were not grown with the chemical.

Thanks to Emily for the clarification.

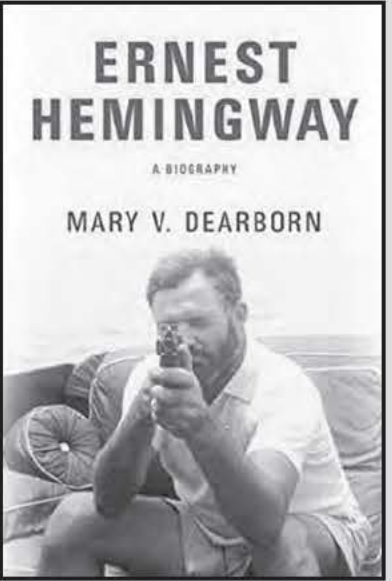
Furthermore, our capsule review of Mary Dearborn’s recent Hemingway biography was accidentally truncated, leaving the incorrect impression that it was meant to end in a rhetorical question.

We apologize to biographer, reviewer, and our readers! The review should have read, in full:

Mary V. Dearborn, who resides in Buckland, MA, is the first woman author and the first full biographer in fifteen years to write of the Pulitzer and Nobel Prize winner, the “greatest living American novelist and short-story writer of his time,” Ernest Hemingway.

So what’s different with Dearborn’s book, *Ernest Hemingway, A Biography*, published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2017? The author concludes that she had nothing to add to the male macho legend, but with many new sources of information, was able to reconsider other ideas about “what formed this remarkably complex man and brilliant writer.”

Staring down the barrel of Hemingway’s gun, the stunning hardcover with 50 photographs and 735 pages is a rich read. Dearborn is the author of six other biographies.



MISS STEMPLE RECALLS THE PAST  
Part XVII (October 1, 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.



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.

Now making good sauerkraut was something of a fine art and while no German family would think of attempting to face a winter without several big barrels of the heartening food stored in the cellar, not every householder had the skill, the nice judgment nor the big shredders needed to cope with the transformation of several hundred pounds of heads of cabbage into lowly shreds packed into barrels.

So there were always one or two especially thrifty or enterprising men who had equipped themselves with shredders and had brought the correct technique and one of these was engaged to come around to the home in the evening after the day’s labors at the Cutlery works were ended, and cut up the cabbage and salt and weight it down properly.

Dates for the job had to be made in advance to get the services of the sauerkraut maestro. When he arrived at the home, he and the family would retire to the spacious cellar, where all the preliminary preparations had been made for his coming, and a merry party would be made of the proceedings.

Everyone would have a drink of beer, sometimes more than one, but never less; there would be much lively conversation and laughter and a good time would be had by all.

When the process of shredding and putting down the cabbage had been completed, the householder or his frau would hand the head artist in the case a quarter or a half

dollar for his work and he would cheerfully depart to complete his performance every night until all the families had been fortified against kraut famine.

Then he probably got around to cutting his own cabbage.

In course of time after non-Germans adventured to try eating a sauerkraut dinner at the behest of some benevolent German acquaintance they usually were astonished to find it good eating and almost with one consent started to fish for invitations to subsequent sauerkraut feasts.

And thus it came to pass that “the Yankees” especially became exceedingly fond of the succulent fare with its rank smell and enticing and characteristic flavor and would fain fill themselves with it frequently.

Many a sturdy Irishman also learned to doubt the standing of his beloved corn beef and cabbage and succumbed to the lure of the German dainty. None of them would acknowledge having acquired a liking for this plebian and formerly despised dish or demean themselves by putting down their own sauerkraut!

However, some wise somebody had an inspiration and the German churches and women’s societies got in the habit of giving public

sauerkraut dinners or suppers to raise money for their various good works. Then it was a revelation to see how the worthy citizens of Turners Falls of every stripe except the Germans themselves, would flock to these affairs and unabashedly would literally stuff themselves with sauerkraut, spare ribs, mashed potatoes and a made dish, something like noodles but with a name nobody but a German could pronounce.

The coffers of the society serving a sauerkraut dinner swelled as much as did their eager patrons, so everyone was happy. It was no secret that some diners fasted all day when they had tickets for such a feast, in order to be able to stow away a super-cargo.

Of course all German families did not raise enough cabbage themselves to supply their sauerkraut needs, so they ordered cabbages by the hundred weight from the surrounding farmers. It was a pleasant, homely sight to see the numerous farm wagons drawn up on Second and Third streets in the fall unloading their mountainous cargoes of compact vitamins.

The farmers always planted plenty of the vegetable to supply the large and steady demand and so added appreciably to their income.

No, I don’t like sauerkraut. I can write about it but I can’t eat it!



The outside of New Story Studios at 27 Bridge Street, next to the Millers Pub. Nine artists will be exhibiting there on Sunday, July 23.

**ART FEST** from page B1  
*ericgrab.com.*

On the right side of the building, Charlie Shaw maintains space where he sells his “Old School” t-shirts and paints in his inimitable bold and highly textured style. He will be open for business at the event.

At 27 Bridge Street, next to the Millers Pub, Adrian Montagano and Mez Ziemba, both of Wendell, are debuting their open studio space as New Story Studios. They have invited seven other artists to exhibit with them in the coming Art Fest, which Rodney Madison has called “a gathering of artists.”

Mez creates multimedia constructions that resemble little shrines (and reveal the artist’s penchant for miniature footwear), and Montagano’s paintings, drawings, and unique clocks will have a strong presence as well. There will be photography, watercolors, assemblage, metal sculpture, beaded and dichroic glass jewelry and more by local artists Lauren Shea, Morgan Mead, Kenny Rogers, Nina Rossi, Jon Bander, Gail Krutka, and Ina Peebles, in addition to Adrian and Mez’s offerings. Enjoy the scene there until 5 p.m.

The studio will be open on Fri-

days and Saturdays from 12 to 5 p.m. going forward, or by appointment. Text Mez at (413) 522-0283 or Adrian (413) 325-3172 for more information, or to make an appointment to come in to New Story Studios at your convenience.

John Landino will bring an eclectic group of artists to the Millers Falls Laundry Co. Landino, a sculptor, will show his work along with that of Andre Lecoste, Jack Nelson, Erica Knerr, Armodo Balboni, and Ben Westbrook. *Montague Reporter* features editor Nina Rossi will be creating portraits of laundromat customers on round pizza cardboards during the week of July 17 to 20, to be displayed during the event there.

An improv jam session may also occur as the clothes go ‘round. In fact, pop-up music and performance may erupt at any time in these locations, it is hard to say for sure, since the event is still evolving as this is written.

Richard Widmer of the Millers Falls Arts Bridge has sent out a call to artists for his indoor/outdoor location at the old St. John’s church. “We invite all media, all format,” his call reads. “We have already found several artists who will be showing their work for the first time. Do you ‘dare

to share?” Our group is growing. I think we have already connected with our ten artists and musicians, and we are still recruiting.”

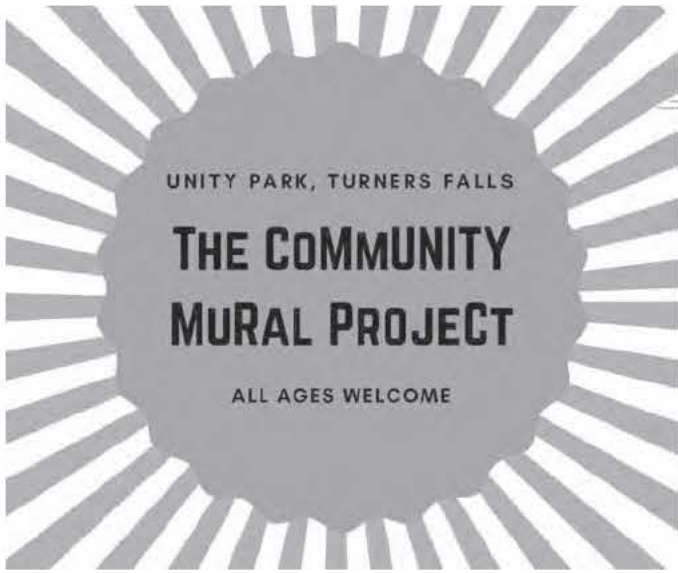
Widmer will also be unveiling a newly completed mural of local hero Doug Smith, who pitched for the Boston Red Sox in the 1912 championship season. Smith was apparently dismissed as a pitcher for being bi-racial, something that was taboo in major leagues at the time. Created as a community arts project with artist Marco Rodrigues Correia, it is painted on the footing of the Central Railroad bridge in downtown Millers.

Widmer describes the event on the 23<sup>rd</sup> as an “open, experimental, artist-curated exhibition/ event/ happening.”

Want to participate? Check out the Millers Falls Arts Bridge page on Facebook, where you will see the Calling All Artists event and follow the links to register. Or, contact Widmer at (413) 423-3234.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## ONGOING EVENTS

### EVERY SUNDAY

McCusker's Co-op Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians, all levels, traditional Irish music. 10:30 a.m.  
Underdog Lounge, Shelburne Falls: *Jazz Night*. 6 p.m.

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

### FIRST SUNDAY MONTHLY

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

### EVERY MONDAY

Greenfield Harmony Spring Session. No auditions. 6:45 p.m. Contact [mcbass@vermontel.net](mailto:mcbass@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" x 30". Send three jpgs to [nalerossi@gmail.com](mailto:nalerossi@gmail.com). Info (413) 834-8800. Deadline 9/1.

## EXHIBITS:

Deerfield Valley Art Association and Museum of New England Art, Craft, and Design, Northfield: *Gems from Private Collections*, 19th c. through to present. Exhibit through August 8.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Bees and Butterflies* Montague Parks & Rec Summer Camps present work on bees and butterflies. Through July 30.

Leverett Crafts & Arts: *Crafted Cloth*. Woven, felted and surface designed textiles by Leonore Alaniz. through July 30.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Paintings by Anan Zurba*. Through August.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Imperfect People*. Theo Fade presents small carvings and prints celebrating heroic acts of vulnerability and the ownership of imperfection. Through August 8.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Trina Sternstein: Imagined Landscapes*, Oil Paintings; and *Tom Wyatt: Reflection and Illusion*, Photographs on metal. June 30 through August 27, Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls *Along the River*, Member artists explore local landscapes. Through July 31.

## EVENTS:

### THURSDAY, JULY 13

Great Hall, Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Come See the Raptors!* Southern Vermont Natural History Museum brings live hawks, owls and falcons to the center for a face-to-face. 1-2 p.m.

### FRIDAY, JULY 14

GCC grounds, Greenfield: *Green River Festival* begins, running through Sunday. \$

### SATURDAY, JULY 15

Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center, Greenfield *Ladies in Jazz concert series celebrates the Big Band Era with a dance concert*. Period dress encouraged. 7 p.m. \$

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Mad Mad World of Adam Bergeron*. Classical piano to rock. 7:30 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Shadow Twisters*. 8 p.m. \$

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *The Pistoleros*. 9 p.m. \$



*Christopher Hall is a clarinetist and a comedian. On Friday, July 21, he will perform as both; he also will be performing a Brahms Clarinet quintet with Masako Yanagita, Joel Pitchon, violins, Ron Gorevic, viola, Volcy Pelletier, cello. 7:30 p.m. at the Mohawk Trail Concerts, Charlemont.*

### SUNDAY, JULY 16

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Erin Dubois w/ Andrew D'Antonio*. Classical Flute and Piano. 4 p.m. \$

### MONDAY, JULY 17

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Eggtooth Productions Presents: Match Game 413 ROUND 4*. 7 p.m. \$

Hawks and Reed, Greenfield: Reading of Sinclair Lewis' *"It Can't Happen Here"*, eerie foreshadowing of the coming of Trump. 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, JULY 18

The Brick House, Turners Falls: *House and Land, Gracious Calamity*, and *Donkey No No*. 7:30 p.m., all ages, \$

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

West Whately Chapel, W. Whately: Watermelon Wednesdays presents: *Cellist Matt Haimovitz with violinist Lina Bahn*. 7:30 p.m. \$

### THURSDAY, JULY 20

Energy Park, Greenfield: Coop Concerts Presents: Jim Eagan, Jennie McAvoy, and Pat & Tex LaMountain 6 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Shad Radio Hour presents Shad at the Shea*. 7:30 p.m. \$

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

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Jon McAuliffe*. Eclectic folk, rock, blues, Jazz. 7:30 p.m. \$

### FRIDAY, JULY 21

Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls: *Wayne's World*. Music at 7 p.m. by *Small Change*, movie at 7:30 p.m.

Mohawk Trail Concerts, Charlemont: *Christopher Hall, clarinetist/comedian (!), and quintet*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Warblers and guest*. 9:30 p.m.

The Brick House, Turners Falls: *Spontaneous Combustion #3* featuring *Andrea Pensado / Andy Kivela duo*, *TVE*, and improvised ensembles from the audience! Bring an instrument. All ages, substance free. 8 p.m. \$

### SATURDAY, JULY 22

Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls: *Wayne's World*. Music at 7 p.m. by *Beach Honey*, movie at 7:30 p.m. \$

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Green Sisters*. Folk, Celtic, Old-time, Bluegrass. 7:30. \$

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: Movie night, *Last Days of Mars*, part of the Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movies series. 7:30 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Marc Bolfell and Eleanor Electric*. Guitar and folk. 8 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Daniel Hales and the Frost Heaves*. 2 sets. 9 pm.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Lake Side Drive*. 9 p.m. \$

### SUNDAY, JULY 23

Northfield Mountain Recreation, Northfield: *Professor Emeritus of GCC Richard Little* shares his geologic knowledge on a trip down the Connecticut River. 3 to 4:30 p.m. *Pre-register*, 800-859-2960. \$

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Paintbox Theater presents: How I Became a Pirate*. 10:30 a.m. \$

West Whately Chapel, W. Whately: Watermelon Wednesday presents: *Seamus Egan Project*. Evening program sold out. 4 p.m. program is open. \$

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# ART REVIEW: Picasso at the Clark

By ALICE THOMAS

**WILLIAMSTOWN** – The Sterling and Francine Clark Museum of Art is currently exhibiting thirty-five prints and three paintings by Pablo Picasso (1881-1973) titled *Picasso | Encounters*. Born in Spain and having co-founded the cubist movement, Picasso is best known for his painting, *Guernica*. However, I found this particular collection of his work to enlighten my thoughts in other directions, namely: materials and processes used; his keen reflection of women who were subjects in his life; and how they figured in his decisions of color, shape and design execution.

While viewing, I was stunned on two levels. First of all, I was quite taken by the great variety of processes he used. Among them were drypoint, sugar-lift aquatint, lithography, zinc plate on paper, simple and complex printmaking, and linocuts. Further, there was a collection of five – identical – linocuts of the same scene, each featuring different color combinations that insured repeated inspections by myself as well as my companions.

The other reason I was taken was by his use of color, when color was included in his work. The most-often seen blue that complimented all the other shades of blue was that of a stunning turquoise, like that found on the lower portion of a '54 Ford (skirts to match),



The Weeping Woman, I (1937). Drypoint, aquatint, etching, and scraper on paper, sheet. Image courtesy of the Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

and the hottest shade of red, like women's lipstick of the same era. All colors were typically outlined in black which made them "pop" off the canvas or paper!

I highly recommend particular attention to the works: *The Frugal Repast* (1904), his striking work titled *Woman With a Flowered Blouse* (1958), and *Weeping Woman* (1937). This piece was pointed out by the curator's description as a drypoint, aquatint, and fowl-biting process. Interestingly, Picasso literally drew two fowl in the location of the eyes,

which may have been what the woman was believed to have seen or felt – but it's always difficult to know without hearing Picasso's own voice on the topic. It was a "scratchy" study, to say the least!

However, it was *Woman At the Window* (1952) that kept me standing before it for quite some time, processing all that was hidden within the lines and colors of that work. I was particularly taken by a squared face with a mask-like "accoutrement" that shielded her right side.

It was as though the message I was to see was that she must have armored her emotional self from what had been and/or what might be slung against her at some future time. It seemed a powerful visual, given that there were several women in Picasso's life, women who reached various stages of emotional angst because of their relationship with him.

One young viewer was heard tackling a crowded piece, stating he thought he saw a "horse's rump." Others stood for lengthy periods of time, simply murmuring with one another, or passed without noticing that the portraits had more than one nose or chin, or had multiple nostrils that looked like nails, all balled up into bullets. (Perhaps the subject was "fuming".)

At any rate, every other viewer seemed in contemplation; heads tilted one way and then the other, and a quiet murmur was heard at times for at least a passing mo-

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