



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 15 – NO. 40

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

AUGUST 10, 2017

ROLLING BACK THE YEARS



JOSEPH R. PARZYCH PHOTO

Dan Warren of the production company Makeshift, LLC applies 1980s period-appropriate decals to the storefront of Ed's Barber Shop. Downtown Turners Falls is among the area locations transformed this month during the filming of "The Man Who Killed Hitler and Then The Bigfoot," an Epic Pictures film written and directed by Montague native Robert Krzykowski.

ERVING SELECTBOARD

Paper Magnate Accepts Sludge Offer

By KATIE NOLAN

At the July 26 Erving selectboard meeting, Erving Paper mill representatives and board members discussed the terms for contracts regulating the operation of POTW#2 and payments for outside septage at the wastewater treatment plant.

The plant, known as POTW#2, primarily treats wastes from Erving Paper Mill, but also treats wastes from some Erving residences. In addition, the plant treats wastes from third parties (outside septage) for a fee. The plant is owned by the town, but operated by ER-SECO, an Erving Industries subsidiary, under

an agreement with a renewable term of ten years. Under a three-year contract, Erving Industries pays a share of its revenues from the outside septage treatment to the town.

Erving Paper Mill chief executive officer Morris Housen, flanked by five technical or executive employees, asked the town to drop its request for a \$50,000 minimum payment for the outside septage fees.

In June, Erving Industries proposed that the 10-year operating agreement and three-year septage agreements be renewed, with the \$50,000 minimum annual payment removed. According to the company's presentation, the

see ERVING page A3

The Wendell Farmers Market Is In Full Summer Swing

By JOHANNA BARTLETT

A Saturday morning visit to the Common in Wendell found the Wendell Farmers' Market in full swing, with a variety of choices from fresh produce and flowers to local maple syrup. The market is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday, when the weather allows.

Under a nearby canopy, Caro Roszell of New Wendell Farm was helping her farm share customers collect their weekly produce, while other customers looked over the year's first baby zucchinis and daikons. This is the



Sarah Kohler, with Danny Botkin of Laughing Dog Farm.

second year for Caro's farm, a regenerative, low-till bio-intensive microfarm which specializes in salad vegeta-

bles and other lighter crops.

A little farther along, Danny Botkin of Laughing Dog Farm in Gill was helped by Sarah Kohler. Fanned out in front of the produce table was an impressive array of gladioli and other fresh-cut flowers, along with hanging plants and big bunches of purple and green basil. Danny is very enthusiastic about the Wendell Farmers' Market, and maintains a Facebook page about it.

Nearby, Laurel Facey had arranged her display of jugs of maple syrup from her Sugarbush Farm in Wendell.

see MARKET page A6



BARTLETT PHOTOS

Caro Roszell runs a table for her New Wendell Farm.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"Indians" Fan Unveils New Strategy To Restore High School Team Name

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – The regional school committee voted in February to discontinue the use of the "Indians" as the nickname and logo for sports teams at Turners Falls High School, and on May 23, they approved criteria stating that its replacement "should not reflect, represent or be associated with a particular group based upon race, ethnicity, or culture."

But a core of activists continue to call for the old name to be restored, bolstered by a referendum this spring in Montague showing strong popular support for an alternate sce-

nario in which the name would have been kept and the logo altered "to be more consistent with indigenous cultures in our region."

Chris Pinardi, president of TFHS Class of 1985 and administrator of the "Save the TF Indians logo" Facebook page, has been particularly vocal, regularly attending school committee meetings and using the time allotted for public comment at the beginning of their meetings to criticize their decision and advocate for its reversal.

On Tuesday, reading from a prepared statement, Pinardi announced that he had "very see STRATEGY page A2

Young Muralists Wrap A River Of Color Around Unity Park Fieldhouse

By JULIA HANDSCHUH

TURNERS FALLS – On Tuesday, the Brick House Community Resource Center hosted a community painting day to kickstart a new mural on the northeast wall of the Parks and Recreation fieldhouse at Unity Park.

The mural is designed by Nina Yagual, who works as youth support staff at the Brick House. She created the design in conversation with youth at the teen drop-in center, continuing the river theme of the other murals on the

building, and incorporating some fantastic flora and fauna.

"I was obsessed with it. I love colors and art, and every idea [Nina] had was great," said Alex Soucie, who suggested including a mermaid in the river. "At first it was a scuba diver, and I was like, 'Oh, wait! That should be a mermaid.'"

Journie Smalls, who I recognized from a dance performance at the Shea Theater this past spring, glided up to the mural on a standing

see MURAL page A6



HANDSCHUH PHOTO

The project attracted a good number of volunteers Tuesday, who painted in outlined sections of the mural.

Brewery Conjures Spirits To Appear

By ANNE HARDING

MILLERS FALLS – It's been almost two years since Element Brewery started the move around the corner to its current location at 16 Bridge Street in Millers Falls. That move opened up the space that now houses three art studios.

Driving through Millers Falls on my way to and from work I've been watching the changes in the downtown region with interest – from the new art galleries to the refurbishment of abandoned, dilapidated buildings; from the events hosted by the Millers Art Bridge to the spectacular new mural on the train trestle. It's been great to see the village coming to life.

I noticed that Element Brewery added the moniker "Distillery" to their signage about a month ago, and I'd been meaning to stop by and investigate. When a coworker asked me about the change, I joked that maybe the high alcohol content of some of the brews qualified them as "liquor," but the conversation piqued my curiosity and I stopped by that night to ask a few questions.

I spoke to Dan Kramer, who along with cofounder Ben Anhalt has been brewing Element's signature beer in Millers Falls since 2009.

Element's move to the much roomier space was the impetus to apply for a federal distiller's license – something they'd been thinking about for years. It took almost two years to wrap up the red tape, and then it was time to tackle the state regulations. Representative Steve Kulik was helpful in speeding up that step, which is why he was on hand for the June 16 grand opening celebration and has a special drink named in his honor.

There are three different types of alcoholic beverages: beer, wine, and spirits. Each requires a different license to manufacture. Element is licensed to brew beer and distill spirits,

see SPIRITS page A8



Whiskey, moonshine, rum, hopped gin, vodka, agave, and eau de vie are poured and sold to go at Element.

The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

Editorial Group

Mike Jackson, *Managing Editor*
Nina Rossi, *Features Editor*
Jeri Moran, *Arts & Entertainment*
Chris Sawyer-Lauchanno, *Poetry Page*
Victoria Maillo, *Spanish Page*
Beverly Ketch, *Children's Page*
Lisa McLoughlin, *Science Page*
Emily Alling, *Web Coordinatrix*

Production Group

Suzette Snow-Cobb, *Ad Manager*
Don Clegg, *Distribution Manager*
Christopher Carmody, *Layout*
Hugh Corr, *Editorial Assistant*
Gloria Kegeles, *Editorial Assistant*

Technical Administration

About Face Computing

Founded by
Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold
August 2002

CORRECTION: Marianne Sundell contacted us after last issue's Wendell selectboard notes (July 27, "Democracy Works Slowly, As Do Tree Crews; DCR Awards Town Dam," page A7).

"My term as President of Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse expires in October 2018, rather than this year," she wrote. "Also, the process regarding the ownership of the Wendell Meetinghouse began and my initial related suggestions were made not last year, but in December of 2014."

We apologize to our readers for the error, and are grateful to Marianne for helping set the record straight!

STRATEGY from page A1

exciting news... that will help to heal this community."

Pointing out that he had been "working tirelessly," he made an ambitious pitch that the Gill-Montague district establish a political, pedagogical, and legal relationship with a Native American band in northern Vermont in order to restore the team name in good conscience.

The Oregon Exemption

Pinardi shared recent correspondence from the superintendent of Rogue River High School, in rural southern Oregon, whose mascot is the Chieftain and whose athletic teams are known as the "Chiefs" and "Lady Chiefs".

The Oregon Department of Education ruled in 2012 that school districts in that state must retire Native American mascots, but in 2014, the state legislature created an exemption for districts that secure permission from one of Oregon's nine federally recognized Native tribes.

Of the state's 197 public school districts, 16 were using Native-themed mascots. The deadline for their sponsorship or replacement was July 1, 2017, and districts scrambled to develop relationships and negotiate deals with tribes.

Three districts changed their mascots outright. Of the other 13, eight were the "Warriors," and the statute indicated that districts could still be "Warriors" as long as they abandon the ethnic imagery. Five of the "Warriors" districts chose this route.

The remaining eight districts were able to negotiate agreements with tribes and receive approval from the board of education. However, they did not each partner with a different tribe.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (CTSI) reached deals with all three remaining three "Warriors" districts, and with the "Rogue River Chieftains." The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, meanwhile, partnered with the "Banks Braves," "Scappoose Indians," and "Molalla Indians." The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians said it would work with the "Roseburg Indians."

The other six of Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes did not enter any such agreements.

During the public comment period of their meeting Tuesday

night, Pinardi handed Gill-Montague school committee members photocopies of the memorandum of agreement between the CTSI and the Rogue River school district, which in his words "has already been where we are and found the light at the end of the tunnel."

Written to comply with the criteria required to meet Oregon's exemption, which will require state review and approval every five years, the CTSI assert that the Rogue River High School sports teams' "Chieftain and spear mascot represents, is associated with, or is significant to the Tribe." In exchange, Rogue River agreed to teach a fourth- and eighth-grade history curriculum developed by the CTSI, "without revision."

Pinardi described this agreement as a "framework" on which to model a formal relationship between the Gill-Montague school district and the St. Francis/Sokoki Band of the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi, headquartered in the northern Vermont town of Swanton.

That agreement, he further suggested, could be drawn up by a Texas lawyer named William Brotherton, who has already offered to do the work *pro bono*.

The Texas Connection

Brotherton is a member of the Missisquoi Abenaki tribal council, but he lives and practices law most of the year in the suburbs of Dallas, Texas. According to Brotherton's public biography and online writings, he was born in South Carolina and went to college at the University of North Dakota.

As an alumnus, he became active in the effort to retain his alma mater's Fighting Sioux mascot. That controversy eventually went to a statewide referendum in 2012, and when 67% of voters chose to discontinue the mascot, the state board of education retired it.

School teams had no name for three years. In 2015, when the college president approved five final choices for a new name and set up a voting process among stakeholders, Brotherton was the lead plaintiff in a lawsuit attempting to block the vote, arguing that only the North Dakota legislature had the authority to hold it. The suit was unsuccessful.

Though Brotherton himself is not from the Northeast, his mother was born in Swanton, and he applied



Paul Cohen of Shelburne Falls prepares his boat for a day on the Connecticut River at the public slips in Barton Cove.

for enrollment in the Missisquoi Abenaki on the basis of genealogical connection through his maternal grandmother, and was later elected to the tribal council. He has stated aspirations to help open Vermont's first casino, though the tribe is not yet federally recognized.

Mr. Brotherton expresses his political and social views under the Twitter handle "@CSTrainmaster."

Last month, he was in this area, representing his tribe in the Vermont Public Service Board process over the proposed sale of Vermont Yankee. He had been in touch with Chris Pinardi over the course of the controversy over the Turners Falls High School "Indians," and so he visited Turners Falls, holding an open meeting at Hubie's Tavern that was, according to the *Greenfield Recorder*, attended by "about 10 people."

At Tuesday's meeting, Pinardi presented school committee chair Timmie Smith with a letter from Missisquoi Abenaki Chief Lawrence Lampman.

"[W]hen Mr. Brotherton told me about what was happening in Turners Falls," Chief Lampman wrote, "we had a special Tribal Council meeting in order to address this issue and advise you of our willingness to help continue the respectful use of the name *Indians* for the high school."

"[O]ur tribe has no objection to the continued use of the name *Indians* by the Turners Falls High School," he said, adding that "Mr. Pinardi has also asked for our tribe's assistance in developing new curriculum for the instruction of students about the Abenaki..."

Process, and Pitfalls

Immediately following Pinardi in public comment was Laurel Davis-Delano, a sociology professor at Springfield College who has studied and published on issues concerning sports, identity, and social movements, including controversies over Native American mascots, over the course of decades.

Davis-Delano argued that the mascot or logo images "homogenize Native Americans, making them all seem the same," and said her review of all available research indicated that exposure to them leads to "implicit stereotyping," resulting in "negative thought, even when the people themselves say they approve

of the nicknames."

"For youth, they diminish Native American self-esteem, even for youth who like the logos," she said, and they diminish "capacity to imagine future possible selves."

"There's a lot of resistance in all the communities that try to eliminate these nicknames and logos," she continued, "because people are passionately attached to these... It seems like the particular notions about Native Americans are kind of attached to US nationalism. And research shows that, when exposed to Native logos, *white* self-esteem actually goes *up* – a reversal of the other finding."

No committee member discussed either public commenter's ideas directly. Later in the meeting, Mike Langknecht of Montague said he would read Pinardi's packet of materials, and Erving representative Marisa Dalmaso-Rode criticized the committee for cutting short their original process in February.

That decision, she said, "did not allow for information such as Mr. Pinardi presented tonight to be revealed. Had the process been followed, and the timeline that was delineated back in September been adhered to, all of this could have been considered by this committee prior to making a decision."

In February, Turners Falls High School principal Annie Leonard announced that her curriculum team would be developing two middle school social studies units, and two high school history units, focusing on local and regional indigenous history.

But if Gill-Montague educators choose to reach out to the St. Francis-Sokoki Band for assistance in developing curriculum, as Chief Lampman says Mr. Pinardi has done, they might also reach out to other groups.

There are three other Abenaki tribes recognized by the state of Vermont in 2011 and 2012 – none yet have federal recognition – and though none are as large as the Swanton group, one, the Elnu Abenaki, is located in southern Vermont, has been active locally, collaborating with the Nolumbeka Project and other educational efforts, and offers school programs.

"It's dismaying and concerning," says Brattleboro's Rich Holschuh, who represents the Elnu on the Vermont Commission for Native

American Affairs, with the support of the Nulhegan Abenaki and Koasek Abenaki, when he heard of Chief Lampman's offer.

"They have statements from the Nipmuc Nation and Abenaki saying they are not in favor of the mascot. Now they're bringing in another Abenaki band. This is what you would call, in the parlance, a ringer – someone who says what you want to say."

"This is under the aegis of William Brotherton.... He's really an outsider, but he's got the ear of that tribe," Holschuh continued. "I don't really know what's going on there. I'm more concerned about what this will do with intertribal relationships within the Abenaki community. We don't need this kind of dissension."

Holschuh said he had spoken with Brotherton for an hour after the Vermont Yankee site tour. "His opinion is out there, and it's really well known," he said. "I knew he was going to Hubie's – I gave him directions on how to get there. I knew he was not going to change his mind."

"William Brotherton," Holschuh said, "can only support this idea because he does not know the story of what happened here. And if he wants to talk about it some more, I would welcome that."

Holschuh said he had twice tried to contact the Greater Lowell Indian Cultural Association, a non-tribal education group who had also made a public statement of support for the Turners Falls "Indians" name last winter, but that he had never heard back from them.

And he expressed worry that speaking out about Brotherton's intervention in Turners Falls could strain relations among Abenaki groups. "We're trying to build unity," he said, adding that he was "100% in favor of the Turners Falls High School instituting a Native education segment."

Some other tribal entities that claim ancestral heritage in the area now known as Turners Falls are the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, the Narragansett Indian Tribe, and the Chaubunagungamaug and Hassanamisco Nipmuc bands.

All are participants in the Battlefield Grant project, a collaborative town-tribal study of the 1676 massacre at the Falls.

Published weekly on Thursdays.
Every other week in July and August.
No paper last week of November, or the Thursday closest to 12/25.

PHONE: (413) 863-8666
Please note new email addresses:
editor@montaguereporter.org
features@montaguereporter.org
ads@montaguereporter.org
bills@montaguereporter.org
circulation@montaguereporter.org
events@montaguereporter.org
poetry@montaguereporter.org
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org

Send address changes to:
The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is
MONDAY at NOON.

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

Annual Subscription Rate:
\$25 for walking subscriptions;
\$40 for driving route subscriptions;
\$60 for mailed subscriptions.
Call us or contact
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org
with any questions.

**WE WELCOME
YOUR LETTERS!**

Montague Reporter

177 Ave. A, TF, MA 01376

editor@montaguereporter.org

Sign Me Up!

\$20 { 10 months (37 issues) for our walking routes
6 months (23 issues) for our driving routes
4 months (15 issues) for mailed subscriptions

The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Get your dancing shoes on! Friday, August 11, at 7 p.m., **Zydeco Connection** will perform in the Great Hall at the Great Falls Discovery Center.

Zydeco Connection has been bringing the irresistible sounds and driving rhythms of Louisiana zydeco to the Northeast since 2004. They are a high-energy dance band, playing a spicy gumbo of zydeco, blues, two-steps, waltzes, boogie-woogie and a little swing to spice it up.

The coffeehouse takes place in the historic Great Hall of the Discovery Center at 2 Avenue A in downtown Turners Falls. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Coffee and homemade baked goods are available.

Suggested sliding scale donation \$6 to \$12, free for children. Donations help the Friends of the Discovery Center provide free nature programming for the public. For more information, call (413) 863-3221 or see greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org.

Greenfield Community College visits Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls on Saturday, August 12, from 9 a.m. to noon. Prospective students and their families are invited to learn GCC's admission process, explore the variety of degree and certificate programs GCC has to offer, and realize the many transfer opportunities available, and how you can earn a bachelor's degree on the Greenfield campus.

Informational packets and brochures will be available. For further details, contact (413) 775-1801 or admissions@gcc.mass.edu.

Join in the fun this Saturday, August 12, from 1 to 3:30 pm. for

the **4th Annual Greenfield Gardens Youth Leadership Benefit Talent Show** at the Shea Theater Arts Center, 71 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

Proceeds from this year's show will go to the Greenfield Gardens Youth Program and the Opioid Task Force. Tickets are \$6 in advance, and \$8 at the door. To purchase, email Tess Jurgensen at tess@opioidtaskforce.org. Have fun and see some great acts!

Join wildlife rehabilitator Tom Ricardi for his ever-popular presentation on birds of prey. This program is designed for all ages. Ricardi will share the natural history of these magnificent birds and demonstrate some of their unique behaviors.

Held Sunday, August 13, from 4 to 5 p.m. at Prescott Church Building on the grounds of the Swift River Valley Historical Society, 40 Elm Street, New Salem.

The Stone Soup Café will serve a **Free Harvest Supper of Local Food** on Sunday, August 13, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on the Greenfield Town Common. Come for a free bountiful meal of locally grown food donated by local farmers and prepared by local chefs, as well as live music, children's activities, educational displays and a market of locally grown food.

All you need to bring is your own reusable place setting, and a cup for beverages and ice cream. Want to help? Volunteers, food donations, and organizational displays are needed. For more information visit www.freeharvestsupper.org or email info@freeharvestsupper.org.

A dozen species of hawks and falcons inhabit our woodlands, but

are so secretive that they are seldom seen. However, every fall, these birds rise above the treetops and migrate southward for the winter. During this period raptors can be observed, sometimes in spectacular numbers, from hawk watch sites scattered around New England.

On Tuesday, August 15, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., join the Northfield Bird Club and Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center for a **free program on raptor identification**. This video-based program by David Brown will acquaint you with field marks and other ways to identify raptors as they pass overhead.

This program is suitable for adults and teens. Brown is an interpretive naturalist and wildlife videographer who has devoted many hours to studying and taping raptors on their territories and on migration. Check out his website at www.dbwildlife.com.

Spend "**A Day With Superman and Superwoman Vision**" at the Leverett Library on Thursday, August 17, starting at 4 p.m. Passport to Adventure scientists from Mount Holyoke College will lead child/caregiver teams through an exploration of color vision and "super vision," to uncover hidden messages and more.

Space is limited to 12 teams, so register early. Call (413) 548-9220 for more information or to register.

Thursday, August 17, at 7 p.m. is the finale of Leverett Library's **summer outdoor music series**. It will close with local jazz musicians Beth Logan Raffeld (vocals), Molly Flannery (piano), George Kaye (bass), and Claire Arenius (drums). Bring your lawn chair and join us outside – or inside, if it rains – for fantastic, free, local music. Call 548-9220 for additional information.

Montague Old Home Days starts on Friday evening, August 18, at 5:30 p.m. and continues through mid-day Sunday, August 20. See the ad on page A7 for the full schedule!

Are you uncertain whether you'd know poison ivy if you see it? Come along on a "**looking for poison ivy walk**" on Saturday, August 19, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Join a DCR park interpreter for a walk along the Canalside Rail Trail and Great Falls Discovery Center grounds for tips on how to recognize poison ivy and to learn about the ecology of the plant. Reduce your chances of an itchy summer and fall.

Bring water for the walk and meet at the main entrance of the Discovery Center.

The Friends of the Wendell Free Library will hold their annual tag sale, the **Silver Tarp Sale**, on Saturday, August 19 at the **Wendell Old Home Day** between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on the Wendell Common, on the corner of Wendell Depot Road and Lockes Village Road.

Among the items for sale are antiques and vintage items, dishes and china, small appliances, jewelry, furniture, linens, lamps, art work, sports and gardening equipment, and much, much more.

Absolutely no early birds will be allowed to enter the sale before 10 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Wendell Free Library. Anyone with questions can call Johanna at (978) 544-3936.

Deb Fritz will be the guest caller at the **Bingo event** at Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls on Saturday, August 19, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The bank will provide cards, gag prizes, and light refreshments. All you need to bring is yourself.

Seating will be on a first call, first reserve basis, so place your call to Hilary or Kerri at (413) 863-4316. Due to limited space, no one will be admitted without a reservation.

We previously reported that the **Great Falls Discovery Center** broke their monthly attendance record in June with 2954 visitors to the center. That record did not stand for long: July saw 3170 visitors to the center!

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

ERVING from page A1

town counter-proposed that the plant process sludge from POTW#1, the town's plant near Millers Falls, for free, and that the sludge-processing clause be placed in the ten-year agreement and revert to a 2007 revenue-sharing formula that would increase payments to the town.

At the July 26 meeting, Housen proposed accepting the POTW#1 sludge, but removing the \$50,000 annual minimum payment. He also proposed calculating payments to the town using a formula similar to the 2007 version, but less costly to the paper mill.

Selectboard chair Jacob Smith said, "I think we can find common ground." He said he appreciated that the company was willing to take the POTW#1 sludge, and suggested a one-year trial period.

Housen asked that the agreement to treat POTW#1 sludge be part of the three-year outside septage contract, and not a "by-right" clause in the ten-year operating contract. Smith said he "would like the assurance of a ten-year term." However, Smith said that initially, a one-year agreement with the option to extend it to ten years would be acceptable. At the end of the year's

trial, the selectboard would "bring it to the townspeople for a vote."

The town and the company agreed to put together these options in writing and send it to their respective legal counsel, working toward an agreement that would be in effect until June 30, 2018. The current ten-year agreement, which expired on June 30, 2017 and had been extended during negotiations, was extended again for another thirty days.

Approximately fifteen people, some of whom identified themselves as paper mill employees or retirees, filled the audience section of the room and stayed until the lengthy discussions were ended. Former Erving Paper Mill executive Charles Housen, Morris Housen's father, also attended.

Former IP Mill

Administrative coordinator Bryan Smith told the board hazardous materials cleanup at the former International Paper Mill site on Papermill Road would likely cost \$200,000. He said the town had not been successful in obtaining an EPA cleanup grant, but was looking into "all other available sources" for funding.

He received authorization to apply for a cleanup loan through

MassDevelopment, the state economic development and finance agency. The 0% interest loan would be repayable based on the increased value of the property, or tax revenues generated after cleanup and development is completed.

Environmental consultant Tighe & Bond provided the town with two concepts for redevelopment of the property: demolition of all structures, or retaining one historic building and the pump house while demolishing the rest. Bryan Smith said that the town needed to choose one of the concepts for the loan application.

Jacob Smith said the board needed "feedback from the town," adding that, although he understands the interest in retaining the historical building, "if the goal is light industrial, all-new is most likely to succeed and be viable." He also noted that total demolition would be cheaper.

Bryan Smith observed that historic credits might be available if the historic building is retained.

"We've been holding onto this property far too long," said selectboard member Scott Bastarache. "I'm comfortable with these two concepts."

The board decided to hold a public comment meeting in Sep-

tember, and plan to set the date at their August 14 meeting.

Other Business

Police chief Christopher Blair wrote the board to commend officer James Loynd for his investigation of a resident who was found to possess 180 child pornography videos. Blair praised Loynd for doing a thorough investigation and developing a "solid criminal case."

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation has installed cameras on the French King Bridge in response to concern from Gill and Erving about suicides from the bridge. MassDOT sent Erving a "memorandum of understanding" offering Erving ownership of the cameras.

Jacob Smith said that town counsel Donna MacNicol wanted more time to consider the town's potential liability if it accepts ownership.

Bastarache said that there are few expenses associated with the cameras, and that Gill is willing to be a party to the agreement.

Selectboard member William Bembury said, "It's time to move forward and stop hashing this out." The board voted to sign the memorandum of understanding, pending legal review.



www.MontagueMA.net
local gossip, news & business listings

TAG SALE – THIS WEEKEND
SATURDAY and SUNDAY
AUGUST 12-13
9 A.M. to 2 P.M.
53 OLD SUNDERLAND ROAD,
MONTAGUE CENTER
GREAT BARGAINS!
CASH ONLY

chests of drawers, desks, lamps, chairs, tables, cookware, speakers, bookcases, radios, dishes, mugs, glassware, flatware, housewares, fabrics, CDs, bed and bath linens, blankets, quilts, art, posters, postcards, frames, this and that, fine clothing of a short and portly gentleman, etc.



269 High Street - Greenfield
(413) 773-9639

Local
Farmer-Owned

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

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

www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com



Moving soon to
504 Federal St!

413.367.3071

Updates on Facebook &
www.redfirenorth.com



Eat In or Take Out!

BURRITOS,
BOWLS,
SOFT TACOS,
QUESADILLAS

Now Serving
BBC Steel Rail

(413) 772-2531
10 Fiske Ave - downtown Greenfield
Hours: Mon - Sat 11:30 am - 9 pm

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Kristi A. Bodin, Esq.
Attorney and Counselor at Law

Call 413.549.3766

LEGAL SOLUTIONS FOR SMALL BUSINESS - IN PLAIN ENGLISH

Business Law • Civil Litigation
Liquor Licenses • Special Permits
Zoning & Land Use • And more

KAB@LawyerAmherstMA.com • www.KABESQ.com
www.linkedin.com/in/kristibodin
Twitter: @KABESQ • Facebook: @KABESQ

Celebrating 15 years as a resident of Montague, MA!

SPIRITS, BREWS & FINE WINES

53C S. Main St. South Deerfield, MA
295 Amherst Rd. Sunderland, MA

New Location Now Open:
6 Main Road, in Gill
(formerly Jan's Package Store)
Come check us out!

Deerfield: (413) 665-2456
Sunderland: (413) 665-5030
Gill: (413) 863-5730

**Millers Falls****Improvement Association**

Join us & add your voice on how to build our community.
Meetings the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5:30pm,
St John's Church on 5 Church St. Millers Falls, MA.

Find our community survey at the Millers Falls Library or
online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P2B86NX>

RECYCLE

BOTTLES & CANS

Week of August 14

PAPER


Week of August 21

in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

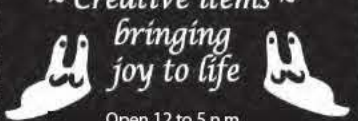
NANCY L. DOLE
BOOKS & EPHEMERA



now located at
20 State Street,
Bucklandside
Shelburne Falls
413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com
closed Mondays

Nina's Nook

Uniquities,
Frivolities,
Un-necessariums
~ Creative items ~
bringing
joy to life



Open 12 to 5 p.m.
Thursdays through Saturdays
125A Avenue A Turners Falls
413.834.8800

www.ninasnook.com

The Country Players
Youth Theater Summer Play
presents

A Midsummer
Camp's Dream

August 11 & 12 6:30 p.m.
August 13 2 p.m.

\$12 Adults (12+)
\$10 Seniors and Children under 12
Frontier Regional High School
113 North Main St.
South Deerfield, MA 01373
To order tickets, call (413) 768-9126

WE HEAT
FRANKLIN
COUNTY

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



(413) 773-3622

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Loose Dogs, Spray Foam, Mattresses, and Sodium

By JOSH HEINEMANN

The agenda for the Wendell selectboard's July 26 meeting was long: 18 items for discussion, seven documents to sign, and five scheduled times to meet with citizens. Still they were able to complete their business in less than two hours.

Selectboard member Dan Keller brought in a bowl of fresh raspberries, red and yellow, and they were gone by the meeting's end.

School Well

Representing the New Salem board of health, Jenny Potee met the selectboard to urge action during the summer on the Swift River School well. She said sodium in the water has been a concern for some time, and chlorine and magnesium have recently been found. The New Salem board of health recommends dealing with the problem during the summer vacation.

The school well is inside the building, and is as old as the building, 40 or 50 years old. It is a public water source. The levels have not gone above health thresholds, but the school has been spending "thousands" on bottled water for people who want it. She said that principal Kelly Sullivan and maintenance person Larry Ramsdell both support the New Salem board of health's position on this.

A proposal from Henshaw Artesian Well Drilling would pull up the submersible pump, clean the well shaft, run a camera down the well to inspect the steel casing and its seat in the bedrock, and chlorinate the water and reinstall everything for a total of \$4,440.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich said building inspector Phil Delorey was setting up a liaison between the towns to discuss the matter, and Keller said the issue should be sent to the Wendell board of health and the finance committee.

Selectboard member Jeoffrey Pooser followed the thought that sodium may be coming from surface water infiltration, and that the Wendell DPU might take over winter maintenance of the parking lot and driving areas because the Wendell salt sand mixture contains less salt than New Salem's.

He suggested looking at other sugar-based melting chemicals. Keller said, "The kids would like that."

Vague Parcels

Carolyn Manley asked the board about two properties on the southwest side of town that have an unknown owner and no taxes collected recently. The open space committee has expressed interest in the land.

From the assessors' map it looks likely that the two may be part of a larger piece in Leverett, Montague, or both. The pieces have no road

access in Wendell, but it seemed likely from the map that that they could be accessible from Leverett or Montague.

A title search would cost \$350 to \$500, and if the town chose to pursue taking the land, it would have to proceed through land court.

Manley also said the town's insurance trust fund was returning \$30,000 to stabilization, and would be left with \$27,718.23, enough to cover a \$5,000 deductible in its insurance policy. The fin com feels that any more money saved to cover possible deductible expenses would do the town more good earning interest in the stabilization fund.

Puppy Already Gone

Animal control officer Maggie Houghton met the board for a dog hearing, along with dog owners Karine and Julia Swan. Selectboard chair Christine Heard began the hearing with a review of the rules and procedures. On this occasion the instruction to be courteous seemed unnecessary.

Houghton began by citing numerous times that the older dog had been loose, running up to neighbors' houses, in the street, sometimes with the puppy. She enumerated numerous times that she brought the dog, or both dogs, to the county animal shelter. They were bailed out each time.

Karine Swan told the selectboard that the older dog, seven years old, was no problem until they got the puppy, which seemed to bother him enough to make him want to get away. On one occasion, a child lost control as he opened the door and the dog bolted.

The adults realized the problem was the puppy, and, regretfully, found it a new home out of town. Heard and Houghton agreed that the Swans had moved in the right direction with this decision, and recommended the dog be leashed before the door is opened.

Heard cautioned that further escapes could bring more serious consequences, and reminded the Swans that the leash law is a state law.

Scenery and Shade

As chair of both the energy committee and the planning board, Nan Riebschlaeger met the selectboard with business from both groups. She said the county housing and redevelopment authority (HRA) has \$102,992 in funds in Wendell's payback account, and the money has been there long enough that the town has more options for its use.

The energy committee proposed using it for conservation work in private homes. At \$10,000 per house, ten houses can get energy efficiency work, beyond the \$750 which is available through MassSave. She said the energy committee would

work on a definitive proposal.

Keller suggested a talk with the finance committee because Wendell has other short accounts.

As planning board chair, Riebschlaeger said that there should have been a hearing about trees National Grid is poised to cut between the Wendell Depot substation and Route 2.

There are two laws that sometimes conflict with each other: the Scenic Roads Act and the Shade Tree Act. Scenic Roads requires a hearing for each tree, but allows exception for trees that are an immediate threat to a road, trees less than 1-1/2" in diameter, and for disease or insect suppression. Riebschlaeger said she would bring the idea of a tree hearing to the next planning board meeting.

Wendell's new tree warden, Ross Kahle, speaking for the International Society of Ariculturists (ISA), said that the ISA favors trimming trees over cutting them down.

Heard pointed out that one result of tree cutting that National Grid did in the last five years is that electricity has had fewer interruptions. Riebschlaeger pointed out that some trees had been saved from the proposal for that prior cutting following a tree hearing.

When the National Grid arborist brought the more recent cutting proposal to the selectboard, Wendell had no tree warden, and the selectboard did not oppose the plan. Keller suggested that Kahle look at the trees the company has marked for cutting and give a second opinion.

Kahle noted trees in the center cemetery that need attention, one with a limb that hangs over an informal parking area. He said he hoped to travel the town roads and take note of all the dangerous trees. He wanted to know the extent of his authority, and whether money for the cemetery work would come from the cemetery commission budget.

Crawling and Spraying

Two bids were received for work to insulate under the town hall. The bid for the whole job from Tri County Construction was \$23,600, and from Kenney Masonry of Amherst, \$38,515.

The bids were divided by individual tasks: removing dirt from the crawl space, laying plastic sheeting on the leveled surface as a moisture barrier, covering the plastic with sand to keep it in place, reinforcing the floor joists with concrete posts, and spraying foam between the joists and under the floor.

Riebschlaeger suggested an insulating company could see if it is possible to use a wand to spray foam between the joists where the crawl space is too small for a person to fit, and whether that could be done without compromising the result.

The town set \$8,000 aside for the

job, and Heard suggested the wise choice would be to do what can be paid for this year, and complete the work as it can be paid for.

Other Business

Aldrich said she called DCR and was told that McAvoy's Pond would not exist without Lockes Village Road, which forms part of the dam, and that therefore the town is part owner of the dam, along with the Trousdale trust. The two parties need to work together to decide responsibility for maintaining the dam.

Pooser wondered whether, if the town owns the dam, citizens have the right to reach the pond using that part of the pond shoreline.

Board members signed a letter to the Massachusetts trial court, the supreme court, governor, senator Rosenberg, and representative Whipps stating their objections to shredding of law books that has been progressing without publicity, almost in secret. When the county court moved for renovations, and then moved back, only 15% of the original books survived.

A dumpster rental for trash at the town-owned 97 Wendell Depot Road costs \$575 from Gelinas. But there are close to 100 mattresses there, and the disposal fee for each one is \$25.

Keller said it is too early in the fiscal year to dip into the reserve fund for that expense. Pooser suggested trying to find an appropriate grant, and they both asked Aldrich to bring the question of finding the money to the fin com.

Moving utility poles for rebuilding of the bridge over Whetstone Brook in Wendell Depot, a project originally anticipated for summer 2016, is estimated to cost \$43,000. Board members hoped to use Chapter 90 money for the relocation, but learned later that the town could not.

Several years ago Wendell agreed to host 8 megawatts of solar farm for Seaboard Solar in exchange for a reduced price for electricity and a rental fee of 1/2 cent per KWH of the electricity produced beyond what the town uses. Seaboard sold their rights to C1 Energy Capital of New York City, and Wendell has gotten net metering credits but none of the money promised. Town counsel has called that a breach of contract, and said that the town should bring suit.

Board members voted unanimously to allow dividing the meetinghouse lot from the cemetery.

The board accepted Orange Oil's bid of \$1.89 per gallon of heating oil, and \$75 an hour day night and weekends for service calls.

Sylvia Wetherby was not at the meeting, but got unanimous permission to have four children carry the Wendell town flag in the Old Home Day parade. They will not allow the flag to touch the ground, and will return it to the selectboard office.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

RIVERSIDE
RADIATOR

General Auto Repair
RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS
and HEAVY EQUIPMENT
Foreign and Domestic

Propane
Filling
Station

Route 2, Gill

863-4049 1-800-439-4049
8-5 Monday - Thursday



OPEN DAILY
LUNCH and DINNER
24 Federal St., Greenfield
773-0333 / thepeoplespint.com


The Pint Says: TURN THE KEY!
When you idle your car's engine for more
than 10-20 seconds, you're wasting fuel.
Save on Gas - Save our Climate



FIVE EYED FOX

FRESH LOCAL COMFORT FOOD
BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER
CRAFT BEER ESPRESSO

37 3RD ST
TURNERS FALLS



Authentic American Food & Drink
at the Montague Bookmill

THEALVAHSTONE.COM • 413.367.5345 • OPEN 7 DAYS + NIGHTS



Bringing Peace to Tired Muscles
From gardening or exercising more,
Stiff neck or Plantar Fasciitis?

Let me help

Gretchen Wetherby LMT

www.gretchenwetherby massagetherapy.com
14 Bridge St. Millers Falls & 5 State St. Suite 6 Shelburne Falls
gretchenwlm@gmail.com 413-824-7063

NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Hat Ban Ends

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – Tuesday night’s regional school committee meeting was held in a new room on the second floor of the high school. It ran for nearly three hours, as the committee met with principals of each school to review proposed changes to student policy handbooks, approved the hiring of a dean of students at the middle and high school level, and prepared for a meeting next week with civic leaders to discuss underlying challenges to the district’s sustainability.

That meeting will include fin com and selectboard members from Gill and Montague, and facilitated by Debbie Lynangale of the Mediation and Training Collaborative. It will be held at 6:30 p.m. next Tuesday, August 15 at the Gill-Montague Senior Center on Fifth Street in Turners Falls, and will be open to the public.

Superintendent Michael Sullivan shared a draft agenda, and said he planned to compare the district’s challenges with districts elsewhere in Massachusetts that are facing declining enrollment and considering regional consolidation. “We don’t want to rush to talking about the FY’19 budget process,” he said. “First, we want to make room for what’s going on, and how might we solve some of this together.”

Sullivan reported that the state has not yet given the district a calculation of what it owes after years of apparent overbilling to the state’s Medicaid program for work performed by special education paraprofessionals was uncovered the spring.

The district has severed its relationship with New England Medical Billing, which had processed those claims for a commission, and will now be working with the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative for those services.

The committee voted to make a \$2,352 payment to Bulkley & Richardson, the law firm the district has retained on the matter.

The state has issued its “Cherry Sheet” reflecting estimates of revenues and reimbursements for the coming fiscal year. The district expects to spend less on charters and more on choice tuition, and be reimbursed more for choice and less for charters, and receive less for transportation and more in Chapter 70 funds, with the final bottom line being \$51,435 more in the projected budget.

Two additional positions will be filled in the fall. The first was a dean of students at the middle and high school level, who would work “helping manage student behaviors,” but not evaluate staff. “When we went from three to two administrators in the building, we knew that this would be kind of a crunch,” Sullivan said. The new position will only require a bachelor’s degree. The committee unanimously approved the new position.

The second was a new kindergarten teacher at Hillcrest Elementary. “We have more families wanting to come to Hillcrest, and the projected enrolment is 71 students,” Sullivan explained. The additional teacher will allow the grade to be split into four classes.

This decision did not require the school committee’s approval.

Changing Rules

Well over half of the nearly three-hour meeting was spent discussing proposed changes to student policy handbooks, as well as revisions to districtwide policies. The committee met with principals from every school to discuss the changes, some of which were prompted by a review of policies made possible by a state Safe and Supportive Schools grant.

One of the most significant changes is that, when a 2-hour weather delay is implemented on a day designated as an early release day, the early release will be canceled.

“I’m assuming that this will be communicated way ahead of time, because it is a pretty big change,” Montague member Lesley Cogswell said. “Is this something that happens in other districts?”

Sullivan told her that it was “a common way to handle” the scenario in other districts. “We thought having your kid staying in school longer is not necessarily a hardship for too many families,” he said.

Christina Postera asked what would happen to professional development days scheduled for educators on canceled early release days. “It would have to be rescheduled,” said Hillcrest principal Sarah Burstein. “Usually we have a couple swing days in there.”

At the secondary level, one change that brought comment from the board was the relaxation of the ban on hats at Turners Falls High School, though not at Great Falls Middle School. Students will be allowed to wear hats unless a staff member requests their removal on the basis that they pose either a danger or a hindrance to learning.

“This is a trauma-sensitive policy,” explained high school principal Annie Leonard. “For students who enter the building and their day begins with a conflict with an adult, simply because of a hat – those conflicts are not promoting connectedness to school, for some of the students who we most need to build that kind of connection [with].”

Leonard also said that after last winter’s Buzz-Off Challenge, a districtwide fundraiser for pediatric cancer patients that culminated in a mass shaving of heads, including her own, an “exemption” was instituted for the sake of keeping shorn heads warm and that “students handled that with a great deal of responsibility, demonstrating that this is a step that we’re willing to take as a school community.”

Changes were also made to how the schools approach consequences to violations of rules. “A behavior like tardiness to school has individual cases, and therefore needs an individualized response,” Leonard said, though she mentioned that her school will start using an automated system to notify parents or guardians when students are absent or tardy without excuse.

Cycling Through This

The committee held a brief discussion of the ongoing debate over the former high school team name, the Turners Falls Indians, which they voted in February to discontinue and which has not yet been replaced.

At the meeting’s outset, they heard two impassioned arguments on the topic during public comment period – one from nickname-retention

By GEORGE BRACE
with MIKE JACKSON

On Monday night, Gill’s selectboard discussed plans for improvements at the town-owned Riverside Municipal Building, which is rented by Four Winds School and used by the historical commission and Riverside water commissioners.

Four Winds teacher Becca Lipton proposed that a family paint the interior schoolroom walls in exchange for reduced tuition. She reported they have painting experience, and said she was confident they’ll do a good job. Her proposal included estimates for materials. The board granted permission, subject to review of potential legal questions.

The building’s carpets were reported to be in horrible shape; the metal strips holding them down have been coming up, replaced with duct tape or covered by area rugs. The board was hesitant to authorize new carpeting, and discussed other options with Lipton. The historical commission has also offered opinions as to what may be best.

The parties agreed that something needs to be done, but that it would be best to continue to research options, with a goal of fixing the carpets next summer.

The building’s exterior is also due for painting, which will be accomplished with “community service” labor from inmates at the Franklin County Jail & House of Correction. The historical commission has made recommendations for color, and there was discussion as to where staging will come from.

Highway Department

Selectboard member Randy Crochier said he had walked up the “Road to Scott Place,” a disused town road former police chief Ernie Hastings has asked be improved so logging trucks can access his land. He said he saw the project as doable and that it would probably not need a culvert, or much tree removal.

Crochier also suggested that there are other means to deal with the issue, such as the temporary platforms utility companies use when working on power lines.

In response to a request from the Northfield Mount Hermon school for speed bumps on Mount Hermon Road, administrative assistant Ray Purington said he had come across the possibility of declaring a “safety zone” in order to lower the speed limit on that stretch of road, which could require less paperwork and regulation.

The town would need to have a

tion activist Chris Pinardi, arguing that the committee should suspend the process and revert to the Indian nickname, and one from sociology professor Laurel Davis-Delano reiterating that such mascots “diminish Native American self-esteem – even for youth who like the logos.” (See story, page A1.)

But by the time the issue came up on the evening’s agenda – beginning with Montague’s non-binding referendum indicating a strong majority of local residents would have supported retaining the Indian – they had already waded through two hours and twelve minutes of other business, and did not seem eager to take on the topic.

“It was a non-binding resolution,

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

A New Coat of Paint

traffic study on hand in case of a need for review, but the plan could be as simple as a map with several paragraphs outlining the reasoning behind the zone.

Fire Department

The board met with fire chief Gene Beaubien and deputy chief Stuart Elliott. The fire department’s Engine 3 failed a recent inspection due to an exhaust leak, a fuel filter leak, and bald tires. The truck was due to be outfitted with new tires and wheels, as the old wheels need to be replaced as well due to safety issues. The department planned to have Ford of Greenfield take a look at the exhaust and fuel leak.

The 1986 rescue van is also in need of attention, and due for inspection by the end of August. During a recent check it was suggested that the ball joints need replacement, but Ford is having trouble coming up with the parts due to the van’s age. There is significant rust in need of repair.

Elliott has done a lot of legwork looking into the matter. Appointments have been made with Doug’s Auto Body, which gave an estimate for the body work and has done good work for the town in the past, and the expectation is that everything should be taken care of by the end of the month.

Various Grants

The application for a state Emergency Management Preparedness Grant is August 18. Beaubien, speaking as Gill’s emergency management director, said he would like money to change the locks on the public safety building, and to help pay for the town’s CodeRed notification system. The consensus of the selectboard was that he should proceed.

The board discussed newly available grant money from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) for town accounting software. Purington said a vendor named Zobrio was under discussion; several nearby towns are already using it, and it integrates well with the town’s new accounting software.

The grant would only cover Zobrio’s initial installation, but not its ongoing licensing costs, which may be as high as \$2,400 per year. Purington said he and tax collector/treasurer Ronnie LaChance would research these matters.

He also reported on the release of the Municipal ADA Improvement Grant Program. Project grants of up to \$250,000 for improving accessibility for people with dis-

abilities are available, as well as planning grants. The application is due in November.

The town would be prioritized for that grant if it enters a related best-practices “compact” under the Baker administration’s Community Compact program. Compact applications are not yet open, and the rules have changed this year, with the limit of how many “compacts” a town may enter dropping from three to two. He suggested a second compact involving information technology security and backup systems might also be beneficial.

Other Business

The town of Erving and MassDOT have been working out discrepancies in an agreement to operate surveillance cameras the state installed on the French King Bridge. If MassDOT okays it, Erving can sign, paving the way for Gill and Erving to work out an agreement.

Greg Snedeker reported on a meeting with three Comcast representatives last week to discuss the timeline for completing the cable build-out. The target date for completion is now early 2018, with most work done by the end of 2017. He said that a letter of support from senate president Stan Rosenberg was helpful in putting Gill on the same timeline as other partially-served towns. Comcast has agreed to add five houses on Hoe Shop Road, which will put the town over the 96% coverage goal, up from the current 85%.

Crochier commended Snedeker and the rest of Gill’s cable committee for their work on the issue.

Purington estimated that the equipment needed to build a new treatment system on the Gill Elementary well would likely total around \$4,500 or \$5,000. He talked to some potential installers, and is waiting to hear back from them, though he has received advice that the town should get many quotes before starting installation. The application to the DEP for the system’s design is still being reviewed.

Work on outdoor parts of the system – a settling tank and leach field – are still on track to be finished before school starts, but it is not clear when the indoor project will be completed.

Randy Crochier expressed the town’s condolences to the family of Joe Elliott, who passed on recently. Crochier voiced appreciation for the many contributions Elliott made over the years, and the board’s best wishes for his family.

and the committee has moved on,” offered Heather Katsoulis.

“Popularity was not a question, I don’t think, for the school committee,” said Michael Langknecht, who had cast one of three dissenting votes against the change in February. “We all knew that the mascot was very popular. We were responding to what has been described as a minority of people in the community who had issues with it.”

Erving representative Marisa Dalmaso-Rode criticized the committee for its February decision. “I think the original process should be followed,” she said. “Let’s really get educated, and let’s come to a compromise with everybody in the community who’s involved in this, who

pays taxes, who has a vested interest, who has a desire to see a benevolent outcome to this whole thing.”

“I honestly can say I don’t know how I could have voted if I had been on the committee back in February,” said Cassie Damkoehler. “I want to hear all sides of it, and I want everyone to be happy.... But moving backwards is only going to hurt the kids in our district more.

“The more time we cycle through this, and cycle through this, and cycle through this, there’s other issues I feel like we’re neglecting.”

Discussion of the process for selecting a new team name was tabled to a future agenda. The committee’s next regular meeting will be held August 22.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666!

Ken’s Roadside Diner
Great Polish and American Food
Like us on Facebook
www.kensroadside.com

24 French King Highway
Gill, MA 01354
413-863-9991

**Renaissance
Builders**

Quality. Craftsmanship. Original Thought.

www.renbuild.net
863-8316



Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald
Realtor, Broker, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR
Ma. License #009535800



www.ManiattyRealty.com

Cell: (413) 834-4444
bedson1@comcast.net
Home Fax: (413) 863-0218
Maniatty Real Estate
92 Federal Street
Greenfield, MA 01301



MARKET from page A1

She was one of the original organizers of the Wendell Farmers Market, and Sugarbush has been producing maple syrup for several decades. Up on the gazebo, Shelley Hines had set up her table and was offer-

ing therapeutic massage to her first customer of the day. She had decorated the railings with little statues and other artifacts, and the warm breezes wafting through the outdoor room created the ideal setting for a serene massage.



Shelley Hines gives therapeutic massage in the gazebo.

MURAL from page A1

electric scooter. “Nina said she’s going to change the mermaid to look kinda like me,” she told me. Smalls hovered there as we talked about the mural. “I think it’s like a cool community thing,” she said. “I did some of the blue, and around the fishes.” Smalls lives near the Brick House, and spends a lot of time there: “We have music, usually, and we just hang out and play games sometimes.” Many of the youth involved in painting the mural were given jobs at the Brick House this summer through the Summer Jobs and Beyond (SJB) program. “I’ve been [at the Brick House] for about a year on and off because of the SJB program. They basically set me up so that I like have a pretty good resumé now, after working here for a while,” said Ian Marron. Marron has been involved in preparation and production for the community painting day. “I helped do the outline and stuff,” he said, “and now I’m like supervising and seeing if everything is going well. And I’ve been passing out paint, and painting myself.” In past years, the Brick House was responsible for painting other murals in Turners Falls, including two along a building on Third Street, and the others on the Parks and Recreation building. Dana Mengwasser, the organization’s youth programs manager, told the *Reporter* that they received a grant from the Art Angels to buy the paint. In the past, they had received funding to hire a muralist to assist with design and production,

but this year they kept the project in-house. “I think this worked out the way that it needs to,” Karen Stinchfield told the *Reporter*, “because Nina has such a strong connection to so many people in the community. People got involved because she’s involved.” Stinchfield herself has been involved in all the other murals the Brick House has produced, and currently serves as an administrative assistant there. “We’re thrilled that Karen and the Brick House Resource Center thought of us again for this mural project,” said Montague parks and recreation director Jon Dobosz, whose office is inside the field-house. “The current mural, that we’ve had for almost the last ten years, is very popular.” “We were asked to follow the theme of the river,” Yagual explained. “We wanted to keep the theme consistent, but also make it very majestic and fun and magical, so that’s why there is so much color.” “It’s really beautiful,” said Mengwasser. “It’s all about nature, but in a funky way that also has mermaids, and a swan with hearts on its back. And that’s really exciting and fun, and playful, which I think really suits this community – and being right on the water.” At the end of the day Tuesday, much of the land, water and plants had been painted, leaving some of the animals, rainbow, hands, and sky yet to be filled in. Yagual and the youth hired through the SJB program will be returning to the mural throughout the week to complete it.



Volunteers painted in the sections of the mural using a number-color code.

Out on the lawn, Karen Copeland sat in her drum circle, where people joined her to create the happy rhythms floating over the common. Karen has for many years served as chair of the Wendell Old Home Day Committee, and this year she is hoping to present the first “All Star Jam” of local musicians at Old Home Day on Saturday, August 19. The Wendell Common is in the center of Wendell, at the intersection of Wendell Depot Road and Lockes Village Road. Across the street is a spectacular playground at the Wendell Free Library, and the library is open on Saturdays. A nice place to spend a summer hour or two!



Laurel Facey of Sugarbush Farm (left), with customer Shawn Jarrett.

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Safe, Clean, Fun, Helpful, and Smart

By ROB SKELTON

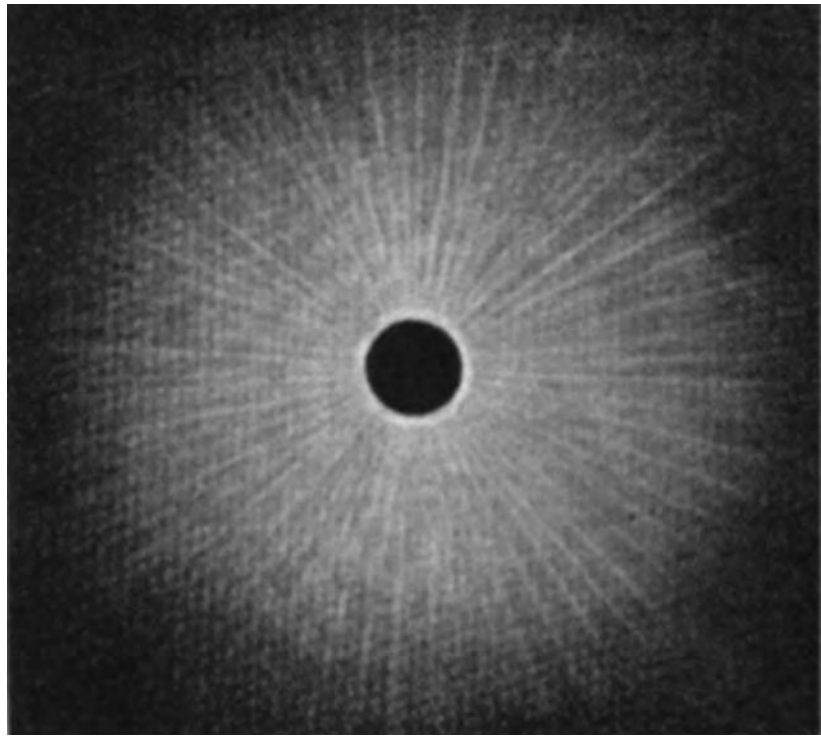
The Leverett selectboard met with school officials at its August 8 meeting, and sought to clarify contractual language to allow half-time employees to receive benefits – no dollar amount was specified – to promote hiring and retention of quality employees. Elementary school principal Margot Lacey said it was hard to keep half-time workers, and that she had a “great hire” lined up but required benefits. She also noted that a hiring committee should be formed to replace retiring head custodian Wayne Cromack, and that the successful candidate must be “a communicator. It’s been on my mind.” The selectboard agreed with the school’s assertion that benefits figure into the hiring and retention of quality employees, but did not discuss costs to the town in health insurance and retirement payouts. The law that requires benefits to kick in for half-time workers is known to lead administrators to schedule part-time workers for 18 hours a week, creating a two-tiered employment system. Though in some neighboring towns, selectboards go to war over each new

benefited employee, Leverett officials seemed unperturbed about the budgetary repercussions of “benefiting.” The state wants the town to de-commission a working well which is currently important to the school’s greenhouse program. Lacey said it would be “really detrimental” for it to be capped. The board pondered pushing back, and someone said the well was taken offline due to sulfur. Greg Woodard, owner of the post office lot next to town hall did a site visit with the selectboard about revisions to the shared parking lot. Larry Farber of the zoning board of appeals spent some time explaining why the ZBA dropped an applicant’s ball, resulting in the selectboard authorizing that its secretary, Lisa Stratford, take on extra hours as needed to support that committee administratively. Fire chief John Ingram stacked the Leverett FD with yet another Amherst firefighter, getting the selectboard to appoint Michael Vishniski to the ranks. The board took a cursory look at his CV and noted his pump operator skills and his fifteen years working on call for the chief’s former employer. Ingram also announced pro-

motions to captain of firemen Jon Coster and Ben Miller, ceremony to be held in the near future. The board okayed spending \$33,000 to outsource assessing, at \$3,000 per month. The outsourced workers will need access to town hall offices – where one key fits all – so the selectboard discussed installing a keyless access system, at a cost of \$1,500 per door. A request to borrow fifty chairs from town hall for a wedding nearby was turned down by the board. “They can rent chairs,” said selectboard chair Peter d’Errico. A poster contest promoted by town administrator Margie McGinnis’s professional association, the Massachusetts Municipal Association, whereby third-graders depict local government as “safe, clean, fun, helpful and smart,” received pushback from Principal Lacey, who shook her head and said she’d forward it to the third grade teachers. Beth Adams, who reps Leverett in the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), has apparently been speaking out of turn, according to d’Errico, and has been asked to limit her participation to the town’s interests, not her own.

Monday, 8/21: Celebrate the Eclipse With Us!

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 eclipse. The *Montague Reporter* and Mount Grace Conservation Land Trust will be holding a joint Eclipse Party. The location, at the top of Alexander Hill Road in Northfield, will allow a great view of the eclipse. We’ll be there from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. **\$5 advance tickets include eclipse-safe viewing glasses.** Glasses may also be available onsite as supplies last. Park at the bottom of Alexander Hill Road and carpool, or park all the way at the top. There is a short (ten minute) hike from there up to the viewing area, and courtesy transportation will be available for this last stretch if needed. Bring your own blanket or chairs, and picnic! **It is not safe to look directly at the sun!** For a guide to solar eclipse safety, visit eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety. You can purchase eclipse



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.

viewing glasses, which serve as advance tickets, from the *Reporter*. (Send 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 the glasses.) Eclipse viewing glasses will also be made available at the Solar Store of Greenfield (2 Fiske Avenue) during regular business hours. See you there!

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

French King

Restaurant & Motel

OPEN BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY 7 A.M.

Fred Holmgren

Piano Tuning & Repair

Stay tuned!

(978)544-5494
fredholmgren@gmail.com

COUTURE BROS.

Since 1910

Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor

Commercial • Residential • Industrial

“SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR OVER 100 YEARS”

www.couturebros.com
400 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Annex Conveyed To Obear

By MIKE JACKSON

The Montague selectboard supplemented its biweekly summer schedule with an extra meeting on July 31. We were unable to send a reporter, but the meeting was available to review online thanks to Montague Community Television. Here are some news highlights:

- Glen Ohlund from the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (FCRHRA) gave a final report on the town's FY'15 community development block grant (CDBG). The grant covered eight housing rehab projects.

Town planner Walter Ramsey announced that the FY'16 CDBG had come in under budget on the Avenue A lighting project, and introduced Carlos Nieto-Mattei from Berkshire Design, who presented a proposed plan to rehabilitate Spinner Park using some of the leftover money.

The selectboard and Nieto-Mattei discussed the design in detail. Selectboard members criticized the premise of rehabilitating the park without more thoroughly redesigning it, and wondered whether funds could also be used to extend the new street lighting further north and south on the Avenue (*see next article*).

Eileen Dowd of Canal Street said she felt the new parking lot on the corner of Canal and Third streets was excessively lit, while the block between it and the Avenue was still very dark. "I would like to donate some of the lights from the parking lot to other areas," she joked.

- Police chief Chip Dodge presented a letter of commendation to dispatcher Katherine Chapdelaine in recognition of her performance during an April emergency.

According to the letter, Chapdelaine helped locate a prescription medication overdose victim who had called regional emergency services but did not know where she was. Chapdelaine determined the woman was in the Renovators Supply building in Erving, and kept her awake until first responders arrived.

"Katherine is one of our newest dispatchers, and according to [dispatch supervisor] Marsha [Odle], the way she handled this call was that of a veteran dispatcher," Dodge said. "She saved this woman's life."

The board signed the letter and thanked Chapdelaine for a job well done, then signed an application for a \$21,792 state grant to support dispatch services.

- Town administrator Steve Ellis announced that removal of huge quantities of paper and debris from the town-owned Strathmore complex was fully underway, and commended building inspector David Jensen for doing "a lot of extra work and a lot of communication" to oversee the cleanup, which was mandated by the fire department at the recommendation of the state fire marshal.

- At Ramsey's request, the selectboard signed closing documents and a land development agreement to sell the Railroad Salvage Annex building on Power Street, taken by the town two years ago under tax title, to developer Bob Obear, who intends to convert it into a mixed-use residential and workshop space.

Ellis addressed comments made at an earlier meeting by Jeanne Gorruck, who owns a larger and less readily developable property abutting the Annex that had earlier this year been on fire, and who suggested that it might actually be *she* who owned the Annex and *the town* that owned the burned building.

Ellis said that he had reviewed the matter with counsel, and was "entirely comfortable" that the Annex property was "in fact our lot to be conveyed."

What To Do With A \$97,000 CDBG Surplus?

By NATAN COHEN

For forty-five minutes on August 7, as a part of the regular selectboard meeting, the town of Montague held a public hearing titled "Grant Update and Reprogram Unallocated Funds."

The funds in question were a \$97,000 budget surplus from this year's Avenue A and Peskeomskut Park lighting and improvement project, one piece of the town's federal Community Development Block Grant from FY'16. The grant is administered for the town by the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (FCRHRA), and the surplus must be spent this year.

First came updates on existing programs funded by the grant. The Avenue A lighting project, the housing authority's housing rehab effort, Montague Catholic Social Ministries' Family Literacy Program, LifePath's Home Delivered Meals, and the Brick House's Youth Opportunities for Leadership and Organizing (YOLO) all reported being on track to meet their goals.

Three of those projects, and town planner Walter Ramsey, then came forward to propose ways to use the \$97,000 surplus.

Dana Mengwasser, youth programs manager at the Brick House, started things off by asking for \$4,500 to increase staffing. "The extra hours would be especially helpful with the transition into the school year as we get ready to relaunch the next series of the YOLO program," Mengwasser explained.

Half of the supplemental funds would go directly toward youth program staff, and half toward a new director role Mengwasser will be stepping into in the fall. "We want to diversify our funding," they explained, "do a lot more donor cul-

tivation, as well as doing more outreach in the community."

Representing LifePath Inc.'s Home Delivered Meals, Jane Severance requested \$6,018 to cover a budget gap for the remainder of 2017, due in part to a deficit in funding the agency expected under the Older Americans Act, and in part from the organization needing to relocate to another, more expensive kitchen facility.

"That is going to be a huge hurdle for us to jump now and in the future," said Severance.

Glen Ohlund of the FCRHRA requested \$40,000 to complete one more housing rehab program for poor, often elderly, homeowners. The extra funding would put a dent in the program's current 28-resident waiting list.

Town planner Walter Ramsey proposed a \$92,640 rehab project for Spinner Park that would fix the granite walls, add new lighting, remove the two planters, and put in new ADA-compliant curb cuts, with a second phase of improvements in the future.

A second option Ramsey offered would be to spend about \$60,000 to plan for a third phase of the downtown Turners Falls streetscape project. This plan would be for a redesign and electrical work at Spinner Park, and streetlight design along Avenue A between First and Third streets and between Seventh Street and the war memorial on the library side. This option would create bid-ready plans for future grant applications.

Following these requests, the public was asked for any additional proposed uses of the \$97,000, but none were offered.

Ramsey, Bruce Hunter of the FCRHRA, and town administrator Steve Ellis will meet and return to the next selectboard meeting with

two or three proposed packages for spending the available funds based on the proposals heard Monday.

Housing Authority Moving

At Ellis' request, the selectboard signed letters to state representative Steve Kulik and senator Stan Rosenberg concerning the FCRHRA's plan to leave its downtown Turners Falls headquarters.

Given the FCRHRA's state-approved intention to move, "we have two major priorities," said Ellis. "One of those priorities is to ensure that if they move – and that would be with state support – that they relocate within Montague."

The second priority is "asking the legislative delegation to help ensure state agencies prioritize 42 Canal Road as a venue for redevelopment – that is, removing any unreasonable obstacles to making sure we get a responsible owner into the property, and reducing obstacles to redevelopment generally."

Current obstacles to redevelopment at the Canal Road site include the lack of a sewer connection, and inadequate pedestrian access and parking.

Trash Negotiations

Ellis also gave an update that Republic Services, the town's trash and recycling haulers, "believe that they can provide a more consistent level of service by switching from a four-day trash and recycling pickup schedule to a five-day schedule."

Ellis and highway department staff met with Republic, and identified six holiday weeks a year that would need special attention. The new five-day schedule would come at no cost to the town, while addressing compliance issues involving the number of hours collection truck drivers are able to work in one day.

Montague Old Home Days

Montague Center, Massachusetts

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2017

6 to 8 p.m. Games
6 p.m. All Booths Open
6 to 7:30 p.m. Karen's Dance Studio

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2017

7:30 a.m. Mug Race Registration
8 a.m. White Elephant Tag Sale
8:30 a.m. Mug Race Start
9 a.m. Quilt Display, Booths Open
10 a.m. Games Open
10:15 a.m. Soloist Dusti Dufresne
11 a.m. Celtic Heels Dancers
12 noon Soloist Dusti Dufresne
1:30 p.m. Old Home Days Parade
2 p.m. North Country Line Dancers
2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Music by Tyler Conroy
4:45 p.m. Drawing Results

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017

10 a.m. Old Home Days Worship Service with Kurt Pearson, Lay Leader
Special Music by Becky Walton & John Fuller
Join us for refreshments and fellowship after service

CRAFTERS WANTED
CALL 413-367-2061

Dogs on Common must be leashed and under control at all times.

PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU, INC.

Insurance

Is your insurance policy about to renew?

We will find you the rate you deserve.

Contact us to learn more.

CONSULT US




25 MILLERS FALLS ROAD
TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376



ARBELLA
INSURANCE GROUP

PHONE: (413) 863-4331
FAX: (413) 863-9426



WENDELL COUNTRY STORE

"It's just a stone's throw from reality."

Groceries - Videos - Home Baked Goods
Beer - Wine - Liquor

MON - SAT 7-9, SUNDAY 8-8
978-544-8646

Lockes Village Rd.
1/2 mile south of Wendell Center

Formerly Jay K's - bigger & better!

Connecticut River

Liquor & Wine



Open Mon-Thurs 10am-10pm
Fri & Sat 10am-11pm • Sun Noon-8pm

123 Avenue A • Turners Falls
863-5066

The selectboard reviewed a "preliminary" calendar, not yet available to the public, highlighting changes to pick-up days for some town residents.

Ellis also asked the board to execute a two-year extension on the town's contract with Republic. The extension is required by the current contract, which was worded to automatically renew unless the town indicated it would like to end the relationship by October 2016. The extension comes with a 5% cost increase, covered by the existing appropriation for waste disposal.

Other Business

Airport commissioner Peter Gorruck presented the board with a "standard assurances" form indicating to the federal Department of Transportation that Montague is prepared to pay its 5% share of a \$225,000 airport planning project, as approved by town meeting. The board voted to sign it.

Kathleen Lacey, currently library assistant, will be taking over additional hours from Mary Ann Packard, who is retiring at 75. Lacey's current position will be posted.

Town accountant Carolyn Olsen, who has been volunteering as town IT administrator, will be formally hired to that position, which comes with a \$2,000 annual stipend.

Ella Ingraham was appointed to the town's Economic Development and Industrial Corporation committee.

A change order was approved to the Peskeomskut Park lighting project concerning the two pedestals for electric boxes still to be installed.

The selectboard signed a letter requested by Michael Perreault of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA). The letter will go in a federal grant application to the Department of Transportation's Bus Infrastructure program to fund the FRTA's proposed new bus barn on Sandy Lane.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666



EDWARDS TREE SERVICE
Matthew Edwards
Certified Arborist

Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture

Residential / Commercial / Municipal
60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping
Fully Insured With Workers Comp. Insurance and Liability

WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM
Wendell, MA
Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties

413-325-7823 Or 978-544-7452






413-256-6217

*fine instruments
bought and sold
repaired and restored*

Fretted Instrument Workshop
49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

Brian R. San Soucie
Locksmith - CRL
certified - bonded - insured

*Trusted for over 25 years, installing all types of
locks & entry devices for business & homes*



- Dead BOLTS
- Household Lock Sets
- Master Keys & Re-keys
- Safe Combinations Changed

863-2471
28 Montague St
Turners Falls, MA

SPIRITS from page A1

but does not have a vintner's license, so they cannot make wine or other fermented fruit beverages.

Beer starts with a malting step where grain is soaked in water, germinated and dried. Certain types of whiskey also start with malting.

Milling or crushing the grain gets it ready for "mashing," where it's mixed with water and heated to start the conversion of starch to sugar. From here, beer is lautered, or sparged, by rinsing the mash to separate the grain from the sugars and reduce the alcohol content. It is then boiled to remove proteins and improve flavor.

Whiskeys do not go through these two steps, as the goal for spirits is to keep the alcohol content as high as possible. Wine making is a much simpler process where the grapes are seeded, de-stemmed and crushed.

Yeast is added to all three types of beverages to start the fermentation process. Non-whiskey spirits can be made from a variety of base substances – molasses for rum, po-

tato for vodka and gin, agave cactus for tequila-like spirits, and so on.

After fermentation, wine is aged in barrels then filtered and bottled. Beer is filtered then bottled with a little sugar to continue fermentation and add carbonation. With spirits, the fermented liquid is placed in the still for heating, evaporation and condensation. The vapor passes through a series of chambers and copper piping which helps remove impurities. The resulting condensate is high in alcohol.

Kramer says Element might be the smallest distillery in the state, with a single 13-gallon still that yields a little more than a gallon of alcohol each run; they are also the only distillery in Franklin County at this time. It was not operational when I stopped by, as it had been taken apart for a thorough cleaning.

They first produced "Black Lightning," a 100-proof neutral grain spirit (also known as "moonshine"), distilled from Element's Red Giant ale and aged with a

roasted dark malt for color and flavor. "Newton," meanwhile, is an *eau de vie*: literally "water of life," a spirit distilled from fermented fruit other than grapes. Distilled from hard cider made by Headwater Cider Company of Hawley, Newton is a clear, colorless fruit brandy, similar to *applejack* but only 66 proof.

It can take anywhere from three days to two weeks before the fermented base is ready for a two- or three-day distillation. Depending on the end product, the product may have to run through the distiller multiple times. Rum, with its molasses base, is the fastest fermenter but takes longer to age. Agave takes the longest to ferment, and can be ready for immediate consumption or aged to add varying flavors.

Element makes vodka and hopped gin from local potatoes, but the gin gets its unique flavor from Element's own botanical mix that includes juniper, hops and other undisclosed ingredients. They can be bottled or served immediately. The first bourbon production is out of the still,

though it will be two years or more before it's available to sample.

All the spirits can be ordered at the tasting room, or purchased to go in 100-ml or 1-liter containers.

You can also order a variety of cocktails. I tried a "Stupid Mango" during the Art Festival last month. It was made of Black Lightning, ginger beer, and mango juice, and quite delicious. Fortunately, I was a passenger that Sunday, because the drink packs quite a punch.


If you're not into spirits, there are eight kinds of beer to choose from, as well as house-made sodas. And if you're hungry, Element now offers food service from Diemand Farm's pop-up kitchen every Friday and Saturday night and Sunday afternoons.

During the week there are limited food offerings, but delicious snacks from Diemand are available. The game room features a pool table and foosball, and can be rented for private parties.

For more information, see elementbeer.com.

Attention Quilters!

The Montague Historical Society is again sponsoring a quilt show at
Montague Old Home Days
In the sanctuary of the church.



Saturday, August 19, 9 to 4 p.m.

If you have a quilt you would like to display, please call Lillian Fiske at 367-2280 for more information.

Register at the Best 2 Year College Today *



or visit Saturday Enrollment Day August 19, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.



www.gcc.mass.edu

* Valley Advocate 2017 Readers' Poll

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE! (12 WEEK MINIMUM.) CALL 863-8666.



ARTISAN BEVERAGE COOPERATIVE

WWW.ARTBEV.COOP

VISIT OUR NEW TASTING ROOM

FRI: 4-7PM
SAT: 2-6PM

324 Wells Street, Greenfield, MA
Franklin County CDC

IN GOOD COMPANY

A SKILLED ELDER COMPANION SERVICE

Offering focused attention, engaging activities, outings, and respite for caregivers.

sitalang@ingoodcompanynow.com
www.ingoodcompanynow.com
413-834-7569



Sita Lang
Hospice trained
CPR certified

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

Don't settle for less
Choose a **CRS (Certified Residential Specialist)**
Only 4% of all REALTORS hold this prestigious designation. The CRS is my badge of expertise and your shield of assurance. Put your trust in the best to get the job done. Whether buying, selling or referring, always choose **GERI JOHNSON, CRS** 30 years of experience.

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





TURN'S LAWN CARE

Landscape Design & Maintenance

522-2563

www.TurnLawnCare.com

Dennis L. Booska
Dennis L. Booska, Jr.

Phone & Fax
413-863-3690

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member
The Flooring Network.

Tile Lino Carpet


Turners Falls Pizza House

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

PIZZA, GRINDERS, DINNERS, SALADS, BURGERS

www.turnersfallspizza.com
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls ♦ (413) 863-8000





Jeffrey Collura, D.M.D.
Cosmetic Dentistry

7 Burnham Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone (413) 774-6553
TurnersFallsDental.com

Office Hours By Appointment

CEREC : SINGLE-VISIT DENTISTRY

Serving Home Grown Farm-inspired Food & Drink



44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
Ph 413 774 3150 | hopeandolive.com

Open year-round selling our own meats and home-style comfort foods.

BUY LOCAL

- Free Range Turkey
- Chicken
- Grass-Fed Beef
- Grass-Fed Lamb




126 Mormon Hollow Rd.
Wendell, MA 01349
www.thediemandfarm.com
978-544-3806


CATERING AVAILABLE FOR 5 TO 200
From an office lunch to a family reunion

See our website or call for information on our new meat CSA starting in May.

HEART & SOLAR
WORKER OWNED SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINCE 2002



**311 WELLS STREET, SUITE B
GREENFIELD, MA 01301
413-772-8788
PVSQUARED.COOP
MA ELEC. LIC. A13764 MA HIC 140077**

Certified Corporation 



MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309

LS TRACTOR

Get more tractor for your money!



**SIRUM**
FARM • TURF • INDUSTRIAL
413-367-2481
MONTAGUE, MASSACHUSETTS

Rte 63, Montague 413-367-2481
sirumequipment.com

JOIN US ON 



Serving Food Daily

Beer Buckets 5 for \$13

PUB

Sundays & Mondays ALL Day
50¢ Wings

Tuesdays starting at 5PM
\$1.50 Tacos

Monday - Wednesday
\$5 Lunch Specials

Thursdays
Fish Fry

Fridays & Saturdays
Free Pool & Free Jukebox

25 E Main St, Millers Falls
413-659-3391

Love, Art and Work Grow Together on the Farm

By NINA ROSSI

GILL – The giant wooden rooster outside the Upinngil farm store is a traditional symbol of prosperity, honesty, and fertility, and it's also a favorite place for little people to climb. Perhaps it is a wee bit responsible for the little farm's growing success as a dairy, vegetable and berry source.

Sorrel Hatch and Isaac Bingham, the young couple who help operate the farm founded by Sorrel's parents, Clifford Hatch and Patricia Crosby, were married in 2013 and immediately began producing offspring and future farmhands in their two little boys, August and Everett. They continue the farming tradition with a dedicated crew of four additional talented helpers.

Clifford Hatch is the sole owner of the farm that was founded in 1987, and "the buck stops there." When machinery needs fixing, he's the go-to guy. The current location at 411 Main Road, Gill was added 17 years ago.

It is Isaac who carved the large rooster by the store, as well as the seahorse on the hill and an abstract wooden carving by the pick-your-own garden. Isaac is a designer, sculptor, potter, and carpenter, and has put all of his talents to use at the farm for the past four years, helping to make Upinngil a farm that visitors can experience and explore, with paths through fields and gardens, up hills and through pastures.

There are pigs and chickens to visit, cows and hay and flowers to



Isaac Bingham, pictured with future farmhand August, enjoys making uniquely decorated mugs for the farm store – part of the creative life at Gill's Upinngil Farm.

smell, seasonal berries and vegetables to pick. The farm store sells fresh-baked goods made with their own wheat, and cheese and milk from their Ayrshire cows – the farm supplies customers with 40 gallons of raw milk every day.

Focusing Energies

"I don't do a whole lot of sculpting now; the farm keeps me very busy. Before we were married and started making a family here, Sorrel and I made a pretty conscious choice," explained Isaac when I visited him a few weeks ago.

"I felt pretty strongly that rather than leaving the farm and family every day to work carpentry, construction, or woodcarving, and then bring money back, that the farm

and family would be better served if we focused our energies together on the same project."

Sorrel and he have very similar aesthetic taste, and as husband and wife and business partners they have designed the life they want to have on the farm, and thought deeply about how they want to share that life with the world.

How did they meet, I wanted to know, after Isaac admitted he had no background in farming. "We are both avid contra dancers, and met at a dance in Concord, Mass.," he explained.

Part of their love story involves the sharing of sugar snap peas during a break at a dance, and a proposal on the hill at the farm that

see **FARM** page B4

NOTES FROM THE ROAD: THE GRIEF OF CULTURAL LOSS



Former 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 Granite Falls, Minnesota on Tuesday afternoon.

By DAVID DETMOLD

HUTCHINSON, MN – Hutchinson was one of those towns that seems to be all Main Street, with a few heritage businesses that have endured for decades as people have changed their shopping habits. Other storefronts are taken up with new enterprises like the Herbal Pumpkin Patch and the Amazing Grace Boutique.



Markers on the north bank of the Crow River where Chief Little Crow was shot and killed with his teenage son.

But after a chilly wet night camped out on the lawn of a Lutheran Church near New Germany, I was just glad to find the Hutch Café, eggs and hash browns, and a bike store with a good tire pump.

Leaving town to get back on Highway 7 heading west, I glanced to the left at the end of the bridge over the Crow River, and noticed memorial plaques and a statue. I stopped to take a look.

Turns out this is the spot where Chief Little Crow (Taoyateduta) of the Santee Sioux (Mdewakanton Dakota) was shot and killed by white settlers Nathan Lampson and his son Chauncy on July 3, 1863. Little Crow, the reluctant war chief who led the so-called Sioux Uprising in Minnesota in 1862, was picking raspberries on the bank of the river with his teenage son, Wovwinapa, when that fatal encounter occurred.

A little history: The Minnesota Territory, formed in 1849, had of course been inhabited by Native Nations, mainly the Dakota (called Sioux by the French, who traded with them) and the Ojibwe (Chippewa), before white settlers began pouring in "like maggots," as Yankton Sioux chief Padianiapapi colorfully described their influx to his people ten years later.

With the overwhelming military might of the growing United States backing up the settlers, the tribal nations were forced to formally cede most of the land in Minnesota Territory at the Treaties of Traverse des Sioux on July 23, 1851, and the Treaty of Mendota on August 5, 1851. The Dakota were supposed to be allowed to continue living on a reservation that extended a mere ten miles on either side of the upper Minnesota River – but Congress unilaterally removed Article 3, establishing that reservation, when it ratified the Treaties.

Meanwhile, promised annuities and goods were either slow in coming, stolen outright, or paid to white traders directly in exchange for purported debts owed to them by the Dakota. White settlers encroached on traditional hunting grounds, and took game that would otherwise have sustained the Dakota.

As the Americans became preoccupied with the Civil

see **NOTES** page B5

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

A Week At The Beach



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK PRINT

By LESLIE BROWN

WELLS BEACH, ME. – The lawn is mowed, the garden weeded, the ammoniated rags hung to head off varmints. As we prepare for vacation the corn is well tasseled and taller than we are, the tomatoes producing massively and both the winter squash and cucumber vines bearing fruit, the beans are in bloom. The timing is right for a week's vacation at the shore.

It's a whole other culture beachside. A collection of polyglot families with small children, a gaggle of barely clad teenagers strutting their stuff, a rainbow of tattooed males and females.

Salty air mixes with the scents of sun oils, fish and sweet treats; the sounds of seagulls crying, fatigued small fry and exhausted parental directives.

But we're all here for the sun, the sand, the breeze and most of all the lull of the ocean tides which rise and fall with no human assistance.

We arrive shortly after three,

and by five o'clock the tide is almost high, pushing the remaining sun seekers back to the seawall. The beach empties and we watch a spreading, rosy-peach sunset.

We amble back to our efficiency for a glass of wine, some cold chicken and salad.

Then, drawn by the susurrant of the waves, we return to the beach. There are far fewer of us out now. The sands are quiet.

Up at the promenade by the benches, a man is pointing at the waves excitedly. He tells us to watch the water just behind the large waves, and after some straining in the dimmer light we do make out a bobbing shadow. These are sting rays, he says, feeding on the fish in the still-high waters.

The light deepens further and we watch fireworks off the shores of the Kennebunks, and then see the lighthouse on the Nubble. The past half, nearly full moon rises, with Jupiter pointing the way.

We sleep the easy rest of tired body and peaceful soul, lulled by the constant waves.

Thus begins the vacation routine: see **GARDENER'S** page B2

Transitions:



BLANCHETTE PHOTO

The view looking out from inside the kitchen of Ellen Blanchette's third floor walk-up apartment, Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, New York, December 2000. She lived alone here for the first time since moving to NYC in 1966.

Leaving the Life I Loved

Ellen Blanchette has worked as a reporter and photographer for the Reporter since 2008. This year, she will be writing periodically about the challenges many people encounter when they find themselves facing major life transitions, such as retirement. She begins this week with the story of her own transition to living in Franklin County.

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

GREENFIELD – When I decided to move to western Massachusetts in 2002 from New York City, I had this story running in my head to justify taking on this huge adventure. Why was I uprooting my life, taking this great leap into the unknown? Some of it was to save myself, to escape to a whole new world where I could reinvent myself, create a new more satisfying life.

Much of it was simply flight. I had tried fighting that impulse as my city was on fire and the world around me was filled with tears and grief. I loved New York. I felt loyalty and devotion to it. Throughout the years I had fought

hard to stay in the city, to find a way to raise my child alone, to find work that would support us, friends who would sustain us, be the family we needed.

It took a lot of creativity and I thought I had it together – until the terrorists blew it apart, and revealed the flaws in my thinking.

Self deception is a fine art. In facing reality, it is still possible to take a step away into a new world of denial. We tell ourselves stories to justify our actions in the face of the unknown, in order to be brave; to step out of our comfort zone; to take that leap of faith required for change.

So I told myself that the pain in my body, which I did my best to ignore, was due to the daily stress of work and subway transit that would be solved by moving to a place where cars and parking lots were the norm.

Not to a suburb with traffic and high rents and long commutes on railroads, but to a quiet, peaceful rural community where people were kind, where hippies had found peace, where a person could drive to work on half-empty

see **TRANSITION** page B8

ELEVEN CDS FOR ELEVEN BUCKS

5. Life on the Mississippi: The Film Music of William Perry (1992)

By IVAN USSACH

These instrumental tracks are taken from the scores of a half-dozen films of Mark Twain stories. There are no vocals, excepting angelic choral voices on the closing track of the filmed version of *The Mysterious Stranger* – a lesser-known work featuring a character named Satan; it was unfinished when Twain died in 1910, and has an intriguing publishing history. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is more likely to ring a bell.

So here we have excerpts of music from films I haven’t seen, all based on books I haven’t read. I have read some Twain, and am a huge fan, going so far as to visit his exquisitely beautiful home, now a museum, in Hartford, Connecticut.

William Perry composed over 100 film scores, many for restorations and reissues of silent-era classics. The films represented here were produced in the ‘80s for PBS. This is orchestral music, and Perry did a fine job evoking “Life on the Mississippi” and sweeping mid-west vistas, with the occasional harmonica solo and jaw harp adding a homespun texture to the already rich classical palette. Is that John-boy I see a’comin’?

In the track called “Learning to Ride,” from the short sketch titled “The Private History of a Campaign that Failed” (available to read online at www.classicshorts.com/stories/phctf.html), I distinctly heard a



horse being slapped hard.

The music for *The Innocents Abroad*, by comparison, includes a rousing Parisian can-can and several Italian-flavored tracks, one called “Bathub Rag” – I wonder what’s happening in that scene.

It’s amazing, really, that a composer can command so many musical voices, investing them with emotional qualities that, when you close your eyes, conjure up different worlds. Or if you’re watching the film, I suppose the music plays more of a supporting role. Then again, most people would be surprised – maybe not pleasantly – to watch a film or TV show completely lacking scored music; the additional sound-music is essential to create the desired impact.

Eventually it occurred to me to see if I could find any of the films to watch. Greenfield Library staff located three at other libraries, and I now have *Huck Finn* – clocking in at 213 minutes. Heck, I might as well read it!

A Benefit for Mutts In Need

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

MONTAGUE – The Franklin County Regional Animal Shelter in Turners Falls is doing a fundraiser called Mutts in Need, for the fifth year in row, at Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club. It will be held next Saturday, August 19 from 3 to 8 p.m.

Tickets for the event will be \$25. The cost includes a buffet meal and live music as part of the deal.

The director of the shelter, a woman named Leslee Colucci, said “All the funds go to dog care here.” Besides the music and the meal, there will a parade, a raffle like the previous year, and a live auction. The live music will be by a two-person group called Dogwalker.

The director also told me the parade is actually called the “Dog Walk of Fame.” It’s a snapshot of how dogs were at the shelter, and how they are now at their new homes. “The dogs will appear in person for the ‘how they are now’ part,” Colucci explained.

The band Dogwalker will be appearing at this event for the first time. “They volunteered to perform for us,” she said. The event will be at the Rod and Gun Club for the second year in the row.

The auction will feature items that include “a quilt, and an artist named Molly Cantor from Shelburne Falls donated some of her art-

works.” I learned that one art piece is “an oval porcelain platter that is hand carved.” She does some very nice pottery, from what I have seen on her official website.

According to the shelter’s official website, dogs are welcome to the event, though they must remain on a leash.

I believe the Dog Walk of Fame will be a sight of great enjoyment for any of the volunteers from the shelter who are there. They probably don’t need to see a photo of what these dogs look like before getting homes – they have seen these dogs first hand – so they will be seeing how well their efforts to help these dogs have paid off.

(I know how that feels: I adopted a dog with a bad leg. He is now able to even stand on all fours sometimes. It’s a pleasing sight to see.)

“Most of the work to create Mutts in Need was done by volunteers at the shelter,” Leslee told me. Which, I assume, must have been good quality. Why else would this fundraising event be going on for five years? That could be one reason why the band Dogwalker has volunteered to play at this event for the first time – beside the fact that helping an animal shelter is a good cause.

For more information, go to the shelter’s Facebook page and www.ferdogkennel.org.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Aggro Skunk; Verbal Over Pizza; Fossil Poacher; Various Behaviors Attributed To Intoxication

Monday, 7/24

5:46 p.m. Following up to a previous call on Fourth Street. Officers spoke to several people; nobody knows where the couch came from that was left at this location.

10:12 p.m. Caller states that a black vehicle is parked near an unused building on Rod Shop Road. Caller saw two or three people with flashlights get out and walk into the woods. Two males are out picking up trash.

10:28 p.m. Officer conducting motor vehicle stop. No problems. Vehicle had high beams on alongside the road. Operator was out picking up some scrap metal.

Tuesday, 7/25

6:24 p.m. Caller reporting strong odor of smoke in Canal Road area. PD and FD responding. Officer advising he can smell smoke near Railroad Salvage; can hear voices in the woods on the riverbank and can see light smoke rising. Small cooking fire located. PD and FD speaking with a couple of people about the fire laws. Fire to be extinguished; units clear.

7:33 p.m. Report from Morris Avenue of late model black Jeep Cherokee that drives dangerously around the neighborhood (speeding, doing burnouts) on a daily basis. Caller would like vehicle operator to be made aware of complaint. Officer went to residence. Vehicle not there; vehicle owner not home.

9:21 p.m. Caller from Fourth Street states that a male and female have been fighting every night in the apartment building across the street. Officers located source of noise: couple had door to their apartment open, and their TV was on really loud. No argument.

Wednesday, 7/26

9:20 a.m. Party into station reporting that someone opened up his mail and stole his 2019 license plate sticker. Advised of options.

11:31 a.m. Caller from Montague City Road states that there is a skunk running around outside her home and it is chasing kids. Animal control officer notified and responding.

11:45 a.m. 911 call reporting that a motor vehicle came out of gear and rolled into a pedestrian outside of Aubuchon Hardware. Two people transported to hospital.

1:02 p.m. Caller states that a man is at the Sheffield Elementary School playground swearing loudly. When he was asked to quiet down, he threw

something at the caller. Involved male has come into station to complain about the caller. Situation mediated; both parties advised of options.

Friday, 7/28

6:05 a.m. Multiple vehicles broken into overnight in area of Stevens and Montague streets. Greenfield taking reports of similar incidents. Investigated.

9:09 a.m. Animal control officer called stating he removed one skunk from a Montague City Road location.

11:05 a.m. Caller from Unity Street just arrived to discover door kicked in and damage to house. Investigated.

3:58 p.m. Caller from Fairway Avenue noticed that her gas cap/tank appears to have been tampered with. Officer en route.

6:11 p.m. [REDACTED] was arrested on a straight warrant.

10:34 p.m. Anonymous caller reporting vehicle that has done donuts at the bottom of Turnpike Road twice. Delayed response due to call volume.

11 p.m. Caller reporting that male who has been banned from Between the Uprights for years is attempting to gain access to bar; same was asked to leave by bouncer but now has head through door giving employees a hard time. Male has vacated area and gone upstairs for the night.

11:06 p.m. 911 caller reporting vehicle rollover at base of Turners Falls Road in Greenfield adjacent to Turners Falls town line. Vehicle blocking both lanes of road. No injuries. Caller transferred to Greenfield police; MPD en route to assist.

Saturday, 7/29

8:16 a.m. Caller from Kusom Auto Body advising that he made a deal with some local kids that they could slowly cut through the property on their ATVs as long as they go slow. However, this morning caller noticed that ATVs had dug up the property, causing rocks to fly up and ruin a brand new paint job on a car. Officer en route to speak to caller and owner of ATV. Caller advised of options. Owner of ATV denies any involvement.

5:57 p.m. Caller from Second Street states that she is attempting to move out of her apartment and her neighbor keeps threatening to slash her tires and is kicking her belongings. Officers en route. Peace restored.

7:59 p.m. Caller from Second Street states that her roommate, who is not on the lease, is refusing to

leave the location and has also lost the caller’s vehicle keys. Officer provided courtesy transport to involved female.

10:47 p.m. Caller states that her grandfather’s girlfriend is banging on her door and yelling. 911 call also received from involved female, who told state police that she was at this location but did not respond to dispatch questions. Units clear; verbal over pizza; involved female is being brought to Red Roof Inn for the night.

Sunday, 7/30

4:45 a.m. Caller from G Street advising that an intoxicated male is “trashing” the place. No weapons. Removed to hospital. 2 p.m. Request to assist in Gill for an elderly female on a bicycle who is in and out of traffic. Officer made contact with female, who is at the end of her 15 mile bike ride and was just exhausted. Female lives up the road and is making her way home.

2:23 p.m. Call transferred from state police; caller had disconnected after advising that there was a male who appeared to be looking for fossils with a hammer and chisel in the area of the bridge on Canal Road. On attempts to call back, caller kept hanging up on purpose. Officer advised.

2:46 p.m. Caller from Main Street advises that she has a skunk living under her deck and is wondering if the officers can put it down. Animal is not sick. Copy of call left for ACO; advised caller that this is more of an extermination issue.

6:20 p.m. Caller from Second Street reporting that a light gold colored vehicle pulled up out front with small children in the car; male driver was swearing and yelling at a female who had come outside, and female was yelling and swearing back at him. Vehicle sped off and has not returned. Officers advised.

[Gap in records provided to the Reporter, from 6:30 a.m. on Monday 7/31 and 6 a.m. on Tuesday 8/16.]

Tuesday, 8/1

10:06 a.m. Employee from Farren Care Center reporting a bat in a patient room. ACO number given.

Wednesday, 8/2

2:03 a.m. Pan Am advising that Lake Pleasant railroad crossing is blocked at this time; will be open in 15-30 minutes. Rail issue being worked on.

8:04 a.m. Water department requesting assistance checking on a possible “squatter” out in the woods by Lake Pleasant.

Small camp located south of Green Pond Road; tent and trash found, but no one there at this time. Officers will check again later in the day.

11:25 a.m. Caller reported that when he went to get his belongings from a room he was renting on Bridge Street, his EBT card, cash, and a tool bag were gone. Caller got tool bag back while officers were on scene. EBT, driver’s license, and five dollars still missing.

4:37 p.m. Truck vs. car at Seventh and K streets; confirmed airbag deployment. Vehicle towed; one patient transported by MedCare; citation issued to operator of second vehicle.

8:04 p.m. 911 caller reporting that someone ran up to a house on L Street and climbed through the window. Officers en route. Female that climbed through window was niece of apartment owner.

Thursday, 8/3

9:26 p.m. Vehicle into tree and utility pole on Federal Street. MedCare and Eversource notified and en route.

Friday, 8/4

4:29 p.m. Caller requesting to speak to an officer re: her children refusing to buckle up in the car. Advised of options.

6:25 p.m. Caller requesting to speak to an officer re: neighbor having video cameras attached to their home facing caller’s property. Advised of options.

8:35 p.m. Caller from K Street reporting that there is active drug dealing in area. Officers responding. Unable to locate.

9:39 p.m. Two male parties fighting inside Pizza House. Services rendered.

Saturday, 8/5

4:21 a.m. Erving PD off with four possibly intoxicated subjects on Montague side of bridge. Four parties transported to station. Parents/guardians picked up all involved subjects.

12:18 p.m. Report of intoxicated male causing disturbance at Avenue A and Fourth Street. Male taken into protective custody.

Sunday, 8/6

4:24 p.m. Caller from F.L. Roberts states that the male party who is constantly going through the trash is back at it.

6:31 p.m. Caller reports that a young white male entered Hillcrest Elementary School and was chased out by an employee; subject is now walking around building checking for unlocked doors. Male spotted by officer and began running away. Suspect located and advised not to return to school grounds.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Doug's Auto Body
Doug Smith - Owner

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785
Fax: (413) 863-0120
FREE ESTIMATES
REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS

39 Center Road
Gill, MA 01354
FREE LOANER CARS

INTEGRATIVE ACUPRESSURE
REIKI T.A.T. REFLEXOLOGY
CLINICAL ACUPRESSURE
POSITIONAL RELEASE THERAPY
TONG REN THERAPY
No Needles/Fully Clothed

Janet Masucci, ABMP, NCTMB 413-863-8694
Nationally Certified Bodyworker since 1993

**Helpful for: Aches & Pains, Allergies, Anxiety,
Arthritis, Boosting Immunity, Depression, Headaches,
Insomnia, Low Energy, Stiffness, Stress, & more...**

Rau's Auto
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

BASICALLY BICYCLES



TURNERS FALLS

SUMMER SALE

Save on new in-stock bikes
and trikes until August 20.
Shop early for best selection!

Save 20% on KHS bikes
Save 10% on recumbent bikes
Save 5% on recumbent trikes
Save 10% on Arkel bags

Basically Bicycles
88 Third Street
Turners Falls
www.basicallybicycles.com
413-863-3556

Store Hours:
Weds – Sat: 10 am– 5:30 pm
Sundays: 10 am – 4 pm

FARM from page B1

involved a willow tree and a front loader, and a wooden “wedding bench” on that spot that serves as a testament to their vows.

At the time they met, Isaac was working on a big project with a sculptor in East Corinth, Vermont, named Joseph Wheelwright (1948 – 2016). Joseph was known for being a master carver of stone and wood, and Isaac worked with him on incredibly large pieces: literally trees, plucked out of the ground and recreated upside-down as people. The last of these, a 40-foot tall “Giant,” was a spectacular failure. The story is best told in a 2012 article in *Northern Woodlands Magazine*.

Isaac has a six-inch scar on his wrist, and bolts and plates hold his bones together, but says he has no regrets about this experience.

Carving A Path

Isaac’s work experiences prior to the Wheelwright project were pretty unusual. After completing high school he went through periods where he pursued more traditional paths: bouts of schooling at Dartmouth and St. John’s, interspersed with work in construction and followed by periods of depression.

He finally found the perfect combination of work and study at Berea College in Kentucky, where students divide time between classroom and craft workshops. Isaac switched from engineering to an art major and worked in the ceramics studio at the college. These days Isaac’s functional pottery is for sale in the farm store, and each year his mugs and other items bear a different relief stamp representing something on the farm.

After graduation from Berea in 2005, he applied for and got a Watson scholarship to visit wooden boat building communities in Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, and other places around the world. His interest in this skill continues with the making of strip-built boats in his “spare” time. A strip built boat uses layers of wood sandwiched with fiberglass epoxy to make a lightweight wooden craft.

There were intentions towards getting an MFA in ceramics at one point, which might have led to a teaching career, but Isaac did not really desire to spend more time in a classroom. His brother got him a job working with him on a Kentucky horse farm, which happened to lead in a very unlikely direction for Isaac: it’s where he first tried chainsaw carving.

This Kentucky horse park was gearing up to be the site of an Equestrian World Cup event. One of the challenges in the equestrian Olympics was a cross-country obstacle course comprised of large sculptures and scale wooden models that horse and rider would jump over: for instance, a duck the size of a car, or a log cabin at quarter scale.

Isaac didn’t know he could grab a chainsaw and carve a perfect duck’s head until he was pressed into doing



This giant rooster, welcoming customers to the farm store, is one of many chainsaw carvings completed by Bingham.

it, and found he had this natural talent for this type of sculpture. Chainsaw carving is a more lucrative form of sculpture not taught in art school. It is often a roadside spectacle in these parts; it is often a caricature of a thing; it is easily accessible for the general public to absorb.

The work Isaac did on the horse farm was all of that, and his arms and shoulders ached from running a chainsaw all day. Eventually he realized that money could be made even more easily if you were the one renting the sculptures for a race, rather than carving them.

He completed twelve large sculptures for the park before leaving to be back in New England to work on the Giant with Wheelwright up in Vermont’s North Kingdom. And now, having worked hard on the dreams of others, he works on the vision of his farming family.

Building a Home

“All of Upinngil is a creative enterprise, comprised of many whimsical endeavors: chainsaw carving, wheel thrown ceramics, boat-building, and housebuilding, alongside the day-to-day farming,” writes Isaac in a note after our interview.

“I’ve concluded that whatever tree I find myself under, both actual and metaphorical, is my studio, Undertree Studio. When I say that all of Upinngil is a creative enterprise, I include all the family members and

employees that work year-round to make this place, Up in Gill, such a unique experience for families to visit. It’s more than any one individual, and it’s more than a farm.”

Now a father, Isaac takes a longer view than when he was younger. His most consuming project, still in its infancy, will be to build a timber-framed home with wood harvested from the Upinngil woodlot. “It will serve as employee/family housing for generations to come. The design process is nearly complete, and we plan to break ground in 2018,” says Isaac.

Also being planned is another carving, this time a life-size cow, curled on her side, chewing her cud. This will have to wait until after the timber framed building is done, most likely a fall project several years from now, on the south side of the Upinngil farmhouse, in plain view of anyone interested who wants to watch the metamorphosis that is art.

As Isaac puts it, “something to set Upinngil apart.”

Visit Upinngil farm seven days a week all year round, including holidays, Sundays, birthdays, and snow days. (Since cows need milking every day, Isaac and Sorrel conclude that they might as well have the store open.) They are online at upinngil.com, and to see some more of Isaac’s art, go to ragged-edgeproductions.com.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

DOLAN & DOLAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS
01376
413-863-3133

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

Pipione's

SPORT SHOP

- Fishing supplies; Live bait
- Fishing & Hunting Licenses
- Paintball & CO₂ Refills
- Guns & Ammo

Open 7 am 7 days a week
101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246



Bryan G. Hobbs

Remodeling Contractor

Blown Cellulose Insulation • Spray Foam Insulation
Airsealing • Energy Audits • Replacement Doors & Windows
Email: bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com

Home/Office
Telephone: 413-775-9006
Fax: 413-475-3255
Lic # 083982 | Reg # 139564

Bryan G. Hobbs
346 Conway St.
Greenfield, MA 01301



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

BRIAN MCCUE, PRESIDENT
240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA 01351
PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896 • RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM



POWER TOWN

APARTMENTS

152 Avenue A - Turners Falls, MA - 01376
(413) 863-9433

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
FOR SECTION 8 APARTMENT HOMES
1-2-3 BEDROOMS
Shannon Madigan - Property Manager



BestLocalBank.com

Free Online Banking
with Bill Pay, Transfers, Debit Card Freeze/Unfreeze & More!
Free Mobile Banking App
with Mobile Check Deposit, Alerts, Freeze/Unfreeze & More!

GREENFIELD Cooperative Bank NORTHAMPTON Cooperative Bank
A Division of Greenfield Cooperative Bank

413-512-5012

Avenue A, Turners Falls

MEMBER FDIC
MEMBER SIF



Bernadette Makes Them Welcome (left) and her mother Sherry Welsh (right) join our correspondent for breakfast at the Upper Sioux Nation annual powwow.

NOTES from page B1

War, starvation fell upon the Native people in Minnesota.

In the summer of 1862, fighting broke out when a young brave killed four settlers. Little Crow took council, and reluctantly agreed to lead a war party to drive the settlers out of their treaty lands.

For a time, his tactical brilliance resulted in the continual defeat of militias sent against his band. Hundreds of white settlers were killed and driven off traditional Dakota lands – perhaps as many as 800 were killed, according to Abraham Lincoln’s address to Congress. But Lincoln sent General John Pope with four hastily-formed or reallocated infantry regiments to quell the violence.

The Dakota were outnumbered and overwhelmed at the Battle of Big Lake on September 23, 1862. They surrendered, and hundreds of Dakota were jailed. Following five-minute trials with no representation for the Natives, 303 Dakota were sentenced to death.

Lincoln reviewed the trial records personally, and commuted many of the death sentences. But in the largest mass execution in America’s history of capital punishment, 38 Dakota warriors were hanged in Mankato, Minnesota on December 26, 1862.

Little Crow escaped to Canada for a time, but returned here, to what is now Hutchinson, in the summer of 1863. He was shot to death in front of his son while picking berries.

His son was imprisoned. Little Crow’s body was scalped and mutilated. His scalp and skull and other bones were put on display in the state capitol in St. Paul until 1971, when the bones were given to his descendants for burial in South Dakota, where many of the Dakota were forced to flee following the brief war in Minnesota.

After the Dawes Allotment Act of 1887 broke up the large Native American reservations around the country, including those given to the Sioux in the Dakotas – and after the US government pursued many other policies, including outright termination of federal trust responsibilities with hundreds of Native Nations established by treaty – a large percentage of Native people have moved to the urban core of cities like Minneapolis, where most have not fared well. About 8,000 people identify as Native American in Minneapolis, or 2% of the city’s population of 382,578.

Alan Gross, Northern Minnesota Chippewa and barista at the Native-owned Powwow Grounds Coffee shop on East Franklin Avenue in Minneapolis, told me when I visited that there used to be 11 places to buy hard liquor on the 11-block stretch of Franklin that forms the core of the Native neighborhood there.

But times have changed. Millions of corporate dollars have been funneled through city planners to East Franklin Avenue, where the first American Indian Cultural Corridor on the continent has been formed, featuring Indigenous businesses and art galleries, Native housing blocks and health clinics, a bakery and restaurant, and gardens working with traditional methods and Native crops.

At the University of Minnesota East in St. Paul, Francis Bettleyoun, Lakota master gardener from Pine Ridge, tends a half-acre Medicine Garden in between vast fields of Cargill-sponsored chemical agriculture.

First and foremost, Bettleyoun says, the Native People in Minneapolis and St Paul need healing, healing from the trauma of colonialism, dislocation, genocide, racism and abuse.

Bettleyoun told me, “The Native urban community is chaos.”

He noted the astronomical rate of child sexual abuse on the Pine Ridge Reservation, where this plague upon the survivors of genocide has been endemic from the founding of the Holy Rosary Mission in 1888 to the present. The clinical director of the Pine Ridge Hospital, Dr. Stanley Webber, 68, was indicted this year on multiple counts of aggravated child sexual assault on children under the age of 16, an example of the ongoing trauma Native urban dwellers are in the process of dealing with and healing from.

After Congress abrogated the Treaties with the Dakota following the 1862 Uprising, and exiled them to arid lands in the west as refugees, the unfamiliar new ecosystem and lack of agricultural tradition forced them into dependence on outside food, Bettleyoun said. Today, that diet consists primarily of inexpensive processed meals supplemented by D-grade commodities guaranteed by another 19th-century treaty with the US government.

Grief over their loss of traditional lifestyle, and the resulting health crisis, runs deep. Gardens like the one at U of Minnesota and others near Frankin Avenue are part of a movement toward the return of a healthier community and a healthier environment. As Bettleyoun put it, “The Gardens are part of healing ourselves and Mother Earth.”

Recently, in an unmarked gallery in the state capitol, a traveling display of Broken Treaties, some of the original official documents, could be found by those persistent enough to locate it.

Broken, yes, but not forgotten. According to Article 6 of the US Constitution, treaties like the ones signed with the Dakota remain the supreme law of the land.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LEVERETT POLICE LOG

Standoff Resolved Without Incident

Tuesday, 7/4

1:13 p.m. Officers respond to motor vehicle crash on North Leverett Road. No injuries. Vehicle hit two fenceposts and the house number post.

Saturday 7/8

10:58 a.m. Officer Robinson advised that an individual was shooting geese with a pellet gun at Leverett Pond in the Putney Road area. The officer spoke with environmental police regarding the complaint. Individual responsible located, and advised properly.

Sunday 7/9

6:30 p.m. Officer Batchelder responded to Hemenway Road for a reported past breaking and entering. Case under investigation.

Friday 7/14

9:10 p.m. Report of a suspicious vehicle in the Two Mile Road, Drummer Hill Road area. Subsequent investigation from Leverett PD and Sunderland PD found the operator of the vehicle to be unlicensed. Court summons issued.

Sunday 7/16

11:33 a.m. Officer Sawicki issued a court summons for operating after license suspension after a traffic stop on Shutesbury Road.

Monday 7/17

11:16 a.m. Leverett and Sunderland officers responded to a Long Plain Road address for a reported assault and battery. Officers investigated. No charges were filed, and the subjects were sent on their way.

Thursday 7/20

2:28 p.m. Chief Minckler and Officer Sawicki responded to Dudleyville Road at the Leverett Shutesbury town line for a reported ATV vs. mailboxes accident. Upon arrival, it was established that the accident occurred in Shutesbury, and the operator and ATV had fled the scene. Under investigation.

Saturday 7/22

12:10 p.m. Officer Sawicki assisted state police on Route 202 in Pelham with a motor vehicle accident. The operator was being belligerent and uncooperative.

8:07 p.m. Leverett PD, Sunderland PD, and state police responded to a Shutesbury Road address

for an out-of-control male with a machete. Once officers arrived, the male was threatening harm to himself and officers. After approximately an hour and a half of talking with the male, he was taken into custody without incident, and officers transported him to the hospital for evaluation.

Wednesday 7/26

2:25 p.m. Officer Sawicki assisted a group of bicyclists with changing a damaged bike tire.

Thursday 7/27

6:20 p.m. Officer Gralenski issued a court summons for operating with a revoked registration and speeding after a traffic stop on Bull Hill Road.

LOOKING BACK:
10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was August 9, 2007: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.

Gill-Montague Bridge “Deficient”

The Gill-Montague Bridge, built around 1940, has a speed bump on the Turners Falls side. It gradually developed over the years as the supporting steel beams underneath rust and rot away from the ravages of age and ice control chemicals. Not only are the ends of the beams eaten away, but the concrete piers supporting them show signs of deterioration.

The MassHighway bridge inspection crew has been inspecting the bridge, year after year labelling it “deficient.” About ten years ago, Mackin Construction began rehabilitating the bridge exterior. They started with the railings. But after the railings were cleaned, the ends were so rotted away that the job came to a halt, there was nothing left to weld them back onto the bridge. The railings were put back, insecure, along with a chain-link fence to prevent anyone leaning on the railings from getting a closer look at the river bed below than they wanted.

The next step was to put up concrete “Jersey barriers” on the west side of the bridge to keep cars from ending up in the river had they swerved into the railings.

The Gill-Montague bridge received a rating of 26 out of 100 from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. A Minneapolis truss bridge of similar design that collapsed last week received a rating of 50 out of 100.

G-M School District Passes Budget, by Two Votes

Voters from the Gill-Montague Regional School District voted by the narrowest of margins – 132 to 130 – to accept the Montague finance committee’s recommended school budget of \$16,180,901, after voting down the school committee’s recommended budget of \$16,356,901 by a wide margin, 186-71.

At their meeting on Tuesday, the school committee decided to study the budget further, to see where – or if – the \$176,000 in additional cuts could be made, before deciding whether to adopt the amended budget passed at the unusual district-wide meeting the week before.

Only 267 voters from the towns of Gill and Montague attended the meeting at the high school on the 31st, although preparations had been made to accommodate a crowd four times that size.

If the school committee agrees on the budget number passed by the district voters, both Gill and Montague will need to come up with ad-

ditional money to fund it.

Angry Outburst over School Budget Meeting

An impassioned commentary by Martin Yarmac at the Gill selectboard meeting spiraled into a free-form attack on local school boards, area teachers, the MCAS, the ACLU, the Supreme Court, and LGBT people.

He began by comparing the handling of the Gill-Montague school district meeting to the late Ferdinand Marcos, president of the Philippines known for scandal and corruption. He also complained that non-registered voters might have swung the close vote at the meeting, and declared that he could have passed the MCAS test as a fourth-grader but teachers these days aren’t doing their jobs.

“I’ll tell you what happened,” Yarmac continued. “The Supreme Court and the ACLU gutted the school system. They took away the prayers, the values, the pledge, and the discipline, and now what do you have. You’ve got men marrying men and women marrying men and men marrying chickens and people wonder what’s wrong. Well, it doesn’t take an Einstein to figure that one out.”

Yarmac came to the selectboard meeting on the invitation of the board.

MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM !!!

COCC HUMANIST

PEACOCK... HUG WSHGNH

HUG YSYGA USN GRGA

VGGC ZOCONUGI...

CRACK THE CODE? SEND YOUR ANSWER TO: INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Dudek Tax Service
10 Masonic Ave
Turners Falls
MA 01376
Frank J. Dudek

413.863.5394 - Office
413.775.3327 - Cell
frankd_74@yahoo.com

A small graphic of a tax form with the number 1040 visible.

CHARON ART VISIONARY TATTOO

Inspired, holistic tattoos
with a focus on personal energy,
experience and spontaneous creation.

www.CharonArt.com
413.676.9146
107 Avenue A, Great Falls

A close-up image of a tattoo on a person's arm, featuring a circular design with intricate patterns.

“Home Town Auto Care - The Way It Used To Be”

JP TIRE & AUTO
Complete Quality Auto Care
147 2nd St.
Turners Falls, MA 01376
413 - 863 - 5423

Foreign - Domestic - Tires - Diagnostics
Aftermarket Accessories - Installation

A small image of a car, possibly a sedan, shown from the side.

The Children's Page

Words and Pictures
by Beverly Ketch

Friends Near and Far



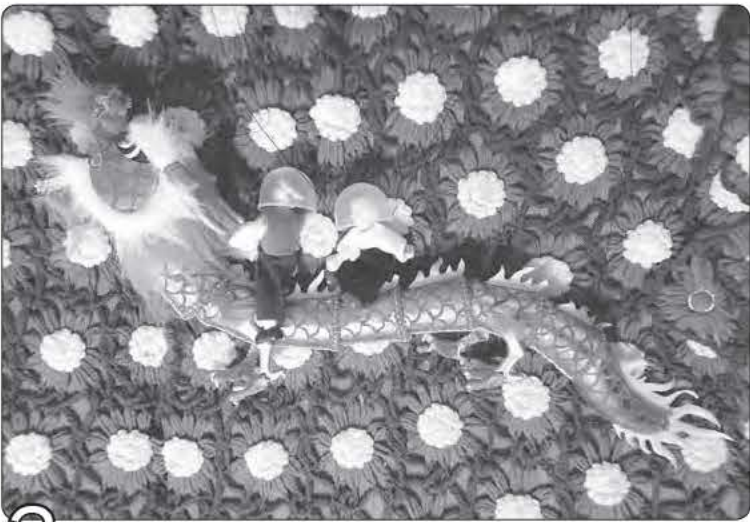
1

One lovely day, Mr. and Mrs. Magician were busy with many things, and all of their children were set to the task of entertaining themselves. Little Red set himself down by the millpond, to make friends with any creature who might happen by.



2

Fezwig and Tam came along shortly. "Want to come along while we fly into outer space on Percy the Dragon? We have space helmets!" "No thanks, guys," said Little Red. "I already made three new friends right here! But come back and tell me all about it."



3

Fezwig and Tam set off to wait for Percy at the dragon stop. He showed up in no time, and he was very excited to hear that they wanted a ride into outer space.

"I enjoy flying around the world every day," said Percy, "but I very seldom get to fly out to the stars!" Off they flew, like a bright streak. What a thrill it was racing through space!

"I see a small planet ahead," said Fezwig, "Can we land there?" "Certainly," replied Percy.



4

When they landed, they hopped off Percy and set their feet on the strange land, staring around them with great fascination.



5

Suddenly they saw two inhabitants of the planet. They approached, and then stood before them patiently.

"I think they are a welcoming committee," said Tam. When they walked away, they stopped after a short distance and looked back. "I think they want us to follow."

"I will stay here and rest and wait for you," said Percy.



6

The two boys were led into the presence of a beautiful being with a serene expression. The spacemen began to make humming happy noises just to be near her. Tam and Fezwig tried to imitate the sounds – out of politeness, but also because she did inspire them somehow.



7

The space lady took them to a large gallery. She led them to a picture and it seemed to have special significance to her. They enjoyed looking at it, and although they had no way of knowing more about it, they felt they would remember it forever.

The space people began to gently chant the word *Dazalian* over and over.

"I think that must be the name of this planet!" said Fezwig.

"Or perhaps it is her name," said Tam. "We may never know!"



8

The boys sang and chanted gently as a way of saying farewell, and the spacemen led them back to Percy. "I can't wait to tell Little Red all about this!" said Tam.

Attention kids! You can publish your art, poetry, and articles in this Children's Page. Submit to kids@montaguereporter.org.


PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666



BASICALLY BICYCLES
Come try the ultimate in performance and comfort.
Recumbents • Trikes • Electric Bikes
88 Third Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376
(413) 863-3556 • www.basicallybicycles.com
Wed - Sat 10 to 5:30 Sunday 10 - 4

REAL PICKLES
Locally grown vegetables
Fermented & raw
100% organic

A worker co-op in Greenfield, MA
www.realpickles.com | (413) 774-2600

Open Every Day 10 - 6
BOOK MILL
440 Greenfield Rd.
Montague, MA 01351

413-367-9206 www.montaguebookmill.com
Books you don't need in a place you can't find.

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 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.

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 3 .jpgs to 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: *Summer Show*. Through September 24.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *The Bay State: A Multicultural Landscape*. Photographs of New Americans by Mark Chester. Through August 27.

Leverett Crafts & Arts: *Tony Bildeau*; paintings with floral, landscape and figurative themes. Through August 27.

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

Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center, Greenfield: Northampton-based painter *Anna Bayles Arthur Show* through August 22.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Trina Sternstein: Imagined Landscapes*, Oil Paintings; and *Tom Wyatt: Reflection and Illusion*, Photographs on metal. Through August 27.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery, Montague Center: *Ancient Sites & Symbols*; artwork inspired by the ancient Southwest. Photography by Judy Cummings; jewelry by John Moore; ceramic sculpture by Lydia Grey; painting by Louise Minks. Through September 4.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *"The Green Show"*, group

show. Through September 26.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

Energy Park, Greenfield: *Coop Concerts with The Nite Caps Honky Tonk, Russ Thomas, and TBA*. 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope Story Hour*. This week it's drag-onflies! 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Great Falls Coffeehouse presents: Zydeco Connection*. 7 to 9 p.m. Donations support educational programming at the Center.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Roger Street Friedman*. Pop rock singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Signature Sounds presents: An Evening with The Jerry Douglas Band*. 8 p.m. \$

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Bike Path B-I-N-G-O!* Kids, grab your family and go. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Greenfield Gardens Youth Leadership Program Talent Show*. 1 to 3 p.m.

Montague Common Hall, Montague: *Open Mic Night #15*. Big town performance art in a tiny village. 7 to 10 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Dave Rothstein Art Opening Reception* 7 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Duo Orfeo*. Eclectic repertoire on both classical and electric guitars by *Jamie Balmer and Joseph Ricker*. 8 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Grant Stinnett*, looping instrumentation singer/songwriter, and *Hana Kahn*, pop rock. 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Big Picture Botany Series, Part 3*. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center, Northfield: The Center and the Northfield Bird Club present *Raptor Identification with David Brown*. 5 p.m.

Greenfield Word, 9 Mill St., Greenfield: *Open mic*. begins at 7:30 p.m.; featured readers *Cindy Snow, Elaine Readon, and Sharon Ann Harmon* will read at 8:30 p.m. *Slate Roof Poet Cindy Snow* will read from her new chapbook *Small Ceremonies*.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

Erving Public Library, Erving: *Program a Robot with Jean Daley*. This is the 4th programming workshop and is designed for children 8 and older. Limited to 6 participants so register early, 413-423-3348. 1 to 2 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

Energy Park, Greenfield: *Coop Concerts. **Raindate***

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

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *The Shad Ladder Radio Hour Presents: SHAD AT THE SHEA*. 7:30 p.m. \$

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope Story Hour*. This week it's bobcats! 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center, Northfield: *Bim Bam: Bilingual Music and Movement with Tom and Laurie*. Interactive bilingual Spanish/English program with activities geared to children 0-5 and their family members. 11:15 a.m. to noon.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Glenn Roth*, fingerstyle guitar, and special guest *Charles Berthoud*, fingerstyle bass. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Masta Ace*, with *LS Camp, P.O.E.*, and *Machakos Kyalo*. 9 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scotty K & Friends*. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

Montague Green, Montague Center: *Montague Old Home Days*. Races, exhibitors, parade, music and more! All day.

Wendell Common, Wendell: *Wendell Old Home Day*. Lots of everything. All day.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Poison Ivy Walk!* Learn how to recognize poison ivy and about the ecology of the plant. Reduce your chances of an itchy summer and fall! 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Meetinghouse Benefit featuring Ryley Walker, Sunburned Hand of the Man, Willie Lane, PG Six, Weeping Bong Band*, and eight more artists. Psychedelia. Starts at 12:30 p.m. \$

Wendell Free Library: *Movie The Howling*. This is part of the monthly series of Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movies. 7:30 p.m. Episode of "Radar Men From the Moon": number 8: "The Enemy Planet" shown at 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *5j Barrow*, indie folk rock, and *Cassidy & the Music*, singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

Great Falls Discovery Cen-

ter, Turners Falls: *Big Picture Botany Series, Part 4*. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 21

Erving Public Library, Erving: *End-of-Summer-Reading Day and Eclipse of the Sun*. Full afternoon and evening of events starting with eclipse at 1:30 p.m., readings, raffle, movie at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

Erving Public Library, Erving: *Library Building Committee meeting - Open Meeting*. The Committee welcomes your participation. 6:30 p.m.

W. Whately Chapel, W. Whately: *Watermelon Wednesday presents Upstate Rubdown*. Acoustic Septet. 7:30 p.m. \$

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

Erving Senior/Community Center, Erving: *Erving Library presents: Travelling Planetarium and the Night Sky*. 30 minute immersive program teaches how to find celestial objects in our nighttime sky. Ages 5 and up. Pre-register at the library. 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Energy Park, Greenfield: *Coop Concerts with Small Change, Jim Eagan, and Orlen & Gabriel*. 6 p.m.



THE LADY KILLIGREW:

*Awesome Beer
Amazing Food*

*Amazing, Awesome
Employees!*

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



The Brick House
COMMUNITY RESOURCE
CENTER
24 3rd Street, Turners Falls

**Summer Teen
Center Hours**
Mondays - Thursdays
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FREE LUNCH
for 18 and under at 11:30

www.brickhousecommunity.org
413-863-9576



The Rendezvous
Mon. Scotty K's Open Mic

FRI. 8/11
no show

SAT. 8/12 7pm
Dave Rothstein
"Local Focus"
Artist Reception

SUN. 8/13 9pm
TNT KARAOKE

(All Voo shows are no cover unless otherwise noted - please feed the artists!)

78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS, MA
RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM
TEL:413-863-2866

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM).

CALL 863-8666



TNT Productions
DJ & Karaoke specialists

413-522-6035
www.tntprodj.net



**HUGE
WASHERS!
HOT
DRYERS!**

Open 365 Days
6 A.M. - 10 P.M.

SUZEE'S THIRD STREET
LAUNDRY
TURNERS FALLS
FREE WIFI



ED L
Dealer in used
Home Furnishings

SMALL FURNITURE • COLLECTIBLES • DECORATIVES

374 Deerfield Street • Greenfield

featuring: Lamps Mirrors Chairs Baskets
Cookery Figurines End Tables

I Make
Lamps Lite!

Open 7 Days a Week

GOOD USED USABLES



Obear
CONSTRUCTION

413-367-6022
www.obearconstruction.com



Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE
UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

413-883-7323

Easy in-town location
Secure 24-hour access

**VARIETY OF
SIZES
THE BEST
PRICES**

OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

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

TRANSITION from page B1

roads and park in the company parking lot. This would ease my body and mental stress. I could work hard and be healthy. All of which was not a total fantasy.

What was a complete illusion was that work would be easy to find and pay would be more than enough to live on because the cost of living would be so much lower. The theory behind all of it was that my physical health was simply due to the stress of living in a big, crowded city, and not the more concerning possibility that I had serious health issues that I'd simply been ignoring.

I had been a single mom since 1977, when my son was six years old. My husband and I had struggled for years to keep our marriage going but it ended that year when he left on an adventure to the Middle East, to do work that never quite materialized but nevertheless was enough to make him leave his family with hardly a backward glance.

By 2002 I had worked in business in Manhattan for close to 18 years. I made what I thought was a reasonably good living. My son had a job in the cable television industry that paid easily three times what I had ever earned.

I was working as an office temp, usually very nice long term assignments in upscale corporate offices. I had a lot of experience by then as an administrative assistant and made reasonably good money. I had just completed an assignment at Two World Trade Center working for senior executives in a high tech company called "The_Beast.com" during the end of August.

The only reason I wasn't working on September 11, 2001 was that I'd turned down an assignment in order to go to a hiring hall held by the New York City Board of Education in the hopes of getting a teaching job. It had been strongly recommended to me by them, so I remember being really angry when that

turned out to be a complete waste of time. Looking back, it seems they very possibly saved my life.

After the terrorist attacks the work dried up. Lower Manhattan was a mess. Midtown was largely untouched except by sadness and the smell from the subterranean fires that burned for months in the underground parking garage at the site.

I got one assignment in October that lasted about five weeks at a place on Houston and Hudson streets, a kind of no-man's-land of big old buildings and wide streets. It was mostly clerical but I was glad to get it.

After that it was perhaps two months before I got a very nice assignment in a publishing house, also downtown, but better. That ended in late March, just as spring was beginning and the daffodils planted all over the city in the fall were starting to bloom everywhere. These were a generous gift from Holland meant as a memorial for those we lost. It was the most perfect gift to the city that I've ever seen. It added cheer to a deeply sad populace.

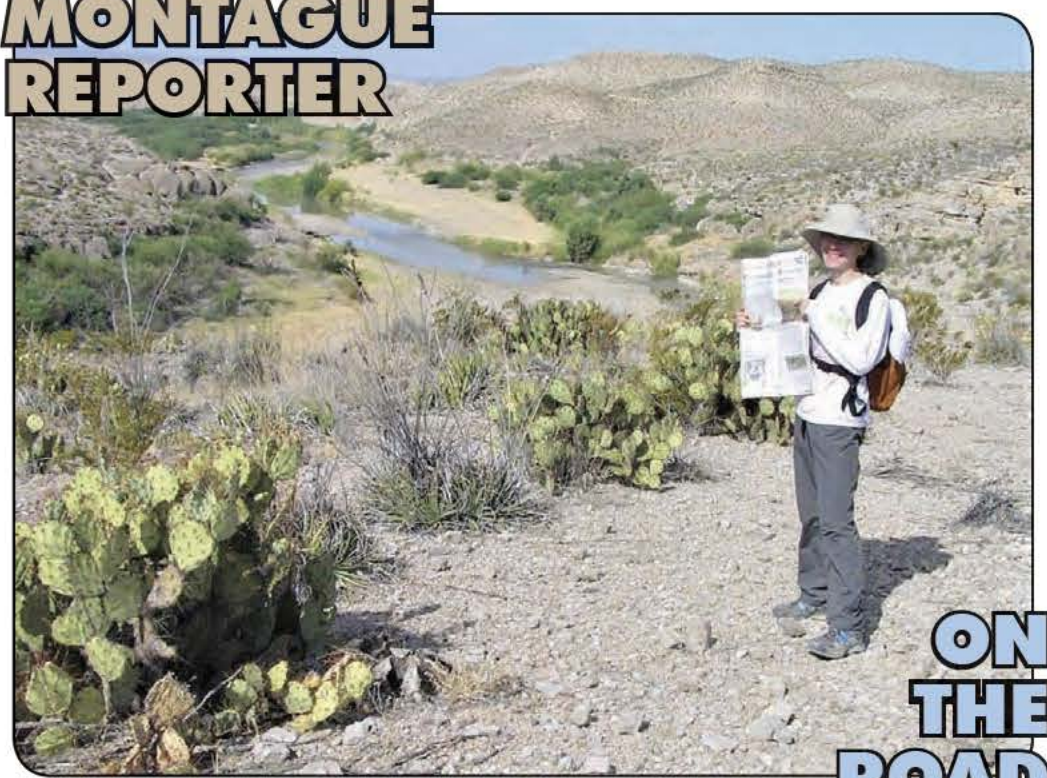
It also marked the beginning of the end of work for me.

I got a few days teaching at the local high school when the temp work dried up and my son and I began a long process to move me out of the city. I was facing a long summer with no work. I knew this because as an office temp, summer is often slow and if you don't have a job in the spring, chances are you won't get anything until the fall.

My money was running out. I'd collected some unemployment benefits during the breaks between jobs, which the state extended several times that year as my situation was not exceptional.

Still, it was clear that this was not just the normal slow down for summer. Wall Street, financial institutions, banks – they were the life blood of the city and as it turned out, the

MONTAGUE REPORTER



ON THE ROAD

Jeanne LaPierre reads the Reporter in the Big Bend National Park in West Texas, a short wade across the Rio Grande to Mexico.

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

engine that fed work to many of the businesses throughout Manhattan. So many of the companies housed in the World Trade Center lost top executives and family; lost long time employees with valuable knowledge and skills; lost software and technology. Many had to find new locations. Some, I suspect, just folded.

How do you leave your home of 40 years? How do you say goodbye to all that you have loved, to friends and work connections and neighbors? How do you leave the most exciting city on earth, give up theater and music in the park, long walks on the beach, people who have become family?

In moving so far north, I also put myself a lot further from my family in Philadelphia, the quick two-hour trip between New York and Philadelphia I'd taken for granted now a long difficult drive. I left many friends behind. After fifteen years, only a few remain in my life.

It was never my intention to retire before my 60th birthday, but in the end that is what happened.

It turned out the pain was not so easily banished.

I did find work. It was not what I expected, but it was in fact what I'd been missing all my life.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666



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

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

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

**Best Way
Home!**

#1 MORTGAGE LENDER

Call us for details.

(413) 774-3191 • (888) 324-3191
greenfieldsavings.com


**Greenfield
Savings Bank**
Member FDIC/Member DIF • Equal Housing Lender

YOU ASKED FOR IT, YOU GOT IT:

HONOR

78 3RD STREET
TURNERS FALLS
(413) 863-2866

THE RENDEZVOUS IS OPEN DAILY 11:30 A.M. - 1 AM.
FOR EVENTS CHECK OUT WWW.RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM



magpie

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

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

woodfired pizzeria

Prices Even Musicians Can Afford

REPLAY

#370 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA (413) 863-3037
www.replaymusicgear.com

**A BEAUTIFUL
Smile Starts With
Healthy Teeth**

GEETU SHOKEEN, DMD

**Montague Dental Arts
General Dentistry**
300 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376 • 413-863-2288

**CRUISE & TRAVEL
COMPANY**

30 Montague Street
TURNERS FALLS

413-863-3143 • 888-763-3143
www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com

**Peter Waters Painting
Services**

Interior/Exterior
Custom Residential
Fully Insured

Office: 978-544-6534
Cell: 413-461-5172
Wendell, MA
peterjwaters88@gmail.com

The Gill Tavern

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

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

**GREENFIELD
SOLAR STORE**

2 Fiske Avenue
Greenfield, MA
413.772.3122

**Advice, Design
and Installation**
www.solarstoreofgreenfield.com

**About-Face
Computer Solutions**

(413) 863-5447
151 Avenue A, Turners Falls
WE FIX COMPUTERS!
www.about-facecomputers.com

**A.H. Rist
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**

**Savings & protection for your
WHOLE FAMILY!**

Competitive rates & discounts for all of your insurance needs!
159 Avenue A | Turners Falls MA | 413.863.4373 | ahrist.com

GREAT FALLS HARVEST
fresh • local • creative

Rich flavors from around the world
with a local state of mind.

Thursdays - Fridays 5 to 9 PM
Saturdays 11 AM to 9 PM
Sundays 11 AM to 8 PM

Brunch Saturday & Sunday
11 AM to 3 PM

413-863-0023
50 Third Street
Downtown Turners Falls