

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

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A Midsummer Yule



The annual Christmas In July celebration at Barton Cove is hosted by the Franklin County Boat Club, headquartered at Riverside in Gill.

By PETER WACKERNAGEL

RIVERSIDE – This weekend, the 14th annual Christmas In July festival will be celebrated in Barton Cove. As the Franklin County Boat Club's annual summer bonanza, Christmas In July includes a number of Yuletide-themed activities that are open to the whole community. These include a boat parade and a fireworks show on Saturday night in Unity Park.

The first Christmas In July occurred during Montague's sestercentennial (250th anniversary) celebration in 2004. According to Commodore Chuck Reum, "We wanted to do something for the town. It was their birthday... We had so much

fun, we never stopped doing it." As a cultural idea, "Christmas in July" had its origins in the American South in the first half of the 20th century. According to the *Washington Post*, the first Christmas In July ceremony may have taken place at Keystone Camp, a summer camp in North Carolina, in 1933.

While the idea has a commercial, ironic, and literally campy flavor in North America, in many Southern Hemisphere countries it is used as a celebration that aligns with hegemonic Northern narratives of a wintry Christmas.

Perhaps because of its enduring existence in the collective cultural unconscious, Commodore Reum see **MIDSUMMER** page A6

State's Top Court: Locals Have No Authority to Hold Immigrants for Feds

By MIKE JACKSON

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) issued a decision on Monday that state law does not give localities the authority to detain people solely at the request of federal immigration enforcement.

The question at issue concerns "immigration detainees," requests published by Homeland Security asking local law enforcement to hold onto people who otherwise would be released while immigra-

tion officers arrange to take them into custody.

Though the federal government refers to this action as "voluntary," the Trump administration has vowed to punish non-cooperating jurisdictions, which it calls "sanctuary cities," by withholding grant money. A number of states and cities have challenged the constitutionality of this threat.

The Massachusetts court's unanimous decision stemmed from a challenge raised by attorneys for

Sreynunon Lunn, a citizen of no nation who was granted permanent resident status as an infant child of refugee parents, only to have it revoked following a Texas felony conviction in his early 20s.

Under Bush, Obama and Trump presidencies, Lunn has been detained by immigration enforcement four times and ordered to remove himself to Cambodia, a country he has never been in and which refuses to accept him. He was born in a see **DETAINERS** page A5

Historic Mural Debuts at Millers Falls Art Fest

By MIKE JACKSON



Muralist Marco Correia (second from right) stands with David Brule, Susan Bellemare, and Tom Gessing in front of his portrait of their great-uncle, Douglass Smith.

Sunday was a busy day in Millers Falls. A number of recently opened art studio galleries had joined forces with the Millers Falls Arts Bridge for a small festival that included an arts walk, ice cream, and outdoor music.

The event highlighted a new dynamic in the village, but the morning featured the ceremonial "unveiling" of a work of public art highlighting a departed legend: Doug Smith, the Millers Falls boy whose pitching talent brought him all the way to the Fenway Park mound – a career cut short by the tangled politics of Jim Crow.

"Most of our generation were not allowed to know what happened," see **MURAL** page A5

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Hitler, Bigfoot Film to Land In Town

By JEFF SINGLETON

At its July 17 meeting, the Montague selectboard heard from a group that seeks to shoot segments of a film called *The Man Who Killed Hitler and Then the Bigfoot* in Montague. The group sitting at the front table of the selectboard room included writer-director Robert Krzykowski and Greenfield resident Evan Gregg, the film's location manager.

The film will star Sam Elliot and Aidan Turner. Elliot is a well-known

actor who has appeared in at least 49 films, including *The Big Lebowski*, *The Mask*, and *Gettysburg*; Turner appeared in Peter Jackson's recent *Hobbit* movies.

"I live in Turners Falls," said Krzykowski. "I've wanted to make a feature here for a long time, so being able to bring this to town along with a professional crew from all over the United States is really cool for the town."

Krzykowski said the Massachusetts Film Office is "highly support-

ive" of the film. "They like that we're showcasing a part of Massachusetts that film production does not usually come out to," he told the board.

Gregg presented a preliminary list of potential filming locations. They included downtown Turners Falls, the Wildlife Management area in Montague Center, and West Mineral Road, abutting the airport.

"Peter Golrick, chair of the airport committee, is here," noted selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz. see **MONTAGUE** page A7

SCENE REPORT

Competition, Fun... and Justice

By GEORGE BRACE

HOLYOKE – The Justice Cup is an annual soccer tournament organized by the Pioneer Valley Workers Center. Its purpose is to provide a fun way for people to build community, celebrate achievements, and raise awareness of worker and immigrant issues in the Connecticut River Valley. It is also a fundraising event for the PVWC, and for the two co-organizers of the event, Massachusetts Jobs With Justice and Western Mass Jobs With Justice.

The tournament was held last Sunday at Crosier Field in Holyoke and was well-attended, including over 200 players in the games. Sixteen teams competed in two divisions: a just-for-fun division and a competitive division.

There was also plenty to do for people who weren't playing and non-players are encouraged to attend. The event was quite kid- and family-friendly, with face-painting, bubble-blowing, music, dancing, and a wide variety of food available.

The games were 5 on 5 with no goalies, small goals, and were played on smaller than usual though good-sized fields. Greenfield solar installers PV Squared en-

tered two teams in the "fun" division, facing off against opponents including Pioneer Valley Roller Derby, the Agricultural Action Network, the Odyssey Bookshop – and some teams with pretty intimidating names, such as Barcelona, Brazil, and the Justice League.

The competitive division involved a bit more sweat and exertion, but was also good-natured and fun. At the see **JUSTICE** page A6



Sixteen teams registered in this year's tournament.

Local Couple Gears Up for Challenge Ride

By JOE KWIECINSKI

MONTAGUE – Here's a cure for the next time you're **bombarded** with the siren songs of endless warfare, contentious national politics, terrorism, sickening health care woes, economic distress, and the lack of decent jobs.

Think instead of the generosity, kindheartedness, determination, and courage of the more than 6,200 riders, 4,000 volunteers, and countless cash contributors who will make the 2017 edition of the Pan-Mass Challenge the great spectacle it is.

And think of the two Montague residents, Bridget Macdonald and Justin Fermann, who will ride in the big event on Saturday, August 5 and Sunday, August 6. It will mark

Bridget's fifth outing in the Pan-Mass Challenge, and Justin's first.

The Challenge is a bike-a-thon that raises more money for charity than any other single athletic event in the nation. One hundred percent of every dollar contributed to this effort heads straight to pediatric and adult cancer care at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Institute's vital research. The Challenge has collected \$547 million in its history.

Justin and Bridget (in real life, they are boyfriend and girlfriend) are part of Team Deb, a family group formed in honor of the memory of Deborah Teplow, Bridget's aunt. Deborah died of brain cancer in 2007. see **CHALLENGE** page A8



Bridget Macdonald and Justin Fermann will bike (not canoe!) in the August 6 ride.

The Montague Reporter

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Towards A Sanctuary Planet

Monday’s Supreme Judicial Court decision in *Lunn v. Commonwealth* (see story, page A1) is newsworthy for two entirely separate reasons.

First, it’s a surprisingly blunt and across-the-board ruling, a game-changer long after battle lines were drawn up around city-by-city, town-by-town statutes regarding the enforcement of detainers.

We know of a few towns where police departments already considered federal immigration enforcement outside their duties – or detention beyond their ability – where residents nevertheless fought stridently to enshrine that distinction in lasting policy.

And we know opinion on the other side of the issue is just as passionate.

So we hope the decision will provide a chance for the debate to cool, at least here in Massachusetts towns. That it is an issue of state versus federal jurisdiction seems clearer; we’ll see whether the federal government can, indeed, use the leverage of grant sanctions to force participation without running afoul of what’s known as the “anti-commandeering doctrine.”

It appears that the court has discovered Massachusetts law enforcement can’t arrest non-criminals simply because the federal government requests that they do. (Can you hear that? It’s the sound of lawyers and activists in 49 other states furiously thumbing through codes, trying to determine whether anyone thought to specifically empower police to arrest people in order to assist the feds.)

Of central historical significance is the US Supreme Court case *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, all the way back in 1842.

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 had affirmed, on a federal level, the rights of slaveholders’ agents to kidnap people who escaped from their enslavement, even in states without slavery, in order to return them to their captivity. But in 1826, Pennsylvania passed a law making such kidnapping a felony.

A Maryland woman named Margaret Morgan, free but never formally emancipated, moved to Pennsylvania, and the family of her former “owner” hired a slave-catcher named Edward Prigg to fetch her back. In 1837, Prigg and three cronies attacked and kidnapped Morgan and her children. The men

were arrested, tried, and convicted in Pennsylvania, but Prigg took an appeal to the Supreme Court.

The Court overturned his conviction, arguing that Pennsylvania’s law impinged on the rights of slaveholders. Which is terrible. But the majority opinion also contained this language: *while a difference of opinion has existed, and may exist still on the point, in different states, whether state magistrates are bound to act under it; none is entertained by this Court that state magistrates may, if they choose, exercise that authority, unless prohibited by state legislation.*

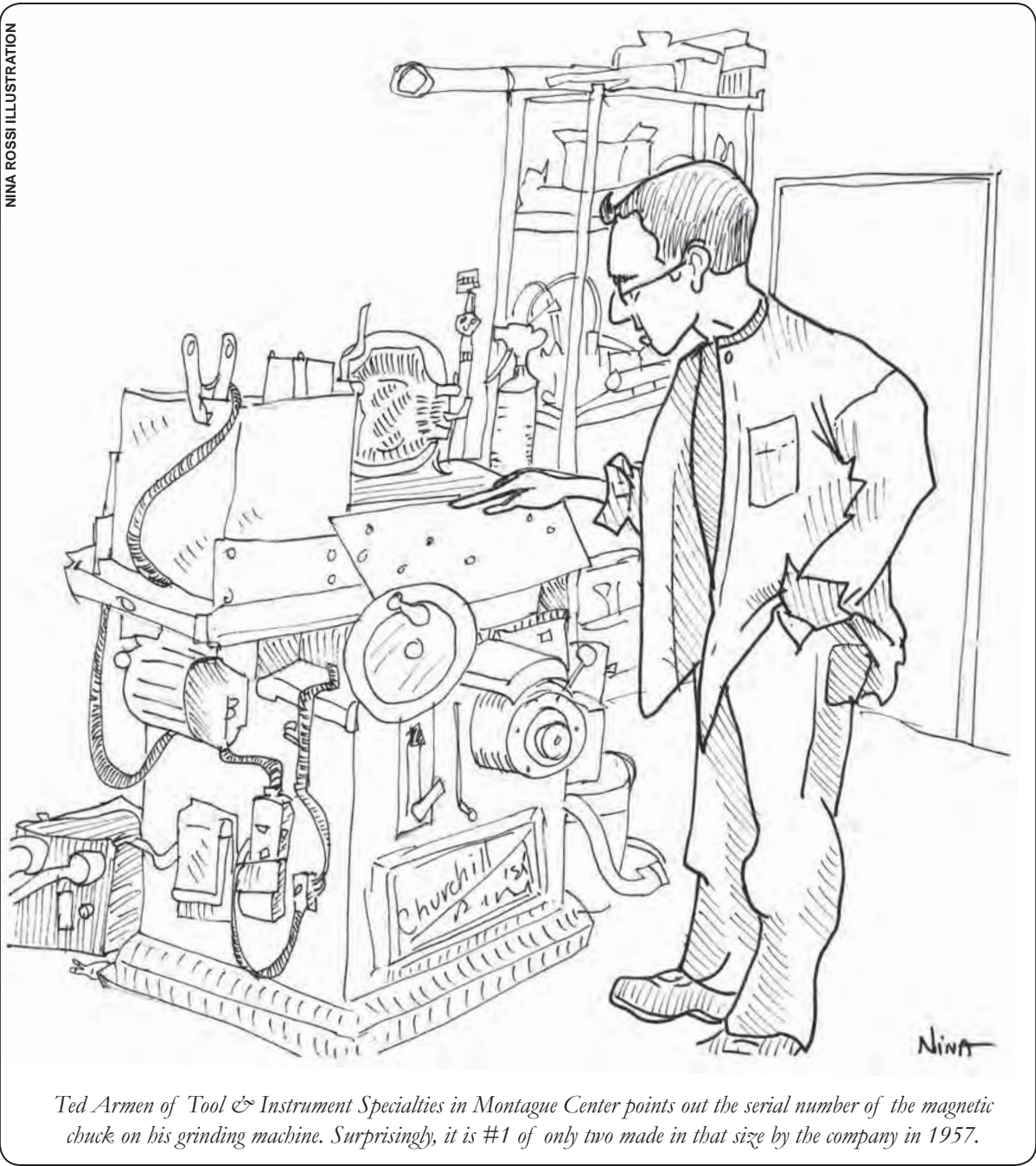
This led a number of Northern states to – you guessed it – pass resolutions prohibiting their officials from helping the slave-catchers and feds. That’s anti-commandeering in a nutshell, and while we’re not drawing any direct analogies, it’s a principle written deeply in the tissue of American jurisprudence, and it’s what’s at stake in the so-called “sanctuary” debate.

The second thing that’s so remarkable about *Lunn* is Lunn himself: 32-year-old Sreynuon Lunn, and the trouble he brings to the narrative of “illegal immigration” being a root problem to be addressed using physical barriers and physical removal.

Between 1969 and 1973, the United States engaged in an covert carpet-bombing campaign in Cambodia. At least a *half a million tons* of ordnance was dropped – some estimates run to four times that – and somewhere between tens and hundreds of thousands of people were killed, depending on whose count you trust.

This campaign was unauthorized by Congress; it was spillover from the Vietnam war next door. About a third of Cambodia’s population was displaced, and the ranks of the longstanding Khmer Rouge insurgency swelled. When the party seized control of the country in 1975, it initiated four years of genocidal carnage we know as the Killing Fields era. Between 1.5 and 3 million human beings lost their lives. About 300,000 fled eastward into Vietnam.

The Vietnamese government invaded at the end of 1978 and drove the Khmer Rouge back into the hills. By 1980, the country had sunk deep into a famine that threatened to kill another 2 million.



Ted Armen of Tool & Instrument Specialties in Montague Center points out the serial number of the magnetic chuck on his grinding machine. Surprisingly, it is #1 of only two made in that size by the company in 1957.

Thanks For Your Tag Sale Support!

We at the *Montague Reporter* have much for which to be grateful. Our tag sale last Saturday was a huge success, thanks to wonderful community support.

We thank the many who made donations of items and the many who purchased them, those who loaned tables and tarps, and those who made themselves indispensable by pitching in to do the physical work of setting up, hauling, unpacking, and cleaning up after the event.

A special thank-you is due to the

good folks at St. Stanislaus Society for the use of their parking lot, and another to Red Fire Farm North for the baskets of preserves we auctioned off and their gift certificate for which we held a raffle.

The cashier enjoyed consistently brisk sales all morning while volunteers assisted buyers, and there were so many handsome *Montague Reporter* mugs sold that we were forced to return to the office for more. Our baked goods table, groaning under its rich offerings,

was stripped by the end of the event. We greeted old friends and made new, and all the while a wonderful sense of camaraderie prevailed.

A huge thanks to all of you who made this benefit such a success, and to the Franklin County Survival Center, who graciously sent a truck on Monday to collect the leftover items for further recycling through their store.

Friends of the *Montague Reporter* and its Board of Directors

and half of the rest – 153,000 – in the United States.

Sreynuon Lunn was born February 2, 1985 to parents living in a refugee camp on the Thai side of the border. He was never a Cambodian citizen; he was never a Thai citizen. In September 1985, his family entered the United States as refugees, and he was granted *permanent lawful resident* status.

But as a young man, Mr. Lunn got himself in trouble, and at the age of 23, since “any alien who is convicted of an aggravated felony at any time after admission is deportable,” a Texas judge stripped him of his green card and ordered him to remove himself to Cambodia.

After a while, the Cambodian embassy asked him to stop calling them, because he had no grounds for documents. He had no luck with Thailand either. Mr. Lunn’s two daughters are US citizens, but by accident of birth, he is a citizen of no country; his life in recent years a spiral of misdemeanor, incarceration, ICE detention, and release.

At first glance, it’s tempting to dismiss Sreynuon Lunn’s sad case as an outlier, irrelevant to dominant debates over immigration policy.

After all, immigrants commit crime at a *lower* rate than native-born people in the United States.

But people tend to migrate when their country, or city, or village of origin become untenable. El Salvador’s homicide rate is 22 *times as high* as ours, and yet most who escape to the United States are considered economic migrants; even the thousands of unaccompanied minors. As you read this, a Syrian family is welcoming a child into the world, hoping their application will be accepted and they’ll be able to leave the camp in Turkey behind.

People fleeing war, living in city-sized prisons – wherever they go, they will carry trauma, and often family violence. If we use crime as a political opportunity to deport; if we deport because it’s more convenient than supporting someone through change – in the long run, this amounts to a judgment that those whose actions indicate they have been exposed to danger are undeserving of safety.

We can’t create a safe, walled country while the rest of the world burns. If citizenship and belonging makes for a more stable, healthy society, why not take it global?

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Compiled by DON CLEGG

Join Camp Kee-wanee at the Greenfield Garden Cinema this Saturday, July 29 at 9:30 a.m. for a **benefit screening of *The Emoji Movie***. All seats are just \$5. There will be tickets available at the door. Doors open at 9 a.m. All proceeds to go towards a new structure at the camp.

Adults who are young at heart are invited to the Greenfield Savings Bank branch in Turners Falls to participate in the popular craze of adult coloring. A time for adults to socialize in a climate-controlled setting and meet new folks who share a common interest – challenge your mind and creativity while staying in the lines.

All materials for this relaxing experience, including light refreshments, will be provided by the bank. All are welcome; be sure to bring a friend. No reservations required. Don’t eat the crayons. At 282 Avenue A in Turners Falls this Saturday, July 29, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Christmas in July Fireworks and Boat Parade will be held Saturday, July 29. The Franklin County Boat Club of Gill puts on this July tradition, as the Turners Falls Fire Department monitors the event.

The decorated boats will start circling around the area of the Connecticut River just along the shoreline near the far end of Unity Park at about 8 p.m. There is usually a DJ on one of the boats blasting good old-time rock’n’roll. The huge display of fireworks will start close to 9:30 p.m.

The best views for the display are the Riverside area of Gill, Unity Park along the shoreline, and from Gill/Turners Falls Bridge. Get to the park early, and bring bug repellent!

The first session of **Big Picture Botany** starts at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 30, at the Great Falls Dis-

covery Center. Get to know the occasionally tasty, inevitably beautiful, helpfully medicinal, and sometimes dangerous plant world. There are as many reasons to learn to identify plants as there are curious people.

During this free four-part series, you deal more with visual patterns than Latin names to spark your own connection to plant identification. Come to one session, or all four. More plant families will be explored on August 5, 13 and 20.

The last summer concert on Gill Common will be held Tuesday, August 1, at 7 p.m.

Montague Parks & Recreation will hold a public hearing to discuss improvements to the **Montague Center Park** on Wednesday, August 2. It will be held at the Montague Center Common Hall from 7 p.m. until 8:30 or 9 p.m.

On Thursday, August 3, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., **help save the Connecticut River** from an alien invader! This is a great opportunity to get on the water and have some fun, all for a good cause.

Water chestnut is an invasive plant that has the potential to spread and get out of control. It is wreaking havoc on native species and interfering with recreation on our rivers. Volunteers will be hand-pulling the plants, which pull up easily.

Join staff from Northfield Mountain and the Connecticut River Conservancy for this team effort to help keep the area in and around Barton Cove free of water chestnut. Meet at the Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Office in Gill. Appropriate for anyone age 10 and older. Please call to pre-register at (800) 859-2960; a confirmation email with what to wear and bring will be shared with registered participants.

The Montague Public Library is hosting the **No Strings Mario-**

nettes on Friday, August 4, at 10:30 a.m. Their presentation, “Bully! For the Big Pigs,” will take place at Peskeomskut Park, weather permitting; bring a blanket to sit on! If weather is unpleasant, the show will be held at the Carnegie Library.

Also on Friday, August 4, from 11 a.m. until noon, celebrate summer and the river with a **children’s cruise** on board Northfield Mountain’s Heritage Riverboat. These cruises are the perfect length for children to get a taste of the river as they head downstream through the scenic French King Gorge.

Travel beneath the French King Bridge, towering 140 feet above the boat, cruise alongside rocky cliffs, meet the Captain and enjoy an outing on the beautiful Connecticut River. This family cruise is perfect for all ages and the fee is \$6 a person. Register online at www.bookeo.com/northfield or by calling (800) 859-2960.

Journalist Bill Gasperini takes you to Greenland, via his up-front and personal experiences on the world’s largest island, at Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls on Saturday, August 5.

Greenland is covered by the second-largest ice cap in the world, after Antarctica. This island has just 56,000 people, most of whom live on the edge of the ice. Historically, hunters would head onto the frozen sea ice on dog sleds to track down seals, but in recent times, warming temperatures have wreaked havoc with the ice highways.

Gasperini is a fascinating presenter who was at GSB a few years ago with a presentation on the Nenets’ film. He will also have artifacts to showcase. No reservations required; light refreshments provided courtesy of GSB. Plan to come at 9:30 a.m., and buckle your seatbelt.

Visit the **Pockumtuck Homelands Festival** on Saturday, August 5, from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. at Unity Park in Turners Falls. This free, all-day celebration is sponsored by the Nolumbeka Project and Turners Falls RiverCulture. Young families will enjoy visiting the Northfield Mountain and Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation tent to craft their own binoculars and learn

about all things birds and feathers.

People have gathered at the Great Falls for thousands of years, and this event is the perfect combination of live music, drumming, dancing, storytelling, native crafts, and yummy street vendor food.

The Turners Falls Fire Department and the American Red Cross are teaming up to **install free smoke alarms**. If you are a Montague homeowner, you are eligible if your home was built before 1975 or your current smoke alarms are over ten years old.

The installation takes place August 12, but you must sign up by August 5 by calling 863-9023.

The **Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts** (GSCWM) is pleased to offer a “troop sampler” for girls who’ve yet to try Girl Scouts. The troop sampler will run the week of August 7, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, in Turners Falls.

The troop sampler week will introduce girls to practicing grit like a go-getter, problem solving like an innovator, embracing new skills like a risk-taker, and demonstrating empathy like a leader. The program is open to girls entering grades 1 through 5 in the fall.

The fee is \$25 for the week. Sign up at www.gscwm.org/join. (When prompted to search for a troop, enter “Turners”.) For more information, contact Rachel at (413) 727-7124 or rkatler@gscwm.org.

UMass-Amherst Public History graduate students Austin Clark and Nathan Cool will discuss their work researching and cataloging **Leverett’s burial grounds**, as well as sharing their experiences “Graveyarding” on social media.

Their presentation will take place Tuesday, August 8, in the Community Room at the Leverett Library from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Remember, cemeteries are historic treasures!

All crafters wishing to rent space at **Montague Old Home Days** on August 19 should call (413) 367-2061 now to get registered!

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Protecting Ceremonial Stone Landscapes

By ANNE MARIE GARTI and EMILY VOLZ

SANDISFIELD – The forests of New England are dotted with ceremonial stone landscapes placed by the Indigenous peoples of this region. According to Doug Harris, the deputy tribal historic preservation officer of the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office (NITHPO), a ceremonial stone landscape is an area in which stones and other features have been consciously positioned by Indigenous Americans for a variety of reasons, such as marking astronomical cycles, deaths, or other significant events.

Tribes have different beliefs about the meaning of these stone features, and interact with them in a culturally appropriate manner. These stone features were placed to create and restore harmony between human beings and Mother Earth. The prayers they embody

continue to live as long as the stones are kept intact.

In Sandisfield, Massachusetts, ceremonial stone landscape features have been desecrated by the Connecticut Expansion Pipeline, a project being constructed by the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is supposed to ensure these ceremonial stone landscapes are studied before it licenses projects, but in this case, it didn’t.

Unfortunately, FERC regularly violates the National Historic Preservation Act by delaying the review of these features until it is too late to avoid them.

When NITHPO learned that one-third of the 73 Tribally identified ceremonial stones in Sandisfield would be dismantled, it chose to challenge FERC’s order. On April 9, NITHPO moved for “party” status in the FERC permitting process,

and formally opposed the start of construction a few days later.

On May 10, NITHPO requested a rehearing of FERC’s order that authorized construction. FERC must issue a final order on the request for rehearing before NITHPO can petition a Court of Appeals to review the validity of FERC’s order.

Even though harm has been done in Sandisfield, good can still come out of this process. The goals of the appellate review are to clarify and enforce federal law, namely the National Historic Preservation Act, FERC’s consultation requirements, and FERC’s fiduciary duty to Tribal Nations.

The US Court of Appeals will issue an order that will be binding on FERC after reading the parties’ briefs and questioning their counsel in oral arguments. If NITHPO prevails on some or all of its claims, then FERC will have to comply with the court’s holdings in future pipeline projects across the country.

That means this challenge will have national implications.

Climate Action Now MA is supporting NITHPO’s efforts by running a campaign to raise funds for legal expenses, such as an attorney and court fees. Please visit tinyurl.com/protectsacredstones to learn more about this campaign.

In addition, there will be an educational fundraising event on August 5 at First Churches in Northampton from 3 to 5 p.m. Doug Harris will give a presentation on the significance of ceremonial stone landscapes in the Northeast region, and the struggle to preserve them. Visit tinyurl.com/aug5event for more information. We hope to see you there!

Anne Marie Garti is an attorney for the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office (NITHPO). Emily Volz is a volunteer with Climate Action Now MA.

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Week of August 7


in Montague



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Presentations, Performances at Homelands Fest

By REPORTER STAFF

TURNERS FALLS – The fourth annual Pocumtuck Homelands Festival, a celebration of Native American art, music, and culture, grows bigger every year and promises to draw even larger crowds to the edge of the Connecticut River at Unity Park on Saturday, August 5.

Running from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., this is the sort of event that everyone can enjoy, and it’s free. Performances include traditional, original, jazz, and fusion music, a story teller, and three drum groups. There will be Native American vendors, and games, activities and crafts for children.

Expand your knowledge in the books and authors section, explore traditions with primitive skills demonstrations, and absorb some condensed but insightful history lessons about Great Falls.

The mission of the Nolumbeka Project, the sponsoring organization, is to promote a deeper, broader and more accurate depiction of the history of the indigenous peoples of the Northeast and protect and preserve sites of significance to Native Americans/American Indians of New England. They seek to work with the tribes in pursuing these goals.

This year, the Mashantucket-Pequot archaeology team returns to analyze early contact period artifacts people bring to them. The group is conducting the U.S. Parks Service Battlefield Grant study in the Great Falls area, and will be on hand until 4 p.m. to analyze early contact period artifacts, such as musket balls, pottery, or stone tools people bring to them for examination.

Tim MacSweeney, an expert on ancient ceremonial stone monuments in the Northeast, will be present to discuss his field observations and research about ceremonial stone landscape features. He believes these could be remnants of a widespread and sophisticated culture that existed in the area long before the arrival of the Europeans. Contrary to what was taught in our schools, he believes there was a highly developed civilization here.

Schools have taught that Indians didn’t build with stone, and that therefore the hundreds of thousands of miles of stone rows were fences to enclose cattle, and the countless stone piles were field clearing.

MacSweeney believes further study can reveal a much deeper and wider meaning and purpose. States the press release for the event, “Only

the tribes have the authority to verify their significance, but we can assist by being observant and sharing our discoveries of Native American iconography in stonework.” He blogs about the subject at “Waking Up on Turtle Island.”

There will be two brief historical overviews presented by Nolumbeka Project scholars which highlight the importance of the Great Falls.

Performers will be Hawk Henries, Nipmuc flute player and flute maker; the Kingfisher Singers and Dancers, Wampanoag from the Mashpee, Aquinnah, and Herring Pond communities; story teller Larry Spotted Crow Mann, Nipmuc; the Medicine Mammals Singers; and Mixashawn Rozie, who uses instrumental virtuosity and stories to illuminate the indigenous and African roots of “American” music.

Be energized by the presence of three drums: Chief Don Stevens and the Nulhegan-Coosuk Band of the Abenaki Singers, plus returning favorites, the Black Hawk Singers (Abenaki), and the Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition Singers.

Donations are appreciated. Find out more at nolumbekaproject.org and turnersfallsriverculture.org.

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Gill to FRCOG: “We Are One Failed Radio Transmission Away from Tragedy”

By JEFF SINGLETON

At its meeting on Monday, the Gill selectboard discussed the response of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) to the town’s complaints about the poor functioning of the regional emergency response system.

In its original letter to FRCOG executive director Linda Dunlavy, dated July 18, the board stated they had listened to a recent transmission from the Shelburne Control:

“We heard a 10-15 second message so filled with static and cut outs not a single word could be understood. Other messages were just a series of one or two words interspersed with garbled noise. [A police officer] described a recent morning driving in the cruiser on Main Road when he could not reach anyone by calling out on the radio...”

“Lives are at stake. Lives of citizens who are in need of a prompt and accurate response from emergency services. Lives of our emergency responders who rely on their radios to call for backup or call for additional resources. We are one failed radio transmission away from tragedy.”

The letter suggested that towns consider withholding future payments for the communication system unless the quality of transmission “vastly improves.”

In her response, dated July 18, Dunlavy described improvements

being made in the system. These included replacement of the timing clock (already completed); replacement of the system’s main antenna (“tentatively scheduled” for this fall); and repair of a repeater on Mount Toby.

She went on to state that the current assessment to towns is inadequate to finance the demands of “an aging system [that] needs continuing care and repairs,” and noted that withholding future assessments “will only make it harder for you and for us to protect your public safety personnel.”

As far as a “long term replacement plan,” Dunlavy raised the possibility of local towns joining the state’s 800-MHz system, and outlined a series of steps toward that goal. The list began with the purchase of radios to test coverage under the state system. Gill’s three-day testing period could begin on August 23.

“I can’t disagree,” selectboard member Randy Crochier said at Monday’s meeting, “but I have been hearing the same thing for three to four years.” He went on to express doubts about joining a new system: “Now we have a new system that doesn’t work right.”

The board took no action on the FRCOG response. The emergency system is overseen by a committee of “users and experts,” according to Dunlavy, who make recommendations to FRCOG.

Bumps Mulled

The board discussed a request by Northfield Mount Hermon School to allow the school to place speed bumps on Mount Hermon Road. The school has built a day-care center on the road, and parents have complained about speeding cars during drop-off and pick-up hours. The school has said it will pay for the bumps, but needs the town’s approval.

Board members wondered whether the road’s 35 mile per hour speed limit was too high, but raised concern about the installation of speed bumps. Town administrator Ray Purington said he had called the MassDOT, who said speed bumps – or speed “buffers,” as they are technically called – need to be configured according to the speed limit and other factors.

Highway superintendent Mitch LaClaire discussed the town’s need to remove the buffers in the winter. Questions of increased liability for the town, and the bumps’ effectiveness if the speed limit is not reduced, were also raised.

LaClaire said he would meet again with school officials.

trucks. Hastings owns property on the road, which he seeks to log.

LaClaire suggested that the project might require a good deal of tree limb cutting, and even tree removal, as well as installing a bed of gravel. He said he had recently walked the length of the road, but had not yet made a cost estimate of the project.

The board instructed him to return with such an estimate.

Other Business

The board discussed Erving’s concerns about signing an agreement with the state as the lead town in overseeing recently installed suicide-prevention cameras on the French King Bridge. The bridge runs between Erving and Gill, but the state has said it will only sign an oversight agreement with one town.

Crochier said he had discussed the issues with Erving selectboard member Scott Bastarache.

The board approved, with a good deal of enthusiasm, a grant of \$118,627 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to the fire department. The grant will pay for “Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus” used when firefighters enter smoke-filled buildings.

The board reappointed Sue Kramer to the cultural council.

The meeting ended after approximately an hour. The next scheduled selectboard meeting will be on August 7 at the town hall.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Yelling, Cows, Death

Monday 7/10

3:55 p.m. Breaking & entering reported at West Gill Road residence. Investigating.

6:26 p.m. Assisted Montague PD with controlled-substance motor vehicle intervention.

Tuesday 7/11

8 a.m. Assisted Maine State Police with background check on West Gill Road resident.

8:40 a.m. Welfare check on West Gill Road resident. All is OK.

Friday 7/14

1:15 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with arrest warrant.

3 p.m. Trespass order issued to French King Highway resident.

Saturday 7/15

4:55 p.m. Erratic operation of a motor vehicle. Located at Green River Power Sports. Medical issue discovered.

Sunday 7/16

2 p.m. Male party yelling on the sidewalk of the Gill-Montague bridge. Moved along.

8:10 p.m. Assisted Erving PD with subjects in a building.

Monday 7/17

8:35 a.m. Alarm at elementary school. Checked OK.

2:50 p.m. Medical assistance at Travel Kuz on Main Road.

Tuesday 7/18

11:45 a.m. Motorcycle accident on Main Road. Operator transported to Baystate Franklin.

1:15 p.m. Arrest warrant being served by anti-crime taskforce in Riverside area.

6:50 p.m. Assisted Montague PD with reported brawl in their community.

Wednesday 7/19

10:45 a.m. Well-being check on Ben Hale Road. Gone from area.

12 noon. Arrest of subject on French King Highway for warrant violation.

3:15 p.m. Court process served to Dole Road resident.

Thursday 7/20

1:30 p.m. Deer vs. car accident on Main Road reported.

Friday 7/21

5 p.m. Warrant arrest on West Gill Road.

9:40 p.m. Suspicious motor vehicle stopped on Green Hill Road. Checked OK.

Saturday 7/22

2:30 p.m. Cows reported in roadway on Hoe Shop Road. Owners notified.

4:35 p.m. Located two parties involved in past domestic situation.

6:20 p.m. Motor vehicle accident on French King Highway. Under investigation.

Sunday 7/23

12:30 p.m. Received report of unattended death of a male party on Barney Hale Road. Under investigation.

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DETAINERS from page A1

refugee camp in Thailand, a nation which also denies him entry. Each time he has been released.

Lunn was arraigned on a misdemeanor larceny charge in Boston in October, but in February, the case was dismissed. Nevertheless, officers at the Boston Municipal Court held him on the basis of a detainer until immigration officers took him.

His lawyers appealed that he was being held without due process, since his deportation is not “foreseeable.” The appeal reached the SJC in April, and Lunn was allowed to walk free in May, but the court has since been deliberating on the underlying question of the legality of the detainer.

The Argument

The Tenth Amendment protects states from being ordered to carry out federal policy. This was upheld in 1992, when New York protested a law requiring it to take responsibility for nuclear waste within its borders, and 1997, when sheriffs in Montana and Arizona didn’t want to run background checks for handgun purchases.

During oral arguments before the court in April, Joshua Press, a lawyer representing the Department of Jus-

tice, said sheriffs have the right to ignore detainees, but added that “there would of course be friction if this were done as a matter of policy.”

The justices, though, probed the very nature of the detainer, which is not a warrant. Press conceded that not all detainees were issued in response to criminal convictions, but argued that local cooperation was “a matter of... respecting the federal authority to process that alien depending on the basis for why the detainer was issued.”

“Do you agree that there needs to be state law,” asked Chief Justice Gants, “which authorizes a state law enforcement official to make that arrest?”

Press conceded this point as well, and fell back on an argument that all states have an “inherent authority” to “police their sovereignty.”

This apparently did not convince the SJC. “There is no history of ‘implicit’ or ‘inherent’ arrest authority having been recognized in Massachusetts that is greater than what is recognized by our common law and the enactments of our Legislature,” the court ruled on Monday.

In addition, they wrote, “no party or amicus has identified a single Massachusetts statute that authorizes

a Massachusetts police officer or court officer, directly or indirectly, to arrest in the circumstances here, based on a Federal civil immigration detainer. Simply put, there is no such statute in Massachusetts.”

Different Strokes

Bristol County sheriff Thomas Hodgson, who has publicly offered to send inmates under his supervision to work building a border wall between the United States and Mexico and has called for the arrest of public officials in “sanctuary” jurisdictions, denounced the SJC’s ruling.

According to the *New York Times*, Hodgson has announced plans to work with state legislators to create the authority to make arrests on the basis of federal detainees.

“It’ll be a lot harder than he imagines,” Franklin County sheriff Chris Donelan told the *Reporter* on Wednesday. “He’s dealing with two or three very conservative Republican lawmakers who are very clearly in the minority.”

“I served eight years there,” he added, “and I don’t see a bill like that ever seeing the light of day.”

Donelan praised Monday’s ruling for providing “clarity.” “It doesn’t really change things

for us, because we have not been holding people on detainees anyway,” he said.

“But we’ve all been waiting for the court to address this. From a law enforcement perspective... a big concern among sheriffs was that none of us knew what kind of liabili-

ty we could face. If we let somebody go, and then a crime occurred, would we be liable, if there was a detainer out for them?”

The high court’s decision, Donelan said, found that “it’s basically a worthless piece of paper.”



Montague SEEKING CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS

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

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

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

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

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

MURAL from page A1

Smith’s grand-nephew, local historian and preservationist David Brule, told the small crowd that had gathered in front of the brand-new mural portrait of Smith painted on a Newton Street rail bridge footing. But they have pieced the story together.

Though Smith passed as a white man, his paternal grandmother was of mixed African and Native American descent, and as Brule explained, “a person who was kind of upset with the way Doug had clobbered all of the Franklin County teams got in touch with the Red Sox management, and told them Doug had no right to be playing for them, because he was not all white.”

Booted from the team after pitching a single three-inning game, Smith went on to play for a number of semi-pro teams before an appendix operation ended his pitching days for good. He returned

home and found a job at the Millers Falls Paper Company.

Brule recalled being “regaled” by his great-uncle Doug at Sunday dinners growing up, and though the real issue was never spoken of, “he never had a good word to say about the Red Sox.”

It only took 105 years, but Douglass Smith’s story is now memorialized just a few blocks from the former paper mill, in a striking mural bearing the slogan “What Color Is Our Blood?”

The piece was designed collaboratively by Richard Widmer, director of the Millers Falls Arts Bridge group and reviver of the village’s long-dormant Improvement Society, and Marco Correia, the Mass-Art graphic design student who had spent the previous week on a ladder bringing Smith’s story to life.

“It’s the best thing I’ve ever done,” said Correia, who was born

in Cape Verde and grew up just down the river in Amherst.

Correia said he had only painted one mural previously, “and that was just arches inside a restaurant.”

“I was pretty scared when Richard told me about this, but I’ve developed an attitude to art that’s just like, ‘let’s go!’” Much of the mural, he said, was painted freehand, using a picture of Smith and contemporary photos of Fenway as guides.

By all accounts, it had been a hot, busy, but upbeat week for Correia under the Central Railroad bridge.

“It’s incredible what a little amount of paint, and an idea – and some skill – can do,” Widmer told the crowd, which included longtime village residents, other relatives and family friends of Smith’s, various officials from town hall, and a number of art-chasers, who seemed pretty glad to be spending time in a new corner of town.



A Small World in a Studio Window

By NINA ROSSI

MILLERS FALLS – Susan von Ranson looked into the window of New Story Studios during the Millers Arts Fest on Sunday afternoon and let out a cry. “That’s my dress!” the Wendell resident said excitedly. “That’s my head!”

Studio owner Adrian Montagano and others who were milling about in front of the Bridge Street building immediately peered at the window display with Susan to see what she meant. Inside the window, sculptor Jon Bander had created a macabre mash-up of a display, using a black widow spider and an imaginary creature – called simply “Bob” – tearing apart an old doll. Behind the welded metal creatures, a tipped-over cradle was posed as if pushed by a large metal hand made out of bike chains. Scattered throughout the scene were wooden alphabet blocks.

The body of the doll was caught up in a spider web made of string. Susan pointed a finger at the dress on the headless body, which was made out of a patterned fabric.

“That’s my dress, I recognize the fabric, she explained, pointing at the doll head in the jaws of the big black



Susan von Ranson, reunited by art with the doll created in her image.

spider. “And that’s my head.”

Someone went inside the gallery to get the head out of the display, and Jon Bander came over to see what was going on. “My father gave me this doll when I was eight or nine years old,” Susan continued, holding the tiny cranium in her hands.

“It’s actually a ‘look-a-like’ doll. One year he had one made for me and my sister for Christmas. We sent a photo and little sample of our hair to this place, and they made these dolls that looked like us. It must have been 1949 or so.

“My father made this doll dress from my own dress that I wore out, that my grandmother originally sewed for me. She would make me and my sister dresses every year, and then the next year, my father would make us doll dresses from them.”

Adrian Montagano had supplied the doll parts to Jon to make this art installation from his stash of objects. They figured out that after Susan gave the doll to the Wendell Recycling and Transfer Station (WRATS) about three years ago, Adrian took it out of the “take it or leave it” pile. Adrian brought out the silk bag he found the doll in, and Susan remembered that, as well.

Also present in the crowd was another Wendell resident with ties to items in Bander’s art installation. Doug Dawson gave Adrian a roll of bakery twine from the Russo Bros. Bakery in the Bronx that had belonged to the family of his late wife, Christine Tarantino, an artist and a good friend of Adrian’s.

Adrian thought Christine would have gotten quite a kick out of her grandmother’s bakery string becoming a spider web catching what turned out to be a Susan von Ranson look-a-like doll.

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Club member Sean McClure, with his boat, which has no name.

MIDSUMMER from page A1

came up with the idea for the Boat Club’s event. “When we started Christmas In July, I’d never heard of it,” he said. “I thought it was original – I thought I was being real inventive.”

In the boat parade, sailors decorate their boats as fancifully as possible with string lights. “We wanted to decorate our boats Christmas-like,” said Commodore Reum. “The first year, there were 32 boats.”

Some of the boats are not necessarily Christmas-themed: “There were helicopters. Last year, there was a Trump head.” According to Reum, people’s decorations are a closely-held secret prior to the parade.

The fireworks are the main event at Christmas In July. This year, the show is being produced by the New Hampshire-based Atlas PyroVision Entertainment Group, the largest fireworks company in New England. They specialize in indoor pyrotechnic displays, and were awarded the Gold Jupiter at the 2012 Montreal International Fireworks Competition.

In its earlier years, Christmas In July featured underwater fireworks. According to Don Clegg, president of the board of directors of the Great Falls Discovery Center, “it looked like World War II, when the destroyers were looking for subs, dropping depth charges.”

Clegg was at Christmas In July in 2009 when, just after the underwater fireworks, a man jumped off the stone pilings of the old Red Bridge into the river. “They sent the Gill rescue boat to try to find him. He didn’t know he was holding up the fireworks,” he recalled. “He was hammered. Only time I ever saw someone get arrested at the event.”

As it is a real Christmas event, Santa Claus will make a private appearance at the clubhouse. “This thing is mainly about the kids,” said Commodore Reum. “At five o’clock, Santa Claus comes. Each and every kid with a ticket gets to sit in Santa’s lap and gets a present.”

A Workingman’s Club

The Franklin County Boat Club (FCBC) was founded in 1950 in a “shack” on the Turners Falls side of the river, just below where today the safety barrels stretch across the water like orange bunting. During the most recent dam construction in 1968, the club was moved across the river to Riverside. At first they hoped to return to their original location, but after the construction, the river was different. “The suction from the canal would suck the boats in,” said Commodore Reum.

For many decades, the organization’s clubhouse in Riverside was a house trailer with a deck. But in 2011, they constructed their present two-story building. “It’s a beautiful clubhouse with five bathrooms and showers and

a giant deck,” says Reum. “It’s so nice, some members don’t even have boats anymore.”

The Boat Club is guided by a strong do-it-yourself ethic. “We’re a workingman’s club,” says Commodore Reum. “If you’re a member, you have to work here.” Most of the work in constructing the new clubhouse was done by club members. For Christmas In July, club members ignite the fireworks, and complete all the paperwork that this requires.

The Boat Club also values economy. Commodore Reum believes they are the cheapest marina on the river – their annual dock fees run from \$335 to \$600. Club members handle most of the maintenance and upkeep of the clubhouse, the docks, and the grounds. “Being a workingman’s club, for every hour you put in, the club pays you \$5,” says Commodore Reum.

A Camp on the Water

People have traveled by water in crafts of their own making for at least three millennia. Until recently, many viewed the world as a system of oceans, rivers, and lakes, as these were the primary mode of travel. The central features of Jefferson’s rudimentary map of America, the one that guided Lewis and Clark, were the Ohio River, the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Rocky Mountains, and the Columbia.

To modern people, waterways can inspire feelings of longing for a wishful version of past. Spending time on them connects mariners both to ancestral humanity and to the natural world.

FCBC member Paul Waldron has a houseboat named *Moosehead Haven* that he purchased after spending his honeymoon on it at Moosehead Lake, Maine. It has been out of the water since Waldron bought an RV three years ago, but had previously floated dockside at the club for 13 years.

Waldron said he misses staying on the houseboat, and hopes to have it back in the water next year after some repairs. He explains that boat camping is a very different experience than road camping. “There you have 29 miles of river,” he said. “If you want to be with people, you tie up together. If you want to be alone, you find your own cove and tie up.”

(A couple weeks ago, I spent a night on the water for the first time, wedged up against the leeboard in the cabin of the 30’ sloop *Muirgen* on Lake Champlain. I attest that it did, in fact, change me. Boat people understand this change.)

Commodore Reum said he loves sleeping in his Renken cabin cruiser, and knows the feelings that it provokes in some. “It rocks you to sleep. It rocks you all night long. It’s a peaceful feeling.

“You either feel it or you don’t. Some

people don’t feel it. Some do – and then, they gotta have a boat.”

The Flow of Power

Recreating in our stretch of the Connecticut River is closely linked to the operations of FirstLight Power Resources and its Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility, a sub-montane hydroelectric generating station more powerful than many nuclear plants. The entire river territory that can be explored from the Boat Club, the stretch between the Vernon and Turners Falls dams, is controlled by FirstLight. Much of it, between Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls, is known as the Turners Falls Impoundment (TFI).

The TFI is the hydro facility’s lower reservoir: water from it is pumped up to the top of the mountain to recharge the facility’s upper reservoir. Commodore Reum has observed this process firsthand many times. “I’ve seen the river go backwards – right at the clubhouse even,” he attests, contradicting FirstLight’s position that this phenomenon does not occur.

Though some describe the Turners Falls dam as ecologically problematic, it does improve the recreational potential of the river for motorboating, by making it deeper and slower-moving, like a lake. The FCBC does not own the Club’s grounds – FirstLight owns both banks of the river in this stretch. The club’s License Agreement with the power company does not offer the same rights as ownership; FirstLight has some say over what can go on. In the past, members would camp out on the grounds, but that has recently been prohibited.

Around the year 2011, FirstLight also forbade camping on Captain Kidd Island in Northfield, because it lies in the river’s 100-year floodplain. The island is reputedly a site where the Scots-American, sometimes-pirate Captain Kidd buried his treasure. (While it is known that Captain Kidd did bury his takings, many other places are rumored to hide them, including several islands off Nova Scotia and in the Long Island Sound.) For many years, Kidd Island was a permanent summer outpost of the club.

When I asked Commodore Reum about his favorite places on the river, he said, “It would have been the island. We miss it dearly.”



Our reporter spotted these two bald eaglets as he canoed back to Turners Falls to file this report.

Natural Wonders

Another special place within the domain of the Boat Club is known as King Phillip’s Abyss. This unique spot is a 130’-deep underwater chasm, just a few bends in the river below the French King Bridge. UMass biology professor Ed Klekowski and his students Sean Werle and Major Monica discovered the Abyss in 1997.

JUSTICE from page A1

end of the day, team “Shake and Bake” came out on top, with Bistro Les Gras as the runners up.

Along with the focus on celebration and soccer, the event served as a nice way for people from different areas and backgrounds to simply get together and connect with one another. While it was primarily a laid-back recreational outing and not a political rally, the event served to raise awareness about issues confronting low-wage, immigrant and farm workers, and provided an atmosphere where people could easily compare notes, share their experiences and get to know one another.

The tournament was sponsored by a broad and diverse group of local businesses, people and organizations. Greenfield’s own PV Squared and The People’s Pint were among these, along with Collective Copies, the United Auto Workers, the Odyssey Bookshop, A2Z, the Bistro Les Gras restaurant, Knectar web design, and many others.

Sort of like a field day, sort of like a picnic, and sort of like the World Cup, the event was a welcoming, zero-stress opportunity for people to have some fun and get to know their neighbors while promoting support for workers and immigrants. I think anyone who signs up to play or attends next year will be glad they did. It was a good time.

For more information on the organizers and the work they do, or to get a head start on next year, check out the Pioneer Valley Workers Center at pvworkerscenter.org and Western Mass Jobs with Justice at wmjwj.org.



The Abyss, so named because no light reaches its lower reaches, is inhabited by creatures unique to this spot on the river. One of these, a bryozoan, or moss animal, named *Pectinatella magnificans*, is a yellow blob with no backbone, three feet in diameter.

The Abyss was created during the rifting of the continent Pangaea, which eventually created our seven continents. Much of the Connecticut River Valley is part of a larger system of rifts that run up and down the East Coast known as the Border Fault. The Border Fault became geologically dead, while the one that would split North America from Europe is still active today in the center of the Atlantic Ocean.

The Abyss, essentially a submerged vertical cliff that the river runs over, creates interesting currents. “Before the dam, and even when the river’s really running, it’s a whirlpool,” said Klekowski. “There’s a funnel-shaped depression on the very bottom.” Klekowski said he is “always a bit anxious every dive – but never afraid.” A lesser deep hole exists directly below the French King Bridge.

The timing of Christmas In July hinges on another local feature: the bald eagles that nest at Barton Cove. With three eaglets being raised in their Volkswagen-sized nest, one often lags behind the others developmentally. The fireworks show cannot occur until all the baby eagles are out of the nest.

“They have to be careful that they’re fledged and flying, before they go over there with what sounds like the Battle of Berlin,” says Clegg. “They’re the national bird. They’re a protected species. It would potentially scare them and they may evacuate the nest. If one didn’t know how to fly, it would crash into the ground.”

Christmas In July is scheduled the last weekend of the month because usually the young eagles have learned to fly by then.

The boat parade and fireworks will take place at dusk on Saturday, July 29 at Unity Park.



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MONTAGUE from page A1

“That’s the first I’m hearing of it,” said Golrick of the film.

Krzykowski noted that the fire and police departments would like weekly updates “that gives [them] what we’re doing and what we anticipate.” He said that in general, the shooting would not require “limited traffic,” but that the crew would like to place “period cars” at some locations.

“I think it’s great that Turners Falls gets a little showcasing, and a local writer makes it even nicer,” said Kuklewicz, emphasizing the need for good planning and communication.

“The hope is that we’ll do it again, so we don’t want to burn any bridges with the town,” said Krzykowski. “And, I have to live here.”

The selectboard approved the request for the use of public property to shoot film segments. The shooting will take place primarily in August.

Despite statements that Montague would be an ideal location for the movie, the board’s discussion did not include details of the film’s plot line or themes. A spokesperson for the group that presented the request declined to respond to questions from this newspaper.

However, the *Deadline Hollywood* website states that the movie “follows a legendary American war veteran named Calvin Barr (Elliott) who, decades after serving in WWII and assassinating Adolf Hitler, must now hunt down the fabled Bigfoot. Living a peaceful life in New England, the former veteran is contacted

by the FBI and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to lead the charge as the creature is carrying a deadly plague and is hidden deep inside the Canadian wilderness.”

Deadline also reveals that the executive producer of the movie is “indie filmmaking icon” John Sayles (*Brother From Another Planet*, *Return of the Secaucus 7*, *Baby Its You*). Also noteworthy is the involvement of “legendary effects wizards” Douglas Trumbull and Richard Yuricich (*2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Blade Runner*).

Town Website

The board executed a contract with Michael Muller of Montague Webworks to rebuild the town website, *Montague.net*. Muller said the format would be essentially the same as other town websites, including Greenfield, Leverett, and Gill, he is creating.

Kuklewicz stated that he hoped the new website would be “easier to navigate... and hopefully easier for folks to post meeting minutes.”

Peter Golrick asked if the contract was limited to design or included hosting, file backups, and other features. Muller responded that the contract included a full range of services.

Golrick then asked about the process for choosing Montague Webworks to administer the site. Kuklewicz said town manager Steve Ellis had sent out a request for proposals and, Kuklewicz believed, had only received two responses.

“It’s a relatively low dollar amount,” he said, “so it only requires verbal [communication], phone calls...”

The former website designer was a firm called Virtual Town Hall. According to Muller, under the old system, only five people could “touch” the website. Under the new one, “everyone in town hall” will have access.

Muller said his company will start working on the new site in August and that it generally takes two months for the product to “go live.” “This will be our sixth town site,” he said, “so we’ve got it down – and three of them came from Virtual Town Hall, so we know their structure in the back end.”

Other Business

Kimberly Rose of the Community Chorus of Pioneer Valley came before the board to request the use of Peskeomskut Park in Turners Falls on July 29. She called the chorus’s music “uplifting positive music.” The board approved the request, amended to include an insurance waiver and an August 5 rain date.

The board then approved an easement requested by the utility company Verizon to place three telephone poles on town property. The poles are designed to serve the solar farm to be constructed on the old landfill off of Sandy Lane.

The board then retired to a non-public executive session to discuss a union grievance. The next scheduled meeting will be on July 31 at 7 p.m. in the town hall.



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Montague Parks & Recreation Department

PUBLIC MEETING

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

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

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Democracy Works Slowly, As Do Tree Crews; DCR Awards Town Dam

By JOSH HEINEMANN

Amy Palmer took her seat as the Wendell selectboard’s potential new clerk at their July 12 meeting. She took notes, and asked a few times about what format board members wanted when she submits minutes for their approval at a later meeting.

Responders Remain

Lonny Ricketts, Wendell’s emergency management director, is moving to Montague, but is willing to continue to serve. Fire chief Joe Cuneo says no one else is dying to do the job, and he is ready to allow Ricketts to continue in the position, as is the selectboard.

There also is a question of whether the board of health should play a larger role in emergency management. Selectboard member Dan Keller suggested bringing Cuneo to a future selectboard meeting for that discussion. The board of health was on the agenda to attend this meeting, but none of them came.

Police chief Ed Chase has asked that officer Ohlson, of New Salem, be allowed to serve another year on force. Ohlson is over 65, so insurance regulation says he should retire. If he stays on the police department he would act only in traffic control.

Board members allowed that he could continue another year.

Questions of Ownership

No town department expressed interest in the land on the corner of Jennison and Locke Hill roads that the Arnold family intends to take out of Chapter 61 property tax

protection and put on the market. The town has right of first refusal, but board members saw no need to acquire more land.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich will draft a letter giving the owners the right to pay the town enough to make up what they would have paid if the land had not been in Chapter 61, sell the land, and keep the property on the tax rolls.

Selectboard member Dan Keller said that a letter from DCR claimed that Wendell and the Trousdale Trust are co-owners of the dam that creates McAvoy’s Pond. Board chair Christine Heard wondered how DCR could just say that, and suggested Aldrich call the department and ask to see whatever document supports that claim.

Keller repeated what he had said at previous selectboard meetings: that the dam, the concrete structure, is registered to the Trousdale Trust.

Historic District Stalled

Marianne Sundell, president of the Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse, came late in the meeting and was joined after a reminder phone call by Jerry Barilla and Charles T. Smith, members of the Friends. Together they tried to hasten the process of transferring the meetinghouse lot from the town to the Friends.

Although both parties are willing to make the transfer, the process is complicated. A line that would separate the meetinghouse lot and the town center cemetery was surveyed, but the separated meetinghouse lot would not conform to the town zoning bylaw.

Creating it would be illegal.

Over the past year, Sundell has proposed creating an historic district for the meetinghouse as the simplest way to make the transfer legal. The planning board put an appropriate bylaw on the warrant of the June annual town meeting, but town meeting sent it back for further work. Abutter Brian Anderson learned of the proposal just before the town meeting.

The planning board has not submitted a reworked proposal, and the town has not had a special town meeting, so the proposed historic district is still only a possibility. The town attorney recently gave the planning board the information that they need.

Sundell said that she has grant writers ready to write proposals for money to continue the building’s restoration, but no one is willing to work on a grant until the Friends own the building and the lot it sits on. Her term as president of the Friends expires in October, and she did not speak of an intention to run again.

All three of the Friends encouraged fast action on creating the historic district so that ownership is clear, and progress can continue.

Keller cautioned that democracy works slowly – especially in a town run by volunteers and part-time employees – and he asked commission members to stay in touch with the selectboard.

Water Watched

The Swift River School water system came up again. The sodium level has gone up and down, and has

been higher than DEP recommends, but not high enough to be considered dangerous. The source of that sodium has not been isolated.

The New Salem board of health considered purging the system, which would involve replacing a new pump and cost \$44,000. Because the school building is owned by both Wendell and New Salem, a capital expense like that must be shared by the two towns.

School principal Kelly Sullivan is not enthusiastic about that idea, and neither are facilities director Larry Ramsdell, the joint school committee, or the two selectboards.

The water is safe to drink for anyone without a condition that requires limiting sodium intake, and bottled water is available for them. The approach being taken is to continue monitoring the water, and to take action when it is necessary.

Suspicious Assessed

Assessor Anna Seeger sat through a good part of the meeting before she mentioned her business there. The assessors have new software that requires evaluating every property in town, so the town’s administrative assessor, Helen Williams, has had to drive around town, collecting the necessary information. Some residents have complained, or thought her behavior was suspicious.

Seeger asked if Williams’ vehicle and license plate number could be posted so residents will understand what is happening and not be concerned. Board members gave her contact information for the website

committee, and considered that it might be reasonable for the town’s internet manager, Peter Golrick, to take over the town website.

Other Business

Aldrich suggested a possible shared clerk’s laptop computer, and suggested that Golrick might know more about what would be appropriate.

She also had prepared an abutters list for a hearing on extra unlicensed vehicles at 252 New Salem Road. Another hearing, this one about a nuisance dog, needs scheduling.

Keller reported that former selectboard member Ted Lewis is willing to be auctioneer at the September 16 auction of surplus town property.

The board appointed Sheila Rowe assistant town clerk.

Historic commission Joe Coll was delighted to accept Lisa Hoag, who volunteered to be a new member of the commission.

Board members signed a letter thanking Laurel Brenneman for her excellent work as selectboard clerk. They asked town coordinator Nancy Aldrich to write a letter to state representative Susannah Whipps asking her to move on legislation that would allow 16- and 17-year-old citizens to vote in local elections.

Selectboard member Jeoffrey Pooser reported that the National Grid crews that were expected to start cutting between the Wendell Depot substation and Route 2 had been diverted, and would start their work later than mid-July as anticipated.

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CHALLENGE from page A1

Team Deb itself will have more than 20 cyclists wheeling next weekend. The formidable lineup consists of Bridget and Justin, her parents and their siblings, in addition to the children of the siblings, and all of Deb’s children and siblings.

Talk about a family affair. The pair has chosen to ride 80 miles both days of the event. “I’ve always been a runner and cyclist for the pleasure of it,” said Bridget. “A friend and I rode along the entire Gulf Coast of the United States ten years ago.”

Meanwhile, Justin’s situation is a little different. “I’ve never biked as far as we’ll be going,” he said, “but I’m psyched. Bridget and I do a substantial amount of hiking together and we make a canoe trip every year.

“The Pan-Mass Challenge is all about endurance and the difficulty of the ride. After all, you’re facing the elements. I think the reason the race is so challenging is that it symbolizes how hard it can be to overcome cancer. When I reached out to my family for sponsorship, I learned that cancer had struck more than 10 people in our family.”

Bridget also notes that it’s very inspiring to participate in the Challenge. “It’s wonderful to be in such an environment,” she said. “A lot of people come out along the route with signs and treats. It’s very moving, and helps the miles go by pretty fast. The event is incredibly well-organized. We even have stops every 20 miles for liquids and support.

“And it’s such a festive occasion with a lot of vibrant energy in the air. The volunteers provide excellent support. At the end of both days we get to meet fellow riders and we have a get-together with fellowship, relaxation, and some liquid refreshment.”

Justin adds, “I got to see the Wellesley to Provincetown field off at the start of the ride last year – thousands of people in the parking lot at Babson College. This year I’ll be with them. It’s going to be very exciting.”

The Pan-Mass Challenge allows cyclists to select from 12 different routes, rolling through 46 Massachusetts towns. The entrants range in age from 15 years old to 84. More than 820 volunteers and riders in last year’s event had survived cancer or were patients.

Another interesting fact: Here in 2017, more than 200 corporations donate more than \$5 million in services and products to this fundraiser.

All participants pay a registration fee to cover the cost of rider support. “If a cyclist breaks down,” said Justin, “an official van will come and fix your bike.”

Founded in 1980 by the legendary fundraiser Billy Starr, the Challenge is responsible for more than 52 percent of the Jimmy Fund’s annual budget, and is the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s number one patron. Starr serves as the Challenge’s executive director and also takes part himself in the bike-a-thon.

“We are thrilled to be approaching our 38th PMC race weekend,” said Starr. “Seeing our growth over the years has been truly incredible, and we look forward to achieving our fundraising goal of \$48 million this year for Dana-Farber. We want to wish all of our riders a safe and enjoyable ride weekend. I’ll see you out on the road.”



CORRECTION:

In our most recent issue, one of the dates we provided for concerts at Gill’s Antenna Cloud Farm (July 13, *Rural Music Retreat Attracts Top-Notch Artists*, A1) was incorrect.

The event featuring Michi Wiancko will take place Sunday, September 3, rather than Saturday, September 2. Our apologies for the error!

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Eric Hnatow (left) and Haley Morgan (right) of Home Body.

MEETING WITH THE MUSICIANS: IV

By MATT ROBIDOUX

GREENFIELD – The second annual “Free As I Want To Be” will take place Friday, July 28 at Energy Park in Greenfield from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is free and open to the public. The goal of the festival is to establish a forum for people of all abilities to experience and engage with the arts close up, with performers who will share their time and talents, and explain their craft. The series is presented by VIABILITY, a non-profit, CARF-accredited community agency that provides supported employment, education, and living services to people with disabilities.

This year’s lineup includes Flaming Dragons of Middle Earth, instrument builder David Kontak, the Expandable Brass Band, VI Dance Troupe, and headliners Home Body. Earlier this month, Haley Morgan and Eric Hnatow, the duo that comprise Home Body, were interviewed by four participants of VIABILITY’s community-based day program, Kasey Giguere, Alicia Hemmingway, Kyle Freitag and George Vivier, to discuss their relationship to music. The following is a transcript of that conversation.

KF: What kind of music do you guys play?
HM: We call it “all kinds of music,” because it’s hard to define. see **HOME BODY** page B4



WEST ALONG THE RIVER HIGH SUMMER, DEEP SUMMER

By DAVID BRULE

ERVINGSIDE – We’re at the point of high summer just now, as July is poised to pivot into August. We’ve reached that point and we’d better enjoy it while it lasts. “Sure would like to save some of this heat for January!” is often said around these parts. We New Englanders like to talk about our extreme weather, like the 90-degree temperatures and high humidity we’ve just had, but of course there’s no chance we can pull out this high summer weather and serve it up this coming winter. At least nobody’s talking about the coming fall, or if so, they shouldn’t be. It’s way too soon. How I see it, there’s summer and there’s *high* summer. To strain a metaphor, conjured up in lingering



Rose-breasted grosbeaks.

memories of July in Ireland, there is tea, and there’s *high* tea. Just plain tea would be like: “Wouldn’t ye be likin’ a cuppa tae now luv?” Whereas *high* tea is when the best china is brought out and the table is set with all sorts of treats and dishes ranging from lemony trifle and black-berry scones to raspberry tarts, ham and cheese wedge-cut sandwiches, Irish porter cake, whiskey cake, brandies, and a bottle of the hard stuff, either *poteen* or Jameson’s. And of course there is the mandatory, if not symbolic, pot of tea. You’d be drinking your tea from your china cup with your pinky extended into the air. High tea, that’s just how it is with high summer. It’s all laid out for us, summer is at its most grand. Roses are still blooming, evergreens have light green candles on the tips of branches, putting out the second growth of the season. Wild fruit are ripening in the red osier dogwood stands along the river’s edge, while set back just ten feet into the woods the winterberries are forming, and still a month away from being ready. The invasive Japanese knotweed is in full flower, creating an exotic bamboo forest that is almost impenetrable in its dark green depths, where deer shelter from the heat. Those invasive knotweed see **WEST ALONG** page B4

THEATER REVIEW

An Intimate, Thought-Provoking Look at Life’s Later Years in *Chapatti*

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

GREENFIELD – What is life like as we grow older? What happens to us as we step away from work? Is retirement a wonderful relief from daily chores, a time to enjoy life, for traveling, puttering in the garden, set free to spend time with family long neglected? Perhaps for some. In *Chapatti*, currently in production by the Silverthorne Theater Company at the Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center in Greenfield, we get an intimate look at the lives of two individuals for whom life is not quite like that.

In a series of vignettes, we see each character alone in their home, alone with their thoughts. They speak in a manner that explains their lives, including internal dialogue spoken aloud that often addresses others not there. As the play proceeds, their lives intersect and the conversation between them continues their story. Something about contemplating the approaching natural end of life seems to bring about a period of reflection on one’s entire life, with an often harsh evaluation of our own choices. In *Chapatti*, written by Irish playwright Christian O’Reilly and directed by Jeannine HaasDan, the character played by Nick Simms feels his contribution is not much: perhaps a few buildings he’s helped



Dan (Nick Simms) and Betty (Jane Barish) share a laugh in the Silverthorne Theater Company’s production of *Chapatti*, at the Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center in Greenfield this week.

build in his work, but with no children and his life partner gone, he feels both grief and regret over the choices he made. His one close friend is his dog, named Chapatti for the Indian food they ate while lost together for some time far from home. The dog is all he has to care for now that his lover is gone, the only thing tethering him to this world. Betty, played by Jane Barish, does not have children but does have lots of cats. She looks after her friend Peggy who is depressed over the loss of her husband and sleeps

much of the day. Peggy’s cat Prudence is her one source of comfort. Betty is a generally happy, upbeat person who does not dwell in remorse. She spends her life looking out for others, her cats, her friends, her garden. It is a litter of kittens that brings her to the veterinarian’s office where she and Dan cross paths. Life spent alone can seem pointless, and people who stay alone much of the time often become depressed. One of the strongest themes of this play is how important see **CHAPATTI** page B6

NOTES FROM THE ROAD: VOTE WITH YOUR FEET, VOTE WITH YOUR BODY

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

By DAVID DETMOLD

KENT, OH – I am out in back of a Laundromat, on hot tarmac, talking with *FreePress.org* editor, former Montague Farm communitard and Liberation News Service correspondent Harvey Wasserman about his newest book, co-authored with Bob Fitakis. Their book is called *The Strip & Flip Selection of 2016: Five Jim*



The Kent State Shooting memorial. (“Inquire, learn, reflect.”)

Crows & Electronic Election Theft. With a title like that, you hardly need a book review. But I will give you a short one, before the spin cycle runs out and I have to toss my clothes in the dryer. Or just spread them on the asphalt for two minutes. Wasserman says in the early days of American colonial settlement, indigent blacks and whites came over to this continent as indentured servants, and as such they enjoyed rough equality in human rights. It was not until Bacon’s Rebellion of 1676 – when a nephew of the Royal Governor of Virginia assembled a dissatisfied coalition of poor blacks and whites and burned Jamestown to the ground – that black chattel slavery became widespread in the American colonies. Although slavery did exist in America prior to 1676, Wasserman says the hardening decision to separate blacks as slaves from poor whites forever in this country was a more or less calculated move to pre-empt any further multi-racial uprisings against the ruling class. The status of African Americans as three-fifths of a human being in terms of states’ Electoral College clout was enshrined in the US Constitution. The yoke of English tyranny had been thrown off by the American rebel forces. But the barbaric cruelty and tyranny of chattel slavery was not lifted from the shoulders of black Americans for another 100 years. Immediately after the Civil War, Jim Crow legislation went into effect to deny emancipated blacks the see **NOTES** page B6

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* Valley Advocate 2017 Readers' Poll

Pet of the Week

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GILL and MONTAGUE

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

Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11:00 A.M. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted.

Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs call 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open.

Tues–Thurs Noon Lunch
M, W, F 10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
Monday 7/31
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday 8/1
10:30 - 1:30 Senior Farm Share
Wednesday 8/2
9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach
12:30 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 8/3
NO Tai Chi, NO Chair Yoga
10:30 - Noon Brown Bag
1 p.m. Cards & Games
Friday 8/4
Noon Pizza Party
Monday 8/7
1p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday 8/8
11:30 - 1:30 Senior Farm Share
Wednesday 8/9
9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach
12:30 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 8/10
NO Mindful Mvmt
NO Chair Yoga
9 a.m. Tai Chi
1 p.m. Cards & Games

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

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

ERVING

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

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

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

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

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10:30 a.m. Tai Chi
Tuesday 8/1
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
11:30 Homemade Lunch
Wednesday 8/2
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
9:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12:15 p.m. Bingo, Snacks, Laughs
Thursday 8/3
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Pick Up
12:15 p.m. Wii Summer Sports
Friday 8/4
9 a.m. Quilting
9:30 a.m. Bowling
11:15 a.m. Music/Magic /Mvmnt.
12:30 Healthy Lunch
Monday 8/7
9:30 a.m. Healthy Bones
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi
12:30 p.m. Basic Computer Class!
Tuesday 8/8
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
Wednesday 8/9
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12:15 p.m. Bingo, Snacks, Laughs
Thursday 8/10
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
12:15 p.m. Wii Summer Sports
Friday 8/11
9 a.m. Quilting Workshop
10 a.m. Walmart Shopping
11:15 a.m. Music/Magic/Mvmnt.
12:30 Healthy Lunch

WENDELL

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

AUGUST LIBRARY LISTINGS

Weather, etc., sometimes causes changes in library events; you may want to call ahead to confirm.

Montague Public Libraries

Turners Falls: Carnegie (413) 863-3214
Montague Center (413) 367-2852
Millers Falls (413) 659-3801

Erving Public Library (413) 423-3348
Gill: Slate Library (413) 863-2591
Leverett Public Library (413) 548-9220
Wendell Free Library (978) 544-3559
Northfield: Dickinson Library (413) 498-2455

ONGOING EVENTS

The Summer Library Program “Build a Better World” continues at all local libraries into August.

Every Tuesday

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Craft Time w/Angela*. Children, all ages. 3:30 p.m.

Leverett Library: *Qigong with Dvora Eisenstein*. 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

2nd Tuesday Each Month

Leverett Library: *Knit for Charity*. Some supplies provided. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Every Wednesday

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time w/Karen*. Story, project, snacks. Young children w/ caregivers. 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Wendell Free Library: *Sylvia’s Awesome Play Group*. A sand table and lots of activities for newborn to 5 years old and their guardians. 10 to 11:30 a.m. (Does not meet during school vacations or snow days).

Leverett Public Library: *Tales and Tunes Story Hour w/Heleen Cardinaux*. Developed for children newborn through preschool ages, but all families welcome. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

1st Wednesday Each Month

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Reader’s Choice*. Book discussion. 10 a.m.

Every Thursday

Montague Branch Library, Montague: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson* for children. 10 a.m.

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Knit With Us*. All skill levels welcome; facilitated by Kathy O’Shea, graduate of WEBS expert knitting program. 6 to 8 p.m.

1st Thursday Each Month

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Adult Coloring*. 10 to 11 a.m.

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Environment Awareness Group*. Read the book or watch the movie, then join to discuss the monthly topic; facilitated by Emily Koester. 6:30 p.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Genealogy Gathering*. 6 to 7:45 p.m.

2nd Thursday Each Month

Leverett Library: *Needlecraft*. Bring your own work or try out the monthly project, some supplies provided. 6:30 p.m.

4th Thursday Each Month

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Monthly Book Discussion*. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Last Thursday Each Month

Leverett Library: *Lego Club*. New building challenge each week, and snack. 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Every Friday

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Story Hour*. Stories, crafts, mu-

sic and movement. Pre-schoolers and their caregivers. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Wendell Free Library: *Explore Yoga with Shay Cooper*. Mixed levels. 10 a.m. \$ or barter.

Every Saturday

Leverett Library: *Tai Chi*. 10 a.m.

Wendell Free Library: *AA Open Meeting*. 6 to 7 p.m.

1st Saturday Each Month

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Book Sale*. Books, DVDs, CDs, etc. \$1 or less. 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

2nd and 4th Saturdays

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Food Pantry*. 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Every Sunday

Wendell Free Library: *Mostly Yoga*. 10 to 11:15 a.m. Donation.

Wendell Free Library: *AA Open Meeting*. 6 to 7 p.m.

EXHIBITS

Several local libraries have monthly or bimonthly art shows. In order to apply for a show at these venues, find application forms on library websites.

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

EVENTS

Wednesday, August 2

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Wednesday Morning Book Group*. This month: *Man Called Ove*, by Fredrik Backman. 10 a.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Power of Geometry Series*. Children “grade 3-8 will see how an understanding of geometry can give us superhuman strength with the use of simple machines.” 1 to 2 p.m.

Thursday, August 3

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Environmental Awareness Group*. Discussion of *Moral High Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril*. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Leverett Library: Music on the Patio with *Machine Shop*. 7 to 8 p.m.

Friday, August 4

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Story Hour*. Today the theme is *Boats*. In English with occasional Spanish lessons, for preschoolers and their care-givers. Presented by Laurie Davidson from Mucho Gusto. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Puppet Show at Peskeomskut Park*. No Strings Marionettes will present *Bully! For the Big Pigs*. Bring a blanket. If bad weather, will be held inside at the Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the MPL. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Science Day with the GCC Science Club*. Design, build, predict, and

race your own vehicles; build roller coasters for marbles, and balloon bottle cars. Part of Summer Library Program. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 5

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Rock/Paper/Scissors Baseball* at Northfield Elementary School Fields. “Join us for all-ages (6 to 60 year olds) play, and refreshments.” 10 to 11 a.m.

Tuesday, August 8

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Trivia Night and Potluck* at the Northfield Golf Club Pavilion. Please bring a dish of food to share and feel free to bring the kids to this one. Fun, prizes and random trivia. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, August 9

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *A Visit from the Turners Falls Fire Department*. Local firefighters bring a fire engine to the library. “Young children and their caregivers will learn all about a fire engine, inside and out.” 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, August 10

Leverett Library: Music on the Patio with *Same Old Blues*. 7 to 8 p.m.

Friday, August 11

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *A Visit from the Lego Lady*, Jean Daley. She will bring thousands of different Legos; designed for children grades 3 to 8. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dickinson Library, Northfield: Story Hour with Laurie Davidson. This week’s theme is Camping. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 12

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Magic Show*. Coming all the way from Europe, a Connecticut River Valley-born magician returns to delight all ages. Plus: ice cream, and announcement of 2017 Summer Library Program raffle winners. 1 to 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 17


Leverett Library: *A Day with Superman and Supergirl*. “Passport to Chemistry Adventure scientists from Mt. Holyoke College will lead caregiver/child teams through an exploration of vision to uncover hidden messages and more.” Children need to have at least one stamp in their “passports” to attend the program. Sign up early; space is limited. 4 p.m.

Leverett Library: Music on the Patio with *Beth Logan Raffield*. 7 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 19

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: Movie Night: *The Howling*, part of the 2017 Science Fiction/Horror Movie Series. “Can werewolves peacefully integrate with modern society?” 7:30 p.m.

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MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

If you visit our online video directory at montaguenv.org/p/76/Latest-Videos, how will you know what to watch? Here we'll clarify what our recent programming is all about!

- Deer Paths: Great to be an Eagle is an original musical by the Deer Paths Nature Preschool.
- The Fantastic Partnerz is a Southern Vermont-based band – check out their tunes and concert dates at www.thefantasticpartnerz.com. The video features their July concert on the Gill Common as part of A Natural Music School's Common People Concert Series.
- The NMH Battlefield Lecture 6/22/17 (hosted by Northfield Mount Hermon School) features a panel of scholars and archaeologists discussing the Peskeomskut Massacre, also known as the Battle of Turners Falls.
- Family Fun Time – Going Places is a video directed and shot by Effie and Joel Paxton, and edited by Bret Leighton. Effie takes us through adventures and activities around town and around the home!
- Carlos W. Anderson brings artful sermons of Christian spirituality to those who seek it – the latest being “Return to Eden” from July 2.
- Rock Paper Scissors 2017 celebrates the unveiling of the sculpture by Tim de Christopher, which is a bold attraction new to downtown Turners.
- The Greenfield Garden Club

CONCERT REVIEW

Americana Roots Rock Festival

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

GREENFIELD – The Americana Roots Rock Festival took place on July 1 in a bar called the Root Cellar in Greenfield. Some of the bands there were the Easthampton Savings Band, Rocky Roberts & Friends, Tree Fort, Eric Lee, Dez Roy, and one called And the Neighbors.

I got there and first saw **Dez Roy** perform. They consisted of two young men, one playing an electric guitar, the second one a bass. The electric guitar player sang a song that sounded country. This man did both the guitar playing and the singing very well. He was a good example of a country music singer. I could have listened to this guy all night. Dez Roy was my favorite group that I heard that night.

Next was **And the Neighbors**, which started off as a duo featuring a man and a woman. Three others joined in the performance later. The woman sounded like she was doing a ballad. Their music sounded a little like pop music, even though one guy was playing a guitar. Not exactly something I liked as much as Dez Roy, but the woman's singing was all right.

One guitarist joined in with the woman at one point when she was singing. A drummer was also involved in a song at one point. I liked the guitarist's playing better than her singing.

Apparently, the woman is also part of a group called **Fancy Trash**,

at Greenfield Savings Bank lets us listen to conversations with Laura Schlaikjer and hear more about the club's projects.

- In **GFDC Frank Gregory Muralist 6/26**, we get a tour from the man who painted the backdrops at the Great Falls Discovery Center museum, and learn how the whole exhibit was put together.
- The **Erving Riverfront Park Grand Opening** allows us to hear from a variety of speakers on the opening of the park and learn more about future plans for the park, and what citizens can do to influence its future.

The next MCTV quarterly meeting, a meeting of the MCCI board, is Thursday, August 17. There are currently seven vacant positions on the board.

Interested in becoming a board member for Montague Community Cable, Inc. (MCCI)? Visit montaguenv.org to learn more, and call 863-9200 to set up an appointment with a current board member!

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

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

with the same members that are in And the Neighbors. It was sort of a weird twist to things, but at least I got to hear more of the guitarist I liked, who turned out to be the husband of the singer. I also found their performing still the same with what I thought of their music, though in Fancy Trash, the husband sang solo, which I really liked. He did a ballad too, which worked very well with him playing his guitar.

Tree Fort had three guitarists and a drummer. To my surprise, their music sounded like rock'n'roll – good rock'n'roll. One of the guitarists was a singer, and his voice was okay. I really liked them, as did the people in the bar. The group fit in well in connection with the festival's name. They were my second favorite group that I heard that night – both Dez Roy and this group met my liking, when it comes to country music and rock'n'roll.

It seems these days, I have developed a pretty good interest in checking out local music, and finding out that some of the musicians are quite good. I have been doing this on some occasions by going to music festivals. The Upper Valley Music Festival is still a place where you can hear good music. The Montague Jazz Festival does all right in that department as well.

The Americana Roots Rock Festival was an event I'd never been to, and the music was mostly a “hit” when it came to “hit or miss”. I believe a fair amount of the people at the Root Cellar would agree.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Porky Pigger; Keyboard-Cleaner Huffer; Duck Harasser; Mangy Foxes; Major Brawl

Monday, 7/10

9:58 a.m. Party into station to speak with officer re: vandalism to her husband's gravesite. Advised of options.

2:39 p.m. Report of 65-70 year old man lying on the ground in the conservation area, nude from the waist down. Services rendered.

Wednesday, 7/12

9:56 a.m. Report of syringes on Third Street. Earlier this morning, caller saw someone shooting up in the reported area. Responding officer found no syringes on site. Spoke with caller about what he witnessed.

10:28 a.m. Report of sick-looking fox on Randall Road. Animal control officer is off this week. Referred to an officer.

6:31 p.m. Multiple calls reporting a white male with long white hair yelling and wielding a knife in the area of Third and L streets. Officers *en route*. Male taken into protective custody.

9:34 p.m. Caller reporting that a white male began to yell at him while he was outside smoking on J Street. Male has since walked toward park. Caller believes that he is highly intoxicated. Unable to locate. Neighbors also reported that there was a male subject who was loud but took off.

10:04 p.m. Off-duty officer reporting intoxicated male causing issues on Avenue A; male fits same description as previous call. Male taken into protective custody.

10:14 p.m. Store clerk from Third Street reports that a male party ripped a plaque off the wall and smashed it about 40 minutes ago. Caller states that other parties are now coming in harassing her; she believes they are friends of the male party. Subject fits description of male taken into protective custody earlier. Officer will look at tapes tomorrow and confirm.

Friday, 7/14

8:31 a.m. Caller states that a blue Oldsmobile passed him at a high rate of speed and almost went off the road. Vehicle parked at Sheffield Elementary School; caller saw driver get out and go into the school. Unable to locate.

11:49 a.m. Walk-in reporting that someone came into his backyard on Montague Street and cut the metal hook that he uses for his dog run. Advised of options.

2:52 p.m. Caller states that there are multiple people at the skate park smoking cigarettes. Unable to locate.

4:21 p.m. Caller from Hunting Hills reporting that there was a theft from

her store and also someone urinating on her property. Report taken.

7:54 p.m. Walk-in party reporting that he witnessed a female huffing keyboard cleaner in front of Family Dollar.

8:43 p.m. Caller reporting 3-4 males being loud in the alley behind Fifth Street. While on line, caller began to engage with the involved parties. Parties moved along and advised of complaint.

9 p.m. Caller from Spring Street reporting loud noises coming from a shed; sounds like a generator and an electric saw. Officer spoke to homeowner, who was doing some welding but didn't realize the time. Now shutting it down for the night.

11:18 p.m. Caller from Park Street reporting that she and her husband were awakened by banging on the front door of their house. Husband checked outside; negative findings. Officers checked area; nothing found.

Saturday, 7/15

11:19 a.m. Officer saw a mangy fox run across Hatchery Road into a horse pasture. Officer tried to catch up with it on foot, but it ran off into the woods. Officer notified neighbors to keep an eye out for it and give us a call if they see it.

12:39 p.m. Caller states that there are two guys with a bow and arrow pointing it at people who are attending a tag sale on Second Street. They are then shooting the arrows into the ground in front of themselves. Area checked; nothing found.

6:23 p.m. Caller reporting that he just saw a drug exchange in the parking lot near the skatepark. Caller's main concern is that there was a small child in one of the involved vehicles. Officer reporting to residential address of vehicle to check on child. Unable to locate.

7:16 p.m. Caller reporting that there is a male in a gray hoodie who appears to be sitting over the railing in between the metal pieces of the one-way bridge on Power Street. Officers located a female party and advised her not to “relax” on the bridge.

10:27 p.m. Caller from West Chestnut Hill Road states that he can hear the Green River Festival from his house even with the windows closed. Caller also contacted Greenfield PD; wants complaint on record.

10:41 p.m. Officer reporting 5-6 people in park with lights. Family playing with glow in the dark toys. They will be moving on shortly.

Sunday, 7/16

12:28 a.m. Caller states that they saw four people walking toward the back of the Southworth Paper Mill along the canal. Caller

believes that one of them was carrying a couple of pipes. Officers located parties, who were a photography group out to do some night photography. Parties advised of hazards in area and that they would need permission to be out there.

5:24 a.m. Caller reporting that the front windshield to his neighbor's car in the Third Street alley has been smashed. Report taken.

2:01 p.m. Caller reporting male on outside of Gill-Montague Bridge yelling and screaming. Officer off at Gill Mobil with Gill officer. Party agreed to walk home calmly.

Monday, 7/17

8:07 a.m. Box alarm received from PaperLogic. TFFD reports water flow in Eagle Creek building. TFFD contacted building inspector.

4:13 p.m. Report of small brush fires on Lake Pleasant Road caused by fireworks that were set off from a passing vehicle. Officer and TFFD responding; fire out upon arrival.

6:50 p.m. Report of two teens sitting in middle of road at Old Sunderland and Taylor Hill roads. Teens were standing on side of road upon arrival. Same moved along.

Tuesday, 7/18

4:08 p.m. Caller states that a man has been asleep on a bench outside Food City for “quite a while.” Party moved along without incident.

6:46 p.m. Multiple 911 calls about a large fight on Fourth Street including 12-15 males with pit bulls possibly involved. One vehicle has taken off with several people in the car and pit bulls hanging out the window. Officer advising fight has dispersed. Investigated.

8:25 p.m. Report of a motorcycle doing wheelies in the area of the skatepark.

Thursday, 7/20

11:35 p.m. Caller from Fourth Street states that he has one opossum in his basement; requesting animal control officer remove it. Copy of call left for ACO.

Friday, 7/21

7:56 a.m. Report of dead owl in road near Senn Farm.

1:59 p.m. Caller from Bulkeley Street states there is an injured bird under his car. ACO advising that he is unable to take any birds at this time.

7:15 p.m. Caller advising there is a bobcat in the area of Center Street where children are playing. Unable to locate.

9:37 p.m. Stacked 911 and business calls reporting fireworks in area of Avenue C and Keith Street. Officer speaking to neighbors in area.

11:27 p.m. Caller reporting three cows loose on Wills

Ferry Road. Owner will be *en route* to secure animals.

Saturday, 7/22

10:09 a.m. Sinkhole reported on the Turner Street side of the Bridge of Names. Officer advises hole in question is pothole, not sinkhole. Message left for DPW.

11:33 a.m. Report of illegal dumping at Riverside Drive and Grove Street. Caller found a name and address among the dumped item(s). Party spoken with; advised that the piece of bubble wrap in question had blown out of his trash last year. Party retrieved item.

11:57 a.m. Greenfield PD advising that a Greenfield resident's vehicle was vandalized in Turners Falls overnight: someone had vandalized all four tires and put sugar in the gas tank. Victim will be contacting MPD.

12:59 p.m. Report of dog left unattended at a residence on Ninth Street in Lake Pleasant. Dog has reportedly been howling for the past couple of days. Owner advises she has been coming back three times a day to care for dog, who has food, water, and AC. Owner states that she tried to surrender dog at Dakin, but they would not accept it. Owner has left message with regional kennel. ACO advised.

3:39 p.m. Party into station with her young grandson, who was digging by Green Pond and found three live bullets. Bullets dropped off to dispatch to be disposed of properly.

5:18 p.m. Report of four male solicitors requesting to see electric bills and being very assertive about entering people's homes on Central Street. Parties sent on way and advised of correct procedures for receiving permit.

7:45 p.m. Callers advising that a male party in a speedboat was attempting to run over ducks down by the Unity Park pier. When caller tried to stop man, a verbal altercation ensued. Party in boat gone upon arrival.

8:59 p.m. Caller from Griswold Street reporting that a female has been screaming at children outside for over an hour. Grandmother was taking care of kids, who are not listening. All kids advised to listen. Units clear.

Monday, 7/24

11:38 a.m. Report of money stolen from apartment on Park Villa Drive. Investigated.

1:58 p.m. Multiple reports of head-on collision on Unity Street. TFFD and MedCare transporting patients. Vehicles towed. DPW *en route* with sand. One operator issued written warning for marked lanes violation.

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ELEVEN CDS FOR ELEVEN BUCKS

#4: Grant Lee Buffalo, Jubilee (1998)



By IVAN USSACH

I like this record: It’s grown on me with repeated listenings, has no weak tracks. My only previous exposure to this band was a song I heard on the *Velvet Goldmine* soundtrack, with a lyric that caught my ear enough to track it down. The song is “The Whole Shebang,” with the unforgettable line “Ecstasy’s the birthright of our gang.” That alone deserves further attention.

Not to be confused with Donna the Buffalo, GLB is songwriter Grant Lee Phillips on vocals, guitars and other things, Joey Peters on drums and percussion – and, on Jubilee, Dan Rothchild (replacing original member Paul Kimble on bass), plus various friends (Michael Stipe and Robyn Hitchcock each contribute a backing vocals track).

The band toured with the likes of R.E.M. and Pearl Jam. *Jubilee* is the last of their four records. It kinda makes me think of Soundgarden meets the Wallflowers, though I’m not that familiar with either band. Punchy guitars and drums, original arrangements, well produced. Songs

I’d enjoy hearing on the radio. The single “Truly, Truly” did well on the charts. You can get a taste of the lyrics from these lines: “I leaned back against the glass/of a car to watch all those/speeding comets crash/It made me think about us.” Leader Grant Lee Phillips wrote that “Grant Lee Buffalo tunes are often like an old car or an old amp that needs a few seconds to get warmed up, but when it does – look out! ... The sound of *Jubilee* was rollicking, stomping, and by far the most uplifting of all the albums in the band’s catalogue.”

What are the odds: While I’m working on this review the daily poem from the National Poetry Foundation lands in my inbox – *Buffalo Dusk*, by Carl Sandburg.

The buffaloes are gone. / And those who saw the buffaloes are gone. / Those who saw the buffaloes by thousands and how they pawed the prairie sod into dust with their hoofs, their great heads down pawing on in a great pageant of dusk, / Those who saw the buffaloes are gone. / And the buffaloes are gone.

Stipe of R.E.M. called the band’s debut album, *Fuzzy*, “the best album of 1993 hands down.” Phillips described its sound as “the acoustic feedback howl of overdriven 12-string guitars, melodic distorto-bass, tribal drum bombast, the old world churn of pump organs and parlor pianos.”

I’m definitely gonna check out their earlier stuff.

WEST ALONG from page B1 flowers, in spite of all, perfume the air and attract thousands of pollinators.

Our birds have fledged, and awkward youngsters take short wobbly flights, winging and flopping through the woods and air. They still clamor to be fed by their beleaguered and bedraggled parents who will soon drop them off somewhere to shift for themselves, while they take their own turn at fattening up.

Bob-tailed and spiky-feathered blue jays, grackles, young woodpeckers with punk buzz-cuts, grosbeaks, orioles, wrens, robins, flickers, redstarts, yellow throats, cardinals and multiple other juveniles are wrangling to get just one more free meal from their parents before they’re left on their own.

The cicadas start their electric buzzing in the 90-degree heat by 10 a.m., and it’s such a sensual and lazy pleasure to slip around barefoot on the warming boards of the deck.

Now too we can truly say we are in the *deepest* parts of the summer. August hovers at the calendar opposite of January, six months hence.

Deep summer noontime brings a quiet in the midst of baking heat. Now catbirds slow their flouncing from bush to catbird seat on the back of the Adirondack chair. Now jeweled hummingbirds still dart, thrust and parry in the canyons, valleys and peaks of the scarlet bee-balm and towering Joe Pye weed.

Cherry tomatoes ripen ahead of their beefier tomato kin. The true cherries from the Montmorency tree sit in the darkened pantry, immersed and curing in jars of vodka, only to be brought forth when the snow flies around winter holidays, to remind us

of the heat of summer.

Red tomatoes, Red Sox. The Sox are also doing their summer thing, barely keeping out of reach of the dratted Yankees, they lead their archrivals by a slender margin.

Ironically, one hundred and five years after his 1912 debut with the Red Sox, our uncle Doug Smith was honored this past weekend in July by his own villages of Millers Falls and Ervingside.

A small crowd was present on a hot summer Sunday morning to view a bigger-than-life mural of the star lefty, who got his one shot at the Big Leagues on July 10, 1912, before being dropped by lily-white Boston because of his mixed race. His grandmother, Betsy Strong, was a dark-skinned woman of Native American and African roots. When the Sox found this out, he was given a one-way ticket out of town.

Now, this summer, his story has been told by Richard Widmer, artist Marco Correia, and myself, in my stories written of our ballplayer uncle born in this old family homestead. There are a few of us who knew him in his lifetime, but now the whole village has finally honored him almost forty-five years after his passing, and high time too.

Now, in deep summer, will the Indian drums resonate up and down the banks of the mighty Connecticut once again. Thousands of visitors will flow along the bike path for the August 5 Pocumtuck Homelands Festival in the aptly named Unity Park.

Tribal people from the Abenaki, Mohawk, Wampanoag, Nipmuck, Narragansett and Nehantic will return again to the Pocumtuck Home-



HOME BODY from page B1 Sometimes we call it pop music.

KF: *What kind of pop?*
HM: Electronic pop. Or sometimes we call it fever pop, which is a term we just made up. Sometimes it reminds us of that feeling when you’re a little sick and you can’t tell if things are totally real, or you’re dreaming or asleep – that sort of in-between feeling.

KF: *What’s one of your songs?*
HM: One of our favorite songs is called “Fire”. That was one of the first songs we wrote. We have choreographed dance moves to it, so it’s a fun one to play out.

KG: *Who are some of your favorite artists who paint?*
HM: There are a lot of good painters right around Turners Falls and Greenfield. We’ve always been a fan of Rodney Madison, who used to have a spot right in Turners.
EH: I like sculpture a lot – three-dimensional kinds of art.

GV: *I want a tee shirt.*
EH: We’ll make sure to bring one in your size!

KF: *Where have you toured?*
HM: We’ve gone all over the United States. We’ve played in California, Washington, and Oregon.
EH: And we’ve played in Canada, one time.
HM: One of our favorite things about having a band is traveling and meeting new people all over the place. It’s really fun, playing in different sorts of rooms – in different atmospheres for shows.

AH: *What kind of instruments do you play? Do you play emotional songs? Do you make songs to make people’s emotions happy or sad?*
HM: We love emotional music and making songs that help people feel all sorts of feelings – everything from sadness, and maybe a little bit of anger, to happiness.
EH: A lot of our songs use

electronic instruments, like drum machines and keyboards and synthesizers, so most of the songs have a beat that you can dance to. They’re good for dancing. Even the slow songs have a beat, and a lot of bass. The music that we make has all kinds of emotions in it, but often people gravitate towards the happy dancing part, which is good.

HM: I sing, and I have a lot of fun when I sing, because when you use your voice you can convey all sorts of emotions. Thinking about the sounds you make when you laugh, or when you’re angry, and trying to figure out how to work these into songs is really cool for me, and cathartic. It makes me feel good to be able to go through so many emotions and share them with people.

KG: *What kind of show will be played in concert?*
EH: Our show is usually a set of songs we perform in different order, depending on the audience.
HM: We’ll probably wear some cool outfits.
EH: It will probably be similar to the shows we do around the country with the songs that we have, a typical kind of Home Body show. We will show you guys what it’s usually like.
HM: We’ll probably dance a lot too.
EH: If you have any requests – not just songs, but any kind of thing you want us to do – we can try!

AH: *Could we collaborate with my music? I write music. I can take my music and give it to you to play with what I write. Because I write a lot of stuff: I take the words, and transform it with music.*
GV: *Do you like ZZ Top?*
EH: I love ZZ Top, yeah. They’re great. I like that song “Cheap Sunglasses” that’s on the radio.

AH: *I’ve got to get a new pair.*
EH: We went to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and you can see ZZ Top’s outfits and the drums...

Everything is made of fur, and the guitars are made of metal.

KF: *Are you two a couple?*
EH & HM: Yes, we are!

KF: *How long have you two been a couple?*
EH: Eleven years. Home Body has been a band for six years. Not as long as ZZ Top, but still pretty long.

KF: *What do you do around the community?*
HM: We go to a lot of community events, like concerts at the Brick House and dance shows at the Shea. We like to spend a lot of time on the nature trails, and we both work in Greenfield, so we meet a lot of people through our jobs.

EH: We both work a few days a week as well as doing the band, so we meet a lot of people through working in the community, like you guys. We’re really busy between working to pay bills and performing music and going to shows. Performing music takes a lot of time, so when we’re performing around here we try to have fun shows and do different stuff, because a lot of our shows end up being at night in a bar, which is fun, but we’re trying to mix it up and do some different kinds of shows.

HM: We played in downtown Turners Falls a couple months ago in Spinner Park, where they have the sculpture of the woman who worked in the factory that used to be here. And that was fun, because it was outside. It was during the day, and there were lots of kids around.

EH: A lot of younger people, and people with kids, can’t always go to shows at bars. We’re trying to integrate some different kinds of shows. And that’s why we’re excited to play for you guys.

KF: *What’s your favorite kind of dance music?*
HM: Probably the music that Eric makes. It makes me dance the most.



lands on the banks of the river. We will again celebrate here the return of those indigenous peoples who have never really left. We will also honor those whose spirits are still here, in spite of all.

Now, quick! Bottle up these summery images, and those of your own, to be taken out and savored in the dark days of winter, like the sun-drenched cherries stored up in the jars of vodka in my pantry.

There! I went and did it, I mentioned winter *again*. Not yet, not so soon!

For now, roll on summer, high and deep!



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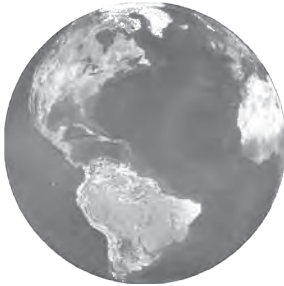
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Aquí se habla español

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



Adquiriendo la ciudadanía estadounidense.

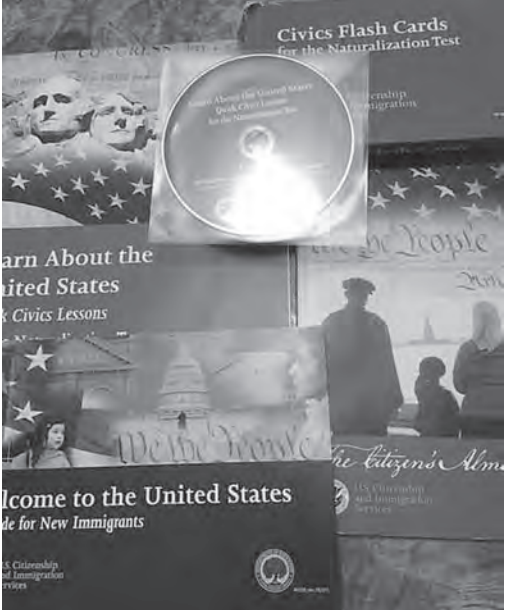
Por VICTORIA MAÍLLO

TURNERS FALLS – Me van a permitir ustedes que dedique la columna de este mes a mi propia experiencia personal. Les voy a hablar del proceso de adquisición de la ciudadanía estadounidense, pensando que estas líneas pueden ser de ayuda para otras personas que quieran hacerlo, o de interés para aquellos que no conozcan los detalles de este trámite tan complicado.

Tengo que confesar que seguramente mis trámites han sido más fáciles al estar casada con un ciudadano estadounidense por quince años, haber estado en posesión de la tarjeta de residencia por diez años, y provenir de un país europeo no especialmente sospechoso para el gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Todos estos pequeños detalles hacen que mi caso a priori no supusiera ningún tipo de complicación, pero aun así no fue un proceso fácil. No puedo ni imaginar la complicación de la solicitud si no se dieran esas circunstancias que he mencionado anteriormente.

Estoy contando esta experiencia porque, a veces, he leído o escuchado de ciudadanos estadounidenses críticas contra los emigrantes indocumentados. Ciertamente, las personas que hablan así, hablan sin conocer las dificultades del proceso de conseguir visados, tarjetas de residencia (Green Card) y la ciudadanía.

Mi decisión de solicitar la ciudadanía fue muy meditada, no una decisión tomada a la ligera. Fue así mismo un proceso personal difícil el aceptar que debía tomar esa decisión. Algunos pueden pensar que es fácil, que todos quieren ser “americanos”, pero nada más lejos de la realidad, es una decisión sentimental y emocional muy complicada.



Ciudadanía: Materiales para estudiar.

Empecé los trámites hace ahora más de seis meses, a finales del año pasado. Me puse en contacto con la organización Center for New Americans, a la que quiero dar las gracias desde aquí, en especial a sus abogadas y consejeras: Tina Sanchez, Linda Neas, Maureen McMahon y a mi tutora, Sarah McKusick. Recomendando a todos los que estén pensando realizar algún trámite de este tipo que se pongan en contacto con CNA en su sede de Greenfield o Northampton.

En Center for New Americans me ayudaron a comprender lo que significaba adquirir la ciudadanía, los requisitos que necesitaba para ello y los plazos de tiempo que iba a tomar ese proceso.

Empecé a completar los formularios en los que se requiere diferente información acerca del solicitante: cuántos años hace que está en los E.E.U.U., trabajos que ha desarrollado en

su estancia en el país, domicilios, familia, viajes realizados al extranjero, y cuestiones como si el solicitante ha cometido delitos, ha sido arrestado alguna vez, ha pertenecido al partido comunista, bebe alcohol habitualmente, o participado en genocidio. Las respuestas deben ser absolutamente verdaderas y no cabe mentir.

Por supuesto, los trámites de completar y enviar la solicitud no son gratuitos, el coste total es de 670 dólares. El pago no garantiza la aprobación de la solicitud.

Los abogados de Center for New Americans me ayudaron a completar y revisaron mi solicitud. Especialmente complicado fue determinar los días que había pasado fuera de Estados Unidos desde la recepción de mi tarjeta de residencia. Se debe ser lo más preciso posible con esos datos, y a veces no es posible determinarlo porque los sellos del pasaporte no aparecen legibles y has olvidado las fechas exactas de viajes que hiciste hace 9 años.

La solicitud ofrece la posibilidad de cambiar tu nombre legal, es decir, al recibir la ciudadanía, en tu pasaporte aparecerá tu nuevo nombre. Es una oportunidad si quieres usar el apellido de tu cónyuge o simplificar tu nombre o apellidos originales.

Una vez enviada la solicitud solamente queda esperar. Normalmente la espera es de dos a cuatro meses, pero debido a la avalancha de solicitudes recibidas desde noviembre pasado, actualmente los trámites superan los seis meses.

A los tres meses recibí una carta para presentarme en West Hartford en una oficina del USCIS en la que se registran los datos biométricos. La carta te indica una fecha y hora en la que debes estar allí. Te hacen una foto y toman las huellas digitales de los diez dedos. Esos datos junto con tu altura, peso, color de pelo, ojos, color de piel y género son enviados a una oficina central que rastrea tu identidad en busca de posibles delitos.

El personal que trabaja en la oficina fue muy amable, el tiempo de espera fue mínimo y el lugar dispone de baños. El único problema es que encontrar la oficina no fue fácil debido a que se encuentra dentro de una pequeña plaza comercial camuflada entre Dunkin Donuts y Subway.

Realizado este trámite llega otro tiempo de espera para el siguiente paso: el examen de inglés y las 10 preguntas sobre historia, política y sociedad de Estados Unidos. Yo había empezado a estudiar las 100 preguntas que debes saber a principios del año pasado, y he llevado todo este tiempo en el coche un CD con el audio de las preguntas y respuestas. Debo dar las gracias a mi tutora, Sarah, que desde el primer momento me infundió confianza respecto a mi inglés y me ayudó explicándome las preguntas y la forma del examen.

La semana pasada hice el examen. Cuando recibí la notificación para hacerlo casi salté de alegría porque durante este tiempo mi tarjeta de residencia había caducado y tuve que solicitar una extensión de la misma con un coste de otros 670 dólares.

Tuve que ir a Springfield a primera hora de la mañana. Allí debes registrarte con la carta recibida y esperar en un pasillo con sillas a oír tu nombre. La presión es brutal, la atmosfera no es muy agradable y los minutos hasta que te llaman se hacen interminables.

Por fin, oí mi nombre. Tuve que pasar por un detector de metales y registraron mi bolso en el que llevaba todos los documentos que debes aportar: declaraciones de impuestos, pasaportes usados durante tu residencia estadounidense, tarjeta de residencia, certificado de matrimonio original y traducido, certi-

OPINION

La falta de zonas de baño en el área.



Bañistas en la zona no permitida del puente de Eunice Williams en Greenfield.

Por. VICTORIA MAÍLLO

GREENFIELD – Llega julio y los termómetros alcanzan la temperatura de 36 grados centígrados. En ese momento los habitantes de la zona nos disponemos a buscar un lugar para refrescarnos. Y aquí es donde empieza el problema.

En Montague no existe ninguna zona de baño gratuita y accesible, pese a que estamos rodeados de agua por todas partes. Los lugares más cercanos son Lake Wyola en el que se paga 8 dólares por día y por vehículo. Allí los fines de semana es imposible encontrar un espacio para aparcar después de las 11 de la mañana. Otro de los lugares es el área de Green River en Greenfield que tiene el mismo precio que el anterior por día y por vehículo, y está siempre a lleno de gente.

La única zona de baño gratuita cercana a Montague es debajo de la presa del puente de Eunice Williams, en Greenfield. El parking en esta zona no está preparado para más de seis carros bien aparcados. Ello hace que los fines de semana o tardes calurosas sea imposible casi transi-

cado de nacimiento de mi cónyuge, y carnet de conducir.

La persona que me entrevistó fue muy amable e incluso me ofreció un pañuelo de papel viendo mi estado de nerviosismo. Lo primero que hice fue levantar la mano derecha y jurar que todo lo que iba a decir era verdad. Esto sirve también para comprobar tu nivel de inglés y si entiendes instrucciones en esa lengua. Después tomaron de nuevo mis huellas dactilares, en este caso solamente de los dedos índices de cada mano. Y empezó el examen que consiste en diez preguntas de entre las 100 que debes estudiar. De esas diez si respondes correctamente a seis, has pasado el examen.

El oficial del gobierno me hizo la primera pregunta: ¿Qué grupo de población fue traído a los estados Unidos y vendido como esclavos? Sabía la respuesta, así que la dije serena y convencida. Y así hasta seis preguntas puesto que no tuvo que hacerme diez al contestar correctamente a las seis primeras. Lo más difícil es estar preparado y entender bien las preguntas ya que son elegidas al azar de entre las cien posibles. Esta parte sirve también para evaluar tus destrezas de comprensión y expresión oral en inglés.

Después tuve que leer en inglés la frase:

tar por la pequeña carretera debido a los vehículos invadiendo las cunetas.

La zona superior a la presa está prohibida para el baño al ser una reserva para el consumo de Greenfield. Aun así siempre hay bañistas en esa parte como se puede comprobar en esta foto tomada el viernes pasado sobre las doce del mediodía.

El problema es que esta zona no tiene baños, ni capacidad para aparcamiento, ni papeles. Eso hace que después de un fin de semana caluroso parezca una zona de guerra con montones de basura y otros desechos. Ni que decir tiene que tampoco hay socorrista y algún día va a ocurrir una tragedia.

Los habitantes de Montague llevan años pidiendo una zona acotada para el baño que permita refrescarse de las altas temperaturas y al mismo tiempo sea un lugar de esparcimiento para niños y adultos. Hay muchos lugares en los que no sería muy complicado delimitar el baño, ya sea en el Connecticut o en el canal aunque técnicamente no pertenece a Montague sino a una empresa privada.

¿No creen ustedes que sería una buena idea?

Who can vote?, y escribir en inglés la frase que él me dictó: *Citizens can vote*. Solamente hice una frase para cada parte del examen de inglés, pero el examen te permite tres intentos con tres frases diferentes. Es muy importante que si no entiendes bien en inglés, digas a la persona que repita la frase, no hay ningún problema en hacer esto.

Por último llegan las preguntas sobre la propia solicitud. Debes recordar las fechas en que has salido del país por si te hacen preguntas sobre ello. En mi caso no había salido del país desde el momento de empezar mi solicitud y eso lo hizo más fácil.

El funcionario fue preguntándome una por una todas las cuestiones sobre pertenencia a banda armada, grupo terrorista, asociación nazi o comunista, etc., así como a las preguntas sobre si empuñaría las armas en caso de ser necesario para defender Estados Unidos y si quiero jurar la bandera. Todo esto duró como unos 20 minutos.

Al término de ello, debí esperar para recibir el certificado en el que se me invita a la ceremonia de juramento a la bandera. El próximo día 11 de agosto, la que ustedes están leyendo será ciudadana estadounidense.

Y les aseguró a ustedes que no fue fácil ni sencillo.

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OUT OF THE PARK

By JON DOBOSZ

UNITY PARK – Happy mid-summer, everyone! It’s certainly been warm so far this season, and the excitement in Montague is definitely getting turned up as well, with the amount of programs and events heading our way!

As you may be aware, July is **Park and Recreation Month**, and we’ve certainly been doing our share with honoring this very special month with a host of items to keep you and your children happy and healthy.

Our **Summer Camp**, for example, has been great. The camp started on July 3, and it goes through Friday, August 18. You can register your child on a weekly basis, and we still have some spots available at all of our sites, so call us now to register: (413) 863-3216.

Our remaining theme weeks are as follows:

Week 4 (July 24 through 28) is Crazy Creatures Week, and will have **Tom Ricardi and his Birds of Prey**;

Week 5 (July 31 through August 4) is Jedi Knight Week and we’ll be taking a **field trip to Bounce!** in Springfield;

Week 6 (August 7 through 11) is Color Wars Week where we will hold our annual **Olympic Day at the high school** for our campers.

Our final week (August 14 through 18) we will be taking a **field trip to Look Park**. Our campers have been great, and our counselors are awesome, so be part of the excitement!

Saturday, July 29 will be a big day at Unity Park as well. We will be hosting the **2nd Annual River Valley Ice Cream Ride**. The Ice Cream Ride is organized by River Valley Cycling, and bicyclists of all ages and skill levels are welcome to attend. Contact us for

more information.

That same evening, we will also be hosting our second **Night Skate at the Unity Skatepark!** Our first Night Skate this past June was a huge success, and we’re really excited about offering this great opportunity for area skaters again. We partner with the Friends of the Skatepark and the Franklin County House of Corrections, and Hubie’s Tavern helps us with the lighting and hot dogs. Swing by and check it out....

Do your kids like playing soccer? Well, we would like to announce that registration for our **Youth Soccer Program** will begin Tuesday, August 1. Our Youth Soccer Program includes our Start Smart Program for children in grades K through 2, our Junior Travel Soccer Team for kids in grades 3 and 4, and our Senior Travel Soccer Team for those in grades 5 and 6. All teams are co-ed.

Please also mark your calendars for Wednesday, August 2. We will be hosting a **public hearing regarding Montague Center Park** to discuss improvements to the facility. We ask residents to attend and help us get this process started. The meeting will be held at the Montague Common Hall, located at 34 Main Street in Montague Center, and it will begin at 7 p.m.

If you would like more information on any of the events noted above, or other MPRD programs or services, either give us a call at 863-3216, log onto *montague.net*, or check out our Facebook page. Otherwise, enjoy mid-summer, get outside, and recreate!

Jon Dobosz is the director of parks & recreation for the town of Montague.

NOTES from page B1

right to vote. Their attempts to register were often met with the hooded might of the Ku Klux Klan and the hangman’s noose.

How different the era we live in today.

Wasserman says three million black Americans have been stripped from the voting rolls in Florida alone in recent years, effectively throwing the last Electoral College victory to the Republicans, to cite an example from just one state.

With the Voting Rights Act gutted, and the Justice Department’s feeble attempts at voting rights enforcement routinely thwarted by Republican-dominated state legislatures and secretaries of state, voting is returning to its origins as the exercise of power by whites and the upper class over the poor and people of color, Wasserman says.

More than a thousand political offices, from Congress to state legislatures, have changed hands from Democrat to Republican in the past decade. Although the Democrats are “worthless,” Wasserman contends they have “won every presidential election since 1992.”

In this polemic he conflates the Democratic popular vote wins in all but 2004 with the disputed electoral college victory of George W. Bush in that year in Ohio. Lawsuits were filed including a successful one by Wasserman calling for a recount in that state that never happened, due to illegally discarded ballots in about two thirds of Ohio counties.

Nonetheless, Wasserman suggests Republicans will maintain their political hegemony in this country by continuing to strip people of color from the voting rolls, jailing people of color disproportionately in the war on drugs, or if need be by even more nefarious methods.

As long as “any fifteen year old” has the ability to flip the results of paperless ballot electronic voting machines, Wasserman says, “Elections in America are meaningless.”

He and Fitrakis call for universal and transparent voter registration and the use of hand-countable paper ballots.

Well. The spin cycle is over. I dry my clothes and think.

I am cycling toward Standing Rock, in North Dakota, slowly but surely. What relation does the disaster of our elections have to the situation there?

It is easy enough to see that the Dakota Access Pipeline was halted, temporarily, by Barack Obama, and then allowed to proceed under the water supply of the Lakota at Standing Rock by Donald Trump. But it’s deeper than that.

It is unbearably hot in Kent, Ohio. If the thermometer reads 92 degrees, the pavement absorbs and radiates the heat at even higher temperatures. Jackhammers pound, and concrete and earth movers move sluggish buckets full of earth into idling exhausting dump trucks. Roads are closed in all directions and vast trellised scaffoldings are erected on the mammoth university buildings, which are all, seemingly, under repair at once, at the height of summer job creation from the taxpayers of Ohio.

But I finally find my way to the memorial for the four students slain by Ohio National Guardsmen on May 4, 1970, five days after Richard Nixon announced the invasion of Cambodia.

At noon that day, Ohio National Guard commanding general Richard Canterbury told his troops, armed with M1s and shotguns: “These students are going to have to find out what law and order is all about.”

Ten minutes later, four students lay dead or dying, one more permanently paralyzed, ten others wounded. Two of those slain were walking between classes, not participating in the anti-war protest.

Ten years ago, Wasserman and Fitrakis analyzed the long-embargoed tape recording of the incident, made by a student with a tape recorder and microphone held out his dormitory window, then kept secret from the public by the FBI for more than 30 years. Contrary to the rumor that the unarmed student protestors had fired a shot, no



A statue carved in memory of Chief Pontiac (Obwandiyag) at the edge of Ohio’s Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

shots can be heard on the amplified tape recording until a guard commander is heard calling out, “Right Here! Get Set! Point! Fire!”

The Guard were not legally supposed to be carrying weapons with live ammunition that day. One day previously, Ohio governor James Rhodes, a corrupt official with mob connections that were known to the FBI, had called the student anti-war organizers “Brownshirts” and “the strongest, well-trained militant revolutionary group that has ever assembled in America.”

Wasserman believes Rhodes and the Ohio Guard colluded with the Nixon administration to send a deadly message to the anti-war organizers who were shutting down college campuses across the land in the wake of Nixon’s escalation in Southeast Asia. Less than two weeks later, two black students were shot and killed at an anti-war protest at Jackson State in Mississippi.

I pack my laundry into my panniers and bicycle west. Images come to mind of the militarized line of confrontation between the private security forces of TigerSwan, hired by Dakota Access Pipeline builder Energy Transfer Partners to deal with the unarmed Water Protectors of the Lakota, and their allies last winter.

A single provocation from a paid provocateur could have once again resulted in slaughter on Indian land. That path was narrowly averted by the Lakota’s decision to withdraw from the protest camps in February, after Trump closed his eyes and signed the authorization for the last link in the oil pipeline that has crossed ancestral burial grounds and unceded Lakota lands, violating treaty rights more than a century old.

Water is life. On a day this hot, you know it, and I stop to top off my water bottles at the food coop in town.

The cashier is slow, and apologizes with my few small purchases. I give her a flyer about the bike tour, about Standing Rock. She says, “That’s what I should be doing.”

“Come with me,” I offer.

“I just might,” she says.

Vote with your feet. Vote with your body. The Earth is burning. Each mile I know it. Each year is hotter than the last. Corporate polluters have declared war on the planet, and indigenous people are once again on the front lines. Defend them.

Read more about the bike tour at www.bikeforstandingrock.org.



CHAPATTI from page B1

the company of others can be to us, how friendship and companionship can lift the spirits and bring purpose to our lives.

The play begins with a series of monologues that include a bit of pantomime as we meet characters who only exist as part of Dan and Betty’s **individual stories**. So the dog, Chapatti, is petted and held by Dan but is not, sadly, actually on stage. Likewise the litter of kittens is scooped up and petted, chased and caught, played with, and yet not really there. Still, the audience easily accepts their existence because these two actors are that good at portraying their interaction with these small animals that they love.

There are other characters in the play, but we never actually meet them. Peggy is off stage and never speaks. Betty speaks for her and expresses happiness when Peggy gets up, feeds the cat, sits up stroking Prudence and starts to show interest in life again. Betty even argues with Peggy, while speaking for both of them in a manner that seems not at all unusual.

Perhaps we may often argue with those not there anymore. Peggy argues that Betty does not seem to suffer the death of her husband

as she does. Betty simply says she doesn’t **miss him the way Peggy** does her husband.

Was hers not such a fulfilling marriage? **Maybe it is simply a difference** in attitude. Betty is more open to the future than dwelling in the past. A good thing, as it turns out.

I won’t **spoil the ending**, except to say that it does not end in tragedy. This is a hopeful, inspiring play performed by two actors with many years experience in the theater which gives them knowledge of subtlety in emotional expression, and a gift of humor that is natural and easily shared.

This is a play that will leave you feeling good and thinking about all the ideas presented in a delightful evening at the theater. Which is as it should be.

Chapatti continues this week with performances on July 27, 28, and 29 at 7:30 p.m., as well as a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, July 29. There will be a post-show conversation with the director and cast after the July 27 performance.

The Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center is located at 289 Main Street on the Greenfield common. Full information and tickets are available at silverthornetheater.org.



Talk: The Erosion of Faith in Democracy

CHARLEMONT – Examining why Americans appear not to be as attached to democracy as we might think will be the theme of the Charlemont Forum’s second 2017 summer event.

Professor Austin Sarat, Associate Dean of the Faculty and William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Science at Amherst College, will help Forum audience members take a hard look at the erosion of public faith in the rule of law and

democratic governance.

His presentation, “Democracy: What is it and is it Worth Fighting For?” will cite recent public policy polls that suggest diminished public support for – and even awareness of – the traditional checks and balances provided by the three branches of government.

Sarat, who founded the college’s Department of Law, Jurisprudence, and Social Thought, will explore the implications of these poll findings, the current political milieu and the

long-term prospects for a democracy supported by the rule of law.

Slated for Tuesday, August 8, at 7 p.m., the program will take place at the Charlemont Federated Church on the main street of Charlemont. The event is free and is supported by the Cultural Councils of Amherst, Buckland, Charlemont/Hawley, Conway, Health, Rowe and Shelburne, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

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ONGOING EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

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

FIRST SUNDAY MONTHLY

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

EVERY MONDAY

Greenfield Harmony Spring Session. No auditions. 6:45 p.m. Contact mcb Brass@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 three 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: *Gems from Private Collections*, 19th c. through to present. Exhibit through August 8.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Bees and Butterflies* Montague Parks & Rec Summer Camps present work on bees and butterflies. Through July 30. Starting Aug. 2: *The Bay State: A Multicultural Landscape*. Photographs of New Americans by Mark Chester. Through August 27.

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

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

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

Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center, Greenfield: Northampton-based painter *Anna Bayles Arthur Show* through August 22. Artist reception Saturday, July 29, 5 to 7 p.m.

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

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Along the River*; member artists explore local landscapes. Through July 31.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, JULY 27

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *PaintBox Theatre Presents: How I Became a Pirate*. 10:30 a.m. \$

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Worms Make Dirt*. Franklin County Solid Waste Management Program Director Amy Donovan teaches how that happens with a "hands-on" presentation. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Leverett Library: *Library Book Group*. This month's selection is *We are All Completely Beside Ourselves* by Karen Joy Fowler. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Leverett Library: Music by *Masala*. Outdoor concert (or inside in case of rain). 7 to 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed Performing Arts Center, Greenfield: First monthly *Super Star Open Mic series*, hosted by *Phil Simon*. 8:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed PAC, Greenfield: Silverthorne Theater Presents Christian O'Reilly's Irish Comedy Chapatti. Also performed on the 28th and 29th, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday as well. 7:30 p.m. \$

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Great Hall, Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *It's Kiddleidoscope!* This week it's coyotes. Includes story, activity, games. Recommended for ages 3-6 with a parent or guardian. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *Story Hour*. Picnic-themed stories and crafts, plus snacks, in English with occasional Spanish lessons, for preschoolers and their care-givers. Presented by *Laurie Davidson (from Mucho Gusto)*. Part of 2017 Summer Library Program *Build a Better World*, supported by the Foundation for Educational Excellence. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Bunnies, Wishbone Zoe, Old Table, Human Host*. All ages, substance free. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Surly Temple. Jim Henry, Guy deVito and Doug Plavin*. 8 p.m. No cover.

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Wildcat O'Halloran Band*. Blues. Just be there or be square. 8:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Matt Byrde & Guests TBA*. Indie and Americana. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

Dickinson Library, Northfield: *3-D Printing and Robotics with Makerspace Workshop*. Every partic-

ipant will design their own small 3-D object that will be printed; also can play robotics such as Little Bits Electronics, Ozobots, and Spheros. Ages 8-18. Pre-register. 10 a.m. to noon.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *RealLifeTheater presents: The Life and Death of Queen Margaret*. 7:30 p.m. \$

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Jeff Snow. Celtic Songs, Stories & History*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Antenna Cloud Farm, Gill: Concert #2: *Eliza Bagg/ Indie-Pop Experimental Songstress*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Federated Church of Charlemont, Charlemont: *Mohawk Trail Concerts present: Amy Burton, soprano, and John Mus-to, piano*. "Broadway songs, cabaret, and more!" 7:30 p.m. \$

Montague BookMill, Montague Center: *Wisteria String Quartet*. Classics to jazz. 8 p.m. \$

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Groove Prophet*. 9 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Great Hall, Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Big Picture Botany, Session 1*. "Get to know the occasionally tasty, inevitably beautiful, helpfully medicinal, and sometimes dangerous plant world." 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

W. Whately Chapel, W. Whately: *Watermelon Wednesdays presents: Western Flyers*. Joey McKenzie, Katie Glassman, Gavin Kelso. Authentic Western swing, hot jazz, swing standards, cowboy songs and electrifying old-time fiddle tunes. 7:30 p.m. \$

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

Energy Park, Greenfield: *Coop Concerts with Roland LaPierre, Sue Kranz, and Jennie McAvoy and Ellen Redman*. Tonight is *Fill the Belly Bus Community Food Drive*. All non-perishable food and cash donations collected will be donated to the Franklin County Hunger Task. 6 p.m.

Northfield Mountain Environmental Center: *Paddle with a Purpose; Alien Invaders*. Paddle and help clean up the invading water chestnut spreading in Barton's Cove. Meet at Barton Cove's Canoe Rental in Gill. 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Leverett Library: Music by *Machine Shop*. Outdoor concert, inside in case of rain. 7 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Amy O, Alyssa Kai, Loaner Sunstone*. All ages, substance free. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

Great Hall, Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *It's Kiddleidoscope!* This week it's snakes. Includes story, activity, games.

Recommended for ages 3-6 with a parent or guardian. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

Unity Park, Turners Falls: *Pocumtuck Homelands Festival*. See page A1. All day event.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Lonesome Brothers*. Country, folk, and rock. 7:30 p.m. \$

Brick House, Turners Falls: *New Parents, Old Pam, Solei*. All ages, substance free. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Grave Matters in Leverett. Preservation, Public History, & Graveyarding*. Leverett Historical Society presents UMASS Public History graduate students Austin Clark and Nathan Cool discussing their work researching and cataloging Leverett's burial grounds, as well as sharing their experiences "Graveyarding" on social media. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

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



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Many Dangers Never Cease

By JERI MORAN

MONTAGUE – Most headstones in cemeteries will give the person's name, birth and death dates, and perhaps a short religious quote. On older New England graves, you may find a woman referred to as a relic (widow) or consort (wife), but that's about it.



Mr. "Bordwell's" headstone stands in Montague's Old South Cemetery.

In the Old South Cemetery in Montague Center, there is a tombstone which gives a "bit more" information. Being carved in 1786, it also has some archaic spellings – "the" was spelled using a "y" – and shows the idiosyncrasies of an actual stone carver's work.

Keeping the spelling, grammar and letter placement on the stone intact, the text reads as follows:

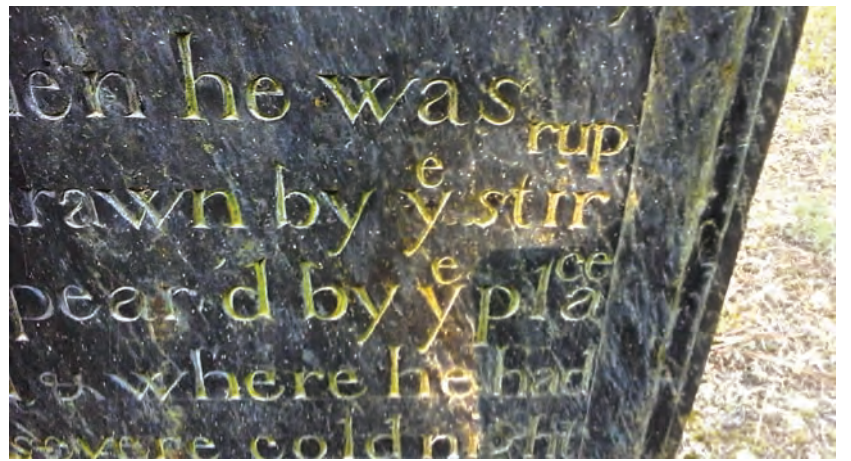
In Memory of Mr. Elijah Bordwell Who died Janry 26th 1786 in ye 27th Year of his Age, having but a few days Survived ye fatal Night when he was Flung from his Horfe drawn by ye stir rup 26 rods along ye path as appear'd by ye place where his hat was found & where he had spent ye whole following severe cold night treading ye Snow in a Small Circle. the Family he left was an aged Father, a Wife & 3 Small Children. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ On this side Death Many Dangers never ceafe Beyond ye Virtuous Share eternal Peace.

I've seen many headstones from

this historic time period, but never one with the details and specificity of this one. Who decided that this stone should tell this longish tale? Did the stone carver charge more for all the extra work, and was the carver a local person?

And, since there are other "misspellings," was the person's last name really *Bardwell*, a more common local name?

There was an Elijah Bardwell, who served in the Revolutionary War from Montague. He only served for one month, which could indicate he died in the war and couldn't be this person. However, Lillian Fiske of the Montague Historical Society relates that one of the groups of Minutemen who marched from Montague to eastern MA found that there were thousands of volunteers already there without adequate food or shelter, so they marched back to Mon-



Stir-rup, pla-ce: the Bordwell headstone carver appears not to have planned ahead much for the length of lines!

tague; Elijah could have been in that group.

Elijah *Bardwell's* known age at the time of the War could fit with Elijah *Bordwell's* gravestone dates.

Lots of interesting questions. I know many younger people today who have family members' funeral urns on their mantels, or in their closets, because they don't quite know what to do with them. They may have some idea where they want to spread the ashes, but erect-

ing a headstone somewhere hasn't occurred to them. Often, no one still resides in the original "hometown," and family members are living in diffuse places around the world.

For them, headstones in a cemetery seem to have gone a bit out of fashion. I like the idea of headstones; they tell me stories. I wish more of them were like Elijah Bordwell's, who, for me, has become a memorable character, as has the unknown stone cutter.

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