

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 16 – NO. 42

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Con Com Deems Stream Intermittent, OKs Array

By KATIE NOLAN

ERVING – On Monday, the Erving conservation commission decided that the streambed south of a proposed 54-acre 6.45-megawatt solar array at 129 French King Highway was not a “perennial stream.”

A “perennial” stream would have required a 200-foot buffer zone where no construction is allowed. An “intermittent” stream requires only a 100-foot buffer zone. Developer Ameresco, Inc.’s current plans for the solar project were developed using a 100-foot buffer zone.

Emily Stockman, the con com’s wetland consultant, had originally classified the stream as perennial. Subsequently Ameresco provided the commission with a video of the entire streambed showing it as dry, and con com member Peter Sanders walked the course of the streambed.

Sanders said that, even on a rainy day, the stream “dissipated” before it came to the project area and was clearly intermittent.

The project was approved by the planning board in June, and conditionally approved by the water

see **ERVING** page A5

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Montague Rejoins Regional Police Force

By JEFF SINGLETON

Acting police chief Chris Williams informed the Montague selectboard on Monday that his department had been reinstated in the Northwestern District Anti-Crime Task Force.

The task force, which is overseen by the district attorney’s office, includes 47 communities, mostly in Franklin and Hampshire counties but also including Athol. It was established in 2013 to “help local law enforcement agencies identify, investigate, and prosecute illegal narcotics offenses, unlawful firearms offenses, gang-related crimes, major crimes, human trafficking, and other organized criminal activities.”

Acting sergeant John Dempsey will work one day a week on task force business, according to Williams.

“It’s one of those benefits you don’t notice because they happen in other communities but they still benefit,” said selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz. “Making a change in a different community benefits our community.”

“A lot of it is behind the scenes,” said Williams. “But John [Dempsey] has a lot of cases he’s been working on that he needs to execute.”

Montague was removed from the task force in the early summer of 2016, soon after state police began an investigation of then-police chief Charles “Chip” Dodge’s handling of prescription drugs in a drop box at the Turners Falls public safety complex.

The state investigation ended in the spring of 2017 without charges being brought forward, but Montague was not invited to return to the task force. In October 2017, the district attorney’s office informed Montague that the town would not be allowed to participate in the task force as long as Dodge remained police chief.



MIKE JACKSON PHOTO

Jerry and Jake of Springfield’s Larochelle Construction shore up the porch at the senior center on Fifth Street in Turners Falls, after discovering its supports had rotted through.

Though it did not explain why, the October 24 letter from DA David Sullivan stated that investigations by the task force would need to be kept confidential from Dodge, thus “eroding the command structure of the Montague Police Department.”

see **MONTAGUE** page A5

GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

So Far, Only One Volunteer for Gill Seat

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – As of Wednesday, only Bill Tomb of Boyle Road, chair of Gill’s board of assessors, has offered to fill the town’s seat on the regional school committee vacated this summer by Shawn Hubert.

Any other interested candidates have until Tuesday the 18th to submit their names to district superintendent Michael Sullivan; the school committee will vote on the 25th from among the available names for a Gill representative to fill the seat until town elections next spring.

At their meeting Tuesday night,

the committee heard that there has finally been tangible movement this month toward getting the drinking water treatment system at Gill Elementary installed. The district’s facilities manager, Jim Huber, resigned this summer, and business manager Joanne Blier reported that she has “been having a wonderful time” meeting with a range of contractors to deal with issues involving school buildings.

Hillcrest Elementary paraprofessional Michelle Bednarski addressed the committee during public comment period on behalf of staff at the school who were appalled that a summer project to rewire their build-

ing did not, as they had understood, make air conditioning possible.

“This year’s temperatures have been in the middle 80s to middle 90s,” Bednarski read from a prepared statement. “These temperatures have been recorded in the classrooms.... Children cannot participate or focus.”

“Our climate is changing, due to global warming,” the staff statement continued. “There are state regulations regarding heat in the rooms. This heat is unhealthy for anyone to work in, let alone our children.”

Bednarski suggested that money saved on the unfilled facilities

see **GMRSD** page A4

Paper, Paper, Paper!



JACKSON PHOTO

Sheila Damkoehler interprets artifacts of the paper-making past in the Great Hall.

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – I’d been hearing about all the “paper stuff” going on this month at the Great Falls Discovery Center – “Paper-Jam,” a community art show curated by Exploded View, which opened with a reception last weekend, and “On a Roll,” an exhibit on the history of the paper-making industry in town – so I stopped by on Wednesday to check it out.

I chatted with Sheila Damkoehler, who is working as a seasonal interpreter at the Discovery Center, and is also a big part of the paper stuff: she’s leading several of the free craft workshops on Saturday mornings this month, and joining three other local historians on Sun-

day, September 23 to give a talk on Turners’ four main paper mills, followed by a canalside walk.

For more details about the month’s events, check out greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org. In the meantime, here’s part of my conversation with Sheila.

MR: *How long have you been at the Discovery Center, and how has it been going so far?*

SD: Since May 19, and great! I love it. My season’s over on October 13.... We have quiet times, but then it gets real busy. We definitely had some *great* days this summer. It’s lovely: we get a lot of tourists, but lots of local people, kids. People bring their families that are

see **DISCOVERY** page A7

Revival of Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Proposal Reviving Anti-Nukers, Too

By JEFF SINGLETON

GREENFIELD – Although it has not been a major issue in the current campaign for control of Congress, the problem of disposing waste from nuclear power plants may be moving to the top of the region’s policy agenda. With one recently closed nuclear plant in Vernon, VT, and another scheduled to be decommissioned over the next year in Plymouth, MA, the question of what to do with nuclear waste is a growing concern.

A group called the Citizens Awareness Network (CAN) is orga-

nizing a “High Level Nuclear Waste Tour of New England” from September 18 through 22. The tour includes events at the Centre Congregational Church in Brattleboro at 6 p.m. next Wednesday, September 19, and at Hawks and Reed in Greenfield at 7 p.m. next Thursday, September 20.

There will also be events in Montpelier, Plymouth, and at the state house in Boston.

The tour, according to CAN, will include Kerstin Rudek, “organizer of the successful opposition to nuclear waste transport in Gorleben,” a planned waste repository in

see **NUCLEAR** page A3



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Cassidbe Wozniak drives to the goal, with Olivia Whittier behind her, during the Thunder’s 3-1 loss to Southwick Tuesday night. Kate Boulanger scored Turners’ sole goal with an assist by Wozniak.

By MATT ROBINSON

The Turners Falls sports machine started its 2018 fall season last week, with all four teams seeing action. The Golf team came out swinging, competing with a full roster for the first time in years. Field Hockey traveled to Shelburne Falls for their season opener, and beat Mohawk in the second half.

The Football team lost the second half in their home opener and dropped the game, 21-7, against Lee. And the volleyball team went 2 and 0, perhaps surprising even themselves.

Volleyball

TFHS 3 – Easthampton 0

TFHS 3 – Agawam 1

“I’m surprised,” one of the Volleyball Dads said in the midst of Powertown’s 3-0 sweep of Easthampton, played on Tuesday, September 4 at Turners Falls. “I think they surprised themselves,” another Dad added.

This is a rebuilding year for Coach Kelly Liimatainen and her ladies, but using her motto of “hard work,” they’ve won their first two games.

In their first match of the home opener against Easthampton, Blue found themselves down 16-15. Even if they lost this first match, it would still be a success.

see **TFHS SPORTS** page A8

The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

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August 2002

Evacuation Zone

It's hurricane season again, and as this article goes to press, an Atlantic cyclone named Florence is bearing down on the Carolina coast. By the time you read this it may have made landfall – and then, who knows. Some news sources warn of a “once in a lifetime” storm. Often, though, these large systems dissipate with mercifully minimal damage to land dwellers.

Last September was a historic storm season, with Harvey, Irma, and Maria clobbering Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and elsewhere over the course of a month. Maria led to nearly 3,000 deaths in Puerto Rico, and the island has not recovered.

There are many ways to think about this largely avoidable tragedy, but we ask you to consider the runway in the island's eastern town of Ceiba where 20,000 pallets of spoiled bottled water sit to this day. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) landed the water in October but didn't get around to giving it to local authorities until May, by which point it had apparently gone bad in the heat.

That's upwards of 30 million bottles of water, or a bottle a day for each resident of Flint, Michigan over the course of year.

Many of us take access to safe drinking water for granted, and many of us would like to declare it a universal right, but in the present world, it is a privilege, and a precarious one at that. Clean tap water

requires energy, labor, knowledge, security, and long-term investment in infrastructure. Remove any one of those factors, and you threaten one of the foundations of health.

In Puerto Rico, this has meant a deadly outbreak of leptospirosis, a bacterial infection that causes kidney failure and bleeding from the lungs.


The American Water Works Association advises that cast-iron pipes from the late 1800s can be expected to last 120 years; those from the 1920s might last 100 years; and pipes installed in the 1950s, 75 years. That means an awful lot of pipes need to be dug up and replaced in the next couple decades.

The American Society of Civil Engineers warns us that the private ratepayer model has been inadequate for investing in that work. The groups estimate that \$1 trillion will be needed over the next generation to keep drinking water safe.

The ways we prepare for and react to disasters, extremes, and supposedly exceptional circumstances now will determine how we will deal with much more widespread crises in the future.

Sadly, corporations must focus on their quarterly earnings sheets, and public officials are only looking to the next election cycle in setting their priorities. And so we find ourselves in a mass society constitutionally incapable of mass planning, transfixed only by the next dark red mass on the radar, spinning slowly over the ocean, gathering energy.

NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION



The grand re-opening of the Salvation Army store in Turners Falls last Saturday was a Jubilee for bargain hunters. Of particular delight was the polished concrete floor, but the whole store sparkled, and was a joy to behold.

Letters to the Editors



A Telltale Whitewash

Folks,

I am writing in somewhat distressed reaction to a feature last issue by Lyn Clark – “Chasing our Tales; A Peripatetic Man of God: Part 1” – not to sully or disparage the memory of your friend Joan Denton Morel’s ancestor, the Rev. Richard Denton but to question the traditional narrative surrounding the 1637 Pequot War (which indigenous historians call the First Puritan War).

The account given by Ms. Clark – a quote from the Wethersfield Historical Society – is a prime example of the “white-washing” and sanitizing of an event that was a premeditated massacre. That the Pequots had come to Long Island Sound around 1600 is the only factual bit of that account which serves to obscure the motives, strategic logic and militaristic ambitions of the Massachusetts Bay Colony – the Puritans.

Some background: By 1637 the Puritans had exposed their designs to capture and claim all the territory from Cape Cod to the Hudson River Valley when the Mass Bay Colony sent a small army to the Dutch-controlled border of what became New York. It was an act of intimidation which caused the Dutch and Mohawks to cede control to the Duke of York rather than suffer an invasion by Puritan troops.

The Bay Colony was still in economic competition with Plymouth Colony and the Dutch for control of the wampum trade and trade routes. The Pequots were the major economic and political power in the region, and in competition with the Narragansetts, Niantics, and Mohegans.

The settlement in Hartford was hegemonic and led by Captain John Mason. (The Hartford troops decades later were involved in the Great Falls Massacre.) Mason had befriended the Mohegan leader Uncas, who had been lobbying the English to attack the Pequots for some time. The Pequots were already at war with the Dutch who had assassinated the Pequot sachem at Hartford a year before the Puritan War.

The Mass Bay leaders were finally persuaded to act and formed a coalition with the Mohegans, Niantics, and Narragansetts. An actual legal document was drawn up and signed by all parties involved, detailing the attack and how the spoils (human beings) would be divided. The indian leaders sent word to the Bay Colony that “women and children should be spared.”

To their shock, the Puritans

slaughtered all, men, women, and children. The survivors were pursued westward unto the Great Swamp, near what is now Bridgeport, where the battle bearing that name occurred.

Mason and the Puritans at Hartford then paid bounties for each severed Pequot head they received from other tribes’ warriors, and reported an abundance of heads delivered. The Puritans then returned home to hold a prayer service and feast of thanksgiving.

Perhaps the good Rev. Denton left Hartford out of disgust – one can only hope.

Ultimately, the impact of this First Puritan War upon the Pequot was devastating – they were eliminated. But the impact on the power dynamic was also decisive. By signing the contract with Puritan authorities, the other tribes were now under the legal dominance of the Puritan court system, and the military dominance shifted to favor the Bay Colony. So it was the First Puritan War that decided the fate of New England’s indigenous peoples, not the Second Puritan War called King Philips War.

Sincerely,

Elliot Tarry
Montague Center

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ST. KAZIMIERZ

197 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS

Above the Fold

How wonderful to see the *MR*’s front page populated with pictures of local women in leadership — It feels like the perfect local answer to our global concerns.

Kudos to the *MR* for showing how our world is rising above the front page fold of patriarchy!

Stephen Cobb
Turners Falls

CORRECTION

For the record, an article back in our June 28, 2018 edition, “Free Food is Everywhere – If You Know Where to Look” (page A1), identified only Annie Levine as the founder of the Turners Falls-based Great Falls Apple Corps.

Rachel Labrie and Elyssa Marie Serrilli also co-founded the group, which among other activities has begun contributing a regular column to our pages. We apologize for the oversight!

Published weekly on Thursdays.

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Start the weekend off with a bit of mental therapy! Adults who are young at heart are called to an **Adult Coloring Hour** from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m, this Saturday, September 15, at Greenfield Savings Bank branch in Turners Falls.

Challenge your mind and creativity, while staying in the lines and not eating the crayons. A time for adults to socialize in a climate controlled setting and meet new folks who share a common interest.

All materials for this relaxing experience, including light refreshments, will be provided free of charge by GSB.

A new **Weekly Women’s Group** is starting at the Salasin Center, 474 Main Street in Greenfield, this Monday, September 17 from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Salasin Center’s Women’s Resource Center believes that healing happens through mutually empowering relationships, so they offer a safe place for women who have experienced unhealthy relationships to build community, support each other, and empower and heal themselves.

For questions, please contact Stacey at (413) 774-4307 x4 or *slang-knecht@wmtcinfo.org*.

Take a stroll back in time along the scenic Canalside Rail Trail during the annual water drawdown of the Turners Falls power canal next Friday, September 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. Discover the rich industrial history of Turners Falls with local historian Ed Gregory, DCR’s Janell Nockleby, and Kim Noyes of Northfield Mountain.

Wear comfortable shoes for this two-mile walk on flat terrain. Meet

at the entrance of the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls, by 4:45 p.m. Pre-register by calling (800) 859-2960.

The 9th Annual **Cool Rides Car Show**, which will be held at Franklin County Technical School on Saturday, September 22, will have something for antique and vintage car lovers of all kinds. One of the largest free car shows in Franklin County, the show will be held on the school’s grounds at 82 Industrial Boulevard, Turners Falls, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine.

The Cool Rides Car Show attracts participants and spectators from all over New England. Last year, there were close to 300 vehicles on display. Besides cars, the event will also have trucks, motorcycles, and farm tractors. There is no registration fee for participants.

Besides the wide range of vehicles, Cool Rides will feature several other activities, including kids’ attractions like a bounce house, face painting, coloring books, and a petting zoo. Although this family event is free of charge, donations are appreciated.

The *Montague Reporter* has determined some menu selections for

our own **Trivia and Supper night**, next Saturday, September 22 at St. Kaz Hall, Avenue A and Seventh Street.

Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., and you will be able to fill your plate with selections such as: meatballs, kielbasa with sweet peppers and onions, baked beans, macaroni, potato and four-bean salads, corn bread, and rolls, along with a dessert plate. Supper is just \$12, and you won’t go home hungry. There will also be a full cash bar, courtesy of St. Kaz.

Trivia starts at 6:30, and is a separate fee of \$10 per player. We’ll also offer some “county fair” type games where you could win a stuffed animal. If you have a nerf basketball, hula hoop, or something fun that won’t damage your fellow attendees or the hall, then please call me at 863-5125. We will return it to you undamaged.

Spread the word, and gather friends for trivia teams of up to six players. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward keeping this non-profit community newspaper in operation!

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

NUCLEAR from page A1

Germany, and Leona Morgan from the Navajo Nation, “who has been fighting ‘nuclear colonialism’ since 2007,” including uranium mining and nuclear waste dumping.

This latest revival of the “anti-nuke” movement has been spurred by the passage of a bipartisan bill in the US House of Representatives called the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2017 (H.R.3053).

The bill, which passed by a vote of 340 to 72 last May, revives a controversial proposal to bury most of America’s nuclear waste in a mountain in southern Nevada called Yucca Mountain. It also proposes interim storage facilities to be used while Yucca Mountain advances through the permitting and construction process.

Yucca Mountain has been called “the most studied real estate on the planet,” reflecting the long and tortured history of efforts to develop an acceptable nuclear waste disposal policy.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 established federal responsibility for all nuclear fuel used in the United States. The act was amended in 1987 to designate Yucca Mountain as the sole storage site.

That plan, however, has generated strong opposition from Nevada residents, environmentalists, and Native Americans for whom the mountain is culturally significant. With the Democratic takeover of Congress in 2006, Nevada senator Harry Reid, who opposed the project, became majority leader of the Senate.

Barack Obama expressed opposition to the project during his 2008 presidential campaign and, after the election, his administration attempted to end a Nuclear Regulatory Commission review of the Yucca Mountain license. This was blocked by the US Court of Appeals, which cited the 1987 amendments passed by Congress as prohibiting unilateral executive action.

Both supporters and critics of recent legislation passed by the House have expressed frustration with the failure of the federal government to implement a policy for removing waste from closed facilities. Republican representative John Shimkus, who introduced H.R.3053 in the House, says that a policy for disposing of waste is “long past due.”

CAN, in its announcement of its tour, criticizes “the abdication by the federal government and the nuclear industry [of responsibility] to deal

with High Level Nuclear Waste in sites throughout the country.”

However, CAN also opposes H.R.3053, focusing on the legislation’s proposal to ship nuclear waste to “interim storage facilities” in Texas and New Mexico. The group argues that “interim storage is the industry’s attempt to resurrect itself – to claim that nuclear power is ‘clean’ technology.”

If the Yucca Mountain site and interim storage facilities are rejected, what is to become of the nuclear waste that has accumulated in Vernon, Vermont and Plymouth, Massachusetts?

CAN is arguing that it should stay right where it is, in so-called “dry cask storage,” until “sound science and environmental justice drive any disposition.” The organization proposes that storage facilities be “hardened, double walled [with] increased separation between casks, and earth bermed to limit exposure.”

Seven of Massachusetts’ eight representatives in the House voted for H.R.3053, with only one representative, Jim McGovern, casting a “nay.” The Senate is expected to take up the legislation after the upcoming congressional elections in November.



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GUEST EDITORIAL

Communes and the County

By JONATHAN VON RANSON

WENDELL – At the gathering in Wendell a few weeks ago celebrating 50 years since the founding of the Montague Farm commune, a newspaper reporter told of an early visit to Franklin County in which he felt drawn not just by its beauty, but also by whatever Sixties magic surrounded the inhabitants. In particular, he recalled two men he met, a gay older couple he found captivating and inspiring.

What was it that had allowed these men to prosper, to shine so brightly? Was it the culture of the area? Its many communes...? If your path took you anywhere near the communes of the time, you might recall their amazing pull.

To me in 1972, this area itself had that feel. It seemed the groups had settled here because of a less rigid, more embracing set of understandings that were already stirring. It was this open, inviting, freeing possibility they were trying to bring to a boil.

Many of us “civilians” got

caught, in a way. At our own safe distance, we circled, absorbing and spreading the movement’s energy.

And though the communes largely morphed or faded, many of the communards have stayed. This radicalized population continues today to do what the laughing, earnest, long-haired and bra-less ones tried to do: reflect the real possibility encoded in us, and in Life, learning from scratch, in the lowlands and uplands of this ancient region, how to more truly express its beating heart.

That indigenous information, of course, lies beneath layers of newer, exploitive assumptions and practices, buried by the corpses and cultures of the ones who lived here indigenously. But even nationally, we’ve been slowly, fitfully, excavating it.

Partly out of necessity, we’ve begun questioning the morality and functional sustainability of Western-style power, and to acknowledge the trauma of European colonization of the Americas. In our own Valley, we

work on more frankly understanding the European-led massacre at Great Falls (recall the extraordinary pipe ceremony a few years ago), and Lord Jeffrey and his infected blankets. We may even sense the desperation behind native-led atrocities – massacres and abductions like the Deerfield one.

In part of the national psyche, at least, we’re making strides in acknowledging the better angels of each others’ nature or culture and, where appropriate, the worst of our own. In the ongoing, slow-motion stumble of the dominant class, individuals in and of it are starting to see themselves, and their attitudes and history, more clearly.

Some of this is based in the commune movement’s radical – not “alternative” – spirit. “Alternative” is too imprecise in this case. There are really only two great paradigms of group intention: 1) dominance or 2) shared participation. In human society and with Life itself.

The Happy Valley is actually Fortunate Valley in being held (for


now) by the Nature-protective spirit, the all-life-loving, lucky star. We’re pretty serious about it; we’ve spotted and turned away some potential black holes, like the relocation of Route 2, Recontek, the Montague nukes, Walmart, the Pepsi water grab, the Kinder Morgan pipeline, etc.

We’ve got a real thing in our Franklin County/Western Mass. heritage of honesty and Life-embrace. It’s broken some old thought patterns, and forced recognition of the preciousness of diversity among humans (which helped those gay men thrive decades ago). It’s not perfect; it’s essential that this embrace widen beyond even the human realm to include other living ones, and the Earth-life system itself.

But remembering the commune movement of the Sixties and Seventies and how it graced this area – and continues to influence it – may help us exclude less, and participate better in life as it really is.

Jonathan von Ranson
lives in Wendell.

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GMRSD from page A1

manager position could be reallocated toward solving the problem. In accordance with policy, committee members did not respond to the issues Bednarski raised during the meeting, as the topic was not on the posted agenda.

Designing Thunder

Montague member Heather Katsoulis said she had collected a small number of proposed designs to match the new Turners Falls (or Power-town) Thunder team name at the high school, including some “pretty professional submissions.” The school committee voted to discontinue the longstanding team name, the Turners Falls Indians, in February 2017, and approved the new name this spring.

Gill’s Jane Oakes said she had “heard from community members that they would like a logo before too long.”

Mike Langknecht of Montague said he didn’t “want to set it on a

track that’s definitely going to take six months.” “The question about the appropriateness of the previous name was a district-wide concern,” he said. “But this is more just a nuts-and-bolts issue.”

Katsoulis suggested that the decision could be delegated to a taskforce, similar to the one created to recommend a new name, but “smaller,” “because I think it’s a much smaller task.”

The committee struggled to decide what the next steps would be, after they heard that students had not yet been directly solicited to submit designs. They circled back and forth between wanting to schedule a process that involved a taskforce that might include students, and wanting to allow those volunteers to help determine the schedule.

“I’m uncomfortable with making this a school task,” Katsoulis said. “That wasn’t my intention.”

Ultimately, the committee decided to extend the deadline for accepting logo designs until October 5. Images can be emailed to heather.katsoulis@gmrso.org, or submitted at the high school office. Sullivan agreed to help publicize it within the school. During that time, Oakes proposed, potential taskforce members could be recruited.

The committee also heard two

proposals from Sullivan and high school principal Annie Leonard for how members could start holding regular discussions with high school students – perhaps beginning with the logo topic, but on any the students might be interested in. The school committee is legally required to meet with students periodically, and student representatives have not always attended school committee meetings.

They decided to alternate between the two suggested formats: meeting with student council officers on a Monday lunchtime during September, and then with a broader group during the morning GAP period on a Wednesday during October.

District Improvement

Nearly an hour of Tuesday night’s meeting was filled by a presentation by superintendent Sullivan, responding to the Comprehensive Review Report recently published about Gill-Montague by the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

The report, based on a fact-finding visit by experts in January, made a series of formal recommendations for improving the district. Sullivan noted that three-quarters of the districts chosen for these in-depth reports are, like Gill-Montague, viewed

as “low-performing” by the state.

Sullivan acknowledged that “adequate resources... to provide differentiated supports” to student learning was “an area of need,” but took exception to DESE’s advice that the district “review its spending to... get the value that it wants from its investment choices.”

He argued that Gill-Montague is a district unique in the state given its small size and large proportion of high-needs students. He showed the committee slides comparing its per-pupil spending with that of other Massachusetts districts of similar enrollment size, which tend to be in somewhat wealthier communities with fewer high-needs students, and with that of other demographically similar districts, which tend to be larger.

“Most of the districts with this percentage of high-needs kids are cities of good size,” Sullivan said. “So we’re in a tight spot.” Gill-Montague’s per-pupil spending is already higher than most districts of its size.

While the superintendent said he agreed that “we lack sufficient classroom and support services spaces at all three elementary schools,” he said he did not share DESE’s view that there was an “underutilization of buildings,” explaining that there is not enough extra space at the middle

and high school to move another grade up, and that the central office building lacks an elevator, an expensive request that the town of Montague rejected earlier this year.

In response to a number of DESE’s other recommendations – a district improvement plan; teacher training and professional development; moving toward a unified curriculum; collecting student data on teachers – Sullivan cited measures Gill-Montague is already taking.

Other Business

Kathy Smith, formerly a special education department chair and teacher, has been hired as an assistant principal at the middle and high school. Smith introduced herself to the committee members.

Sullivan announced that a new \$119,000 “Massachusetts 21st Century Learning Centers Exemplary Programs” grant would extend after-school programming at Sheffield Elementary for three years.


The after-school program runs five days a week, and has been directed by Christine Bates. The grant itself comes through the Collaborative for Educational Services.

The school committee’s next meeting will be held September 25 at Turners Falls High School.

RECYCLE

PAPER

Week of September 17 in Montague



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Police in the School, Water in the Office

By **GEORGE BRACE**

The agenda for Gill’s September 5 selectboard meeting included a vote to add a mutual aid police officer; a discussion on the long-standing issue of water and dampness in the town hall basement; and a vote on the town’s electricity aggregation plan. The board also heard an update on the Gill Elementary School water treatment project.

The selectboard voted 2–1 to approve Daniel Miner as a mutual aid officer for the town of Gill. Miner is currently a Montague police officer, newly appointed as a “school resource officer” for the Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD). The Gill appointment was necessary in order for Miner to have police powers at Gill Elementary School.

Selectboard chair Greg Snedeker and member Randy Crochier voted for the appointment, John Ward voted against it. Ward explained his reluctance in part by saying, “I still think it sends a really bad message to our kids that it’s normal to have cops needed in our schools to keep things safe.”

Crochier expressed sympathy for Ward’s position, adding that the district has been laying off staff from classrooms every year. In defending his own vote in favor, Crochier said, “The district has its reasons. I don’t know how to run a district – I don’t want to run a district.”

Snedeker said that as a teacher, he has a lot of opinions on the subject, but that Ward and Crochier had touched on some of them, and he has stated them previously.

Purinton reported that some of the components for the Gill Elementary School drinking water treatment project had been ordered, and were expected to arrive between September 17 and 20. He said he was in the process of coordinating the installation dates with the installer.

Wet Offices

Bill Tomb, chair of the board of assessors, came to discuss the problem of water seepage in the town hall basement. His “immediate request” was that the assessors’ office, located in the basement, be moved. He suggested two possible locations: the first floor of the town hall, and the Riverside municipal building.

Regarding the latter, Tomb noted that the major population of Gill was in or near the Riverside area, and that looking to the future, it may make sense to think about moving town offices to that building. He suggested the historical commission, which currently has offices in the Riverside building, might one day move to the town hall.

Tomb had previously volunteered to investigate the seepage issue, which resulted in the decision to clear an outflow pipe. He said clearing the pipe significantly reduced the amount of water coming into the building, but they still get a lot when there are deluges of rain.

Tomb referenced a plan to install internal drainage, approved and budgeted for some time ago, but said he would rather see a permanent solution that kept water out of the building rather than one which dealt with it once it was inside.

Tomb said the problem has been “tolerated” for a long time, but the situation is critical enough that something should be done about it. He said a clerk spends significant amounts of time in the office, and issues of dampness and mold are important.

Snedeker said that, regardless of what decision was made regarding moving the assessors’ office, something has to be done about the seepage. He asked town administrative assistant Ray Purinton about water mitigation efforts in the library basement, where an internal drainage system is being used. Purinton reported that the library intends to

store materials there during upcoming renovations, so it’s likely the system is working.

Snedeker noted that part of the reasoning for an internal system was the potential for costly problems in dealing with foundation, if more substantial external efforts were made.

Crochier suggested having the engineer who is working on the Gill Elementary School look into the problem at town hall, if possible. Crochier said the engineer is also a building inspector, and therefore holds both licenses needed for a qualified diagnosis.

Snedeker agreed that, although money had already been set aside for the internal system, it would be a good idea to have someone with expertise in the area re-evaluate the situation.

Aggregation and Thrift

The selectboard voted to approve the recently proposed municipal electricity aggregation plan. Purinton reported that the plan had been posted in accordance with regulations, and he had received no comments from residents by phone or email. He said he did speak with a resident who was excited that a “green” electricity option would be available.

John Ward asked when the town would be choosing the electricity supplier options. Crochier and Snedeker replied that the town was still eight months away from those decisions.

Purinton reported that the town had received a \$3,850 grant award under the MassDEP dividend recycling program. Gill received points toward the award for having a solid waste program, programs for dealing with bulky waste and hazardous materials, and access to a center for hard-to-recycle materials and textile recycling.

On the other hand, the town received no points in the categories of organics, yard waste, mandatory re-

cycling, or outreach and education.

Ward suggested looking into the possibility of using some of the funds from the grant for outreach and education, perhaps earning more points in that category, but being a good use of funds either way.

Other Business

Fire chief Gene Beaubien requested approval to apply for \$2,460 in Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) money for the CodeRed notification system and pagers, which was granted. Crochier then made a motion to let the department practice using the “Jaws of Life” on the town’s two surplus police cruisers, which passed.

Lynda Hodsdon Mayo was appointed as an alternate member of the historical commission.

The board approved the hiring of Brandon Ovitt as highway department mechanic/operator for a three-month period. The three-month time frame was chosen in order to give Ovitt the opportunity to upgrade his commercial driver’s license (CDL) to include standard transmission vehicles in addition to those with automatic transmissions.


Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be Saturday, September 22 at Greenfield Community College. Preregistration is required by Friday, September 14. Forms are available at the town hall and the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District website.

The Gill Cultural Council is now accepting grant applications for 2019 cultural projects. More information is available on the Cultural Council’s portion of the town website, gillmass.org.

Our coverage of this meeting, which was held on a Wednesday due to the holiday and primary election, was made possible by Montague Community Television and the Gill cable advisory committee.

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MONTAGUE from A1

Sullivan’s letter followed a leaked state police report and an interview with Dodge in the *Greenfield Recorder* which revealed that the Montague police chief was in recovery from addiction to pain killers.

Asked to explain the criteria that had led to Montague being expelled from, and eventually readmitted to, the task force, Jeremy Bucci, chief trial counsel at the district attorney’s office, told the *Montague Reporter* that having “a known drug abuser” as police chief had posed “an unacceptable risk” to officers conducting investigations.

“That situation no longer exists, so we thought it was an appropriate time to reinstate Montague,” Bucci said. He said the decision was made by the executive board of the task force. That board includes representatives from all towns contributing “full time” officers (three days per week), from the sheriff’s departments of Franklin and Hampshire counties, and DA Sullivan.

Public Works

Department of public works superintendent Tom Bergeron also met with the selectboard Monday night. He requested that the board execute a \$7,200 state recycling grant, which he said would go into a revolving fund that would be drawn on to enhance recycling. He pointed out that the heavily-used cardboard compacter at the transfer station on Sandy Lane was purchased with money from the account.

Much of Bergeron’s time at the front table was spent on a list of concerns by selectboard member Michael Nelson about downtown Turners Falls. For example, Nelson wondered why the painting of crosswalks was generally done in the month of September, rather than earlier in the summer when the days are longer and warmer. Bergeron

described the history of street cross-walk lining, and the fact that there were only two companies in the region now bidding for contracts.

Another issue Nelson raised involved grass growing between the sidewalks. “I know we can’t use poisonous chemicals, but is there anything we can do?” said Nelson. “We put all this money into sidewalks, and then we have foot-tall grass growing through it.” Bergeron said the DPW had experimented with vinegar and salt, which worked well, but required hot sun to burn off.

There was also discussion of reducing the number of “obsolete” or unreadable signs in the downtown area, including signage that limited parking to one hour. A final decision on that issue was put on hold.

White Bridge To Close Again

Finally, Bergeron announced that the state would begin to repair the Fifth Street Bridge, which features a large hump, while the canal it traverses is drained.

However, Bergeron said, the state Department of Transportation does not yet have “the product” to fix the hump on the deck, so the bridge may be closed for an undetermined number of weeks.

The bridge may be closed as early as Monday, September 17.

Porch Project

Chris Sawyer-Lauçanno came before the selectboard to request an additional \$2,503 for work on the front porch of the Gill-Montague senior center on Fifth Street. According to Sawyer-Lauçanno, the reconstruction of the front porch revealed that nothing was holding up the base to the adjoining vestibule, which is technically in the interior of the building.

“Basically, paint was holding up the two-story vestibule was all I can figure,” he said. “I touched a board

and carpenter ants came flowing out, and the board crumbled in my hand.” Sawyer-Lauçanno said work to fortify the structure could start the following Wednesday when the weather cleared. The board voted to appropriate the additional money from the town’s “community discretionary unallocated fund.”

Other Business

The board discussed the status of the warrant for the upcoming special town meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, October 10. The deadline for the submission of articles is currently September 21, which executive secretary Wendy Bogusz said is “pretty late.”

The selectboard will meet jointly with the finance committee on September 19 to consider articles, and execute the final warrant on September 24 meeting.

The board discussed the policy of posting non-town events on the town website. The board decided to post only events associated with town boards and committees, including those of RiverCulture, as well as the Turners Falls and Montague Center fire and water districts, and the Gill-Montague school district.

The board approved a request for the use of public property by Robert Sojka of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church for a “prayer march” on Sunday, October 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. The march will go from the church on K Street, down Seventh Street to Avenue A, and end at the “old bridge abutments” near the Unity Park basketball courts.

The board executed a contract with the state Department of Housing and Community Development for the 2018 Community Development Block Grant Program. The contract totals \$737,935.

The next scheduled Montague selectboard meeting will be on September 17.



ERVING from page A1

commissioners on August 21, contingent on preparation of a storm-water management plan based on soil tests at the site.

Monday’s clarification means the project has cleared the con-

First Refusal

Administrative coordinator Bryan Smith told the selectboard Monday night that the state attorney general’s office is ready to start a receivership process for the uninhabited property at 143 Old State Road, if the town gives up its right of first refusal.

The property is owned by Bunny and Nathalie Giniusz. A residence, which is under a board of health “order of correction,” and a barn are present at the property. Under receivership, a contractor would clean up the property and then sell it at auction.

In 2005, the town of Erving purchased over 100 acres of abutting land as conservation area, and also acquired a conservation easement for most of the 7 acres of the Giniusz property. At the August 20 selectboard meeting, health agent Charlie Kaniecki had said that unless the town waives that right, the property would be less attractive to a receiver.

Bryan Smith said one suggestion he had heard was for the town to purchase the property, and create a parking area for the conservation area trailhead.

“We own far too much land in town already,” selectboard chair Scott Bastarache said.

Selectboard member Jacob

Smith said that owning the additional property would be “a burden and a cost to the town.”

The selectboard decided that the town is not interested in purchasing the property.

Other Business

Fire chief Philip Wonkka presented a draft Local Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, based on a template provided by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. The board will review the draft plan at its October 1 meeting. The plan is a portion of the town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan, which should be completed in April 2019.

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provided a proposal for a study of a 10-town regional information technology service, funded by the governor’s Community Compact program. Bastarache asked Bryan Smith to recommend that FRCOG write the procurement document by the end of October and begin the study by January 2019.

Robbin Terault was appointed senior center cook. She will work Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays.

The board members discussed renovating office and meeting space at town hall. Administrative coordinator Smith said that none of the department heads with offices at town hall were interested in moving their offices. Board members remarked that the current layout doesn’t function efficiently.

The board decided to discuss renovations further at their September 17 meeting.



LOOKING BACK:
10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was September 11, 2008: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.

Skate Park May
Lose its Lease

Turners Falls skate park, which finally opened this spring after being locked for more than four years because of deteriorating conditions, has been enjoying something of a heyday, with skaters and BMX bikers cutting graceful figures as they execute figure-8s and bold, gravity defying stunts.

However, the ten-year lease on the property is expiring at the end of October, and the landlord is considering charging a monthly lease fee for the skate park, or simply terminating the lease altogether, in part because the skaters and bikers and other young people who frequent the park have been “trashing” the place.

The owner, Tim DeChristopher of Turners Falls, said a combination of economic circumstances and his changing plans for the future use of the site prompted him to advance an offer to renegotiate the lease with a \$300 per month lease fee.

But he made it plain that the way people are using the skate park was part of the problem, for him, and may push him in the direction of not renewing the lease at all. DeChristopher mentioned trash thrown over the fence into his stonemasonry storage yard, trash and graffiti tags strewn about the park itself, and a tendency on the part of skaters and BMXers to climb the newly installed chain link fence, rather than using the front

gates, all detracting from his view of the skatepark as a good neighbor.

“On the other hand,” DeChristopher said, “it’s been really used, and they’re loving it.”

Gill and Montague
Choose 0.9% Solution

The Gill and Montague selectboards met with members of the two towns’ finance committees to come up with a joint proposal in advance of the budget-setting district meeting for the regional schools.

The Gill-Montague Regional School District has already posted a motion to approve a \$16,820,004 operating budget for the school year already in progress. This is the same amount imposed by the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in July as a temporary measure, until the district and the towns agree on a budget.

The selectboards of Gill and Montague, along with the finance committee of Montague – the Gill fin com lacked a quorum – approved a budget number that would reduce the schools’ proposed budget by more than \$700,000 to \$16,081,257. That represents a 0.9% increase over the assessments the towns paid last year.

The rationale for the boards approving this increase from the towns is that state aid for the district increased by only 0.9% this year, which the towns feel has placed an unfair burden on them. The 4% budget increase the state mandated by its “1/12th” budget in July would translate to a 9.3% increase for Montague and a 13.7% increase for Gill.

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Not Really Looking To Sign Anything

By ROB SKELTON

Leverett selectboard members Julie Shively and Tom Hankinson conducted town business with administrator Margie McGinnis at Tuesday’s meeting, without town clerk Lisa Stratford or board chair Peter d’Errico, who were absent.

McGinnis briefed the board on a new computer server concept being pushed by Linda Dunleavy of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), involving a tech support cost of \$100 per hour, which Hankinson thought sounded expensive.

This “Regional IT Community Compact” was attempted in the past, but the numbers never added up for Leverett. (Had d’Errico been in attendance, he may have grilled McGinnis on the previous failure, boasted about Leverett’s self-sufficiency, and discussed duplicative government services and unfunded mandates.)

Tax Maps

The recently outsourced assessing department is pushing the town to purchase a “digital assessing file” from Tighe & Bond for \$2,500, or from Cartographic Vendors for \$2,800. Previous administrative assessor Steve Schmidt had Tighe & Bond digitize the records in 2016, then paid \$1,200 to update them.

“I hate to add another expense,” said Shively.

“Why pay more money? No one’s dissatisfied, right?” asked Hankinson.

Historical commissioner Eva Gibavic is dissatisfied that the computer-generated mapping excluded the historic town pound, across from the school.

“If we can’t find a deed, we can’t put it on the map,” was the assessors’ response, said Hankinson, who added that Tighe & Bond should revise the map at no cost to Leverett.

“We’re not really looking to sign” anything, both selectboard members asserted.

School Funding

Enrollment is up eleven students at Leverett Elementary School, to 139. School “choice” in has risen from 15 to 18. But an expected Title I grant has been obliterated, from \$11,000 to zero, meaning the school has to hustle up more money, according to McGinnis.

“There’s no mindset in that group of people about revenue, about raising money,” Hankinson said, characterizing it as “deer in the headlights.”

Shively said she felt the former Union 28 regime had a handle on getting grants, which this crew has yet to master.

Other Business

Because the town “forgot” to send out bids for gas and diesel in June, it was forced to buy fuel on the spot market. Road boss David Finn recommended a variable rate; the board concurred.

The Leverett contract with the Amherst ambulance service expires June 30, 2020, and costs have been rising. Hadley switched from Amherst to Action EMS and is happy about it, Shively said.

“We could always issue a bid,” said McGinnis. The board concurred, and requested that she do just that, and include Montague.

Officer Ben Garvey, who retired after serving seventeen years on the Leverett PD, asked the board for a reference letter, which is *pro forma* and to which the board agreed. It was mentioned that Garvey is not leaving for “cause,” and that his reputation is excellent.

Hankinson commended officer Mike Gralenski for resolving a problem at Long Hill Road, where neighbors banded together around two possibly related issues: theft of Black Lives Matter signs, and strewn kitty-litter bags.

Gralenski investigated and colared a couple of out-of-towners, who ‘fessed up and issued a public apology.

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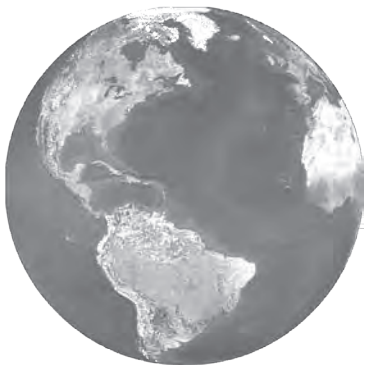
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Esta es la página en español del periódico *The Montague Reporter*. Aquí podrán encontrar cuestiones acerca de la comunidad hispana, eventos de interés, curiosidades, y noticias en español. Si quiere colaborar o compartir alguna sugerencia, envíenos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

Entrevista a la Dra. Yves Salomon-Fernández, nueva rectora de Greenfield Community College

Por MIKE JACKSON
*Adaptado y traducido por
Victoria Maíllo de Aguilera*

GREENFIELD – La familia de la Dra. Salomon-Fernández se mudó desde Haití a Boston cuando ella tenía doce años. Estudió en la Boston Latin School, una institución prestigiosa que le sirvió como trampolín hacia una carrera en educación, ciencias políticas e historia económica. Más tarde realizó una maestría en la London School of Economics y un doctorado en la Lynch School of Education del Boston College.

Su último puesto antes de GCC fue como rectora en una universidad comunitaria en Nueva Jersey.

MR: *¿Cuánto tiempo permaneció en Nueva Jersey y en dónde?*

YSF: Dos años – aunque me ha parecido más tiempo. Experimenté allí un gran crecimiento: el personal y el de la universidad. Estuve en el sur de Nueva Jersey, en el Condado de Cumberland, en el interior. Es una zona rural, y el condado más pobre de Nueva Jersey, con la tasa más baja de asistencia a la universidad, y los peores resultados de salud.

Al mismo tiempo, allí conocí a algunas personas increíblemente brillantes. Entonces, de alguna manera, vi el potencial. Y la bondad. Creo que hay un nivel de solidaridad que tiene la gente, cuando creces en la pobreza y esa es tu comunidad. El nivel de generosidad que experimenté allí fue más allá de todo lo que había experimentado en mi vida.

Y luego, llegar aquí, al condado de Franklin que es el más pobre de Massachusetts y verlo de otra forma. Creo que el condado de Franklin lleva más a gala su insignia pionera, y su identidad hippie. Es un lugar complejo, diferente y también está lleno de potencial. La demografía también es muy interesante aquí.

Una cosa que se ve, es que el condado de Franklin es 93% blanco, ¿verdad? entonces eso es lo que ves, pero lo que veo es una diferencia de clase. Cuando miro la población aquí, los estudiantes tradicionales *versus* cuando vas al *Workforce Center*, hay una diferencia de clase. Creo que la diversidad socioeconómica es algo de lo que debemos ser muy conscientes.

La página en español de este mes es una traducción de un artículo publicado anteriormente en inglés que consideramos importante difundir también en español. Ha sido editado y adaptado en la traducción por problemas de espacio.

MR: *Lo que también me llamó la atención cuando analicé los datos demográficos del condado es este descenso en la distribución por edad. La gente se muda para buscar trabajo en otro lado, o para estudiar en otro lugar y no vuelves. Uno de los cambios más importantes que he presenciado es que mucha más gente de mi edad vive aquí. Las personas que se fueron a la universidad están regresando, y criando aquí sus familias.*

YSF: ¡Este es un gran lugar para criar una familia! Tengo grandes esperanzas para la economía del ocio aquí, para la economía creativa, y la economía agrícola. El fin de semana anterior pasé un tiempo con algunos jóvenes agricultores. La agricultura es maravillosa, y tenemos que pensar mucho sobre cómo continuar eso en el condado de Franklin.

Cuando mi esposo y yo nos mudamos de Boston a Maynard, fue porque era un lugar asequible para nosotros. Cuando veo que el mercado de la vivienda en la parte este es inasequible, creo que lugares como el Condado de Franklin ofrecen una gran alternativa para familias jóvenes, para personas conscientes del medio ambiente, conscientes de su ciudadanía, su capacidad para influir en el cambio y para crear el mundo que quieren ver.

MR: *GCC es un nexo de desarrollo económico, pero probablemente ambos hemos visto muchos casos en los que una ubicación se vuelve más exclusiva, pero las personas que estaban allí no están allí, 15 años después.*

Entonces, si la población aumenta, si es como una comunidad dormitorio donde las personas viajan a otros lugares, o si se está convirtiendo en un lugar donde las personas que hicieron dinero en otro lugar pueden venir y gastarlo, eso cambia la...

YSF: La dinámica, sí. La identidad también.

Como yo lo veo lo que hay que hacer realmente es reinventar el modelo de educación superior para la ciudadanía, para los tiempos modernos, y la empresa académica también. Intentar decir, “¿cómo llegamos a ser sostenibles? ¿Cómo vemos a otras universidades comunitarias como socios, en lugar de competidores? ¿Y cómo alcanzamos ciertas eficiencias en toda la región?”

Y tenemos un increíble grupo de presidentes de universidades comunitarias de ideas afines, y también tenemos a la vuelta de la esquina a los *Five Colleges* que también están interesados en asociarse. Solo tenemos que explorar esa idea.

El papel que desempeña la universidad comunitaria es muy importante, precisamente por lo que usted dice: para el desarrollo del capital humano aquí en la región, y también por la fuerza de trabajo y el desar-



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Dra. Yves Salomon-Fernández.

rollo económico.

Entonces, ¿cómo hacemos un mejor trabajo en la entrega de nuestra misión al mayor número de personas? Cuando nos fijamos en las tasas de logro de educación superior aquí, vemos que hay muchas personas a las que debemos prestar servicio a las que aún no les prestamos servicio.

MR: *¿Cuáles son los principales impulsores de la matriculación en GCC ahora y cuáles son las áreas en las que desea enfocarse para aumentarla?*

YSF: Creo que la gente nos ve como una gran universidad de artes liberales, que es muy importante. Es esencial para la identidad de la universidad, por lo que no queremos cambiar eso. Cuando lo ves desde la perspectiva de la equidad, hay algunos programas de humanidades que tenemos que son más pequeños en número, pero no queremos perderlos.

Podemos tomar decisiones puramente monetarias, diciendo “Estamos perdiendo dinero con este programa,” o decimos: “¿Cómo diversificamos nuestra cartera? ¿Cómo arreglamos el modelo de empresa para que podamos continuar teniendo estos programas que son muy importantes, para desarrollar inteligencias múltiples, para tener ciudadanos más completos y líderes mejor preparados?”

Queremos mantener y aumentar nuestros programas de artes liberales. Tal vez en algunas áreas el objetivo no es el crecimiento, sino que es el enriquecimiento de esa experiencia para todos los estudiantes.

También necesitamos avanzar hacia carreras interdisciplinarias mucho más. ¿Cómo preparamos a los estudiantes para un mundo más

complejo, donde no existen compartimentos? Para mí, esto comienza con la destrucción de los compartimentos internos. Y luego, dado que somos un condado con problemas económicos, queremos ver el desarrollo de la fuerza de trabajo. Podemos enfocarnos en las artes liberales y dejar afuera a mucha gente: a personas que quieren empleos, que necesitan trabajos mañana; personas que tienen vidas complejas, que tienen otros desafíos que están superando, que no han asistido a la escuela y las personas que perdieron sus trabajos porque los trabajos han cambiado.

¿Cómo podemos ayudarlos también para que no nos convirtamos en una universidad elitista de aquellos que tienen el lujo de seguir un plan de estudios de humanidades puramente?

MR: *Entonces, conservar las humanidades, pero integrándolas en diferentes programas...*

YSF: Realmente atraer a los profesores, algunos de los cuales nunca han tenido interacciones con el desarrollo de la fuerza de trabajo, para decir “te necesitamos en el desarrollo de la fuerza de trabajo.” Entonces, cuando diseñemos el currículo, ¿cómo lo integramos para que los empleadores puedan decir?: “Sí, puedo ver la diferencia!”

Empezamos esto la semana pasada y estas no son conversaciones sencillas, pero creo que son conversaciones en las que la universidad está dispuesta a participar.

Una de las cosas que le pregunté a la gente fue a qué le tenían más miedo. Y alguien dijo al “cambio,” y sospecho que estaba en la mente de muchas personas. Pero entendemos que si no cambiamos, si no evolucionamos, podemos quedarnos obso-

letos y extinguirnos.

MR: *¿Ha estado involucrada en este tipo de cambio institucional en otros lugares donde has trabajado?*

YSF: Sí, un poco. Pero aquí hay una historia de innovación y asunción de riesgos que hace que sea más fácil hacerlo. Como líder, tengo que evaluar dónde está la institución y para qué están preparados en términos de cambio. Y creo que GCC está especialmente maduro para eso, para decir: “Sí, vamos a reinventar el modelo, da un poco de miedo, pero tenemos una idea de lo que queremos hacer.”

Entonces mi respuesta a esta persona, que dijo que temía el cambio fue: “Quiero que seas mi barómetro de lo bien que manejamos el cambio, emocional y psicológicamente, como institución, y cómo conservamos el conocimiento institucional.”

Y también tenemos un gran cambio generacional sucediendo. Los *baby boomers* se van, así que estamos perdiendo la historia institucional. ¿Cómo los retenemos? Y para nuestros *baby boomers* que todavía no se han jubilado, ¿cómo los equipamos con las habilidades, el conocimiento y el nuevo lenguaje, las formas de interactuar con los estudiantes más jóvenes, para poder tener éxito?

Cuando la gente me hace preguntas esperando una respuesta, generalmente les hago muchas preguntas, así que llegamos juntos a la respuesta. El compromiso es muy importante, tanto con nuestros alumnos, como entre nosotros, para que entre todos podamos co-crear algo que sea fundamentalmente más fuerte de lo que yo o usted podríamos haber inventado por nosotros mismos.

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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Highway Requests a New Bucket Loader

By JOSH HEINEMANN

On September 5 the Wendell selectboard met with a full complement of members for the first time since June. One day earlier, Laurie DiDonato was elected to take the place of Jeoffrey Pooser as a board member, and she occupied not only the position but also the same chair at the selectboard desk.

With a new member, this selectboard was new, and needed to reorganize and elect a new chair. Christine Heard nominated Dan Keller, who abstained from the vote, but was elected anyway. Keller thanked “his predecessor,” Heard, “as a great teacher and example,” and he praised Heard’s willingness and ability to listen to all sides of an issue.

Heard’s final act as chair was to sign authorization to pay Westfield Gas and Electric for design work for Wendell’s proposed fiber-optic network.

The meeting had two sets of visitors. First, former selectboard members Ted Lewis and Harry Williston, along with Paul and Tammy Richard, brought concerns about the veterans’ memorial on the north common. Together they had cleaned it up, and pulled weeds from the stones.

Lewis said they needed more white and grey stones to add to what is there. For that they need some money. He asked for an article on the town meeting warrant for maintaining the memorial, and replacing the flags that hang from light poles in the center of town as they wear out.

Paul Richard said the memorial is a focal point in the center of town.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich found that the memorial maintenance account had \$196 carried forward from FY’17, which they may spend as needed.

The town office building has a new flagpole with an American flag and a solar-powered light that illuminates it through the night. Board members asked Aldrich to look at the possibility of buying a new, smaller copy of the town flag that could fly underneath it.

Before leaving, Williston gave DiDonato congratulations, or condolences, on winning the three-way election for the selectboard seat the day before.

The next visitors were the conservation commission, with building inspector and road commissioner Phil Delorey. Their concern was a strongly worded email, sent to them and the selectboard, about a recent action they had taken enforcing the town wetland bylaw on private land.

Their action had followed a neighbor’s complaint. Owners had cleared trees and grubbed within the 100’ buffer zone of a wetland. As a board, the con com wrote them a letter, telling them they had to stop work and put in hay bales to prevent silt from the cleared area to wash into the wetland. The owners complied, but were not happy. Since then, the property

was put up for sale.

Con com chair Robin Heubel said they hate to squash a dream, but the wetland bylaw is in place. Keller agreed they were doing their job.

Bucket Loader

Delorey stayed in the office and changed his role from building inspector to road commissioner, with news of the town bucket loader. He said it should be replaced, and suggested an article on the upcoming special town meeting warrant to cover a \$30,000 down payment.

Delorey said the present loader has 6,000 hours on it, and needs several expensive repairs, which would not be guaranteed because of the machine’s age. The most recent repair lasted 10 hours and then failed. Hydraulic seals are old, wheel bearing seals should be replaced, and a transmission replacement would cost \$25,000 to \$35,000. The highway commission is looking at all options they can think of, he reported, including a short-term lease, used equipment, new equipment, and even borrowing the equipment.

He also asked that the meeting date be postponed from September 20 to September 25, to allow the hoped-for article to be posted two weeks in advance.

Delorey was told that the town meeting article has to authorize the full expense, not just the down payment. Loan repayments may be excluded from the town’s levy limit with a debt exclusion vote. The selectboard agreed to push the special town meeting to September 25.

Kitchen Overseers

The original kitchen committee formed itself to renovate the town hall kitchen. That renovation is complete, and the function of a kitchen committee now is to oversee its use, and define policy as necessary. Remaining members of the original committee do not necessarily want to oversee its operation, and so the town needs a new committee.

Heard said she would try to scare up some interested people, with luck

to include a board of health member and someone from Good Neighbors.

The special town meeting warrant has an article to establish a revolving fund, started with \$500 from Good Neighbors and \$160 from the Full Moon Coffeehouse committee, both of whom use the kitchen. That money, and the low fees residents using the kitchen are charged, can be used to pay a coordinator to check the kitchen after its use, instruct new users, and keep supplies up.

Other Business

Police chief Ed Chase wants to appoint a sergeant. Board members thought, but were not positive, that Wendell has a “strong chief,” as opposed to a “weak” chief. If a strong chief makes a policy, it goes into effect unless the selectboard overrules it within 30 days. A weak chief can make recommendations, but only the selectboard has the authority to put them in place.

A record check showed that Wendell has both a strong police chief and a strong fire chief.

Several years ago, former finance committee chair Michael Idoine started a succession planning process to find replacements for then-fire chief Everett Ricketts and police chief Ed Chase. Ricketts retired, and his position was taken by Joe Cuneo, a shared chief with New Salem.

Chase is approaching retirement age, and the selectboard intends to accelerate the process of finding a new person to fill his position. FRCOG provided help in the process of finding a new fire chief, and through the Community Compact, and its own technical assistance program, may help Wendell again.

Board members signed an appointment slip for WRATS worker Rob Chiodo, making him Wendell’s representative at the Franklin Solid Waste Management District.

Town custodian Larry Ramsdell intends to resign. His work has been so effective it is hardly noticed. He is willing to continue working until the town finds someone who can replace him, but not forever.

September 25 Special Town Meeting

By JOSH HEINEMANN

WENDELL – The final draft of the warrant for a special town meeting was ready for selectboard signatures posted Tuesday evening, September 11. What follows is a brief summary:

Article 1 would authorize spending, “an amount of money” for a schematic design study for replacement of windows and doors at Swift River School. **Article 2** would raise and appropriate \$733.39 for the sick leave pay stabilization account. **Article 3** would create three revolving funds of \$10,000 each for the wiring inspec-

tor, the plumbing inspector and the kitchen oversight committee.

Article 4 would pay a bill of prior year, \$1,150 to Highland Press for printing the town report. **Article 5** would take \$48.90 to pay for a con com bill of FY’18, and **Article 6** would pay a board of health bill of prior year, \$142.66.

Article 7 would establish Wendell’s criteria for a state authorized tax deferral program for eligible seniors.

And **Article 8** would authorize spending up to \$180,000 for a highway department front-end loader, with borrowing up to \$150,000 and a down payment of up to \$30,000.

DISCOVERY from page A1

visiting... I’ll be sad to leave!

Except that the rest of my life will calm down. It’s been very crazy: it’s five days a week, but it’s full time, and I have two part-time jobs that I’ve kept, so I’m basically working 60, 70 hours a week right now....

MR: So, whose idea was this whole paper exhibit?

SD: I know that Bill Wilson had been talking to [DCR interpreter] Janel [Nockleby] about doing an exhibit on paper mills... He was a really good resource, as Ed Gregory has been, both sharing their knowledge, and photographs.

And then somehow Exploded View also got involved, with PaperJam.... I’m not sure how that synergy happened!

So, all of our programming is focused on paper. We’re going to do a talk; myself, Janel, Bill Wilson, and Ed Gregory are each going to talk about one of the four paper mills, and then we’re going to go on a canal walk afterward.

We kicked off the month with the movie *Dynamite, Whiskey, and Wood*, about the log drives – most of the wood was used for lumber, but some of it did go to the paper mills.

MR: [Asks about the contents of a display case, partly in order to take a picture.]

SD: We’ve borrowed some pieces from Wistariahurst, and from the Museum of Our Industrial Heritage.

This is a dandy roll; and some watermarks, right there; and a mullen tester; and a rag knife, from Wistariahurst, too.

A mullen tester tests the strength of the paper. It’s called a “burst test”: you’d press down on it, and see when the paper would burst....

MR: And then, most of the rest of what’s in the Hall is art.

SD: This is the history corner, and then this is the art. But it’s all focused on paper! I think there are about 30 artists. The reception, and performance art, was packed on Sunday – 120 people, it was standing-room only – it was really amazing, and very well received....

But there’s all sorts of other things coming up. Last Saturday we had a papermaking workshop, and this Saturday we’re going to do paper marbling, and the following Saturday making miniature books.

And then the last Saturday of the month is an origami workshop [led by Michael Naughton].

MR: How was turnout at last Saturday’s workshop?

SD: The papermaking? About ten people – I think we’ll have more for the others; kind of a buzz is getting going.

MR: So, how do you know how to make paper?

SD: I’ve done a lot of work with kids over the years, and taught art – it’s called the tin can papermaking method, where you pour pulp through the screen; the tin can is your mold,



In the Great Hall: Diana Pedrosa’s “The Child,” paper collage with sewing pattern, electrical tape, paint on canvas.

so it’s really accessible. The materials aren’t expensive; you don’t need a mold and deckle. It’s fun.

You can actually make paper that looks like book paper, and it’s flat, and you can write on it: kind of different than the lift method that people have typically tried. It makes really textured, decorative papers.... You have your pulp, and you pour it, so the fibers all kind of mush around.

MR: There used to be a pulp mill right around here, right?

SD: Yup! Right across the canal, the Turners Falls Pulp Company was the very first factory here that Alvah Crocker built. First there was the Pulp Company, and then right after that there was Montague Paper Company, and it merged with that....

We’re going to try to reconfigure this paper mill exhibit, and keep it up in a different way so that it doesn’t end at the end of this [month].

We may put it where the fish tanks are now – we’re waiting for that exhibit to happen, it’s going to eventually be something with dinosaur tracks. That kind of thing takes time, so in the meantime, we’ll have the exhibit on the paper mills. We’ll have to change the panels around because it’s a smaller space....

MR: And this weekend you’re doing the paper marbling?

SD: We’re going to use two techniques. All the methods we’re going to use are very accessible: easy to get, inexpensive, non-toxic. A professional person who does marbling would not use the same materials.

But one of the techniques is *sumi-nigashi*, a Japanese technique that’s very ancient; the other technique is one where you use shaving cream as your substrate. So, an ancient technique and a kind of funky, fun, contemporary technique.

MR: It’s awesome that this resource is available to the public!

SD: It’s a great resource to the community. Everything about it – there were a couple of moms in here, yesterday and today, moms and little kids. Just some place to go – it’s raining, they’re going crazy.

We just get such a variety of people here, it’s amazing. We just love that.



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TFHS SPORTS from page A1

They were playing as a team, diving for digs, giving assists, and setting up kill shots.

Meanwhile, Liimatainen communicated with her players, giving basic instruction and positive feedback. Then, as a unit, the Ladies in Blue scored 5 unanswered points to take the lead 21-16.

The Eagles’ coach was then forced to call a time out to settle her own ladies down. But it was to no avail, as Powertown held on to win the first match 25-20.

The second match was also close midway, with Blue leading 19-16 but again their endgame was unstoppable, and they won it 25-18 to take a two-match lead. By the time the third match rolled around, Easthampton were playing on their heels, and Turners coasted to a 25-13 win.

Then on Monday, Turners welcomed the Brownies of Agawam. Brown won the first match 25-20, forcing Blue to play catch up ball. But Powertown came back, taking the last three matches 25-21, 25-20, 26-24 to give them a 3-1 victory.

Field Hockey

TFHS 2 – Mohawk 1

Last Friday, September 7, the Turners Falls

field hockey team traveled up the trail and defeated Bi-County rival Mohawk 2-1.

Turners scored in the second half to break the tie and take home the win. Amber Taylor and Jade Tyler each scored goals for Blue, with assists from Cassidhe Wozniak and Brynn Tela. Goalkeeper Haleigh Greene allowed one goal while making three saves.

Football

Lee 21 – TFHS 7

In their home opener, played on Friday September 7, the Turners Falls football team lost to the Lee Wildcats 21-7. With apologies to Charles Dickens, it was A Tale of Two Halves. Unfortunately for Blue, the best of times (First Half) was surpassed by the worst of times (Second Half).

On their opening possession, Powertown burst out of the gates and took an early 7-0 lead. Wyatt Keith banged ahead three times, then QB Kyle Dodge started his pass attack. After an incompletion, he hit Andy Craver for a 50-yard score. Tyler Lavin hit the PAT and in less than 2 minutes, Turners led 7-0.

Blue continued to outplay the Cats, but penalties and dropped passes kept the game a one-score margin throughout most of the first half. Powertown had their chance to go

up 14-0 in the second quarter, getting a first and goal from the 8 with 3:57 remaining. But a chop block marched Powertown back to the 23. They managed to get 13 yards back, but were forced to give up the rock on downs.

Turners’ defense came up big, and with 28.3 seconds left, Blue got the ball back. Then the play that changed the game occurred. Turners fumbled it away and Lee took over on the Blue 44 with 11.4 seconds left in the half.

Lee scored on their very next play, so with less than 2 seconds on the clock, the game was knotted at 7. The clock ran during the PAT, depriving Blue a chance to run back the kickoff, and the teams went into the locker rooms with the momentum clearly in the Lee Camp.

Lee capitalized on their momentum and drove down to pay dirt on their first possession of the second half. An interception on Turners’ next possession stalled their drive and set up another touchdown for Lee, and with 3.28 left in the third quarter, Lee took a 21-7 lead.

Blue’s defense played valiantly, even forcing a turnover at the goal line. But too many mistakes doomed Powertown’s fate. Coach Lapointe kept his team in the game, and it

wasn’t until the last interception that the game was finally decided.

After the game, Lapointe wouldn’t allow his team to get down on themselves. “It was a good game,” he said to his troops. “But let’s focus on Athol, our first conference game.”

Golf

Easthampton 15 – TFHS 9

On Wednesday, September 5, the Turners Falls golf team lost to the Easthampton Eagles 15-9 at Wyckoff Country Club.

The good news for Blue is that they gave no forfeits. They fielded a full six golfers, forcing Eastie to win the match on the course, and with no 4-0 gifts, the game was a relatively close, 6-point contest.

For Powertown, Alex Sulda shot a team-best 52 and won his match 3-1. Brian Poirier finished one stroke behind with a 53, but dropped his match 3.5 - 0.5 against Tyler Colby, who shot a course-best 42.

Aidan Bailey shot a 54 and won his match 3-1. Joey Mosca also hit 54 to earn a 2-2 tie, while Joe Kochan (0.5 points) and Tyler Noyes each finished the course in 60 strokes.

Next week:
Inter-conference play.



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Chasing our Tales: A Peripatetic Man of God, Part Two

By LYN CLARK

TURNERS FALLS – In Part One of this story, we met Joan Denton Morel's seven-times great-grandfather, Richard Denton, a Presbyterian who sought religious freedom for his congregation and family by moving to America from England in 1635.

We left the Rev. Denton and his followers in October of 1641 on 14 acres of land which they purchased from the New Haven Colony in what is now Stamford, Connecticut.

However, the New Haven Colony, which had already been paid back for the original purchase, made an additional demand of over 56 lbs. Add to that the fact that Hartford and New Haven colonies were both claiming jurisdiction, and the settlement of Greenwich was disputing the boundaries: one problem right after another.

Yet, it was a fourth problem that drove the peripatetic Richard Denton to pull up stakes once more after only two years: disagreement, again, within the church. The following is from an article by Walter Krumm, PhD. titled "Who Was the Rev. Richard Denton?" that appeared in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, October 1986:

The stated issue seems trivial now, in contrast to the larger political developments: some church members wanted to limit baptism to the children of those in full communion with the church. Denton's opposition to this proposal may have been ideological (to bring more souls to God) or it could have been practical (this restriction would exclude from the church the heavy influx of outsiders).

Perhaps the real crux may have been that the New Haven Colony limited suffrage to church members only... The men complained that they had no votes, no liberties and no justice... At all events the final result was that Denton and more than a fourth of the inhabitants of Stamford, most of whom had accompanied him from Wethersfield, decided to leave.

From the *History and Vital Records of Christ's First Presbyterian Church of Hempstead, Long Island, New York*, by John Dean

Fish: "In 1643, representatives were sent out to investigate the land and the conditions across the Sound on Nassau Island [as Long Island was then known] within the jurisdiction of the more liberal Dutch government."

That same year, the Dutch had started a war against the Lenape Indians, and one would have thought this off-putting to innocents going again into the wilderness. I wonder if these Puritans had become so inured to danger, after living with it for so long, that they simply accepted whatever their God threw their way.

The representatives from Stamford found a fertile, 16-mile wide plain across the Sound on Nassau Island (as Long Island was then known) much to their liking, and that December, they purchased it from the Rockaway tribe. The following year they obtained from the Dutch the patent for the town they named Hempstead. All during 1644 the settlers crossed the few miles of open water to establish themselves in their new village.

At long last Richard Denton and his followers felt they could settle, build, raise families, and worship whatever way they wanted without interference.

We know little about this period, as records predating 1657 did not survive. We do know that Denton continued to baptize children of non-members, and that not everyone was happy about it, and we do know that he was not always paid as he should have been, which made continuing to be the church's minister difficult for his family and for him.

A letter written in 1657 by two Dutch ministers includes the following:

Mr. Richard Denton, who is sound in faith, of a friendly disposition, and beloved by all, cannot be induced to remain, although we have certainly tried to do this in various ways. He first went to Virginia to seek a situation, complaining of lack of salary, and that he was getting in debt, but he has returned thence. He is now firmly resolved to go to old England, because his wife, who is sickly, will not go without him.

see **TALES** page B4



Not Hempstead, but what it may have looked like in its infancy: the living colonial history museum at Plimoth Plantation.

Candace Silver: A Close View

By NINA ROSSI

SHELBURNE FALLS – Candace Silver has her third solo show at the Shelburne Arts Coop this September. "Inspired by Nature" will show off her newest photography which, as the title implies, is focused on the natural world. Candace takes a particularly close view of nature, and no doubt you will find her focus on the beauty of flowers, water, plants and bugs very inspiring!

While some of the shots are carefully set up, others require patient observation of the world around her home in Charlemont, and the life that teems in her pond and gardens there. You will find magnified images of a black swallowtail caterpillar, a hummingbird, mushrooms, peonies... One of her large prints shows blue and gold rippling water surface broken by dark purple and blue and green lily pads – gorgeous! Other photos feature fall foliage, and a new set of prints depicts sunflowers rising above their own reflections like golden suns.

I met with Candace in her new studio space a few blocks away

"This space is only dedicated to art, so I don't get so ADHD-distracted. I come down a week at a time and then go home after," laughed Candace. "My house was too tiny! It felt like living in a pin ball machine. Any single task and I had to completely rearrange the space. I didn't do any work for a year because it was so congested."

The photos themselves are digital; the large format Epson printer she uses is the size of an upright piano – they had to remove a window to get it into the apartment studio space. She prints her photos on rolls of canvas that go into the printer, then coats them with a protective sealer and stretches them on wooden supports.

"Printing on canvas," said Can-



Candace Silver with one of her test prints of sunflowers.



Silver's photography is on display at the Shelburne Arts Coop this month.

from the Coop, a series of bright and spacious rooms filled with her colorful paintings and prints. This has been a good move for the full-time artist, since her home was too small to handle her output and the scale of her work is quite large.

dace, "changes it somehow. A lot of the pieces no longer look like photos, they look like paintings." She notes that if you use Epson paper and inks and keep the prints out of direct sunlight, Epson guarantees the work against fading for

200 years.

Candace, ever capable, makes her own slim black painted wooden frames to go around these. The messy carpentry work will remain at the house; in the Shelburne studio the air is clear and bright and sparkles with new ideas. Stacks of white paper interleaved with parchment represent test prints of images she is selecting for the upcoming show.

"You don't know what you have on the computer until it has been printed," explained Candace, flipping through the stacks as I watched one stunning image after another whisk by. She doesn't do much editing of the images from her 16-megapixel camera, just a little cropping here and there and contrast adjustment. Her work is all about having an eye for these surprisingly intense, yet ordinary, scenes.

One room of the studio is devoted to sculpture work. Here reside some of the amazing dolls that Candace has made, sitting in their chairs handcrafted from roots. One wears a turtle shell sewn to his sweater and sits in the other half shell. The sewing involved in the crafting of the bodies and clothes is impeccable.

Candace is not sure her hands are up to making more work like these

see **SILVER** page B2

THE AUTHORS' CORNER: TIM GREEN

By IZZY VACHULA-CURTIS

TURNERS FALLS – Hi! I hope you are all having a super amazing school year!

Early this summer, one of my teachers sent home a list of books to read. We had to pick one. I chose one called *Baseball Genius*, because it seemed interesting. I love the New York Yankees, so I was excited that it was written by Derek Jeter, and a former Atlanta Falcons player, Tim Green.

The book was soooo awesome, and so hard to put down! Today I will be reviewing *Baseball Genius*, and interviewing Mr. Tim Green.

Baseball Genius is about a boy named Jalen, and his desire to play on a traveling youth baseball team. Jalen can't afford the tuition fee, so he sneaks into Yankees second baseman James Yager's house, and steals some balls from his batting cage to sell to pay the fee.

Jalen ends up selling them, but doesn't get enough money to pay the fee to play. Unexpectedly, he meets up with Mr. Yager, and to his surprise, finds a way he could be of use to the player's career.

Jalen has a special skill: he can identify what kind of pitch it will be before it leaves the pitcher's hand. Yager pays the rest of Jalen's tuition fee in return for helping him out of his slump.

This story is so good, and all the characters are so interesting! It is a great story for all baseball fans – especially Yankees fans! – or for readers that are into realistic fiction books.

Below is an interview with Tim Green:



Our correspondent shows her enthusiasm for the topic at hand.

Izzy V-C: What sports did you play in High School?
Tim Green: The sports I played in high school were wrestling and football.

IVC: How closely did you work with Derek Jeter in *Baseball Genius*?

TG: In my book *Baseball Genius* I worked with Derek Jeter which was awesome. He is such a nice person and we are currently writing a third book together. Derek and I work pretty close.

see **CORNER** page B2

Pet of the Week

No Cats. If you're *not* an experienced terrier person, Max will ruin your life. He's "like a wound up spring" – not a regular calm dog.

If you're an experienced dog person who finds "regular dogs" boring, and you've always preferred the Jack Russells and other

terriers of the world, Max may be for you. He's described as independent, vibrant, friendly, and curious. His shenanigans will keep you entertained for years.

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



“MAX”

Senior Center Activities SEPTEMBER 17 THROUGH 21

GILL and MONTAGUE

The Gill Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11 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 machine when the center is not open.

M, W, F: 10:10 a.m. Aerobics; 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise

T, W, Th: 12 p.m. Lunch

Monday 9/17
8 a.m. Foot Clinic (by appt.)
12 p.m. Potluck & Bingo

Tuesday 9/18
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Health & Safety Expo at Schuetzen Verein

10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
11:30 a.m. Farm Share #10
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Wednesday 9/19
9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach
12:45 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 9/20
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Cards & Games
4 p.m. Mat Yoga

Friday 9/21
1 p.m. Writing Group

LEVERETT

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

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

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

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.

ERVING

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

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

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

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

Art Classes run July 10 to August 28, 1 to 3 p.m.

Monday 9/17
9:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance
9:30 a.m. COA Meeting
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi
11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch

Tuesday 9/18
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
11:30 a.m. Mystery Lunch:
Preston Heller, "The Mentalist"

Wednesday 9/19
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch
1 p.m. Drumming for Health
6 p.m. Pitch Night

Thursday 9/20
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch
12:15 p.m. Bingo & Snacks

Friday 9/21
9 a.m. Quilting Workshop
9:30 a.m. Fun Bowling
10:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch
1 p.m. RAD Defensive Training

CORNER from page B1

IVC: Who are you most like in *Baseball Genius*?

TG: There is no one like me in *Baseball Genius*, but I am a lot like the main character, Josh, in the *Baseball Great* series.

IVC: What is your favorite part of being an author?

TG: My favorite part about being an author is hearing from kids like you who enjoy my stories.

IVC: How was it playing with the *Atlanta Falcons*?

TG: Playing with the Atlanta Falcons was a dream come true, but also very tough.

IVC: What is your favorite book you have written?

TG: My favorite book I have written so far is *Unstoppable*. It was number 2 on the *New York Times* list. Parents and teachers love it too!

IVC: Are you working on any books right now?

TG: I am always working on a book. I just had a new book come out, *The Big Time*. Keep reading!

I was so happy when Tim Green wrote back. *Baseball Genius* was amazing, and I can't wait to read the other books he has written. Have a super happy school year!



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUTHOR
Baseball Genius co-authors Tim Green (left) and Derek Jeter (right).

OUT OF THE PARK: September 2018

By JON DOBOSZ

UNITY PARK – Hello everyone! I hope that you all had a great summer, and are transitioning well into the new season and the craziness of September. Certainly a lot goes on during this month, so be sure to take a few moments to catch your breath and enjoy some leisure time.

While our fall programs have kicked off with the start of our Youth Soccer Program, we're squeezing in just one more summer event before autumn arrives next week. This Saturday, September 15, we will be hosting our third and final Night Skate of the season!

The Night Skates have become a very popular tradition at the Unity Skatepark, and they would not have been possible without the support of RiverCulture, members of the Friends of the Skatepark, and of course the Franklin County Sheriff's Office for allowing us the use of their light towers.

The event will be held from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., and we plan on having a food vendor present, so bring a few bucks! Even if you're not a skater, come on out and watch some



amazing athletes grind.

As we ease into autumn, MPRD certainly does what it can to honor the season by hosting our Annual Scarecrow Stuffing Party. This will be an ideal opportunity to create your own hay-filled family member. The party is scheduled for Saturday, September 29 down here at Unity Park from 12 to 2 p.m.

Scarecrows are \$5 per, but if you bring your own clothes, it's only \$3. We're a little short on long-sleeve shirts and pants, so if you have a few pairs you're not using anymore, we will gladly take them off your hands. Drop them off at our office during office hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

The rain date for this event is Sunday, September 30. We'll have a bake sale as well, because you can't have a party without food.

We're also taking registrations for our Bluefish Swim Team. The Bluefish is a recreational/competitive youth swim team that has been around for over 40 years. Practice begins mid-October and the program goes until early March of 2019. Swimming groups are organized according to ability, and if you're interested give us a call. We are proud members of the Pioneer Valley Swim League. Feel free, also, to check out our new team website (montaguebluefish.com) for additional information.

That's about it from here. For continual updates on everything "Montague Parks & Rec," check out our Facebook page, our page on montague.net, or call the office at 863-3216.

Enjoy the beginning of autumn, and we'll talk to you in October!

Jon Dobosz, CPRP, is parks and recreation director for the town of Montague.

SILVER from page B1

figures, though, because arthritis and neuropathy have affected her fingers. There are still plans for a peacock doll who will sit in a stained glass chair; she showed me a box of feathers that were carefully prepared with ribbons holding them together instead of the center ribs, waiting to cover the body of this doll.

Candace can't remember a time she wasn't painting or constructing something. "I've known since I was three that I wanted to be an artist when I grew up; I've always known that," she said. "I just love what I am doing, and I feel I have reached a level of competence that I am pleased with. I can hardly wait to see what's going to happen next!"

Raised in the Ozarks, she spent much of her adult life in Tennessee. Like many female artists, raising a family became her main creative endeavor for many years.

While visiting with some friends she met from Ashfield in 1986, Candace fell in love with this area. "I was not even out of the car, it was just my foot sticking out the door, but I was like, 'This is it, I am home!'" It was strong, intense. I determined then that I would move here one day," recalled Candace.

During the winter of 1996 she arrived in town to 6 feet of snow and the welcoming arms of a diverse arts community. She also arrived desperate to get creative energy going again, which led her to take former Coop member Julie Hall Rocke's watercolor painting class. Instruction at Greenfield Community College in oil painting and photography opened further avenues of expression.

Candace joined the Coop in 2003, and says being part of the group has been inspiring for her. She counts on her time there for some socializing to balance the solitary art-making

time in her home studio.

As she puts it, "It's been an amazing evolution being here, the people are so awesome. I never felt like I belonged in Tennessee. I feel like I belong here: we're all artsy-fartsy oddballs, and we all accept that we're oddballs, and so we get along."

Inspired by Nature *is on view at the Shelburne Arts Coop for the month of September. The Coop is at 26 Bridge Street, Shelburne Falls, and is open every day except Tuesday.*

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week at MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

We hope your September is passing smoothly by!

This week, please enjoy our most recent additions to the TV lineup:

- Pickling in the Park 2018
- Shadow Puppets, from Fairy House Day on Avenue A
- A Most Beautiful Picnic, from Fairy House Day on Avenue A

- Irwin Reese and Julia Bady at Antenna Cloud Farm

Something going on you'd like others to see? If you get in touch, we can show you how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment. Contact us at (413) 863-9200, infomontaguetv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 Second Street between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We're excited to work with you!

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FROM A KID'S POINT OF VIEW

Optical Illusions!

By FINTAN ANDREW JONES

GREENFIELD – For my eighth column, I’m writing about optical illusions.

I’m interested in optical illusions right now because I want to learn about how my brain processes what I see, in the real world without optical illusions, and in the “real” world with optical illusions.

I found this on a website, learning-center.homesciencetools.com/article/optical-illusions, that tells what an optical illusion is:

In order to see, your eye must focus light on its retina, convert the light into electrical impulses, and send those impulses to your brain to be interpreted. When the electrical impulses arrive in the visual cortex of the brain, the brain “reads” them and interprets them into an image of color and light. It then flips the image (the light was projected on your retina upside down) and fills in for the blind spot if necessary. All this happens almost instantaneously, allowing you to read a book or enjoy a beautiful sunset.

Generally the process works flawlessly, but sometimes the color, light, or pattern of an object can “trick” the brain into interpreting the image incorrectly, so you think you see something differently from how it really is.

Some people say that you must “see it to believe it,” but that is not always the case. Since optical illusions trick your brain into thinking that it’s something else, the “see it to believe it” saying doesn’t always apply.

I’m going to tell you about a

place which I call “the hill that isn’t.” The place is on Shelburne Road in Greenfield, behind Big Y.

Go up that road until you pass under the 91 overpass. Then turn around, and stop right before the overpass. In front of you, you will see a small hill. Put your car in neutral, and keep both feet on the floor. The car will roll up the hill.

How can that be? Because the “hill” is really a downward slope. It’s an optical illusion, so it tricks your brain into thinking that it’s something else. It might take a while, but you will eventually roll, in neutral, to Big Y. So that’s the end of your hill-that-isn’t optical illusion adventure!

Here is a mirror optical illusion trick you can try. First write the alphabet down, ALL CAPS. Hold the paper up to the bathroom mirror. Which letters look the same in the mirror as they do on the paper? There are 11, by the way. Try it and see which ones they are.

Here’s another mirror one. Look in your bathroom mirror. Hold another mirror up, facing the bathroom mirror. How many “you’s” are there? There is no answer to that, because the reflections go on and on in an optical illusion.

Find a picture in your house of a person looking at you. That is because the person looked directly into the camera lens. Now, no matter what angle you look at it from, the person is always looking at you. Kind of creepy, isn’t it?

Thanks for reading my column. Look for more optical illusions in the world. They are fun!

A Look at The United Way

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

GREENFIELD – The United Way got started in 1887 when two priests, a rabbi, and a Denver woman met up and decided to work together to make Denver a better place. Their names were Frances Wisebart Jacobs, Reverend Myron W. Reed, Msgr. William J. O Ryan, Dean H. Martyn Hart and Rabbi William S. Friedman.

That idea became “the nation’s first united campaign, benefiting 10 area health and welfare agencies.” They raised \$21,700 that year, in their first attempt at raising money to give to various charities and relief organizations. This is what became the United Way.

There are several United Way locations in Massachusetts, including the United Way of Franklin County at 51 Davis Street in Greenfield, and the United Way of Central Massachusetts in Worcester.

According to its official website, unitedway.org, United Way partners with many organizations “to address complex challenges on a worldwide scale.” One of these is FamilyWize, which helps people nationwide get “their much needed prescription medications they otherwise wouldn’t be able to afford.” According to FamilyWize, the impact is \$1 billion saved on the cost of medications, 10 million people helped, and average savings of around 40%.

An individual at FamilyWize who asked to remain anonymous says “FamilyWize been partnered with the Greenfield, MA [United Way] since we started.” They “provide

United Way saving cards toward prescriptions in their community.”

“Since 2007, up ‘til April 2018, we helped 21,124 people through the partnership of United Way and FamilyWize,” they said, which “helped them save a dollar amount of \$172,531.”

The United Way in Greenfield has “been here 80 years,” according to Sandy Sayers. Sayers has been executive director for five years, and told me she is retiring at the end of June. They “serve 26 non-profit organizations in Franklin County.” Big Brothers Big Sisters of Franklin County and Community Action are examples of the organizations.

Sayers says she sees her organization as doing this: “United Way of Franklin County collaborates with pulling together these resources needed for greatest impact.” She told me one way they do fundraising is an annual auction. “\$700,000 we raised on average,” she says. “We give that to our partners.”

Theresa Lynn, vice president of advancement, said the chapter in Worcester has helped 66,000 people on average. It “has been in service for 98 years.” One way they have been doing this is through a dinner event to raise money for a program called “Stepping Up,” to help young girls.

Given how long just these couple of United Way chapters have been in business, the amount of people they have helped, and the money they have raised, I would say the United Way has been making all of the right moves since it started.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Shooting Threat; Unsecured Dogs; Missing Kayak; Loose Sheep; Sauce Stains; Demo Derby Drama

Monday, 9/3

10:10 a.m. Officer conducting motor vehicle stop on Main Street. Citation issued for going 41 mph in a 25 mph zone. Operator attempted to debate ticket while on the stop; was upset that speed limit drops down to 25 mph in the center of Montague.

5:23 p.m. Caller advising that a male called him and threatened to shoot his boyfriend because he owes him money. Caller stated that this man is known to have anger problems; caller not sure what he is capable of. Caller also stated that the man told him he has a 9mm handgun. Officers advised and *en route*. Caller called back to report that [redacted] just called him and stated that [redacted] was chasing him in Peske Park with a gun. Officer spoke with people in party who advised a man did run through in the direction of Food City. Officers checking area. Officer out with caller and other involved party. Units out with other party on K Street; male party detained at this time. Statements provided. Investigated.

Tuesday, 9/4

12:17 p.m. Attempting to serve town bylaw notice for unregistered vehicles on Federal Street. Officer spoke with resident, who advised that the six vehicles on site will all be removed by Saturday for the demolition derby this weekend. Officer will follow up to make sure vehicles are removed by then.

7:05 p.m. Caller from Newton Street advising of verbal altercation between his daughter’s boyfriend and some neighborhood boys. Caller unsure of weapons but did advise that the neighborhood boys have a BB gun that looks like a 9mm. Officers advised and *en route*. Peace restored.

Wednesday, 9/5

8 a.m. Caller from Avenue A requesting officer to dispose of a bag containing a white powdery substance that he found while watering the plants on site. Item retrieved; was not drug related.

3:22 p.m. Shelburne Control received a call for a red pickup truck with two unsecured dogs in the truck bed. Two flags hanging off the back of the truck: one Confederate flag and one American flag. Last seen on Route 47 northbound passing Mt. Toby Kennel heading toward Montague. Referred to an officer.

5:52 p.m. Officer conducting

motor vehicle stop at Lake Pleasant and Mineral roads. Citations and summons issued to juvenile operator for miscellaneous motor vehicle equipment violation; operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration; uninsured motor vehicle; unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle; and no inspection sticker.

6:47 p.m. 911 caller from Avenue A reports that a tenant stole his food and then threw him to the ground. Parties were separated when the call was placed, but began arguing during the call. Caller advises he is not injured. Remained on line with caller until officers arrived. Peace restored; situation mediated; advised of options.

7:37 p.m. Caller from Hillside Avenue reports that two loose dogs came after her in the street earlier this evening. Ongoing issue. Copy of call left for animal control officer. MPD officer advised.

Thursday, 9/6

9:05 a.m. Caller reports that approximately 20-25 minutes ago a man tried to get into her vehicle on Avenue A. Caller was leaving Avenue A Dental and got into her vehicle when a man approached the passenger side and tried to get in, instructing the caller that she would give him a ride. Caller’s doors were locked, so the man was unable to gain entry. Man walked off into alley, and caller left without further incident. Man described as white, 50s, approximately 5 feet 9 inches, heavyset, grey hair, wearing a zip-up sweater and pants of unknown color and what looked like a tube sock on his head. Area checked; unable to locate. Will continue to be on lookout. Officers are familiar with a subject matching this description who walks around the downtown area. The object on the subject’s head is a medical

device. Officers will advise subject if he is located.

12:25 p.m. Report of refrigerator on tree belt at Fifth and L streets. Officer checked area; it appears someone is moving in or out; will follow up with someone at the building. DPW also advised. Officer spoke with party who advised that they do not know whose fridge it is. Officer looked inside and confirmed there was nothing inside. DPW requests notify Board of Health; they will dispose of it if BOH does not have any further follow-up they need to do with it. Message left for BOH. BOH confirmed they received another complaint as well. BOH left message with property manager of the building they believe it came from. BOH advises it will be the landlord’s responsibility to dispose of it if he cannot locate the tenant who is responsible.

1:22 p.m. Report of neighbor testing out five unregistered demo cars on Route 63 and burning out in the road. Two of the vehicles are a silver SUV and a blue or purple truck. Officer monitored area for fifteen minutes and did not observe the reported activity; will monitor a bit longer. Officer spoke with resident, who advised he has vehicles for the demo this weekend but they will not be here past this weekend. Officer observed one vehicle back out slightly into the roadway but did not drive on the road. Resident advised of town bylaws for unregistered vehicles.

Friday, 9/7

1:12 a.m. Officer out checking on suspicious vehicle at car wash. Units clear; female operator was reorganizing her belongings in the car. No signs of impairment.

11:25 a.m. Caller from High Street believes that a red kayak went missing from his yard between Saturday night and Sunday morning.

12:56 p.m. Caller states that someone left a large projection TV along the white line on the side of Greenfield Road just beyond the sewer plant. Could be a hazard at night. DPW supervisor advised; he said they would come get it on Monday.

1:12 p.m. Caller states that she saw a short blonde-haired female yelling at and pushing an older grey-haired woman near Peske Park. Unfounded.

Saturday, 9/8

8:09 a.m. 911 caller from South Street reporting that some sheep have gotten loose from a local farm. Farm owner notified. She will go round them up.

10:30 p.m. Caller from Fourth Street complaining of red pasta sauce being splashed all over her door and a bed that she is storing on her porch being sliced and covered in the same red sauce. Caller believes it to be one of her neighbors. Officer advised caller of options.

Sunday, 9/9

9:30 a.m. Caller from Millers Falls Road reporting what sounded like a single gunshot about forty minutes ago. Nearby Ever-source worker advised that a squirrel just popped a line on Norman Circle, but power is back on now.

9:14 p.m. Greenfield PD advising that a male party who was the winner of the demolition derby at the Franklin County Fair tonight was accused of cheating by a group of people who are now threatening to go to the man’s home and beat him up. Wife of subject requesting that MPD respond to keep the peace should this group follow through on the threats. Officer spoke to subject and advised him to call should the need arise. Officer also spoke to male who was assumed to be in the group of aggressors; male stated that no such plan was being acted upon.

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TALES from page B1

That same year, thirteen years after the Denton family helped to settle Hempstead, Rev. Richard Denton, his wife and three children returned to England leaving behind two of his sons, Richard Jr. and Nathaniel – Joan’s ancestor – to populate Long Island.

Richard Denton died in Essex, England in 1663 at age 60. His tombstone reads:

Here lies the dust of Richard Denton. O'er his low peaceful grave bends the perennial cypress, fit emblem of his unfading fame. On earth his bright example, religious light, shown forth o'er multitudes. In heaven his pure rob'd spirit shines like an effulgent star.

The body of the church that Denton established, Christ’s First Presbyterian, although not its original wood structure, still exists. Many Hempstead streets today are named for the early settlers, and Denton Green, part park and part cemetery, hosts an annual concert series. This year Hempstead Village celebrates its 375th anniversary.

The only description we have of Richard Denton appears in a panegyric from the famous Puritan minister Cotton Mather, who could not have known him except by reputation. It appears in his book *Magnalia Christi Americana* (London, 1702), and the following is only a sampling:

...his doctrines dropped as rain, his speech distilled as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, as the showers upon the grass. Though he was a little man, yet he had a great soul, his well accomplished mind in his lesser body was an Iliad in a nutshell. I think he was blind in one eye, nevertheless he was not the least among the seers of Israel...

Richard Denton wrote *Soliloquia Sacra*, which has not survived, but which, according to Mather, “considers the fourfold state of man... and that judicious persons who have seen it very much lament the



churches being so deprived of it.”

We likewise lament its loss, since Joan Denton Moral would like to have had some memento of her distant ancestor.

Ours is a country of refugees. They have come for 400 years from all over the world, seeking to escape religious and political persecution, famine and poverty, hoping for a little land on which to settle, to build a home, to raise a family in peace and without fear. They also came on slave ships in chains, and now their descendants wish for the same things our ancestors did, freedom to live and grow and prosper in peace and without fear.

Despite the vicissitudes of fortune and political policy, we still believe that, somehow, sometime, all of our dreams, like those of the Denton family, will be realized. Who does not believe that the strength and character of our country lies with those who found refuge here? If we lock our doors, as many suggest, will we be doomed?

Can we afford to say that there is no more room at the inn?

Let us know your ancestors’ stories; each one is unique. We will help you edit them, or write them for you. Please contact us at genealogy@montagureporter.org.



Gill Cultural Council Seeks Funding Proposals

The Gill Cultural Council has set an October 15 deadline for organizations, schools, and individuals to apply for grants that support community-oriented arts, humanities, and science programs.

These grants support a variety of projects and activities, including exhibits, festivals, performances, workshops, lectures, and artist residencies. Each year the state legislature appropriates money to the Massachusetts Cultural Council which then allocates funds to 351 communities throughout the Common-

wealth. Gill expects to have about \$4,500 to distribute this year.

Some of the projects the Gill Cultural Council helped fund last year included theater, music, dance and “Farm-to-Table” programs at the elementary school, concerts at various venues in town, a historical display in honor of the town’s 225th anniversary, and theater programs at Turners Falls schools.

For application forms and local guidelines, go to www.mass-culture.org. Questions can be sent to LCC@gillmass.org.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Reveling By Boat; Farming With Propane Cannon

Wednesday, 8/1

5:49 p.m. Lifeline activated, Main Road.

6:51 p.m. Suspicious vehicle, French King Highway.

Friday, 8/3

9:04 a.m. Welfare check requested, Route 10.

10:31 a.m. Served warrant on French King Highway. Arrested without incident, transported to Greenfield detention center.

Saturday, 8/4

12:02 a.m. Suspicious activity, Barton Cove Road. Caller advises he is camping at the above location and that there is a boat on the river with approximately 6 subjects that keep going back and forth, playing loud music, and appearing intoxicated.

12:48 p.m. Main Road caller reported the theft of a television.

7:37 p.m. Drug offense, Route 2.

Sunday, 8/5

11:31 a.m. Report of several rocks that have slid onto the French King Highway from the hillside.

3:54 p.m. Caller reported a boat beached and went into the woods from the Connecticut River.

10:33 p.m. Unwanted person on Chappell Drive.

Monday, 8/6

12:16 p.m. Animal complaint on Elm Street.

3:33 p.m. Unwanted person on Chappell Drive.

Tuesday, 8/7

9:40 a.m. Assisted Massachusetts state police detective at the station.

2:09 p.m. Accident, no injury, on French King Highway.

6:26 p.m. Accident, no injury, on French King Highway: car vs. motorcycle.

Thursday, 8/9

1:35 p.m. Request for assistance with board of health inspection, Barney Hale Road.

6:55 p.m. Caller reported a male with a red shirt and long pants is on top of a pole on the Erving side of the French King Bridge taking a selfie.

Friday, 8/10

5:34 p.m. Caller reported she found a cockatiel out on the river at Barton’s Cove; requested a Gill officer.

5:59 p.m. Complaint of an erratic driver on French King Highway, varying speeds and cutting off the caller.

5:59 p.m. Caller on French King Highway advises she lost her brown wallet.

Sunday, 8/12

2:34 p.m. Articles recovered at boat ramp. Boat trailer was turned into the PD.

Monday, 8/13

8:37 a.m. Officer wanted, French King Highway.

Tuesday, 8/14

12:05 p.m. Suspicious person at Mountain Road Estates.

8:04 p.m. Complaint of a small cow in the roadway, Main Road.

Wednesday, 8/15

9:31 p.m. Complaint of a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Route 2 in Greenfield.

Thursday, 8/16

12:11 p.m. Officer wanted, Chappell Drive.

1:17 p.m. Safety hazard: French King Bridge will shift traffic lanes for the next couple months due to construction.

3:27 p.m. 911 call, Lamp-lighter Way.

3:45 p.m. Complaint of loose cows on West Gill Road.

6:48 p.m. Complaint of loud cars at Barton Cove.

Friday, 8/17

11:11 a.m. Illegal dumping in vicinity of Munn’s Ferry Road.

2:55 p.m. Caller asked for welfare check on a white

male with a ponytail, shorts, t-shirt, and backpack smoking a cigarette on the side of the Turners Falls-Gill bridge, looking upriver, possibly intoxicated.

Saturday, 8/18

7:09 a.m. Noise complaint on Mountain Road.

9:50 a.m. Safety complaint: line down across the cart path on West Gill Road.

Sunday, 8/19

10:27 a.m. Suspicious vehicle, Mountain Road Estates.

2:48 p.m. Report of approximately 4 young men skateboarding down Mountain Road, then being brought back up in a red truck. Caller states they are in the middle of the road, is afraid they might get struck.

4:25 p.m. Followed up at Mountain Road Estates about a gray car that had acted suspiciously earlier.

Monday, 8/20

7:50 a.m. Motor vehicle accident, French King Highway. No injury.

9:10 p.m. Motor vehicle accident, Main Road. No injury.

9:43 p.m. Caller advises a red Dodge van or SUV was speeding and passing in a no-passing zone on French King Highway, almost causing an accident.

Tuesday, 8/21

5:30 p.m. Motor vehicle accident, French King Highway. No injury.

Wednesday, 8/22

10:30 a.m. Assisted Main Road citizen with fingerprint cards for FBI background check.

Thursday, 8/23

1:06 p.m. Complaint of a red sports car speeding and passing unsafely on French King Highway.

6:05 p.m. Disabled vehicle on Route 10.

7:35 p.m. Fireworks

complaint on Franklin Road: Propane cannon in the lower fields off of Adams Road in Greenfield; keeps animals away from the squash.

Friday, 8/24

6:51 a.m. Noise complaint, Atherton Road.

2:01 p.m. Noise complaint, West Gill Road.

4:07 p.m. Caller reported a dog left in a vehicle at the state boat ramp.

Saturday, 8/25

11:40 a.m. Report of a partially submerged boat near the shore of the Connecticut River. Both involved parties near the shore. Caller advises there may be fuel in the water.

6:25 p.m. Suspicious person, French King Highway: two males and a female were loitering and harassing an employee.

Sunday, 8/26

6:33 p.m. Motor vehicle accident, Barton Cove Road. No injury.

Monday, 8/27

2:20 p.m. Kept the peace, Grove Street.

Tuesday, 8/28

3:11 p.m. Stolen motor vehicle recovered, Pisgah Mountain Road.

Wednesday, 8/29

6:50 p.m. Fraud, South Cross Road.

Thursday, 8/30

10:34 a.m. Report of dead tree leaning on wires, River Road. Eversource notified.

4:23 p.m. Removed large cable obstructing traffic, French King Highway and Barton Cove Road.

7:37 p.m. Trucks parked blocking fire department bay doors. Keyholder reached, will move trucks.

Friday, 8/31

3:58 p.m. Motor vehicle accident, French King Highway. No injury.

9:16 p.m. 911 call, Green Hill Road.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EXHIBITS:

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Brattleboro, VT: Six summer exhibits: *Best of Springs*, *Sprockets and Pulleys*; *Roz Chast*; *David Rios Ferreira*; *Debra Ramsey*; *Shona Macdonald*. Through September 24.

DVAA Gallery, Northfield: *Fabricated: Fabulous Functional & Whimsical Fiber Art*. Through September 16.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *PaperJam* group exhibit curated by Exploded View: art inspired by paper. *On a Roll – the Story of Paper in Turners Falls* is an exhibit exploring the transition from hand-made to machine-made paper, the paper industry’s arrival in Turners Falls, and the rise and fall of the village’s paper mills. Through September.

Greenfield Gallery, Greenfield: *Visions of Love*, abstract paintings by Cameron Schmitz. Through September 21.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Photographs by Ronald Greenberg*. Focus is on landscape and cityscape photography in Ireland, Italy and the US. Through September.

Herrick Gallery, Wendell Free Library: *Bob Ellis: A Retrospective*. Proceeds from paintings for sale will benefit the Wendell Free Library. Reception September 15, 4 p.m. Through October.

Leverett Crafts and Arts: *Susan Valentine’s Annual Gallery Exhibit and Open Studio*. Oil Paintings. Through September.

Nina’s Nook, Turners Falls: *Ixchelalee Art*. Digital collage by Turners Falls artist Diana Pedrosa. Through October 6.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *22 Homes* by Hannah Hurricane Sanchez. A colorful display of rigid spaces and flexible boundaries, a response to moving 22 times last summer, with family adventures and in between houses. Through October.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Works on Paper*, paintings by Greenfield artist Joseph McCarthy, and *Stream of Consciousness*, paintings by Petula Bloomfield. Through October 28.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Inspired by Nature*. Photographs by Candace Silver. See article, Page B1. Through September.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Millers Falls Library: *Music and Movement*. For children and

caregivers, with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson. 10 a.m.

Looky Here, Greenfield: *Tongue Depressor, Wendy Eisenberg, and Omeed Goodarzi*. \$. Early show! 6:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Jim K*. 8 p.m.

Hubie’s Tavern, Turners Falls: *Karaoke Night*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Lunar Carnival*. Great Falls Coffeehouse Series presents *Lunar Carnival*, “a magical blend of soulful harmonies.” Refreshments available. Suggested donation. \$. 7 p.m.



Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse kicks off its 34th season next Saturday, September 22, with the foot-stomping modern bluegrass of Mama’s Marmalade. Mamma’s Marmalade delves into the limitless capabilities of classic bluegrass instrumentation (banjo, fiddle, mandolin, guitar and bass). With a deep respect for tradition, and an eye towards contemporary music, Mamma’s Marmalade brings an exciting new energy to the enduring narrative of American folk music. Open mic at 7:30 p.m.; dessert-o-rama, dancing, fun; suggested donation \$6 to 15.

Hubie’s Tavern, Turners Falls: *Acoustic Country*. With Heath Lewis. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *One Flight Up*. 9:30 p.m.

Camp Kee-Wanee, Greenfield: *Wormtown Music Festival* featuring *Tuna Funk Brigade, Water Sauce, Moon Cup and the Keepers, Monkeysaurus Dance Co-op, Lee Gaiacocca, Deep Aquarium Field Trip, Shylock and the Elderz*, and many more. \$\$\$. Friday through Sunday.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Kids Dance Party*. 3 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The O-Tones*. Motown, Swing. \$. 7:30 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Reggie Harris*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

Mt. Toby Meeting House, Leverett: *emma’s revolution*. Dancing on the edge of folk and pop, there’s a revolution: *emma’s revolution*. “Bold, profound,

moving, hilarious and transformative.” The sound of passion in “deftly-turned phrases,” songs imbued with hope, warmth and the “power and drive” to turn tears into laughter, cynicism into action. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Gypsy Lane Cabaret*. Co-ed burlesque troupe with a unique blend of playful sexiness, cheeky comedy, live singing and dynamic dance routines in an unabashed celebration of inclusivity and body-positivity. \$. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Date Night*. Musical Duo. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

McCusker’s Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians, all levels welcome. 10:30 a.m.

Karaoke. 9 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Bingo Night*. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Underground Songwriters Club*. 8 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Eric Arn, Tomutonttu, Obliquity*. \$. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time*. Stories, projects, snacks for young children and their caregivers. 10:15 a.m.

Leverett Library: *Tales and Tunes Story Hour*. Ages 0 to 5 and caregivers. 10:30 a.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Creacion Latin Big Band Jam 2*. on the fourth floor. 8 p.m.

Talib Kweli. Talib Kweli with support from The Problemaddicts, LS Camp, DJ Rec, Niko Is. \$. 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Millers Falls Library: *Music and Movement*. For children and caregivers, with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson. 10 a.m.

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

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Arena Civic Theater Presents: *Annie*. Tony Award winning musical under the direction of Meagan Healey. Family classic, starring Montague’s own Ripley Dresser in title role. Repeats Friday, Saturday with matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. \$. 7 p.m.

Hubie’s Tavern, Turners Falls: *Open Mic Night*. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Nuclear Blues*. Citizens Awareness Network, The Wildcat O’Halloran Band, and special guests. Blues music; speakers and presentation on High-Level Nuclear Waste. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half Shaved Jazz*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Canalside Rail Trail, Turners Falls: *Canal Drawdown and Powertown History Stroll*. Meet at the Discovery Center entrance for a two-mile walk with local historian Ed Gregory, DCR’s Janel Nockleby, and Northfield Mountain’s Kim Noyes. 5 p.m.

Element Brewing Co, Millers Falls: *Brule’s Irish Band*. 6 p.m.

Arms Library Shelburne Falls: *Open Prose and Poetry Reading*. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Black Uhuru, Onesty, Dave Noonan’s Green Island*. \$. 8 p.m.

Hubie’s Tavern, Turners Falls: *Acoustic Country*. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Immortal Jellyfish* and *No Lens*. 9:30 p.m.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Call for Photography: The Millers River Watershed Council is pleased to announce the first-ever *Millers River & Watershed Photo Contest and Exhibition*, co-sponsored with the Athol Public Library, where the exhibition will run during the month of October, 2018 before moving to other watershed venues. Please visit millerswatershed.org for details. Submission deadline is September 24.



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September Song

By **LESLIE BROWN**

MONTAGUE CITY – While the heat persists amidst an aggressive batch of mosquitoes, summer is winding down. In the early nightfall we hear crickets and katydids; in the mornings only the Goldfinches and the Carolina Wren chat.

Except for a last few cherries, the tomatoes are done, happily by natural progression: we did not experience late blight this year. While we had too much rain in July, contributing to the tomatoes' early demise, now the ground is sere and we are watering the remaining crops of winter squash and cucumber again.

By the cat's curfew at eight, it is dead dark. We need the large torch to find her if she dawdles outside. Happily, she stays close to the reaches of the property and usually a call is enough to bring her in.

We look forward to the fall weather, which will bring warm days but cool nights, even as we regret the end of summer for its intensity and for the light, which lasts until deep into the evening. And we miss the day-long bird song orchestrating the days.

Now the Canada geese go by overhead several times a day, threatening to leave, yet veering back again. They, too, must feel the pull of the changing season, yet as the water remains open they are reluctant to leave. It is such a long time since the bays and rivers froze over routinely that some of these visitors

remain here year round.

Fall brings such a spectacular burst of color, like the late roses which bloom one more time before the leaves dry and fall. It is a supremely beautiful season which briefly masks an inevitable sense of melancholy as another year winds down. We regret its passing, as it is another reminder that we have aged another year.

Next come the bright clear sparkling days of winter which we enjoy, but we do not relish the bitter cold or the ugliness of November which is neither fall nor winter. It is a cousin of the month of March, which teeters unattractively on the slow appearance of spring.

When we wake up one recent morning, the outside temperature is a chilly fifty degrees. A north wind is blowing our ocean flag. This is a bracing change. The Weather Channel folks are in a stage of histrionic excitement about the possible east coast meeting with Hurricane Florence.

Well, even so, we will soon be on our way to what seems to have become an annual visit to the Rocky Neck section of Gloucester. When we left last year we booked again for the small apartment with a small deck over the water, having enjoyed it so much.

Last year's weather was variable, as it can be at this time of the year. We experienced a rip-snorting thunderstorm one evening and a foggy beach day on another, but it is always a happy time for us at the ocean, weather and all. The number

of tourists has dwindled, and so also the traffic, but the two elegant restaurants in our area feature fifty percent off on the evening entrees mid-week, and we are served at outside decks so we can watch the coming and going of boats, both working crafts and pleasure vehicles.

The area artists have open gallery days showing work of varying styles and subjects, although many reflect the sea and the weather.

Good Harbor beach is nearby, and provides a beautiful walking area this time of year. The city itself is very walkable and has small ethnic restaurants and shops to browse.

Best of all, the pace is easy and slow; there is no hurry and no to-do lists. All good therapy.

Since we can't control the weather, we'll try to work with it unless, of course, it is really bad and we are forced to return home unexpectedly. We'll pack for dry and cool conditions, with a pair of shorts thrown in for good measure because conditions may change and it may turn warm and humid again.

It used to be said that weather prognostication hasn't really changed since the great world wars, when three days in advance was as far as anyone could go and even then, there were no guarantees.

Equipment no doubt has become more sophisticated, but the jet stream can change and the patterns of storms become erratic, so forecasting is still often the best guess

that can be made at the time.

We'll take what comes and enjoy the break in what has been a demanding summer of hard work. We've emptied and sold one residence and worked at length to sort out the collection of belongings of two people who have each lived in one spot and saved much. It will be much easier to tend one place together instead of two, but this change has demanded some letting go from each of us.

All those years, all those things, all of those memories.

Now the reward of rest and ocean therapy to restore equilibrium and refresh spirits. Then we can take on whatever comes next – whatever the weather.

FACES & PLACES

Tattoo and mural artists Francisco, from Chile – pictured here with Montague Reporter features editor Nina Rossi – and Pino Supay, from Ecuador, were adding more designs to the mural in the alleyway next to La Mariposa on a recent sunny afternoon in downtown Turners Falls. The pair use abandoned painting materials in their unique decorations, and were headed to Brooklyn to do some more painting and tattoo work there.

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