

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

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also serving Erving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Berkshire Gas Announces Plan to Continue Moratorium “Indefinitely”

By JEFF SINGLETON

The Berkshire Gas Company has told Montague officials that its moratorium on new gas hookups will continue “indefinitely.”

The moratorium was originally put in place during the controversy over a planned natural gas pipeline through the region, which the company supported, but it remained when that project was abandoned. Local and state officials from the region argued that the moratorium was not necessary, and may have been part of a strategy to pressure the affected towns – Montague,

Greenfield, Deerfield, Sunderland, Whately, Amherst, Hadley, and Hatfield – into accepting the pipeline.

Montague town planner Walter Ramsey told the selectboard that Berkshire officials had met with him and town administrator Steve Ellis in early September.

The company told them it had explored options for increasing capacity to transport more gas to the region, including another pipeline from the south and the construction of a new liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility. Berkshire claimed that neither of these options was economically feasible.

“They’re going to be rolling it out [publicly] in the next few days,” said Ramsey. “I’m just reporting what they told us... The reality is there is going to be a moratorium, and we need to address our strategic planning accordingly.”

“I was out of the area when that meeting happened, and was not aware it was happening, so I did not have much input,” said selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz. “I have some reservations about the validity of some of their comments.”

Kuklewicz recommended another meeting with the company,

see MONTAGUE page A5

Erving Library Final Plans Shape Up; Special Permit Hearings Are Next

By MIKE JACKSON

ERVING – On Tuesday night, a half-dozen volunteer members of Erving’s library building committee met with Phil O’Brien of Johnson Roberts Associates, the architects designing the new library the town plans to build off Northfield Road, to pore over a hefty book of design plans.

Last year, town meeting approved borrowing up to \$4.93 million for the project, provided enough of it would be reimbursed by the state; over the winter, the Massachusetts Library Building Commission granted the town up to \$2.7 million.

What had for years been a dream nurtured by library supporters and then vetted by a feasibility committee now looks like a reality: ground is likely to be broken in the early spring for a 2020 grand opening. But a daunting amount of additional planning and administrative preparation is necessary before the first excavator blade cracks the soil on Care Way.



JACKSON PHOTO

The longtime Erving Public Library may soon be replaced by a larger, newer, warmer, and brighter one just down the road.

“We might be able to go out to bid by mid-November,” said committee co-chair Jacquelyn Boyden at the end of Tuesday’s meeting. “I think that’s hopeful, but maybe doable,” she hedged.

Before the town can put the project out to public bid, there are three major hoops to clear. The first is the conservation commission, which

will conduct a site visit this Monday morning. “If they make conditions on where the building can be placed, that might cause a delay,” Boyden explained.

The owner’s project manager warned the committee that surveys can be expensive, so members decided to stake out the rough

see ERVING page A6

TFHS Sports: The Week in Review

By MATT ROBINSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – This week, the Turners Falls sports teams played several conference games. And they did pretty well.

The golf team played two Bi-County East opponents, outshooting both Smith Academy and St. Mary, moving Blue into a first place tie in the BCE. The football team played their first Inter-County North opponent, the Athol Red Raiders, and outlasted them 35-26.

The field hockey team lost to Bi-County front-runner Southwick, but then went 3 – 0, beating two other BIC teams in the process, and the volleyball team continued their winning streak, beating fellow Northern Conference teams Greenfield and Mohawk before finishing off Belchertown.

Also this week: the sound of Thunder – or the absence of it?

In the last two weeks, several people have spoken to me about the new mascot for Turners Falls High School, and noticed that I haven’t used the title Thunder yet. To be honest, I didn’t even realize

see TFHS SPORTS page A4



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Taylor Murphy (center) spikes the ball for a kill as Thunder rolls past Mohawk Regional 25-11, 25-14, and 25-14 on September 11 at TFHS. Dabney Rollins (left) notched two aces, and Hailey Bogusz (right) earned six assists and an ace.

Her Next Chapter: Turners Women’s Center Coordinator to Retire



OLDHAM PHOTO

Christine Diani, Women’s Center coordinator, is retiring this month.

By CINDI OLDHAM

TURNERS FALLS – Christine Diani will retire as the coordinator of the Turners Falls Women’s Center at the end of September after being in the position for 15 years. During her tenure at the center she has worked hard to build a strong and supportive network for women in our community.

Having a support system is crucial and life-changing; most importantly, it’s where empowerment begins. When you walk in the door at the Women’s Center, Christine invites you to come and sit at her large dining room table in the center of the room, and offers you some refreshments.

There’s a lot of art on the walls that has been created by various women who have come and gone through the center over the years. There is a couch over to one side, and some overstuffed chairs and an armoire on the other side filled with free clothing. There is access to laptops connected to the Internet, as well as a lending library. Anyone who identifies as a woman is welcome to visit during open hours and/or participate in any of the programs the center offers – and everything they offer is free.

Christine came to this job as an accomplished artist, and has incorporated her love of art into the job. She has a BFA in sculpture from UMass-Amherst, and an AS in Engineering from GCC. She has also

been trained in the Amherst Writers and Artists method, and considers it one of the most significant trainings of her career. With this method she has run many writing groups over the years.

“I believe that creativity can change one’s perceptions of the world, and change a person’s emotional state and pain perception,” says Christine. “Making art with others rather than in isolation can give people the opportunity to experience different aspects of who they are.”

The women’s center has also offered workshops on clay sculpting, collage, web design and other computer skills, mosaics, doll making, and painting, to name a few. They have also offered classes on alternative healing techniques such as massage therapy, acupuncture, vibrational healing, and Reiki. “One of the many benefits of my position is that I am able to experience all of these healing modalities!” says Christine.

Another popular training program is SOAR (Skills, Opportunity, Action, Recognition). “In it, women learn to create programs and workshops of their own. Some go on to apply for cultural council grants that enable them to offer the workshops they have developed to the community. They are held in various venues such as libraries, community centers, and senior centers,” Christine says.

see DIANI page A7

SUMMER’S BRIGHT ENDING



ELLIOT LEVIN PHOTO

Reader Elliot Levin shared this photograph of sunflowers in Turners Falls.

The Montague Reporter

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Overpressurized

Last Thursday, we wrote in this space that “an awful lot of pipes need to be dug up and replaced in the next couple decades,” and argued that “[t]he 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.”

The pipes we were talking about were for drinking water, but the same is true of other infrastructure.

Just as our paper was reaching doorsteps and newsstands in Franklin County, calamity was breaking loose 70 miles east, in Lawrence and the neighboring towns of Andover and North Andover.

A week later, authorities are still piecing together what happened. A natural gas main owned by Columbia Gas somehow became overpressurized, leading to explosions and nearly 80 structure fires. One young man died when a chimney fell on his car, and it’s a miracle only another 25 were injured.

Columbia, owned by Indiana-based conglomerate NiSource Inc., has racked up over \$100,000 in state safety fines over the last eight years. That’s on top of an \$850,000 settlement with the city of Springfield for causing the 2012 explosion there that leveled a block.

The company’s initial response was, by all accounts, lacking. Governor Baker declared a state of emergency on Friday and handed the job over to Eversource.

According to Robert Sumwalt, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Columbia had hired a subcontractor to replace sections of Lawrence’s old, iron gas lines. They had taken a section of pipe offline, but left its pressure sensor attached, which told a remote computer the system’s pressure had dropped and automatically triggered the increase.

It was finally confirmed this Wednesday that the subcontractor in question is Feeney Brothers Utility Services – the same company National Grid has hired to cover for the 1,250 union gas workers who are refusing to sign a new contract that would replace their pensions with stock market investments and drastically increase their healthcare costs.

Back on August 8, the Local 12003 of the United Steelworkers slammed Feeney Brothers on their Facebook page, showing a photograph of a job site that showed poor ladder safety. “What is with these unsafe scab workers?” they wrote. “[I]f Feeney Brothers doesn’t fol-

low the simple excavation safety protocols... do you think they act any different with gas work? Something to think about.” Indeed.

According to the *Boston Globe*, union members had already filed over 100 safety complaints about the replacement, but had been unable to get an audience with the Department of Public Utilities about their concerns – until this week, when it was already too late.

On the South Shore, activists are calling for a moratorium on construction of a natural gas compressor station at Weymouth by Spectra Energy until a “transportation safety impact study” can be conducted, given the proposed station’s proximity to a major bridge.

Here in Berkshire Gas territory, it feels like we are being punished for local opposition to the Kinder Morgan pipeline by an indefinite moratorium on new hookups.

And at 7 p.m. next Tuesday, there’s a forum organized at First Churches Northampton, by Climate Action Now, Staying Warm without Additional Pipelines, and Pioneer Valley Mothers Out Front to discuss Columbia Gas’s planned expansion of their system in western Mass. (Columbia covers regions around Lawrence, Brockton and Springfield, the latter as far north as Northampton and Easthampton.)

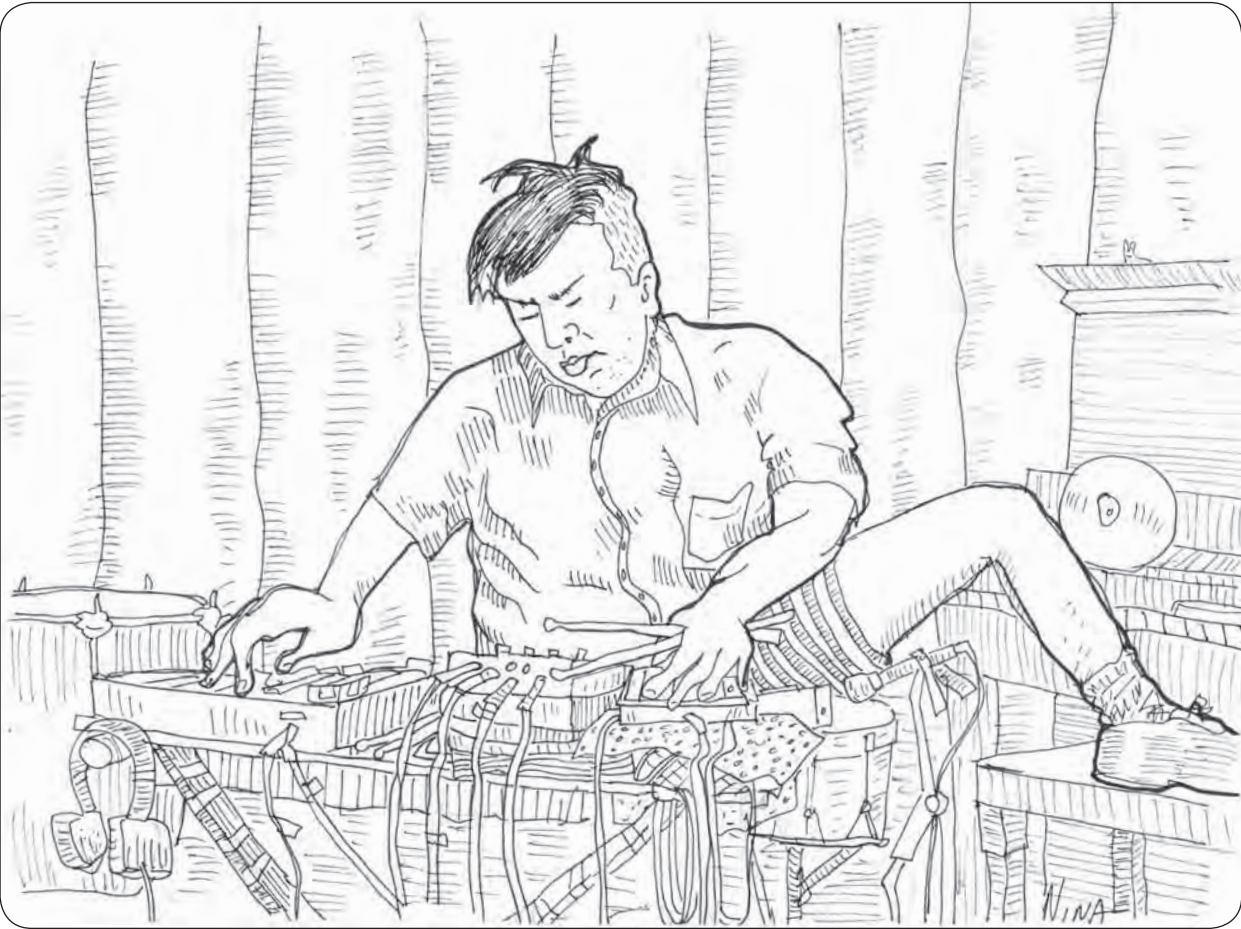
The groups had planned the forum before last week’s disaster; they oppose new pipelines, but had explicitly endorsed pipeline repair and replacement.

This week they issued a statement calling for Columbia to pay for “emergency relief, housing, and reparations for the victims” of the Lawrence disaster, and restating their position: “[W]e support the repair of existing leak-prone pipes. However, gas expansion is not in the interest of people or the planet.... The Columbia Gas Reliability Project must be limited to repair of old and dangerous pipes only.”

But it’s significant that last week’s accident may have been caused not by neglect, but during repair. Environmental justice also means our built environment should be safe, and that means workers should be properly trained, compensated, and rested.

Large utility corporations have too often been able to pit environmentalists against labor. But at the end of the day, the real fight over resources is the one between the profit motive and the public interest.

Here’s hoping we will see a coalition emerge that can stand and fight on those terms.



Brompt Treb, a.k.a. Neil Young of Turners Falls, performs during last Sunday’s Spontaneous Combustion, an improvisational music workshop series at the Brick House. Brompt Treb plays “busted electronic music and performance,” according to the artist’s Facebook page, in the genre of “fissures, pulse, noise, fart, jumpy, hanky, wiggly, dumby.”

Letters to the Editors

Logging Started Too Early?

I learned last Thursday that logging was taking place in Wendell State Forest near the south side of Montague Road.

I have been told “Logging operations are limited to dry, frozen, or otherwise stable conditions,” according to the Brook Road contract as per Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) forester Keith DiNardo’s instructions.

The recent cutting seems like a violation, but DiNardo has responded to a citizen complaint that “It is my opinion that the site conditions

were stable enough to withstand harvesting operations throughout last week,” even though photos taken during the operation show ruts and standing water.

Regardless of this specific incident, DCR never admits to any mistakes on their part regarding any activity in our state forests. The fact that they plan to cut down a stand of 110+ year old oaks in an 80-acre area along Brook Road in Wendell – a grove located between two scenic ponds, that is one of the most beautiful, unspoiled, and cherished parts

of the state forest – speaks volumes about DCR’s lack of integrity.

Putting aside just the heritage value so many area citizens place in this forest, the fact that older trees capture a lot of the excess CO₂ emissions in the atmosphere during this time of Climate Crisis is enough of a reason to protect and preserve those old oaks, if not all of our state forests.

Don Ogden
North Leverett

Make Columbia Gas Fund Renewable Energy Retrofits

North Quabbin Energy members are disturbed by the violent explosions and fires that occurred recently in eastern Massachusetts. Outdated and neglected pipelines owned by Columbia Gas caused the disaster, killing one person, injuring others, and requiring thousands to evacuate their homes.

South Lawrence experienced explosions and fires with similar impacts to neighboring sections of Andover and North Andover. These are densely populated areas with older housing and infrastructure, home to, among others, Hispanic and low-income residents.

Many people, myself included when I lived there in the 1980s and ‘90s, were encouraged to convert oil burners and electric hot water heaters to cheaper gas units.

Because of Columbia Gas Company’s lack of investment, Lawrence has now become a “sacrifice zone” in our state: a community of color forced to carry the toxic burden of industry’s addiction to fossil fuels.

If our long-range vision – and very real need – is to replace climate- and health-damaging fossil fuel infrastructure with flexible, locally-based renewable systems, shouldn’t Governor Baker, and Eversource – now project managing the situation – start here? Damaged or destroyed homes should be retrofitted with renewable infrastructure, at Columbia Gas Company’s expense.

This is also an opportunity to call Governor Baker’s attention to the folly of building out additional gas infrastructure, as proposed by Columbia Gas for western Mass.

New pipelines are not needed. We should replace dangerous infrastructure and make residents of Massachusetts less vulnerable to disasters like the one that took place in South Lawrence.

Climate change, race, and class are all connected, and we should keep that in mind as we work for the energy transition needed, wherever we live.

We can donate directly to Groundwork Lawrence (www.groundworklawrence.org) and other local organizations to support those affected. And demand that Columbia Gas provide emergency relief, housing and reparations to the victims.

Diane Nassif
Petersham
for North Quabbin Energy

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Compiled by DON CLEGG

Come to greet, meet, and be dazzled by Fyre! Megan Thompson, who magically transforms herself into Angyl Fyre, will **perform with real fire** on the front lawn of Greenfield Savings Bank this Saturday, September 22, starting at 10:30 a.m.

Feel free to chat with Angyl Fyre as she pauses in between acts, as she is perfectly willing to share her connection to these unusual skills. Free light refreshments will be provided indoors, courtesy of the bank. You won't want to miss this "sizzling performance"!

The Trivia Night fundraiser for the *Montague Reporter* has quickly approached! It's this Saturday, September 22 at St. Kaz, on Avenue A in Turners Falls. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. and there will be food, games, and a cash bar.

St. Kaz has graciously donated the hall for the evening, and many local businesses and individuals have donated prizes. There will be plenty of gag gifts.

So, come on down and help support the newspaper! You may just leave with a prize, a full stomach, and a smile, knowing you are helping an important feature in towns that the *Montague Reporter* covers.

This Saturday and Sunday, September 22 and 23, **Franklin County's only yarn shop**, Sheep & Shawl, is having a five-year anniversary celebration with local craft vendors, knitting help, crafts demos, small fiber animals, shop discounts, and refreshments.

Located at Tibetan Plaza on Routes 5 and 10 in South Deerfield, the shop now represents nearly 50 local fiber artists and fiber farmers via consignment, stocks over 20

yarn lines of regionally produced fiber yarns, and employs part-time staff experienced with knitting, weaving, and fiber animals. Owner Liz Sorenson says she has been delighted to see the shop grow with the valley's vibrant fiber community.

The year-round class schedule brings in new customers as well as regulars, and internationally known teachers present workshops. The weekend celebration is free and open to the public. For more details, visit sheepandshawl.com.

Great Falls Books Through Bars presents a free film, *Black Snake Killaz: A #NODAPL Story*, this Sunday, September 23, at 6:30 p.m., at the Brick House, 24 Third Street in Turners Falls.

Black Snake Killaz is a feature-length documentary about the resistance to the Dakota Access Pipeline. This film explores actions taken by water protectors to stop the construction of the oil pipeline and highlights actions taken by law enforcement, military, and corporate mercenaries to quell the months-long protest.

Attendees will also be writing letters to four of the water protectors currently incarcerated for the struggle to defend the land and water from the Dakota Access Pipeline at Standing Rock. Please consider donating generously to support them through a difficult time.

The film is not rated, and contains upsetting police violence. The screening is funded in part by a grant from the Montague Cultural Council.

Local author Allen Young will join the Friends of the New Salem Library on Tuesday, September 25, at 7 p.m. to discuss and read from his new autobiography *Left, Gay & Green: A Writer's Life*. The author grew up during the Sixties and early Seventies, when political activism was at an all-time high. Young chronicles his full and rich life with stories and photographs that reflect his strong social commitment and dedication to making a difference.

The book will be available for purchase at the program, with part of the proceeds benefiting the Friends and the New Salem Library. Wine, coffee, and tea will be served, along with cheese and crackers. This event is free, with no pre-registration required.

The Bernardston Kiwanis is seeking artists, craftspeople, and specialty food purveyors for its two-day **Scarecrow in the Park** event on October 20 and 21. In order to present an event that offers quality artwork and handcrafted items, the organizers are seeking artists in a wide variety of mediums.

The booth fee for the two-day weekend is reasonable, at \$45 per 10' by 10' and \$70 for a 10' by 20' space. It is expected that artists will commit to the whole weekend, which will give everyone who visits Cushman Park the chance to enjoy all of the offerings; however, a limited number of single-day applications will be accepted at the full weekend price.

This event is always a destination, and the artists and craftspeople, as well as a weekend full of live music, make it even more so. The grounds are beautiful and level, and conducive to foot traffic. There are lots of activities, a huge tractor parade, a vintage car show, delicious food and, of course, a park full of scarecrows creatively designed by anyone who's in the mood to make one. All proceeds go to the Kiwanis Scholarship Fund.

If you would like to receive an application for booth space or have other questions, please contact scarecrowinthepark@gmail.com.

You can also find all of the details on the Scarecrow in the Park Facebook page, including application information in the "Notes" section.

The **Mobile Food Bank of Western Massachusetts** will be at the Senior Center in Turners Falls (62 Fifth Street) on the third Wednesday of every month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Please be sure to bring your own bags. Call (413) 247-9738 with any questions. In partnership with FCCM and Montague Council on Aging.

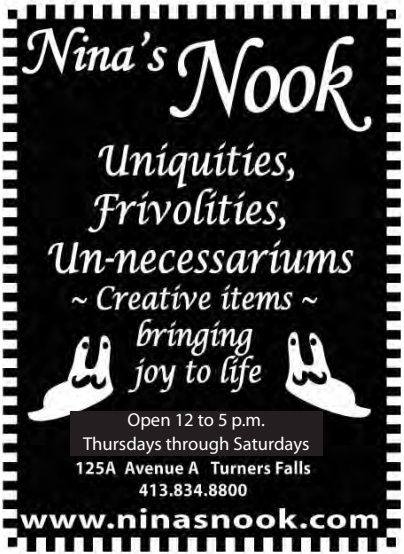
Do you have **1 to 3 hours a week to volunteer?** We're looking for support with daily operations here at the paper! Some tasks can be completed at home, and others require coming into the office. We'll also be organizing some work days this fall if you want to just come in once or twice.

If you're interested, fill out the form at montaguereporter.org/volunteer/ and we'll be in touch!

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Pioneering Forward, with Your Support

By YVES SALOMON-FERNANDEZ

GREENFIELD – Until I started researching Greenfield Community College, I had never heard of the term “silver tsunami.” It refers to high proportions of Baby Boomers and Silent Generation members in the Pioneer Valley.

I began to understand the silver tsunami once I started reading reports of the number of seniors across the Valley who take a range of courses at GCC. Spending time in the community, people often come to me and share how much they love the courses we offer and the opportunities for forging new friendships and engaging with old friends.

Perhaps my best experience involving the silver tsunami comes from the 5 a.m. YMCA unofficial swim group. Come after 5:30 and all the prime parking spots are already vanished.

I recently joined this group of retired early risers, and they help kick off my day with a healthy dose of levity and history of the region. Their energy is both palpable and inspiring. I want to be like them when I grow up!

The silver tsunami is among our best assets in the Valley. As GCC examines how to continue involving the community in our evolution,

our senior members become part of our human capital bank.

With your wisdom, professional and other experiences, passion for learning and developing the human potential, and affinity for the College, there is little that we cannot accomplish together. There is room for everyone to contribute to GCC's next phase of success.

In fact, we are counting on the community's support to help us deliver our mission for the greatest number of people. As we expand our innovative and entrepreneurial approaches to seize new opportunities and address known challenges, we are counting on a diversity of perspectives, skills, and lived experiences that can help us honor both the history of the region and prepare for the future.

Throughout the Pioneer Valley, many of our residents have experienced first-hand the transformative difference that GCC makes. Others have family members and friends for whom the College was the turning point. Some of our seniors only discovered us recently, and we have become an integral part of their lives.

The College wants to get to know all of its members better and wants to engage you even

more meaningfully in our future. Below are some of the ways that we imagine engaging our community, including our seniors.

Of course, it is no exhaustive list, and we imagine that our community will think of creative new ways to support the College. For the snow birds, we hope that technology will bridge the distance when you are away.

1. Serving as mentors for students;
2. Giving tours of the College;
3. Assisting with event planning;
4. Deepening linkages between the College and the business community;
5. Teaching some leisure, and perhaps other courses;

6. Assisting with outreach to our students, as many of the ones who need us most may not realize that we exist to serve them.

I invite you to contact us at PioneeringGCC@gcc.mass.edu. You may also want to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram.

Here's to the start of a great new year!

Yves Salomon-Fernandez is the president of Greenfield Community College. Her Twitter handle is @prezyves.



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TFHS SPORTS from page A1

that I had omitted it until it was pointed out to me. I'm pretty easy going about this and I'll try to use Thunder interchangeably with Turners, Powertown and Blue.

But more importantly, there were several great games this week. Let's talk about that!

Golf

TFMA 14 – Smith Academy 10

TFMA 15.5 – St. Mary 8.5

The Turners Falls golf team had their game against Franklin Tech postponed due to inclement weather. But they did manage to squeeze in a couple of games this week, and they won both. This is huge because last year, they had no wins, and in the previous two years, they only won 3 and 4 games respectively.

But more notably, Turners has a full roster this season, and with every match contested, they haven't had to give any forfeits this year.

Last Tuesday, September 11, the team defeated the Smith Academy Falcons at Thomas Memorial. Turners won the contest, in part because they fielded six golfers.

Brady Bodska finished in a best-of-course 43 strokes and took his match 4-0. Joey Mosca (51) also took his match 4-0, while Brian Poirier (51) and Alex Sulda (54) both lost 0-4.

Tyler Noyes (60) finished with a 2-2 tie, making the score 10-10 going into the last match. In that last match, Smith forfeited giving the game to Turners 14-10.

Sixth man Aidan Bailey shot a second-best 46, and finished with a 4-0 forfeit.

On September 13, the sextet traveled to the Tekoa Country Club in Westfield to take on another BCE team, the St. Mary Saints.

The Saints had the top two golfers, sweeping Bodska (55) and Poirier (56), giving them an 8-0 lead. But they could only get a half point in the next six matches, as Sulda (49), Bailey (52), and Noyes (56) all won 4-0 and Mosca (54) took his match 3.5-0.5.

Volleyball

TFMA 3 – Mohawk 0

TFMA 3 – Greenfield 0

TFMA 3 – Belchertown 0

They say it's bad juju to remind a pitcher that they're pitching a no-hitter. I guess it's similar in volleyball. To remind a team that they haven't lost a single match is probably likewise bad juju.

But fear not, the Turners Falls Volleyball Team dropped one match against Agawam, and are 16-1 in matches. Granted, it's early, and they haven't played against the best teams in Massachusetts yet, but this young team is playing pretty well, and currently sit atop the NC with a record of 5-0.

The Mohawk Warriors came to town on September 11 to challenge the NC-leading Thunder. But Blue wasn't very hospitable. They made quick work of the Warriors, defeating them 25-11, 14, 14. Taylor Mur-

phy and Sarah Waldron stood out against Mohawk, shooting numerous kills and aces, and Hailey Bogusz led the team in assists.

On September 13, the ladies traveled across the river and swept another NC school, the Green Wave of Greenfield, 25-8, 16, 20. Against Green, Turners really played as a team, keeping the Wave off balance.

Mercedes Morales (5) led the team in aces, but several other ladies stepped up from the line, including Bogusz, Dabney Rollins, Lindsay Whiteman, Murphy, and Kenzie Martel. Greenfield did play pretty well in the three matches, forcing several long volleys, but in the end even the Greenfield football team, fresh from practice, couldn't inspire their ladies to a victory.

Then on Monday, the Thunder traveled to Belchertown, and again swept all three matches: 25-19, 19, 22.

This week's victories gives Blue a perfect 5-0 record, but their competition stiffens next week as they take on both Chicopee and Lee.

Field Hockey

Southwick 3 – TFMA 1

TFMA 3 – Mahar 2

TFMA 5 – Athol 0

TFMA 5 – Holyoke 1

The Turners Falls field hockey team played four games this week. Two of them, Southwick and Holyoke, have vied for the BIC championship for the past few seasons. But Becky Dame's ladies were up to the task, finishing the week 3-1.

They began the week on Tuesday, September 11, hosting the BIC-leading Southwick Rams. I had to leave at halftime to catch the volleyball game's last two matches. But for most of the first half, the ball was in Blue's end.

Powertown's defense played well, and only one goal got by Haileigh Greene in the first half. Kate Boulanger scored a goal in the second, assisted by Cassidhe Wozniak, but the Rams kept up the pressure and scored two more to take the game 3-1. Southwick finished with 18 shots on goal, while Blue could only muster 9.

After dropping their first game of the year, the ladies traveled to Orange on Thursday and defeated the Mahar Senators 3-2.

The teams played to a 0-0 tie in the first half, but in the second the ball found the net. Defense-person Aly Murphy came up the field to score two goals while Wozniak scored the other. Amber Taylor gave an assist, and Greene made six saves.

Then on Saturday morning, the team traveled to Athol and rained on their homecoming.

Unlike the Southwick game, most of the action took place in the other end. In the entire game, Athol only attempted one shot on goal which was kicked away by Greene. And although Turners kept the pressure on, it took almost 10 minutes for Powertown to score their first goal,

First Leverett Alliance Meeting of Fall Focuses on Plans for Midterm Elections

LEVERETT – The Leverett Alliance will meet Monday, September 24, at Leverett Town Hall with its main focus to organize grassroots participation prior to the midterm elections in November.

Michael Dover of Swing Left and Elaine Fronhofer and Bernadette Harrigan from Valley Action will lead the 8 p.m. segment of the meeting, discussing canvassing, calling, donating and signing up to work on the final weekend before the election.

They will also lead the group in a writing campaign on the spot.

A potluck dinner begins at 6 p.m., followed by a 7 p.m. regular meeting summarizing the past year's significant activities, including the Hands Across the Hills dialogue and cultural exchange project with eastern Kentucky coal country, the Pop-up Pub, and many other activities. Plans for the year ahead will also be reviewed.

All Leverett residents and friends are welcome to attend.

courtesy of a Wozniak slap shot.

A few minutes later, Murphy found Woz in the circle and the Thunder went up 2-0. Powertown benefited from corner shots throughout the first half, and Woz scored another goal at 5:10 of the period to put Turners up 3-0.

It was more of the same in the second half as Wozniak finished with three goals and two assists. Murphy and Jade Tyler scored the other two, with Taylor adding an assist.

On Monday the team traveled to the Roberts Sports Complex to take on the Holyoke Purple Knights.

"I'm a little concerned about the speed at Holyoke," one of the field hockey dads said after the Athol win. "A few of the girls have played on turf, but it's going to be fast."

But it wasn't a problem. Playing on a faster field only seemed to help the Thunder. Turners went up 2-1 at the half and never looked back, blanking the Knights 3-0 in the second.

Wozniak had another great game, finishing with three goals and an assist. Taylor also had a hot stick, giving an assist and scoring a goal of her own. Taryn Thayer scored the other goal, and Greene made four saves in the win.

After this week's games, Turners sports a 4-1 record. But they can't rest on their laurels. This Wednesday they host Palmer, and then on Friday, they take on the undefeated Green Wave of Greenfield.

Football

TFHS 35 – Athol 26

On Friday, September 14, the Turners Falls football team defeated the Athol Red Raiders 35-26, ruining Red's homecoming celebration.

Turners won off the legs of Wyatt Keith, the arm of Kyle Dodge, and the toe of Tyler Lavin. Athol kept pace with four long runs for more than 200 yards, keeping the game close into the fourth quarter. But in the end, Powertown had too many weapons, and Athol just couldn't keep up.

On Turners' first series, they drove down to the Red 20, but a penalty and a stiff Raider defense ended the Blue Drive on the 13, and Athol took over deep in their own territory. On their first play, Red ran

to the outside, and just like that, they were up by a touchdown. An unsuccessful 2-PAT kept the score 6-0.

Halfway through the second quarter, Turners struck back. Andy Craver made a circus catch to keep the drive going, and three plays later, QB Kyle Dodge found Jaden Whiting in the end zone. Whiting landed his tiptoes just inside the line, and the game was finally tied. Tyler Lavin kicked the PAT, giving Turners a 1-point lead with 5:08 left in the half.

On Athol's next series, the Blue D forced a fourth down, and Powertown took over on the 36. Turners pounded their way down the field, eating up the clock, and with just 30.1 seconds left, Dodge completed a TD pass to Lavin. Lavin kicked the extra point, and Turners was up by 8 points, 14-6, at halftime.

Athol scored almost immediately in the second half. It took them only four plays and a 2-PAT to tie it up at 14. On Blue's next drive, a sack forced a fourth-and-18, and Athol won the ball at the midfield stripe. Three plays later, Red took the lead 20-14.

But Blue didn't give up. Dodge connected with Craver for another touchdown, and Turners took back the lead 21-20. On the ensuing kickoff, Whiting came up with a fumble. Then Dodge hit him in the end zone, and after another Lavin kick, Turners went up 28-20 going into the fourth quarter.

Athol answered off another long run with 8:09 left in the game, pulling within 2 points. The Raiders went for the tie, but the 2-PAT pass was knocked away, and Turners clung onto their slim lead.

Both teams fought valiantly in the fourth as penalties, interceptions, and high snaps kept both out of the end zone. Then with 1:08 left to play, Keith scored to put Powertown up by 8, and of course, Lavin split the uprights to give Turners a 35-26 lead. A sack and a pick by Craver ended all hope for Red.

The win evens Turners' record at 1-1, but the team is at 1-0 in the ICN. Next week, they take on their rivals, the team that swept them last year: the Greenfield Green Wave.

Next week: The competition intensifies.



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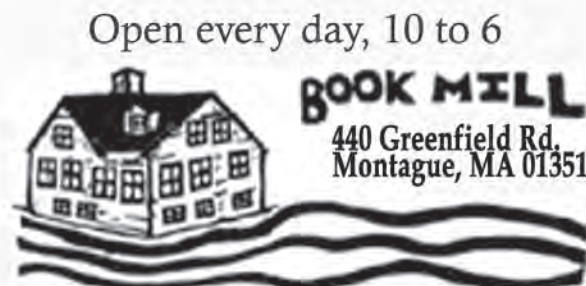
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MONTAGUE from page A1

involving people “who might have a different insight and be able to ask more pointed questions. It sounds like they came to tell us what they were going to tell us, and not look for any discussion or participation.”

Energy liaison Ariel Elan presented a brief history of the moratorium and various proposals to end it, including less costly proposals presented by “expert witnesses” before the state Department of Public Utilities. She noted that a flyer sent by Berkshire Gas to communities affected by the moratorium claimed that investments “equal to the value of the company’s existing infrastructure” would be necessary to end the moratorium.

Elan said Berkshire has been in existence for 165 years, and experienced significant growth in the 1980s. It makes no “common sense,” she said, that they must double the size of “their entire infrastructure, just to serve a few hundred more of customers in the dead of winter.”

The board did not vote to formally request another meeting with Berkshire.

Southworth: Court Order

Kuklewicz announced that the town and the Turners Falls Fire Department had obtained a court order last Friday requiring the owners of the Southworth Paper Company building to secure the structure within seven days.

According to the “preliminary injunction” from the state Superior Court, Southworth must secure the building “to prevent unauthorized entry,” repair sprinkler and fire alarm systems, and either remove all “nuclear, hazardous, flammable, and combustible” materials or obtain the “proper permits” for their removal.

The Southworth mill closed abruptly in August 2017, and the parent company has not been able to sell the building. The company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy last December, but their request was rejected by a federal bankruptcy court.

Ellis told the *Reporter* that town staff and representatives from the fire department have been meeting to develop a joint strategy to secure the building. Town officials are concerned that the former mill will deteriorate to such a degree that it can no longer be developed, while the Turners Falls Fire Department considers the property a potential fire hazard.

Kuklewicz said no one from Southworth had attended the September 14 hearing at which the injunction was issued. “It’s a difficult situation, because the parties that were involved are no longer involved,” said Kuklewicz. “But hopefully, these orders will be observed by the principals, at least.”

Eight Hundred Trees

Ramsey updated the board on the status of a grant, which has been approved by the state Department of Conservation and Recreation and the National Forest Service, for up to 800 trees to be planted by the town. Montague, along with Greenfield and North Adams, was awarded the grant through the Franklin Land Trust.

Ramsey said the town would hire the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to develop the planting plan.

“How will that work?” asked Kuklewicz. “If the trees are planted on private property, the whole shade tree thing we went through a few

years ago could happen again.”

Kuklewicz was referring to a controversy in 2015 when the electric company Eversource cut down large numbers of trees along Montague Street believed to be planted by former tree warden Lyman Klaiber.

Ramsey replied that the federal grant required “good record keeping of where these trees are going to be going,” and that the town could implement a “written protocol” with homeowners, similar to one currently being used in Greenfield.

“I just want to make sure there are no surprises waiting for a board in whatever year that might be,” said Kuklewicz.

In response to a question from selectboard member Mike Nelson, Ramsey said that replacing the trees on Avenue A in downtown Turners Falls would be considered as part of the planting plan. He also noted that the planting would be coordinated with the Franklin County Technical School, which is developing a tree nursery.

Kuklewicz said no one from Southworth had attended the September 14 hearing at which the injunction was issued. “It’s a difficult situation, because the parties that were involved are no longer involved,” he said.

Capping With Panels

Ramsey and the selectboard were joined by Everett Tatelbaum from Kearsarge Energy, the company developing solar arrays at a former town landfill, to review the progress of Phase II of the project.

Phase I involved construction of a 6-MW array near the DPW transfer station on Sandy Lane, which is in “partial operation” while Kearsarge waits for the electric company Eversource to “give the go-ahead to turn on the rest of the array,” said Tatelbaum.

Phase II involves constructing an array on top of the former burn dump behind Judd Wire Company. A plan to cap the area is currently before the state, so Ramsey and Tatelbaum focused on the plan for the array itself, which will generate 2.8 MW of electricity.

Tatelbaum stressed that the main benefit to the town from Phase II is that Kearsarge will be financing the capping of the landfill. He also noted that current plans call for some of the panels to be placed on a canopy, which would cover a storage area to be used by Judd Wire. Phase II will be constructed under a new state incentive program called SMART, which Tatelbaum estimated should be in place within a year. He said that construction of the burn dump array could start in 2019.

Ramsey requested permission to submit a revised site plan to the planning board; to submit a “post-closing” plan for the burn dump to the state; and to negotiate a lease agreement with Kearsarge. The board approved all three requests.

A Funny Thing

The selectboard responded to complaints of excessive noise dur-

ing RPM Fest, a late August music event at the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club, by requesting that the sponsors and officials from the club appear at the Monday meeting.

Brian Westbrook, an organizer of the event, described it as a “hippie music festival” which had fifty bands and attracted 600 people.

Acting police chief Chris Williams said he had received five complaints about the noise, but did not respond because “it was a permitted event.” He said he also saw some posts on Facebook which questioned “how can one business downtown not have loud music, but we can have a three-day fest?”

“We just want to make sure that you are aware that there were concerns, and that we do more,” Kuklewicz told Westbrook. “Noise is a funny thing.”

Joseph Coll, representing the gun club, said there were “plans already in place for next year to reduce the sound level.”

The board took no direct action on the complaints.

Crossed Back Out

The board abruptly voted to close Greenfield Cross Road, a short road which runs diagonally from Greenfield Road to Hatchery Road. The road is essentially redundant, but reduces the north-south trip between Montague Center and Greenfield by a few hundred yards.

Within the past two decades the board voted to close the road, reopened it when the Greenfield Road restoration was completed several years ago, and then closed it again on Monday night.

The latest closure was a response to a report of a “road rage” incident involving an out-of-town friend of a Chestnut Hill resident. The friend was harassed by a driver who felt she was going too slow down the cross road, which has a speed limit of 25 miles per hour.

“It happens all the time,” said department of public works superintendent Tom Bergeron, noting that drivers often accelerate down the cross road to get ahead of slow cars on Greenfield Road.

“Sooner or later something’s going to happen,” said acting chief Williams, who advocated that the road be closed.

The board voted to close, but not “abandon,” the road.

Permanent Horses

The board voted to approve a conservation restriction on a 16 acre farm on Sunderland, just north of the line between Somerville and Montague. The proposal was brought forward by Ramsey and Richard Hubbard, executive director of the Franklin Land Trust.

The conservation restriction will preserve the land as a farm, precluding subdivision into smaller lots for development.

Hubbard said that the state and the town of Montague are the only entities that can hold the restriction, but that the “state... is not interested, because it’s a horse farm.”

Elaine and Janice Kachavos will continue to own the land, and the land trust would enter into a memorandum of understanding with the town to annually monitor the restriction. The restriction will be financed by a Federal Scenic Byways Program grant.

Complete Sidewalks

Ramsey and the selectboard reviewed potential projects for the first phase of funding under the

town’s “complete streets plan.” The plan is under review by the state which, according to Ramsey, may be completed so the town can apply for funding by October 1: “Worst case scenario, we’ll get kicked back six months and apply.”

The first priority for funding, which generated a good deal of discussion between Ramsey and the board, is improvements to sidewalks leading from Montague Center to the Bookmill.

Ramsey also presented projects to add a new sidewalk to Hillcrest School on Keith Street in Turners Falls; to improve the crosswalk across Avenue A that leads from town hall to the Discovery Center; and to add bicycle use markings on Avenue A and Montague City Road from the Gill-Montague Bridge to the General Pierce Bridge.

The board unanimously voted to authorize him to submit the application.

Other Business

A “conflict of interest” disclosure from RiverCulture director Suzanne LoManto was discussed by the board. LoManto is now a town employee, and she is joining the board of the Shea Theater Arts Center, the nonprofit that oversees the town-owned theater. LoManto had discussed the issue with the state Ethics Commission, who advised

her to make the disclosure.

The selectboard voted to allow her to join the Shea board.

The board authorized the chair to sign documents related to an application by 253 Organic, LLC to the state Cannabis Control Commission for a license to operate. The company already has negotiated a series of agreements with the town to open a facility on Millers Falls Road near the entrance to the industrial park.

“The state just wants to make sure that all the agreements that were in place three months ago are still in place,” said Ramsey, who added that the state “is looking to issue this license within ninety days.”

The board voted to appoint Cody Reynold as a part-time maintenance worker at the airport, and John Olari and Jacob Dlugosz as reserve police officers.

At the end of the meeting, the board discussed the preliminary warrant for the special town meeting scheduled for October 10.

The warrant features a major increase in the water pollution control facility budget, an application to the state for an additional liquor license, and an appropriation for equipment for the local access station. In all, the warrant contains 13 articles at this time.

The next scheduled selectboard meeting will be on September 24 at the town hall.



LOOKING BACK:
10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was September 18, 2008: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.

Kosuda Found in Contempt of Court

Judge Edith Fine of Massachusetts Housing Court found Gary Kosuda of Fort Lauderdale, FL in contempt of court on Friday, September 12, for failing to be responsive to an order given in April of 2007 to secure or stabilize or demolish the Railroad Salvage building on Power Street in the Patch.

On May 27, 2006, part of the roof and the northwest wall of the building collapsed into Power Street, forcing the town to barricade off that entrance to the Patch. The neighborhood has been forced to rely entirely on the Eleventh Street bridge for access for the two and a half years since.

Fine ordered Kosuda to remain in the state until this Friday when he is due to appear in her Springfield courtroom again.

“He was ordered to provide 24 hour surveillance of the site, which he has done,” said Montague building inspector David Jensen. Kosuda has hired former Strathmore owner James Bent as his security guard.

Kosuda has hired a structural engineer, and is “working frantically” to prepare an environmental assessment of the site by Friday, Jensen said.

Apparently Kosuda is interested in saving some parts of the structure, according to Jensen.

Towns and School At an Impasse

Citizens of Montague and Gill gathered last night at the Turners Falls High School auditorium for

what turned out to be a lengthy – and inconclusive – debate on the regional school district budget.

The special meeting was called after a budget making stalemate between the school committee and the towns left the Gill-Montague schools without an operating budget for the current school year.

The evening saw a volley of passionate statements from school committee members, town officials, and residents of the towns of Gill and Montague. Tensions grew heated at times, despite pleas from many that working together would be the only path to resolution.

On Tuesday evening, the GMRSD school committee voted informally to lower the assessments faced by the towns of Montague and Gill to a total increase of 4%. The schools offered to spend reserves to reduce the towns’ assessment, though they stuck to a bottom line budget figure of \$16,820,004.

The last-minute offer of school reserves to reduce the town assessments did not change the stance of the town select boards and finance committees, who maintained that this would be, as Montague finance committee member Jeff Singleton said, “a recipe for disaster just around the corner,” by building one time money into the budget base for next year.

The town boards supported a lower school budget of \$16,081,257.

After four hours of debating multiple proposals, the towns and the school committee head back to the drawing board, to see if a compromise can be arrived at before the December 1 deadline, at which time the state – by statute – will have to step in and attempt to enforce a budget solution.

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construction boundaries themselves on Sunday. Library director Barbara Friedman, participating by speaker-phone, offered the use of the “stakes behind the [existing] library that are for Story Hour” for that task. Boyden, who chairs the town planning board and works as the assistant assessor, promised to bring her own 100-foot tape measure.

Sometime in early October, the project will face a double special hearing before the planning board, which must issue a special permit for the formerly residential parcel’s change of use, and water commission, as it lies within Erving’s groundwater overlay district.

While that is all happening, the committee will be choosing room themes, and beginning the complicated task of picking out furniture. But first it must hash out all of the final details that will be part of the construction bid documents.

Tuesday’s meeting included a review session with O’Brien that lasted nearly three hours. “We usually try to keep [meetings] under two, but this was an important one, because we had to go through the complete documents,” said Boyden.

A Fine-Toothed Comb

As O’Brien paged through his firm’s drawings, the group discussed what seemed like every curb, post, hinge, conduit, cabinet, lock, faucet, tile, soffit, seal, strobe, shrub, alternate shrub, and data jack in the plans, sending him back to Somerville with a lengthy list of loose ends to follow up on with his associates.

Some of those loose ends were a sink the town had requested but the firm had not included, which will require extending the plumbing; more information about the cost of automatic sinks and toilets, items on whose value the committee could



Phil O'Brien, center, of Johnson Roberts Associates presented the firm's "100%" design to library building committee members (left to right) Marcia Bernard, Jacquelyn Boyden, Sara Campbell, Debra Smith, Becky Hubbard, and Charlie Zilinski.

find no consensus; a possibly redundant hydrant; and some tweaks to the layout of parking spaces.

A number of others involved the building’s electrical and telecommunications hardware. Johnson Roberts had contracted with Garcia Galuska DeSousa Inc. (GGD) of Dartmouth for many engineering details, but GGD’s off-the-shelf suggestions were dissected by two resident experts on the committee: Rupert Roy-Clark, a commissioning engineer who oversees building automation systems at UMass-Amherst, who raised a number of concerns about the HVAC system’s specs by email, and Charlie Zilinski, a licensed electrician and telecommunications technician who had served on Erving’s now-dormant energy committee, who found a number of ways to simplify or improve the IT system.

“These guys are making like 80

bucks an hour,” O’Brien said of GGD, after Zilinski’s lengthy explanation of why “unloaded” patch panels would be preferable to the “loaded” panels the consultants had suggested.

“Well, I make 80 bucks an hour doing it the other way,” Zilinski shot back, grinning, “and it takes about half the time, and it’s more reliable, and it’s a lot neater...” Unloaded patch panels went onto O’Brien’s list.

“People have various expertise, which we’re really excited about,” said committee member Sara Campbell, running through her colleagues’ credentials: Friedman, who has worked on a previous library construction project; Marcia Bernard, a former Erving librarian and trustee who now works at Bement School in Deerfield; Becky Hubbard, a Friend of the Library who has been involved in programming. (Campbell herself is the former engineering superintendent for the town of Greenfield.)

“There’s a real benefit to this committee, both in the attitude that says ‘we want to save money,’ and the knowledge,” Campbell said. “We know there’s some areas we could each pick that we understand, that we’re able to give them a hard time about.”

Strategic Planning

All this haggling has been necessary because the previous plan presented by the architect – the “75%”

design – had come in with a price estimate about \$22,000 over the roughly \$4.2 million the town has budgeted for the building construction itself.

“We probably took out more value than we added back in tonight,” O’Brien said at the end of Tuesday’s session, summarizing the dozens of small additions and subtractions that had been requested, though a revised estimate is not available as of publication time.

A key takeaway from the meeting was a ranked list of the town’s priorities for “alternate” items it will request quotes for when the project goes out to public bid.

“It’s important to spend the money strategically,” Friedman explained. The town is fairly certain it would like a propane generator, but that item would not be eligible for partial reimbursement under the state grant. On the other hand, another wished-for item, an array of solar panels on the property, would be eligible for the state funding but will need to be put out to bid separately.

Complicating the situation, many of these moving parts affect each other either directly, such as IT components that depend on the on-site generator, or the points an onsite solar array would contribute toward the building’s LEED certification.

The generator will be listed as the first alternate, an electric vehicle charging station is second, land-

scaping including trees and shrubbery is third, and security cameras are fourth – though the plans will include conduit and boxes to rig a camera system if it is added later.

Behind the Scenes

Despite the burdensome details, the building committee seemed cheerful about the process.

“Oh, it’s going to have so much natural light!” Debra Smith exclaimed when they saw a set of interior elevations. “That’s going to be fantastic!”

They talked about narrowing chairs down to a few final options, then setting out samples so the public could try them out and vote. O’Brien advised them not to pick out a final exterior paint color until the walls are built.

The planned building includes a meeting room with 60 chairs, with a connection for public-access television, and a standing-room capacity of 96. The library’s total occupancy will be nearly 200.

“We are very fortunate,” Bernard said of the group’s progress. “We have a wonderful committee full of people with expertise on all parts of the building process, an experienced library director, and a great architect who has designed a beautiful building.”

“The building committee has been meeting for two years, and before that, the feasibility was for 5 years,” Smith said.

“Some people have changed up, said Campbell, “but several of us have been through it.”

“A lot of people don’t realize all the behind-the-scenes work that goes into any project,” added Becky Hubbard.

One decision that was tabled on Tuesday was whether to appoint a subcommittee to plan a groundbreaking celebration. Spring seems likeliest, but if the bid goes out early enough and the winning contractor and weather both oblige, it might happen earlier.

“If we have a late freeze, maybe they can get something going this fall,” said Campbell.

“There’s still too many balls in the air for us to pin down a date,” Boyden added.

“Our ducks are not in a row yet,” Debra Smith chimed in. “Right now, we’re herding cats...”

The group laughed, if a little wearily. More work, clearly, lies ahead.



NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Town Hall to Cut Back Public Hours

By KATIE NOLAN

Starting October 1, Erving town hall offices will be closed after 1 p.m. on Fridays. At the September 17 selectboard meeting, members Scott Bastarache and William Bem-bury approved administrative coordinator Bryan Smith’s proposal to limit the number of hours town hall is open to the public. Selectboard member Jacob Smith was absent.

Administrative coordinator Smith said that closing the select-board office on Friday afternoons will allow him to complete administrative work uninterrupted. Currently, town hall is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with a 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. lunch break.

Smith said that he and other town hall employees are often asked to attend to public requests during the lunch break. The select-board members suggested locking town hall doors during the break.

Engineering consultant Tighe & Bond prepared a report on erosion at the Center Cemetery that presented several erosion control options: installation of a turf reinforcement mat (TRM) or geocells (panels of cells that confine topsoil) for \$50,000; installation of

rip-rap on the slopes for \$70,000; or installation of a 6½-foot-high stone wall for \$700,000.

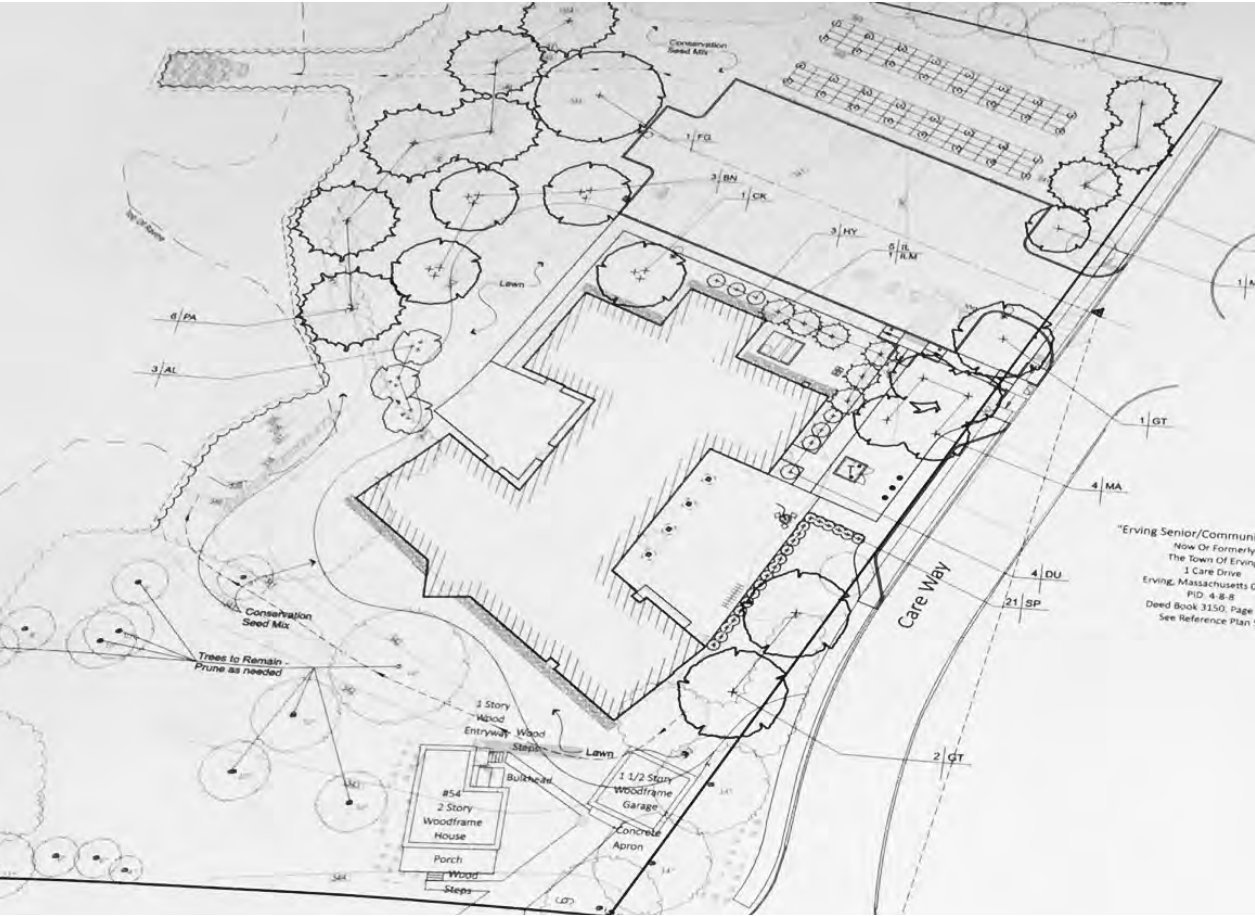
Regarding the wall, Bastarache commented, “Are we required to do this type of wall? For three-quarters of a million dollars, we could do the other one [TRM or geocells] fifteen times over.”

The board asked Smith to have Tighe & Bond develop an alternate plan, to cost less than \$200,000, potentially combining TRM or geocells and a 3½-foot-high wall.

Bryan Smith reported that he is working on an application for a state Department of Conservation and Recreation “Urban and Community Forestry Challenge” grant. Smith said that the \$40,000 grant, which requires a town match of \$20,000, would allow the town to inventory and analyze trees on town-owned property.

Smith said he would be providing the draft application to tree warden Michael Gordon for review. Bastarache and Bem-bury said that the project should be conducted townwide, and not restricted to any one section of town.

The selectboard and finance committee will meet jointly on September 24 to begin preparation of the FY’20 budget.



A detail from the most recent landscaping plan. Some components of the landscaping will be put out to bid as alternate items.

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“When I retire, I think I need a stretch of time to be alone without having to “‘do’ and just ‘be.’ I imagine a period of silence,” she muses. “It would be perfect to just ‘be’ in other places as well. I love to travel, and am pretty frugal, so I’ve put aside a bit of money to do that for a time.”

She’s leaving behind some big shoes to fill.

Andrea Sears will be taking on Christine’s job at the beginning of October. Andrea has been with Montague Catholic Social Ministries, which operates the women’s center and several other programs for families in town, for several years as a family support worker, and is already very familiar with the Women’s Center. She is a quilter, enjoys crafting, and is an avid gardener.

“To prepare her, I taught her how to make the coffee the way we’ve come to like it,” laughs Christine.

Next week will be Christine’s last days as the coordinator. If you’d like to stop by to wish her well, she’ll be at the center, located at 41 Third Street next to the Five Eyed Fox restaurant, during open hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m to 1 p.m.

There will also be a potluck in her honor there on Friday, September 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The venue is fragrance-free, so please refrain from wearing any scented products if you plan to visit. For more information, please call (413) 863-4804 ext 1003.



NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Painting Solid Gold Letters on The New Duck-Billed Platypus

By **GEORGE BRACE**

The Gill selectboard had a light agenda for their September 17 meeting. At the outset of the meeting, it seemed like it might be even shorter than anticipated, when two people scheduled to speak to the board were not yet present.

However, both fire chief Gene Beaubien and resident James McComb Jr. eventually arrived at the meeting, and the board was able to address the full agenda. Beaubien answered questions on equipment requests for the town’s new rescue vehicle, and McComb appeared in regards to his desire to gift the town a piece of land.

Chief Beaubien’s appearance had been delayed due to his needing to respond to a traffic accident immediately prior to the meeting. Before he arrived the board had begun to look over purchase order requests for lettering and equipment for the town’s new rescue truck, but had questions about several items they were unable to answer.

The chief arrived in the nick of time, and began answering questions within seconds of stepping through the door. Fireman Mitchell Waldron accompanied him, and also answered questions and commented on the new vehicle.

The department took possession of the 2009 Ford rescue truck last week, and is in the process of testing and outfitting it for duty. Purchase order requests were made for lettering (\$1,180) and a group of accessories, including lighting and radio equipment (\$1,167).

Questions arose as to whether the “23K Gold” paint in the lettering request contained real gold, and why that particular color was chosen. No one knew the answer about the gold, but the consensus opinion was that if there was real gold in it, there wasn’t much of it, and the cost for the lettering was “pretty decent” either way.

As for the color choice, board member John Ward asked if it was made in part to match the color scheme on other trucks in the fleet, so it wouldn’t “look funny.”

“We don’t want a funny-looking duck-billed Platypus?” board member Randy Crochier interjected, referencing the truck’s unusually large front bumper.

The chief commented that the choice was made in part to match the other vehicles, but both he and Ward noted that it was also made so as to match existing lettering on the truck, some of which is going to be left in place, resulting in a savings.

The subject of the bumper came up again during general questioning, with fireman Mitchell Waldron reporting that the truck had won “the world’s largest bumper” award at the Franklin County Fair parade recently.

Ward asked if the department had been testing the vehicle’s ability to go up steep driveways with the bumper. Waldron replied that they had tested it on “plenty” of steep driveways, and it had cleared “every single one.”

Crochier asked when the truck would be put into service, and the chief replied it would be ready for duty as soon as the lettering and electrical work is completed.

Gift of Land

James McComb Jr. appeared before the board in order to speak on his desire to gift the town a 3.23-acre parcel of landlocked land off Mountain Road. The parcel abuts a 16-acre landlocked parcel already owned by the town, which is often called “the D.O. Paul lot.”

Mr. McComb purchased the land in 1995, and said he enjoyed its use for many years, but was ready to part with it and decided to gift it to the town. According to the assessors’ records, the parcel is valued at \$5,500, which equates to roughly \$95 per year of property taxes.

The board voted unanimously to include an article to accept the land at the next special town meeting.

Other Business

Crochier provided an update on Gill 225th anniversary activities, beginning with the next event, the “Harvest Picnic on the Town Common,” this Sunday, September 23, from noon until 3 p.m. He said hayrides will be available, and the fire department will be on hand with the new rescue truck. The department will also be cooking and selling burgers, hot dogs and fries.

Crochier pointed out that the second 225th anniversary contradance, which will be held at Gill Elementary on October 12 from 6 to 8 p.m., will coincide with the school’s annual bonfire, held on the playground from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. the same day.


He also mentioned the “Community Read Discussion” event being held at the town hall at 2 p.m. on October 27. Books being discussed will be *The Red Garden* by Alice Hoffman for adult fiction, and *Someday* by Jackie French Koller for young adult fiction. More information on all the 225th anniversary events is available at the town hall, and on the town’s website.

Crochier ended his summary by saying community-building events don’t need to end with the end of the anniversary year, and encouraged people with ideas for events in 2019 and beyond to contact himself, or the other members of the anniversary committee.

Town administrative assistant Ray Purington reported that the delivery of equipment for the Gill Elementary well water treatment project was on track for later in the week, and that he was scheduled to speak with the well engineer before its arrival to talk over the installation.

Purington also read the following announcements at the end of the meeting:

- Hazardous waste collection day will be this Saturday, September 22 at Greenfield Community College.
- The Source to Sea River Cleanup will take place on Saturday, September 29. As part of this event, a group will be cleaning up a couple of sites in the town forest. More information is available at the town hall.
- The Gill Cultural Council will continue to accept grant applications for cultural projects until October 15.
- The fall “Clean Sweep” bulky waste collection day will be held on October 20, from 9 a.m. until noon at the Northfield highway department garage.



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—Annmarie Newton,
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Monday: Two Forest Films

GREENFIELD – This Monday, September 25, at the Greenfield Garden Cinema, two documentaries about forests will be screened, with panels to follow. This is one among several local events affiliated with the “Stand4Forests” National Week of Action.

At 4:30 p.m., Ray Asselin’s film *The Lost Forests of New England* will be shown for the first time on the “big screen.” It contains stunning footage of our region’s rarely seen ancient trees, and tells the story of central New England’s old-growth forests: what they once were, what changes have taken place since European settlers arrived, and what our remnant old-growth stands look like today. Two years in the making, Ray’s remarkable film highlights the ecological importance and beauty of these natural, unmanaged forests, which are so rare in our landscape today.

Panelists are Ray Asselin, Bob Leverett, and Tom Wessels. David Foster (Harvard Forest) has donated a number of copies of his book *Hemlock: A Forest Giant on the Edge* to be given away at this screening.

And at 7 p.m., watch *BURNED: Are Trees the New Coal?* Lisa Merton and Alan Dater’s important film tells the little-known story of the accelerating destruction of our forests for fuel, and probes the policy loopholes, huge subsidies, and blatant greenwashing of the burgeoning biomass power industry.


The documentary follows a dedicated group of forest activists, ecologists, carbon scientists, and concerned citizens who are fighting to establish the enormous value of our forests, protect their communities, debunk this false solution to climate change, and alter energy policy both in the US and abroad.

Michael Kellett and Janet Sinclair will join with the first film’s panelists in discussion.

Tickets are \$6.50 per film for adults, or \$10 for both. Kids and seniors are \$5.50.

Read the Stand4Forests statement at www.stand4forests.org. For more information about local events, contact massforestrescue@gmail.com.

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MONTAGUE REPORTER

ON THE ROAD



Left: Cary Hardwick of Turners Falls, at the Nijo Castle in Kyoto, Japan. Above: Isabel Koyama of Turners Falls, in the rice paddies of Malangbong, Indonesia. Right: Amos Koyama in the marketplace in Ruteng, Indonesia.

Right: Montague Reporter freelance photojournalist Joey Parzych, of Greenfield and Gill, at the historic Elms Mansion in Newport, RI.



Our readers roamed the globe this summer!

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



Above: Mark Koyama of Turners Falls in Bali. At right: Silas Koyama in Flores, Indonesia.



Faith Kindness at Tanglewood.



Left: Nathan Aldrich of Montague Center atop California's Mount Whitney, the tallest summit in the contiguous 48 states, during his hike of the John Muir Trail.

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GREAT FALLS APPLE COLUMN

By RACHEL LABRIE

TURNERS FALLS – Welcome to the second edition of the Great Falls Apple Column, a monthly column on edible plants that grow in town that you can forage, written by your friends at the Great Falls Apple Corps. GFAC is a group of community members whose mission is to add more edible plantings downtown and increase accessible food and educational opportunities to the residents of Turners Falls. We are plant lovers looking to build community and share knowledge.

Wild Edible Spotlight #2: Staghorn sumac (*rhys typhina*)

Everyone in Massachusetts has seen the beautiful fuzzy red cones of the staghorn sumac, a native to eastern North America. The deciduous shrub is more like a small tree, growing up to 30 feet tall. The plant likes to form thickets, or colonies, by spreading from rhizome and seed. It prefers dry, rocky soils and can grow rather aggressively.

The velvety texture of the upper branches resembles the young antlers on male deer, hence giving it the common name “Stag’s horn sumac” or “velvet sumac.” Many people in fear of getting a rash believe



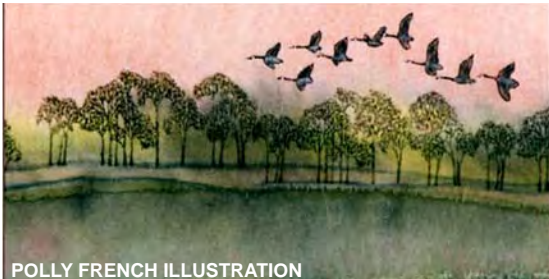
Staghorn sumac, high in vitamin C – and free.

this plant to be poison sumac, but actually poison sumac (*toxicodendron vernix*) grows in swampy areas and has teardrop-shaped, rounded leaves, while our friend staghorn sumac has long, pointed, serrated leaves. So have no fear! Although they share the same common name, they do not look alike or grow near each other.

The staghorn sumac flowers from May to July and the fruit ripens from June to September. Take a closer look: the red cone you can

see when driving down the road is actually a cluster of little red fuzzy berries. The leaves of the plant turn beautiful shades of red, orange, and yellow in the fall and the fruit can last all through the winter, bringing a pop of red color to a drab white landscape in January. This allows it to be emergency food for many wildlife species and a staple food in many birds’ diets, but how about in *your* diet?

The tart berries of the staghorn see **APPLE CORPS** page B3



WEST ALONG THE RIVER: CATERPILLAR DIARIES, BUTTERFLY JOURNALS

By DAVID BRULE

ERVINGSIDE – There’s a hollow sound in the hills and in our woods this morning. Reluctant birds seem to stay out of sight; their occasional lisps from the bush are nothing like song anymore.

It’s way too early to evoke a melancholy mood worthy of November, but foggy mornings in September do remind us that this is the beginning of the true waning of the year. Some of the flowers of summer still attempt to hold back the passing high season, but most, so often pummeled by tropical rainstorms, have been denied their summer glories. Oftentimes their bright blossoms have rusted away under the relentless damp dousing.

Yet in spite of the mostly gloomy month of August, nature threw us a twist: the yard surrounding the porch and house went to milkweed, and became monarch butterfly heaven. Somehow the word went forth out into the realm of the monarchs. They showed up in constant yet discrete numbers, attracted by the buddleia bush and the milkweed, then incon-

spicuously laid eggs all over the milkweed patch.

What was a first gesture to save a caterpillar from a terrible fate – being preyed upon by wasp or spider larva that would devour it from the inside out – became a month-long mission of mercy to save the monarchs. And it isn’t over yet.

Our living room has become a caterpillar nursery. We placed the first of the vulnerable creatures in a terrarium rescued from obscurity out in the back garden shed on August 23. We brought in cut milkweed to keep it fed, and by August 26 it began forming its chrysalis.

By August 28, the population grew when we retrieved another four caterpillars, and two others apparently stowed away on the milkweed stalks we brought in. So we were quickly up to having seven under our responsibility!

On September 6, we wound up somehow with a total of eight chrysalides. On that date, the first butterfly emerged, which brought as much joy as would a first-born



A monarch caterpillar metamorphoses at the Brule homestead.



puppy or kitten!

By September 7, another three monarchs had emerged. Each was lifted carefully from the terrarium and placed on the buddleia butterfly bush in the front yard. One or two stayed awhile drying in the feeble sunlight and stretching their wings, lingering long enough to be photographed, then liting away up over the roofline. One was particularly energetic, not settling for long on the flowers, but vigorously flapping orange and black wings, and powering up into the sky. That one will make it to Mexico for sure!

Trying to keep track of our butterfly charges got complicated, with caterpillars appearing out of nowhere, and so now we have almost a dozen chrysalides hanging from the screen top of the terrarium like so many emerald Christmas ornaments. Looking like an old-fashioned spinning toy top, they dangle their bright green ornamental shape, lightly decorated with gold points around the rim. And there’s a miracle of transformation going on within.

Keeping track of the span of time between hanging caterpillar to the transformation to chrysalis to see **WEST** page B6

BOOK REVIEW

A Twenty-Two-Pound Problem Solver

By JOE KWIECINSKI

LEVERETT – Meet T.T. Mann. He stands 6 feet tall and weighs 22 pounds.

T.T. is the main character of Gerald McFarland’s recently published novel *T.T. Mann, Ace Detective*. As you’ve probably guessed, this work is a fantasy. In addition, it’s a frothy literary confection that combines a lighthearted, cheerful celebration of the private eye genre with a painstakingly accurate recreation of California in the 1950s.

McFarland, who taught US history at UMass-Amherst for 44 years, will hold two readings and signings on behalf of his trim sleuth: Saturday, September 29 at Jones Library in Amherst and Sunday, September 30 at the Leverett Public Library. Both events will begin at 3 p.m.

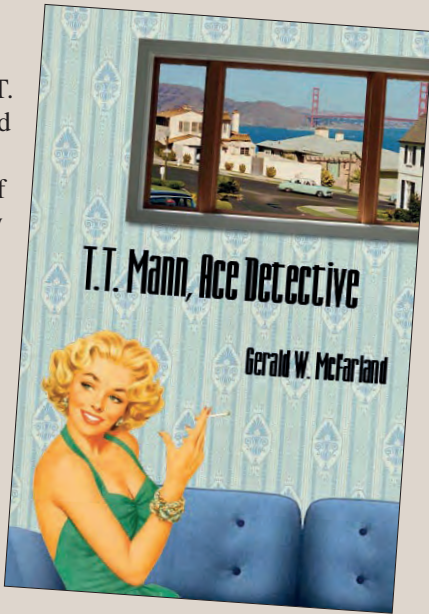
One of the interesting aspects of the new novel is its parade of distinct characters. Leading the way is Thin. That’s the other name that T.T. goes by. Thin is not your ordinary hero; he’s kind of slight, and he’s kind of shy around women. But Thin, who resembles a telephone cable, can slide under doors and wrap himself around picture frames. In addition, he’s skilled in the martial arts. Those are big pluses when he’s dealing with some genuinely dangerous folks in his home base of San Francisco.

His brother, Flat Mann, has a frame that’s like electrical tape. Yes, Flat is 6 feet tall and hits the scale at 22 pounds, the same as his bro, and he’s a private detective, too, with his own agency.

Just to mention a sample of other characters in *Ace Detective*: Rosie, Thin’s sweet, forgiving girlfriend; Biggie Fingers, the lord of local crime who lives on the most crooked street in the world (Lombard Street with its steep hills and wild, hairpin turns); Mme. Nowicki and Dr. Vladimir Vygotsky, a couple of folks who claim to have unearthly powers; the beautiful but aloof heiress Monica Van Dusen, who hires T.T. to snoop around and dig up dirt on her estranged husband; Brother Timothy, a charismatic fellow who is catnip to the ladies; Master Chen, the wise man whose specialty is the martial arts; Rosie’s domineering, downright nasty mother; and James Wilder, who owns a prominent San Francisco art gallery but may have a darker side.

McFarland’s book is divided into three stories, which interlock. The sequential cases are entitled “Blondes Are Trouble,” “The Angry Heiress,” and “Mother’s Way.”

Where in the world did Professor McFarland obtain his ideas for this droll saga? Back in the 1940s, Gerry and his brother, Dick, were treated by their father to bed-



time stories that left them wide-eyed and fascinated. One of their favorite characters was a 6-foot tall, 22-pound private eye. In *Ace Detective*, the central gumshoe with those statistics is T.T. Mann.

Born in Oakland, McFarland used settings for his novel that he recalled from his youth. For example, T.T.’s favorite restaurant in the book was actually much enamored of in real life by the boys’ father. “The restaurant had multiple rooms,” says McFarland, “and was heavily decorated with fishnets and mounted fish. The place was also full of images of waterfronts and seacoasts. My brother and I just loved this place, too.”

Prof. McFarland worked very hard to render his portrayal of San Francisco. “I made a special effort to be historically accurate,” says the Leverett resident. “San Francisco today is a totally different place from the days when I was growing up in Oakland, Richmond, and San Leandro.”

After more than four decades at UMass, McFarland found his transition from teacher to author very natural. “I always loved to write,” he says. “The big difference in writing fiction is that I moved to writing about somewhat more ordinary people and not presidents, senators, cabinet members, etc. as when I taught.”

How does writing a novel differ from composing non-fiction? “When you’re working on a novel,” says Gerry, “you can concentrate on the writing *per se*, but not so with a fully non-fictional historical piece. Of course, on the other hand, you have to strive to make the characters as believable and credible as possible when putting together a novel.”

Since he retired in 2008, the amiable McFarland has written four works in his field, and four books of fiction. The second work of non-fiction, *A Scattered People: An American Family Moves West* (Pantheon, 1985), centers on four generations whose story starts on the East Coast and ends on the West Coast. In 1985, the National Society of Colonial Dames designated *A Scattered People* as one of the three finest books in the field of US history that year.

T.T. Mann, Ace Detective is published by Levellers Press in Amherst and Florence. An independent publishing house since its establishment in 2009, Levellers was founded by worker-owners of Collective Copies.

For more information, see the author’s website: www.geraldwmcfarland.com.



Leverett novelist Gerald McFarland.

Pet of the Week

Asher may be a newcomer to the Dakin Humane Society, but she is no newcomer to the high-octane world of 300cc racing.

After taking the feline short track semis in Leverett back in January, she has proven herself time and time again both in short track and endurance races.

She is looking for a home to train up for next year’s cup and is a calming and loyal companion to any race-friendly homes. She doesn’t even require someone who can change a tire in under 7 seconds, but that would be a plus.

Think you might have what it takes? Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at info@dpvhs.org.



GALEN HUCKINS COLLAGE

“ASHER”

Senior Center Activities SEPTEMBER 24 THROUGH 28

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 9/24
12 p.m. TRIAD Lunch

Tuesday 9/25
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Wednesday 9/26
9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach
12:30 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 9/27
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Cards & Games
4 p.m. Mat Yoga

Friday 9/28
1 p.m. Writing Group

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.

LEVERETT

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

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

Friday 12 p.m.: Senior Lunch. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

ERVING

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

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

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

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

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

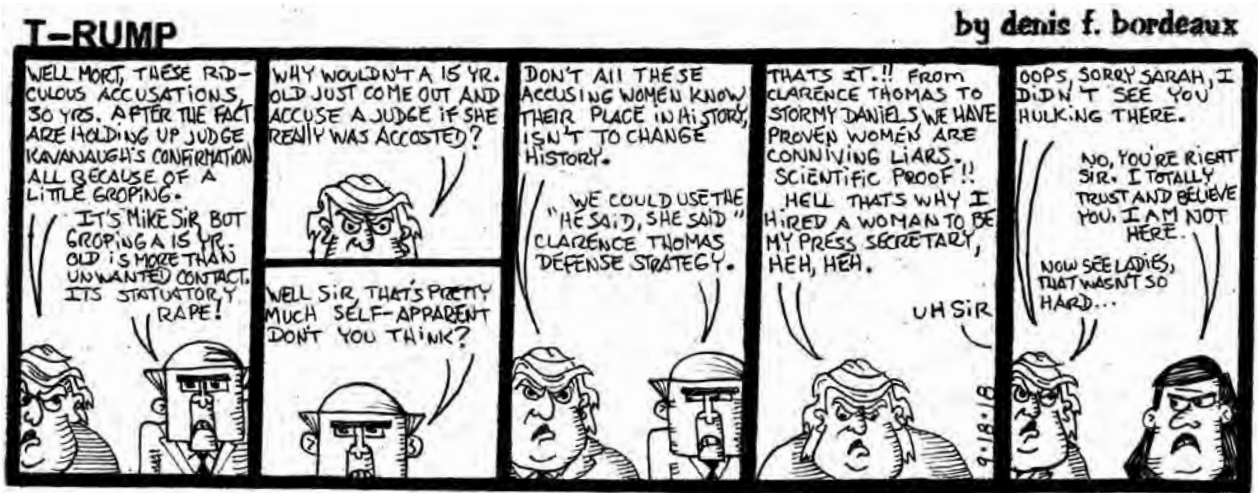
Monday 9/24
9:30 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance

Tuesday 9/25
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
11:30 a.m. Homemade Lunch
1 p.m. Art Class

Wednesday 9/26
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 9/27
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch

Friday 9/28
9 a.m. Quilting
9:30 a.m. Fun Bowling





YONDERNOD ILLUSTRATION

An ART NOUVEAU Coloring Page

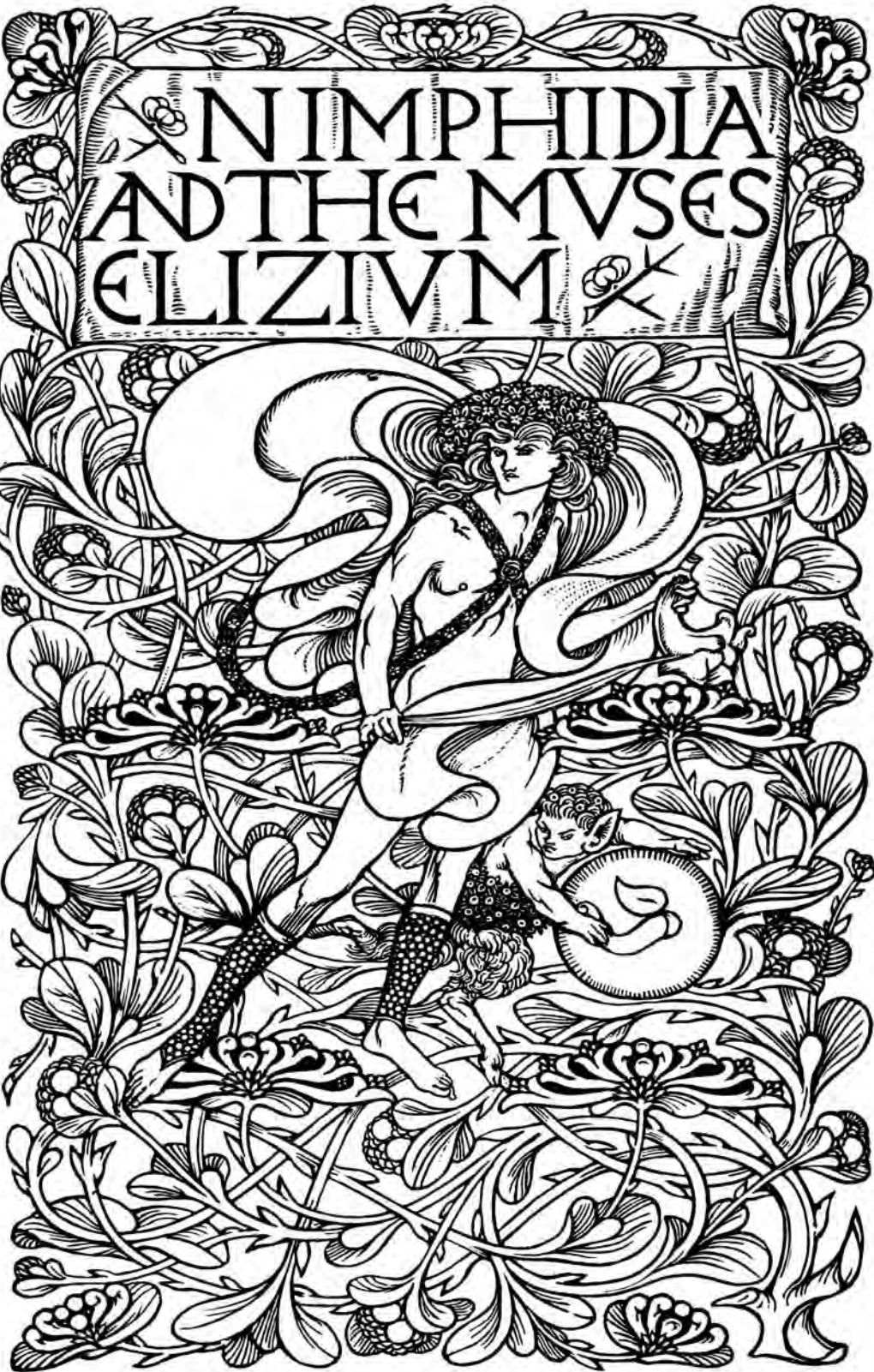
Edited by BEVERLY KETCH
with HANNAH BROOKMAN

ART NOUVEAU is a style of art and architecture that is inspired by the graceful, curving lines of plants!

Many grand theatres, ballrooms, murals, and fabrics were created in this style from 1890 to 1910. After that, a different style called ART DECO became more popular.

As you color these pictures, you can share in the magic of ART NOUVEAU!

(If you have colored pencils, they might work best.)



Charles Ricketts, “Nimphidia and the Muses Elizium” (1896)



William Heath Robinson, from “The Water Babies” (1915)

An anonymous Danish artist drew this wild forest in the “skønvirke” (Danish Arts and Crafts) style in 1898. It’s very similar to Art Nouveau, isn’t it?



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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.

Geissler Gallery, Stoneleigh Burnham School, Bernardston: *What is Just?* Paintings by Alice Thomas. Through November 9. Artist talk October 4 at 7 p.m., reception October 5 at 5:30 p.m.

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. Through October.

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

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Ixchelailee 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 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 showing close-up views of nature printed on canvas by Candace Silver. Through September.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
Tilton Library, South 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.



Thursday, September 27 at Hawks & Reed in Greenfield: See local bands pay tribute to The Kinks and raise money for an excellent cause! Here's the phenomenal lineup of musicians: The frost heaves and hales, Stuttering Pigs, Steve Kozjol, The Drinks, Chris Scanlon & The Other Guys, The Goldeez, and Reverend Dan and the Dirty Catechism. The beneficiary will be Stone Soup Café, an inclusive pay-what-you-can gourmet hot luncheon, served by volunteers every Saturday afternoon at the All Souls Church in downtown Greenfield.

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

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Sarah Louise / Anthony Pasquarosa / Jen Gelineau*. \$. 9 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.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls:

Arena Civic Theater Presents: Annie. Musical. See Thursday's listing for details. \$. 7 p.m.

Arms Library Shelburne Falls: *Open Prose and Poetry Reading*. Arrive early to sign up for 5 or 10 minute slots. 7 p.m.

Amherst Cinema, Amherst: Screening of music documentary *Milford Graves: Full Mantis*, with Q&A with director Jake Meginsky and co-director Neil Young. Film to continue all week. \$. 7 p.m.

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

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

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Book Making Workshop with Sheila Damkoehler*, part of the PaperJam series of events. 10:30 a.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Arena Civic Theater Presents: Annie*. Musical. See Thursday's listing for details. \$. 2 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *River Rhapsody*. Adult contemporary songwriter. \$. 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Arena Civic Theater Presents: Annie*. Musical. See Thursday's Listing for details. 7 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Phantom Erratic #15*. With Lily & Horn Horse,

Scy1e a/k/a Horaflora, Nurse Betty, Glochids, and Elias. Celebrate Raub Roy's homecoming. \$. 8 p.m.

Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse, Old Town Hall, Wendell: *Mamma's Marmalade*. Lively bluegrass. Donation. \$. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Ragged, Blue & Lonesome, Downtown*. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
McCusker's Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians, all levels welcome. 10:30 a.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Paper Trail Talk and Walk*. Explore the history of

four paper mills in Turners Falls with DCR staff and local historians. Hour talk, discussion, followed by walk along the canal, weather permitting. 1 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Arena Civic Theater Presents: Annie*. Musical. See Thursday's listing for details. 2 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *JEFF The Brotherhood, Phenomena 256, and Jesus Vio*. \$. 9 p.m.

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scotty K's Open Mic*. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
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.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
Millers Falls Library: *Music and Movement*. For children and caregivers, with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson. 10 a.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Fafnir Adamites Artist Talk*. Part of the PaperJam event series. Turners Falls artist "using paper making and other craft processes to create sculptural works that act as monuments and reminders of trauma and intuition." Adamites will talk about her recent works and the meaning of the materials. 7 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Michael Hurley*. A singer/songwriter in the subversive Greenwich Village folk scene of the late '60s and '70s. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Covers for a Cause: Kinks*. See photo and caption this page. \$. 7:30 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Frank Rozelle and Friends*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Michael Hurley*. A singer/songwriter in the subversive Greenwich Village folk scene of the late '60s and '70s. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Delectable Durang*. An evening of Christopher Durang's best short comic plays directed by John Reese. A Silverthorne Theater production. \$. 7:30 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Bluegrass and Beyond Session* 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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WEST from page B1

butterfly, the average time has been from between 13 to 15 days. It seems to depend on temperature and sunlight also.

So far we have shepherded six monarchs through those phases, with another ten close to coming forth from their casings. One or two haven't made it. Clearly a predator got to them before we could bring them in to the nursery. The chrysalis turned dark then black inside, signaling the death of a would-be butterfly. Now the chrysalis is their tomb.

As of this writing we have ten viable capsules from which should emerge these magnificent monarchs.

Once the last individuals emerge as adults, typically by late September, they will rise up into the skies, some say as high as 10,000 feet. They will get their bearings and set out for the high sierra in central Mexico, thousands of miles away.

These privileged ones, the fourth generation of the year, the only generation to live to summer's end, will spend the winter in sunlight and warmth. Then those survivors will begin their journey northward.

Here in September, however, their journey will begin in our living room. They will start out during this sultry September season and end in the faraway mountains.

That is where another transformation will take place: their name will be changed to *mariposa*, and they will become the true Treasure of the Sierra Madre!



One monarch butterfly crawls out of its chrysalis and begins to stretch out its wings.

MONIQUE BRULE PHOTOS

FAB Passion Seeks Participants

TURNERS FALLS – FAB Fashion, an ethnic fashion boutique on Second Street in Turners Falls, is launching an event called FAB Fashion Passion scheduled for Saturday, October 13.

This initiative, according to FAB founder and designer Richie Richardson, is the first event in Turners Falls to be dedicated exclusively to the culture of high fashion. “We created a new fashion experience in New England for designers and creatives to exhibit and promote their brand and present their collections in a distinctive fashion presentation,” said Richardson. “Our intention is to bring people together, emerging and established fashion creators and style mavens alike for all to enjoy a diverse and fascinating range of fashion and eclectic style.”

Richardson says he hopes the event will become “a fabulous annual fashion event in downtown Turners Falls, open to the industry, the media and the public.”

FAB Fashion Passion hopes to bring international fashion designers and fashion boutiques to new audiences of the Pioneer Valley. The event will feature original wear by Miranda Askie from Antigua, Sonia Noel from Guyana, Dominique La Roche and The Cloth from Trinidad and Tobago, Richie Richardson from New York and Turners Falls, and many more designers.

Richardson and a team of fashion experts will select several designers and boutiques who will own the catwalk in the magnificent setting of the former Ste. Anne’s church for a fashion show with great music and lighting.

“Models will showcase the unique creative styles of select designers and boutiques on a spacious catwalk under the creative direction and choreography of the renowned fashion impresario Richard Young, in what promises to be a spectacular experience for the public,” said Richardson. Spoken word artist Bob McNeil will be



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The event will feature a number of international designers. (Pictured here, clockwise from top left: work from Miranda Askie, The Cloth, Richie Richardson, The Cloth, Sonia Noel, and Dominique LaRoche.)

the event’s host.

The church is located at Sixth and J streets. FAB Passion will run from 6 to 8 p.m. Fashion designers and boutiques are invited to participate in the show for a fee of \$500.

Admission for the general public to the event will be \$20. For additional information, contact Richardson at richie@richierichardsonfab.com or (413) 863-5587, from 12 to 6 p.m., or (347) 495-3935. See fabfashionpassion.com for more information.

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