



**TFHS Students Debate**  
High School Highlights  
Page 8



**THE POETRY PAGES**  
Spring is Here!  
Pages 10 & 11

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 6 - NO. 29

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

APRIL 24, 2008

## Accusations Fly at Turners Falls Airport

**DAVID DETMOLD**  
TURNERS FALLS -

The Narragansett Indian Tribe has filed formal complaints with Governor Deval Patrick's office and the Massachusetts Attorney General's office over racial slurs made by Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission (MAC) Executive Director Robert Welch and Turners Falls Municipal Airport (TFMA) Commissioner Mark Fairbrother at an April 4th meeting at the airport.

The complaint came in response to a comment by Welch referring to "tree-hugging Indians" and a comment by Fairbrother referring to "rock-hugging Indians" holding up progress on a \$5 million federal and state grant funded runway construction project at the Turners Falls airport.

Narragansett Tribal Historic Preservation Officer John Brown said he had talked to TFMA manager Mike Sweeney on Friday, April 11th, about the racial slurs made at the April 4th meeting at the airport office in Turners Falls. Brown said Sweeney had confirmed to him that "clearly Robert Welch had made the comment about 'tree-hugging Indians'."

"When I deal with people like this, I put the call on speaker phone," said Brown, "and I had someone listening in." Brown said the person who listened in on their April 11th conversation overheard Sweeney confirm that Welch had used the term "tree-hugging Indians" at the meeting

with TFMA commissioners. Brown said that person spoke to Susan Quinones, Director of Interagency Affairs for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation (EOT), on Tuesday.

That person was later identified as Linda Mason, Brown's office manager, by Quinones.

Quinones is conducting an investigation into the matter of Director Welch's April 4th remarks about Indians for the EOT. She said she did not find Mason to be credible in her recollection of Brown's April 11th "conference call" with Sweeney.

According to Quinones, and to a report in *the Boston Globe* on Wednesday, Welch insists he used only the term "tree-huggers" in his comments about delays in progress at the Turners Falls runway project on April 4th, not "tree-hugging Indians."

Quinones said she will be coming out to Turners Falls on Friday, April 25th, to interview the local people present at the airport office on April 4th, individually.

According to Narragansett Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Doug Harris, the tribe asked Governor Deval Patrick to do "whatever is in your powers to halt further insult being added to historic injuries at Turners Falls."

In their letter about the incident to Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley, the Narragansetts

see **AIRPORT** pg 6

## Anctil Buys Ste. Anne's



DETMOLD PHOTO

**BY CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO**  
TURNERS FALLS - John Anctil, the Lowell entrepreneur who for the past 18 months, through fire, flood, and sudden reversals of fortune has continued to express interest in purchasing the

Strathmore Mill complex in Turners Falls, on Friday, April 18th, made his first big move in the Turners real estate market by purchasing Ste. Anne's church and rectory on Sixth Street. According to the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, where

the rectory deed was filed on Wednesday afternoon, Anctil bought the property for \$325,000. The seller was the Bishop of Springfield.

The rectory is a 5,780-square-foot residence with a spacious first-floor parlor, dining room and

kitchen, and numerous bedrooms on the upper floors. The church measures 7,156-square-feet and includes a large street level function room with kitchen area and restrooms, a large nave area and choir loft.

see **CHURCH** pg 13

## Sonya Lamonakis Victorious in Women's Heavyweight Bout

**BY MATT ROBINSON**  
NEW YORK CITY - April 18th, 2008. Madison Square Garden, Manhattan. One of the largest, most famous boxing venues in the world. Jake LaMotta, "The Raging Bull" was in attendance. And so was the "Golden Boy" Oscar De La Hoya. It was the 81st Annual Golden Gloves Championship Finals and among these boxing giants stood Sonya Lamonakis of Turners Falls. Lamonakis, the two-time world female heavyweight champion defended her title against Shayna Hargraves of Brownsville, New York, a



JAMES DAMON PHOTO

Sonya Lamonakis with an earlier trophy.

woman half her age.

Lamonakis was the aggressor throughout the four-round battle. She attacked as her opponent reluctantly gave ground. Lamonakis bulldozed her way forward, forcing the taller Hargraves onto the ropes time and time again. But not without cost. An aggressive fighter is vulnerable, and Hargraves tagged her repeatedly, but Lamonakis was undeterred. She took some punches and doled out a few of her own, rocking Hargraves with her formidable left hook.

Throughout the four

see **BOUT** pg 13

**PET OF THE WEEK**

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**WENDELL LIBRARY NEWS**

**Exploring Drawing Classes**

BY ROSIE HEIDKAMP

WENDELL -Instructor Cathe Janke will offer a free, six week beginning and intermediate drawing class for adults and teens at the Wendell Free Library. Of course, the classes will be offered free of charge. The class will meet Tuesdays, from 7 to 9 p.m. from April 29th through June 3rd.

The class will focus on developing drawing skills in still life, landscape, and portrait. All are invited and welcome, no matter the drawing skill or experience. "It'll be fun!" Janke promises.

Cathe Janke graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art with an MFA in

painting in 2004. She presently teaches at University of Massachusetts, Lowell and Chester College.



**Wendell Organic Gardening Workshop**

BY JASSY BRATKO

WENDELL - This spring, commit to helping the Earth by growing your own organic food. Learn how you can start a garden so you can gain a stronger connection to your food and local nutrition.

The Wendell Community Garden, located behind the town office building on Wendell Common, will be the site of a workshop on Saturday, April 26th from 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon to teach the basics of organic gardening.

Topics to be covered will include nurturing fertile soils, composting household and yard waste to replace commercial fertilizers, using mulches to conserve moisture and reduce weeding, building raised beds, starting seeds and caring for young seedlings.

This workshop is intended for those who have little gardening experience or for those who would like to grow their own food in a more environmentally friendly way, with-

out the use of artificial fertilizers or toxic chemicals.

Sharon Gensler will lead this fact and fun filled morning. Gensler, who has been growing organically and homesteading for thirty years, is a member of the Community Garden Committee. She said the garden is owned by the town; the committee is "just trying to make the garden happen."

Gensler feels the workshop will be a great opportunity for people to learn and ask questions about organic gardening.

Gensler is a former board member and present outreach coordinator of the Northeast Organic Farming Association, Massachusetts Chapter (NOFA/Mass), which is sponsoring similar workshops around the state that day.

For more information contact Gensler at 978-544-6347 or wildbrowse@yahoo.com. The cost is \$10 for NOFA members and \$12 for non-members.

**FACES & PLACES**



SHAWN WOOLSEY PHOTO

Lori Stosz, (right to left) a GCC student enrolled in the two-year Registered Nursing Program, is shown here with fellow student J.M. Cysz and Gill-Montague Senior Center director Bunny Caldwell, at the senior health fair at the Great Falls Discovery Center on Thursday, April 17th. The nursing students were helping administer blood pressure screenings, eye exams, and other medical services for area seniors.

**GREAT FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

**Grade 6 :**  
Malcolm Smith  
**Grade 7:** Brittany Sheperd; Mike Conant  
**Grade 8:**  
Stacy French  
Stephanie French

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PHOTO BY ANNA GREENE

MILLERS FALLS - Kartyr Lankowski of Millers Falls and Children's Librarian Linda Hickman drew flowers with sidewalk chalk at the Millers Falls Library Club on Tuesday, April 14th.

**SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES -- April 28th - May 2nd**

**GILL/MONTAGUE Senior Center**, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. Council-on-Aging Director is Bunny Caldwell. For information or to make reservations, call 863-9357. Meal reservations need to be made a day in advance by 11 a.m. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open. Mealsite Manager is Chris Richer. The Center offers a hot noon meal weekdays to any senior. A reservation is necessary and transportation can be provided. Trips: Call the Senior Center 863-9357 or 863- 4500

**Monday, 28th**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics  
**Tuesday, 29th**  
Meals only.

**Wednesday, 30th**  
10-11:30 a.m. Judy Tutus LPN from Community Health Center will be doing blood sugar and blood pressure screenings  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
12:45 p.m. Bingo  
**Thursday, 1st**  
1 p.m. Pitch  
**Friday, 2nd**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics

**ERVING Senior Center**, 18 Pleasant St., Ervingside (Old Center School, 1st Floor), is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For information and reservations call Polly Kiely, Senior Center director at 413 423-3308. Lunch daily at 11:30 a.m. with reservations a day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Transportation can be provided

for meals, Thursday shopping, or medical necessity by calling Dana Moore at 413-422-2584.

**Monday, 28th**  
9:00 a.m. Exercise  
9:45 a.m. Library  
12 Noon Pitch  
**Tuesday, 29th**  
9 a.m. Aerobics  
12 Noon Painting  
**Wednesday, 30th**  
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Weight Loss Group  
12 Noon Bingo  
**Thursday, 1st**  
9 a.m. Aerobics  
10:15 a.m. Pool

**WENDELL Senior Center**, located in the town offices on Wendell Depot Rd. Call Kathy Swaim at 978 544-2020 for info, schedule of events or to coordinate transportation.

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## Wendell Earth Day Celebration Saturday, April 26th

The town of Wendell Open Space Committee will sponsor a special Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 26th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Activities will take place at the town hall, the Wendell Commons and at Fiske Pond.

The day's events will include:

**9 a.m. Annual Town Wide Litter Pick-up** — participants will meet in Wendell Center Please call Annie Diemand at 978-544-6111 or Ted Lewis at 978-544-3329 by 8 p.m. Friday night if you plan to attend.

9:30 to 12 Organic Gardening Workshop -- Sponsored by NOFA at the Community Gardens behind the Town Office Building. There is a small fee to attend. Please

contact Sharon Gensler at 978-544-6347 or visit [www.nofamass.org](http://www.nofamass.org) to pre-register

**10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Town Hall – Information and Displays** about Town Conservation Lands, Conservation Zoning, Land Conservation Proposals for the Annual Town Meeting, Regional Environmental Efforts, Invasive Species and more. Please call Marianne Sundell at 978-544-8981 to contribute to the displays.

**11 a.m. – Town Hall -- Presentations** on town owned properties recommended for Conservation Designation at the annual town meeting by forester Mike Mauri and members of the Wendell Open Space Committee

**Noon – Potluck Lunch – Town Hall & Wendell Commons**

**1 p.m. Open Space Planning Community Vision Circle**, Wendell Commons or Town Hall

Please bring your ideas about what is important to preserve in our community and what you would like to see more of in terms of recreation and conservation.

**3 p.m. Meet at Fiske Pond for a Hike and Review of 2008 Stewardship Projects** with the Fiske Pond Advisory Committee. Strong backs are needed to help carry lumber and build bridges along the loop trail. Help wanted assisting local biologists in managing invasive species at the pond.



JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

## Montague Briefs

### May Day Celebration BY JEANNE WEINTRAUB MONTAGUE CENTER

Come welcome in the spring at the Montague May Day Celebration, to take place on Sunday, May 4th. Festivities begin around 10:30 a.m. All are invited to process from the Montague Center post office to the town common - young children have the honor of carrying the Maypole.

Singing of May songs and Maypole dancing will commence on the town green as the Maypole is erected. With ringing bells and the smashing of sticks, area Morris teams will wake the Earth and ensure fertility with capers and leaps, amid general merriment and frivolity.

Five Morris teams are expected to perform, including the: Guiding Star Clog Morris, Wake Robin Women's Morris, Juggler Meadow Men's Morris, Hartsbrook Garland, and Johny Jumpups. The event is free of charge and participants are encouraged to bring along a blanket and picnic lunch. Contact 413-367-9923 for more information.

### Support Our Schools Golf Tournament May 10th

Support Our Students on May 10, 2008 at the Thomas

Memorial Golf Club Golf Tournament. Tee-Off 8:00 am

The event honors Alan Adie, longtime supporter of the students of the Gill-Montague Regional School District

Refreshments and Music at Noon. The Jack Bassett Montague Mile will begin at 10 a.m. at Turners Falls High School. Proceeds to go to the students of the Gill-Montague Regional School District.

For sponsor and/or Golf Tournament register information, please contact Stacey Langknecht at 367-9418 or [mike@masscraft.com](mailto:mike@masscraft.com). For Montague Mile register information, please contact Bob Avery at 863-9502 or [ravery21@hotmail.com](mailto:ravery21@hotmail.com).

### Montague Police Bike Auction May 31st

The Montague police department will be holding its annual bike auction on May 31st at 9 a.m. at the Montague police station, First Street, in Turners Falls. Approximately 40 bikes will be available for purchase. These bikes are sold in the condition they were turned in, sales are final. Cash and checks payable to the town of Montague area accepted; cash receipts given. Bikes are put on display approximately half an hour to an

hour prior to the auction. All proceeds after expenses go into the general fund. If you have questions you may contact Detective Brown at 863-8911 ext 156, or email at [dbrown@montague.net](mailto:dbrown@montague.net).

### Town of Montague Tax Bills Due

A reminder to all Montague taxpayers that the second half of the Fiscal 2008 Real Estate and District tax bills are due by Thursday, May 1st, 2008. Payments received after this date are subject to a 14 percent interest penalty. To obtain a receipted bill, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and both copies of the bill with your payment. For the convenience of the Town of Montague residents, you will now be able to pay all real estate, district and personal property bills on line. To pay a bill online, have your bill(s) and checkbook in hand, and then go to [www.montague.net](http://www.montague.net), click on Departments, Treasurer/Collector, Online bill payments, then complete each screen to process your payment. It's convenient, fast and secure. The tax office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Precinct 1 Town Meeting

There will be a Precinct 1 meeting on Sunday, April 27, at 6:30 at the Montague Grange. Montague Center residents and Precinct 1 Town Meeting members are urged to attend. For more information, call 367-2657.

## Wapack Wilderness Hike

RINDGE, NH - The Millers River Watershed Council (MRWC) invites the public to hike part of the Wapack Wilderness in Rindge, NH on Saturday, May 3rd from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hikers should pack a lunch and be prepared for some bushwacking on the new "Three Ponds Route." Those wishing to carpool from Athol should meet at the Millers River Environmental Center at 8 a.m. or meet at 9 a.m. at the Sharon

Arts Center, 457 Route 123 in Sharon, NH. Sharon is south of Peterborough, NH on Route 123, on the way to New Ipswich, NH.

For more info, contact MRWC at 978-248-9491 or [council@millersriver.net](mailto:council@millersriver.net).

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## Editor

David Detmold

## Assistant Editor

Kathleen Litchfield

## Editorial Assistants

Hugh Corr  
David Brule

Circulation  
Suzette Snow Cobb  
Don Clegg

## Layout & Design

Kathleen Litchfield  
Boysen Hodgson  
Katrien Hoyden  
Karen Wilkinson  
Suzette Snow Cobb

"The Voice of the Villages"

## Photography

Joe Parzych  
Shawn Woolsey

## Technical Administrators

Michael Muller  
Michael Farrick

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Arthur Evans

## An Affront to Massachusetts

This editorial first appeared on Wednesday, April 23rd in the Boston Globe

BY YVONNE ABRAHAM

Turners Falls is a beautiful place with an ugly past.

The former mill town, a village of Montague on the Connecticut River, is named for Captain William Turner. In 1676, Turner led a group of 160 men into an Indian encampment on the river, where women, children, and elders from the Narragansett, Pocumtuck, Nipmuc, and other tribes lay sleeping. Turner and his men massacred them.

The village has wrestled with that legacy, and in 2004, Montague officials joined with representatives of several Indian tribes in a Reconciliation Day ceremony to recognize the tragedy.

"We commit to a future that will . . . promote understanding about and between the cultures, increase mutual vigilance for historic preservation, and deepen our appreciation for the rich heritage of the indigenous people of our region and all who have found respite, sanctuary, and welcome here," their agreement read.

There are few Indians living in Turners Falls today. Currently remaking itself as an arts mecca, the village, two hours west of Boston, is a happening place, with a small but healthy private airport.

Over the last couple of years, airport officials hoping to expand a runway have been stymied by representatives of the Narragansett nation and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), who say that the hill that would be leveled for the runway is an important cultural site and that piles of stones there mark spots where spiritual ceremonies were performed. An archeologist who assessed the site disagrees with the tribes, and the Narragansett nation has

appealed to the National Register of Historic Places to settle the matter.

Already, some trees have been cleared from the hill. Doug Harris, a historic preservation officer for the Narragansett tribe, says the stone piles were disturbed in the process. Some airport commissioners are angry that the new runway has been stalled for more than two years.

So in comes Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission executive director Robert E. Welch Jr. to meet with commissioners and some pilots about another issue at the airport earlier this month.

David Detmold, who knows all the players and runs the local paper, was in the room. And he was taking notes.

"We're ready to go with construction" on the runway, Welch told the airport commissioners, according to Detmold. "The only thing holding it up is those tree-hugging Indians."

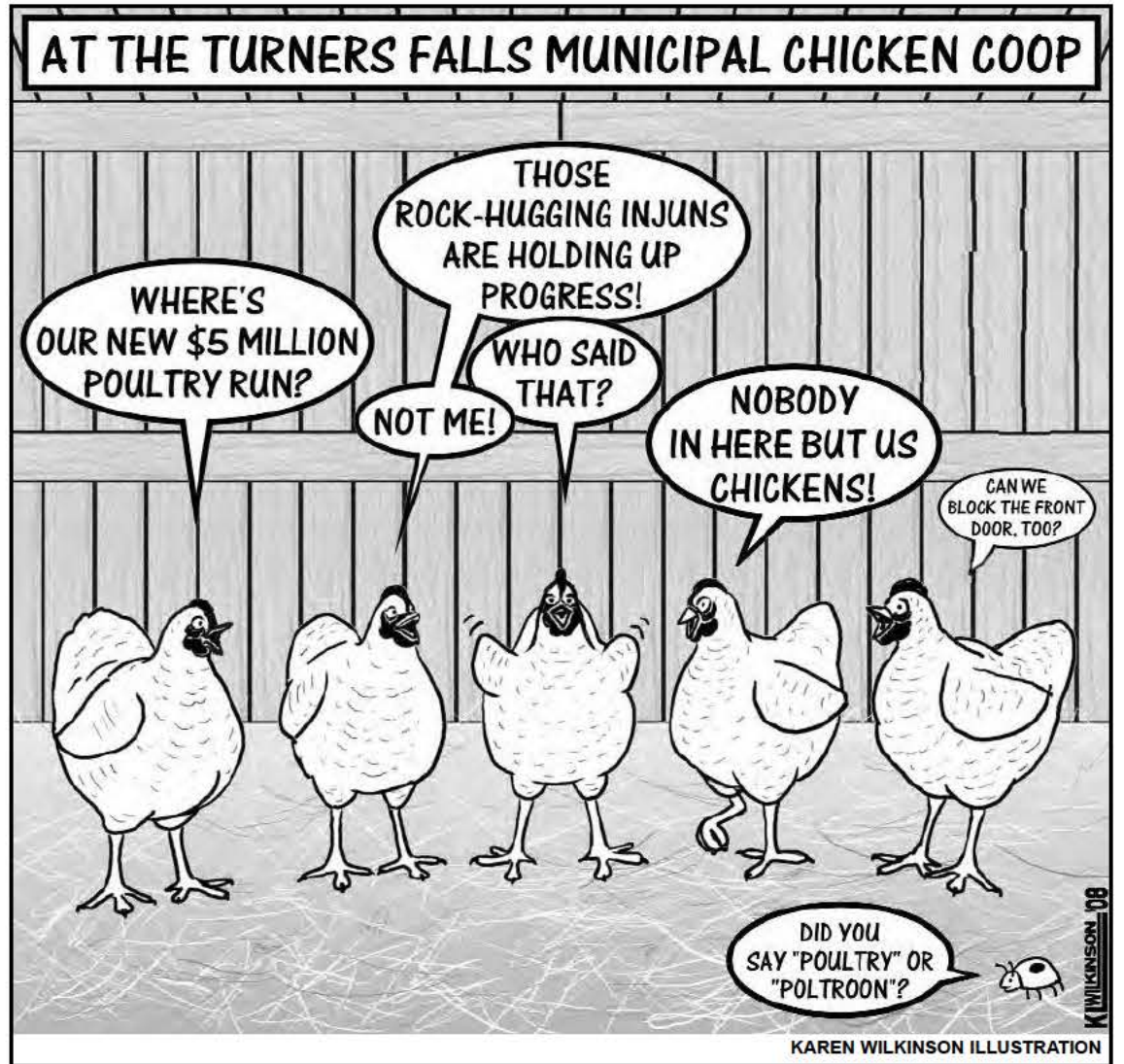
"They're rock-hugging Indians," Detmold quoted commissioner Mark Fairbrother as saying. "They already hugged the trees right onto the lumber trucks."

When Detmold's account of the meeting ran in *the Montague Reporter*, the Narragansett and Wampanoag tribes were outraged. "We have been reduced to huggers of trees and huggers of rocks, as opposed to an Indian people who have an ancient and strong tradition of having a relationship to our Mother the Earth," Harris said.

State Transportation Secretary Bernard Cohen is now investigating the incident. "I hope Mr. Welch did not make that statement, but if it turns out he did, I would consider this to be a very serious matter," Cohen said.

Welch says he called runway opponents merely "tree-huggers" and not "tree-hugging Indians," according to Cohen, who has talked to him.

Fairbrother said that the rock-hugging riposte was accurate, but



that he isn't the one who delivered it. He won't say who did. Detmold, who took meticulous notes, is absolutely certain he got it right.

But no amount of hair-splitting can change this: Welch re-

resents state government at 37 municipal airports, and state government is supposed to represent everybody.

His comment, dunderheaded at best and bigoted at worst, isn't just insulting to the tribes - it's an

affront to any citizen who hopes the state will hear them out. So much for respite, sanctuary, and welcome.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Protesting the Close of Montague Center School

Open Letter to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Protesting the Gill Montague Regional School Committee's Decision to Close Montague Center School:

A large group of concerned parents and community members wish to protest the recent decision to close Montague Center Elementary School on the following grounds:

1. Montague Center Elementary School is a successful school with high levels of community involvement and high achievement as measured by MCAS results.

2. The Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD) school committee's action appears to defy the logic of federal and state policies regarding under-performing schools. The committee has, in effect, voted to close a school with a solid record of achievement (Montague Center School) and to move all students into a school declared "needs improvement" for the second year (Sheffield Elementary School) under the No Child Left Behind law. We have confidence in the ability of teachers and parents at Sheffield to improve the school's status in time. But we feel that Montague Center School should be a

model, not a target, in this process.

3. The GMRSD school committee's action clearly violates the process it created to reach this decision. A carefully constructed compromise motion, approved last December, invited proposals to create alternatives to school closings. The motion clearly stated that the March vote recently taken was only to insure that there were coherent groups with serious, detailed proposals. The March vote was to be a starting point if proposals came forward. Two detailed proposals which the Superintendent himself termed "outstanding," were submitted to keep Montague Center School open. The school committee then dramatically moved the goal posts by disregarding its own motion. Contrary to the December compromise, the committee majority treated the March vote as a final decision, raising criticisms of the proposals not in the original motion, or in the criteria it established.

4. The GMRSD school com-

mittee has required that supporters of Montague Center Elementary School present detailed plans for education, finance, and governance at an already successful school. Yet the committee has made no effort to produce a similar plan for the consolidated school at Sheffield Elementary they wish to create. In particular, the committee failed to implement the section of the December compromise motion requiring an "immediate" evaluation of the costs associated with consolidation into Sheffield Elementary School.

5. The failure of the school committee to abide by its clearly stated commitments has

see SCHOOL page 6

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# GUEST EDITORIAL: School Mascots and the Ownership of Cultures

BY AARON ST. JEAN

**GILL** - The mascot that is chosen to represent a school and its athletic teams is not one of the most critical life-or-death issues we face today. But it is a matter of choice, not historical inevitability, and it does have meaning. Symbols have the power to evoke strong feelings, which is evident in Denis Bordeaux's opinion piece, "Repeat With Pride: Turners Falls Indians," published in the April 3rd issue of *the Montague Reporter* (VI #26). Bordeaux argues passionately that TFHS should keep its mascot at a time when some other schools, after long debate, are exchanging their old "Indian" caricatures for logos that are less racially insulting.

Bordeaux's feelings about the "Indian" name and image seem to be bound up in his nostalgia for football games he played for Turners Falls in the 1960s, and I'm not interested in arguing with that. He should enjoy his memories, but there is no reason why that should prevent a new generation of students and athletes from having different memories to look back on later - perhaps memories of a time when their school broke with the racist past to embrace a more respectful future. Nostalgia is not up for debate, but the idea that it is okay to name a sports team (national or local) after a race or ethnic group, and the assertions Bordeaux makes in defense of this opinion, must be examined critically and carefully.

When members of the dominant culture adopt, simplify, and distort elements of a "minority" culture, it is inherently disrespectful to the people who have lived and died to defend that culture in its complete form. No amount of "pomp and ceremony," "flattery," or "idolatry" changes the relationship. Would it be all right for a German soccer team to be called, for example, "the Berlin Jews," as long as their mascot was paraded around with sufficient pomp?

The foundation for Bordeaux's argument is a casual

dismissal of the facts of history, stating that the "tribal warfare" that took place prior to colonization was equivalent to the level of sustained violence perpetrated against Native peoples in the wake of Europeans' arrival on this continent, thus justifying all that has happened since. Yes, people fight; that's a fact. But occasional raids, skirmishes, and territorial disputes between neighbors are not the same as the policy of extermination set in motion by the first settlers and prosecuted with zeal by the US government. "The only good Indian is a dead Indian" is not a phrase invented for some shoot-'em-up cowboy movie; it was public policy.

When Bordeaux bemoans "the quest to rid the world of all things Indian," he is really talking about all things Fake Indian, worrying that a mob of "wannabes" and "outsiders" will try to force him to stop referring to the return of warm weather after the beginning of autumn as "Indian summer." He urges readers to "keep it in context" when contemplating the massacre overseen by Captain Turner, after whom Turners Falls is named. What context? The fact that it occurred over 250 years ago does not erase its relevance. The true context is that there were many, many such massacres up to the end of the nineteenth century, usually accompanied by rapes, mutilation, and torture. People who survived such assaults often saw their entire means of livelihood and self-sufficiency destroyed - orchards burned by the US Army, buffalo slaughtered to the brink of extinction by railroad companies. Aggressive promotion of alcohol and junk food has failed to make those things into adequate replacements for traditional foods, and jokes about "the ol' wampum sack" notwithstanding, the handful of Indian-run casinos in this country have not made many Indians rich.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Land Management have worked hand in hand, first forcibly relocating

decimated nations to the smallest or most barren parcels of land available, and then arranging to lease that same land to private corporations for mining, timber, dams, and power plants. By the way, do you know where nuclear waste goes? Just take a wild guess.

Boarding schools intended to "kill the Indian and save the man" became an official strategy in 1869, and over 100,000 Indian children were forced to attend these institutions. Many were separated from their families for years at a time, beaten for speaking their own languages, and subjected to physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. Some of these schools were closed in the late twentieth century, but eight off-reservation boarding schools and 52 on-reservation boarding schools are still open. Forced sterilization of Native women was common practice in the 1970s at clinics and hospitals run by Indian Health Services, a federal agency. In the nineties, IHS pushed thousands of women to use the birth-control drugs Norplant and Depo-Provera, which are known to cause cancer, hemorrhaging, and other serious health problems.

The dominant culture's respect for the integrity and continuity of Native religions extends only as far as it is convenient. In recent weeks, this attitude has been demonstrated in the openly racist terms of discussion favored by a commissioner of the Turners Falls Airport, where a taxpayer-funded runway expansion has been delayed by Wampanoag and Narragansett concerns about the destruction of a ceremonial site nearby.

This is far from an exhaustive description of the genocide against American Indians. I don't pretend to be an expert on the subject, and I don't claim to represent anybody. I feel kind of sheepish about trying to stuff hundreds of years of history into a few paragraphs, and I don't want to create the false impression that Native peoples have been passive victims. But I want

to be clear about this point: just because something happened in the past does not mean it is finished. The past affects the present as surely as the present affects the future. So let's not pretend that everything is all settled, and that it is now and forever okay for white people (and others participating in white culture) to play Indian in public.

Laboring to demonstrate how cleanly the wounds of genocide have healed, Denis Bordeaux cites a poll conducted by a pair of comedians/illusionists for a cable TV special. Polls and surveys are a beloved source of opinion-validating infotainment because they can easily be conducted to arrive at the exact results you are looking for, and then you can just say those numbers over and over again. So that's what Bordeaux does. He informs us four or five times that 91% of Indians have "no problem" with mascots that objectify them and their cultures, and 82% are actually really happy about it. I hadn't heard of those figures before, but the concept is a familiar one. White Americans in the 1800s reassured themselves that Black people enjoyed slavery, and, but for a few troublemakers, they would have contentedly remained in that condition forever. Nobody had invented TV yet, or figured out how to streamline every possible thought or worldview into a statistic, but the popularity of this idea was expressed in religious services, political debates, the-

ater, literature, visual art, and songs. Blackface minstrel shows remained a popular form of entertainment for a long stretch of the twentieth century in both the northern and southern parts of the US. I think - I hope - that most people now recognize that the phenomenon of white performers clowning around with black face paint, exaggerated accents, and sentimental reminiscences of plantation life is extremely offensive. That's plain enough, right? What exactly is the difference between that and putting on a pretend-Indian show with a big-feathered headdress? Is it the particular patterns of the face paint, or the mock gravity attributed to the Noble Savage?

The basic premise remains that it is up to the master race to determine representations of the "other" races, and if we can convince ourselves that they like it, so much the better.

The issue of racist school mascots is not about nostalgia for a football game in 1966. It is not about how much you support the team that your friends or your classmates or your neighbors' kids play on. It is not about guilt for a past that cannot be changed. It is about making a decision in the present regarding your attitude toward the future. What is your responsibility for shaping the direction of your own culture? Will your relationships with people of other cultures be based on honesty, humility, and respect, or on assumptions of supremacy?

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# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Correct Budget Information, Please

Letter to the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee:

Our respective boards have worked for several months on a budget to recommend to Montague's Annual Town Meeting. Concurrently, we have begun negotiations with the three unions who represent employees in town and water treatment plant positions, as the Gill-Montague District is doing with the teachers. During this period a number of questions have been raised about the process the District has followed in budget preparation and negotiation planning, therefore we would appreciate a letter back providing the correct information.

1. What is the School Committee's role in setting the negotiation guidelines for discussions with the District's bargaining units? Please describe briefly (we understand the specifics may not be available).

2. Although a representative from the BOS has attended school negotiation sessions in the past, this has not been true in the last two years. Is there a role for a BOS representative this year?

3. In preparing the guidelines, what consideration was given to the towns' ability to fund the FY '09 assessment?

4. Do the guidelines build upon the expected current and future student enrollments and levels of Chapter 70 aid?

5. Is the next contract period expected to be one year, or more than one? If more than one, what assumptions on the towns' funding capacity were considered?

6. Presentations of the approved FY09 District budget have noted a 3 - 5% range for wage increases. Are the evolving negotiation guidelines consistent with this budget range?

7. We have heard two versions of how enrollment in the Group Insurance Commission health insurance plans is reflected in the FY '09 budget:

a. That expected premiums are included in Fixed Charges - Account 5100 Employee Benefits and that the increase in costs that would otherwise have occurred (based on prior group coverage) were directed into staff additions, consistent with

Superintendent Rocke's Turnaround Plan.

b. That the Employee Benefits account was simply planned the same as FY '08, and that no savings are incorporated into the budget. The rationale we'd heard was that no savings will be forecasted until actual costs are determined (after employee enrollment is completed).

Montague has begun its contract negotiations this week. In view of the significance of salary costs in both the town and the District, your answers will help us understand how the District and its School Committee have approached the negotiation and budget environment in FY09. They will also assist our planning for a April 30th pre-Town Meeting, a May 3rd Annual Town Meeting, as well as communication materials for a possible Proposition 2½ override vote on May 19th.

Very Truly Yours,

- John T. Hanold, Finance Committee and Patricia L. Pruitt, Selectboard

### AIRPORT from 1

added to historic injuries at Turners Falls."

In their letter about the incident to Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley, the Narragansetts added a question: "Under Commonwealth of Massachusetts guidelines, what is the penalty for such bigoted and racist remarks made by state and town officials? If not nipped early, we are concerned such open expressions of bigotry become infectious."

As to the comments made by Fairbrother, who in response to Welch's "tree-hugging Indians" remark on April 4th said, "They're rock-hugging Indians. They already hugged the trees, right onto the lumber trucks," TFMA manager Sweeney claimed in a phone call Wednesday that he knew who made the inflammatory retort. But he said it wasn't Fairbrother, and he won't say who it was. Sweeney called the "rock-hugging Indians" comment: "corrosive," "terribly unfortunate," and "thoughtless."

"It was not said by an airport commissioner," said Sweeney. "And it wasn't said by a member of the Committee to Save the Airport." The Committee to Save the Airport is a pilots' group, which raised 160 signatures of

TFMA users on a petition in February of 2007 asking the Montague selectboard to fire Sweeney, due to what they claim are Sweeney's arbitrary enforcement of rules and procedures at the airport, and disproportionate increases in lease fees in relationship to other area airports.

Pressed on who made the racial slur, Sweeney said the person was known to him, and was standing "seven or eight feet to his left" as he faced Welch on April 4th. But he would not name him.

"I know who said it, and I'm telling you it wasn't Mark Fairbrother," said Sweeney.

"Was it made by someone familiar with the recent logging operations at the airport?" Sweeney was then asked.

"No, not by someone familiar with the logging operation," replied Sweeney. "It was made by someone that just happened to be there."

Sweeney said he did not want to further inflame the situation by stating the name of the person who made the remark.

Reached at his Greenfield home on Wednesday morning, April 23rd, Sweeney denied that MAC Director Welch has used the word "Indians" in his remarks about the source of the construction delay. Asked what

see AIRPORT pg 7

### SCHOOL from pg 4

exacerbated divisions within our community and undermined support for public education. As a result, the committee's actions contradict the recommendations of the recent state evaluation of the GMRSD, which focused on the need for strong leadership to improve the reputation of the district.

6. By alienating a large segment of the community, the district has encouraged more enrollment losses, including losses to school choice and charter schools. These enrollment losses are the key causes of the annual unsustainable budget increases that are bankrupting the two towns in our district. The GMRSD school committee has frequently complained of charter school and school choice losses to our district but then summarily rejected creative proposals by parent volunteers to address this problem.

We would like to know if there are additional steps at the

state level that can be taken before this school is closed for good. We urge you to examine the enclosed materials which include the two written proposals that were presented as well as our school committee's motion which was made in December 2007. We appreciate your time.

Signed,

Marje Levenson, Lynn Reynolds, Jeff Singleton, Patricia Pruitt, Rich Colton, Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno, Kip Dresser, Sue Dresser, Stacey Langknecht, Laurie Dickson, Arthur Evans, Ed Bobola, Wendy Bobola, Marie Bartlett Colton, Patrick Pezzati, John Reynolds, Adam May, Emily Browning, Jason Salls, Emily Salls, Amy Johnson, Diana Allen, Deborah Foucault, Dave Leh, Sheri Leh, Laurie Pichette, Richard Pichette, Gib Boulden, Linda Boulden, Gary Turn, Beth Miner, Daniel Miner, Kristin Zottoli, Miryam Vesset, Mimi York, Linda Ackerman, Laura Wildman-Hanlon, Tom Wildman-Hanlon, Colleen Sculley, Chris Polatin, Michelle Russell, Lisa

McKenna, Emily Monosson, Crystal Harvey, Jeanne Weintraub-Mason, Chris Mason, Chris Wise, Jim Skarzynski, Stacy DeMaio, Kim Watroba, Misty Lyons, Amy Schmidt, Robert Bowse, Dean Garvin, Kathy Lynch, Michael Cenzano, Ann Cenzano, Mark Courtemanche, Katrina Courtemanche, Susan Conger, Ed Mieczkowski, Danny Dodge, Cathy Dodge, Jim Millar, Kristin Millar, Roger Jacobsen, Kara Jacobsen, Charleen Sulda, Robert Sulda, Tina Sulda, Scott Sulda, Elizabeth Parenteau, Ferd Wulkan, Leslie Lomassen, Ben Letcher, Dean Wonsey, George Larkin, Billy Brethiare, Patricia Waldron, Jason Dickinson, Patricia Dickinson, Lynn York, Deb Sobieski, Chester Sobieski, Emrys Berwick, Stuart Kinsman, Ryan Kinsman, Lyndsy Kinsman, Debra Kinsman, Mike Westort, Kathleen Otto, Patrick M Otto, Dawn Ward, Jason Burbank, James Ross, Rebecca W. Hollingsworth, Heather Hall, and Terri Skarzynski

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# Narragansett Tribal Leader Calls Airport Site 'Significant'

BY DAVID DETMOLD  
TURNERS FALLS

Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Officer John Brown said he considers the stone formation on the hilltop at the Turners Falls airport to be one of five such ceremonial stone sites known to tribes in the area now called New England. This region has been part of ancestral territory over which the Wampanoags and Narragansetts have traveled, traded and maintained cultural traditions for millennia.

The stone site at the Turners airport is scheduled for demolition, along with the entire hill beneath it, which is to be removed and used as fill for a 1,200-foot extension of the 3,000-foot TFMA runway.

The cost of runway construction and related safety improvements at the airport is estimated at \$5 million; 95% of that cost is to be paid for by the FAA; 5% by the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission. The runway project has been held up while Native claims regarding the stone formation are settled in Washington.

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, federally recognized tribes - such as the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead (Aquinnah) and the Narragansetts - are granted consultative status on construction projects on which federal dollars are being spent, where artifacts deemed by archaeological experts to be of cultural significance to the tribes are determined to be located.

At the Turners Falls airport, another area, the so-called Hannemann site, a paleo-Indian site with 12,000, 8000, and 2,000-year-old encampment levels, has been deemed eligible for listing on the National Registry of Historic Places, according to a report by Micheal Nassaney for UMass Archaeological Services. UMass Professor of Anthropology Mitchell Mulholland, who was a principal investigator of the site, called it "one of less than a dozen undisturbed sites of this time period in New England."

Narragansett Indian Tribal Deputy Historic Preservation Officer Doug Harris said the Hannemann site "is an encampment site connected to the ceremonial site." Harris said he had first found evidence indicating that a ceremonial site would be close at hand by examining evidence in the fire pit at the Hannemann site.

However, Ed Bell, from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, said, "The two sites are not related," and he called the stone formation on the hilltop "the remains of an abandoned stone wall."

To Narragansett historic



*Stones on a hilltop overlooking the runway at the Turners Falls airport.*

*Do they mark an ancient ceremonial site? Or an abandoned stone boundary wall from the modern era?*

preservation officer John Brown, the stone site on the hilltop represents a direct link to an oral tradition and a tribal responsibility that has been handed down for generations. He said, "I have seen perhaps two such sites. But I was told there are five sites when I was a child. It's a very significant site, you better believe it."

Brown, 50, who is Medicine Man in training for the Narragansetts, said he had been told of the stone ceremonial site in the area of the Great Falls by elders, who were in their 70s and 80s at the time he was a young man.

"They knew of several sites [near the Falls] including the large burials, burials of 12 individuals in a circle, all with their heads pointing inward," said Brown. He said he was referring to the unusual burial site written about in George Sheldon's *History of Deerfield, Volume I*, (1895) called the "spokes burial," uncovered by a farmer across from the Main Road cemetery in Gill.

"How can I say this?" Brown continued. "From the womb I have lived, breathed, and have been a Narragansett. I was trained in the ancient ways of the Narragansetts. Because we live in this modern century, we have not given up any of our ancient and honored past. Many of these sites, in the past 50 years, were unattainable. There were no laws on the books, and there was not the population out there to work with Indian tribes and protect these properties."

"Now people are beginning to look into their past, because their past is rapidly fading. Much of the land given up to farming and pasturage is going away to development, and they are saying, 'This is my past that is going.' There's a whole new breed of people willing to come forward."

"It's unfortunate we still have people stuck in the 15th or 16th or 17th century in their attitudes. It's harmful when individuals adopt that kind of position. It's

clearly something that's a dangerous and volatile mix when responsible persons in a federal or state agency take that position and apply the Colonial mentality," to Indian concerns, Brown said.

Harris blamed the New England Regional Federal Aviation Administration's Environmental Manager John Silva for not coming up with a memorandum of understanding with the tribes as to how the dispute over the stone formation on the Turners Falls hilltop should be handled, something Harris said the Narragansetts asked Silva to issue several years ago. (Jim Peterson, an FAA spokesperson, left a message in response to a call seeking comment on the status of the dispute at press time.)

Harris said, "Internally, the FAA made the determination that it was not a significant site," and made notification of their determination to the National Register of Historic Preservation (NRHP). Harris said the FAA had not left enough time for the tribes to conduct their own examination of the site, prior to issuing that determination.

In February of 2007, Harris said, after the tribes protested the FAA's determination to the NRHP, Charlene Vaughn, assistant director of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), sent a letter to Silva urging him to take note of federal law providing for "an Indian tribe to enter into an agreement with an agency to establish how they will coordinate Section 106 reviews" [determining the religious or cultural significance of properties]. Additionally, the letter stated that blue paint had recently been dripped on stones on the site, in the course of marking trees for cutting, which the Wampanoag's assert was a "desecration" of the site that may be in violation of Section 110(k) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Vaughn went on to point out

in her letter to Silva that Section 110(k), "prohibits a federal agency from granting a loan, loan guarantee, permit, license or other assistance to an applicant who, with intent to avoid Section 106 of the NHPA, has intentionally significantly adversely affected an historic property to which the assistance would relate, or, having legal power to prevent it, has allowed such significant adverse effect to occur."

Vaughn's letter continued, "Based on the seriousness of the airport's action and the resulting damage to the site, the ACHP encourages FAA to investigate this matter as soon as possible. We trust that FAA will advise the local airport authority of the seriousness of the complaint so that it can take appropriate measures to protect the site."

On August 3rd 2007, ACHP executive director John Fowler advised Marion Blakey, the head of the FAA, that the ACHP will participate in Section 106 consultation for the proposed Turners Falls Airport Expansion in Franklin County, Massachusetts, and that under federal law the FAA will be required to grant the ACHP sufficient time to consult with Indian tribes "to develop and evaluate alternatives and modifications to its undertakings that could avoid, minimize and/or mitigate potential adverse effects on historic properties."

Asked whether the Turners Falls Municipal Airport commission had adversely affected the disputed stone formation by clear cutting the

hillside in March or April of last year, after Vaughn sent her February 12th, 2007 letter to Silva warning him about the seriousness of the tribe's complaint about "desecration" of the site, and urging him to negotiate with the Wampanoags about how to proceed with a determination of the site's significance, Sweeney said, "I can't confirm or deny that. I can't remember the timing. I can't say 'Yes'. I can't say 'No'."

Sweeney went on to say the Narragansetts had taped off with security tape the visible stone formation on the hilltop, and he said Harris had returned after the clear cutting to confirm that no disturbance to the taped area had occurred.

Harris said blue paint appeared to have been intentionally dripped (up one side and down the other) of the stone site, by someone working for the airport marking trees, prior to the Wampanoag's complaint to the ACHP. He said the logging trucks had left ruts approaching the hilltop that revealed "more ceremonial stones," but he did not deny that the taped off area at the top had remained undisturbed by the logging itself. Still, Harris insisted, the hill should not have been logged while the determination of its historic significance remained pending.

Harris said the tribes will now conduct their own assessment of the site, using tribal historians and scientific experts, with money provided for the purpose by the FAA.

A declaration issued by the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET), a group made up of 24 federally recognized tribes, on February 15th, 2007 states in part, "For thousands of years before immigration by Europeans, the medicine people of the USET tribal ancestors used these sacred landscapes to sustain the people's reliance on Mother Earth and the spirit energies of balance and harmony, and... whether these stone structures are massive or small structures, stacked, stone rows or effigies, these prayers in stone are often mistaken by archaeologists and State Historic Preservation Officers as the efforts of farmers clearing stones for agricultural or wall building purposes."

## AIRPORT from page 6

Sweeney said, "Tree-hugging..." then quickly corrected himself to say, "Tree-huggers."

The Narragansetts have been engaged in discussions with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Trust for Historic

Preservation about the fate of a stone formation on the top of a hill to the east of the proposed runway extension. The Narragansetts and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead (Aquinnah) claim that the stone formation marks that hill as an important ancient ceremonial site.



# TFHS Students Learn the Art of Debate

BY ALI URBAN

Although there is no debate team at Turners Falls High School, there are several students who have significant experience debating. For the past month, the TFHS bioethics class held a series of debates concerning immigration, steroid use, embryonic stem cell research and the carbon tax.

Each student participated in two of the four debates, and served as part of the jury for the other two. For the first debate, students argued the pros and cons of immigration to the United States. With the neighboring chemistry class adding to the jury, the debaters



were allowed opening and closing statements as well as two five-minute discussion sessions for each team.

Senior Jen Jason learned the importance of forming a coherent argument and presenting it effectively. "It was really good practice for public speaking," she said. "It helped me to gain confidence in something I find challenging."

To add unity to the group,

some teams chose to dress in uniform, either in business clothes, athletic apparel

or matching colors. Blazers teamed off against Under Armor in the second debate regarding legalizing steroids for recreational use. Debaters noted the health risks of abusing the substances and the impact they would have on athletics.

Jason noted the importance of anticipating the opponents' arguments. "Some things I never thought would be an argument were used."



Senior Corey Shearer (standing) addresses the jury during the TFHS Bioethics class carbon tax debate. Seated with him are teammates Tyanna Normandin, Rachael Letorneau and Evan Jobst.

## Paul Flandreau: Helping Patients Make Informed Decisions

BY JOE KWIECINSKI

TURNERS FALLS - Dr. Paul S. Flandreau of Turners Falls does something few people do. Perched on the cutting edge of medicine, counseling, and teaching, he is a man on a mission.

"I want to empower my clients regarding health care," Dr. Flandreau boiled it down concisely, as he sat down to explain his passion as a health care decision counselor. "I want to help people navigate the encounter they have with their health care provider when they're faced with serious, difficult medical decisions. So my mission is to help my clients give truly informed consent after reviewing treatment options. I guide them in learning how to understand the relevant medical information and teach them to ask the right questions."

Paul Flandreau's evolving odyssey in the healing arts took a totally unexpected turn almost a quarter of a century ago. Four years into practice as an orthopedist at Greenfield Surgical Associates, the



Paul Flandreau

Turners Falls resident began suffering dizzy spells as a result of a medical condition. Due to the sporadic nature of his malady, he faced a crossroad. No longer was he able to work more than 60 hours a week. Gone, too, was the chance to practice medicine on an emergency basis.

Always a diligent student, Flandreau returned to the classroom at UMass Amherst where he earned a master's degree in counseling psychology from the School of Education. He went on to add a

certificate of advanced study in mental health counseling. Meanwhile, slowly but surely, Flandreau's attitudes, values, and beliefs about the present state of health care in America were shifting.

"As time went on," he explained, "I began to comprehend that one of the most powerful things a person can do is to question his or her doctor's recommendation. Someone may have a complicated diagnosis, and six doctors walk into the room and tell that person that he or she needs a particular treatment. Well, it takes courage to say 'no' and ask, 'what are my other options?'"

During Flandreau's residency in general surgery at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, he learned a very important lesson. "One of my mentors," said Flandreau, "told me never to forget that it is the patient who takes all the risks. Even after a certain treatment is successful, the patient may be forced to change jobs or

see FLANDREAU pg 17

Teacher Hannah Neville was pleased with the results. "Providing a defensible argument to people you know well is a difficult task requiring extensive strategizing as well as abundant research," she said.

To gain information about the third debate about embryonic stem cell research, the class took a field trip to Belchertown High School for a genetics update conference by genetics expert Sam Rhine. Students learned about breakthrough technology concerning the therapeutic uses of stem cells and alternatives to the use of human embryos as a source for stem cells.

The rules of the debate were altered in the second round to allow for rapid back-and-forth discussion between teams, and the floor was opened for the jury to ask questions. This allowed students to experience different formats, some that allowed for prepared statements and others that required quick and logical thinking.

Each class member was randomly assigned to two four-person teams, and other members acted as timekeeper, parliamentarian and chair, ensuring the debate ran according to guidelines, all sources were verifiable, and all debaters remained respectful.

"Even more challenging (than presentation) is the recognition that in our debates, the position each team argues is a matter of chance," Neville said. "One has to study all the harder to effectively advocate a counterintuitive position. Debate is half industry and half clever presentation of your position."

She added that students have told her many times that one of the most difficult things she asked them to do was to argue in favor of a position they disagreed with, but having to do it made them work harder and learn more about the issue. "They say it did them good to have to think that hard, and the knowledge they gained allowed them to see the other side, which modified their own opinions," Neville added.

Senior Tyanna Normandin agreed. "For me, the most intriguing part of the debates was being placed on a side I did not agree with," she said.

Normandin added she found the random assignment beneficial. "It forced me - in a good way - to learn more," she said. "It also taught me how to think ahead about what to say and to stay calm in the heat of the debate."

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## MCTV Schedule: April 25th - May 1st

**Eagle Cam:** Friday 1P-6P; Saturday 12P-6P; Sunday 1230P-6P; Monday 1230P-6P; Tuesday 1230P-6P; Wednesday 1P-6P; Thursday 1P-6P; If We Have a Signal You Will Have a Picture

**Friday, April 25**  
 8:00 am 4th Annual Gill Montague Gala  
 9:00 am Select Board 4/22/08  
 10:00 am Safe & Green Campaign Forum  
 11:30 am Skin N Bonz  
 6:00 pm Franklin County Matters: Sheriff's Office  
 7:00 pm GMRSD (4/22/08)  
 10:00 pm Coffee House Series: Ferne Bork, Dan Tinen, Bruce Kahn Trio  
 11:00 pm Independent Voices

**Saturday, April 26**  
 8:00 am Mind Control  
 8:30 am Montague Update: Ted Graveline  
 9:00 am GMRSD (4/22/08)  
 11:00 am Over The Falls: Linda Rollins  
 6:00 pm Tiny Tim  
 7:00 pm Women Girls: HIV Services  
 7:30 pm This is Montague  
 8:00 pm The Western Mass Democrat: Senator Stan Rosenberg  
 8:30 pm The Spirit of Lake Pleasant  
 10:30 pm Teachers at Sea  
 11:00 pm Dark Water Pie

**Sunday, April 27**  
 8:00 am Denmark the View the Vision  
 8:30 am Coffee House Series: Pat & Tex  
 10:30 am Chronicles: Noah, James Mass  
 11:30 am Road to Recovery: Medication Assisted Therapies  
 6:00 pm Road to Recovery: Helping Families Find Recovery  
 7:30 pm Preachin the Blues  
 8:30 pm Power Canal Draw Down  
 9:00 pm Physician Focus: Healthy Minds/Psychiatric Care  
 9:30 pm Tiny Tim  
 1030 pm Thomas Jefferson Speaks  
 11:00 pm Skin N Bonz

**Monday, April 28**  
 8:00 am Songs for Wee People  
 9:00 am Source to Sea  
 9:30 am Road to Recovery: Medication Assisted Therapies

**Tuesday, April 29**  
 8:00 am Common Man: Jeff Brewer  
 9:30 am Independent Voices #38  
 10:00 am Naturalist Laurie Sanders  
 10:30 am On The Ridge: Fins, Feathers and Fur  
 11:00 am Bermanke  
 6:00 pm Discovery Center Woodpeckers  
 7:00 pm GMRSD (4/22/08)  
 10:00 am Franklin County Matters: Farren Care Center  
 11:00 pm Amandla

**Wednesday, April 30**  
 8:00 am Chronicles: Volume 10  
 8:30 am Lake Pleasant Slide Show  
 9:00 am GMRSD 4/22/08  
 12:00 pm Martha & Clarkson Edwards  
 6:00 pm Tiny Tim  
 7:00-9:00 pm Pre-Town Meeting (live)  
 9:30 pm Underground Railway Concert  
 11:00 pm Road to Recovery: Medication Assisted Therapies

**Thursday, May 1**  
 8:00 am Safe & Green Campaign Forum  
 9:30 am On The Ridge: Fins, Feathers and Furs  
 10:30 am Over the Falls: Kris Holloway Documentary  
 11:30 am Montague Update: Susan Shilliday  
 12:00 pm MCTV Video Camp  
 6:00 pm Lake Pleasant Slide Show  
 7:00 pm Montague Select Board (4/28/08)  
 9:00 pm Franklin County Matters: Recovery Project  
 10:00 pm Great Falls Middle School Soccer  
 11:00 pm Independent Voices #36  
 11:30 pm Tiny Tim

## Turners Falls High School 3rd Quarter Honor Roll

**Grade 12**  
**First Honors**  
 Alix Ackerman  
 Kara Bassett  
 Katie Christenson  
 Abbey Daniel-Green  
 Krystal Ducharme  
 Samuel Johnson  
 Stephanie Joly  
 Shayna Langknecht  
 Corey Leveille  
 Melony Lucas  
 Amber Marion  
 Stephanie Ollari  
 Kayla Pecor  
 Molly Perry  
 Alexander Tufano  
 Alice Urban  
 Gina Varuzzo  
 Erica Zajac

**Grade 10**  
**First Honors**  
 Sean Crowell  
 Christopher Cyr  
 Walter Fitzpatrick  
 Evan Jobst  
 Kellie Lastowski  
 Colby Lavin  
 Anton Lee Luz  
 Brittany Senn  
 Jeffrey Tela  
 Samantha Torres  
 Courtney Wells  
 Kristan York

**Grade 10**  
**Second Honors**  
 Juliana Aprileo  
 Ashley Bailey  
 Chelsea Bailey  
 Nataliya Buhakova  
 Emma Butynski  
 Daniel Cruz  
 Danielle Dolhenty  
 Matthew Garber  
 Megan Grimard  
 Corey Hescocock  
 Morgan Kyser  
 Joshua Lapachinski  
 Evan Pleasant  
 Alex Westfall  
 Heather Willor

**Grade 11**  
**First Honors**  
 Samuel Colton  
 Theodore Dunbar  
 Joshua Gammon  
 Christopher Humphrey  
 Nicholas Skarzynski

**Grade 11**  
**Second Honors**  
 Kimberly Arsenault  
 Leah Booker  
 Nicholas Clark  
 Allison Giknis  
 Immaculata Gonzalez  
 Amber Henry  
 Kelsey Kane  
 Kimberly Nelson  
 Jeremy Nicoll  
 Sara Pease  
 Jeremiah Wawrzyniak  
 Lindsey Wilson  
 Samantha Wondoloski

**Grade 10**  
**Third Honors**  
 Jonathan Anderson  
 Eric Bastarache  
 Tia Demers  
 Brandon Deputy  
 Dylan Lapointe  
 Benjamin Mailloux  
 Justin Pacheco  
 Sergiu Placinta  
 Jovan Rivera  
 Kimberlee Savage  
 Christopher Shattuck  
 Melani Sicard  
 Yaritza Torres

**Grade 9**  
**Second Honors**  
 Brandon Ambo  
 Rachel Ariel  
 Nichole Baxter  
 Jocelyn Brown  
 Makayla Dolhenty  
 Jacob Eugin  
 David Garcia  
 Taylor Howe  
 Ryan Pelis  
 Danielle Tardie

**Grade 9**  
**Third Honors**  
 Dafneliz Bermudez  
 Ryan Howard  
 Aubryanna Huson  
 Emily Mailloux

**Grade 12**  
**Second Honors**  
 Frida Alexandersen  
 Brian Campbell  
 Briant Deruiter  
 Katherine Eddy  
 Amanda Golembeski  
 Kiersten Henry  
 Jennifer Jason  
 Zachary Little  
 Brittany Mazor  
 Michael Radzuik  
 Mercedes St. Marie  
 Danielle Sullivan

**Grade 12**  
**Third Honors**  
 Lara Ames  
 Aaron Cappucci  
 Samantha Carey  
 Sean Cooper

**Grade 11**  
**Third Honors**  
 Joseph Auger  
 Amy Baxter  
 David Bennett  
 Jordan Boisvert  
 Eric Dumas  
 Benjamin Foster  
 Shamari Kelly  
 Shelby Sayer

**Grade 10**  
**Third Honors**  
 McKenna Brunell  
 Erin Casey

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

**Wednesday, 4/16**  
 2:11 a.m. Report of Larceny at a Veteran's Street address, Millers Falls. Investigated.  
 5:13 a.m. Report of vandalism at a Bridge Street address, Millers Falls. Investigated.  
 8:17 a.m. Report of vandalism at Sirum's Equipment, Millers Falls.

**Thursday, 4/17**  
 7:10 a.m. Report of domestic disturbance at an Avenue A address; Turners. Investigated  
 8:56 p.m. Report of accident, hit and run, at Thomas Memorial Country Club, Turners Falls.

**Friday, 4/18**  
 2:20 a.m. Following a traffic stop, arrested [redacted] on a default warrant.  
 3:15 p.m. Report of larceny at Franklin County Technical School.  
 4:38 p.m. Radio report of structure fire on Wendell Road, town unknown. Services rendered.  
 5:43 p.m. Report of larceny at 3rd Street address, Turners Investigated.  
 6:43 p.m. Report of accident with personal injury in the area of Hallmark School, Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls.  
 10:38 p.m. Report of fight in parkinglot off Second Street behind Shady Glen, Turners Falls. Arrested [redacted].

**Saturday, 4/19**  
 2:25 a.m. Following a motor vehicle stop, arrested [redacted]. Charged with operating motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, possession of open container in motor vehicle, operation without license in possession, marked lanes violation and resisting arrest.  
 2:36 a.m. Report of restraining order violation at a Third Street address, Turners Falls.

8:45 a.m. Report of larceny at Highland Cemetary, Millers Falls.  
**Sunday, 4/20**  
 12:18 a.m. Report of loud noise disturbance at the Rendezvous, Third Street, Turners Falls. Peace restored.  
 7:56 a.m. Report of vandalism at Turners Falls Pizza House, Avenue A, Turners Falls.  
 8:50 a.m. Report of vandalism at the Rendezvous, Third Street.  
 9:13 a.m. Radio report of vandalism at a Fourth Street address.  
 9:21 a.m. Report of vandalism at another Fouth Street address.  
 9:29 a.m. Radio report of vandalism at parking lot of the Rendezvous, Third Street.  
 9:43 a.m. Radio report of vandalism at a Fifth Street address.  
 9:46 a.m. Radio report of vandalism at another Fifth Street address.  
 11:22 a.m. Radio report of vandalism at a K Street address.  
 11:24 a.m. Radio report of vandalism at St. Stanislaus Society, K Street.  
 4:42 p.m. Report of restraining order violation at a Hillside Road address, Montague. Advised of options.  
 9:00 p.m. Following a motor vehicle stop, arrested Ikejah [redacted] for speeding and possession of marijuana.  
 11:32 p.m. Report of possible suicide attempt at a Third Street address, Turners Falls. Investigated.

**Monday, 4/21**  
 12:02 a.m. Report of vandalism at a Fifth Street address, Turners Falls.  
 12:54 a.m. Report of possible suicide attempt at a Third Street address. Investigated.  
 9:50 a.m. Report of vandalism at a Kettle Hole Lane address, Montague.  
 10:04 a.m. Report of motor vehicle disturbance at Hillcrest Elementary School, Turners Falls. Peace restored.

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It is difficult  
to get the news from poems  
yet men die miserably every day  
for lack  
of what is found there.

- William Carlos Williams

Poetry Page edited by  
Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno,  
Janel Nockleby and Jamie Berger

design by Boysen Hodgson

Readers are invited to send poems to the  
Montague Reporter at 24 3rd Street,  
Turners Falls, MA 01376;  
or email us your poetry at  
reporter-poems@montaguema.net

### Poem For "The Prophecy of Ancients"

Come over and come see.  
How fast is a preference.  
How much is 55 miles an hour.  
How much do we want to. Italy  
to hope for all the company and still  
to hope for not. Italy.

Look who cut the grass.

Did he make the moss did  
he invite the trees did he  
anticipate all the noise.

Pardon the appearance. A construction.  
Under cloud cover a construction.

Raise your hand  
Buffalo Face. We  
know you're here and  
that you're hungry.

How much more  
would you like this if  
there was cake.

How much more  
would you like this if  
I was free beer if I  
were vicious and you  
were not. All the  
viciousness you can  
free to feel.

--Amanda Nadelberg  
Minneapolis, MN

The editors would like to thank the  
following for their generous financial  
underwriting of The Poetry Page:

Anonymous, Klondike Sound,  
Carlin Barton, Montague Dental  
Arts, Dr. Robert Koolkin, Harry  
Brandt, Green Fields Market,  
Michael Farrick, and Michael Muller.

### Dirigible. Dog Breath. Timbuktu.

If you are a lava lamp, then I am a broken  
heating element, then the freezer stays cooler  
and we are preserved as smoldering finches  
and blood oranges.

If a balloon in your mouth feels like hooray  
followed by a cotton seed, followed by a tumor,  
then the sanitarium is unnecessary  
as you are deeply exploding.

If the report comes back, No intelligent life,  
then no breath, no maraschino cherries, no  
antennae, no win.

Here, I can only think: clog, puff of smoke,  
abstract blob of burned plastic bags.

Everything in this house of ants and lizards,  
from the firecrackers down to the fat lady smoking  
cigarettes on the buckling ice rink,  
is conditional.

If I'm the one who never forgets, then you two  
never remember.

--Matt Hart  
Cincinnati, OH

### Winter War Scenes

1777-78  
Old New-Gate Prison

Though gruel steam escapes too soon  
to ever warm British insides,  
the men locked in the underground \*  
prefer its warmth to light of day  
its shallow space to upward stretch

\*an abandoned copper mine in West Granby, CT

--Kathryn Flagg  
Millers Falls & Allendale, NJ


### Rain in Puerto Angel

Clouds gathered force  
All night, like those fighters  
Of the Mexican Revolution who hid  
In the mountains silent for days  
Eluding the Federales, then swarmed  
Down, raising dust, hurling nerve-  
Freezing cries at the troops, leaving  
Black puddles in the dust


Here it's rain pelling the coco-palms  
A woman calls, "Margarete," and from  
Somewhere in town a little Rasta music  
Plays. Once in a while the Navy does  
Maneuvers accompanied by a rooster  
Who crows late into the afternoon

Perhaps he is trying to perfect something  
That will not be completed  
No matter how many houses are poured  
From concrete. The street, flowing  
In a muddy river, disappears  
Under the pink bridge.

--Patricia Pruitt  
Turners Falls



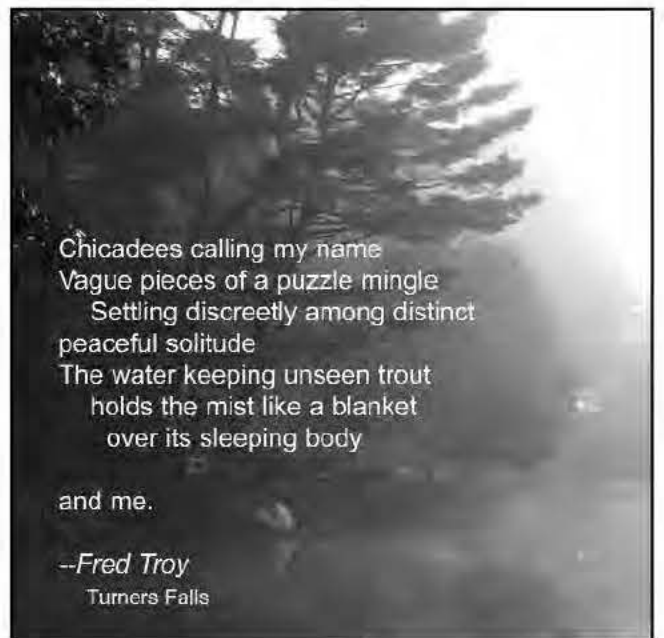
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terrain between the  
subconscious and the shag  
carpet." --Laura Kasichche

**-Amanda  
Nadelberg**  
Her book is "almost eerie in its  
Rimbaudian perfection." --Lisa  
Jarnot

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Chicadees calling my name  
Vague pieces of a puzzle mingle  
Settling discreetly among distinct  
peaceful solitude  
The water keeping unseen trout  
holds the mist like a blanket  
over its sleeping body

and me.

--Fred Troy  
Turners Falls

### CONTRIBUTOR'S NOTES:

Mike Naughton, of Millers Falls, is a member of the Montague capital improvements committee and a town meeting representative from Precinct 2. The opinions expressed in this poem are his own and do not necessarily reflect the views of any other member of town government.

Lori Shine's chapbook *Coming Down in White* was published by Pilot Books. Her poems have appeared in

6x6, *The American Poetry Review*, *Boston Review*, *Conduit*, *New American Writing*, *Tin House* and in the anthology *Isn't It Romantic: 100 Love Poems by Younger American Poets*. She lives in Easthampton, Massachusetts.

Betsy Wheeler grew up in the Upper Mississippi River Valley, received her MFA in poetry from Ohio State University, and was a Stadler Fellow

at Bucknell University's Stadler Center for Poetry. Her poems have recently appeared in numerous journals, and her chapbook, *Start Here*, is available from Small Anchor Press. She is co-editor of *Pilot* and *Pilot Books*. The above poems first appeared in *Octopus Magazine*.

Patricia Pruitt is a member of the Montague Selectboard. Her poems have appeared in a number of

magazines including *Agni* and *Talisman*. Her most recent publication is *Windows* (Pressed Water).

Amanda Nadelberg's poems have appeared in *Octopus*, *Jubilat*, *The Canary*, and other journals. She grew up in Boston and lives in Minneapolis.

Kathryn Flagg is a member of Circle of Voices, a poetry group facilitated by

the library in Allendale, NJ.


Fred Troy lives in Turners Falls.

Emma N. Young, a native of Martha's Vineyard Island, resides in Northampton and has just finished her Bachelor of Arts in poetics at Hampshire College. On May 28 at 9:00pm she will be reading at The Rendezvous in Turners Falls as a part of The Montague Phantom Brain Exchange.

Matt Hart is co-founder and editor of *Forklift, Ohio: A Journal of Poetry, Cooking & Light Industrial Safety*, and the author of *Who's Who Vivid* from Slope Editions and a chapbook, *Revelated* from Hollyridge Press. He teaches at the Art Academy of Cincinnati.



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**NON-SONNET FOR A DRYING MOON**

Last night, while sleeping, I bent everything I own in half-woke up sandwiched in my bed and tried to read the alarm clock's pile of glowing language.

What would Martha do to a room bent all in half? She's unavailable for comment now, it's true, but do you, also you, tell the truth only half of the time?

In the middle of every week and once on Sunday, gardeners work over the entirety of my neighbor's back yard. It's pretty loud. They have a hot tub that they never use.

I would use it. I could use a lot of things. I could use, for instance, the piece of paper that notates how many times today you thought of me.

I've been sitting in my cardboard office all day. You don't know the half of it. And now the late afternoon light in all its warmly cantankerous glow. I almost forgot to mention the leaves,

glazed as they are now with tangerine. Can you see them?

--Betsy Wheeler  
Northampton

**Dear Letter, Writer**

I now understand foreign languages through wishing. Also, for the first time high heels compliment my personality. This is all beauty; knowing to kiss at the right instant. No one quite knows this about me. Even I am unsure of what my address will be, or who will be holding the steering wheel not speaking for a moment while we kiss, instinctually. And so it is to myself that I write a beautiful future.

--Emma N. Young

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**Upcoming Readings**  
April 28 - Lori Shine & Betsy Wheeler  
May 26 - Memorial Day, no reading

This program is supported, in part, by the Wendell Cultural Council, The Massachusetts Cultural Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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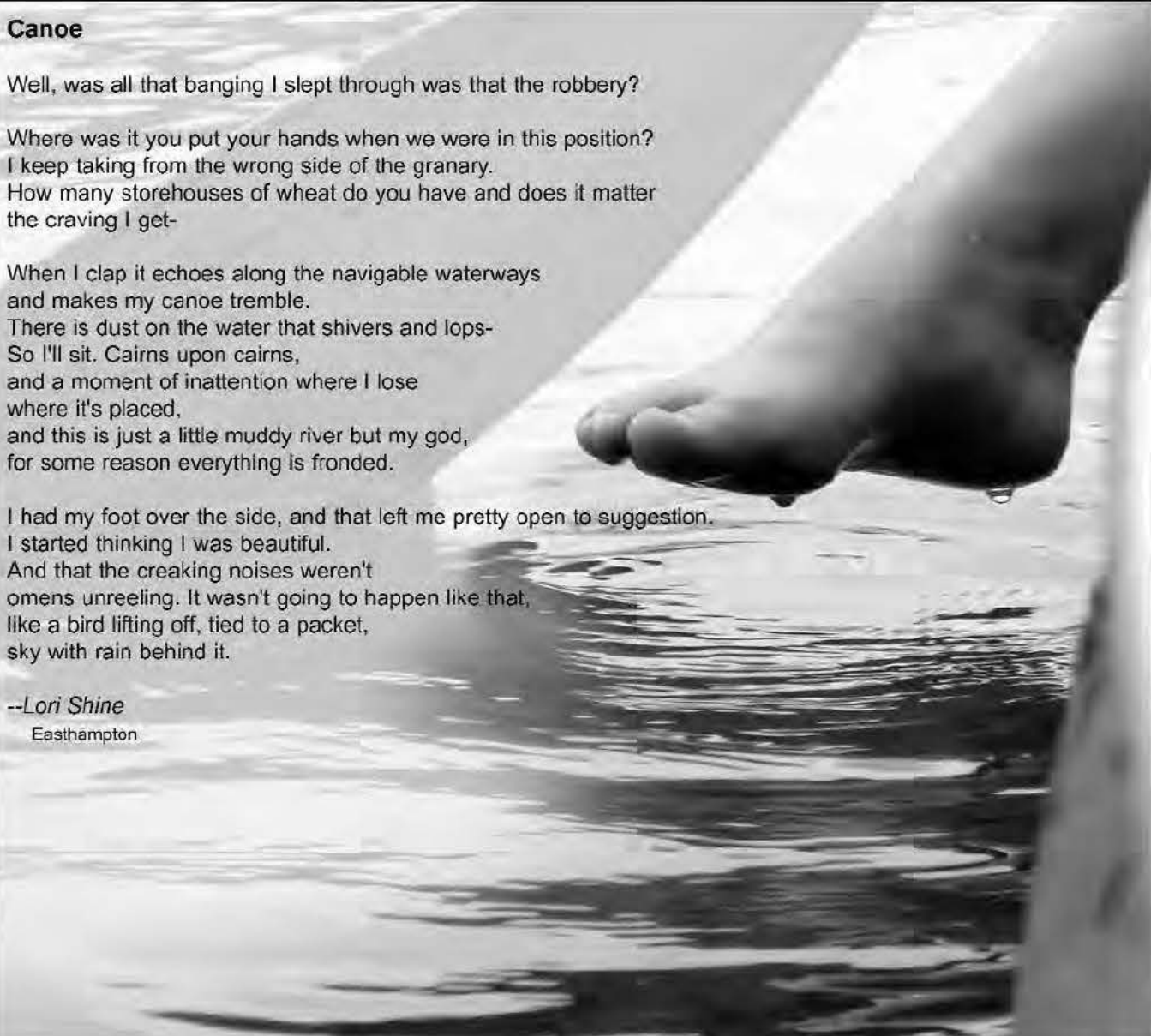
**Canoe**

Well, was all that banging I slept through was that the robbery?  
Where was it you put your hands when we were in this position?  
I keep taking from the wrong side of the granary.  
How many storehouses of wheat do you have and does it matter the craving I get-

When I clap it echoes along the navigable waterways and makes my canoe tremble.  
There is dust on the water that shivers and lops-  
So I'll sit. Cairns upon cairns, and a moment of inattention where I lose where it's placed, and this is just a little muddy river but my god, for some reason everything is fronded.

I had my foot over the side, and that left me pretty open to suggestion.  
I started thinking I was beautiful.  
And that the creaking noises weren't omens unreeling. It wasn't going to happen like that, like a bird lifting off, tied to a packet, sky with rain behind it.

--Lori Shine  
Easthampton



**In Spring**

My sweetie focuses  
On tiny crocuses.



--Mike Naughton  
Millers Falls

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## NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

# Preparing for Auction of Town Property

BY JOSH HEINEMANN - Town treasurer Carolyn Manley met with the Wendell selectboard at its April 16th meeting to go over details about holding an auction of town tax title properties, probably in July or August. She had spoken with the lawyer that Ashfield had used for their auction, Ron Barenson of Northampton, and felt good about that connection because Barenson is local, and he would take care of the whole process, including hiring of an auctioneer. Regular town counsel, Kopelman and Paige, is located

in Boston, close to land court, but they do not specialize in tax title taking, and they have no smooth contact with an auctioneer. After some discussion selectboard member Dan Keller said Manley should go with her instinct, and use the local firm.

Barenson suggested the town refrain from spending money on cleaning up messy parcels, because it is unlikely the town would recover those upfront costs with higher sale prices. The state DEP does not like towns to burn derelict houses. Keller said the road crew has

cleaned up several sites for much less money than what an outsider would charge the town.

Sale of any property deeded to the town, even through foreclosure, has to be approved at an annual town meeting.

Several of the tax title properties have complications, and Manley does not expect to have every piece the town owns ready in time for the auction. Upstream of the Wendell Depot Bridge, the town owns a lot too small for a house, located right on the Millers River. Manley met with the board on Wednesday, April

23rd, to discuss aspects of other specific town-owned properties that might be put up for auction.

In her capacity as member of the interior design committee for the new town offices, Manley asked for an article to be placed on the town meeting warrant to authorize money for hanging the town bicentennial quilt in a protective frame. The design committee has some money left from the \$1,500 authorized for art in the town office building, and the cultural council has given \$1,000 towards the \$2,500 the frame will cost.

Manley asked if Larry Ramsdell, the town custodian, could put up bulletin boards in the office building, and whether they have to be screwed into wall studs. Selectboard chair Ted Lewis said glue would hold the boards, but then locations would have to be permanent. Manley said she would have town officials use tape to mark where they want their bulletin boards located.

The town's unemployment insurance bill has gone up steeply, partly in response to frequent turnovers at the highway department. One problem is the mechanics of how people are hired and let go. Lewis said he spoke with highway superintendent Dan Bacigalupo about the need to maintain a paper trail. Keller said Bacigalupo already has a huge amount of paperwork to contend with. Board member Christine Heard said new hires having the necessary CDL and hoisters licenses within 90 days of being hired should be a condition of employment at the highway department.

Heard said five student volunteers and one adult from Northfield Mount Hermon will be in town on Thursday, April 24th to help with cleanup and maintenance of town properties. Ramsdell said he would leave rakes and brooms for the volunteers to clean around the town hall and the office building.

Heard said there are holly trees at the library volunteers could plant if there is enough time.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich said two people are interested in the open position on the cemetery commission, Michelle Connelly and Sheila Rowe. One member of the commission must be observing whenever a grave is dug in a town cemetery.

The selectboard went into executive session while waiting for the finance committee to finish their business and come into the selectboard room, and returned to open session when the finance committee entered.

Aldrich said the New Salem selectboard sent a letter to the state department of Elementary and Secondary Education, questioning items put in the Mahar High School budget under the category of debt and transportation. Christine Lynch from the DESE admitted those items belong elsewhere in the budget, but said it is too late in the budget process to change them now; fiscal 2010 will be soon enough.

The finance committees of Wendell and New Salem are scheduled to meet Thursday, April 17th, and Orange and Petersham have been invited to that meeting as well. Michael Idoine of the finance committee said if Orange had approved the alternative method of school assessment, which would equalize Orange and Wendell's per student payments at Mahar, he would not have a problem with changing the debt and transportation line in FY '10, but as things stand he feels Wendell town meeting voters should approve only the amount the alternative assessment method would authorize for the town's Mahar assessment this year.

Idoine said he also needs the board's approval to talk with town counsel about changing the way that Swift River School capital expenses are shared by Wendell and New Salem, so that each town pays 50%.

## A Turning Point



Cheryl and Terry recently performed at the Clarion Hotel in West Springfield. Their work at this performance was wedding up-do's and evening wear.

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Cheryl and Terry were chosen to be two of 12 hair stylists in Mass. for the Mass Design Team. They have traveled throughout the Northeast and Connecticut teaching other hairdressers. Along with educational classes, Cheryl and Terry have put on shows featuring long hair styles and custom bridal headpieces for Sebastian, Paul Mitchell, Wella, Peter Hantz, Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods.



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**NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD**

# Routine Business at the Montague Selectboard

**BY DAVID DETMOLD** - On Monday, April 21st, the Montague selectboard held a brief meeting where they dealt with routine matters in the absence of chair Pat Allen, who was away on a well-earned vacation. Police chief Ray Zukowski got the board's approval to hire three new part-time dispatchers: Sara Emery, of Ripley Road in Montague, Tammy Walsh, of Greenfield, and Wendy Miller, of Northfield. Zukowski called all three well-qualified applicants who will bring plenty of prior dispatch experience to the job.

Zukowski also asked the board to schedule interviews for six candidates from the state Civil Service list, who are interested in applying for five reserve officer positions on the Montague department.

Mike Sweeney, Turners Falls Municipal Airport manager,

came in to ask the board to sign grant assurances from the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission (MAC) to purchase new mowing equipment for the airport, and the board did so. In the discussion that ensued, selectboard member Allen Ross brought up the recent controversy over racial slurs at the April 4th meeting of the TFMA commissioners and MAC director Robert Welch. "We will be discussing that at a subsequent meeting," said Ross, "to see exactly what our responsibility is, should that matter need our attention." Board member Patricia Pruitt said the matter would be on the selectboard's agenda for Monday, April 28th.

After a brief discussion, the board agreed to ask the finance committee to authorize a reserve fund transfer for \$1250 to pay a bill for fire alarm box inspection by the Turners Falls Fire

Department. Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio said this was the first time the TFFD had billed the town for this service, and the bill had arrived in the middle of the budget year, when no money had been allocated to pay for it. A letter to the fire department asking for the bill to be voided in consideration of the DPW's assistance with occasional plowing and sanding at the fire department was turned down by the Prudential Committee, which issues similar bills to all businesses in town, Abbondanzio said.

The board granted gathering permits for the First Congregational Church of Montague for their annual Old Home Days gathering, (August 15th - 17th) and for the Newt Guilbault League's parade from the high school to the Sheffield ball field, and for a Saturday morning fishing derby at the

Montague Center School, from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. on May 3rd. Pruitt called the latter, "a great, fun event, and unfortunately this will be the last year." The board also approved a "public toll booth" on the corner of Avenue A and 3rd Street to raise funds for the Relay for Life.

Abbondanzio corrected a false report in one of the local papers that the Montague pre-town meeting will take place at the high school. In fact, it will take place at the Montague town hall, second floor, on Wednesday, April 30th, at 7 p.m. Ross called this meeting another chance for the public to make suggestions about how the town can get through the current fiscal

crisis.

A pole hearing was held for Western Massachusetts Electric Company on the company's request to relocate one utility pole ten feet on Sunderland Road (Route 47) and place four other poles at intervals along Gunn Road, to allow hook-ups for a number of new building lots there. Ross commented it was difficult to save all prime farmland in town from development, because not enough money was available to preserve open land. John Reynolds commented from the floor that new residential development would wind up costing the town money in town services.

**STATE ADOPTS LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR VETERANS**

**BOSTON** - On April 10th, a Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs bill, establishing a special commission to examine the effects of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan on Massachusetts servicemembers, became law in Massachusetts. This is the first time the state has established such a commission since one was formed in 1981 to examine the needs of Vietnam War veterans.

In Massachusetts, nearly 29,000 servicemembers have returned home since 2001, including 5,869 members of the Massachusetts National Guard. Last year, the Veterans & Federal Affairs Committee held a hearing to discuss issues of veterans mental health and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). A recent report from the Institute of Medicine finds that 25% of returning Iraq and

Afghanistan combat veterans will face mental health problems, though it is estimated that only 27% will seek treatment at a VA medical center. While the Department of Veterans Affairs has refused to classify the increasing suicide rates among Iraq and Afghan veterans as an "epidemic," the suicide rate of Army soldiers in 2007 has more than doubled since 2001.

**BOUT** from pg 1

rounds, Lamonakis threw punches, bobbed and weaved, and took some solid hits. But she gave no ground; she kept moving forward, and Hargraves was unable to fend her off. Hargraves threw haymakers and combinations and ducked and weaved, but Lamonakis kept on coming, stepping into each punch and shaking off each jolt. And in the end, Sonya Lamonakis stood victorious with her gloves in the air, while the crowd cheered her on and waved Greek flags.

"I never doubted it for a minute," Sharon Lamonakis,

Sonya's mother said after the fight. "Not for a minute." After the fight, as she hugged her supporters and posed for pictures, Lamonakis looked radiant. "I'm going to drop down a weight class next year," she said after the fight. If she wins next year, she'll have won Four World Championships, in two different weight divisions.

Her father, Steve Lamonakis, shook his head and said quietly that he worries about Sonya when she fights. But he smiled proudly as she celebrated another win.



**CHURCH** from pg 1

Ancil plans to rechristen the church as the Swift River Music Hall. By September of this year, he hopes to have completed the renovations, which he estimated will cost between \$350,000 and \$500,000. He said he is already working with the well-established Tupelo Music Hall in Londonderry, NH to bring in a variety of acoustic acts ranging from blues to singer-songwriters to jazz acts. He hopes they will begin appearing at the former church hall this fall.

"Seats won't be all that cheap," said Ancil. "We're thinking the ticket price will be about \$30 for most acts. At the same time, we're more than willing to make the venue available at cost to nonprofits on off-nights." Ancil also noted that he plans to offer discounts and publicity for those who use green power to come to the con-

certs. "I'm thinking of maybe giving a 50% discount to those who come on bikes or in hybrid cars. We'll see how it evolves."

Ancil also said he will be making use of the extensive church kitchen to prepare food for concert-goers, though these details have yet to be worked out. He also intends to apply for a beer and wine license.

Despite all the planned renovations, Ancil said he intends to preserve the basic character of Ste. Anne's. The walls will be modular, and he intends to store

the pews. "It could be a perfect location for a film crew needing a small church to shoot some scenes," he noted.

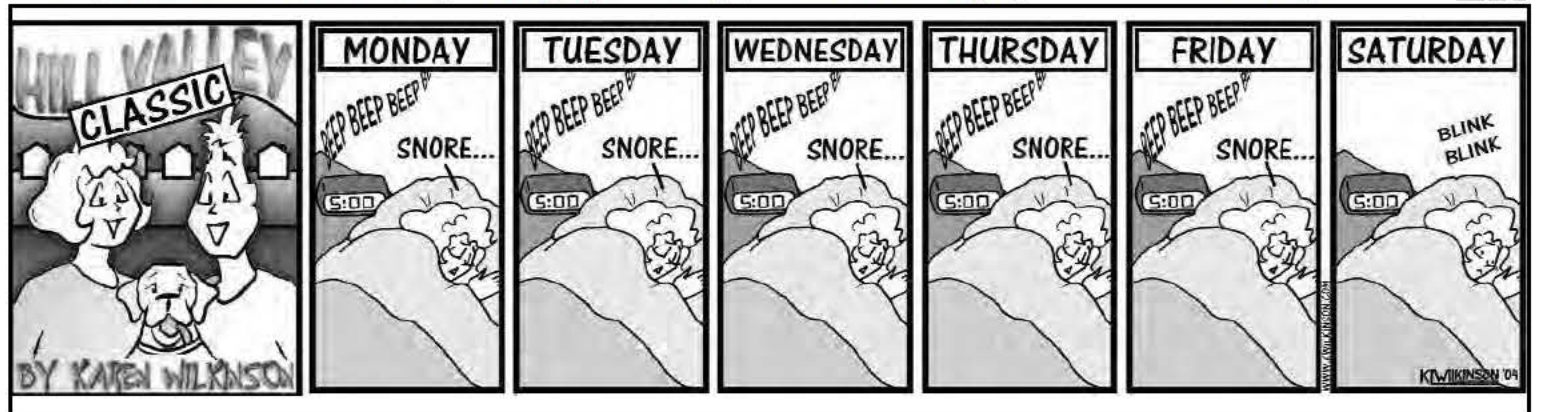
Once the rehab is complete, he figures seating capacity in the hall will be about 300; for some acts he might even need to have two separate seatings. This would mean drawing upwards of 500 people to Turners Falls. "I believe the Music Hall will attract folks from all over," said Ancil. "This will help to make Turners a true destination. What I hope is that people will linger,

do some shopping, frequent the local restaurants and bars. I think this can only be good for the community."

The rectory fits into Ancil's plans when he thinks about concert goers who might like to spend a night or two, rather than hop in their car and drive back to a distant destination. He's hoping he can turn this building into a bed and breakfast, meeting another unmet need in town. He also intends to use some of the rectory for offices for his Swift River Company.

When asked about his plans for the Strathmore, Ancil said he was still very engaged in attempting to gain control of that property. He noted he thought the purchase of Ste. Anne's was a major step in his plans to transform Turners Falls into a major cultural center.

With the church and rectory purchase complete, Ancil's dreams are beginning to become responsibilities. "I'm crossing my fingers and hoping for the best," he said. "It's exciting."



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**NOTES FROM THE GILL- MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

# Mullins Softball Field Proposed

**BY DAVID DETMOLD** - Chelseigh St. Peter and Kellie Lastowski of the Turners Falls girls softball team came before the Gill Montague school committee on Tuesday, April 22nd to ask permission to name the Turners Falls varsity softball field after their coach Gary Mullins. "He has coached the team for 35 years," said Lastowski. "He's won five state titles and ten Western Mass titles. If people realized how much effort he put into the softball team," they would support the team's request, she said.

School committee member Joyce Phillips wondered if the school committee has the power to grant the girls' request, since the dedication in place at the high

school since October 1st, 1994 names all the athletic fields after Edward J. Bourdeau. Committee chair Mary Kociela asked for the policy subcommittee to develop a more detailed policy on naming areas of school grounds or buildings.

Superintendent Ken Roche complimented the girls on bringing their request to the committee. "I think it's wonderful you thought so highly of your coach and came forward."

In other news, Roche noted that the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education had requested a simplified version of his Turnaround Plan for the district. The GMRSD has been labeled

'underperforming' by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Roche reduced the plan from 29 to 8 pages. The draft of the reduced plan is meant to show the DESE "what we can definitely do next year," rather than the broader vision of what might be possible if adequate funding were available for the district.

Among its features, the section on Elementary Schools Configuration noted, "We're anticipating shifting positions from classroom teaching to delivery of ancillary services (reading, math specialist and coaches)."

The committee approved a request by Roche to move up the deadline to May 1st for notifying

parents of potential inter-district school choice students who wish to enter GMRSD schools. The earlier date is intended to keep the GMRSD competitive with other districts in the area. Kociela, who serves on an informal committee of school committee members, town officials, and local legislators in Franklin County, said, "Wouldn't it be nice if all the school districts in Franklin County had the same timeline?" for deciding on school choice applications. She will recommend that to the informal countywide committee.

The committee decided to rotate school committee meetings, at least once a year, to each of the remaining elementary schools in the district, as an

outreach effort to the community.

Director of Elementary Education Chip Wood outlined plans for increasing environmental programs at the elementary schools, including a possible expansion of the traditional Sergeant Center program at Gill Elementary to include project based learning for sixth graders, and year-round exposure to environmental programs for all grades at the school, tapping human and natural resources in the community. He also talked about bringing programs from the Hitchcock Center to all the elementary schools, and taking advantage of the resources available at the Great Falls Discovery Center.

## S.O.S. Golf Tournament and Montague Mile Fundraiser

**BY STACEY LANGKNECHT** Once again, the Support Our Students (SOS) organization is producing a golf tournament and Montague Mile race to raise money for the students of the Gill-Montague Regional School District. This year, the event will take place on Saturday, May 10th. Tee-off begins at 8 a.m. at Thomas Memorial Country Club in Turners Falls, and the Montague Mile begins at 10 a.m. at the Turners Falls High School track.

This year the golf tournament

will honor Alan Adie, a longtime resident of Gill and a great supporter of the students of the GMRSD. According to his daughter, Bev Demars, Adie was always the first dad at the baseball field with the kids, and to this day he still attends the events in which his grandchildren and great-grandchildren participate. Mr. Adie has always been involved with our school district on various levels, including being a school committee member at one point.

The Montague Mile will continue to honor Jack Bassett, another great supporter of our schools, who taught at Turners Falls High School for quite a few years.

To register for the golf tournament, or to sponsor a hole, please call Stacey Langknecht at 367-9418 or email her at [mike@masscraft.com](mailto:mike@masscraft.com). To register for the Montague Mile, please call Bob Avery at 863-9502 or email him at [ravery21@hotmail.com](mailto:ravery21@hotmail.com).



DETMOLD PHOTO

Students at the Sheffield School put on a spirited performance of *Once on This Island* on Friday, April 18th. Song and dance and exotic costumes helped the players tell the story of a star-crossed island romance.

## Upcoming at the Athol Bird and Nature Club

**Fridays May 2 – May 16: Nature Walks with Earl**

ABNC is offering a series of local forest walks to introduce residents and friends to our own home. The walks are comfortable and there will be opportunity to learn a simple identification of wildlife. Wear comfortable shoes, bring a small amount of water, wear long sleeves and hats, bring a camera and a walking stick might be appreciated too. All trips leave promptly at 9:00 AM from the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol. Rain will cancel

Join Joan and Larry on a half day trip to Boston's most historic cemetery and one of Massachusetts top birding hotspots. Meet at the center at 6:00 AM to carpool. Call ahead if meeting at the gate (978) 249-4964

**Sunday May 4 - 7:00 AM: Sunday Morning Birding with Jeff**

Join Jeff Johnstone for a half-day trip as he explores the local area for migrating spring birds. Meet at the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol

**Sunday May 4 – 1:00 - 5:00 PM: In Search of Stinkpots**

Join Lori Johnson as we search local waters for Common Musk Turtles also known as "Stinkpots." Be prepared to wade in shallow water. Bring drinking water and a snack. Contact Dave 978-413-1772 or [Dave@dhsml.net](mailto:Dave@dhsml.net) for information. Meet at the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol

**Friday May 2 – 9:00 AM: Walk from the Red Bridge to the Train Trestle**

Walk along the Millers in a place where Ted Williams fly fished. Leave from the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street at 9:00 AM promptly. Rain will cancel the trip

**Saturday May 3 – 6:00 AM: Mount Auburn Cemetery**

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GILL POLICE LOG

## Larceny Reports

**Wednesday, 4/16**  
12:35 p.m. Mattress fire on Mount Hermon campus. Assisted

With removing same from dormitory before FD arrived on scene.

**Thursday, 4/17**

6:10 p.m. Report of erratic driving on French King Hwy, checked area, unable to locate.

**Friday, 4/18**

11:01 a.m. Hit and run accident at Gill-Montague bridge

**Saturday, 4/19**

1:28 a.m. Criminal complaint sought against [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Charged with Operating with a suspended license, and defective equipment.

10:32 p.m. Report of unwanted subject on Franklin Road.

**Sunday, 4/20**

7:02 p.m. Report of a larceny from a Main Road residence.

10:15 p.m. Assisted Northfield police with disturbance.

**Monday, 4/21**

11:34 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency on Main Road.

**Tuesday, 4/22**

5:23 a.m. Assisted with medical emergency on Oak Street.

9:33 a.m. Burglar alarm on Mount Hermon Campus

6:14 p.m. Report of suspicious subject on Main Road.

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# The Essence of Country - Gill-Montague Education Fund Gala: April 26th!

**TURNERS FALLS**--On Saturday, April 26, Bear Country 95.3 and the Gill-Montague Education Fund will host a "Backyard Holiday" reception prior to the 4th Annual Gala, "The Essence of Country."

The Pre-Show Reception is an opportunity for the GMEF Board of Directors to extend special thanks to the underwriters and sponsors whose contributions help to defray the costs associated with the concert. Anyone who has made a tier-giving contribution to benefit the goal of the GMEF to raise money for the enrichment of students' education will receive an invitation to the reception. They should send their contributions to GMEF, PO Box 383, Turners Falls, MA 01376. Deadline is April 23rd. Reception tickets can be picked up at the door the night of the concert.

"It is not only a relaxing, fun-time for the supporters and contributors of the Gill-Montague Education Fund, but also a wonderful opportunity for the GMEF to support local businesses," said Joyce Phillips, producer of the gala. Businesses exchange finger desserts for the reception for a quarter-page ad in the concert program valued at \$125. They

will display business cards and/or menus and any material they wish with their own personal touch.

Underwriters, Hillside Plastics, Inc., and The Montague Elks; Sponsors Construction Monitoring Services and New England Extrusion; along with many tier-givers will join the GMEF Board of Directors and Bear Country's Kevin Collins for the "Backyard Holiday". They will enjoy a special BBQ Fountain serving chicken tenders, meatballs, and kielbasa with party breads.

They will also have the opportunity to enjoy delicious treats from, 2nd Street Baking Company, Green Fields Market, 7 South Bakery, Elm Farm Bakery, Richardson's Candy and Aitkin's Fruit Farm.

The reception will take place in the Turners Falls High School cafeteria from 6:30-7:15 p.m. April 26. The 4th Annual Gala, "The Essence of Country" featuring celebrated singer, song-writer, Don Campbell and his band will follow in the at 7:30 in the theater.

Ticket Locations: Scotty's Convenience Store, World Eye Bookshop, Bear Country 95.3 & WHAI Studios, call Sandy @ TFHS 863-7218 or at www.thegmef.org.

# Family, Fiddleheads, Flowers and Frogs at Northfield Mountain

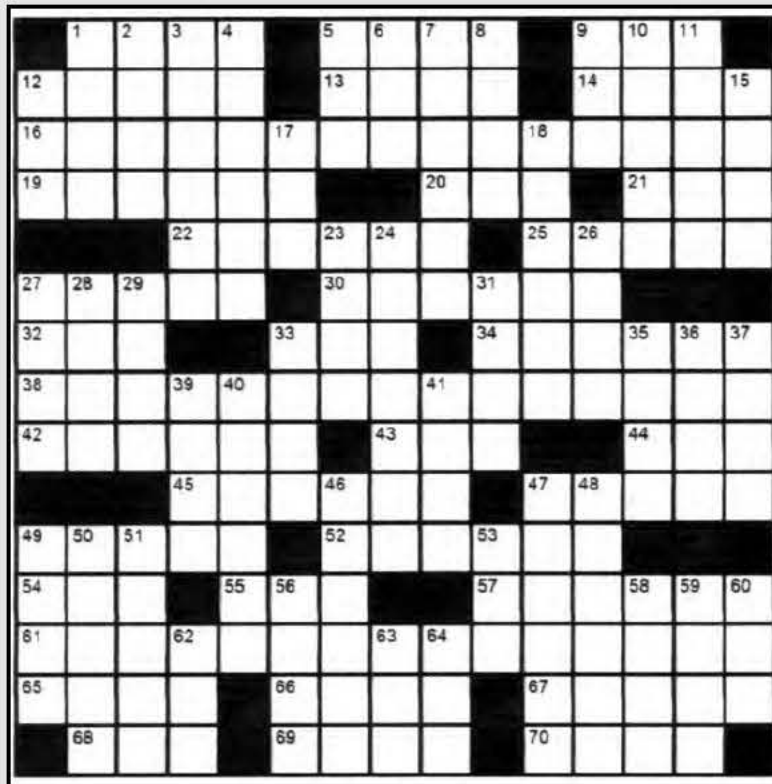
On Saturday, May 3rd, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., families will enjoy three rites of spring in one magical evening. Stroll along the banks of the Connecticut River and feast your senses on the beauty of spring wildflowers, the green, earthy taste of just picked and boiled fiddle heads and the sounds of an enthusiastic spring peeper chorus. The program, the third in our 'eating local' series, begins at



the Northfield Mountain Visitor Center, off Route 63 in Northfield. For ages six and older. Pre-register for the free program by calling 800-859-2960.

## "Sounds Like . . ."

by Norma Johnson



**Across:**

- 1. Thai tender
- 5. Money makers?
- 9. Tax org.
- 12. Aunt in "Oklahoma"
- 13. Honeybunch
- 14. Milk in Marseille
- 16. Bread or dough?
- 19. Rice in China
- 20. General on a Chinese menu
- 21. Rent
- 22. Guru
- 25. Giants and Pirates, abbr.
- 27. Plains dwelling
- 30. "Pay attention!"
- 32. Bard's before
- 33. Maple syrup source
- 34. Cry from a lifeboat
- 38. Avon's "Honeysuckle" and "Lavender Blossom"
- 42. Where Grace once reigned
- 43. Crock
- 44. Anderson Cooper's channel
- 45. Shred
- 47. Kind of slip
- 49. Part of perfume
- 52. Playground retort
- 54. Sound at a stadium
- 55. Subject of a well-known ode
- 57. John D. Rockefeller, for one
- 61. Documentary featuring the Talking Heads
- 65. Weight allowance
- 66. Kind of pool
- 67. Uneven
- 68. Carl, to his baseball fans
- 69. This might be gray
- 70. Tourney watchers' channel

**Down:**

- 1. Smudge
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_breve
- 3. "SOS!"
- 4. Irish port
- 5. Gym targets
- 6. Party preceeder
- 7. Meditator's incantation
- 8. Froth
- 9. Sight in the Seine
- 10. Where the deer and the antelope play
- 11. Ravi's instrument
- 12. Asner and Begley
- 15. Recipe amts.
- 17. Stimpj's canine companion
- 18. Flu fighter
- 23. Potentate of the past
- 24. Theoretically
- 26. Naught, in tennis
- 27. Jail time
- 28. Switch ending
- 29. Drudge
- 31. "Hey, you!"
- 33. Smudge
- 35. Letter abbr.
- 36. "\_\_\_\_\_Reader"
- 37. Info for 9-Across
- 39. Buddy
- 40. Harum-\_\_\_\_\_
- 41. Yesteryear
- 46. Flying gas station?
- 47. "Got it!"
- 48. Some web surfers
- 49. Formerly, formerly
- 50. Skewered food
- 51. Birch of "Ghost World"
- 53. Garment
- 56. Ravi's melodic mode
- 58. Alphabetic run
- 59. 64-Down, for one
- 60. Formerly
- 62. Dispenser treat
- 63. Like Bruckner's 7th Symphony
- 64. Teachers' grp.

## Gill Montague Women Business Owners Association Meeting April 29th

Gill Montague Women Business Owners Association

The next meeting of the Gill-Montague Women Business Owners Association will take place on Tuesday, April 29th, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Patty Cakes Patty Cakes, on Fourth St in Turners Falls. Owner Patty McClelland will have coffee, tea and savory snacks available. Please come prepared to support her woman-owned business.

Guest speaker Leta Herman will give a talk on 'The Five Elements for Business Leaders, Realizing Your Elemental Potential'. Discover how the Chinese Five Element

philosophy can help you maximize your full potential in business, and enhance your customer, employee and co-worker interactions.

There will be another raffle, donated by Sharon Lamonikas of Scotty's. Last month's raffle was for a half hour massage by Deb Graham, won by Stacey Langknecht. Bring your business cards - not only can you hand them out, they might win you a raffle prize!

And, please bring something that represents your business to help you tell us about what you do.

RSVP to kradams1@verizon.net.

- Norma Johnson lives in Montague Center

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## THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

# Suddenly Spring

BY LESLIE BROWN

**MONTAGUE CITY** - Towards the end of February, impatient with the lingering winter, I started leeks and onions as seed in my sunroom. They germinated a week later as slender green blades of grass, thin and fragile-looking for the solid root crop into which they would develop.

By early April, their roots were escaping from the bottom of their plant trays. Looking out at the snow covered garden, it didn't seem possible that the leek and onion plants could be put in the ground as usual by mid-month. But the early spring sun is high and strong. Soon the snow had left the raised beds and had peeled off all but the extreme edges of the garden.

Sure enough, on the third weekend of the month, the ground in the raised bed was dry and warm, ready for the small plants which were more than ready to escape their containers.

I put the leeks into the ground in trenches about four inches deep with a sprinkling of bone meal at the bottom. Leeks

produce thick, white bulbs at the depth at which they are buried. Planted too shallowly, they produce tiny bulbs and mostly green stalks. I will add soil as they grow, eventually covering them to the depth of the trench.

The onions, Ailsa Craig Exhibition, are mild and tasty for eating raw. They do not store over winter well and are meant for enjoying at the end of the season into late fall. These plants start from seed the size of the head of a pin, and given root room, develop into a crop which is two to four inches across. These I also planted with bone meal, but shallowly, pressing the ground around them.

Now, at the traditional time of the school vacation break, I have broken the ground in the main garden beds and planted peas, spinach, lettuce, carrots and kale. Last fall's labor of turning in the soil with manure has paid off; the surface of the soil needs just a light touch with the potato rake, and the

ground is crumbling finely, ready to go. Since spinach is a heavy feeder, I sprinkled compost into the seed trough. The carrots got a small dose of wood ash for sweetener.

Over time it has become clear that racing to get seeds or seedlings in before a mental deadline has not paid off. Crops planted a week or two later catch up to the earlier ones for which conditions were not quite as favorable.

Two weeks ago, I started tomatoes and peppers in mini-greenhouses. The seeds sprouted in a week in the warm conditions of the sunroom. Now they sport the beginnings of their true leaves. These starter greenhouses work really well. The seeds keep moist and warm, sprouting and developing quickly. The downside is that the seeds are growing in a small half-inch space, which they outgrow quickly.

Now the tomato and pepper roots are reaching out of the bottom of their growing space. It's time to put each delicate lit-

tle seedling into its own pot. They were started in an extremely light soil mixture. Leaving them in these original containers would stunt growth because of inadequate food and root room.

Admittedly, this is tedious and picky work. If that doesn't suit, you should wait and purchase your plants grown and ready to go at a farmers market, when all danger of frost has passed.

I'll be transplanting first into small pots about two inches in width with regular potting soil, then once more into four inch pots before the season is right for planting into the garden, (here by the river, about Memorial Day). I'll also be adding feed: a mild application of liquid seaweed in the water maybe once every other watering. The goal is to raise plants that are strong and sturdy, not yellow or leggy, ready to take on the outside world in a few



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK

weeks.

With the unseasonable warmth of the past week we have moved quickly from late winter to full early spring bloom. The daffodils went directly from tight bud to full flower in the woods at the edge of the yard, the bloodroot has blossomed and the apricots are in full flower. The lilacs will open with their wonderful scent any day now.

This long awaited season is all too short. The early blooming plants have a brief term; the splendid light greens and yellows don't hold long. Too soon it will be full summer. Don't forget to get outside to hear the peepers and to admire the fragile blooms and colors of this exquisite season.

## NOTES FROM THE WESTERN MASS CLAM GATHERING

**TOM WYATT GREENFIELD** - Seventeen people attended a Western Massachusetts Clamshell Alliance meeting in Greenfield on Saturday, April 19th in the downstairs meeting room of the Greenfield public library. The meeting began with a ragged, but spirited, rendition of "Acres of Clams." Depressed by how out of tune they sounded after 30 years, Shel Horowitz noted that anti-

nuke troubador Charlie King lived locally, and where was he? Not 15 seconds later, Charlie walked in. That was a bit of the old Clam magic, and Charlie led us in another song or two.

Joan Sellers is planning to organize on the UMass campus, selected a working name of Five College Clam. We formed a committee to help her, with Sharon Tracy, Charles T. Smith, and others volunteering. Joan plans a teach-in in the fall, preceded by literature tables over the summer. Sharon wrote up a quick fact sheet at Joan's request about how the Clam organized (non-violence trainings, affinity group formation, consensus, decision making process, etc.).

John Ward gave an update on the Safe and Green Campaign. Fifteen Western Mass towns have placed resolutions on their town meeting warrants opposing the relicensing of Vermont Yankee. Only one town has had its town meeting so far - Conway - and there the motion passed with no dissenting discussion or votes. The rest are of the town meetings are scheduled from late

April through June. A meeting for town meeting organizers is scheduled for this Friday, April 25th, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm, at Green Fields Market, in the upstairs community room, in Greenfield. Safe and Green hopes to have representatives from all the towns with resolutions attend. As the summer moves on, the focus will shift to organizing for next year's Vermont town meetings, and the impending vote in the Vermont State Legislature on relicensing Vermont Yankee.

Sharon Tracy gave an update about meetings with sympathetic local legislators, the Mass. Department of Public Health Commissioner, and concerned citizens. A key result was a common letter being drafted for local Boards of Health to sign regarding public health dangers and evacuation plan limitations regarding Vermont Yankee.

The next W. Mass Clam gathering is set for Saturday, June 21st from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Greenfield Public Library. Call 978-544-3911 for more information.

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JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

# THE HEALTHY GEEZER: How to Handle Male Breast Enlargement

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - Q. My breasts have become large and I'm embarrassed. What can I do?

This question came from a man in his sixties. Breast enlargement in males is common. So is the embarrassment. About 30 percent of older men have this condition, which can be caused by hormonal changes or simple weight gain. It can occur

in one or both breasts.

When the usual balance of the female hormone estrogen and the male hormone testosterone in a man shifts, he can get "gynecomastia," which is derived from two Greek words that mean "woman" and "breast."

Estrogen controls female traits including the growth of breasts. Testosterone dictates male traits such as muscle mass and body hair.

Males normally produce small quantities of estrogen to regulate bone density, sperm production and mood. Natural hormonal changes that lead to gynecomastia occur not only in old age but also during infancy and adolescence.

Gynecomastia can be caused by a health problem such as liver,

kidney or thyroid diseases. And, this condition can also result from drinking alcohol or taking drugs such as steroids, marijuana, amphetamines and heroin.

There are medications that can cause gynecomastia, too. These include: anti-androgens such as finasteride that are used to treat prostate cancer; AIDS medications such as efavirenz or didanosine; anti-anxiety medications such as Valium; tricyclic antidepressants; antibiotics; ulcer medications such as cimetidine; chemotherapy drugs, and heart medications such as digitalis and calcium channel-blockers.

Some additional symptoms of gynecomastia include tenderness, swelling and nipple discharge.

If you have enlarged breasts,

see your doctor for a check-up. Enlarged breasts can be a symptom of breast cancer or a testicular tumor.

There is a condition called "pseudogynecomastia." This occurs when a male just has a lot of chest fat that enlarges his breasts. You can tell the difference between false gynecomastia and the real thing by examining the breasts.

In the examination, a health-care professional spreads a thumb and forefinger and places them - opposing each other - on the circumference of the breast. The fingers are then squeezed gently toward the nipple. Gynecomastia is diagnosed if there is enlarged glandular tissue that feels like a rubbery disk. Often, this tissue can be moved

around.

Gynecomastia usually will go away without treatment. This condition is often treated with drugs. Sometimes, enlarged breasts are reduced surgically.

Medications used to treat breast cancer and other conditions may be helpful for some men with gynecomastia. These drugs include anti-estrogen medications such as raloxifene and tamoxifen.

Two types of surgery are used to treat gynecomastia: liposuction and mastectomy. Liposuction removes breast fat, but not the breast gland tissue. Mastectomy removes the breast gland tissue.

If you have a question, please write to [fred@healthygeez.com](mailto:fred@healthygeez.com)

## FLANDREAU from 8

give up a treasured hobby, not to mention the impact the intervention may have on family members. A lot of people have health care issues that mean they will never be the same. An example might be undergoing a heart valve replacement, or perhaps the condition necessitates taking a certain medication for the rest of their life. So, the better a person understands where they're going, the better the outcome."

In this way, Flandreau views himself as a teacher, or perhaps even a facilitator, the professional who makes the path the patient embarks on more comprehensible, and perhaps a bit easier.

Flandreau's current full-time practice centers on advising patients about their health care options, an endeavor for which he is uniquely qualified. After all, he has hit the medical trifecta. He has been a successful consumer of serious medical care, experienced medical and surgical training, and also completed academic coursework coupled with practical work as a counselor. He is board-qualified as a physician, board-certified in quality assurance and in utilization review.

At this time, Flandreau is consulting with a hospital in Maine on mindfulness and loving kindness in medicine, and with an outpatient psychology service that aids clients who also have medical

diagnoses.

Flandreau takes great care in making sure his role as a health care decision counselor is clear. "My role is not to take over a doctor-patient relationship. I want to improve that relationship. Physicians are at risk when they don't communicate well. When patients ask the right questions, physicians will achieve better outcomes."

In his role as a health care decision counselor, Flandreau tries to help clients formulate better questions for their primary care providers, and come to a better understanding of their medical condition in their own terms. "I'm seeking empowerment," Flandreau said. "It's helpful for a person to see their illness as a challenge representing not only

danger, but also opportunity. Those diagnosed with serious illness can lose their trust in life, and part of healing is to regain that trust by understanding and re-valuing their own values, so to speak."

Shockingly, many people blame themselves for becoming ill, according to Flandreau. "Vulnerability is not a patient's fault," he said. "It's simply a part of life. I want my clients to know that."

One story about vulnerability stands out in the Turners Falls resident's mind. "I was doing an operation during my advanced training in surgery at Dartmouth Hitchcock in Hanover, New Hampshire," he recalled. "A young, healthy farmer around 50 years old suffered numbness in his legs

every time he bent over his tractor. He was diagnosed with an aneurism in his abdomen. When I advised him of the danger in the upcoming surgery, he calmly told me, 'Doctor, I really wasn't planning on getting out of this life alive.' He had more peace coming into the operation than I did. He taught me a lot."

Flandreau's health care counseling centers on the primacy of decisionmaking. "People should respect their comfort level with a decision. You should never, ever surrender your right to consent. If you're not paying attention to your own value system, then you're not taking care of yourself."



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

**THURSDAY, APRIL 24th**  
Open Women's Singing Circle: sharing songs and chants of healing, inspiration, and women's empowerment. 7 to 9 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church, Greenfield. Ongoing each Thursday, contact: Joy Kaubin (413) 367-0114 [stillwaters3@verizon.net](mailto:stillwaters3@verizon.net)

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Larry Kopp** - Country and City Blues guitar with vocals, 8 - 10 p.m.

At the Montague Book Mill: Equinox Open Mic 7 to 9 p.m., free. Bring your poems, prose, proems, a libretto, some musical riffs, watercolors or any creation light enough to be carried. Sign-up starts at 6:30.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 25th**  
Bouquet of Music Concert, Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield: Jazz pianist Peter Monroe, of Turners Falls performs on piano and guitar from noon to 12:45 p.m., in the hospital's main lobby. The public is invited to join patients, their visitors, and hospital staff for this special mid-day concert. Refreshments will be served.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Dance or Die**, electro etc. dance dance dj dance, \$3 cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Wildwood Unplugged** - Indie Folk, 9 - 11 p.m.

At The Montague Book Mill, Montague Center: **Dan Kennedy and Paul Kaplan**, 8 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: Blues Harp Blowout with Factory Defect - rock & roll covers. Come to Dance! 9:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 25th & 26th**

At the Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Arena Civic Theater presents *The Music Lesson* by Tammy Ryan, directed by Robert Freedman. Family drama exploring the relationship between a refugee couple from Bosnia who are music teachers and their young American students. 7 p.m. Tickets by phone (413) 863-2281, at the World Eye Book Shop and at the door.

The Asparagus Valley Pottery Trail, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A sale and tour of 9 clay studios in western Mass. [www.asparagusvalleypotterytrail.com](http://www.asparagusvalleypotterytrail.com)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26th**  
Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography Open Reception for Stella Johnson's exhibit "Al Sol," Photographer Searches for Universal Experience. Gently revealing black and white images from rural Mexico, Nicaragua and Africa. Live music and *hors d'oeuvres* held at Gallery 85 from 1 - 5 p.m. Illustrated Artist's Talk by Johnson held at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium at the Hallmark Institute of Photography, 27 Industrial Boulevard, Turners Falls.

**4th Annual Gill-Montague Education Fund Gala: The Essence of Country** featuring Don Campbell and his band. Fund raiser for enrichment opportunities in the Gill/Montague district, Turners Falls High School, 7 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center: Skin-Bonz, Junkyard Brass Band! Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. This program is oriented towards early childhood music enrichment. Make your own instruments and jam with the band. [www.greatfallsma.org](http://www.greatfallsma.org)

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Wood Green Empire**, gypsy jazz, \$3 cover. These Guys are Great!

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Eric Love** - Singer/songwriter with covers from the 60's & 70's, 9 - 11 p.m.



*Jim Armenti - Vocals and Guitars, Ray Mason - Vocals and Bass, and Tom Shea - Drums and Vocals are the Lonesome Brothers! They perform at the Rendezvous in Turners, Saturday, May 3rd*

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Tracy & Co.** Rock & roll. 9:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 27th**  
Montague Grange: Family Dance. Simple, happy dances paced for little feet. Perfect for 5-year-olds to 15. Sixteen to 60! From 4 - 6 p.m., \$4 per person, or families \$7 - \$12 sliding scale, and include a light snack. Jim Fownes leading.

Relay for Life Soup Fundraiser. Team Mikey's Smile is hosting to Benefit the American Cancer Society. Held at the Second Street Sports Bar, Turners Falls. Cup \$2, Bowl \$3. From 12 to 2 p.m. or till soup is gone!

Tea Party and Fashion Show: Featuring American Girl dolls. Tea party, light lunch, door prizes and a fashion show featuring American Girl outfits made by local vendors. Benefit for Girl Scout Troop 79. Held at Montague Elks, Turners Falls. \$15, 1 p.m. Info. 863-4074 or 863-2436.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: The Voo and the Valley Advocate present **Le CABARET de RENDEE VOO**, 8 p.m. No cover. Call to perform!

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Don McAulay** - Warped Americana, 7 - 10 p.m.

**Slate Roof poets** Jim Bell and Ed Rayher will read with selected members of the community at the Bernardston Unitarian Church. Slate Roof Press is member-run and committed to publishing Pioneer Valley poets. The reading includes music, and is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. Slate Roof Press books will be on display for sale.

**MONDAY, APRIL 28th**  
Deja Brew, Wendell: "All Small

**Caps** - A Night of Spoken Word. Open mic at 7 p.m. Featured readers at 8 p.m. Pub menu available.

At the Rendezvous, 78 Third Street, Turners Falls: **Ghost Quartet**, progressive electric jazz trio with guests, 8 p.m., no cover.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 29th**  
At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Craft Night**, 7 p.m. on. Carefully mixing knitting and drinking, though - remember, it's all fun and games until somebody loses an eye.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30th**  
Deja Brew, Wendell: **A Night of Celtic Music** - featuring Kevin Skoupa & Mario Cote, 8 to 10 p.m.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Montague Phantom Brain Exchange**, eclectic bohemian variety, \$5 cover.

**THURSDAY, MAY 1st**  
Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Sign up for Fishing Class! A Free two-session fishing class will be held at Great Falls Discovery Center. Call 413-863-3221 for details and to register. Summer Hours begin on May 18th: Open 7 days, 10 - 4 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 2nd**  
At the Montague Book Mill, Montague Center: Thoze Gize, local yokels play upbeat bluegrass, old-time favorites & originals, 8 p.m. Who are those guys?

**FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, MAY 2nd TO 4th**  
Ja'Duke Center for the Performing Arts presents *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Turners Falls High School. Fri. & Sat. at 7 p.m., Sun at 4 p.m. Continues 5/9 to 5/10. Call for reservations 863-0001. Adults \$12, 12 & under and 65 & older \$10.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 7th**  
Montague Book Mill, Montague Center: *The Dust Poets*, a genre-hopping acoustic roots band from western Canada. Hailed as "ingenious instrumentalists" and "ingenious songwriters" and one of the fan favorites at last year's Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. Great night out for On the Same Page Readers. 8 p.m. \$10. [www.montaguebookmill.com](http://www.montaguebookmill.com).

**ONGOING**  
Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, Turners Falls. On display: Lili Almog, Studio 52 - *Perfect*

**HOT SPOT TEEN CENTER**  
**MONDAYS** - Drop-in, 3 - 6 p.m.  
**TUES & WEDS** - Ongoing Music Project, 3 - 6 p.m.  
**THURS** - Drop-in, 3 - 6 p.m. & Movie Night, 6 - 8 p.m.  
*Free (except some trips), open to local teens. Some require permission slips. Info: Jared at 863-9559.*  
Hot Spot Teen Center is in **The Brick House**  
24 Third Street, Turners Falls, 01376

*Intimacy Revealed Through Photographer's Eyes* & Linda Butler - *Meditations on Simplicity*, Studio 56.

**UNTIL MAY 31st**  
On display at the Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Wild about Nature*: WGBY Photo Contest, photographs of nature in Western Mass.

**UNTIL JUNE 1st**  
*The Barns of Franklin County* show at the Meeting House Community Gallery, Unitarian Church, Bernardston. Thirty area artists showing over sixty works depicting Franklin County Barns of the past and present. Thurs., Fri., and Sat. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sun. 1 - 3 p.m.

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3. **NIM'S ISLAND** PG  
DAILY 6:30 9:00  
MAT FRI SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00  
4. **PROM NIGHT**  
DAILY 6:45 9:15 PG13  
MAT FRI SAT, SUN 12:15 3:15  
5. **FORGETTIN SARAH MARSHALL**  
DAILY 6:45 9:15 R  
MAT FRI SAT, SUN 12:15 3:15  
6. **BABY MAMA** in dts sound  
DAILY 7:00 9:30 PG13  
MAT FRI SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30  
7. **HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO**  
DAILY 7:00 9:30 MAT FRI SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30 R in dts sound

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# Earth Day Pathway Cleanup

BY DAVID DETMOLD

**TURNERS FALLS** - Earth Day rallies and concerts filled stadiums the world round last weekend, while on Tuesday, the day itself, eleven school children in Turners Falls picked up bits of broken glass, corroded metal, cans and plastic bottles along the steeply inclined concrete walkways leading from L and 7th Street to the Hill. Which actions, large or small, will have a lasting effect on building the consciousness needed to reverse the trashing of Earth's eco-system? Only time will tell.

In Turners, the Hillside cleanup was the first step in the Art Pathways Project, a joint

class. He likes to play baseball on sunny days, but on Tuesday he was down on his hands and knees picking up broken bottles and litter with the other youngsters. He decided to come to the Earth Day cleanup, "Because it would help the community, and help clean this place up and make it look better," he said.

Amanda Cooke, 8, is a 2nd grader in Ms. Whiteman's class. Asked why she came out to pick up trash on a beautiful spring day, she said, "I don't know. I just wanted to save the Earth."

Her friend Chloe Ellis, also 8 and in the same class, said she would normally be playing with Amanda during spring vacation,

"Let's squish it!"

"No," said Chloe, embracing the total environment as she watched the ants scurry away. "Don't squish the ant."

Eleven year old Emmet Turn, another of Ms. Klaiber's students, said he hadn't heard about the cleanup until he got a call from his friend Liam's mother that morning. "I thought it was a good idea," he said. "A lot of people walk here." Looking around at the bags of trash and bins of bottles set aside for recycling, Turn said, "Maybe they accidentally dropped it, but if they did it on purpose, we have to clean it up."

Ryan Chapdelaine, 11, who lives in Montague but goes to school in Whately, was working on the pathways in Turners Falls with his brother Christian. He said he was a boy scout, and could use the extra community service hours. "Glass and plastics don't decompose," Ryan said. "This place is beginning to look a little like a landfill or a transfer station." He held up an empty pint of Jack Daniels by the side of the path school children use to climb the Hill on their way to school each morning. "These shouldn't be here," he said pointedly.

Carol Tidlund was there with her grandson Aden, 6, a kindergartener in Ms. Robertson's class. She said they were there because "There was too much rubbish," in the woods. "We love the flowers," she added.

Aden reserved comment.

Ian MacPhail, a 5th grader in Ms. Guy-Greene's class, had a message for litterers. "You guys should take care of the Earth," he said. He lugged a bag of trash up the hill. And 6th grader Malcolm Smith, from Ms. Gunnison's class, said it felt good to help the Earth have a better environment.

The town-owned sidewalks ascend the Hill through gnarled oaks, scrub pine and maples. The cement is cracked, and the concrete posts supporting guy-wire banisters are chipped and broken

like old teeth. The pillars on the L Street sidewalk have already had graffiti artists working them over: most of them have the tag "Evol" spray painted vertically on one side in blood red letters. The gutters are filled with last year's leaf mold. The nearby woods yielded a trove of cast-off household goods, including a rug shampoo polisher, a barbecue spatula, a hub cap, a baseball glove shorn of its lacing, a full cat litter box, one sneaker (the left one), the insides of an aquarium, a senior citizen's walker, and a lawn sprinkler. Amanda found 24 flowerpots. Or was it Chloe?

Diane Ellis, who lives with her family on Stevens Street, said she and her children often take walks downtown to the store, or to the 2nd Street Bakery, and they have noticed how run-down the pathways have become. "They have the potential to be really nice features of our community," she said, and she called them "historic."

Certainly, to the generations of school children who once trod their steep inclines, they are.

It was Ellis who conceived of turning the walkways into art

projects, with the help of RiverCulture and other local groups. Now, the RiverCulture program will put out a Request for Proposals, to find an artist to come up with a conceptual rendering of how art installations can be added to the walkways to enhance their appearance and make them more cheerful for generations of children to come who will walk the paths bent forward by the weight of books and gravity in the morning, and run lightly down them in the afternoon.

Taking a break as the other young environmentalists continued their pickup, Emmet Turn said, "This is good for the community."

And good for the Earth.



Christian and Ryan Chapdelaine pick up trash along the pathway between L and High Street on Tuesday - Earth Day!



Ryan Chapdelaine, Amanda Cooke, Chloe Ellis, Malcolm Smith, Emmet Turn, Christian Chapdelaine, Liam Colton, Tyler Charboneau, Ian MacPhail, Aden Tidlund, Liam Ellis line the walkway to 7th Street, trash bags and recycling bins at the ready

project of RiverCulture, the Brick House, the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board, along with school and community groups. Tuesday's weather cooperated by being brilliant, sunny, and 80 degrees. Steve and Diane Ellis coordinated trash bags, gloves and drinking water. The kids supplied the energy.

Tyler Charboneau, 11, is a fifth grader in Ms. Klaiber's

but said, "In some strange way, I like to pick up trash." She explained, "You're cleaning the Earth. I think it's pretty sad that people litter. Next time they should wait and throw it in the trash can."

Then Chloe saw some big ants running down the cement sidewalk toward L Street. "Big ants!" she called to Amanda, who came over to see.

"Aaugh!" said Amanda.



Emmet Turn and Ian MacPhail at work on the Turners Falls Pathway Project

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