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In Gill
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YEAR 7 - NO. 41

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

AUGUST 6, 2009

Tribal Reps Discuss Mariamante Land



(L-R) Joe Graveline, Stuart Elliott, Don Clegg, Elizabeth Perry (from the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead (Aquinnah)) listen to Doug Harris of the Narragansett discuss the Mariamante land with Ann Banash (foreground).

BY DAVID DETMOLD

GILL – On Monday, July 20th, town moderator Ray Steele called on the selectboard to invite representatives of Native American tribes to discuss their concerns over the future use of 10 acres of town-owned land known as the Mariamante parcel. He urged the board to, “Invite them in with the townspeople, so a lot of us could become informed, so we can learn more about a people, over

On Monday, August 3rd, Steele got what he asked for, when spokespersons for the Narragansett Indian Tribe and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead (Aquinnah) appeared before the selectboard to discuss the Mariamante land.

The meeting was taped for rebroadcast on MCTV, Channel 17, available to cable subscribers in Gill and Montague on Friday,

August 7th, at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesday, August 11 at 2:30 p.m.

Selectboard chair Ann Banash began by saying, “We thought we should have a preliminary meeting. I know you have finally received the UMass Archaeological Services study [on the Mariamante parcel]. I presume you have some comments. We’re here to listen to you.”

Though Elizabeth Perry, a representative from the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead (Aquinnah) was present, she let Doug Harris, preservationist for ceremonial landscapes for the Narragansett Indian Tribe, do most of the talking, and spoke only briefly to concur with what he said.

About 20 Gill residents were in the room.

Harris told Banash, “It is an honor to be here. I’d really like to thank you for making it possible for us to speak to you.

“Our purpose for being here is to protect the interests of the

see **GILL** pg 6

Montague Votes Down School Budget

Finance Committee Assessment Figure Passes to Doubtful Effect

BY DAVID DETMOLD –

In a muddle of parliamentary procedure, the Montague town meeting on Wednesday approved a budget figure approximately \$182,000 less than the Gill Montague Regional School committee requested, for a total town assessment of \$7,120,370. This figure represents an “affordable assessment” for the town, in light of declining state aid and dwindling reserves, said Michael Naughton, who spoke for the Montague finance committee in the absence of chair John Hanold.

Former finance committee chair Jeff Singleton, speaking from the floor as a newly elected member of the school committee, called on the meeting to vote down the school commit-

tee’s budget number.

The school committee has held a number of fractured votes on the budget, and chair Mike Langknecht said, “There is no consensus,” as to how the committee should proceed on the FY’10 budget now.

In the absence of a budget agreement between the schools and the towns of Gill and Montague as of July 1st, the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has imposed a so-called one twelfth budget of \$16,657,788, with an assessment for Montague of \$7,302,783. The DESE has passed the word along that this is the budget figure that will become final if the towns and schools do not reach an accord

see **BUDGET** pg 8

WENDELL OLD HOME DAY RETURNS WITH GLOBAL THEME



Mass Production will be laying down some rock steady rhythms on the Wendell Town Common, on Saturday, August 15th, for the Wendell Old Home Day

KAREN COPELAND

WENDELL – Saturday, August 15th, is the date for Wendell Old Home Day, 2009, the annual celebration of Wendell’s community spirit. Keeping with the energy of optimism, creativity and community that is Wendell, this year’s theme is “We are the World.”

The day will kick off with the Kids Parade at 11:00 a.m., which will include participants and costumes from the Stilt-Walkers’ workshop, as well as horses, fire engines and

other surprises.

Linda Hickman will provide kids music at noon, and kids games by Amy Simmons will keep the young ones hopping. There will be pony rides.

Music is one of Wendell’s special attractions, and the Wendell common will be the place to be for the best grooves around on the 15th. To keep you movin’, this year’s line up includes the new local musical success second generation roots-ska-reggae-rockers Mass Production. They will share

stage time with Mother Turtle, featuring Marsia Shuron-Harris, along with Perry Howarth and the Bear Mountain Boys, singing the blues, and Gangly Heart with Annie Hassett, Bob Rosser, Court Dorsey and Tina Horne. Gangly Heart is dedicated to the proposition that Rock and Roll is here to stay.

Also on the 15th, Kelliana will bring her blend of folk-rock, full of soul, and Larry Beger will sweeten the pie with a few

see **WENDELL** pg 12



Ed the Wizard will return this year to entertain youngsters at the Montague Old Home Days, held on the common in Montague Center, August 14th - 16th.

A Half Century of Bringing Montague Together

BY PEG BRIDGES

MONTAGUE – For 50 years, the Montague Center Congregational Church has sponsored Montague Old Home Days. There have been 50 years of parades, raffles and craft booths, road races, vendors, games for children, music, and a range of other performers. Through the years, the white elephant tables and the big auction have offered many attic treasures and have been well attended.

The 5.5 mile Montague Mug Race (and 2 mile Mini Mug Race) will take place

Saturday morning, beginning at 8:15 a.m.; contact shollow@crocker.com to register.

No fair is complete without food. We’ll have breakfasts, food booths, fried dough, bake sales, suppers and lots of homemade goodies.

The three days of festivities culminate in a church service on Sunday with special music.

The Montague Old Home Days tradition continues, hopefully for another 50 years. Come see us and join in. Everyone is invited.

PET OF THE WEEK

Cool Cat



Taz

My name is Taz and I'm a one-year-old shorthair cat in need of a good home. I am just all boy. Oh yes, and what a boy I am! I've got this awesome black and white coloring like one of those Vermont cows, only *much* cooler because of course I am a cat. I'm curious and active, and so good-looking too. Please come on down here and meet me!

For more information on adopting me please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or via email: info@dpvhs.org.

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ERVING LIBRARY NEWS

Dipper Full of Stars

The Dipper Full of Stars program will take place on August 9th (cloud date on the 10th), from 8 to 10 p.m. Richard Sanderson will lead an interpretive tour of the summer nighttime sky. He will describe how the sky appears to move throughout the night, and from season to season, and explain the significance of the North Star.

The presentation is aimed at beginners of all ages, with a one-

hour indoor introductory slide presentation, including distribution of star maps and a small display of star maps, meteorites, and books, followed by outdoor stargazing including constellation identification and observations of celestial objects.

Erving Public Library is located at 17 Moore Street and is now open Sundays. For more info call: (413) 423-3348, or email visitervinglibrary@netscape.net.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Program Parties

BY LINDA HICKMAN

TURNERS FALLS – The End of Summer Reading Program Parties for the Montague Public Libraries are held the third week in August. On Monday August 17th, the annual Costume Party will be held at the Montague Center Library from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Costumes are optional, but encouraged.

The Millers Falls Library Party is Tuesday, August 18th, from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. The Carnegie Library Party on

Wednesday, August 19th, features a Teaching Creatures live animal show from 10 to 11 a.m. The library parties are for summer reading program participants and their families. Participation certificates will be available at all three libraries at the parties, and afterwards. Weekly reading incentive prizes will still be available at all three libraries until the first day of school in Montague, August 27th. For more information, please call the Carnegie Library, 863-3214.



Brian Poirier and Lana Spera, both of Turners Falls, took a turn at making giant bubbles, while admirers including Jason and Lily Spera watched. They were among the participants at the *Spaceship and Science Adventures hands-on science series* on Thursday, July 30th. The weekly sessions are held at the Carnegie Library on Thursdays at 2 p.m. for the summer, with Gail Merkel. The program is funded by the Gill-Montague Community School Partnership.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES – August 10th to 21st

GILL/MONTAGUE Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. Meal reservations must be made a day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open. Meal site Manager is Becky Cobb. Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. For information or to make meal reservations, call 863-9357. The Center offers a hot noon meal Tuesday to Fridays to any senior. A reservation is necessary.

Monday, Aug. 10th & 17th
10:00 a.m. Senior Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Easy Aerobics
Tuesday, Aug. 11th & 18th
9:00 a.m. Walking Group
1:00 p.m. Canasta

Wednesday, Aug. 12th & 19th
10:00 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, Aug. 13th & 20th
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, Aug. 14th & 21st
10:00 a.m. Senior Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Easy Aerobics
1:00 p.m. Scrabble
Gill/Montague Senior Trips: Call 863-9357 or 863-4500 for more information.

ERVING Senior Center, 18 Pleasant St., Erving (Old Center School, 1st Floor), is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for activities and congregating meals. For info and reservations, call Polly Kiely, Senior Center director, at (413) 423-3308. Lunch is daily at 11:30 a.m., with reservations 24 hours in advance. Transportation can be provided for meals, Thursday shopping, or medical necessity.

FACES & PLACES



Hope and Olive hosted a Soup and Game Night benefit for the NOFA/Mass dairy and livestock program on Monday, August 3rd

Funds Raised for Organic Dairy Program

BY KATHY LITCHFIELD

GREENFIELD – NOFA/Mass dairy program coordinator Kate Rossiter of Northfield (pictured left in the photo) talked truffles with local residents during the popular Soup and Game Night at Greenfield's Hope and Olive Restaurant on Monday, August 3rd. Proceeds from the Soup and Game Night benefitted the NOFA/Mass dairy and livestock program, which provides Massachusetts dairy and livestock farmers with information about grazing, organic milk production and the transition to organic process, and information on raw milk and value-added production. Winton Pitcoff, NOFA/Mass extension director (second from left in photo), offered slices of organic cheese and raw milk to enthusiastic customers.

Crowds overflowed the restaurant and helped raise close to \$1,000 for the NOFA/Mass dairy and livestock program. NOFA/Mass extends special thanks to all the local businesses who donated to the event: Bart's and Snow's Ice Cream, Bread Euphoria, Chase Hill Farm,

Copper Angel, Farmstead at Mine Brook/Goat Rising, Hope and Olive, Mesa Verde, Northfield Coffee and Books, People's Pint, Sangha Farm, Sidehill Farm, and Upinngil Farm.

To learn more about programs offered for local farmers, producers and home gardeners, come to the 35th annual NOFA summer conference this weekend, August 7th to 9th, at UMass-Amherst. Boasting over 200 workshops on organic growing and lifestyles, keynote speakers Paul Stamets and Will Allen, dancing, a country fair and close to 100 exhibitors, this organic food festival is not to be missed. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information please visit www.nofasummerconference.org.

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CLAUDIA WELLS ILLUSTRATION

SWEET TALK ON THE AVE Block Party All Day!

"After Glo is three years old, and started in a garage to play for the sheer pleasure and good company," Ellis said. "The band was named in memory of Fred Aldrich."

Other bands scheduled throughout the day are House Rhythm, 7 Mile Line, Naia Kete and, wrapping up after the fashion show, Watcher.

Montague Business Association president Pam Kostanski assisted Davol in lining up vendors to participate. Kostanski will sell her handmade jewelry at the Block Party, too!

Our Montague Reporter will have a booth for subscriptions and t-shirt sales. Be sure to swing by and say "Hi!" as you renew your subscription.

The 2nd Street Bakery is back from summer vacation, and will sell their fabulous yummys – fried dough, frito pies, whoopee pies, cookies – and more at the Block Party. Co-owner Christa Snyder said "not done yet...four weeks to go at least" when asked about the renovations that will allow the bakery to expand and offer a wider breakfast and lunch menu.

North Star of Hadley will have outreach director Sarah Reid available for questions and answers about their alternative

education center at the Block Party, and Jon Dobosz of Montague parks and recreation with Linda Ackerman of Greenfield Savings Bank will provide Kid Activities for the young ones.

Sheffield School council members will return to sell cotton candy and sno-cones, with Sue Dresser, now of Montague City, dishing up the treats.

News Flash! The long awaited Latin-style restaurant, Burrito Rojo, located at 50 3rd Street, (behind the old VFW) "will open at 2 p.m. on Saturday," owner J.D. Keating confirmed! Beer, burritos and nachos will be served. Their "Good Food Fast" telephone number is (413) 863-3111, for orders. Another must-see stop on the Block Party conga line!

A lucky day this August 8th for Montague! Hope to dance on the Ave with you. Ta-ta for now dearies!

Bridget Sweet can be reached at bsweet.writer@gmail for more information or for news tips.

BY BRIDGET SWEET

TURNERS FALLS – Dancing to Naia Kete's "Sweet Music" – songs from her debut album – will be among the many highlights this Saturday, August 8th at the Turners Falls Block Party. It should be a joy! We'll lose the rain, despite her lyrics "Drip, drop, down my window pane, it rains Sweet Music on me." Good weather is a must on the Avenue between 2 and 8 p.m.

"Our Third Annual Block Party will have a little of everything for everyone," said Turners Falls River Culture coordinator Lisa Davol.

Zany, recyclable attire and fancy pooches will parade down the Ave! Get your cameras ready! The fashion show will be take the Spinner Park stage between 6 and 7 p.m., with Rachel Teumin presiding.

Turners Falls' Steve Ellis and his band After Glo band will be first of five great bands to play.

The Jason Connelley Band
Reunites Saturday, September 5th at the Route 63 Roadhouse. Save the date for this one-time event.
They will be smokin!

MCTV Channel 17
Visit www.montaguema.net for the complete weekly schedule

Montague Old Home Days
on the common in Montague Center
Friday Through Sunday, August 14th, 15th & 16th
Live Music: Friday – Jen Tobey and Haven't Got A Clue at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday – The Montague Grange Musicians at 11:30 a.m, Shingle The Roof at 4:00 p.m., and Curly Fingers DuPree at 6:30 p.m.
Food booths, games and craft tables open at 6:00 p.m. on Friday. For more information on all events scheduled including Dance recital and performances by various groups, the mug race, magic show, raffle drawings, Sunday breakfast, worship service, quilt display, barbeque and more, please visit montaguechurch.org or call (413) 265-3013

Sk8 Park Raffle!

BY SARA PEARSON
GREAT FALLS – The Great Falls Skate Park committee invites everyone to visit our booth at the Turners Falls Block Party, on Saturday, August 8th from 2 to 8 p.m. We'll be offering body art by Jessie Harmon, cold water, t-shirts, and Vans apparel. We'll also be raffling off prizes donated by Ristorante DiPaolo, Eagle Automotive, Bicycle World, J.R. Roy Martial Arts Studio, and more. Stop by for information on our upcoming skate clinic, scheduled for September.

If you would like to skate, scoot, rollerblade, or bike in the parade, meet at the Discovery Center at 1:45 p.m. We hope to see you there.

Town Health Nurse Working to Protect the Public Health

BY JOE KWIECINSKI

MONTAGUE – Although Billie Gammell, R.N., has been on the job for a few months now, she still has a strong feeling of "first day" enthusiasm for her role as the new public health nurse for the town of Montague.

"I grew up in Montague," Gammell said, "so it's exciting to be able to give back something directly to the community. The tradition of a town nurse goes back here about 90 years."

Gammell conducts a monthly health screening at the Gill-Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, on the fourth Wednesday of every month, from 10:30 a.m. to noon – free of charge.

Here Gammell performs blood pressure checks, blood glucose testing, and cholesterol screenings, the latter by appointment.

In addition, there are drop-in hours at the nurse's office of the wheelchair-accessible Montague town hall every Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. During these hours, the nurse checks blood pressure, tests blood sugar levels, conducts overall health education, and also handles cholesterol checks by appointment.

"Sharps" can be dropped off during the Thursday hours, or anytime at the Montague town

hall. When asked about protection against the H1N1 swine flu virus that has been causing headlines and headaches for health departments around the world, Gammell said, "Right now, the state of Massachusetts is deciding who should be vaccinated and when. In the meantime, to protect yourself from getting or passing on any germs, including swine flu, wash your hands regularly for at least 15 seconds with soap and water, particularly before eating."

In addition to her part time work for the town, Gammell is also a part-time nurse at Bay State Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield. She received a B.S. in health and fitness at Springfield College in 1994 before obtaining her R.N. from Greenfield Community College in 2005.

Last year, Montague town meeting reduced the hours of Montague's public health nurse from 20 hours a week to five hours a week. But Gammell is not going to let the shortened hours stop her from doing all she can to improve the health of Montague's citizens, particularly senior citizens.

If you have any health questions, please email Gammell at nurse@montague-ma.gov, or call 863-3200, extension 107.

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Farmers Market Week in Massachusetts



LISA DAVOL PHOTO

Bob Johnson at the Great Falls Farmers Market

BY DON CLEGG

GREAT FALLS - The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources and governor Deval Patrick have proclaimed August 16th through the 22nd to be Massachusetts Farmers Market Week.

This year has seen a record number of new farmers markets open across the Commonwealth, bringing the statewide total to nearly 200.

According to Scott Soares, commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources, the increase in farmers markets goes hand and hand with the latest USDA agricultural census data, which show a 27% increase in registered Massachusetts farmers markets over the last five years.

The proclamation signed by Governor Patrick on July 27th states, "Farmers markets are essential to the vitality of Massachusetts farms, and are a part of the cultural tradition of the Commonwealth." Further,

the proclamation says, "Farmers markets help heighten public awareness of the agricultural diversity of Massachusetts, and the benefits of buying local and preserving open space."

There are numerous markets in our surrounding area: the Great Falls Farmers Market is held on Avenue A and 2nd Street in Turners Falls on Wednesday afternoons, the Greenfield Farmers Market meets on the

common on Saturday morning, and markets are held in Northfield, Orange, and Shelburne Falls, along with a new market on the common in Montague Center, Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A good place to find the location and times of farmers markets in Massachusetts and other states is localharvest.com

August 16th to August 22nd is Farmers Market week, and it coincides with the peak harvest season here in the Commonwealth. This is a great time to buy local, with a great selection of fresh produce and farm products. Come on down to your local farmers market and show some community spirit.

Don Clegg is the market master of the Great Falls Farmers Market, held Wednesday afternoons on Avenue A and 2nd Street in Turners Falls, rain or shine.



KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Any Hints for Dealing with Red Lily Beetles?

They first appeared last summer. Scarlet red beetles, slightly larger than a lady bug and with a more elongated body, feasting on my pampered Asiatic lily leaves and causing serious damage. Disgusting, stinky black gobs on leaf undersides that I thought was excrement was actually larvae. I picked off those I could find (according to reports, the beetles squeak when squeezed as a defensive mechanism, but my hearing is not so good) and gave the plants a squirt of bon neem oil, my favored botanical pesticide, to no avail. Less environmentally friendly pesticide eventually help suppress the infestation, but never eradicated them.

After a wet, cool June and July this year, they are back with a vengeance. Not wishing to allow the buggers to destroy my lilies without a fight, I went online to

learn more about the little red devils, and how I could rid them.

According to research, the Lilioceris Lilli, aka Red Lily Beetle or Asiatic Lily Beetle, among others, made its way to Montreal, probably from Europe, where it was discovered in 1945. It was largely contained to that area for decades, then made its way into the US. It was first identified in the US in Cambridge, MA, in 1992. I also learned that environmentally unfriendly pesticides are not a good long term solution.

Naturally, it did not take long for the beetles to migrate to Western Mass. I discovered them on giant, Asiatic lilies in a garden at the Route 63 Roadhouse in Millers Falls last month, while playing horseshoes.

They do not restrict their diet to Asiatics. They will also chow

down on other lilies and plants although they are partial to the lilies. I hear that more concentrated solutions of bon neem are effective so I'm going to try weekly spraying in heavier concentrations, along with daily plant patrols.

These beetles are clever. They fall off leaves at the slightest disturbance and land on their back. Their black bellies make it hard to find them on the ground. Their eggs overwinter in the soil surface, so it might be good idea to ground spray early in the season.

Readers who are experiencing similar problems with Red Lily Beetles and have found effective, safe ways to eradicate them can leave a comment with the *Montague Reporter* or contact me at PeterFisher@verizon.net.

- Peter Fisher
The Patch

An Entomologist Replies

Peter:

The lily leaf beetle has become a true scourge of the Asiatic lilies here in Massachusetts within the past several years. The bright red beetle over-winters in protected places outdoors, and begins foraging for new lily foliage very early in the spring. After mating,

the female beetle lays a small row of eggs on the undersides of foliage about one inch long. These irregular-shaped, inch-long lines of tan eggs are easily spotted on the pristine new green foliage underside, and can be removed and destroyed.

As the eggs mature, they turn a deep red color. Newly hatched larvae feed openly on the foliage and proceed to cover themselves with their own excrement, which gives them a very offensive appearance. Larvae are voracious

feeders, and enough of them on one plant generally results in complete loss of the foliage and flower buds.

After feeding for about eight weeks, the larvae go to the soil and pupate. Within a few weeks, a new batch of adult beetles emerge. Killing the adult beetles usually requires a chemical pesticide, such as one of the pyrethroid-based products that are readily available. However,

see BEETLES pg 5

American Dead in Iraq and Afghanistan as of 8/5/09



US FORCES Casualties in Iraq as of this date
4330

Afghanistan 767
Wounded in Action 31,446

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Note to Our Readers

The Montague Reporter is printing on a summer schedule, every other week, for the months of July and August. There will be no paper on August 13th or 27th. We return to weekly publication on September 3rd.

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NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Erving Goes for Green Energy

BY DAVID DETMOLD – On Monday, August 3rd, the board met with Hands Across the Quabbin coordinators Hal Gilliam and Athol town planner Phil Delorey, who invited Erving to join with a nine-town coalition to apply for a Green Communities technical assistance grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. The towns being invited to apply jointly are Athol, Erving, New Salem, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Warwick, and Wendell; the majority have already agreed to do so.

Gilliam and Delorey explained that grants are available for communities that make a commitment to meet certain baselines for energy efficiency, and that a regional application is likely to receive higher priority for state funding.

The towns would agree to establish an energy use baseline for municipal buildings, streetlights and utilities, and to reduce energy use by 20% within five years, according to town administrator Tom Sharp. They would further commit to purchasing fuel efficient town vehicles and

changing their zoning bylaws to allow "as of right siting" for renewable or alternative energy generating facilities, and expedited permitting, and to require any new residential construction over 3000 feet and all new commercial and industrial construction to utilize energy efficient building methods under the so-called stretch zoning regulations being promulgated by the state.

The Erving selectboard agreed to apply for the technical assistance grant along with the other towns, and also to form a town energy committee to assist with implementing the energy saving initiatives. Citizens who are interested in volunteering for the new committee should call Sharp at 422-2800 x100.

The town accepted a bid from Ford of Greenfield for a new F-550 highway truck for \$36,629, to be used for sanding and plowing.

Mike McManus, consultant from Tighe and Bond, recommended the board approve the low bid for repainting the town's water tank from M.K. Painting, of Wyandotte, MI, for \$257,000. The work is expected to begin this month. The painting job had

earlier been estimated at \$382,000.

On McManus' recommendation, the town also accepted the low bid for sewer main relining in Erving Center, for \$102,400 from Insituform Technologies of Chesterfield, MO. The job had originally been estimated at \$133,000.

Both low bids were pleasant surprises for the town, Sharp said.

Treasurer Margaret Sullivan, seeking to fill a vacancy in the assistant treasurer's position at ten hours a week, recommended hiring two Erving residents, Avis Suddy and Bethann Jones, to fill the post at five hours a week each. The board agreed; the two new assistants start this week.

Safety concerns at the arson-damaged Usher Mill were back on the board's agenda this week. Andrew Goodwin, the board's point person for the Mill, met with town counsel Donna MacNicol, to discuss next steps after town meeting approved spending \$25,000 to take legal action to compel the building's owner, Patriots Environmental of Worcester to complete demolition and comply with county see **ERVING** pg 7

BEETLES cont. from pg 4

softer approaches include products that contain the active ingredient Spinosad, derived from a naturally occurring bacterium. Take note, however: Spinosad products work very well against most leaf beetle larvae, but not the adults.

A couple of the common homeowner products that contain Spinosad are 'Monterey Garden Insect Spray' and 'Bull's-eye Bio-Insecticide,' but there are others. Spinosad also works on viburnum leaf beetle, which is another new pest for Massachusetts, and it works on all caterpillar pests.

Products that are derived from the neem tree (Azadirachtin) work differently than these other products. Although they may kill smaller larvae, they mostly work to either sterilize female beetles so they cannot produce viable eggs or they protect the plant by acting as a feeding deterrent.

Usually, neem products have to be applied starting before the insect pest appears in the spring and then re-applied every 10-14 days while the insect is active for best results.

Both neem and Spinosad products are considered to be 'Bio-rational' products, and some specific products even have 'organic' labeling. When used correctly, they are quite effective against this pest. For more information on lily leaf beetle, visit: www.umass-greeninfo.org/fact_sheets/defoliators/lily_leaf_beetle.pdf

- **Robert Childs, Entomologist**
UMass Extension,
UMass Amherst

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Tax Bills Should Be Mailed Soon

BY JOSHUA WATSON – The Wendell selectboard met on July 22nd with a slate of topics on the agenda, including the delay in setting a town tax rate and mailing out property tax bills.

Wendell resident Harold Stowell addressed the selectboard, saying he was upset about the delayed bills. The town "should put fire under [the board of assessors'] feet" in order to speed up the assessment and billing process.

The board of assessors also addressed the selectboard, and explained that an unexpected demand by the state Department of Revenue required them to revisit and revalue all town

properties. That was the cause of the delay.

The board said they had hired consultants to expedite the revaluation at a cost of about \$14,000, taken from an "assessors special projects" fund.

The board said they planned to get the tax bills out in August, and then immediately start on the bills for 2010.

Town administrative coordinator Nancy Aldrich said on August 6th that the town hoped to set a tax rate within a week, and bills should be in the mail shortly thereafter.

Earlier, Hal Gillam of the North Quabbin Green Economy Network addressed the board about tapping state funds avail-

able under the Green Communities Grant Program for town energy efficiency improvements. Gillam pitched the idea of Wendell joining with other local towns in a regional grant application for state funding, since regional applications would receive priority over applications from individual towns.

The selectboard unanimously passed a motion to sign a letter of commitment to join the regional application.

For several weeks following July 28th, Ted Lewis and Ray Ducharme will be acting dog officers, while Maggie Houghton recovers from foot surgery.

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GILL from page 1

ancients who utilized this land for hundreds of years, thousands, tens of thousands of years, since time out of mind, time immemorial.



"The account we have – in oral history and in historical documents – is that back in 1881 a set of burials was encountered on your main roadway by a landowner named Stoughton, as documented by George Sheldon in his 1895 *History of Deerfield*."

Sheldon, the founder of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, one of the oldest preservation societies in the country, wrote this brief account of the unusual 'spokes burial' found during the reconstruction of Main Road in 1881, in the first volume of his history, (page 78).

"A single instance of a third mode [of Indian burial] has recently come to light. On an elevated sandy plain, at the head of a beautiful valley opening north from the falls at Peskeompskut, a burial place was disturbed by workmen repairing the highway in 1881. The spot was on the farm of T. M. Stoughton, and the ground was at once examined by Mr. Stoughton and his son William, mainly in a search for relics. They found twelve graves, about two feet below the surface. The bodies had been extended and radiated from a center, head outwards, the feet resting on a circle five or six feet in diameter. Small fragments only of the bones remained, but enough to show the position of the bodies. Many stone weapons were disinterred and a number of smooth stones of unknown use. All these bore the marks of fire, from the effects of which many of them had been broken into fragments. They had evidently been cast into the fire while whole, and not as fragments."

Subsequent historians, including UMass archaeology professor

Michael Nassaney, in his 1988 background study for the proposed Turners Falls Heritage Park, and UMass doctoral student Shelley Haight, in her 1980 thesis on the Riverside Archaeological District, (based on interviews with Gill residents and a search of the historical records) placed the location of the spokes burial across from the town cemetery, in the vicinity of what is now known as the Mariamante parcel.

The 1871 Beers map of Gill places the Stoughton property in the same location as the Mariamante parcel, across from what is now the town cemetery, and shows Main Road (formerly called Straits Road) in its present-day location, according to Greenfield historian Howard Clark, who was present at the meeting on August 3rd.

At the meeting, Harris said Sheldon "makes it clear that a spokes burial of 12 individuals, whose feet faced each other, was encountered by Stoughton and his son, when they were widening Main Road. This site, from the tribes' perspective, represents a significant site and a ceremonial landscape."

Harris said the tribes have a responsibility to protect ceremonial landscapes and burial grounds. "We join you as stewards of these ancient places," he told the selectboard. "They may not be your ancestors, or they may be. I'm not prepared to say who has Indian blood, but many people who don't speak of it, in their hearts walk in a very proud way."

He continued, "This burial was deemed significant by the National Register of Historic Places," when the Riverside Archaeological District was designated in 1975, "and was referenced once again in the determination of eligibility for the ceremonial hill at the Turners Falls airport for the National Register of Historic Places. They cited the spokes burial specifically.

"Yours isn't the only spokes burial," said Harris, who mentioned another such interment in Charleston, WV. "They are rare. You have something very, very special that we hope you will be good stewards of. And we will

look to assist you in any way we can to create the opportunity so the bones and artifacts that were taken out of this place" 128 years ago can be returned to their proper resting place.

"They may still be in collections, both private and public," added Harris, who asked the community at large to be in contact with him if they had any knowledge of the whereabouts of the burial remains, by calling him at (401) 742-4035.

"We hope people will step forward so these remains can go back in the ground."

Turning to the draft report of last summer's Phase II archaeological survey of the Mariamante parcel, commissioned by the town of Gill from UMass Archaeological Services, and funded from a \$100,000 state expedited permitting grant, Harris said, "The spokes burial is the greatest shortcoming in the archaeological report... Where was it? What else was there in association with it? Massachusetts law requires an archaeological dig to study the past information on a site. We have concerns whether that was done, or done to the extent appropriate given the nature of the spokes burial."

Harris also referred to Massachusetts General Law; Chapter 114, Section 17, which provides, "A town shall not alienate or appropriate to any other use than that of a burial ground, any tract of land which has been for more than one hundred years used as a burial place; and no portion of such burial ground shall be taken for public use without special authority from the general court. 'Burial place', as referred to in this section, shall include unmarked burial grounds known or suspected to contain the remains of one or more American Indian."

"The archaeological report has

chosen language that is so neutral as to leave it up to the reader to interpret the significance," continued Harris. "Spokes burials are well documented. They are in national literature. Yet this burial is only referenced once, on page 22, in this report.

"If the tribes had been a part of the scope of work for this survey, the first question we would have asked is, 'Where was the spokes burial? The information is there. It said it's across the street from the existing cemetery. A good deal of frontage [a 75-foot strip] along Main Road was not surveyed [during the UMass study]. We think that was inappropriate.

"An archaeological survey is supposed to let you know what is available that should not be impacted. I have a responsibility to monitor that impact and, where possible, to make sure that sacrilege does not occur.

"If we can form a partnership that can find a better use for this parcel that will help you recoup some of your loss, then that is the path we should pursue."

Harris suggested putting a small pavilion on the land, with historical panels, so that "Native Americans and their allies would come to see where that spokes burial had been situated," and so that "our children and all children can honor the place of the deceased.

"That includes all of us," he concluded. "We will return to our Mother the Earth and she will embrace us for our long journey. That's what I ask for."

In the question and answers that followed, Bev Demars, former town administrative assistant and cemetery commissioner for the town of Gill, asked if the archaeological survey would have been required if a private person had purchased the land for development.

Harris said because the land was included on the National Registry, and the spokes burial referenced in its designation, archaeology would have been required.

"Is the entire piece of land in the district?" Demars asked.

Harris replied, "A burial ground... how do you define it? If you don't look, you don't find it."

He went on to talk about the evolving approach of Native American involvement in defining areas of cultural or ceremonial significance.

"In the past, we remained silent, hoping not much damage would occur. But we have a responsibility to try and save these places. One of the greatest tools we have is to partner with you, and to work together to honor what is sacred, rather than try to outsmart you in a court of law."

Liz Gardner said, "I really like your idea for putting panels up for education of the cultural sig-



nificance of the area." She wondered if there were other examples of that approach.

Harris said the landscape of the Mariamante parcel, or the spirits of the ancestors who had once been there, suggested it to him.

He said the Narragansetts were one of 26 federally recognized Eastern and Southern tribes who were working together to protect sacred sites east of the Mississippi. "This is a new time," he said. "There aren't enough Indians to protect all the sites that need protection. We need to partner with towns."

Gardner called that, "a really interesting idea."

Banash spoke next. "You understand our dilemma," she said. "We have a good deal of money invested in that land. We understand our responsibility, which is why we did the archaeological study in the first place. We are not a wealthy town. How do we proceed?"

Harris answered, "What we are talking about is money and time. Coming up with answers tonight is probably not the best way to proceed." But he said the Trust for Public Lands has some funds available for Indian land acquisitions, for this type of

see GILL pg 13

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Water and Sewer Issues

BY DAWN MONTAGUE – Water and sewer issues were the main focus of the August 3rd meeting of the Montague selectboard. Water pollution and control facility superintendent Robert Trombley began the meeting with a public hearing to set fiscal year 2010 sewer rates for the town.

Trombley presented a proposal to use \$110,000 from the sewer department's retained earnings fund to mitigate the rate increase for sewer users. This amount must be approved at town meeting, and if it is, the overall sewer rates will increase by 3% over the 2009 rate. The rise in rates is mainly attributable to debt service for the recent combined sewer overflow mitigation work.

The new rate for most residents of Montague will be \$6.00 per 1000 gallons of usage, up from \$5.82. Trombley said that the sewer usage of an average household in Montague was 77,000 gallons of flow per year. Using that number as a benchmark with the new rate, the average sewer bill in Montague will be \$462 in FY '10, up about \$14 from the year before.

The selectboard voted to approve the recommended sewer rates, pending ratification at the August 5th special town meeting.

The ongoing \$5.7 million combined sewer overflow (CSO) project was also discussed. With initial work on Phase I and II of the project nearly wrapped up, Trombley is now turning to the matter of solids handling and dewatering, with a recently approved \$1 million federal grant in hand to help fund this aspect of the work.

Trombley outlined the solids handling upgrade, as proposed by Paul Gilbert of Camp Dresser McGee (CDM), the town's engineering consultant for the sewer project. The idea is to reduce the \$350,000 annual cost of sludge hauling by purchasing a Fournier rotary press to remove as much water from the sludge as possible. Trombley estimates the new dewatering process should save the town \$70,000 or more in annual operating costs for sludge handling.

Trombley hopes the complete cost of the dewatering equipment can be covered by the recently

received federal grant, coupled with approximately \$300,000 remaining in the funds approved for the CSO project.

The selectboard approved spending \$65,000 to pay CDM for initial design and engineering services on the sludge handling upgrade, on Trombley's recommendation.

Finally, Trombley recommended that the selectboard approve the renewal of the industrial discharge permit for Appleton Performance Packaging/New England Extrusion of 18 Industrial Blvd, Turners Falls, for the maximum time allowed, five years. The board approved the application.

Lisa Davol, coordinator of Turners Falls RiverCulture Project, was granted use of public property for the Turners Falls Block Party, for Saturday, August 8th, from 2 to 8 p.m. Avenue A will be blocked off from 3rd to 5th Street for the annual event, which features live bands, a fash-

ion show, food booths, kid games, and a 2 p.m. parade.

Davol also requested and was granted use of a key to the Town Hall. This prompted a discussion among the selectboard members about drafting a policy about the distribution of keys, but the specifics were tabled for the moment.

Town planner Dan Laroche began the process for submitting an application for the Green Community Technical Assistance Grant, from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. The application required a letter of commitment from the selectboard, which Laroche had drafted. The grant is "pretty much hot off the press," said Laroche. The selectboard agreed to sign the letter and apply for the grant.

The removal of asbestos from the old Railroad Salvage building is scheduled to begin as soon as August 14th.

The Turners Falls Municipal Airport Commission received a

grant in the amount of more than \$5 million from the Federal Aviation Administration to replace the existing runway.

Construction is scheduled to begin on August 10th. The runway is expected to be closed for 90 days.

Airport manager Mike Sweeney said the runway would be extended 200 feet toward the Connecticut River, northwest of the current layout, and new navigational aides would be installed, and a new rotating beacon, to improve safety.

"The runway is 49 years old, and has linear and longitudinal cracks ten inches wide and twelve inches deep. The town of Montague got its fair use out of that runway."

Sweeney said some pilots were no longer willing to fly into the airport, due to the poor condition of the old runway.

The next meeting of the selectboard is Monday, August 17 at 7:00 pm.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Bridge, Boat Ramp Attract Despondents

Wednesday, 7/29

4:20 p.m. Report of motor vehicle accident on French King Highway at Factory Hollow.

Thursday, 7/30

5:40 p.m. Arrested [redacted]

[redacted] Charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. 7:55 p.m. Unattended vehicle left in middle of Gill Montague Bridge, same removed.

Friday, 7/31

7:05 a.m. Report of vandalism at corner of Boyle Road and Main Road.

9:20 a.m. Report from resident of French King Highway, advising he found syringe and drug paraphernalia on property.

5:40 p.m. Be On Look Out report for subject possibly enroute to French King Bridge, despondent.

6:40 p.m. Officer observed above subject on Erving side of the bridge, Erving police advised. Assisted with arrest.

Saturday, 8/1

8:03 p.m. Loud noise complaint on

West Gill Road, ATV's on roadway.

Sunday, 8/2

12:10 a.m. Motor vehicle accident / hit and run on French King Highway at Gill traffic lights. Investigated.

Monday, 8/3

9:40 a.m. Report of past breaking and entering on Pisgah Mountain Road, under investigation.

4:47 p.m. Report of possibly armed, suicidal subject in area of state boat ramp on French King Highway.

4:58 p.m. Above subject placed into custody and transported to Franklin Medical Center for involuntary evaluation.

6:33 p.m. Report of a disturbance and large group of subjects on Barton Cove Road. Checked area, subjects gone on arrival.

8:05 p.m. Report of illegal burning of trash in area of South Cross Road, checked area with fire department, unable to locate source.

Tuesday, 8/4

9:25 a.m. Report of trespassers on Main Road, checked area, unable to locate.

from **ERVING** pg 5 building inspector Jim Hawkins' order to secure public health and safety at the site. Hawkins sent a fourth order to Patriots to clean up the site by August 22nd. If this order is not voluntarily complied with, the town plans to commence legal proceedings to enforce the order, or hire a contractor to demolish the mill at town expense.

MacNicol warned that demolition of the site could wind up costing the town around half a million dollars; further town meeting approval may be sought for an appropriation of this amount, Sharp said.

The board appointed contractor Phil Waldron to a board of surveyors, to advise the town on the mill's condition. A structural engineer will also be appointed to the board of surveyors.

A public hearing will be held on August 13th at the Erving Elementary School at 7:00 p.m. on proposed changes to the town's zoning bylaws to allow for the construction of a gas station within the aquifer protection zone, and drive-through fast food restaurants on the west side of town. These changes have been

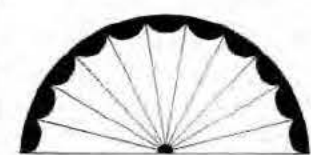
sought by Eric and Ralph Semb in connection with their plans to build a convenience store and gas station where the Countree Living restaurant was formerly located.

A public hearing will be held on an application for a new liquor license, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17th, at town hall for the former Smokin' Hippo restaurant on Route 2. James Van Howten of Greenfield, and his partners Anthony Manzi and Peggy Marchant of Erving, plan to open Christina's Pizzeria and Tavern there.

The board approved a \$12,900 contract with Tighe and Bond for quarterly groundwater testing at the capped Maple Valley landfill in Farley, as required by the DEP.

The board declined to take advantage of the local option

meals and lodgings taxes approved by the legislature. at least for now.



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Alash performed on July 27th in Greenfield at the Energy Park.

BY ELLEN BLANCHETTE GREENFIELD – A light rain was falling on Monday, July 27th, and the rumble of thunder could be heard in the distance as Michael Nix and members of the chamber music ensemble of the Pioneer Valley Orchestra were finishing up their set. A dozen or so people sat out on the lawn at the Greenfield Energy Park. A few others hid in their cars in the parking lot waiting for the rain to stop.

Undaunted by the weather, the group of Tuvan throat singers known as Alash took their places on stage. They began with a blending of voices in low droning tones reminiscent of an oboe, but quickly added higher tones along with chirps, whistles, and rhythmic vocal patterns.

The singers play a variety of traditional handmade Tuvan string instruments to accompany their vocals, along with a large handmade drum. At times, the sounds seemed quite familiar, like those heard in other forms of Asian music. But their music is unique in its deliberate imitation of nature.

Many of Alash's songs include the sounds of birds chirping, wind blowing, the whinny of horses or hoofs beating the ground. The throb of the drum was so close to thunder at times that it was hard to tell if it was coming from the sky or from the stage.

The throat singers are from the Republic of Tuva, a tiny country near the southern Siberian border, close to Mongolia. There, throat singing

is an ancient tradition, using a technique that adds overtones to the initial note sung and allowing the singer a great deal of flexibility in the quality of sound.

Singing together in both a harmonious and discordant blending of voices, the performers present a variety of musical styles from gentle soothing melodic songs to rhythmic, high energy numbers similar to traditional Asian and Russian folk songs.

Members of Alash: Nachyn Choodu, Bady-Dorzhu Ondar, Ayan-ool Sam, Ayan Shirizhik were joined on stage by Sean Quirk, who introduced the set and described the songs and instruments to the audience.

Quirk said most of their songs were about two things, "good horses and beautiful women."

Quirk is an American who first became interested in Tuvan throat singing as a music student in college. He got a Fulbright scholarship to study in Tuva, and came to love the country as well as the music. The group is currently on tour in the United States.

By the end of the concert, despite the passing showers, the field had filled with people and the audience was cheering these young men whose music and unique talent had enthralled them. As the sky brightened, Alash performed a final encore for the appreciative crowd.

For more information on Tuvan throat singing or other opportunities to hear Alash perform, you may go to their website, www.alashensemble.com.

THE KRISTEN FORD BAND AT THE PEOPLE'S PINT



BY AMY LAPRADE & ALLY BURNETT GREENFIELD – Two eclectic bands brought sass and attitude to the People's Pint on Saturday night, July 25th.

The evening kicked off with the Feel: Emily Scotto of Greenfield on guitar and vocals, Adina Viarengo of Easthampton on guitars and vocals, and Dovrah Plotkin of Greenfield on drums. Though I only caught the last few songs of their edgy, poppy set, I immediately felt, when I entered the Pint, an overwhelming sense of urgency radiating from these young women. They will make a name for themselves.

Shortly after, Kristen Ford's charisma lit up the People's Pint. With her long thick dreads splayed in careful disarray, the lanky young woman armed with an electric guitar exploded onto the scene with crunching guitar riffs, powerful raspy vocals, and

lyrics that screamed something about "leaving it all behind with my boys by my side."

Backed by bass player Paul Hendrick and Sarah Icklan on drums, the band rocked the all-ages crowd like a great late-night lover, their sound splitting that sticky, oppressive beer scented air with thundering sensual beats that bled and rushed together into one hot and heavy raging rhythm section. The band demanded my attention. And they had full command of the audience, which set them apart from many I've seen in the area.

Ford's sound and even the band's name – Kristen Ford Band – displayed an attitude of old school hard rock, like a muscle car from the seventies. Standing there, I thought in terms of big rock sound, like Thin Lizzy and the James Gang. Make no mistake, though, Ford's band can't exactly be compared to these.

Hers explodes with freshness and a sound fused with funk and ska, – even shades of rockabilly and country-western – and pulsing bass lines. Some songs had a reggae overtone that reminded me of an early Police hit.

In short, there was no one overarching sound that night. Ford takes the best aspects of many genres, and with a raw energy rarely seen these days, offers a little something to anyone looking for an evening of dancing and great music. If you want to see a phenomenal performance, see the Kristen Ford Band.

The band will be performing again Saturday August 8th at the Deja Brew in Wendell; no cover. For more info, or to find out about future gigs, go to www.myspace.com/kfochicago.

For future gig listings of The Feel, go to thefeelmusic@gmail.com

BUDGET from pg 1

by December 1st. But that warning did not deter Naughton from advocating a lower figure.

Saying that Montague should just accept the state's budget number, he suggested, was like saying, "If I refuse to cut off my leg, then the state will do it for me. If that's what's going to happen, I want the state to take full responsibility for it."

Singleton was also among those advocating for town meeting to reject the school committee's requested budget, in order to keep the state at the negotiating table in the coming

year, to help the towns and schools resolve their ongoing budget quandary. He said, by relying on about three quarters of a million dollars in school and town reserves, along with \$117,000 in federal stimulus spending to balance their '10 budget, the GMRSD was creating a \$900,000 structural budget gap for next year, which could lead to willy-nilly cuts in town services and school programs if not checked now.

Newly hired superintendent Carl Ladd asked town meeting to approve the DESE budget figure, essentially, so that the schools could continue to attract school choice students

by maintaining programs and dispatching the image of the GMRSD as a district mired in budget rancor.

Langknecht agreed with a criticism leveled by Mark Allen, Precinct 1, that the schools were in effect siphoning reserves from the town's coffers into their own free cash account, year after year, and told the meeting that he had so far failed in his promise to come up with a plan for budget assessments the towns could afford, though he remained committed to producing such a plan.

Unimpressed, the meeting see **BUDGET** pg 9

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Class of '69 Plans a 40th Reunion Bash to be Remembered



The Turners Falls Class of '69 Mural of a Black Jesus caused a stir when it hung in the halls of the high school, way back in the Age of Aquarius

NANCY CURRIE HOLMES

TURNERS FALLS – On June 12th, 1969, one hundred and eighty students graduated from Turners Falls High School. As with most classes, we married, joined the military, or went to work at mills and offices. Many attended college near and far. We tried to stay in touch.

The class of '69 had a five-

year reunion at the Millers Falls Road & Gun Club, a 10th at the French King, 15th at Thomas's, and our 20th and 25th at Brickers – and then they stopped. It seemed we all were busy with jobs and families, and no one had the time or energy to take on the task of organizing reunions.

But a small group of girl-

friends from the class have a get together every so often, and last August we got to reminiscing one night, after a few glasses of wine, and realized how we all have aged, and how quickly time is passing, and how we miss the good old days. So it was decided – it was time to have another reunion.

Oh, the good old days! Our class was the typical class: the scholars, the athletes, the cliques; many of us could reasonably claim to be in all three categories. There was the class play, *Lock, Stock and Lipstick*. The prom held in the gym – “Moon over Keijo” was our theme – followed most of the rules. But the times they were a-changing, and we were ready to jump right in. The music was different: songs like Aquarius and Crimson and Clover; from bands like the Beatles, Big Brother and the Holding Company, Jefferson Airplane, and the Doors. President Richard Nixon took office; millions of Americans participated in a Vietnam Moratorium. A man landed on the moon!

Our class dedicated our yearbook to Robert Kennedy, and

quoted his words to inspire. We worked diligently to create Snoopy and his dog house as our class float for the Booster Day parade, and we dared to portray Jesus as a black child for the Christmas mural, in the hallway of the school. We held ‘sit-ins’ to show our dissatisfaction with bagged lunches when the cafeteria was under repair, the firing of our principal, Mr. Franklin, and the necessity of taking gym, especially in blue gym suits! We smoked in the bathrooms, skipped out of class and hid in our cars till we could pull safely away to the Pig Pen, the Boondocks, the Patch woods or whichever favorite get-away spot made us feel we were in control.

So on the weekend of August 14th and 15th, 95 people and approximately 55 classmates will gather once again. This will be a time to renew old friendships, reminisce on days gone by and share life experiences, old and new.

Friday night, the TFHS class of '69 will be having a Pub Crawl starting at 4:00 p.m. at Ristorante DiPaolo, 166 Avenue A, for a wine and cheese gather-

ing, then heading down the Avenue to Jake's for some great burgers or seafood, then on to BTU (Between the Uprights, formerly 2nd Street, formerly the Bridge Café) to catch the results of the game on any one of seven TV's. Then, for good measure, a stop by the Rendezvous on 3rd Street, known to locals as “the Voo”.

On Saturday, the party will continue at one of the favorite local spots, the Schuetzen Verin Club in Gill. There, the reunion resumes at 4:00 p.m. for social hour, with memorabilia and photos to peruse. We'll have a quiz about the school and classmates, music by locals Ken and Mike Little and John Currie; Bub's BBQ will be serving at 6:00 p.m., followed by dancing to the music of Ruby's Complaint, a band led by Valley Idol Alana Martineau.

TFHS alumni from 1964 through 1974 are welcome to join us after 7:00 p.m.

The committee had a great time planning this event, and it is sure to be a great weekend! Contact: 863-2213 for more info, or search for TFHS Class of 1969 on Facebook.

First Gill Farmer's Market Prospers in the Rain

BY KATHY LITCHFIELD

GILL – Steadily drizzling rain didn't impact the high spirits and enthusiasm of local farmers at the first-ever Gill Farmer's Market on Sunday, August 2nd. Farmers from ten local farms, two from Gill, steadfastly erected tents and tables to sell their seasonal products to raincoated visitors from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. in front of the Riverside Municipal Building on Route 2.

Organized by the Gill agricultural commission, the first farmer's market in Gill was considered a success, according to commission chair Steve Damon of Gill, who gathered farmers from Franklin and Hampshire counties together for the market.

Local residents, tourists, and farmers' families and friends helped make the day shine as they purchased berries, honey, vegetables, salsas, marinades, jam, baked goods, garlic braids, mohair socks, maple syrup and more.

Pat Devlin of Concerned Citizens of Franklin County talked to folks about the biomass plant planned for Greenfield, and “Yelp for Help” founders of Warwick



Gill farmer Bill Burnham of West Gill Road sold lots of honey in jars and sticks to Gill Farmer's Market visitors on Sunday, Aug. 2nd

sold handmade jewelry, baked goods, potholders and crafts to benefit canines in need.

Thanks go out to everyone who participated in the market, especially to the farmers: Back Door Bakery of Shelburne Falls; Beaumont's Berries of Conway; Coyote Hill Farm of Bernardston; Graves-Glen Farm of Shelburne; Hedgies Hot Stuff of Belchertown; Kretzenger Agricultural Enterprises of Montague;

Laughing Dog Farm of Gill; Moonshine Design of Colrain; Turkey Ridge Farm of Gill; and Yelp for Help of Warwick.

The farmer's market raised a total of \$70 in donations for the Gill agricultural commission, which will use the proceeds to send Gill farmers to continuing education events. The first scholarships (or “agri-ships” as the commission dubbed the stipends) were given to Gill maple producer Gabe Vassar and a friend, who attended the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association summer meeting and barbecue last month, Damon said.

This spring, the Gill agricultural commission published a brochure promoting Gill farmers and their products. The brochure is available at Gill businesses including Upinngil Farm on Main Road and the Wagon Wheel on Route 2, said Damon, who has recently made breakfast and snacks from Gill-produced foods for town employees and selectboard members. This winter, the commission hopes to host a potluck supper made entirely with local foods. For more information on all these activities, call Damon at 863-2850.

BUDGET from pg 8

soundly rejected the school's proposed budget, and also trounced a compromise measure by Allan Ross to split the difference between the finance committee and school committee's proposed numbers.

Ross's motion, to add \$86,000 to the figure town meeting approved for the schools in June, was intended “to stop the bickering,” he said, and give the new superintendent and school committee a chance to work together to improve the budget process.

But Naughton pointed out that even the lower figure proposed by the finance committee required taking \$200,000 from town reserves to balance.

Naughton's proposal first failed to generate the two-thirds majority needed to draw funds from a town stabilization account. He quickly came back with the same figure as a separate motion, drawing money entirely from taxation. Town moderator Ray Godin, harried by repeated points of order from the floor, declared the new motion passed by majority vote, despite a loud chorus of naysayers attempting to vote it down.

The meeting voted down Article 2, a motion to impose an optional 3/4% meals tax in Montague. Members said restaur-

rants were having enough trouble and the tax would be detrimental to business, since none of the other towns in the area were doing this.

Article 3, to impose an optional local lodgings tax, was defeated for the same reason. Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio explained that this would not bring in any money to the town now, in the absence of hotels or bed and breakfasts, and those objecting said its passage would guarantee no new hotel would locate in town.

Article 4, authorizing the selectboard to use \$110,000 from the sewer enterprise fund retained earnings account to reduce sewer rates for the fiscal year starting July 1st, passed unanimously.

The meeting also voted to approve Article 5, to ask the state legislature to increase the town's quota for all alcohol liquor licenses. The request will be made for an on-premise liquor license for the Montague Performing Arts Center, Oak Room, and martini bar planned by Jordan Quinn at the former Ste. Anne's church and rectory. An amendment offered by David Jensen to add 47 J Street to the list of associated venues seeking a license under this motion was also approved.

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Salut George Whitman



George Whitman

BY CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS – In 1975, I first crossed the threshold of the famous Paris bookstore and literary landmark, Shakespeare and Co. I was too late to browse in the original and legendary bookshop of the same name, founded in the 1920s by expatriate bookseller Sylvia Beach, that was the gathering place for the Lost Generation. Rather, it was the bookstore's second incarnation, opened in 1947 under the able direction of another American expat, George Whitman, originally from Salem, MA, that drew me in.

By 1975, the second coming of Shakespeare and Co. had already become somewhat venerable itself. It had the dual reputation as the place in Paris to buy English-language books, and as a crash pad for any and all who wandered through Paris.

My first impressions were not positive. While the bookstore was impressive, it was mobbed by throngs of English-speaking backpackers who seemed more interested in chatting with each other than perusing the bookshelves. At the desk, sipping a cup of tea, was George Whitman,

barking out orders to one and all.

I stayed for a while, but finally was driven out by the clientele. At the time, I must admit, I was something of a snob. I was in Paris to write a dissertation, and fancied myself more European than American. I was sure that my time was better spent at the Bibliothèque Nationale, or at the great Paris bookstore Gibert Jeune, or soaking up atmosphere in the cafés.

It wasn't until the late '80s that I came to realize I had missed out on something special by my unwillingness to meet and talk with George Whitman. At that time, I was writing a book, *The Continual Pilgrimage*, about American writers in Paris after World War II, and was spending my time talking to those who were there in the 1950s.

Allen Ginsberg was the first one who remonstrated me for not getting friendly with Whitman when I was first in Paris. George Plimpton, founder of The Paris Review, was less critical but said that Whitman was an essential part of the story of the second wave. Gregory Corso simply asked me how I had managed to miss Whitman. Finally, Lawrence Ferlinghetti made it

clear that Whitman was the one to talk to.

And so, in 1990, my wife Patricia Pruitt and I arrived in Paris, so I could research my book "on location." After a week or so in Paris, we finally made our way to Shakespeare and Co.

I introduced myself and Patricia to the 78-year-old George Whitman, and told him Allen Ginsberg and Lawrence Ferlinghetti had sent me.

That evening, we became Whitman's dinner guests; by that night we had become residents in the upstairs of the bookstore in his apartment. He gave us his bed: a queen, with a green velvet cover. Over the next couple of days we both fell in love with Whitman and his bookstore. Because we had planned to journey to Spain with friends from Paris, we bade him and Shakespeare and Co. farewell, but I promised to return after our trip to Spain. (Patricia, alas!, had to fly back to Boston.)

I made good on my word, and Whitman made good on his promise to install me in the fabled "writer's room," where a host of luminaries from Lawrence Durrell to Nin to Ginsberg to Burroughs to Ferlinghetti had previously stayed. It was about as good as it could get.

The walls were lined with extraordinary books, including first editions of Joyce's *Ulysses*, Stein's *Making of Americans*, not to mention firsts by Burroughs, Fitzgerald, Dos Passos, Hemingway, Woolf, Henry Miller, etc. Each morning, Whitman would bring me a new book he thought would be useful to what I was writing; that evening he'd quiz me as to whether I'd read them. (I had.) We also spent hours going through old photos. Many of these extraordinary photographs ended up in my book.

But aside from these treasures, I realized the greatest treasure

was George. He is the most generous man I've ever met, having extended his hospitality to writers from Durrell, Miller, and Kerouac to the next great wave of literary makers and shakers; he is dedicated to the cause of literature; he is even more dedicated to mankind. His door is open to anyone (though he may ask you to take a bath). I also came to realize that my snobbishness in the mid-70s had probably cost me some extraordinary encounters. During my stay there, I became close with many of the Shakespeare expat denizens,

smelled smoke. I ran across the hall to The Tumbleweed Hotel, Whitman's name for the second floor area above the bookstore where anyone could stay free of charge, but by this point the room was engulfed. I yelled for people to get out, then charged up the stairs to Whitman's apartment to make sure no one was there, and found it empty. I exited the building with smoke billowing behind me.

Firefighters arrived minutes later, and over the course of the next hour extinguished the blaze. By this time thousands had gath-

FIREWORD:
GEORGE HIMSELF

I first knew George Whitman before he had a bookstore, as a student in Paris in the late Nineteen Forties, when he inhabited an airless windowless hole-in-the-wall in the Hotel de Suez, Boulevard St. Michel, with books up to the ceiling on all four walls, and himself the ghost of Stephen Dedalus cooking supper over a can of Sterno (or some other eternal flame of his own making) but he was already in the wind of that Mistral bibliomania which led to his founding of the Librairie Mistral at 37 rue de la Bucherie, Paris cinquieme, not too long before J and Peter D. Martin (son of the Italian anarchist Carlo Tresca) started a similar bibliomaniac project in San Francisco called City Lights and George had started by

Fireword, by Lawrence Ferlinghetti

many of whom are still dear friends.

The Shakespeare idyll changed abruptly late in the afternoon on July 18th, 1990 when fire broke out across the hall from the writer's room, directly above the main floor of the bookshop. I was in my room reading, when I

ered. Many wailed; most of his friends stood still, in shock. Whitman bit his lip, trembled slightly, and shrugged. Except for one firefighter, no one was injured.

That evening, Whitman quoted Joe Hill: "Don't mourn.

continued on next page

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from previous page

Organize."

And organize we did. By the morning, over four thousand charred books were piled in the courtyard in front of the sidewalk. Fortunately, the books in the room where I was staying were spared. The next day, Whitman opened as usual, despite the burned rafters in the ceiling that left gaping holes between the first and second floors, no power, and the stench of burn. While Whitman tended to business, friends continued to work.

By day three, another resident of the bookstore, Englishman Richard Hallward, suggested to me that we needed to help Whitman rebuild. That is to say, we needed money.

London, Paris, Boston, and New York. Hallward worked hard to pull off readings in London and Paris; I had it easier. I phoned Allen Ginsberg in New York and Ferlinghetti in San Francisco. Ginsberg organized New York. Ferlinghetti said he wasn't going to be able to do anything at City Lights because the store was already booked that weekend, but would ensure that Whitman got financial help from San Franciscans. I did Boston.

Ginsberg had such a response from poets and writers who wanted to read that he had to schedule his readings over three days. By the end of the second day, he called me to say he'd raised about ten thousand dollars, and he had one more day to go!

The Boston reading, at the



Shakespeare and Co.

The contributions were tremendous. Ferlinghetti put on an exhibition at City Lights and received a fair amount of cash as well. All in all 140 writers on two continents read work to about 5,000 people, who contributed almost \$30,000.

In November of 1990, Patricia and I returned to Paris. The bookstore was rebuilt and the bookshelves stocked again. And although Patricia was booked to give a reading at another venue,

she also agreed to give an additional impromptu reading at Shakespeare and Co.

I kept in touch with Whitman over the years, making sure any trips to Paris included lengthy visits to Shakespeare & Co.

But then, about six or seven years ago, I fell out of touch with Whitman and his bookstore. Late last month, I received word that the 96-year-old George Whitman had become an Officer in the Order of Arts and Letters, one of

France's highest honors. While the award is generally reserved for French nationals, a few Americans have been so honored. Whitman's company includes Allen Ginsberg, William Faulkner, Oscar Peterson, Jackson Pollock and Toni Morrison. It is a fitting tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to arts, culture and humanity.

Whitman no longer runs the bookstore on a daily basis: that's the job of his daughter Sylvia Beach Whitman, who was only ten when the fire occurred.

I'd like to close by letting Lawrence Ferlinghetti offer the last word. After the Fire Readings of 1990, work read by each of the writers who participated in this benefit was collected in book form (Fire Readings, Paris: Frank Books, 1991). For this volume, I asked Ferlinghetti for an introduction. His words of 1991 pay homage now, as then, to a truly extraordinary individual. And Patricia and I are already making plans to be in Paris for Whitman's 100th birthday, on Sept 12th, 2012.

But to the left is Ferlinghetti, in his own hand.

2 - Whitman
Selling books to Americans on the G.I. Bill, and progressed from one small storefront ground-floor room to several chambers on several floors, up dilapidated stairways -- a literary octopus with an insatiable appetite for print taking over the beat-up building, room by room, floor by floor, veritable nests of books, and still some rooms and floors to be captured as late as 1991, much like City Lights, still growing from one small cell, "a kind of library where books are for sale"....
And eternal praise be to George for his bibliophilic flowering. Shakespeare's beard becomes him.
Lawrence Ferlinghetti
City Lights, San Francisco, May, 1991

Foreword, by Lawrence Ferlinghetti, page 2

Over a few glasses of wine at the next-door café, we came up with the idea of doing benefit readings that fall to help rebuild the bookstore. I volunteered to coordinate the U.S. effort; Hallward took on Europe.

In October of that year, simultaneous readings took place in

ornate French Library in Back Bay -- featuring Frank Bidart, Lucie Brock Broido, Pam Alexander, Ed Barrett, Joe Lease, Patricia Pruitt, Bill Corbett and Paul Auster -- was also a success. Hallward called from Paris that evening: they had read for 21 hours straight at the bookstore.



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KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

BY SALLY PICK

MONTAGUE – On October 3rd, the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) will hold its annual Green

Buildings Open House tour throughout the northeast. This year, the Montague Energy Committee would like to feature green homes, office buildings, and efficient municipal buildings in Montague on this self-guided tour.

While the event will include buildings with the most obvious green features, such as solar hot water and solar electric (photo-voltaic) systems, open houses

will also include less visible features such as geothermal and air heat pumps, and energy-efficiency features.

Some homes on the tour have used green building materials and practices such as super-insulating, sealing air leaks, installing efficient lighting, using Forest Stewardship Council certified flooring, and using heat recovery ventilation. You can check out water-conservation techniques such as rain barrels and dual-flush toilets and talk to homeowners about how they create healthy, livable, and efficient

home environments. You'll be able to see how the MassSave program sealed air leaks in some homes and blew in deep cellulose insulation in attics. You can even tour an award-winning new Montague City home that produces more energy than it uses.

If you would like to participate in the NESEA Green Buildings Open House and be a part of the tour that features Montague's green buildings, please e-mail SJP@crocker.com or call 367-0082. The Montague Energy Committee will promote green open houses in Montague

with stories in the media and fliers around town, and can provide signage for your open house.

If you would rather sign up with NESEA and not be a part of the Montague-focused open house promotion, you can register directly at NESEA's webpage for the Green Buildings Open House: www.nesea.org/. Registration is due by September 1st, to allow NESEA time to put the information online, where people can look see what houses they want to tour, what green features they have, and where they are located. The criteria for what qualifies as a green building for the event can also be found on NESEA's website.

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from WENDELL pg 1

original tunes.

Expect many other musical guests and surprises, and local drummers are sure to be keepin' the beat.

Old Home Day, as always, will include local crafts, art, tag sales – including the famous library tables – and farm products. Once again, the day will feature the Wendell Mushroom Museum, a collection of locally collected wild

shrooms, as well as a tour of the bountiful newly-created community gardens in the afternoon.

Some old food favorites will make a comeback this year. Diemand Egg Farm will provide their chicken barbeque dinner at 5 p.m., and Myron's Yakitori will have its stand in town, too. Save room for Lorraine's Famous Egg Rolls, and other food surprises.

Look for a Free Box Fashion Show, Wendell Citizen of the

Year award, and a Wendell Historical Society Question Box for your 'who, what, where in Wendell?' questions.

As for the theme – We are the World – we can always hope! After all, we're all here, because we're not all there. No official rain date is set, so come rain or come shine.

For questions, call Karen Copeland at (978) 544-7352, or e-mail: kkkeepthebeat@yahoo.com.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Fugitive Cows

Wednesday, 7/22

3:43 p.m. Assistance to other police department, arrest of [redacted]

[redacted] Charged with probable cause for an outside agency.

Thursday, 7/23

2:46 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Morris Avenue address.

Friday, 7/24

12:54 a.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at an H Street address.

12:30 p.m. Report of vandalism at a Carlisle Avenue address.

12:42 p.m. Report of vandalism at a Fourth Street address. Investigated.

8:53 p.m. Officer wanted at a G Street address. Arrested [redacted] on a straight warrant.

11:19 p.m. Report of hit-

and-run accident at an L Street address. Arrested [redacted]

Charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, operating without a license, and operating to endanger.

Saturday, 7/25

12:15 a.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a G Street address. Subject removed to hospital.

Sunday, 7/26

3:24 a.m. Report of motor vehicle theft at a Third Street address. Investigated.

Monday, 7/27

7:15 a.m. Report of cows in the road on Route 63 south of Hunting Hills. Area search negative.

4:30 p.m. Report of a fight at Unity Park. Arrested [redacted] on a [redacted] for a default warrant.

Tuesday, 7/28

7:36 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at an Avenue A address. Arrested [redacted]

[redacted] on a default warrant.

10:39 p.m. Officer initiated investigation of trespassing at Unity Park field house. Gathering dispersed.

Wednesday, 7/29

11:04 a.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at a Unity Street address.

Thursday, 7/30

9:00 a.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at a Randall Wood Drive address.

3:35 p.m. Abandoned 911 call Investigated. Arrested [redacted]

[redacted] Charged with violation of a restraining order.

3:49 p.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at Unity Park field house.

5:40 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Second Street address. Peace restored.

7:55 p.m. Report of a possible suicide attempt at a Second Street address. Subject removed to hospital.

Friday, 7/31

3:00 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Unity Street address.

Saturday, 8/1

1:54 a.m. Report of a domestic fight at a Fourth Street address. Investigated.

Sunday, 8/2

9:18 a.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Federal Street address.

5:17 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a G Street address. Peace restored.

Monday, 8/3

7:06 a.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at Demers Landscaping, Turpike Road. Investigated.

6:03 p.m. Following a traffic stop, arrested [redacted] on a default warrant and a straight warrant.

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JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - Q: I've been reading about "dirty bombs" that spread radiation. They can kill by giving you radiation sickness. What exactly is this?

Radiation sickness is an illness caused by too much exposure to radiation. How sick you get depends on the dose and the rate of exposure. Exposure to low-dose radiation, such as X-ray examinations, does not cause

radiation sickness.

There are two basic radiation forms: nonionizing and ionizing. Nonionizing radiation usually does not cause tissue damage and comes in the form of light, radio waves, microwaves and radar. Ionizing radiation is radiation that produces immediate chemical effects on human tissue. X-rays, gamma rays, and particle bombardment give off ionizing radiation.

Radiation exposure can be acute from a single large exposure, or chronic from a series of small exposures. Radiation sickness is usually linked to acute exposure. Chronic exposure is usually associated with delayed

medical problems, like cancer.

Radiation sickness can be lethal, but it isn't common. Many suffered from it in the atomic bombings in Japan during World War II. There was a lot of radiation sickness caused by the nuclear reactor accident in Chernobyl, in Ukraine.

There are natural sources of radiation that are around us all the time. Radon, a gas that emanates from the ground, produces two-thirds of this exposure.

Radiation also comes from outer space and from within our own bodies. It is in air, food and water. Certain foods such as bananas and brazil nuts naturally

contain higher levels of radiation than other foods. Brick and stone homes have higher natural radiation levels than homes made of building materials such as wood.

Levels of natural radiation vary by place. For example, people in Colorado are exposed to more natural radiation than residents of the east or west coast because Colorado has more cosmic radiation at a higher altitude and more terrestrial radiation from soils rich in naturally occurring uranium.

There are man-made sources of radiation from medical, commercial, and industrial activities. Medical X-rays are among the largest of these sources of exposure. In addition, tobacco, fertilizer, welding rods, gas mantles, luminous watch dials, and smoke

detectors contribute radiation.

Natural radiation contributes about 82 percent of the annual dose to the population while medical procedures contribute most of the remaining 18 percent.

The absorbed dose of radiation is measured in a unit called a gray (Gy). A radiation exposure of about 0.0025 Gy comes from a conventional dental X-ray. A typical whole-body computerized tomography (CT) scan produces about 0.012 Gy.

Signs and symptoms of radiation sickness usually appear with absorbed doses to the whole body of at least 1 Gy. Doses greater than 8 Gy are usually lethal.

If you have questions, write to fred@healthygeezzer.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Alleged Vandals Identified

Thursday, 7/23

8:35 a.m. Report of two loose dogs on Old State Road. Picked up same and brought to pound. Owner retrieved dogs and was advised to register with the town.

10:28 p.m. Report of noise from town department of public works area. Checked same, nothing unusual.

Friday, 7/24

2:21 p.m. Citation issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with revoked insurance.

Saturday, 7/25

1:55 p.m. Citation issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration and without insurance.

6:00 p.m. Citation issued to [redacted]

[redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration and without insurance.

Sunday, 7/26

12:04 a.m. Assisted Gill police with a traffic stop at French King Bridge.

2:00 p.m. Assisted Gill police with an intoxicated male subject going through camp sites at Barton's Cove. Unable to locate subject.

Tuesday, 7/28

9:50 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for a default warrant.

Wednesday, 7/29

12:45 p.m. Report of forgery/larceny from Erving Paper Mill.

7:48 p.m. Vandalism discovered at Zilinski Field dugouts. Citation issued to [redacted]

[redacted]

Charged with two counts of vandalising property. One juvenile complaint issued for the same charges.

Thursday, 7/30

4:30 a.m. Report of an unattended death on Prospect Heights Lane.

9:06 a.m. Report of a barking dog at Ridge Road. Checked area, all quiet.

Friday, 7/31

3:55 p.m. Citation

issued to [redacted]

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration and without insurance.

6:25 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor.

Saturday, 8/1

2:30 p.m. Report of harrasment at a Northfield Road address. Investigated. 10:35 p.m. Suspicious activity at the police station. Two vehicles driving behind station. Subjects gone upon arrival.

Monday, 8/3

4:45 p.m. Assisted Gill police with suicidal male at the boat ramp. Placed in custody and transported same to hospital.

Tuesday, 8/4

9:00 p.m. Report of possible fight and of fireworks at a Prospect Street address. Checked same, no fight. Advised of fireworks and noise complaint.

GILL from page 6

preservation effort. He suggested local groups could hold quilt or bake sales and fundraisers to augment national funding sources.

The fact that it is a rare site, documented in the National Register of Historic Places, and possibly connected to other spokes burial sites, as far away as Charleston, WV, would make it interesting to funders, he said.

He suggested working with local church denominations to raise funds to protect the site. "If I can respect your traditions, you can respect our traditions."

He offered a brief cosmology. "In the Narragansett language, Kautantowit is the word for God. We speak of Kautantowit's House, and Kautantowit's Field. It was from Kautantowit's Field that Crow brought the seed of beans, corn and squash in its ear (some say in its beak). That opened up the field of agriculture for the People," said Harris, referencing the tribe's Medicine Woman, Dr. Ella Sekatau. "We hope we go to Kautantowit's House when we die. How far is that from your traditions?"

"We believe there is a spirit that is our Mother the Earth. We believe we are all related, to the creatures, the trees, the stones. To the extent we become a better family, our Mother may allow us to stay around here. If we can be

better citizens of this community, and this planet, we may be here for 1000s of years to come."

Banash proposed forming a group of concerned citizens to work with the tribal representatives to explore the possibility of preserving the site, and finding the funds to do so. "At the moment, we have no factory knocking on our door waiting to develop this [land]. If we can identify sources of funding to make us whole, then we can go from there."



Harris said, "Had it not been bought by you, we would not be sitting in this room tonight. We are all part of an ancient logic. We are thankful that it is you we're sitting with, and not a developer, to be part of a process together."

Banash returned to her previous point. "We need to identify sources of funding."

Board member John Ward asked if there was more to the site, besides the spokes burial, that made the area significant.

Harris said, "There may have been other burials." He said the UMass study described red staining in the soil, without naming red ocher, a ceremonial burial element. He also said he had heard that when the Kuzmeskus bus depot was under construction, across Main Road, excavators encountered "black and greasy soil," characteristic of cremation fire pits.

The town initially purchased the Mariamante property for \$245,000 in 2004 to prevent developers from building a planned 60-unit condominium development there. At the time, the selectboard spoke of the drain on town resources such a development would bring.

"I have questions about the archaeological study," continued Banash. "I want to keep going in both directions. The other reason for development is taxes."

"With more land being preserved, what is the definition of making the town whole?" asked Ward.

"We should proceed on parallel paths," said Banash, indicating she might like to see what parts of the parcel could still be developed. She said the town would preserve areas designated by the study as archaeologically sensitive. She added, "It's ultimately the town that makes the decision."



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300th Series



300th Combat Engineer Battalion repairing the under piling of a bridge destroyed by enemy fire along the Carentan - Cherbourg Road in France - June 30, 1944.

BRAD PETERS & JAN ROSS ERVING - In recognition of the 65th anniversary of the U.S. campaign in Europe in WWII, the Montague Reporter will follow the men of the 300th Combat Engineer Battalion as they moved through France, Belgium and Germany from their landing in Normandy in June 1944 to VE Day on May 8th, 1945. Donald Ross, father of Jan Ross of



Kenneth "Cowboy" Morris of the 300th

Erving served with the 300th. Allied forces had surrounded and cut off Paris by early August, and liberation of the city was assured. General Charles de Gaulle was in England where he had taken refuge some time before and was still considered to be the President of France. Even

Dispatches from France, August, 1944



German prisoners being transported out of Paris after the liberation of the city though British and American forces had been primarily responsible for the retreat of the Germans, de Gaulle insisted that French troops be allowed to "take" Paris and the first to enter the city. Orders went down for the 300th and others to stand down.

General LeClerc led his French 2nd Armored Division into Paris on the evening of August 24th and the bells of Notre Dame, silent for more than four years, rang out announcing his arrival. LeClerc and his troops fought their way into the heart of the city despite pockets of resistance. The next day would bring the formal surrender by German General Choltitz. Even with sniper activity in parts of the city, there was much celebration as the liberation forces marched through the streets. Thousands of loyal Parisians lined the streets cheering and offering wine, cognac, flowers, vegetables, and affections to their liberators.

It is not clear when the 300th went through or around Paris. It is not likely that the entire battalion travelled together, but that some units went by Paris some time around August 20th, before it was entirely secure, and other units traveled through Paris before the Grand Parade on August 29th. The 300th were under orders to move directly through Paris, thus denying them the opportunity to enjoy the "Parisian hospitality." Their orders were to continue to support the pursuit of the retreating Germans.

Leonard Burke of the 300th describes his trip through Paris. "We went into Paris and were pulled off the

road. We [the Allies] had already taken Paris. It was our turn to go in. We were in a wooded area when word came down to get off the road and wait. Finally he came by in the lead military vehicle. General de Gaulle was standing up waving and his troops came by with their trucks and jeeps all polished up and their pants all pressed. They just landed from England.

"Once they came through and all got by, we started back on the road to Paris. By the time we got there, de Gaulle was in his headquarters and had returned to

power. We went down through Paris, the Arc de Triomphe, and the city parks. De Gaulle's army had tents everywhere and everyone had a girl on each side with a bottle of wine. We just went on through. On the way we hit a winery and we all got drunk that night."

Kenneth "Cowboy" Morris describes his trip through Paris. "When we went through Paris, the Germans had surrendered but there was still some sniper fire. The streets were just lined with civilians for miles. They were pitching cognac, bottles of wine into the truck and I said, now boys it wouldn't be right not to take it. Colonel Crandall (Riel Crandall, Commanding Officer), later said at a reunion, 'When we went through Paris, I said to myself, boy I had a battalion that was young, bright, intelligent engineers. But when we got out of Paris I just had a bunch of drunks.' That was a sight you'll never forget. Those people acted like they were so glad to be liberated. It felt like you were doing something worthwhile. It was



Sgt. Leonard Burke of the 300th really something."

Don Ross of the 300th and father of the co-author wrote home about Paris: "August 18, 1944 [Belgium] - Well, now I can say I've seen Paris, that is, what one can see of it passing thru in a convoy of GI trucks. The trailer hauling my water equipment was hitched on behind, and being flat on top three of us rode on top of the trailer thru the streets of Paris."

Note: The web site of the 300th Combat Engineer Battalion can be found at: www.300thcombatengineersinwwii.com

Sox Trade for Victor Martinez

BY LEE CARIGNAN MONTAGUE - The Boston Red Sox were busy at the trade deadline wheeling and dealing, trading pitcher Justin Masterson and minor league pitchers Bryan Price and Nick Hagadone for hard-hitting catcher Victor Martinez of the Cleveland Indians.

The trade was bittersweet, because Masterson was becoming a fixture in the Red Sox bullpen, and was expected to have a big future with the Sox. Prospects Bryan Price and Nick Hagadone were also former first-round draft picks of the Sox.

Giving up three young pitchers usually goes against general manager Theo Epstein's philosophy. But the Red Sox desperately needed a big bat in their lineup.

The Sox have struggled offensively over the last month, causing the team to fall into second place. However, they did manage to hold on to their top three pitching prospects: Daniel Bard, Clay Buchholz, and Michael Bowden. You can bet the Indians were

pushing for these pitchers during negotiations. In the end the Sox got the bat they needed without mortgaging their top pitching prospects.

Epstein has gained quite a reputation for making big plays at the trade deadline. In 2004 the young general manager made the bold move of trading fan favorite Nomar Garciaparra for Orlando Cabrera and Doug Mientkiewicz, to help improve team defense. That move paid off as the Sox went on to win their first World Series in 86 years.

Last year, Epstein made the biggest trade of the year at the deadline, trading disgruntled slugger Manny Ramirez for Jason Bay. Getting Bay helped improve the chemistry of the team, while supplying a steady bat in the lineup.

Martinez is a 30-year-old switch-hitting catcher who can also play first base. This will give the Red Sox flexibility in giving

players days off, especially Mike Lowell, who had hip surgery in the off-season, and recently had to go on the disabled list.

Admittedly, the Sox over-used him in the first half of the season.

Martinez will also be able to spell 37-year-old Jason Varitek as catcher, while improving the lineup. Martinez has 15 home runs, and has hit safely in 81 of 99 games this year. Since 2004, no catcher has had as many doubles (153) or RBIs (406) as Martinez. With the trade, the Red Sox are hoping Martinez can help jump-start their struggling offense and give them enough momentum to catch the Yankees.

The Sox also traded recently acquired first baseman Adam LaRoche to the Atlanta Braves for first baseman Casey Kotchman. Kotchman is a better defensive player, has more experience as a backup, and should be another plus for the Sox lineup.



PUBLIC HEARING IN ERVING
The Erving Selectmen, as the local licensing authority, will hold a public hearing on an application for a new liquor license for James Van Houten d/b/a Christina's Pizzeria & Tavern (previously the Smokin' Hippo) on Monday, August 17th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Erving town hall.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 6th
Coop Concerts, Energy Park, Miles St. Greenfield 6 to 8 p.m. www.coopconcerts.org. Featured this week: *Seven Mile Line*, Russ Thomas and Brooke Brown Saracino, free.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7th
Morning Nature Walk, 7:30 a.m. Meet at the bird bath outside the main entrance to the Discovery Center, Turners Falls. Info: (413) 863-3221 or www.greatfallsma.org.

At the Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Rock Concert featuring Boston heavy metal band Diecast, 6 p.m.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Ghost Quartet*, with extra special guest John Kurtyka, no cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Mass Production*, Wendell's fabulous reggae band, will keep you dancing all night. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8th
Great Falls Geowalk, a walking tour of the geology of Turners Falls, 10 a.m. to noon. Join geologist Steve Winters for a leisurely 90-minute stroll back in time to rocks that formed in the Mesozoic Era, about 200 million years ago. New this year: exploring evidence for climate change in the rocks of Turners Falls. Meet at Discovery Center lobby. About 3 miles. Free. Info: (413) 863-3221 or www.greatfallsma.org.

Turners Falls BLOCK PARTY! 2 to 8 p.m. See page 3 for details, or www.turnersfallsriverculture.org.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Post Block-Party DANCE PARTY w/DJ Studebaker Hawk & friends, no cover.

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Jenny Goodspeed, selected for Falcon Ridge/Grassy Hill Emerging Artist Showcase, performs at Coop Concerts, Energy Park, Greenfield on Thursday, August 13th. Also featured: singer-songwriter Michael Orlen and Native American style flute player Barry Higgins, 6 to 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Kristen Ford Band* Indie Rock, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9th
At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: TNT Karaoke with Opa Opa Beer Specials and Swag, 8 p.m. No cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Joe Fitzpatrick, Acoustic Trio / Warped Americana, 7:30 to 10 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10th
Montague Community Band at Peskeomskut Park, Turners Falls, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11th
The Millers Falls Library Club, free after school program, Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. For children of all ages. Activities include live music, arts and crafts, games, and homework help. Info: 863-3214.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12th
A Beautiful Future: Multicultural Music & Dreams, an interactive music show for children. Peskeomskut Park, Turners Falls, 7 p.m. A lively musical journey around the world with joyful songs and games, movement and laughter. Featuring award winning vocals, steel drum and percussion. *The Beautiful Future* band brings together years of professional musical entertainment experience with our passion and joy for children and world music.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Knitting & Crafts Night, 7 to 10 p.m. Any craft and any skill level welcome.

Social Ballroom Lessons every Wednesday 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dance till 9 p.m. \$8 per person. Come solo or bring a partner. Montague Elks, Turners Falls. August, Mambo & Salsa! Info: call Frances, (413) 885-8888.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13th
Seeds of Solidarity Education Center, Orange, workshop on school gardens and greenhouse techniques, curriculum connections, and community partnerships. Geared toward educators, all are welcome. PDPs available. \$15 covers materials and refreshments. 3 to 6 p.m. Reserve your spot: (978) 544-9023, solidarity@seedsolidarity.org.

Americana, no cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Free Range*. Rock out with Betsy, Mark and Bruce to Oldie Cover Tunes from the 60's & 70's. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14th
At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *David Wax Museum* (from Boston) with special guests *Redfire Stringband* \$5, 9 p.m.

Great Falls Coffeehouse, Turners Falls: *Seven Mile Line*. Local bluegrass quintet featuring Joe Carbone on fiddle, Matt Gravel on mandolin, Doug Patton on banjo, Ray Poirier on bass, and Greg Walko on guitar. In the Great Hall of the Great Falls Discovery Center, 7 p.m. coffee & homemade baked goods. Suggested



Seven Mile Line, high-energy bluegrass repertoire includes classic traditional numbers, bar-room blues, instrumentals and gospel songs, driving rhythms, heartfelt harmonies, and unique arrangements. At the Great Falls Coffeehouse on Friday, August 14th, 7 p.m.

donation \$6 to \$12; children free.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Nexus*, Harmonic Eclectic Rock, 9 to 11 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15th
3rd Annual 5K and Play for Katie. Begins 9 a.m. with a 5K course through Turners Falls, followed by a volleyball tournament in the grass fields at Turners Falls High School. Money raised will be divided between the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Madison Liimatainen's Education Fund. Info: www.3rd5kand-playforkatie.page.tl.

Old Home Days, Montague Center, 8:30 a.m. Mug Race. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. food, music, food, games, parade at 1:30 p.m.

Trash to Treasures at the Discovery Center, Turners Falls: create new things using recycled materials. Bring the family. Do you need a new wallet, purse? This workshop is for all ages, noon to 2 p.m.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rockit Queer!* With DJs Bex and Tommy

Toboggan. \$3 cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Eric Love*, favorite covers from the 60's & 70's, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16th
Montague Old Home Days Country Breakfast Buffet, 8:30 to 10 a.m. First Congregational Church of Montague.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Alex Bartlett*, singer songwriter, 7:30 p.m. no cover.

Free Harvest Supper, Town Common, Greenfield. Donations to support the Greenfield Farmers Market Coupon program, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Music, local food, bring your own place setting.

MONDAY, AUGUST 17th
At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls:

Voo B-I-N-G-O!!! 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19th
At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Quizmastah Chad's Quiznite Quiz!!! 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20th
Soviet Union Parks: Presentation by Sarah Bevilacqua, Great Falls Discovery Center Manager, interesting facts about Georgia, the flora, the fauna and the rich culture of the Georgian people. 7 p.m. At the Discovery Center, Turners Falls.

Tina Collins and Jenny Bird in concert at Unity of Greenfield, 6 Arch Street, Greenfield, 7 p.m. Uplifting, original acoustic world fusion. \$10 Info 773-3942, or at www.jennybird.com.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Benefit for FC Community Meals Program, 8 p.m. \$5.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Wailin' Dave Robinson, Tommy Filault and Company*, Blues Based Roots music, 8 to 10 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21st
At the Bookmill, Montague Center: *Mike and Ruthy* (also of the Mammals) singer/song-writing, harmony-singing, banjo and fiddle-sliding duo from the Hudson Valley who have been described as literate, political, organic, and inspired. \$10 advance, \$12 door; 8 p.m. www.mikeandruthy.com

ONGOING
Thursdays through Sundays in August, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. *In Sight Artists* featured at the Millworks Gallery, Montague Center through August 31, 2009. Jill Bromberg, Terri Fain, Lana Fiala, Christine Mero, Louise Minks and Kerry Stone the exhibit *Art for the Dog Days of Summer*. Floral paintings, landscapes, and quilts. Info: (413) 367-2800.

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MONDAYS - Drop-in, 3 to 6 p.m.
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THURS - Drop-in, 3 to 6 p.m. & Movie Night, 6 to 8 p.m.
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- GI. JOE: RISE OF THE COBRA** PG13 in DTS sound DAILY 12:00 3:00 6:30 9:30
- FUNNY PEOPLE** R DAILY 12:00 3:00 6:30 9:30
- G-FORCE** PG DAILY 12:15 3:15 6:45 9:15
- ALIENS IN THE ATTIC** PG DAILY 12:15 3:15 6:45 9:15
- AWAY WE GO** R in DTS sound DAILY 12:30 3:30 7:00 9:20
- THE UGLY TRUTH** R in DTS sound DAILY 12:30 3:30 7:00 9:20



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Saturday, 8/8, 9 to 11 p.m. *Kristin Ford Band Indie Rock*
Sunday, 8/9 7:30 to 10 p.m. *Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Joe Fitzpatrick*
Thursday, 8/13 8 to 10 p.m. *Free Range* 60's & 70's Covers
Friday, 8/14 9 to 11 p.m. *Nexus* Harmonic Eclectic Rock
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MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK

BY LESLIE BROWN

MONTAGUE CITY – Finally we have had a few hot, sunny days to mitigate the continuing monsoon, and the garden has responded. The marigolds no longer look scrawny; instead, the blossoms are big and bright.

Now there are several ripe cherry tomatoes to pick at a time. These sweet-tart beauties are delectable. I hope the full sized tomatoes will also finish with full flavor. The first two mid-sized Red Zebras I picked were meaty yet very bland in taste.

The pole beans and lemon cukes are flourishing now and are vigorously climbing the tepees. The winter squashes have finally taken off. That's a good thing, as so far there has been nothing to see but mid-sized leaves and blossoms. These fruits need a long time to develop before end-of-summer harvesting.

The basil plants look heartier, but they have also started to bloom. If you are growing this unbelievably fragrant herb, you

will want to pinch these blossoms so that all of the plants' energy will go into foliage. Also, don't make the mistake of waiting to harvest until the end of the season when you are ready to make pesto. Picking leaves on a regular basis will encourage plant growth and give you fragrant leaves you can drop into almost anything you are cooking. The basil leaves are also wonderful just sliced thinly and used as a garnish for salads and sliced tomatoes.

Now is a great time to plant salad greens again for a late summer crop: leaf lettuce and spinach will do well and will reward you again with your own fresh salads. Some gardeners also do a second summer planting of peas now. I've never had much luck with these as it seems to get too hot, but if you want to try them, get seed developed for late season, like Wando, which is heat and cold tolerant. Burpee carries some smooth leafed spinach varieties which require only a short season of 30 to 40 days. Consider planting Baby's Leaf or Reddy for small, tender greens.

You can also do a late planting of green beans now. I recently enjoyed some French filet green beans at a friend's house. They are slender and small. Cooked only lightly and served still crisp with a little butter, they were very tasty. These beans need only 53

days from germination to harvest.

It looks like there will be a nice crop of onions after all, in spite of the neighborhood cats who thought the raised beds were a wonderful playpen and rest station. I have been neglectful in weeding them. It's best to keep up with the weeds, because the onions don't like competition and, of course, the goal is to develop a nice-sized bulb.

My laziness was rewarded, in a way, because the crab grass was tall enough to easily grab in small clumps and pull free, roots and all, from the wet ground. The onions are quite forgiving, and look to have grown more, right after they gained more root room.

I've harvested the garlic for drying and hanging, so their raised bed is free for some late planting of greens. I have another free space where I pulled the spent pea plants. The best strategy will be to plant a new crop where the peas have been inside the chicken wire fence. Perhaps I'll also put a little seed in the raised bed as a distracter for the woodchuck.

I've not seen the big one for a while, so either a predator or my neighbor's shotgun got it. I now have a relatively timid small woodchuck visiting, which seems content to eat grass, the clover in the lawn, and other such free and acceptable fodder. I

think it (or the rabbit) also ate the early, bolted lettuce leavings.

My theory is that leaving a little accessible food may deter any forays over or under the fence. I imagine these critters to be a bit lazy and happy to settle for the easiest take-out meal. Just the same, I'll be sure to ring the garden with ammoniated rags before I leave for my next trek to Maine.

My current little friend is edgy and runs off to cover if I just open the door, but I'm not kidding myself. A week without human habitation is a sure invite to garden invasion.

This is also the season of fine local fruits for hot weather desserts. Pick or buy raspberries, blueberries, peaches or apricots, and enjoy some of the following:

Fresh Raspberry Pie

One uncooked, deep dish pie crust.

One quart fresh raspberries.
¾ cup of sugar mixed with ¼ cup tapioca.

Stir the sugar mixture into the fruit and let sit for 15 minutes. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Fill the pie shell and bake until the fruit mixture bubbles (50-60 min)

Cool until set. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

Be sure to bake your pie on a pie tray or a layer of foil as it will undoubtedly run over as it bubbles up.

Home-made Lemon Curd (by Elinor Klivans)

6 Tablespoons butter, softened

1 cup sugar

2 large eggs

2 additional egg yolks

2/3 cup fresh lemon juice

1 teaspoon grated lemon zest

Beat the butter and sugar with an electric mixer about two minutes, and then slowly add the eggs and yolks, beating for one minute. Mix in the lemon juice. It will look curdled, but don't worry, that will smooth out as it cooks.

Cook over low heat until smooth. Increase the heat to medium and cook, stirring constantly until thick, about 15 minutes. Do not boil.

Remove from heat and stir in the zest. Transfer the curd to a bowl and chill.

Now you know why I bought the jar! Just the same, if you take the extra minutes, you can create lemon curd, which will keep in the freezer for two months until you want it!

Lemon-Fruit Pie

One graham cracker or sweet pastry crust.

1 jar of lemon curd (or make your own: see above).

Spread the lemon curd in the bottom of the crust.

Chill for an hour.

Top with an attractively spread layer of mixed seasonal fruits:

Sliced peaches or apricots, blueberries, raspberries, etc.

The lemon is a pleasingly tart accent to the sweet fruits.

Yum!

Happy gardening and happy eating!

Local Nature Notes August: Things to See, Hear, and Do

BY JEN AUDLEY

WEST DEERFIELD – The moon, waning until August 20th (it was full on August 6th) and then waxing again.



Monarch Butterfly

Monarchs, in their butterfly form, feeding on flowers, and in their caterpillar form, munching on milkweed plants. If you are lucky and look very carefully at milkweed plants, you might also see a monarch in its pupal form – a chrysalis. Amazingly, many of the monarchs we see here in the fall are en route to their winter home on the west coast of Mexico! It may take several generations for them to make it the whole way: the butterfly that emerges from a chrysalis in New

England flies south, stopping to lay eggs on milkweed plants along the way. It dies, but the eggs hatch out as caterpillars, which grow and pupate and then, as butterflies, fly further south, laying eggs along the way... and so on.

Queen Anne's lace, goldenrod, blue cornflowers, asters, and other wildflowers blooming along roadsides and fields.

Goldfinches, nesting now, should be busy feeding babies soon. In a few weeks, look for the youngsters learning to fly. American goldfinches breed later than most of our resident birds. Unlike most songbirds, they eat only seeds (no insects, no worms), and they breed at a time of year when seeds are abundant. Female goldfinches also use the downy fluff from thistles and milkweed to line their nests!

Jupiter, appearing with the moon tonight and tomorrow, then visible throughout the night from the 14th on. Two other planets you might see in an August night

sky are Mercury and Saturn. You can tell planets from stars because planets usually don't appear to twinkle. That's because they are much closer to us here on Earth than any star except our Sun, so the light we see reflected off the planets' surface has a shorter distance to travel, with less to block its way.

The Perseid meteor shower, which reaches its peak on August 12th. Although there are several other annual meteor showers, this is one of the most dependable, producing up to 60 falling stars per hour and lasting for most of the month. Go out before the moon rises, let your eyes adjust to the dark, and look for shooting stars in the northeastern sky.

Sunset, right now at about 8:00 p.m., with **sunrise** just before 6:00 a.m. Daylight hours are decreasing now by more than two minutes each day!

Learn more:

Great Falls Geowalk

Saturday, August 8th, 10:00

to 12 noon

Turner Falls lies amidst some of the most interesting geology of Western Massachusetts. Join Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Park Interpreter and geologist Steve Winters for a leisurely 90-minute stroll back in time to rocks that formed in the Mesozoic Era – about 200 million years ago. New this year: Exploring evidence for 200-million year old climate change in the rocks of Turners Falls. Meet at the Great Falls Discovery Center. Free. For more information, call (413) 863-3221 or visit www.greatfallsma.org.

Perseid Meteor Shower Canoe Trip

Wednesday, August 12, 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Come on a nighttime canoeing adventure with naturalist Aimee Gelinas to view the Perseid meteor showers on the gentle waters of the Mill River. We will also keep our eye out for the resident

beavers and great blue herons, and listen for sounds of night-dwelling creatures. Sponsored by Mass Audubon; meet at Arcadia Sanctuary in Easthampton. This program is intended to be for adults. Fee: \$18.00 for Mass Audubon members, \$22.00 for non-members; canoes provided. Registration is required. Call (413) 584-3009.

Water Dance

Saturday, August 22nd, sunset (7:34 pm)

A public hoop dancing event to celebrate the fresh waters of western Massachusetts! This program uses LED hoops, dancing, and rhythmic drumming to help celebrate the water. Be a participant: pre-register, wear black, and meet at sunset at Unity Park in Turners Falls. Or, just come to watch (no registration required) and enjoy this fabulous riverside event! All ages; free. Pre-register by emailing or calling phyllislabanowski@comcast.net (413) 369-9985 or Ariana at (413) 219-0352.



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