



HAPPY MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Monday, January 16th



TALENT SHOW

at TFHS/ Page 16

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS GILL ERVING WENDELL

Year 4
No.14

50¢

The Montague Reporter

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 12, 2006

GM Principals Seek Expanded VT Yankee Evacuation Zone

BY DAVID DETMOLD

The principals of the Sheffield and Gill elementary schools came before the Gill Montague school committee to ask for formal help in dealing with evacuation planning for district schools in the event of an accident at Vermont Yankee. Bob Mahler, principal of Gill Elementary School, eight miles from the reactor core, addressed the committee with Chip Wood, principal of Sheffield School, thirteen miles from the reactor. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requires evacuation plans within a 10-mile radius of operating reactors.

"Due to the impending changes at Vermont Yankee, with the 20% uprate in power imminent, we need to make FEMA and MEMA and the NRC aware that this entire district would be significantly impacted by any event at this plant," Mahler said. Mahler is also the principal of the Montague Center School, 18 miles from Vermont Yankee.

Wood told the committee, "The selectboard in Brattleboro is taking steps to put a non-binding ref-

erendum on the town meeting ballot to improve evacuation plans for Vermont Yankee. The towns of Guilford, Marlboro, and Dummerston have all agreed to include similar questions on their town meeting warrants. We are asking you to urge the selectboards in Gill and Montague to put a question to work on improved evacuation plans for the citizens of the Gill Montague district, especially the children, on their town meeting warrants as well."

Mahler warned, "Things are moving very rapidly [toward approval of the 20% uprate] at Vermont Yankee. The Committee on Reactor Safeguards just unanimously approved the uprate to the NRC. There seems to be nothing standing in the way of Entergy getting the go-ahead to do this; the approval is imminent."

Entergy Vermont Yankee has petitioned the NRC to grant permission to boost power at the 33-year-old boiling water reactor to 120% of its original design capacity.

See **EVACUATION**
Page 11

Adieu à L'Église Sainte Anne

BY DAVID DETMOLD

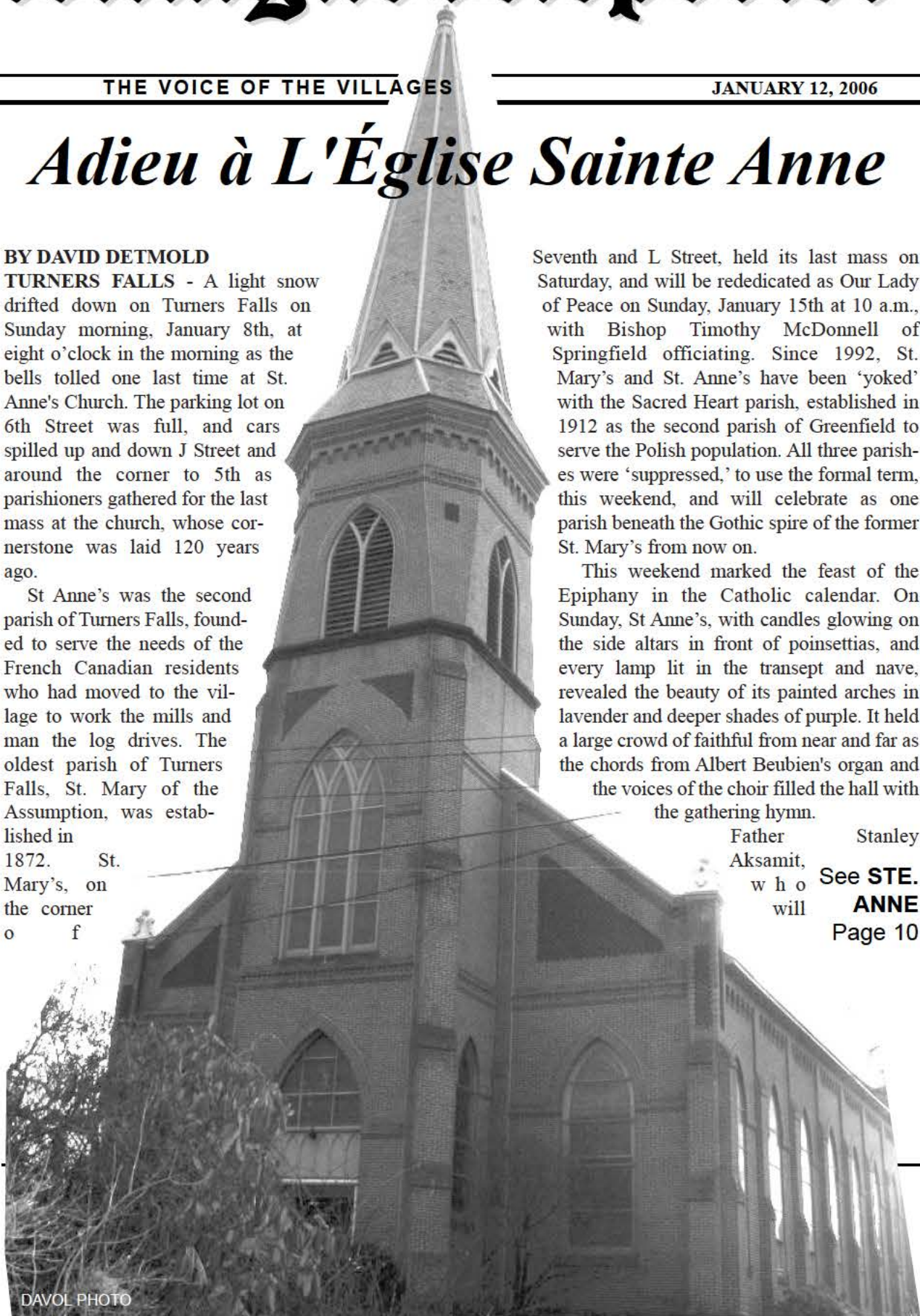
TURNERS FALLS - A light snow drifted down on Turners Falls on Sunday morning, January 8th, at eight o'clock in the morning as the bells tolled one last time at St. Anne's Church. The parking lot on 6th Street was full, and cars spilled up and down J Street and around the corner to 5th as parishioners gathered for the last mass at the church, whose cornerstone was laid 120 years ago.

St Anne's was the second parish of Turners Falls, founded to serve the needs of the French Canadian residents who had moved to the village to work the mills and man the log drives. The oldest parish of Turners Falls, St. Mary of the Assumption, was established in 1872. St. Mary's, on the corner of

Seventh and L Street, held its last mass on Saturday, and will be rededicated as Our Lady of Peace on Sunday, January 15th at 10 a.m., with Bishop Timothy McDonnell of Springfield officiating. Since 1992, St. Mary's and St. Anne's have been 'yoked' with the Sacred Heart parish, established in 1912 as the second parish of Greenfield to serve the Polish population. All three parishes were 'suppressed,' to use the formal term, this weekend, and will celebrate as one parish beneath the Gothic spire of the former St. Mary's from now on.

This weekend marked the feast of the Epiphany in the Catholic calendar. On Sunday, St Anne's, with candles glowing on the side altars in front of poinsettias, and every lamp lit in the transept and nave, revealed the beauty of its painted arches in lavender and deeper shades of purple. It held a large crowd of faithful from near and far as the chords from Albert Beubien's organ and the voices of the choir filled the hall with the gathering hymn.

Father Stanley Aksamit, who will See **STE. ANNE**
Page 10



DAVOL PHOTO

Acupuncturist Aims for Community Well-Being



Karen Adams opened her practice on Avenue A this week.

BY STEPHEN COBB
TURNERS FALLS - Fifteen years ago, when Karen Adams first got acupuncture treatments for a health condition, she was so thrilled with how acupuncture helped her she decided to pursue a career as an acupuncturist.

This week, she opened her new practice - Four Directions Healing Arts - in downtown Turners Falls at 112 Avenue A.

After her children grew up, Adams herself left the empty nest and flew to England five years ago to study acupuncture. "When I left for England five years ago, Turners was struggling. That's so changed now." Adams remarked that artists have moved here and now the

See **ACUPUNCTURE**
Page 7

Agawam Firm Rumored to Bid for Esleek

BY PHILIPPE DEGUISE & DAVID DETMOLD
TURNERS FALLS - William Blanker, chairman of the Esleek Manufacturing Company refused to comment yesterday on persistent rumors that his company has been sold to Southworth Company of Agawam. When asked, Blanker said simply, "It is not something I could comment on."

But interviews with half a dozen company employees and town offi-

cials say the deal is all but done, and an announcement is expected imminently. If true, the larger, family-owned Agawam paper manufacturer, which has been in operation since 1839, would be acquiring, not merging, with Esleek, which has been turning out quality paper on the power canal in Turners Falls since 1900. Southworth company president David Southworth did not return a phone call seeking comment at press time.

According to Esleek employees, some of whom requested anonymity, the transaction has been under discussion for some time, and workers are expecting a formal announcement this week or next. Sources at town hall said inquiries had been made of the assessors regarding the company's appraisal. Employees were hoping many of the approximately 100 manufacturing jobs

See **ESLECK**
Page 9

PET OF THE WEEK**Clawless Beauty****Goldie**

Still here a week later. Goldie is a four year old orange domestic short hair cat in need of a good home. She is a sweetheart; the kind of cat who will get up to see you when you stop by. She is declawed, so for her safety she needs to live as an indoor only cat.

For more information on adopting Goldie contact the Dakin Animal Shelter in Leverett at 548-9898 or via email at info@dakin-shelter.org.

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Subscription Rates:
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LIBRARY NEWS

Clay Classes at Millers Falls Library

MILLERS FALLS- A series of three weekly clay classes for children will begin at the Millers Falls Library on Thursday, January 19th. Participants will make dioramas of clay animals in their environments and will learn some of the fundamentals of working with air, dry and Sculpey (polymer) clay. The instructor is contemporary clay artist Ruth O'Mara of Wendell. The sessions will run from approximately 3:30 - 4:45 p.m. and will be held on Thursdays from January 19th - February 2nd. The programs are designed for children in grades 3 - 6. The classes are free, and all of the materials will be provided. Advance registration is recommended, as space is limited. The programs are supported

in part by a grant from the Montague Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. For more information, or to register, call 863-3214.

TURNERS FALLS - The Munch and Muse Book Discussion Group at the Carnegie Library will be reading and discussing "Under the Banner of Heaven" by Jon Krakauer on Tuesday, Jan. 17th at 7 p.m. Books are available at the library. Refreshments will be served. The discussion is free and open to the public. Call the library at 863-3214 for more information.

Ladies Night Out

The Ladies Night Out Craft Group will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 24th at 6:30 p.m., the project will be candlewicking. All supplies will be provided. This program is open to the public. Call the library for more information.



PHOTO BY LINDA HICKMAN

MONTAGUE CENTER- Henry Weis read to Gray and Alexander Davidson Carroll at the Montague Center Library on Monday, January 9th. All of the boys live in Montague Center. Children's Librarian Linda Hickman often reads on Monday nights around 6:45 to children at the library, but Henry, who is an excellent reader, also enjoys taking a turn.

Wonderful Water at Discovery Center

Saturday, January 14th, 1-2 p.m. - Wonderful Water - Join Gini Traub, regional environmental education coordinator for the Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation, for a series of activities for school-age children, their families, and the child in all of us. Discover the wonderful and life-sustaining properties of water.

Who cares that ice floats? How does water move against the force of gravity? Is water "sticky"?

The Great Falls Discovery Center is located at 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls. It is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

See www.greatfallsma.org for more info.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES Jan. 16th - 20th

MONTAGUE Senior Center, 62 Fifth St., Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. Meal reservations need to be made a day in advance by 11 a.m. Messages can be left on the machine when the center is closed (863-9357). Mealsite Manager is Chris Richer. The center offers a hot noon meal weekdays to any senior. Transportation to the center can be provided. Trip coordinator is Jean Chase. Make trip reservations by calling 772-6356. Payment and menu choice is due three weeks prior to trip.

Monday, 16th
CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
Tuesday, 17th

9:30 a.m. Tai Chi
Wednesday, 18th
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, 19th
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, 20th
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11:00 a.m. PACE Aerobics

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

POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST Park Street, Turners Falls



BY LILLIAN FISKE - This card was mailed from Turners Falls in 1914. It was most likely taken from Turners Falls Road looking west with a few buildings partially hidden by the trees on the north side of the street.

Postcard courtesy of the Montague Historical Society collection.

UPCOMING PINE BOX DERBY RACES

The Montague Elks Lodge #2521, 1 Elks Avenue, Turners Falls, will hold its annual "Murph" Trophy Races for adults on Saturday, February 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the lodge. The children's races will be held on Sunday, February 5th at 1:00 p.m. The Murph Trophy races began about 11 years ago when Francis C. "Murph" Togneri, Sr., a life member at the Lodge, suggested the Elks have their own Pinewood Derby Races. The track was built by the membership as a memorial to Brian F. Bogusz, who loved the Murph Trophy races. Car kits are available in the lounge at the lodge for \$12 for the adults and \$10 for children. The winner will get their dues paid for the next year if a member, or the equivalent in cash if a non-member. Make plans now and get those kits made for the whole family. All proceeds benefit the Elks National Foundation.

For further information about this event please contact the co-chairs: John Perreault at (413) 824-9749 or George Emery at (413) 367-0382.

WINTER PROGRAMS

Montague Parks & Recreation Department

The MP&RD is still taking registrations for the following Winter recreation programs: Youth Programs: American Red Cross Babysitting Course, Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest, and Swimming Lessons; Adult Programs: Low-Impact Step Aerobics. The 6th Annual Winter Carnival is planned for Saturday, January 21st (call for details), and Open Gym begins Thursday, January 5th at Sheffield Elementary School (call for schedule). All programs are first come, first serve; registration deadlines and enrollment limits apply to most programs. Contact the MP&RD office to receive registration information and a Winter Program Flier at 863-3216.

VALLEY HISTORY

The Courage of Conviction

The Story of William Turner

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New Trash Cans Debut on Avenue A

BY JEAN HEBDEN
TURNERS FALLS - Beautification efforts in Turners Falls are picking up in the New Year with the introduction of new all weather trash cans. Formerly, the trash cans on the Avenue had been put in storage each winter, because they were hard to empty when covered with snow and ice. According to town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, the streetscape committee that formed in the spring of 2005 asked that trash barrels be kept out in the



DAVOL PHOTO

winter to help combat the downtown litter problem. Abbondanzio requested the money from the streetscape budget, then had highway department chief Tom Bergeron choose the cans. Abbondanzio said he delegated that task because, "Sometimes I err on the side of aesthetics." For his part, Bergeron said the barrels he chose are "sturdy and weather resistant." They will be replaced with the regular barrels in the spring.

Now dog owners should find it easier to deal with their particular waste disposal needs all winter long.

Carroll's Changes Hands



DAVOL PHOTO

Carroll's Market changed hands on January 3rd. New owner, Gary Patel, has plans to increase product selection including a wider assortment of beer and wine. He also plans to start accepting WIC coupons. Marty Luippold (center), will continue to work the counter. Gary's son Ken (right) will help out with Kunal Patel (left) who owns Super John in Greenfield.

Initial Archaeological Survey of Mariamante Land Complete

BY DAVID DETMOLD
GILL - Results are in from the Phase I archaeological survey of the town-owned Mariamante land on the corner of West Gill and Main Road. According to Tim Binzen, of UMass Archaeological Services, the completed survey "did find areas of concentrations of Native American artifacts. Most of those were stone flakes from the making of stone tools. Most were recovered from the plow zone, the upper soil. For these, original archaeological deposits would have been disturbed. In a few locations, we did find archaeological artifacts in the

subsoil. But nothing spectacular, in the sense of burials."

Binzen said the report has been sent to the Gill selectboard for review, before being forwarded to the Mass Historic Commission. He said based on the evidence gathered from the pit samples, the MHC might order a further Phase II survey of the site, for Native American artifacts. But he said nothing found so far would preclude the town from seeking to develop the site.

Binzen said some relics from the 19th century - ceramics, glass, and nails - were uncovered. The property, which has

been farmed for a hundred years or more, was the site of a dirt road in the Revolutionary War era, which stretched diagonally across the field from the top of the hill toward a point about a quarter mile down modern West Gill Road. He said some of the "diagnostic artifacts" found deeper in the soil - projectile points and pottery fragments - date from the Woodland Era of Native habitation, from 500 to 3000 years ago.

According to Binzen, a local historian, George Sheldon, detailed an unusual "spoke burial" of Native remains in his 1895 *History of Deerfield*.

Sheldon writes that in 1881, a Mr. Stoughton and his son William excavated a burial complex on a hilltop near the Riverside cemetery. The book contains a detailed description of the unusual burial, with remains arranged in a circle like the spokes of a wheel, and period maps show the Stoughton farm overlapped the present Mariamante acreage.

Binzen said multiple burial complexes have been found throughout the Riverside archaeological district. He said during the course of the recent survey he had received numerous calls from local residents

about artifacts they had found in the area. "The public aspect of the study has been very useful," Binzen said.

The town of Gill voluntarily commissioned the survey, and paid \$15,000 for it, in preparation for developing a request for proposals on the 12-acre parcel. The town acquired the parcel for \$239,000 in 2004, to ward off a potential housing development on the land. A community charrette was held in December of that year to generate ideas for its best use, and an advisory committee was established to guide the town in seeking to develop it.

Notes from the New Salem Wendell School Committee

Swift River Receives Additional DOE Funds

BY DOUG TURNER
NEW SALEM - The New Salem Wendell Regional School District has received a foundation reserve award in the amount of \$20,000. Swift River principal Sheila Hunter made the announcement at the January 5th school committee meeting. The award may be used for any expenses related to the operation of Swift River School, at the school committee's discretion.

The letter of notification from the Massachusetts Department of Education stated the funds must "supplement and not supplant municipal funds" previously appropriated to the school committee.

The school committee voted unanimously to adjust the sup-

port for the school's budget from the district, to reflect an additional contribution of \$5,000 by New Salem, from \$489,090 to \$494,090.

New Salem voted the additional money, at a special town meeting earlier last fall, after it received a \$10,000 foundation reserve award from the Department of Education.

School Choice Examined

In response to a question from Steven Blinder regarding children who "choice out" of the school district, superintendent Linda Driscoll said the district pays close attention to the reasons parents choose to send their children to alternative schools.

"We do contact people who

are choosing out and talk to them."

She said parents often choose to send their children to school in the town where they work because it is more convenient.

She also said there may be personal reasons why parents are sending their children to private or parochial schools, or homeschooling.

"These are the consequences of school choice. It doesn't necessarily mean a rejection of what we're doing."

Driscoll added the school can take pride there are parents who are committed to bringing their children to Swift River, though the school may be a little out of their way.

The school committee voted a final approval of the school's

policies on the "Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members," "C.O.R.I. Requirements," and "Hazing."

The committee's procedures regarding new policies requires members to read the policy once without a vote, then return for a second reading and a first vote on the policy. A second and final vote on whether to approve the policy takes place at a third meeting.

The committee had their first vote on policies for "School Councils," "The School Improvement Plan" and "The Discipline of Special Needs Students."

Swift River Contract Committee to Meet

A committee formed of New Salem and Wendell officials, to revisit the original agreement between the towns in forming the school district nearly 30 years ago, will have its first meeting Thursday, January 19th at 7 p.m. in Swift River School.

New Salem has appointed selectboard chairman Steve Verney, finance committee member Don King and school committee member Connie Turner to the Swift River Contract Committee.

Wendell will be represented by finance committee member Michael Idoine, constable Anne Diemand and Dick Baldwin.

The next meeting of the New Salem Wendell school committee is Thursday, February 2nd at 7 p.m.

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24 3rd Street, Turners Falls, Mass. 01376

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"The Voice of the Villages"

Founded by
Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold
August, 2002

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To the Mountain Top

"...We have been forced to a point where we're going to have to grapple with the problems that men have been trying to grapple with through history, but the demands didn't force them to do it.

Survival demands that we grapple with them. Men, for years now, have been talking about war and peace. But now no longer can they just talk about it. It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world. It's nonviolence or nonexistence.



That is where we are today. And also in the human rights revolution, if something isn't done, and in a hurry, to bring the colored peoples of the world out of their long years of poverty, their long years of hurt and neglect, the whole world is doomed.

...If I lived in China or even Russia, or any totalitarian country, maybe I could understand some of these illegal injunctions. Maybe I could understand the denial of certain basic First Amendment privileges, because they hadn't committed themselves to that over there. But somewhere I read of the freedom of assembly. Somewhere I read of the freedom of speech. Somewhere I read of the freedom

of the press. Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for right. And so, just as I say, we aren't going to let any dog or water hose turn us around. We aren't going to let any injunction turn us around. We are going on.

...Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge, to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make a better nation. And I want to thank God, once more, for allowing me to be here with you.

...And I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountain top. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life; longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. And I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

...And I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountain top. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life; longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. And I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

-April 3rd, 1968

Memphis, Tennessee

Excerpt from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s last speech.

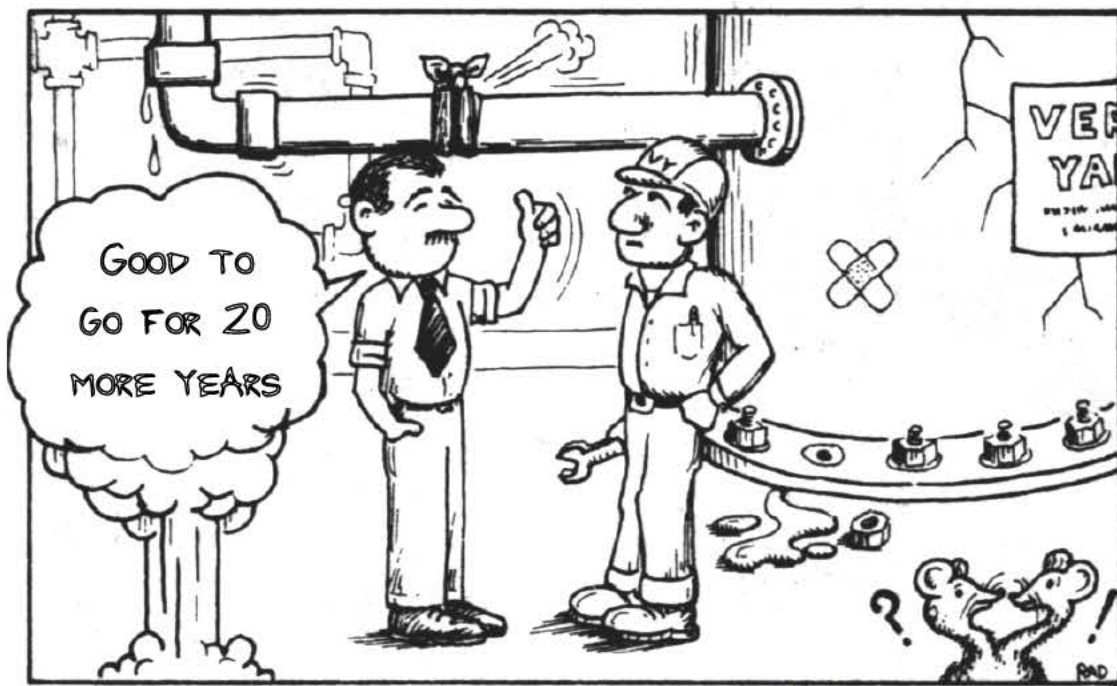
He was assassinated on April 4th.

American Dead in Iraq as of 1/11/06



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The Montague Reporter

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RICHARD DIMATTEO ILLUSTRATION

NRC Committee on Reactor Safeguards gives thumbs up to boost power at Vermont Yankee to 120% of original design capacity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MLK Day Protest at Vermont Yankee

There will be a gathering to protest the planned uprate and continued operation of the VT Yankee Nuclear Reactor at the Entergy Nuclear corporate headquarters on Old Ferry Road in Brattleboro, on Monday, January 16th (the day we celebrate the life and work of the patron saint of civil disobedience, Martin Luther King, Jr.)

The protest is scheduled at 10:00 a.m.

Directions: take Route 91 to Exit 3 in Brattleboro. At the end of the exit ramp, go three quarters of the way around the rotary to head north on Route 5 (away from town). At the first traffic light (about half a mile), turn right onto Old Ferry Road. The Entergy headquarters are about

a quarter of a mile down that road on the right.

Hope to see you there. Bring signs, banners; sign the petition.

As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that really matter."

- Nina Keller
Wendell

WORD ON THE AVENUE

Do you think Samuel Alito should be confirmed to be the next Supreme Court Justice?

COMPILED BY LISA DAVOL

I don't think so. After the last confirmation, I stopped paying attention. I heard about his views on abortion and I don't agree with them.

Anna Marchefka
Gill



No. He is not holding up to the questions and he does not seem to know what is going on.

Michael Sulham
Turners Falls



I have my ups and downs. I have conflicting opinions on what I have heard so far.

Teri Peters
Shelburne Falls



No, but I am not sure if they will ever come up with someone I would support.

Noah Pack
Gill



I don't think he should be confirmed. From what I have heard, he would not commit to safeguarding a woman's right to have control over her body.

Charlee Gatker
Turners Falls

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GUEST EDITORIALS

A Confession

BY WESLEY BLIXT

GREENFIELD - I have a confession to make.

I leaked the story to *The New York Times* about the Bush administration's domestic eavesdropping. I ran into *Times* reporters Eric Lichtblau and James Risen one day in Greenfield, and I said "Hey, guys, did you know Bush has authorized the National Security Agency to search for evidence of terrorist activity without the court-approved warrants ordinarily required for domestic spying?"

"I'm already on that story," Eric told me with something of an attitude.

We're like that. Reporters, that is. Ok. So maybe I wasn't

totally responsible for jeopardizing national security and undermining the war on terror in generating the leak that showed, once again, just how lame and criminal that war is.

But I wish I had been. And if I am able to claim the slightest opportunity to do so in 2006, I will be.

Because, you see, dear friends, neighbors and fellow citizens, I hereby count myself among The Enemy.

I doubt that I am among those targeted by the NSA's surveillance policy. But, dam it, I should have been, and if I have not been, it is only one further indication that the Bush administration's brutality and arrogance are matched only by its

ineptitude. That is why I would like to help out, just a little, by carrying my confession a little further.

I have given aid, comfort, professional assistance, domestic hospitality, and rhetorical encouragement to individuals, to organizations (political, paramilitary and military; above-ground and clandestine; famous and obscure), and to nation-states considered by nearly every U.S. administration in the last 40 years to be the Enemy.

I will continue to do so. Proudly. Joyously. And openly, since it apparently no longer matters whether I consider my conversations to be private.

As 2005 Nobel Laureate Harold Pinter noted in his Nobel

lecture last month, "The crimes of the United States have been systematic, constant, vicious, remorseless, but very few people have actually talked about them."

I will be happy to talk about them, and anything I have to say, I will say publicly.

Anything I have to write, I will write publicly.

I will offer my address and telephone number to anyone who requests it. I have nothing to hide . . . not my contempt for the role in the world that the U.S. has chosen to assume during my adult life . . . and not my determination to undermine that role in any way possible, short of causing physical injury to civilians.

I have lived in Franklin County and have worked as a

mainstream journalist, educator and advocate for more than 30 years. But today I count myself among the Enemy.

One other thing. Surrender. Please. Now. Look around . . . to places like Brazil and Venezuela and Bolivia and understand that America's war to retain control of the world's natural resources is doomed, and that there is a huge debt to be paid. As Joe McDonald sang 40 years ago regarding another crippled America leader, "Got you surrounded and you ain't got a chance. Gonna send you back to Texas, make you work on your ranch."

It'll be the first honest day's work Bush has done since he stole his first election.

Years to Remember

BY FRAN HEMOND

MONTAGUE CENTER - Two thousand and five is surely a year to remember. Its lessons are thought provoking. We are passengers on a space ship whose activities are quite beyond our control. It shrugs, and great waves wash in from the ocean, overwhelm inadequate barriers. Our fabulous equipment is dwarfed by the immensity of the problems; our governments overwhelmed and sometimes inept.

In my lifetime, several years are never to be forgotten - some for good and some for bad, and the

tragedy is their lessons are easily forgotten. Nineteen twenty-seven is one of those years. Charles Lindberg flew alone across the Atlantic in the one-seater plane, the Spirit of St. Louis. The charismatic aviator stirred the world and gave credence to America's role as the home of the brave and adventurous.

But the Sacco and Vanzetti case, which ended in 1927, was acrimonious. After six years of noisy trial, it ended in the execution of two immigrant Italian laborers. They had been charged with theft and the murder of a shopkeeper in

Massachusetts. The evidence was shaky; the accused men outsiders. A society that taught children the Ten Commandments supported the death penalty, and saw no contradiction. Encyclopedias tell coming generations of both Americas of 1927.

Nineteen forty-one, Pearl Harbor. No equivocation here. America was attacked and gave her all, as she did in World War I, the 'war to end all wars'. That so many of our fleet were gathered at Pearl Harbor at the same time was called into question. Maybe some have wondered at

the recent reduction of naval bases, which puts our ships together again.


Nineteen seventy. It wasn't the end of war. Fear! The domino theory. The Communists around the corner. The Tonkin Gulf Resolution, based on garbled intelligence, gave the administration a blank check to escalate hostilities. A few thousand miles of ocean between us, but somehow, Vietnam was a threat. A country where "Do Not Kill" is the accepted way of life was plunged into an Asian squabble, and taught her men to kill again. We departed when

sufficient violence threatened us domestically, and left a mess in the Far East.

Two thousand and three. It was a great America that had recovered from the 9/11 attack, but a scared administration took us into the quagmire of Iraq. Again, we must be foe to many non-political Iraqis whose homes have been invaded, their people killed and country despoiled in our attempt to save them from a despotic past.

Two thousand and six. Hopefully, the safeguards to our liberties here at home will be restored.

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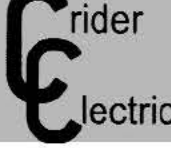


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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Dogs Ordered Put Down

BY JOHN HANOLD - The first selectboard meeting in the new year was marked more by administrative items than new business, but it began with a dog hearing which proved painful for many residents in Montague Center's Chestnut Hill neighborhood.

In spite of attempts by Kevin and Lori Howe to restrain and control the behavior of two of their dogs, upsetting encounters with neighbors and their dogs have continued. An attack by one of the Howes' dogs, Maggie, on a dog owned by neighbor Bob Walker, during a walk, resulted in Walker's dog needing veterinary treatment for deep bite wounds, and eventually to the scheduling of the hearing. Though animal control officer Allen Foster was present as part of the hearing; he took no active part in the testimony. The allegation was that the dogs are a nuisance by reason of a vicious disposition.

Linda Enerson, another of the Howes' neighbors, related a series of occasions when the

Howe's second dog, named Hunter, chased or intimidated her, both on her property and during walks. She and Kevin Howe agreed their dogs do not like each other, and that Hunter undoubtedly associates her with her dog Elvis even when they are not together. Enerson emphasized she likes the Howes and that she and Kevin co-operatively drew up and signed a contract in early 2005 detailing corrective action. Howe met the conditions of the agreement, including the construction of a fence and self-closing gates, but Maggie and Hunter have continued to escape and roam.

Enerson's experiences were echoed by three other neighbors, one of whom observed that Hunter has even bitten one of the Howes' sons. The substance of their statements was that in spite of the Howes' efforts, the dogs repeatedly run free and intimidate or bite others.

The tone of the hearing was generally respectful, and reflected the neighborhood's shared

affection for dogs and its desire to preserve good relations with the Howes. Kevin has tried unsuccessfully to place Maggie elsewhere, and seemed to accept that Hunter also might need to be "sent off." Board member Patricia Allen stated firmly that simply moving a problem to another town was not a solution. The board closed the hearing by ruling that the two dogs shall be put to sleep within ten days, and Howe responded that he would take care of it the following day. At this point a number of subdued audience members left the meeting.

Pavement Survey

Public Works superintendent Tom Bergeron asked the board to sign contracts to hire the Franklin County Council of Governments (FRCOG) to perform a pavement survey (including dirt roads) and sidewalk survey in the town of Montague. The 2005 annual town meeting authorized \$25,000 for these surveys, which will assist the DPW to prioritize the town's \$1 million of pending upgrade and maintenance needs. Any unneeded balance from the appropriation will be devoted to actual paving upgrades. The output format, on a computer disc, will enable the department to keep the survey up-to-date in the future, without requiring help from FRCOG again, Bergeron said.

On a related topic, town planner Robin Sherman presented a first draft of 36 Community Development Projects, to meet one of the requirements for the town's Community Development Block Grant applications. The list is prioritized both as a total and within five subgroups, and is available from planner@montague.net for review and comment.

The time frame and commitment status of the projects

ranges from several already funded and expected to be completed soon, to school and bridge projects likely to extend to 2011 or beyond. The variety of funding sources and development goals provide a snapshot of the breadth of town plans, and the resources available for accomplishing them. Among the public works projects are reconstruction of the major bridges serving Montague and accessibility projects. Examples in the category of community infrastructure are new buildings for the police, public works, senior center, library, and parks and recreation department.

Sherman will use comments received by January 17th to create a final list for selectboard approval, at a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on Monday January 23rd.

Sewer News and Other Business

Reports on the status of the sewer system and the ongoing combined sewer overflow (CSO) project work brought both bad and good news. Tracing the cause of recurring blockages in the Stevens Street area, DPW employees had to replace nearly 300 feet of old sectioned clay pipe to address an alignment and slope condition that has deteriorated over the years. On a brighter note, the selectboard gladly signed a certificate to lock in low interest loan funding for the CSO project. A total of \$2,868,500 of the \$5.7 million estimated cost now will be available at a 2% rate, and a combination of grant and additional loan funding is still being sought from the US Dept of Agriculture's Rural Development agency.

Jeff Singleton, chair of Montague's finance committee, was designated a 'special municipal employee.' Singleton has been offered a temporary part-time position with

Montague Community Cable Inc. (MCCI) to assist in the transition of local cable access responsibility from Greenfield Community Television.

Because the position will pay a salary, Singleton chose to check with the state ethics committee in case there was an issue of conflict of interest with his fincom responsibilities. Singleton said, "I looked at several scenarios and discussed them with the committee. I also checked with other towns; Amherst has several designated special employees." Technically there would be a conflict, which could also arise in the future for other individuals and boards, but a chapter of the Commonwealth's laws provides a way out for smaller towns, which rely on a limited pool of volunteers for boards and committees. The 'special municipal employee' designation, plus the precaution of listing affected individuals with the town clerk and the ethics committee, addresses the matter. The designation can be reviewed and revoked at any time. In the course of the evening's discussion it became clear the town should consider the designation for similar groups such as the Zoning Board of Appeals, to avoid any confusion later. At this time the selectboard approved the designation for the finance committee members for 2006.

In other business, the board declared a 1987 Pontiac 600 sedan as surplus property, scheduled reserve officer interviews for Monday and Tuesday, January 23rd and 24th, and approved 2006 cell phone stipends for two sergeants in the police department. The public portion of the meeting was adjourned for the board to go into executive session to discuss real estate and litigation.

HIGHLIGHTS - FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Owl D.O.A.

Friday 1-06

12:24 a.m. After a chase,

was stopped on Turnpike Road, arrested and charged with failure to stop for a police officer, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, speeding, and possession of a class D drug.

9:25 a.m. Report of a disturbance at the corner of 4th Street and Avenue A.

was arrested and charged with two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Saturday 1-07

9:21 p.m. Report of a restraining order violation at a Dewolf

Road address. Subject summonsed.

Sunday 1-08

9:28 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a 2nd Street address. Officer spoke with all involved. Female subject put in protective custody.

Monday 1-09

7:59 p.m. Report of an owl dying on the roadway near West Pond. Owl was dead on arrival of officer.

Tuesday 1-10

6:37 p.m. Report of a breaking and entering at a 5th Street address. Apartment appeared to have been entered. Under investigation.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Asleep at the Wheel

Wednesday 1-04

3:23 p.m. Report of a one car accident on Route 2 in front of the Erving paper mill. No injuries reported. Driver fell asleep at the wheel.

Thursday 1-05

12:00 a.m. Assisted Gill Police on Oak Street with a possible assault.
11:30 a.m. Assisted Northfield Police with motor vehicle accident on Main Street. No personal injuries.

Friday 1-06

1:37 a.m. After a motor vehicle stop on Route 2, [redacted] was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of liquor, marked lanes violations, defective lights, and operating with a suspended license. Arsenault's towing removed vehicle.

Saturday 1-07

1:14 a.m. After a motor vehicle stop on Route 2, [redacted] was arrested and charged with operating a motor vehicle without a license, operating a motor vehicle with a defective exhaust, seatbelt violation, giving an officer a false name, and operating a motor vehicle without license in possession.

1:40 p.m. Report of a disabled motor vehicle in the Box Car parking lot. Owner will remove.

Sunday 1-08

1:30 p.m. While on routine patrol, officer noticed a computer monitor that appeared to have been dropped from the French King Bridge onto Dorsey Road. Officer left a note for Highway Department requesting it be picked up. Large amount of plastic and glass in roadway.

Tuesday 1-10

5:05 p.m. Officer searched area of Lester and River Streets for a loose dog. Unable to locate.

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Smokin' Hippo Gets Green Light

BY DAVID DETMOLD

ERVING - Chef Gary Weiss got the go-ahead for a key component of the financial package for his planned makeover of the former Star Light Diner on Route 2, on January 9th. Under the guidance of Weiss, who has managed the food service at Greenfield Community College for thirteen years, the roadside eatery will be transformed into the Smokin' Hippo, a barbecue flavored lunch and dinner spot, with a full menu of New England fare and vegetarian alternatives. The Franklin County CDC is providing gap financing, with a \$53,000 loan from the 10-town loan fund. The Erving selectboard signed off on the loan Monday night. In addition, the Greenfield Savings Bank is teaming up with the CDC to provide mortgage lending for purchase of the property and a line of credit, and Weiss and other investors have put up \$35,000 of their own funds to help with the planned remodeling. Weiss hopes to have the establishment up and running by the beginning of March.

With G.C.C. closing its cafeteria during planned asbestos abatement and renovation over the next two years, Weiss is planning to bring five staffers currently employed there with him to the new restaurant. He is

awaiting approval from the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission for a full liquor license. And he asked the town for help in seeking additional safety signage along Route 2 leading to the curve where the restaurant will be located. The board invited Weiss to attend upcoming meetings of the Route 2 improvement committee to discuss signage.

Weiss has a long culinary history, working as a chef in hotels from Boston, to Washington, to Tel Aviv.

In other news, Erving Paper Mill general manager Tom Newton gave the board a ballpark estimate for when the Route 2 realignment near his mill would be completed. The multi-million dollar project has been held up over the siting of a well for potable water for the paper mill. After four false starts, a dowser for Mass Highway has located what all hope will be a suitable well site. General contractor ET&L Corp. "is out \$500,000" due to the delay, and is eagerly awaiting final results. But Newton said permitting and water analysis will likely drag the ribbon cutting ceremony out until fall of this year, if all goes... well.

Norma Charbonneau came to express her concern about the lack of progress on clean-up and repairs to a long abandoned

property at 15 East Prospect Street, neighboring her home. The vacant structure, formerly boarded up by the town to prevent varmints from entering, is now owned by Art Johnson. He took down the boards when he began to clean the property up six months ago. "He's not been in for about six weeks," said Charbonneau. "There's still a whole lot there. I hate to think the critters will be back in summer."

Administrative coordinator Tom Sharp said the board of health could force Johnson to finish the clean-up, and said the property may be on the market. He said he was sorry Charbonneau had such a poor view out her windows.

"That's what God gave you Venetian blinds for," she replied.

The town will pay Tighe and Bond \$14,057.89 for recent consulting work on the Maple Avenue landfill in Farley. The board also approved a final payment of \$29,604.23 for the renovations to the Arch Street pump station. These renovations, which included the installation of two new pumps, computer hardware and an alarm system, resulted in repeated and protracted system breakdowns and repairs, but the town still brought the project in below its initially allocated cost of approximately \$175,000,

according to board member Andy Tessier.

Heavy rains in October pointed up the lack of sufficient electrical service to the Arch Street pump station to power both pumps simultaneously. Tessier proposed going to town meeting for an additional \$121,000 in repairs to the electrical service, software modification, and a new generator for the pump station. "The whole thing should have been looked at at the same time, when the pumps were installed," he said. Two pumps running simultaneously might have prevented the October overflow to the Millers River, Tessier said, but there's no point crying over spilled seepage.

Tessier also mentioned the need for substantial renovations to the 1974-era Erving water treatment plant, which will likely cost the town millions. He proposed seeking \$10,000 for a feasibility study for that work from town meeting.

The board discussed approaching Union 28 Superintendent Linda Driscoll about forming a committee to hire a replacement for retiring Erving Elementary principal AnnDee Souza, and agreed to appoint Jim Loynd as an auxiliary Erving police officer. The board will meet again on Wednesday, January 18th to begin '07 budget deliberations.

ACUPUNCTURE

continued from page 1

community is creating something new, "not another Amherst of the North." This spirit attracted Adams as well. "I was able to find and create a space I wanted. Turners made it possible."

Setting up the Avenue A storefront as an clinical office space has been a big job. The transformation is amazing, with new walls and flooring, a renovated bathroom, and two new treatment rooms. Adams said the storefront remodeling has been a family effort, and she is especially grateful for her son-in-law, Joshua Parkinson, a construction contractor from the Boston area who directed the renovation from start to finish. Parkinson's wife, Adams' daughter Megan, arrived bearing gifts to stylishly adorn the new walls: she had mom's diploma and acupuncture license ready to hang in handsome new frames. Daughter Kirsten helped out with painting and finances. Even granddaughter Zoe has contributed to the new space with

toys to share for kids making office visits.

Both kids and adults unfamiliar with acupuncture have an important question to ask: "Does it hurt?" Adams says her acupuncture needles are hair-thin, not hollow (like hypodermic needles that draw and push fluids - ouch!), and her needling technique is very shallow and gentle, "as gentle as we can make it." She also said the needles are sterile and non-toxic.

The principle method of acupuncture involves inserting these hair-thin needles at specific points along the body's energy pathways. According to Adams, she assesses the energetic imbalance of a patient at an elemental level and uses the needles to stimulate the body's own healing responses and help restore its natural balance. The particular kind of acupuncture Adams practices, Five Element Acupuncture, has ancient roots in the Taoist traditions of the medicine, which has been around at least 2500 years. Holistic in nature, the Taoist philosophy sees the interconnected-

ness of all life - people, climate, seasons - and considers how our environments, inner and outer, manifest in us.

Adams brings with her not only her healing art, but many aspirations for serving the community. She has offered use of her storefront windows to the Brick House as gallery space for local youths to display art, and for other artists in the community as well. She has approached Montague's fire and police departments and offered free acupuncture to its workers who might come into harm's way and need post-traumatic stress relief. The day after this past Thanksgiving, Adams spent ten days in New Orleans offering her services to relief workers and residents traumatized by Hurricane Katrina. "There was an incredible polarity there: on the one hand all of the devastation and on the other, the great faith and strength of an amazing people who just wanted to get on with their lives."

Adams also brings a viable model for universal health care

access from her work in England. "Since I began this path, I have always been committed to making this medicine available to everybody." Adams directed the Alternative Health Trust, a British non-profit charity that creates affordable health care alternatives for people with low incomes. Adams explained the trust works with health practitioners who agree to work for a reduced fee. "We had a multi-disciplinary group: MD's, acupuncturists, chiropractors, massage therapists, homeopaths, and nutritionists all worked with the Trust." Patients contribute a nominal fee per visit that they can afford, and the trust subsidizes the difference with funds that come from tax-free contributions. "The trust never ran out of money," she proudly related. "It's like the Hanukkah story of the miraculous lamp that kept burning with just a little oil." Adams firmly believes that such a trust could work miracles in our community as well. She hopes to pursue this vision here with other like-minded people.

When asked why she chose to open her practice in Turners Falls, Adams replied, "I like the feel of Turners Falls - a whole new energy has arisen here." Adams feels there really is a new, exciting energy arising in our town, just like the Qi energy she cultivates with acupuncture to improve the well-being of her patients. The Taoist would see these two forces as vitally interconnected and contributing to the overall well-being of our community.

Adams sees acupuncture as complimentary to western medicine and other modalities. *Almost any condition (outside of those requiring mechanical intervention, e.g., surgery, spinal adjustment, etc.) can be treated - Adams mentioned anxiety, shock and trauma, respiratory diseases, gastrointestinal disorders, and multiple sclerosis as a few examples. Call 863-8033 for more info. Adams is looking for other practitioners to share the space, so it may become a multi-disciplinary complementary health clinic.*



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NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Seamans Reads 'em the Riot Act

BY DAVID DETMOLD - Former Gill school principal Paul Seamans gave the selectboard a piece of his mind on Monday night, January 9th. The subject was the high cost of owning property along the Gill side of the Connecticut River. The selectboard sat and listened, like dutiful pupils, for nearly half an hour. At the end of his delivery, board chair Phil Maddern told him, "I don't know who is more upset, you or me."

Seamans began by saying, "I have extremely strong feelings about my taxes. In '04, our taxes were \$2,036. In '05, our taxes were \$5,041, an increase of \$3,005. That increase is more than the entire tax bill we paid in '04. This is wrong. Absolutely wrong. I've written to the governor, Senator Rosenberg, the assessors, and to you people, and none of you can help me."

"Senator Rosenberg mentioned the Circuit Breaker tax credit for seniors - for \$800 - but the value of our property puts us beyond the reach of that program."

Raising his voice, he continued, "Mrs. Seamans and I teeter on the brink of having to sell our assets and leave. I served Uncle Sam all through WWII and all through the Korean War. And to come home to find I can't own my own home is dreadful."

Seamans is among the 30 or so property owners who live in a recently delineated tax district called the Riverfront District, created in 2004 on the advice of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services, after examination of several home sales showed rising property values for properties along the river. At the time of the last triennial revaluation, former assessor's clerk Harriet Tidd estimated values for these properties would rise by an average 75%, as opposed to an average 25% rise for properties in the rest of Gill.

Seamans inquired about the possibility of the town adopting a local option Senior Real Estate Tax Exemption. The legislature has recently expanded this program to allow the town to exempt up to 20% of the average assessed property in town for seniors over the age of 65 who meet minimum residency requirements and do not earn more than \$43,000 a year singly, or \$64,000 filing jointly. The board agreed to have a discussion with the assessors about putting a warrant article before town meeting about a local option exemption for seniors. They will hold that discussion on Tuesday, January 17th, during the course of the 5 p.m. tax classification hearing, scheduled for that evening due to the Monday holiday.

Seamans was unaware the age limit for the local option

exemption had been lowered from 70 to 65, but he had been undeterred by the higher limit. "Since I'm 95 and my wife is 105, we meet the criterion," he said, with characteristic Yankee overstatement. He was certain they met the residency requirement, too. "We've been here for 45 years. I worked for the town of Gill for three decades. Our teachers provided the best education in the state; our students consistently ranked highest for towns of our population. I taught at Annapolis. But I had enough bloodletting in WWII, and I wanted to come somewhere where I could give back for all the tragedy I had seen."

Seamans was particularly wrathful on the subject of Boston determining the tax procedures for Gill. Referring to the consultant from Bishop Associates who advised the local assessors in 2004 on what the DOR would require in an area of rising property values, Seamans said, "That outlier from Boston was a son of a gun. He was a cheat working for cheats." Before leaving, Seamans offered a brief recap of the history of Daniel Shays'

rebellion for their consideration.

The creation of the new tax district, said Seamans, "has upset the delicate social balance between Riverside, Center Gill, and Mount Hermon the town has maintained for 200 years."

10-Year Traffic Ticket Moratorium Ending

Sergeant Chris Redmond came before the board to discuss parking tickets. The Gill police department has not issued any parking tickets, or other citations for violations of the town's traffic regulation bylaws, since 1996. The reason is simple: the department ran out of parking tickets back then and never printed new ones. After all, the town has no parking meters. But there is the problem of people occasionally parking their cars on the street during winter months and times of winter snow removal, a situation that can rapidly lead to towing. And lately there has been a persistent complaint about a particular tractor trailer parking on Walnut Street in Riverside.

The board reviewed the 1974 traffic regulations, and gave Redmond the go-ahead to have

tickets printed up. Violations will still cost \$20. The board noted the bylaws permit people to park on the street for up to an hour between the hours of 1 a.m. and 6 a.m., even during the winter, in the event of an emergency. This provision could lead to some confusion. How does the plow driver know how long the car has been there?

Board chair Phil Maddern said, "If the plow driver calls the station and says, 'Hey, next time I'm through, tow him if he's still there,' it's going to be an hour anyway."

If the town is going to resume issuing tickets, there may be a need for a parking clerk to hear appeals, so the board appointed Lynda Hodsdon Mayo (in absentia) to be the Gill parking clerk.

With Sergeant Redmond present, the board agreed to participate in a countywide effort to conduct clandestine checks of establishments that sell liquor to see if underage patrons are able to purchase alcohol. The establishments will be notified in writing that such checks will be conducted not less than 30 days or more than 12 months from

the date of the warning; and a notice shall be published in a local newspaper. The checks will be conducted by having an underage person enter an establishment and attempt to purchase alcohol while a police officer is waiting outside. Under the rules of the clandestine check, the underage person will not be allowed to consume any alcohol, if served, and a breathalyzer test will be administered to make certain they have not consumed any alcohol.

Board member Ann Banash said a recent survey of local high school kids showed a high percentage had consumed alcohol in recent years, and the narrative accompanying that survey showed that kids felt adults did not care if they did drink alcohol. "This is saying, 'Yeah, we care,'" Banash said.

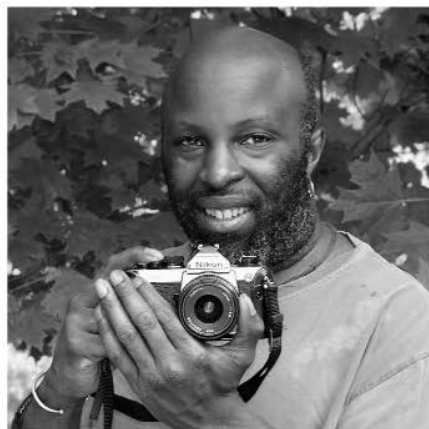
In other news the board delayed action on a request from the Department of Agriculture to waive a 120-day notice requirement for the purchase of agricultural preservation rights on a 30-acre property on River Road. The state had incorrectly identified the parcel as being located on Main Road.



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ESLEECK
continued from page 1

at Esleeck would be retained if the sale goes through.

Selectboard member Pat Allen said she had heard the

well. They've contributed greatly to this community."

Cecilia Zankin, who has worked at Esleeck for 55 years, since she was shortly out of high school, said she had heard the same rumors everyone else had, but nothing definite about

engineering applications.

Esleeck was founded by Augustine Washington Esleeck in 1900, on the site where Marshall Paper Company had begun construction of the mill in 1894. The business passed on to Esleeck's son Irving, then to



DAVON PHOTO

The Esleeck Manufacturing Company

rumors, and if true, she said, "It would be a good fit. As we all know, Esleeck has said they are in trouble, and we did our best to design our sewer rates around their needs. A family-owned manufacturer with good ethics who would keep jobs in the community, we would be well served by that. The employees who work there now are highly skilled and would have a lot to contribute to a new owner to keep the operation running smoothly."

She also said, if the sale goes through, "I wish the Blankers

a sale. "Men have come through examing the operation," she said.

Zankin, "does a little bit of everything," at the mill, "sorting paper, sealing it, inspecting it, wrapping it." She said Esleeck has been "a very good company to work for. I could retire, but what would I do? I can walk to work. I like to stay busy."

In 2003 Southworth acquired Permalite ReproMedia Corporation, a producer of papers, films and inks used in digital inkjet printing and architectural

his son, of the same name, and then to a Raymond Andrews.

William C. Blanker began working at the mill, where his father had worked before him, in 1949. He became president of the company in 1973, a position he held for many years until his son Charles succeeded him. Among the fine papers the company is known for are 100% cotton papers in shades of white, tracing and vellum papers, archival quality, acid free paper, and their specialty "Blue Jean" bond.



Agricultural Commission Forming in Gill

A half dozen local growers showed up Tuesday night, January 10th to meet with Pete Westover of the Commonwealth Department of Agricultural resources, at the Gill town hall. Westover has been traveling the state trying to interest farmers and growers and sympathetic residents in forming local agricultural commissions. Cliff Hatch, Tim Storrow, Allen and Shirley Flagg, and Vicki van Zee were among those who showed up.

Hatch said the group will go before the selectboard on the 23rd of January. "To tell them what we're up to, and to put a motion on the town meeting warrant in support of forming a Gill agricultural commission." He said there will be a public information session before annual town meeting, to which all interested residents will be invited.

"In the 20 years I've lived in Gill, we've lost several big

dairies, but we've gained a lot of more diverse, smaller operations, like Christmas tree farms, nurseries, and an emu farm. Agricultural commissions are formed to assist the selectboard in an advisory capacity for agricultural issues in town, to help farmers in managing resources, and most of all to deal with changes that are happening with more people moving into rural areas. Some communities pass 'Right to Farm' bylaws, some work with their realtors to make sure buyers know they will be moving into a farming area, where odors or slow moving vehicles are a fact of life."

Hatch said farmers work not only to maintain a viable food supply and preserve the working landscape of a community, they also contribute to community economics in ways large and small. And he pointed out, "Corn doesn't demand much in the way of municipal services."

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SAINTE ANNE

Continued from page 1

continue to lead the parishioners at Our Lady of Peace, acknowledged the significance of this day for the congregation of St. Anne's. "Welcome to this very special mass. We give thanks for all that has been accomplished here... We pray in thanksgiving for the founders of St. Anne's."

Those founders had built an edifice of true beauty to their faith, as even a casual observer could attest. The soft light through the tall, lancet stained glass windows, like the one near the front of the 6th Street side of the nave dedicated to Mme. J. Baril, illuminated the interior with grace. Banners beside the central crucifix in the apse read 'Peace' and 'Joy'.

The first reading was from *Isaiah, 60: 1-5*: "Rise up in spirit Jerusalem. Your light has come. The glory of the Lord shines upon you. Thick darkness covers the Earth and deep darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see: They all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you."

Then the choir sang the Responsorial Psalm, with the refrain, "Lord every nation on Earth will adore you."

A reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians followed, which said, "you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to human beings in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit, that the Gentiles are co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel."

Then Father Aksamit gave a sermon from the Gospel according to Matthew.

"When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'"

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They said to him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,

since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found

him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.' After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place

where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and



As the communion commenced, with nearly every parishoner filing forward a deepening sense that this was indeed the last mass at the 120-year old church began

did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.... When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi."

Father Aksamit said the Gospel of Matthew "places the Christmas story in a broader context. Up to this time it has been a local story of a Jewish child born to a Jewish couple, attended by Jewish shepherds. Now strange men from Persia, astrologers, pagans, enter the story. They fall to their knees with gifts for the child." And the meaning of the text, according to Aksamit, is, "The doors of salvation have been opened to all peoples." He referred back to the reading from Isaiah,

"Nations shall walk by our light," and to the Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians, "The mystery has been made known to me: Gentiles are co-partners in the promise, the doors of salvation have been flung open to all nations."

Father Aksamit went on to



At the offering of the Eucharist, Father Aksamit prayed to "advance the peace and salvation of the entire world, in mercy and love, to unite all your children wherever they may be."

say, "The establishment is not happy with the new king. Herod is greatly troubled. 'When you find him bring me word,'" says the crafty ruler. "Herod is

"You have allowed me to join in the most sacred moments of your lives. For that, from the bottom of my heart, I say, 'Thank you.'"

"We have been on an incredible journey. We have achieved great things and made mistakes. Today we come together to

bring our gifts to the King, and to each other." He explained that in church tradition, gold means, 'I love you,' frankincense means, 'thank you,' and myrrh means, 'I am sorry'. Therefore, Aksamit concluded his sermon, "To you I say, 'I am sorry, thank you, and I love you.'"

The congregation, old and young, sat quietly and prayed, many with bowed heads.

Among those for whom prayers were offered were, "the founders of our parish, whose vision met the needs of an immigrant land," and "the members of this parish who came to say goodbye to their sacred past." Father Aksamit said, humbly, "Words cannot express the bittersweet feelings we feel today."

At the offering of the Eucharist, Father Aksamit prayed to "advance the peace and salvation of the entire world, in mercy and love, to unite all your children wherever they may be." As the communion commenced, with nearly every parishoner filing forward to receive the host at the chancel railing, where a miniature



Parishioners leaving the last mass at Ste. Annes

crèche was set before the altar, a deepening sense that this was indeed the last mass at the 120-year old church began to gather. Some cried openly, others looked down at the floor as they walked back to their well-worn pews.

Carrying on tradition, Father Aksamit offered the congregants small bags containing chalk and incense. The chalk was to take home and write the initials of the magi and the numerals of the year above their doors; the incense to burn. To make this blessing of the domicile simpler, he said it would be easy to recall the first letters of the wise men's names - Kaspar, Melchior, and Balthazar - by remembering K for kielbasa, M for mincemeat, and B for bologna. This caused some tears to turn to laughter, if only for a

moment.

Father Aksamit invited all to stay in the church as long as they wished, or to take photographs, or to add items to a booklet of memories being compiled. He urged everyone to come to the opening mass of Our Lady of Peace with Bishop McDonnell, on Sunday the 15th at 10 a.m. "We hope to have the place mobbed," he said.

He thanked Albert Beaubien for writing the church history (reprinted next page) in the missal, and for penning the words to two special hymns, including the Communion Meditation hymn, which went:

*"In this place most holy
One hundred twenty years
St. Anne bid us welcome
With our hopes and fears*

*O good St. Anne, we call on
your name; Your praises loud
your children proclaim.*

*Alas the time has come
When we must say good-bye
Not without a heartache
Or a teary eye.*

*God has called us today
To merge with our good friends
to form a new family
His Kingdom never ends.*

*We are all God's children
Regardless of our birth.
Let us open, then, show our-
selves the salt of the earth."*

Father Aksamit thanked Beaubien for serving as St. Anne's organist for 50-plus years. Before the closing hymn, he thanked the parishioners for supporting him. He closed by saying, "Whatever you are feeling now, may God bless you and be with you all."

A Look Back: Ste. Anne

BY ALBERT BEAUBIEN

The French-speaking population found it difficult to practice its faith in the English language and wanted a church of its own. A delegation from the newly formed Society of St. John the Baptist petitioned the Bishop to establish a new parish. On July 16th, 1884 Fr. J. Edmond Perrault became pastor of the new parish of St. Anne. Fr. Perrault celebrated his first mass in Turners Falls at the Robert home at the corner of Fifth and J Streets on a bureau-like altar, now restored and on display at the back of the church. Masses were later celebrated at the skating rink on K Street, and on the third floor of the present St. Kazimierz Society Hall. On October 18th, 1885, 2000 people witnessed the laying of the cornerstone. On May 11th, 1890, Bishop O'Riley celebrated the solemn benediction of the church and the confirmation of the 122 parishioners. On January 9th, 1893 Fr. J.C. Allard became pastor and two years later the new school was blessed, the first parochial school in Franklin County. Classes began in 1896 with 119 boys and 131 girls. Fr. Allard was succeeded by Fr.

Edmond Gratton, who administered the debt-free parish for only two years, until 1909.

In 1909 Fr. James Casey became the pastor and served for 24 years. He purchased the O'Keefe building on Fifth Street for a convent and on August 1st, 1925 the Sisters of St. Anne moved in after 29 years of living in cramped quarters in the school. During Fr. Casey's long tenure there were many firsts. Plays were put on in the church hall under the direction of Wilfred Hamilton, Sr. The Ladies of St. Anne were organized for the married women of the parish, the Children of Mary for young girls and unmarried women. Dinners put on by the Ladies of St. Anne were very popular right from the start, especially the Mardi Gras celebration. In his will, Fr Casey bequeathed a substantial legacy to the parish, which has been used for many capital improvements and special projects.



DAVOL PHOTO

The church hall has been named the Father Casey Hall in honor of this beloved priest.

On July 9th, 1933 Fr. George Trottier became pastor and served for eleven years. He was loved by the children for his cheerfulness and lollipops. It was at this time that bingo nights were introduced and became quite

popular. On June 8th, 1941 Fr. Leon Paulin celebrated his first Mass in his home parish. On July 7th, 1944 Fr. Albert Fleury became pastor. On June 10th, 1945 the 50th anniversary of the school was celebrated. On the Feast of Christ the King, Fr. Fleury, assisted by Fr. James Hastings of St. Mary's, Fr. Charles Switalski from St. John's in Millers Falls, and Fr. Lucien Fortin, Chaplain at the Farren Hospital, blessed Our Lady of the Ledge, a dream achieved by Eva M. Girard, sculptor Noe Regali, and the generosity of parish members.

On March 7th, 1964 Fr. Leon Nadeau replaced Fr. Fleury. St. Anne School was closed in 1968, after seventy-two years of service. The convent was closed and sold by year's end. On March 22nd, 1970 Fr. George Paulin, nephew of Fr. Leon Paulin, celebrated his first mass in his home parish. In 1969, Fr. Clarence Forand became pastor and in the early 70s began renovating the church from floor

to ceiling to conform to the directives of the Second Vatican Council. This included the removal of the high altars and many statues, a difficult change for some parishioners. In the early 80s the parish hall took on a new look, which won the admiration of all and continues to serve the community well to this day. In 1983, Fr. Paul Morisette became pastor. Fr. Morisette had a new energy-efficient furnace installed and new handicapped accessible bathroom facilities constructed in the church hall. In 1984, the Farren property across the street, which was bequeathed to the parish through the will of Wilfrid Hamelin, was sold. On October 6th, 1985 the parish celebrated its 100th anniversary. In October 1990, Fr. Roland Renaud became administrator of the parish. In the spring of 1991 the steeple tilted at a steep angle, requiring a massive rebuilding. On November 12th, 1992 Fr. Roland Renaud and Fr. Stanley Aksamit began a team ministry for the parishes of St. Anne, St. Mary and Sacred Heart. In 1995 Fr. Aksamit became the sole pastor of the three parishes.

EVACUATION from page 1

referred to as 'the 20% uprate'. Gill school committee representative Sally Shaw said, "The principals are a jump ahead of me on this one." Shaw, who recently was arrested for trespassing at the Entergy VY headquarters in Brattleboro in an attempt to petition the nuclear power plant owners to shut the plant down over concerns about the health and safety of area residents and plant workers, made a motion for the school committee to ask the Gill and Montague selectboards to ask for expanded evacuation zones to cover all district schools. The motion passed unanimously. Wood said, "There is an evacuation plan in place for 10 miles, which has kids from Gill Elementary coming to Turners Falls High School / Great Falls Middle School, where their families would try to pick them up. The truth of the matter is, as is true in any major emergency, people would react quickly. If families have kids at the high school and at Sheffield and Hillcrest, they would try to gather them all and move them away from the area. I think an evacuation plan that covers the entire district, of which the par-

ents are clearly aware, would allow that to happen more smoothly."

Mahler said his efforts lobbying FEMA to put a more comprehensive plan in place for the school district resulted in a change of destination for Gill Elementary students to be brought to TFHS/GFMS instead of Greenfield Community College, where most of the county would be evacuated. "We need to put the FEMA folks on notice, 'You've got to think beyond this 10-mile zone.'"

Farkas Leaving GMRSD

In other school committee news, longtime GMRSD administrator and special education director Laurie Farkas has resigned to take a position as director of special education at the Hampshire Regional School District. Superintendent Sue Gee said she hoped to fill the position temporarily, while seeking a fulltime replacement in July. She thanked Farkas for her service, and said "We need someone who is experienced and willing to work with us, as we have a high percentage of special needs students."

The GMRSD is seeking candidates from Montague interest-

ed in filling a soon to be vacant seat on the school committee. Tony Guglielmi is resigning effective January 31st.

Bright Light Award for Ali Urban

TFHS sophomore Ali Urban will receive a Bright Light award at Greenfield Community College's 3rd Annual Living the Dream ceremony on Monday, January 16th (Martin Luther King Jr. Day, observed). School committee chair Mary Kociela, quoting GCC's president Robert Pura, told Urban, "You live your own goodness, work for justice, and the betterment of people's lives, show compassion, and are fair and loving, while standing up for your beliefs."

The committee approved a hike in mileage reimbursements for staff and parents of out of district SPED students authorized to use private vehicles for school transportation. The old rate was 28 cents a mile; the new rate is 40 cents a mile. Business manager Lynn Bassett estimated the increase would cost the district approximately \$2,000 in additional reimbursement this year.

Food Service Over Budget

Bassett sought and received committee approval for several

line item transfers to cover operating deficits, including a \$25,000 deficit in the '05 school lunch account for food services. Bassett said the lunch program was still operating at a deficit this year, and 8 hours a week of food service labor had just been cut out of the budget to try to plug the gap. She explained the costs of goods had gone up, with the price of gasoline for deliveries. Food service manager Jim Loynd had made a commitment to purchase more fresh, local, homemade products to enhance the nutrition of student meals. "This is the price you pay for fresh," she said. A consultant has been brought in to monitor program costs.


The budget subcommittee has begun preparing an early draft of the '07 school budget. Valeria Smith, who chairs that subcommittee, warned of "major increases in operating expenses" including health insurance for current employees and retirees, utilities, and transportation costs. She said "student enrollment seems to be holding, with some fluctuations."

Elementary School Configuration

Bassett attended a meeting of the Montague capital improve-

ments committee earlier this month, intending to present a list of capital needs for Montague school buildings. She was met with "a lot of questions from the capital improvements committee about what we intend to do with these buildings."

Gee said the elementary configuration study group's report is due to be released this month, but she stressed, "We have not discussed closing any of our schools. In fact our vision is to increase the enrollment in each of our schools to augment the economic vitality of the towns we serve. It is important to be clear: our enrollment is holding steady, even though we know there are a lot of children out on school choice. But Montague Center now has two kindergarten classes, and two first grade classes, where there was only one each a few years ago. We are seeing some building back at the very young level."

Mahler said the second kindergarten class at Montague Center was added last year; the second first grade class was added this year. He said Gill Elementary has 21 kids in its kindergarten class this year. "That's a lot of boots," Mahler said. 


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Patriots Defense Face Mile High Task

BY LEE CARIGNAN

TURNERS FALLS - After defeating the Jacksonville Jaguars last weekend 28 - 3 in the wild card round the Patriots travel to Denver this Saturday to face the second seed Denver Broncos. The Patriots will have to deal with the loud noise, high altitude, and the dominating Broncos running game.

The two teams faced each other back on October 16th when the Patriots were without Richard Seymour, Teddy Bruschi, and running back's Corey Dillon and Kevin Faulk. The Patriots secondary was also without cornerback Ellis Hobbs,

and safety Artrell Hawkins at that time. The Pats were struggling and playing their worst football of the season. They fell behind in the game 28 - 3 before mounting a fruitless rally in a 28-20 loss to the Broncos.

The Patriots played one of their worst games of the year that day, allowing 432 total yards on defense. Denver gained 178 yards on the ground on New England. The Patriots must play a lot better this weekend if they expect to reach the AFC Championship game.

Since the Patriots got Seymour and Bruschi back, the defense has been great against the run. They have gone from the 27th ranked defense to the 8th against the run. Last week against Jacksonville, the Patriots

only allowed 81 rushing yards. Denver's strength is their running attack, which has averaged 158.7 yards a game this season. They have two backs that can 'bring it'. Mike Anderson gained 1,014 yards this season and Tatum Bell rushed for 921.

The key for the Patriots will be to stop Denver's running backs. If the Patriots improved defense can force Denver into third and long yardage situations and make Jake Plummer try to beat them, the Pats should have a good chance.

The Patriots continue to get great pressure up front on defense, which is helping their young secondary. They had six sacks last week against the Jaguars, led by Willie McGinest



with 4 1/2. McGinest became the all time post-season sack leader with 16 total.

The Patriots will need another big performance from their linebackers against Denver. Teddy Bruschi, who missed last week's game with a calf injury, will probably be a game time decision again this week. If Bruschi can't play the Patriots will have to rely on Monty Beisel. Beisel played pretty well last week against the Jaguars. The young linebacker has faced some criticism for his play earlier in the year. The Patriots' chances of winning increase if Bruschi can play.

Denver has two deep threat wide receivers that the Patriots' secondary will have to contend

with. Rod Smith had 85 receptions for 1,105 yards on the season and has had good success against New England in the past. Four-year veteran Ashley Lelie had 42 receptions for 770 yards on the season. He is a good compliment to Rod Smith and at 6'3" could give the smaller Patriots defensive backs some trouble.

The game is Saturday at 8 p.m. The weather should not be a factor in the game. It's expected to be in the low 40s with light wind. The winner will take on either the Indianapolis Colts or the Pittsburgh Steelers for the AFC championship. If the Patriots win it will be their 11th straight post-season win, which would be an NFL record.

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Dealing With Heartburn

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - *I'm getting heartburn a lot since I turned 60. Is more heartburn something that comes with more years?*

More than 60 million Americans experience heartburn at least once a month and more than 15 million Americans experience heartburn daily. Heartburn is more common among the elderly.

Heartburn two or more times weekly may be caused by gastroesophageal reflux disease or GERD. See a doctor if you have heartburn too often. The doctor can test for GERD.

In the upper GI series, you swallow a liquid barium mixture. Then a radiologist watches the barium as it travels down your esophagus and into the stomach. Another test is an endoscopy, in which a small lighted flexible tube is inserted into the esophagus and stomach.

GERD makes stomach acid flow up into your esophagus. There is a valve at the lower end of the esophagus that is designed to keep acid in the stomach. In GERD, the valve relaxes too frequently, which allows acid to reflux, or flow backward.

A hiatal hernia may contribute

to GERD. A hiatal hernia occurs when the upper part of the stomach is above the diaphragm, which is the muscle wall separating the stomach from the chest. The diaphragm helps the valve keep acid from coming up into the esophagus.

When GERD is not treated, you can suffer from severe chest pain, narrowing or obstruction of the esophagus, bleeding, or a pre-malignant change in the lining of the esophagus. One study showed that patients with chronic, untreated heartburn were at substantially greater risk of developing esophageal cancer.

The following are some symptoms that may mean there has been damage to your esophagus: difficulty swallowing, a feeling that food is trapped behind the breast bone, bleeding, black bowel movements, choking, shortness of breath, coughing, hoarseness, weight loss.

You can control infrequent heartburn by changing your habits



ILLUSTRATION JESSICA HARMON

and using over-the-counter medicines.

For example, you should avoid heartburn-producers such as chocolate, coffee, peppermint, tomato products, alcoholic beverages, greasy or spicy dishes. Quit smoking because tobacco inhibits saliva that helps with digestion. Tobacco may also stimulate

acid production and relax the esophageal valve. Lose weight. And, don't eat two hours before you go to sleep.

For infrequent episodes of heartburn, take over-the-counter antacids, such as Alka-Seltzer, Maalox, Mylanta, Pepto-Bismol, Roloids, and Riopan. Or, you can take an H2 blocker. H2 blockers are available in both over-the-counter and prescription forms. For example, Pepcid, Tagamet, Zantac and Axid are all over-the-counter H2 blockers which are available by prescription at higher doses.

The FDA is expected to approve another type of drugs known as proton pump inhibitors

(PPIs) for the treatment of infrequent heartburn at dosage levels below the prescription-strength formulations. PPIs include Prilosec, Prevacid, Nexium, Aciphex and Protonix.

GERD is a chronic disease that calls for continuous long-term therapy. To decrease the acid in your esophagus, raise the head of your bed or place a foam wedge under the mattress to elevate the head about 6-10 inches. Avoid lying down for two hours after eating. And don't wear tight clothing.

Prescription medications to treat GERD include the H2 blockers and the PPIs, which help to reduce the stomach acid and work to promote healing at prescription strength. In addition, there are agents that help clear acid from the esophagus.

Surgery is an option if other measures fail. A surgeon can improve the natural barrier between the stomach and the esophagus that prevents acid reflux.

If you have a question, please write to fredcicetti@gmail.com

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THE GILL GOURMET

Secret of Successful Vegetarian Cooking Revealed

By JOSEPH A. PARZYCH

For a delicious vegetarian soup that is both nourishing and easy to make you need only the following ingredients, more or less. To leave a couple vegetables out or to add others is not a capital offense.



- 1. Dollop of olive oil - virgin is preferable. (Virgin oil comes from olives that would not even 'think' of being pressed.)
- 2. Two shallots, chopped
- 3. Garlic clove crushed
- 4. Two or three thinly sliced celery stalks
- 5. Four or five chopped romaine lettuce leaves
- 6. Half cup of sliced baby carrots
- 7. Two or three cups of shredded cabbage
- 8. Handful of fresh green beans, cut in 1 inch pieces

- 9. Box of fresh mushrooms, 12 oz., cut in small pieces
- 10. Stewed tomatoes (one 14-1/2 oz. can to be exact)
- 11. Small can of V-8 vegetable juice (11.5 oz. size)
- 12. Two quarts of water
- 13. Four small red potatoes, quartered - skin on.
- 14. 1 bay leaf

- 15. 6 peppercorns, crushed
- 16. 1 teaspoon of dried parsley
- 17. 1/2 teaspoon of tarragon
- 18. 1/2 teaspoon of thyme

Toss the first nine ingredients into a large soup kettle. Stir fry in olive oil until they begin to caramelize. Add canned tomatoes, V-8 juice, and water. Stir in the remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil, simmer until the potatoes are tender, but definitely not mushy.

You may have to add a little water as needed, or if company shows up.

The secret to successful vegetarian cooking? Add a little meat or a couple packets of chicken bouillon. I used two packets of bouillon and some leftover pepperoni. I only use meat that comes from vegetarian animals.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Dog in Water

Wednesday, 1-04
 4:05 p.m. Assisted EMTs and BHA ambulance with medical emergency on West Gill Road.
 5:05 p.m. Arrested [redacted] charged with operating after suspended license, speeding, inspection sticker violation, and failing to change address with the RMV
 6:20 p.m. Report of suspicious subject near the intersection of Main Road and West Gill Road, everything checked o.k.
 8:50 p.m. Assisted Erving Police with a motor vehicle stop involving narcotics

Thursday, 1-05
 12:02 a.m. Report of an unwanted subject at an Oak Street address
 1:05 a.m. Called to assist fire department with a dog in the water, near Barton Cove.

5:50 p.m. Assisted EMTs and BHA ambulance with medical at the NMH gym area.

Tuesday, 1-10
 6:45 a.m. Report of damage to a mailbox on Hoe Shop Road
 2:20 p.m. Report of a tractor trailer unit driving erratically on the Mount Hermon Campus, driver located, no problem found.
 5:13 p.m. Be on the lookout issued for subject who may be en route to jump off the French King Bridge. Later located in Greenfield.
 5:40 p.m. Suspicious vehicle and subjects found at Schuetzen Verein on Barton Cove Road, advised to leave area.
 8:06 p.m. Report of disabled tractor trailer unit at Route 2 and Main Road, unable to locate.

The Night Kitchen & The Lone Wolf Invite you to an evening to benefit The Bottle of Bread

As you may know, a favorite local restaurant, The Bottle of Bread in Shelburne Falls, has recently suffered a devastating fire.

To help with the rebuilding of the restaurant and to provide aid to their employees, The Night Kitchen in Montague and Rob Watson of The Lone Wolf in Amherst will be offering a three course dinner with all food sales to benefit this cause.

The dinner will be held on **Tuesday, January, 17th from 5:30 - 9:00**
\$35.00 per person + tax, gratuity & beverages

Choice of Appetizer: Grilled Radichio Salad with Riesling Poached Pear, Crisped Goat Cheese Crouton & Pomegranate Vinaigrette; Mesclun Salad with Clementines, Roasted Fennel, Almonds & Sherry-Dill Vinaigrette; Carrot-Ginger Soup with Cumin Creme Fraiche & Red Beet Oil. **Choice of Entree:** Chili Rubber Roast Pork Loin with Mango-Black Bean Salsa with Mashed Chipotle Sweet Potatoes; Butternut Squash & Broccoli Souffle with Roasted Red Pepper Coulis with Roasted Root Vegetables & Braised Kale; Sweet Thai Chili Glazed Half Roast Chicken with Cilantro & Scallions with Mashed Chipotle Sweet Potatoes. **Choice of Dessert:** Heart of Darkness Flourless Chocolate Torte with Mango & Raspberry Coulis; Chai Spiced Creme Brulee.

For reservations please call The Night Kitchen:
(413) 367-9580

Auction and Entertainment to benefit the Bottle of Bread Fire Fund! Saturday, January 28th

- 4:30 - 5:00 preview
- 5:00 - 6:00 silent auction
- 6:30 - 8:00 live auction

Immediately followed by Cocktails & Dancing!
Tasty treats provided by Mesa Verde, Café Koko, and People's Pint

At the Pushkin Gallery,
corner of Main & Federal Streets
in downtown Greenfield.

To donate items for auction, contact: emilyeliot-miller@yahoo.com or call 413-773-0008. For more information, check www.bottleofbread.com or call 413-773-8577.

Religious Services

- Baptist**
 Faith Baptist Church, 331 Silver Street, Greenfield, 774-6438
 Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Wednesday Adult Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth Bible Club at 6:45 p.m.
- First Baptist Church of Turners Falls, 10 Prospect, Turners, 863-9083
 Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- Christian Science**
 First Church of Christ Scientist, 110 Federal St., Greenfield, 773-9765
 Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
- Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons)
 25 Bank Row, Greenfield, 772-

- 8514 Sunday at 10 a.m.
- Congregational**
 Gill Congregational Church, Main Rd., 863-8613 Sunday at 10 a.m.
 First Congregational Church, 19 Bridge St., Millers Falls, 659-3430 Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Bible study Wed. at 7 p.m
- Episcopal**
 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Seventh and Prospect St., Turners, 863-4602 Sunday at 9 a.m.
- Friends (Quakers)**
 Mount Toby Monthly Meeting of Friends, Rte. 63, Leverett, 548-9188 Sunday at 10 a.m.
- Jewish**
 Temple Israel, 27 Pierce St., Greenfield, 773-5884

- Friday at 6 p.m. (first weekend of the month) and Saturday at 9:30 a.m.; schedule does vary, it is advisable to call in advance
- Lutheran**
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 23 Long Ave., Greenfield, 773-5242 Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
- Nondenominational**
 Grace Church, 41 K St., Turners, 863-2771 Sunday at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
- National Spiritual Alliance
 2 Montague Ave., Lake Pleasant, 367-0138 Sunday at 1 p.m.
- Unity in the Pioneer Valley Church
 401 Chapman Street, Guiding Star Grange, 625-2960; Sunday at 10 a.m.
- Roman Catholic**

- Our Lady of Czestochowa, 84 K St., Turners, 863-4748
 Saturday at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.; Sunday at 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Monday at 8 a.m.; and Tuesday-Friday at 5:30 p.m. (Confession one half hour prior to mass)
- St. Anne's, J St., Turners, 863-4678
 Sunday at 8 a.m. and daily at 7 a.m. through February
 St. John's, 5 Church St., Millers Falls, 659-3435
 Saturday at 4:15 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 a.m.
- St. Mary's of the Assumption, 80 Seventh St., Turners, 863-2585
 Saturday at 4 p.m. and weekdays at 7 a.m. through October
- Salvation Army**
 72 Chapman St., Greenfield, 773-3154 Sunday at 11 a.m.

- Unitarian Universalist**
 All Souls, 399 Main St., Greenfield, 773-5018 Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
- First Parish Unitarian, Main St., Northfield, 498-5566
 Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
- United Church of Christ**
 Evangelical Congregational Church (UCC), 11 Church St., Erving (978) 544-8658
- First Congregational Church (UCC), 4 North St., Montague Ctr., 367-9467 Sunday at 10 a.m.
- First Congregational Church of Turners Falls (UCC), 148 L St., Turners, 863-9844, Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
- Contact the Reporter to add your service.

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find a place for it or gain the courage to throw it away. Create more open space. Find the stuff you actually need. Call Super Girl at 863-9104.

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The Launch of The Zen Peacemakers' New Educational Center

Oscar Award Winning Actress and long-time supporter of the Zen Peacemakers, Ellen Burstyn, will open the doors of the new Maezumi Institute on Saturday, February 4th in the nation's Mecca of academic studies, The Pioneer Valley. From 3-5 p.m. community leaders, media representatives and professors from the 5-colleges will congregate to learn about the Maezumi Institute's five study/practice tracks: Zen, Social Enterprise, Peacemaking and Social Action, Multi-faith, and Sacred Arts: Contemplative and Socially Engaged Arts. This is an excellent opportunity to explore the rich heritage of Zen and its most contemporary application to 21st century social issues.

questions. Enjoy campus tours, light fare, refreshments and entertainment. Free and open to the public. Zen Peacemakers is a 501c(3) organization founded by Roshi Bernie Glassman as a global network that integrates spiritual practice, peacemaking, social enterprise, interfaith work, sacred arts and social action.

The Maezumi Institute is the major study/practice center of the Zen Peacemakers in Montague, MA, offering training paths, study programs, and hands-on internships to Zen and multi-faith practitioners, peacemakers, social entrepreneurs, sacred artists, and social activists.

Roshi Bernie Glassman, founder of the Zen Peacemakers, Dr. Peter Gregory, Provost of the Maezumi Institute and other special guests will offer short presentations and be available for

- WHERE: The Maezumi Institute, 177 Ripley Road, Montague, MA 01341

- WHEN: Saturday, February 4th, 3-5 p.m.

- RSVP: (413) 367-2080 ext. 2# or ian@zenpeacemakers.org.

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These programs are free (except some trips) and open to local teens. Some require permission slips. For more info: Jared at 863-9559.
Hot Spot Teen Center is in The Brick House Community Resource Center, 24 Third Street, Turners Falls.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 14TH
Wendell Full Moon Coffee House presents the family friendly comedy improv group the Villa Jidiots with partial proceeds to benefit Social Workers for Peace and Justice. 7:30 p.m. On the Common in the historic Wendell Town Hall. For more info visit www.wendellfullmoon.org and www.villajidiots.com.

Baroque warmth for a winter's evening - Music In Deerfield and the Smith College Music Department are pleased to announce that Trio Settecento, featuring violinist Rachel Barton Pine, will perform a program of Baroque violin masterworks at Sweeney Concert Hall, Smith College, at 8:00 p.m. Trio Settecento will perform music of such legendary masters of the Baroque violin as Antonio Vivaldi, Arcangelo Corelli, Francesco Maria Veracini and Jean-Marie Leclair. Selections by J. S. Bach and François Couperin and a set of Scottish Airs will round out a program sure to delight fans of historically authentic Baroque music at its virtuosic best. "Concert Conversations," with the Trio will precede the performance, at 7:00 p.m. in Earle Recital Hall. Tickets purchased in advance range from \$23 to \$28 for reserved audiences, \$5 for children/undergrad students. At the door, tickets are \$30 and \$9 for children/undergrad students. A four concert subscription for the series is \$100. Venues are handicapped accessible. Tickets and subscriptions may be ordered at (413) 774-4200, on the web at www.musicindeerfield.org, or by mail, at PO Box 736, Greenfield, MA 01302.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16TH
M. L. KING JR. DAY
Is There Space For Spirit Here?

Rev. King's Vision and the Role of Community, Faith and Action will feature Julius Ford, Evelyn Harris, George Moonlight, the famed Bamidele Drummers, The Rev. Dr. Emilie Townes, Professor of African American Studies in Religion and Theology at Yale Divinity School, and others. This year's program will be held at First Churches Northampton, 129 Main Street. It is free, accessible and open to all. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Program begins at 1:00 p.m. Community Program open to all members of our community. For more information: (413) 584-8975.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20TH
Hampshire Shakespeare Company presents a free public reading of *Burning Words*, a new play written by New York playwright Peter Wortsman at 7 p.m. in the Glass Room of the Bangs Community Center, Amherst. Parking is available in the adjacent lot and parking garage. For more information, call (413) 548-8118 or visit the Company's web site (www.hampshireshakespeare.org). Part of Hampshire Shakespeare Company's mission is to encourage new dramatic works. The playwright will be available to discuss the play following the reading. In the early 1500s, an era marked by the lingering excesses of the Inquisition and the initial rumblings of protest by Martin Luther, Emperor Maximilian I was persuaded to order the confiscation and destruction of holy Hebrew texts by rabidly antisemitic forces. One German Christian scholar, Johannes Reuchlin, argued forcefully for their preservation as the foundations of the Christian faith, adding the "the Jew is as worthy in the eyes of our Lord God as I am." The play tells the story of Reuchlin's con-

frontation with his church and his society in one of the most religiously turbulent times in European history. Peter Wortsman is a playwright and author who translated Reuchlin's historic defense of the Talmud and other holy books, Recommendation Whether to Confiscate, Destroy and Burn All Jewish Books for the first time into English. This book, on which the play is based, was the subject of a day-long symposium at New York University in 2001 attended by a wide variety of scholars, clergy, diplomats and publishers.

Hilltown Folk presents HUUN-HUUR-TU Tuvan Throat Singers at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall in Shelburne Falls. From the tiny republic of Tuva comes a quartet of the world's most unusual musical traditions from their small patch of land nestled between Siberia and Mongolia. It is otherworldly, deeply spiritual music that is rooted in the sounds of nature; wind and rushing water, singing birds, galloping horses. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and under 18 are half price. You can buy tickets at The Hempest, Boswell's Books, World Eye Bookshop, and online at www.hilltownfolk.com. For more information, call (413) 625-6878. A week before the show, Jan. 13-14, Pothole Pictures presents Ghengis Blues, the fascinating and not-to-miss documentary about blind bluesman Paul Pena's incredible voyage to compete in the international throat-singing contest held in Tuva. 7:30 pm. Movie tickets are \$6 at door.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
JANUARY 20TH & 21ST
Media Arts Cafe's new monthly film series presents 1 show each evening at 7:30 p.m. *Amelie* - Rated R, in French with English Subtitles. 5 Academy Award Nominations. The film's story is of a shy young woman who has a love of life's small pleasures. This fairy tale style film follows the heroine until she finds love and her place in life even though everyone around her has always underestimated her. \$8 - General Admission /\$6.50 Seniors, Students. Call (413) 498-2100 for reservations. The Cafe is located in the Green Trees Gallery, 105 Main St., Northfield.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27TH
The Peoples Music Network presents six super acts of the "New Folk" Movement at 7 p.m., at Johnson Hall, Amherst College. Guaranteed to get anyone out of the winter doldrums, recharged, and ready to change the world. Show features Emma's Revolution, Kim & Reggie Harris, Roy Brown, Tom Neilson, Jay Mankita and Ethan Miller & Kate Boverman. For more information: call 413-584-9394, e-mail diacrowe@yahoo.com or visit <http://www.peoplesmusic.org>. Advance tickets \$15; \$20 at the door.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH
Peoples Music Network presents a FREE Children's Show with four Super Acts, 1:30 p.m. at Johnson Hall, Amherst College for ages 3-12. It is a zany, yet thoughtful crew of musicians; playful and sincere. Be ready to

sing, shout, howl, have fun, be animals, be silly, be together. Show features Sarah Pirtle, Two of a Kind, Tom Neilson and Jackson Gillman.

NOW THROUGH JAN. 20TH
Member's Art Exhibit featuring B&W and Color Photographs at Shelburne Arts Co-op, 26 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls

NOW THROUGH JAN. 29TH
Season of Light, Member's Winter Exhibition and Holiday Sale. Seventeen artists will be displaying their work in all three showrooms at Green Trees Gallery, at 105 Main Street in Northfield. (413) 498-0283. Open Thu - Sun, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Memorial Hall Theater
POTHOLE PICTURES
January 13th & 14th
Ghengis Blues
At 7:30 p.m. Bluesman Paul Peña makes a musical pilgrimage to the throat singing monks of the land of Tuva. This is humanity at its best: a seemingly random attraction to another culture, the amazing warmth of a small, proud country, and the lives touched along the way. Richard Feynman, B.B. King, Kongar-ol Ondar, Paul Peña. Directed by Roko Belic. 1999. Co-sponsored by Hilltown Folk. Music at 7 - Toast & Jam w/Suzanne Barkan.
51 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls 625-2896

Sunday at 7
THE DEAD OF WINTER
Free films for the frozen Sunday, January 15th
Double Feature: Jazz Documentaries
7 p.m. - A Great Day in Harlem, 1994. Recounts a single morning in 1958 when 57 legendary musicians gathered for a photo. Includes Blakey, Dizzy, Monk, Miles, et. al.
8:15 p.m. - Straight No Chaser, 1988. Thelonus.
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1. KING KONG PG13
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MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:00 3:45
2. HOSTEL R in DTS sound
DAILY 7:00 9:00
MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:00 3:00
3. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA PG
DAILY 6:30 9:30
MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:30 3:30
4. SYRIANA R
DAILY 6:45 9:15
MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:15 3:15
5. FUN WITH DICK AND JANE PG13
DAILY 6:45 9:15
MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:15 3:15
6. GLORY ROAD PG in DTS sound
DAILY 6:30 9:30
MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:30 3:30
7. THE LAST HOLIDAY PG13 in DTS sound
DAILY 6:30 9:30
MAT SAT, SUN, MON, WED 12:30 3:30

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PLAYIN' AT THE TALENT SHOW

Turners Falls High December 22nd
PHOTOS & TEXT BY ALI URBAN



Freshman Nick Imbimbo, sings at the third annual talent show. Guests performed a number of musical selections and dance numbers.



Turners Falls High School Dean Earl McGraw raps with students performing in the Drama Club talent show



Junior Lauren Tela performs an original song.



Sophomore Aaron Cappucci performs a medley by Jamie Cullum.

Landscape

BY BARBARA STEWART - LEVERETT - It was a bitterly cold day in December when I made my way to Edgehouse in Leverett to interview Llan Starkweather. Several months earlier, I had received an unexpected gift in the mail - a very colorful booklet with the intriguing title "Before 1867 and the Railroad Which Changed Leverett Forever: Archaeology and Anthropology of the Long Plain Brook, Mt. Toby, and including Lake Pleasant after the Railroad." It's a small book, self-published, and an interesting read. I soon found out why I had been sent a free copy of this book. Starkweather had discovered the webpage Michael Muller and I created several years ago - the Franklin County Publication Archive Index (<http://www.publicationarchive.com/archive.cfm>) and was absolutely thrilled to discover what he termed "a colossal project of entering Franklin County publications from the 1800s into a searchable index." Entering the search term 'Leverett' he was rewarded with many articles about his neighborhood, his property, and local history. Starkweather also has a soft spot for Lake Pleasant, and was happy to find articles from the very earliest days of Lake Pleasant as a picnic spot and Spiritualist resort. He incorporated many of the articles into the book, along with many black and white photos taken in Leverett and Lake Pleasant.

In the 1970s Starkweather discovered a "ten foot wide base ribbon of large tumbled stones over 500 feet long, which stretched across one of the islands located in the long pond midst the drainage course at the northern edge of the Long Plain glacial outflow delta. This walkway resembles a rocky road bed three feet off the ground and six feet wide on top, with the height reduced and tapered down into the water." In his book, Starkweather hypothesizes this pathway was created by ancient peoples, long before the railroad made its way through Leverett and Lake Pleasant. The articles I gathered reinforced some of his ideas about the lay of the land, and the 19th century inhabitants of the area.

I put aside the book, but after engaging in the increasingly popular pastime called "Googling", I became convinced it would be a treat to meet Starkweather and talk to him about his concept. I had no idea just what a fascinating individ-

ual I was to meet. Starkweather is many things. First, he is a self-taught architect, who, besides the beautiful Edgehouse (constructed in 1966), has designed houses all over the world (including his dacha in St. John, Virgin Islands). He was responsible for designing and helping to build the Leverett Peace Pagoda and the first Buddhist



Llan Starkweather

Photo courtesy of the website listed below.

temple alongside it (which was tragically burnt down soon after its completion and dedication).

He was born in Newton, MA two weeks after the stock market crash in 1929, and carried the very traditional name of William Chandler. He got a Master's degree in German. He served in the Army for three years. He married and had three children. He divorced his first wife and married for a second time. This wife had four children of her own, and so the nine of them lived a very colorful hippie lifestyle in Leverett during the 1970s. He doubled in the traditional role for many years as the registrar at UMass Amherst. Somewhere along the way he decided he could be named anything he wanted to be, so he chose the name Llan Starkweather.

As time went on, Starkweather followed his heart and wandered farther from the straight and narrow. In his first book, entitled "Edgehouse: Embracing the Energies of Change: Also Twenty-five Year Reminiscences of Living Seriously and Serially with 70 Adult Children of Heterosexuals in Transition", Starkweather reminisces about his past life, his house partners, his marriages and children, his coming out as a gay man in 1977, and his 25-year men's group, "only 2½ of whom are gay." This is a person who believes in change, in transcending gender, in fact a person who defies labeling in all its forms. During our hour long visit, as we drank some fabulous home-made wine, we discussed,

among other things, channeling, lucid dreaming, psychedelia of the 60s and 70s, gender issues, how he cured his eyesight by letting full-spectrum wavelengths of light bathe his eyes, the Harmonic Convergence, and body energy, auras, and healing. We never got back to his theory of the ancient road, but by then it hardly mattered.

He gave me copies of several of his books. One is entitled "Geomagnetic Energy and the Tetrahedron Project: Basking Under the High-Voltage Power Lines on Top of Long Hill in Leverett," which he distributed to his neighbors who, he said, were suffering health problems from their proximity to such lines. A tour of the house revealed a beautiful assortment of rooms, plants, statues, crystals, stairways, and platforms. We ended up talking about Lake Pleasant, and made tentative plans to do a little recreational digging next summer in some of our favorite spots.

Finally, if I may be so bold, I will include here my first written thoughts about the subject of my interview: "Llan Starkweather is many things - a prism, a thought, a part of you, a part of the universe, one with the spirit. He is energy, boldness, softness, and light." Here's to you, Llan - a person of great magnetism and character - may you live forever, and may your ideas take root and flourish in the hearts of all the people you have touched.

Llan's books can be ordered by phone - 413-548-9434, by mail: 253 Long Plain Road, Leverett, MA 01054, or on the web at <http://dachastjohn.com/-catalog/catalog.htm>. I highly recommend them. Enjoy!

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