



SMILE MASSACHUSETTS
Mobile Dentists visit Turners Schools
Page 3



BLACKBOX THEATER
Spotlight on Grand Opening
Page 16

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 6 - NO. 15

also serving Gill, Erving and Wendell

50¢

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 17, 2008

Seven Towns to Read Dust Bowl Memoir

BY DAVID DETMOLD

LEVERETT - Last year, Leverett librarian Linda Wentworth asked the librarians from six surrounding towns if they would like to get together for lunch at the Leverett Village Coop once a month to share ideas and support each other in their work. Out of these monthly meetings came the idea to have all seven towns 'get on the same page' by reading the same book, participating in one large southeastern Franklin County 'community read' with discussion groups, films and guest lectures centered around the chosen title. That proposal, offered by Sunderland librarian Sharon Sharry, was received enthusiastically by the rest of the lunch club: Sara Woodbury of the Tilton Library in Deerfield, Sue San Soucie of the Carnegie Library in Turners Falls, Diana Smith of the New Salem library, Mary Anne Antonellis of the Shutesbury library, and Rose Heidkamp of the Wendell Free Library. Turns out, with that many participating librarians, the only difficult task was choosing the book to read.

Here's how it all got started.

Five years ago, Heidkamp had been hearing about community reads in cities around the country. "We read about it first in the *Boston Globe*, and then we were hearing about the idea in library circles. It was catching on like wildfire, but it was mostly in the big cities. So I thought, why couldn't we do that in a rural town, like Wendell?"

Heidkamp said the idea for trying to get as many people as possible in one locality reading the same book at the same time came from Seattle librarian and author Nancy Pearl, who Heidkamp called "the first librarian to have an action figure modeled after her," (press a button on her back and she raises a finger to her lips to shush you). It was Pearl's

Hallmark Museum Expands



DETMOLD PHOTO

Dave Descavich cleans the plate glass on the Crocker Bank Building in preparation for this weekend's grand opening of the new gallery of the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography on Avenue A.

CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS - It's taken nearly six months and countless hours of design, construction and preparation, but as of this weekend the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography has expanded across the Avenue to an additional loca-

tion, in the Crocker Building at Second Street and Avenue A. The elegant new interior - 2,300 square feet, with approximately 350 linear feet of exhibit space - consists of three galleries, an exhibit preparation area, a conference room, and a small photography bookshop.

George Rosa III, the

museum's founder and president, could not be more thrilled. "This undertaking is one of the most exciting and rewarding ventures of my life. It allows me to give even greater recognition to the important role that photography and photographers play in our daily lives. And, I believe it will be good for the

greater Turners Falls community that has been so kind to me for so many years."

Paul Turnbull, the museum's executive director, is also delighted. "Our additional location, situated at the gateway to Turners Falls, announces 'Welcome to a

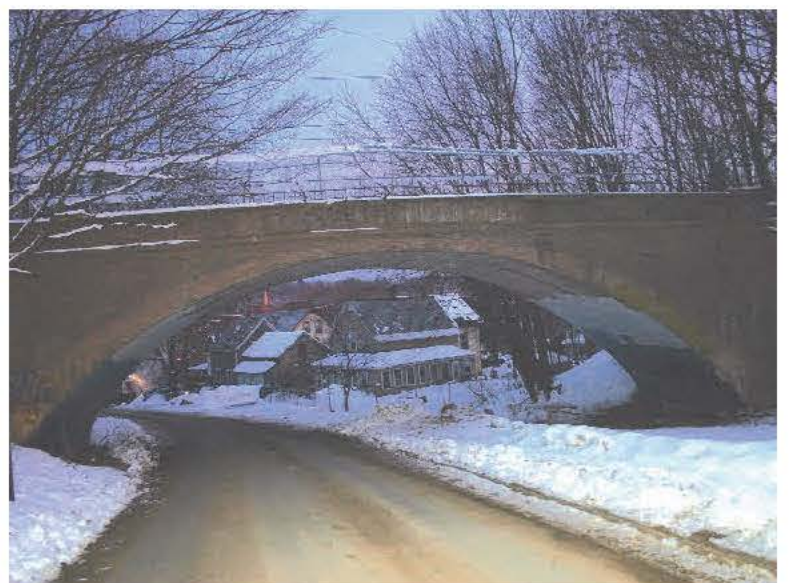
see MUSEUM pg 9

see READ pg 8

Prospect Street Bridge Replacement Nears

BY DAVID DETMOLD

TURNERS FALLS - On the last day of December, at about 7:30 in the morning, Barbara Shamo, of 54 Prospect Street, was trying to get to her job at Greenfield Savings Bank in a snowstorm. The town plow had recently come up Unity Street and left a windrow blocking the exit from the Jersey barricade alley that has served as the only way in or out of that end of Prospect Street for the last many years. Blocked from going forward, Shamo found she was also unable to back up in the narrow space. With the snow still falling thickly, she turned to a neighbor for help getting out, but the neighbor, Chris Sawyer Laucanno, was



the Prospect Street Bridge

unable to get her car out of the drifted snow, and injured his back in the process of shoveling and see BRIDGE pg 11



JUDITH BAILEY PHOTO

Front Row (L to R): Sharon Sharry, Sunderland Public Library; Susan SanSoucie, Montague Public Libraries. Back Row (L to R): Mary Anne Antonellis, Spear Memorial Library, Shutesbury; Linda Wentworth, Leverett Library; Rosie Heidkamp, Wendell Free Library; Sara Woodbury, Tilton Library, Deerfield. Not Shown: Diana Smith, New Salem Public Library

PET OF THE WEEK

Lucky Boy



Big Guy

My name is Big Guy and I feel in my bones that I am a lucky boy! A few weeks ago, when I was a stray alone in the freezing cold, I had a dream that a person came up to me, put a collar around my neck, and brought me to a warm home full of toys, catnip, and a lap where I was always welcomed. Suddenly here I am, in a shelter. and I know that I will be adopted by the kindest, most loving person. I am an FIV+ cat, which mainly means that I need a stable home, a good diet, and someone just to keep an eye on my health. With your good care, I will be a healthy boy who will be a joy in your home for years and years to come! For information on adopting me, contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society, (413) 548-9898 or leverett@dpvhs.org.

You Need a Hair Cut!



Ed's Barber Shop
look better, feel better!

74 Avenue A • 863-2085
Ed, Denise & KariAnn
"54 Years on the Ave"

NANCY L. DOLE BOOKS & EPHEMERA



Buying and selling used books
32 BRIDGE STREET, 2ND FLOOR
SHELburnE FALLS, MA
413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com closed Mondays

The Montague Reporter

Published weekly on Thursday, (Every other week in July and August. Wednesday paper fourth week of November. No paper last week of December.)
PHONE (413) 863-8666
FAX (413) 863-3050
reporter@montaguema.net
Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Montague Reporter
58 4th Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is Tuesday at NOON.

This newspaper shall not be liable for errors in advertisements, but will print without charge that part of the advertisement in which an error occurred. The publishers reserve the right to refuse advertising for any reason and to alter copy or graphics to conform to standards of the newspaper
Local Subscription Rates:
\$20 for 6 months

WENDELL LIBRARY NEWS

The Magic of Origami

An Introduction to Japanese Paper folding with Luc Bodin and Kim Bodin Weyl on Saturday, January 19th, 10 a.m. to noon at the Wendell Library.



This is the second in an occasional series offered by Luc at the Wendell Library called "Paper Pleasures". Luc has a passion for many paper arts and wants to share it with you. Over time his workshops will tackle more challenging

paper art forms as participants skills grow. This origami session will cover six different origami figures and leave participants with the basics to continue on on their own. It will be co-lead by

Luc's adult son Kim, who Luc says, exceeds him in origami skills. Paper provided. Bring a crisp dollar bill to make a bow tie. The workshop is intended for adults, teens and children accompanied by adults, free.

MONTAGUE LIBRARIES NEWS

Snow Globe Making

On Saturday, January 26th, at 10:30 a.m., the Carnegie Library in Turners Falls will be offering a children's program on Snow Globe Making. Ruth O'Mara, children's programmer at the library, will be showing children how to create a wintry scene in a small jar. Children of all ages can make a snow globe out of a

variety of materials including glitter, small figurines and a small glass jar. Parents and other caregivers are welcome to come and help create a special snow globe. This is a free program.

For more information, contact the Carnegie Library at 863-3214.

Call for Iraq Moratorium

On Friday, January 18th peace groups in Western Massachusetts will once again be mobilizing to call for an Iraq moratorium. The Iraq Moratorium is a decentralized call for demonstrations for peace on the third Friday of each month, centered on the popular belief that the war in Iraq should end, a belief held by more than 70% of Americans. The Western Massachusetts Iraq Moratorium committee has organized a number of events for this month.

At noon on the 18th, vigils will be held in downtown Northampton in front of Edwards Church on Main Street, and in downtown Amherst on the north side of the common. The church bells will be ringing

at Grace Episcopal Church. Also at noon, church bells will ring and a peace prayer service will be held at the Cong. Church (U.C.C.) in Ashfield.

At 5 p.m. there will be a candlelight vigil on the iron bridge in Shelburne Falls. Also at 5 p.m. in Greenfield, a candlelight vigil and speakout will be held on the common, with a gathering behind Green Fields Market, processing up Main Street on the sidewalk, to the town common. All are welcome to join with people across the country uniting in a call for peace that day.

For more information contact Eric Wasileski at: meeckman@wildmail.com or go to: www.Iraqmoratorium.org for events around the nation.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES -- January 21st-25th

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

Monday, 21st
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics
noon Pot-luck lunch followed by bingo
Tuesday, 22nd
9:30 a.m. T'ai Chi
Wednesday, 23rd
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics

11:30 a.m. Money Management Explained (FCHCC volunteer led)
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, 24th
9:30 a.m. T'ai Chi
Friday, 25th
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics

ERVING Senior Center, 18 Pleasant St., Erving (Old Center School, 1st Floor), is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For information and reservations call Polly Kiely, Senior Center director at 413 423-3308. Lunch daily at 11:30 a.m. with reservations a day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Transportation can be provided for meals, Thursday shopping, or medical necessity by calling Dana Moore at 978 544-3898.

Monday, 21st
9:30 a.m. Exercise

FACES & PLACES



DETMOLD PHOTO

Sita Lang and Anne Jemas witness the Miracle of the Snow Chicken at Unity Park on Tuesday

Book Sale in Greenfield

The Friends of the Greenfield Public Library are having a Winter White Sale on Wednesday, January 23rd, from 10 am to 8 pm. Don't be stuck at home with no books to read when that next winter white-out occurs. Come and get some great reading material at our sale. We get rave reviews from book dealers and book sale aficionados because our stacks make it easy to find just what you want - all the

books are sorted by category and alphabetized.

Money that the Friends make on the January White Sale will go towards the upkeep of the shrubbery, perennials, and annuals on the grounds of our beautiful library.

We look forward to seeing you at the book sale and thank you in advance for your support of the Greenfield Public Library.

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
TELL THEM YOU SAW IT IN
The Montague Reporter!**

**Great Falls Middle School
Students of the Week**

Grade 6
Jessica Fuller
Grade 7
Mike Conant
Katarina Clark
Grade 8
Cameron Savinski

LIVE IN
EST. 1754
MONTAGUE?
www.MontagueMA.net
local gossip, news & business listings

*Happy Birthday,
Flore!*
*on assignment... covering
the Super Bowl in Phoenix.
Wherever You go,
Make Sure you Stay
Off the Beaten Track!*

THE SHADY GLEN

BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
Lunch Specials from 11:00 a.m.
Mon: American Chop Suey
Tues. Chicken Fricassie
Wed: Chicken Souvlaki, rice
Thurs: Corn Beef & Cabbage
Fri: Fried Scallops
Sat: Yankee Pot Roast
**Open Sundays 7-2
863-9636**

Jep's Place
Great Gift for Groundhog's Day
Available at Ed's Barbershop in Turners, Baker's Office Supply and World Eye Books in Greenfield

Mobile Dentists Bring Smiles to Turners Schools

BY BRIDGET SWEET
TURNERS FALLS - Smile Massachusetts - Mobile Dentists visited Hillcrest and Sheffield Elementary Schools on Wednesday, January 16th, providing dental care for 20 students, regardless of their families' ability to pay. Peter Jengo, DDS and his two assistants, Debbie and Jennifer (who declined to give last names) were busy throughout the day.



Peter Jengo, DDS uses the special lamp attached to his glasses to spotlight the teeth of Sheffield 4th-grader Brandon while his assistant Jennifer records the dentist's findings

Nurse Claire Johnson of Hillcrest commented, "It is convenient for moms to have their kids seen at school, where we can follow-up with the students." Meanwhile, both schools have weekly fluoride rinse treatments available. Nurse Janina Thayer of Sheffield added, "There is a joint effort between the parents, kids, school nurses and principals, dental office workers and actual dentists; they're targeting a real issue. Some of the students have never been to a dentist before." While Debbie x-rayed a Hillcrest student, she instructed the child to, "bite it like a potato

chip, and bend down and look at your nose." The student accepted direction easily while wearing the heavy lead vest. Jengo commented, "I see similar problems of tooth decay throughout schools." He put sealants on many students, as Debbie explained the three-step procedure. Jengo, a resident of Gardner, is semi-retired and has been with Smile Mass - Mobile Dentists for two years. He and his assistants see up to thirty students a day in different schools. "Smile Mass - Mobile

Dentists was developed by two women in Michigan who saw an unmet need for oral health in the public schools. It is nine years old. The program runs in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York and Michigan. Smile Mass - Mobile Dentists accept private insurance, Mass Health, grant money and a reduced check fee," said Debbie. There was a "Mr. Clean Mouth" model with an oversized toothbrush for students to play with while waiting their turn. Two chairs were set up, one for primary care, where Jengo worked with Jennifer assisting, and the second chair, where Debbie finished the students with cleaning, flossing and fluoride treatment. They received their dental 'report

card' paperwork, a sticker and a toothbrush afterwards. The students encouraged each other while waiting. One Hillcrest boy said to a classmate, "It's a piece of cake." Perhaps that was not the best analogy. The other child left the room later saying, "It didn't taste like cake at all."

Amy, a fourth grader at Sheffield said, "I liked most everything but the scraping; it felt weird." But another Sheffield fourth grader, Brandon, said, "I feel better," as he smiled broadly. More information on the program can be found at www.mobiledentists.com.

6th Annual Anti-Racism Film Festival

When: Saturday, January 26, 2008, 1 - 9:30 PM
Where: All Souls Unitarian-Universalist Church, corner of Hope and Main Streets, Greenfield

Schedule:
1:00 PM - *The Letter*, written and directed by Ziad H. Hamzeh. Genre: Documentary. Not rated. Discussion following facilitated by Rev. Jeanne Lloyd
3:00 PM - *Edge of America*, directed by Chris Eyre. Genre: Documentary. Not formally rated, but a PG equivalent. Discussion following facilitated by Howard Clark and Dorothy McIver
5:30 - 6:30 PM - **Pizza and Salad Dinner** (Donations requested)
6:45 PM - *Freedomland*, directed by Joe Roth. Genre: Drama. Rated R. Discussion following facilitated by Christine Bates

Part of the Pioneer Valley Mobilization for Another World, January 20 - 26, 2008

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Call All Souls UU Church at (413) 773-5018
 or Molly Chambers at (413) 772-0003

Gill Notes: Town offices in Gill will be closed Monday, January 21, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Trash pickup will not be affected and will remain on Friday as usual.

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Ceremony Program

at Greenfield Community College
 Monday, January 21st,
 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Sloan Theater
 "Bright Light" Award Presentation

"Living the Dream" Award Presentation

Reception and Acknowledgments
 For further information, contact Herb Hentz, at 413.775.1809
 For inclement weather, call 775-1010

GREENFIELD Community College

Spring Registration '08

- Register early for Spring '08 pick the best classes and schedules.

Life-long Learning

- Hundreds of noncredit courses and workshops just for you or your business. Sign up throughout the year.

Summer Session '08

- Plan Ahead!
 Summer I: 5/21-7/9
 Summer II: 7/14-8/28

Spring classes begin January 28.

www.gcc.mass.edu

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

TOGNARELLI HEATING & COOLING

- Specializing in Repairing & Installation
- Gas & Oil Systems • Radiant Heat, Gas Piping
- The Gas Experts

413-863-2295

123 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Specializing in unique hair designs

Bella THE SALON

312 MONTAGUE CITY ROAD 774-4003
 Stylists seeking booth space encouraged to call!

B. RUBIN & SONS INC.

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS

Shocks • Tires • Batteries • Starters
 Struts • Tune-ups • Brakes • Oil Change

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236
10% SENIOR DISCOUNT **FREE ESTIMATES**

MASS INSPECTION STATION, NO. 13051

THE TEXTILE CO. INC.

Retail Fabric Store

- Cotton • Silks • Polyesters • Vinyls • Upholstery Material
- Quilting Supplies • Patterns • Calicos • Notions

CASH & CHECKS ONLY

Mon.-Sat. 9-5:20, Fri. til 8:20 • Closed Mon. - June, July, August

Power Square
 Greenfield **(413) 773-7516**

Greenfield Center School

Knowing Children
since 1981

- K-8TH GRADES
- SOCIAL JUSTICE CURRICULUM
- TWO TEACHERS PER CLASSROOM
- PROJECT BASED
- RIGOROUS ACADEMICS

Now Accepting Applications

Greenfield, MA • 413-773-1700 • www.centerschool.net

SINCE 1888

INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

**159 Avenue A
 Turners Falls, MA
 01376**

email: tracey@ahrist.com
 web: www.ahrist.com

Tracey Kuklewicz **863-4373**
 Vice President

The Montague Reporter

24 3rd Street, Turners Falls, Mass, 01376

Editor

David Deimold

Assistant Editor

Kathleen Litchfield

Editorial Assistants

Hugh Carr
David Brule

Circulation

Suzette Snow Cobb
Don Clegg

Layout & Design

Kathleen Litchfield
Boysen Hodgson
Katrán Hoyden
Karen Wilkinson
Suzette Snow Cobb

"The Voice of the Villages"

Photography

Lisa Davol
Joe Parzych
Shawn Woolsey

Technical Administrators

Michael Muller
Michael Farrick

Founded by
Harry Brandt David Deimold
August, 2002

The Inner Truth

BY MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - A time comes when silence is betrayal. Even when pressed by the demands of inner truth, we do not easily assume the task of opposing our government's policy, especially in time of war. Nor does the human spirit move without great difficulty against all the apathy of conformist thought within one's own bosom and in the surrounding world. Moreover, when the issues at hand seem as perplexing as they often do in the case of dreadful conflict, we are always on the verge of being mesmerized by uncertainty. But we must move on.



Some of us who have already begun to break the silence of the night have found that the calling to speak is often a vocation of agony, but we must speak. We must speak with all the humility that is appropriate to our limited vision, but we must speak. For we are deeply in need of a new way beyond the darkness that seems so close around us.

We are called to speak for the weak, for the voiceless, for the victims of our nation (and other nations), for those it calls 'enemy', for no document from human hands can make these humans any less our brothers and sisters. I think of them, too, because it is clear to me that there will be no meaningful solution until some attempt is made to know them and hear their broken cries.

I am convinced that if we are to get on the right side of the world revolution, we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values. We must rapidly begin the shift from a thing-oriented society to a person-oriented society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights, are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered.

A true revolution of values

will lay hand on the world order and say of war, "This way of settling differences is not just." A nation that continues years and years to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.

America, the richest and most powerful nation in the world, can well lead the way in this revolution of values. There is nothing except a tragic death wish to prevent us from reordering our priorities over the

pursuit of war.

This call for a worldwide fellowship that lifts neighborly concerns beyond one's tribes, race, 'class', and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and 'unconditional' love for all mankind. We can no longer afford to worship the God of hate or bow before the altar of 'retaliation.' The oceans of history are made turbulent by the ever-rising tides of hate. History is cluttered with the wreckage of nations and individuals that pursued this self-defeating path of hate.

We still have a choice today: nonviolent coexistence or violent coannihilation. We must move past indecision to action. If we do not act, we shall surely be dragged down the long, dark and shameful corridors of time reserved for those who possess power without 'compassion,' might without morality, and strength without sight.

Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long and bitter, but beautiful struggle for a new world. If we will make the right choice, we will be able to speed up the day, all over America and all over the world, when justice will roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream. 'America the Beautiful!' 'America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw. Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.'

-Riverside Church, New York City, April 4th 1967



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Low Power FM Update

MCTV is still working on getting a radio station for Montague, but we need your help. We can't set up the transmitter and begin broadcasting until a minor law gets changed - a law regarding overlapping or encroaching stations. The good news is there is a bill working its way through Congress at the

moment to address the issue. The bad news is that our representative, John Olver, is not on board yet. He needs to hear from us all. He needs to know it's important.

So contact Rep. Olver to explain our station's situation and to ask him to show his support by co-sponsoring the

"Local Community Radio Act."

You can contact him at 202-225-5335 and say something like this:

"Hi, my name is _____, and I'm a constituent of Congressman Olver. We need access to more local media to support workers, families, and communities across our area and across the state. I ask Congressman Olver to cosponsor the Local Community radio Act of 2007 - HR 2802. I want my LPFM station! Thank you."

We need you to do this today.

- Mik Muller,
President, MCTV
Montague

Calling Franklin County Poets!

The Friends of the Greenfield Public Library announce the 17th Annual Poet's Seat Poetry Contest. The contest is open to all Franklin County residents. The Contest has been sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library annually since 1990 and is held in honor of Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, who resided in Greenfield from 1847 until his death in 1873.

Contestants may submit up to three unpublished poems (previous first place winners are ineligible). Awards will be given in three categories: first, second, and third place in the adult division and the four top poems in the youth division - age 12 - 18 (divided into 12 - 14

and 15 - 18 for judging).

Entries should be typed or clearly printed in black ink, with the name, address, phone number, and email (if applicable) on the reverse side of the poems; no identifying information on the front. Also on the reverse, young poets write their age in the lower right hand corner, circled. The deadline for entries is March 5th. If you do not have an email address, enclose an SASE if you would like notification of the receipt of your entry.

An awards ceremony and poetry reading will take place on April 24th, 7 p.m. at the Capen Room at the Stoneleigh Burnham School, in honor of National Poetry Month

Poems should be mailed to: Poet's Seat Poetry Contest, Greenfield Public Library, 402 Main St. Greenfield, MA 01301

The adult first prize winner will receive stewardship of the Poet's Seat chair, with his or her name on a plaque listing all the previous winners, as well as a handcrafted Poet's Platter. All other winners will receive a handcrafted Poet's mug along with a gift certificate to a local bookstore.

For additional info contact: Hope Schneider at 775-1833.

American Dead in Iraq and Afghanistan as of 1/16/08



(Casualty sign temporarily located next to Wagon Wheel Restaurant on Rte. 2 in Gill)

Sign Me Up!

\$20 for 26 issues (local) \$25 out-of-area

The basic price of subscriptions barely covers distribution and mailing costs. Sustaining subscribers help the paper grow!

Sustaining Subscribers: \$30 \$50 \$100
 Other _____

The Montague Reporter

58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Community Journalism Workshop

On Sunday afternoon, January 27th, the *Montague Reporter* will offer a free two-hour workshop for aspiring community journalists, with veteran investigative reporter and professor of journalism Wesley Blixt. The workshop will take place at the offices of the *Montague Reporter*, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. We'll cover:

- **What's News:** What to look for and how to know it when you see it.

- **Tale Gating:** There are many ways to tell any given story. How's a writer to decide?

- **Weeklings:** What makes a weekly newspaper unique and how to work the strengths.

- **Just the Facts:** Necessary elements for any story.

- **Assignment desk:** Planning the January 24th issue of the *Montague Reporter* (for journalists willing to move beyond the aspiring stage).

Call 413-863-8666 to register for this free class.

How Would You Describe Gill?

Fifth graders from Gill Elementary School entered an essay contest last year, to answer the question: "If you were describing the town of Gill to someone from Alaska, what would you tell them about your town?" The Gill selectboard picked three winners, and we have reprinted their essays below.

It Couldn't be Better

If I were to describe Gill to someone from Alaska, I would tell them that Gill is a small, quiet town with nice people. People help each other with disabled problems, to just needing help with building something, or cleaning up around our houses.

Gill is like a big happy family. It is good for very friendly people.

The thing I like about Gill is the elementary school that I go to, because there are nice teachers and good food and good education. That is very important if you want a good job.

As a community we have town craft fairs, concerts, and more. Our library has lots of fun activities for all ages.

There isn't anything in my opinion that could make Gill better. It has all the things I like to do, like soccer and basketball. I also like to ride my go-cart on the many trails in Gill. I like that we live so close to the Connecticut River, so my family and I can swim, fish and go boating. That's why I think anyone from Alaska, or anywhere else, would love it here.

- by Craig Bodell

Like the Countryside

If I were describing the town of Gill to a person from Alaska, I would say I like it for many reasons. Gill is like the countryside, because there are a lot of farms with a lot of cows and horses on them. In the fall, the leaves on the trees change beautiful colors, like orange, red, yellow and brown.

Another thing I like about the town of Gill where I live is that it's right next to the Connecticut River. There are a lot of things you can do in the Connecticut River like fishing, swimming, boating and kayaking.

I have had experience with

fishing and kayaking. For fishing, I caught a 19-inch fish. For kayaking, I was kayaking in Barton Cove, and it was really hard because the current was against me.

The place in Gill where I live is called Riverside. In Riverside, there is very little traffic, so it is a perfect place to bike, run, skateboard and scooter.

In Gill, we have a restaurant called the Wagon Wheel, a library and a school.

The school is the Gill school. I go there. It is a great school. Gill school has great teachers like Mrs. Rabideau and Mr.

Silverman. The school has a lot of fun subjects like math, science, history, and handwriting. There are a lot of helpful things to use like flashcards, markers, crayons, colored pencils and pencils, erasers and cap erasers, desks, chairs and books. The school has a great playground. It has two soccer fields, play structure, a bouncy thing, a swing and a kickball field. That is why I like the town of Gill.

I think someone from Alaska would like to visit the town of Gill, because it is very different from Alaska.

-by Spencer Hubert



DETMOLD PHOTO

"In Riverside there is very little traffic, so it is a perfect place to bike, run, skateboard and scooter."

Lots to See and Do

I would start off describing the town of Gill to someone from Alaska by saying it is a very small, peaceful country town of just 15 square miles. There are about 1400 residents who mostly live in single family homes.

Gill has many great qualities and attractions. Some of the things you will see when coming to the town of Gill are restaurants, stores, and two big

bridges.

Some of the fun things to do are visit the Stacy Mountain preserve. The Stacy Mountain preserve is a scenic mountain preserve that provides habitat for the rare Jefferson salamander, the rare spotted turtle, and threatened plant species. There are also vernal pools to see in the Connecticut River's French King Gorge.

There is also the French

King Bridge which goes over the Connecticut River between the towns of Gill and Erving. When you go over the bridge, you can see the big French King rock in the river.

The next place to visit is Barton Cove campground. At Barton Cove, you can go boating, camping, and have a picnic. You can also watch the two bald eagles, who have been nesting there for the past five

years.

Then there's the Songline Bird Farm to visit. They raise emus for meat, oil, feathers and eggs. If you visit in April or May, you may be lucky enough to see chicks hatching. They are amazing animals to see.

If you want to you can go to Oak Ridge Golf Course. It has nine holes of fun. After you are done playing, you can go into the clubhouse and get some-

thing to eat.

Gill Elementary is a good school for kids. It has good food, people, classrooms, and teachers. The grades are pre-K till sixth grade, or you could go to Great Falls Middle School in Turners Falls after the fifth grade.

As you can see, Gill has lots of things to see and do.

- by Zach Demars

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

T.L.C.
URNS LAWN CARE
Specializing in all aspects of Lawn and Property Maintenance.

**LOOKING FOR NEW
 SNOWPLOWING CUSTOMERS!**

45 Main Street, PO Box B-6 Montague, MA 01351
 Gary Turn, Owner Phone: 367-0230 Cell: 522-2563

**RIVERSIDE
 RADIATOR**
 Propane Filling Station
**RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS
 AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT**
 Foreign and Domestic

Cooling System Specialist Rte. 2, Gill
 863-4049 1-800-439-4049
 8-5 Mon-Fri (closed Sat.)

Simply Computing
 computer set-up
 training
 QuickBooks

Debbe Dugan
774-5451
 Your Pace at Your Place

GREENFIELD IMPORTED CAR SALES
 Formerly LaBelle & Leitner

AUDI • VW • VOLVO • BMW
 Large selection of diesel and all-wheel drive vehicles
 Locally Owned for 27 Years

413-774-5517
335 High St., Greenfield
LAautosales.com

**AJ's
 CYCLE**
274 Rt. 2, Gill

- gloves
- boots
- accessories
- gift certificates

(413) 863-9543
 Allan • David
 email: AJCYC@CROCKER.COM
 WWW.AJCYCLE.COM

Locally owned since 1941

**FOSTER'S
 1941
 SUPER MARKET**
 GREENFIELD, MA

Full Service Market
Fresh Fish from the Boston Market

70 Allen Street Greenfield, MA **Beer & Wine** 413-773-1100
 FAX 413-773-1105

GUEST EDITORIAL:

McCain, Candidate of Conviction

BY ISAAC MASS



Isaac Mass

GREENFIELD - My friends, when we consider the qualities we want in our next president, foremost in our minds should be candor, character, competence, compassion, cooperativeness and conviction. No candidate in either party displays these attributes as well as Arizona Senator John McCain. While other candidates are good people all, well intentioned and with a heart for change; none has the experience or wisdom that is embodied by John McCain.

Some candidates tell the voters what they want to hear, without asking them to dig deeper and recognize the real challenges facing America. McCain does not. His straight talk acknowledges that global warming, illegal immigration, corruption in government, the decline of manufacturing jobs, Social Security solvency, and the global threat of Islamic jihadist terrorism are real problems that need to be addressed. They are not problems that can be solved unilaterally, by staking out a partisan position and excluding input or compromise with

Democrats who are equally motivated to politicize rather than solve problems.

Some candidates have been tested as governors, senators and businessmen, but among all the top tier candidates in either party, McCain is the only candidate to be tested in battle. While there are many ways to serve our country, those who wore the uniform have a special knowledge of the stakes and consequences of our military action and our foreign policy.

McCain not only served in uniform, but was a genuine hero both on the USS Forestall and as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam's Hanoi Hilton for five years. Given the opportunity to go home because of his father's position as fleet commander, he would not leave his brothers in arms, and paid the price.

McCain was also tested ethically in the world of politics. Implicated by association and subsequently cleared of any wrongdoing in the Keating Five scandal, McCain became a crusader against the corrupting influence of money in politics. He championed campaign finance reform, which tragically failed because the Federal Election Commission will not take on the 527s. As chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee, he led the hearings that exposed Jack Abramoff and several corrupt politicians and lobbyists, resulting in their imprisonment. John McCain cannot be bought, bribed or bullied and he will not tolerate those who can be.

Some candidates attack

McCain for his long history in the Senate and say he has been in Washington too long to be able to make changes. Senator McCain certainly has been in Washington for a long time, but he has never been of Washington. Ultimately his record reflects a career of accomplishment and vision. When Democrats were saying the war in Iraq was lost and Republicans were saying nothing was wrong, McCain stood up and said both were wrong and the Rumsfeld strategy needed to be changed to ensure victory. When the President followed his advice, some said it was doomed to fail and the rest hedged their bets, but McCain knew it was the right decision. When the death toll went down dramatically and security stabilized the country, Republicans raced to agree and Democrats said that it would still not solve the political problems. Now that the Iraqi parliament has passed the de-Baathification law which will allow Sunnis to

engage in a united democratic government, McCain stands as a clear leader on the most important issue facing America today.

McCain is a strong believer in the sanctity of human life. His compassion for people, however, does not stop with a 24-year pro-life voting record, including supporting good judges like Alito and Roberts. McCain knows that water-boarding is indeed torture and that Americans do not torture their enemies, not only because it puts American soldiers in harm's way but also because it is morally wrong. He also wants to shut down the prisons at Guantanamo Bay and transfer those detainees to Ft. Leavenworth, without the rights of American citizens, which they are not, because after Abu Ghraib we need to repair the image of America and because the conditions at Guantanamo are better than those of American soldiers who are serving time.

McCain knows that illegal

immigration is a serious problem that needs to be dealt with, but that there must be a solution that doesn't require the arrest and immediate deportation of the eighty-year old grandparents of American born soldiers fighting for our freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq.

McCain has proven he can work with leaders from every political persuasion to find common ground, to unite us and not divide us. He may be a maverick, but he is a conservative one, with the vision to solve our most serious challenges. February 5th, I hope Republicans, Democrats, Independents, Libertarians and Vegetarians will join me in supporting Senator John McCain for president of the United States.

Isaac Mass is the Hampshire and Franklin District Republican State Committeeman and a McCain Co-Chair for Franklin County.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Roll Over and Assault

01-09 6:20 a.m. Wires down in roadway on Main Road, Comcast advised of problem, assisted with traffic control	West Road 6:55 p.m. Report of past domestic disturbance at West Gill Residence	Gill Road
01-11 11:20 p.m. Report of party with youths consuming alcohol on River Road, checked area unable to locate	7:20 p.m. Arrested [redacted] Charged with assault and battery	
01-12 7:10 a.m. Single vehicle roll over accident with injury on [redacted]	10:00 p.m. Criminal complaint application sought against [redacted]	

Complaint sought for assault and battery
01-13
 11:40 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency at Stoughton Place
01-14
 3:35 p.m. Assisted Northfield police with injury accident on F. Sumner Turner Road
01-15
 11:31 a.m. Welfare check conducted on French King Highway Resident. All appeared in order.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

RENTERS WANTED
 100% LOAN - NO DOWN PAYMENT REQUIRED
 Call to see if you qualify for this unique loan program.
 Now is the time to buy. Call Tim for a pre-approval!
413.773.8984
NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE **TIM PREVOST**
 LOAN OFFICER

Since 1895
 On the Common
 Greenfield, Massachusetts
 Turners Falls, Massachusetts
McCarty
 FUNERAL HOME
 (413) 774-4808
 John C. Davis
 Director
 www.mccartyfuneralhomes.com

HK **Power Town Apartments**
 152 Avenue A
 P.O. Box 48
 Turners Falls, MA
 413-863-9433
 professionally managed by:
HallKeen Management, Inc.
 rental office on the corner of Ave. A & 4th St.
Sharon Cottrell
 Property Manager

Mary Lou Emond
 Certified Residential Specialist
COHN & COMPANY
 Real Estate Agency
 117 Main Street • PO Box 638
 Greenfield, MA 01302-0638
 413-773-1149 x142 • HOME: 413-863-4568
 EMAIL: MARYLOU@COHNANDCOMPANY.COM

Seth and Eva's
 New, Brand Name Women's Clothing
 New and Used Guitars,
 Amps & Equipment
 Fine Art
 Hand blown Glass
 Local Crafts
 Unique Gifts
 115 Avenue A
 Turners Falls, MA.
 Open Tue.-Sat 10-6 Sun. 10-5

Renaissance Excavating
 COMPLETE SITE WORK
 • SEPTIC & DRAINAGE SYSTEMS • SAND, GRAVEL & LOAM
 MAIN ROAD, GILL
DOUGLAS EDSON (413) 863-4462

PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU, Incorporated Insurance

 25 Millers Falls Road, P.O. Box 312
 Turners Falls, MA 01376
 Tel. (413) 863-4331 (413) 773-5673
 www.pzinc.com

Dillon CHEVROLET
 BOB ANDERSON
 Sales Representative
 54 MAIN STREET GREENFIELD, MA 01301
 (413) 773-3678
 FAX (413) 774-5746

SILVERADO

SUPER DEALS ON
 CDs
 DVDs
 LPs
 TAPES
 VIDEOS

TURN IT UP!
 NORTHAMPTON • KEENE • BRATTLEBORO • EASTHAMPTON • TURNITUP.COM

GUEST EDITORIAL: Safe and Green Campaign Fires Up

DAVID DETMOLD

COLRAIN - We reached Randy Kehler, long time peace and safe energy activist from Colrain, after he returned from a core group meeting of the 'Safe and Green' campaign in Putney, VT on Wednesday evening.

A coalition effort between the Sierra Club, VPIRG and other citizen action groups in Vermont is mobilizing to oppose Entergy Vermont Yankee's bid to relicense the 35-year-old 610 megawatt boiling water reactor in Vernon, VT for an additional 20 years beyond its original expiration date of 2012.

The Safe and Green campaign is an attempt to focus attention among towns in Western Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Southeastern Vermont on the "window of opportunity" afforded by the Vermont state legislature's Act 160, an act granting the Vermont legislature veto-proof ability to affirm or reject Vermont Yankee's relicensing bid.

Statehouse watchers from Montpelier say the legislature will vote on Entergy's relicensing bid within the next 18 months.

The Vermont Yankee reactor, one of the oldest commercial nuclear plants in the country, has been operating at 120 percent of its original design capacity since 2006, by approval of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. On August 21st, 2007 one of the three-story cooling tower at Vermont Yankee collapsed, although Entergy had inspected

it earlier that year. On August 30th, 2007, VY experienced an unintentional reactor shutdown (SCRAM) due to a stuck valve. Vermont's Republican governor Jim Douglas recently joined a chorus of officials from the tri-state region calling for an independent safety assessment of the aging plant, which carries one million tons of lethally radioactive spent fuel in a seventh story cooling pool and is situated on the banks of New England's longest river.

Kehler explained the intent of the Safe and Green campaign in the following words:

"The Safe and Green campaign hopes to lift up the voices of those people in towns who are placed most in harms way in terms of property, life, and environment by living within 20 miles of the nuclear reactor in Vernon. While in theory only the Vermont towns and Vermont legislators have some official say in the matter of relicensing this reactor for 20 more years, in fact there's a lot of people in Massachusetts and New Hampshire can do to stop the relicensing by raising their voices, and by letting the people of Vermont know we insist upon having a voice and letting our own legislators know we want them to weigh in on the relicensing issue on our behalf.

"The reason we call it the 'Safe and Green' campaign is because while we are calling enthusiastically for a shutdown of Vermont Yankee when its

license expires in 2012, if not sooner, we are equally insisting that we replace the electricity we now get from Vermont Yankee with rigorous energy conservation and energy efficiency measures coupled with 'safe and green' alternatives such as wind, solar, bio-mass, methane ('cow power'), and geo-thermal energy.

"The campaign's objective is to encourage people in each of the towns within 20 miles of the plant to organize town based 'safe and green' committees and to do a number of things, including place a warrant article before annual town meetings in the spring of '08, and also to really assess the feasibility of safely evacuating towns and schools and nursing homes and other facilities in our communities in the event of a major accident at Vermont Yankee. We want to encourage them to form or work with existing energy committees to look at means of reducing their electrical usage, through conservation and the application of 'Green' energy.

"A Vermont state agency called Efficiency Vermont has noted that Vermont wastes almost the same amount of electricity each year as Vermont Yankee produces. The situation in Massachusetts is similar. Without adding any new generating capacity, we could realistically replace electricity from Vermont Yankee through

increases in conservation and efficiency.

"There is an unprecedented window of opportunity for closing this plant and making the transition to safe and green energy. Within 18 months, the Vermont legislature will vote to approve or reject the relicensing application of Vermont Yankee.

"Today, Entergy is in the news claiming it will cost ratepayers millions of dollars to shut down Vermont Yankee in 2012, because they have not put aside enough money in the decommissioning fund to pay for the costs of safely shutting down the plant, dismantling it, and storing the extremely long-lived nuclear waste produced there over the last 35 years. This is scare tactics from Entergy. It is their responsibility, and they are mandated by law to have the full amount for decommissioning the plant set aside when their license expires in 2012. They are at fault for not having added to the fund since they bought the plant.

"If we remain silent during this time, our silence will be taken as support for Vermont Yankee. The only way we can shut down Vermont Yankee is by raising our voices. This is an exciting time. There is an opportunity to overcome the vested corporate interests that are trying to determine our future. We are fully capable of determining our own energy future. That's what this campaign is all about."

Montague Dems to Caucus in February

BY JAY DIPUCCHIO - Registered Democrats in Montague will hold a caucus in the first floor meeting room of town hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, February 7th, to elect five delegates and two alternates to the Massachusetts Democratic Convention, to be held Saturday, June 7th, at the

Tsongas Arena in Lowell. The convention's focus will be on grassroots organizing and party building in preparation for the presidential election.

This local caucus is a meeting open to all Democrats registered in Montague by December 31st, '07. Registered attendees are eligible to vote and run for one of the five openings available to represent

Montague Democrats at the state convention. Delegates must be divided equally among men and women. Candidates must consent to nomination in writing. Candidates may make a one-minute statement to the meeting and may distribute materials. It is all a very straightforward and transparent process any registered Democrat may participate in, or

just come to watch. There will also be a brief meeting of the Democratic Town Committee immediately following the caucus, which any registered Democrat may attend. For more info: contact Democratic Town Committee chair Jay DiPucchio at 863-8656, or visit the party website at www.massdems.org



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Rau's Auto
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR
(413) 367-2475
531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague
24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

THE COUNTRY JEWELER
Traditional and Contemporary Jewelry
♦ Diamonds ♦ Watches
♦ Anniversary Bands
Custom repair work done on premises Old-fashioned service!
Larry Pfeffer 772-0859 Mon.-Fri., 9:30-5:30 Sat. 9:00-5:00
Corner of Main & Chapman Streets, Greenfield www.countryjeweler.com

BAKER
Office Supply
• Soy-based Bean Pod Candles
• Ty Plush
• Photo Albums & Scrapbooks
All our greeting cards 50% off EVERY DAY!
(413) 774-2345
310 Main Street, Greenfield
www.bakerofficesupply.com

Karen Adams, Lic.Ac.
Beat Stress!
ACUPUNCTURE DROP-IN CLINIC
Wed. Evenings 6-8 p.m.
Avenue A Chiropractic & Massage
296 Avenue A, Turners Falls
413-768-8333

Upinngil
food you need from the land you love
Farm Fresh Milk
bottled daily at our dairy
GALLONS • 1/2 GALLONS • QUARTS
In Glass Returnable Bottles
Your children will taste the difference!
Farm Stand and Store
7 days a week 8 am - 7pm
411 Main Road, Gill
413-863-2297

The Bolt Hole
by local author
Lyn Clark
A strange young child, lost en route to a new home, becomes a catalyst for change for the girl who hides him, and her spinster landlady. Secrets are revealed, and mysteries solved as the state police narrow the search to their small village on the Mohawk Trail.
Lots of local color! Don't miss this page-turner!
(For adults and teens)
Available at World Eye, Boswell's, and online at Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com.

WE HEAT FRANKLIN COUNTY
• System 2000 (Energy Kinetics)
• Thermo Pride
• Weil-McLain
• Other Major Brands
• Expert Burner Service
MACKIN
FUEL TRUCKING SAND & GRAVEL
(413) 773-3622

READ from page 1

idea to get Seattle reading *Snow Falling on Cedars*, David Guterson's PEN/Faulkner award-winning novel, a murder mystery with local resonance for folks in

racism in Jim Crow Louisiana. Heidkamp said nearly 100 people read the book and attended the group discussion in Wendell that year.

Subsequently, Wendell teamed up with New Salem for

America, including Puerto Rican community gardens in South Holyoke, the Khmer community in Amherst, and an Italian gardener in Leverett.

So, for Heidkamp and New Salem's Smith the idea of

or return library materials at any local library. You can sit at home at your computer and search the catalogues of any library in the system, and order any book from any library. Each library is locally controlled, and sets their own hours, but now they are all interconnected. It's a nice combination of independence and networking, so resources can be shared."

But in this case, the resource to be shared between readers in seven towns is the *same* book. And with so many hundreds of thousands of titles to choose from, how to pick just one?

It was Sunderland's librarian, Sharon Sharry, who proposed choosing one book for all seven towns to read this year. Last year, Sharry had written a \$7500 grant to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to support the Sunderland community read, with additional funding provided by the Friends

veterans memorial.

After all these events, Sharry found she had \$1800 left over from the grant, and, at one of the monthly lunch meetings in Leverett, she proposed using the remaining money to fund a community read for the seven towns.

The suggestion was adopted enthusiastically, but, "Picking the book is the hardest thing," said Heidkamp. "It's really true."

After the librarians went back and forth with possible titles for three months, it was Heidkamp herself who suggested the eventual nominee: Timothy Egan's 2006 National Book Award winner, *The Worst Hard Time: the Untold Story of those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*.

Why read a book about a 1930s manmade ecological catastrophe now? According to the seven librarians' press release, "There are many



DETMOLD PHOTO

The Carnegie Library in Turners Falls will be the scene of a book discussion of the *Worst Hard Time on Tuesday, March 4th at 6:30 p.m. as part of a seven town community read*

the Emerald City, since it was set in San Pedro, an island off the Washington coast.

Five years ago, for its first ever community read, Wendell picked *A Lesson Before Dying*, by Ernest Gaines, a heartrending tale of dignity in the face of

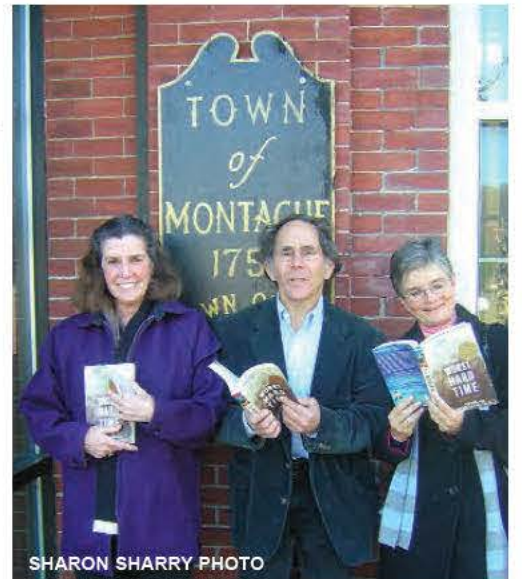
the next four years of community reads, with both towns reading and discussing Chris Bohjalian's *Buffalo Soldier*, Mary Lawson's *Crow Lake*, Archer Mayor's *St. Albans Fire*, and Patricia Kleindienst's *the Earth Knows My Name*. Bohjalian, who lives in Lincoln, VT, traveled to New Salem to speak at the twin town book discussion of *Buffalo Soldier* in 2004, and last year Kleindienst also spoke in New Salem about her cultural study of the gardens of immigrants in

expanding the community read this year to include five neighboring towns was not a huge leap.

"There was a kind of low-key camaraderie happening already between our towns," said Heidkamp, who noted that both Wendell and New Salem have recently completed library building projects, and are now focusing on new programs to bring people into the new buildings. Extending that to the other southeastern Franklin County towns seemed natural.

"It's really exciting to see what's happening," said Heidkamp. "You don't need to travel to UMass Amherst. With a CWMars card, you can check out

of the Sunderland Library and the Sunderland Cultural Council. Sunderland chose *The Killer Angels*, by Michael Shaara, the Pulitzer-prize winning novel about the four-day battle of Gettysburg. Sharry involved the entire community with children's programs, programs for young adults, scrapbooking sessions, Civil War trivia contests, and other events tied to the book discussion and leading up to the unveiling of Sunderland's new



SHARON SHARRY PHOTO

Patricia Pruitt, Al Ross, and Pat Allen catch up on their reading in front of town hall during a break in a recent selectboard meeting

see READ pg 10

TURNERS FALLS RIVER CULTURE

ART + HISTORY + RECREATION = TURNERS FALLS MA

WWW.TURNERSFALLSRIVERCULTURE.ORG

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Todd R. Howe, President
Steering Committee Member, Montague Business Association

PROVIDING ACCOUNTING & COMPUTER SERVICES TO LOCAL BUSINESSES
"CFO FOR HIRE", BOOKKEEPING, INTERNAL AUDIT, WEB DESIGN, DATABASES

Attention QuickBooks Users:
Ever wish you could get more out of it?
We can link to your accounting data & create custom forms and reports in Access.
We can also design tables to add detailed customer notes to your QuickBooks data.
The possibilities are endless. Call today for a free consultation.

Caddie Consulting
www.caddieconsulting.com
(413) 863-9990

Todd R. Howe, President
Steering Committee Member, Montague Business Association

PROVIDING ACCOUNTING & COMPUTER SERVICES TO LOCAL BUSINESSES
"CFO FOR HIRE", BOOKKEEPING, INTERNAL AUDIT, WEB DESIGN, DATABASES

Is your business still not on the Internet?
We can get you online for about \$500.
We can take your existing marketing materials and turn them into web pages.
For example: www.ancwfaceandspa.com and www.dancefeverdancestudio.com
The possibilities are endless. Call today for a free consultation.

Caddie Consulting
www.caddieconsulting.com
(413) 863-9990

Todd R. Howe, President
Steering Committee Member, Montague Business Association

PROVIDING ACCOUNTING & COMPUTER SERVICES TO LOCAL BUSINESSES
"CFO FOR HIRE", BOOKKEEPING, INTERNAL AUDIT, WEB DESIGN, DATABASES

Are you getting timely financial reports?
If not, we can help you run your business.
We will pick up all of your documents and return with checks to sign & key reports.
Imagine handling all of your accounting needs & processes in one weekly meeting.
The possibilities are endless. Call today for a free consultation.

Caddie Consulting
www.caddieconsulting.com
(413) 863-9990

UPPER HAND ONLINE
Specializing in
• Civilian Firearms
• Training for Home Defense

863-2964
Cell: 413-843-1692

Lee Laster • Alan Lambert
Certified Instructors

www.upperhandonline.com

About Face Computer Solutions

- PC Sales and Service
- Mac Software Support
- Network Support & Installation
- Quickbooks Training and Support

Veronica Phaneuf
(413) 367-0025
about-face@verizon.net

Quality products to heat your home: wood or gas...
stoves, fireplaces & inserts

REGENCY HAMPTON EXCALIBUR SCSC

Shanahan Construction Supply Co.
COMPLETE MASONRY SUPPLIES

Masonry Supplies
Brick / Block / Pavers
Wall Stone
298 Avonlea A., Turners Falls, MA

Culvert / Sewer Pipe
Precast Concrete
Retaining Wall Block
Phone: 413-863-4322

LIEBENOW AUTO BODY
"WE DO THE COMPLETE JOB"

- Insurance Collision Repairs
- We Accept All Insurance Companies
- Auto Glass Replacements
- Shop Rental Car
- Frame & Unibody Straightening

Mass Repair Shop #1839
774-4420
163 WELLS STREET GREENFIELD

Quality Work on All Makes & Models
Towing & Rental Cars Arranged

LOCAL PICK-UP & DELIVERY

413-256-6217

fine instruments bought and sold repaired and restored

Fretted Instrument Workshop
49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

DOLAN & DOLAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS
01376
413-863-3133

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

MUSEUM from pg 1

Live Town.” About the space itself, Turnbull is also quite pleased. “The expansion will more than double our current exhibition capabilities, allowing us to show an even greater range of contemporary photography. We’ll also be able to feature vibrant and significant work by photographers young in their careers, students, and other underrepresented artists, as well as theme and group exhibitions.”

The inaugural exhibit, of work by Dallas photographer Susan kae Grant, will have its official opening this Saturday, January 19th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Concurrently, the original museum, in the Colle Building at 85 Avenue A, will host the opening of Paul Taylor’s show

“Themes and Variations.” Both photographers will speak about their work that evening, at 7:30 p.m. in the Hallmark Institute auditorium at 27 Industrial Boulevard.

For the Grant show, Turnbull had the walls of one room in the new gallery painted black. “It stunned the contractor,” said Turnbull. “He asked to be reassured more than once that I

really did want the walls to be black.” The reason for the unique color scheme, as Turnbull explained, is that Grant’s show is not exactly a typical photography exhibition. Some of Grant’s “Night Journeys” consists of photographs produced on sheer chiffon fabric, hung from the ceiling. According to Turnbull, the black walls allow the fabric, illuminated by carefully



George Rosa III, the man who set the Hallmark Museum in motion...



Exhibition Manager Laurie Wheeler

positioned track lights, to float in almost dreamlike space.

The set up is intentional. “Night Journeys” is based on the photographer’s inquiry into the unconscious. Working with sleep scientist John Herman at the sleep research laboratory of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Grant used herself as subject and was digitally monitored and awakened from REM sleep and then interrogated by trained technicians. Grant

used the tapes of these narrative interviews as inspiration to create the imagery for the series. The photographs are made of shadows from sets created in the studio.

In addition to the new galleries in the Crocker building, the museum has also expanded into the basement of the Colle Building. This area will be used as an archival room where anyone can come to study the museum’s permanent collection.



**The Worst Hard Time
Film Series**

Surviving the Dust Bowl Documentary features interviews with witnesses and remarkable archival film footage and photographs as it tells the heart-wrenching story of people who endured a series of almost Biblical scourges, from drought and famine to a plague jackrabbits, 60 min.

Sunday, February 3rd, 3 p.m. at the Leverett Library

Wednesday, February 6th at 6 p.m. at the Sunderland Public Library

Wednesday, February 13th at 7 p.m. at the Wendell Free Library

Friday, February 15th at 7 p.m. at the New Salem Public Library

Plow that Broke the Plains Historic documentary (made in 1934) depicts the social and economic history of the Great Plains from the settlement of the prairies by cattlemen and farmers through the WWI boom, to drought and Depression, 30 min.

Thursday, February 7th, 6:30 p.m. at the Deerfield Library

Tuesday, February 10th at 3 p.m. at the Leverett Library

Wednesday, February 20th at 7 p.m. at the Wendell Free Library

Thursday, March 14th at 7 p.m. at the New Salem Public Library

The Grapes of Wrath Based on the novel by John Steinbeck, the film tells of the migration of the Joad family to California from their dust-bowl farm in Oklahoma during the Great Depression, 128 min.

Wednesday, February 20th at 6 p.m. at the Sunderland Public Library

Sunday, March 2nd at 3 p.m. at the Leverett Library

Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography

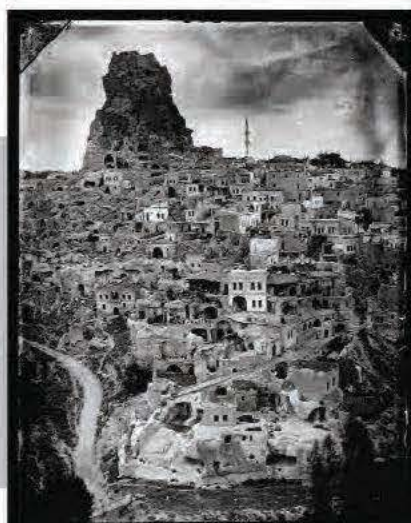
See and experience the new expanded gallery spaces at 52/56 Avenue A as well as the original gallery at 85 Avenue A

January 19 - March 16, 2008



**Susan kae Grant
NIGHT JOURNEYS**

**Paul Taylor
THEMES &
VARIATIONS**



Receptions and Artists' Talks - January 19, 2008

Artist Receptions with music & hors d'oeuvres - 1:00 to 5:00 pm

52 & 85 Avenue A • Downtown Turners Falls, Massachusetts

Public Artist's Illustrated Talk with refreshments - 7:15, Seating - 7:30, Talks begin

Auditorium at Hallmark Institute of Photography • 27 Industrial Boulevard • Turners Falls, Massachusetts

52/56 & 85 Avenue A, Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376

info@hmcp.org 413.863.0009 www.hmcp.org

Never an admission fee. All events are free. Free parking.

READ from pg 8

reasons: to learn about a fascinating and often-forgotten chapter of American history; to shiver through a classic disaster tale; to appreciate the perils humans face when we forget to practice sustainable forms of agriculture; and to explore the intricate connection between climate and human behavior." Or, put it this way. In an era of mono-cropping, chemical farming, and global warming, can the next Dust Bowl be far away? Perhaps we're doomed to repeat history, if we don't learn from it.

And there will be many opportunities to learn from the seven town community read and draw lessons from the Dust Bowl this winter, with guest speakers ranging from Gill's own Clifford Hatch, steward of Upinngil farm, coming to the Carnegie Library in Turners Falls to talk about "Agriculture from a Local Perspective" on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m., to Brian Donahue, author of *Reclaiming the Commons*, coming to the Wendell library on Thursday, March 6th at 7:00 p.m. to talk about "New England Ecological Land Use, Past and Future." UMass climate researcher Frank Keinig will give a talk on global warming and climate change at the Sunderland library on Wednesday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m.; organic homesteader Margaret Christie will speak on Supporting Local Agriculture in the Pioneer Valley at the Deerfield library on Monday,

March 17th at 6:30 p.m., UMass geoscience professor Ray Bradley will lecture on the Dust Bowl: U.S. Droughts Past,



Dust Bowl Scene

Present and Future at the Leverett Library on Monday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m., and Shutesbury will not be left out, as Harvard Forest's David Foster arrives at the Shutesbury town hall on Sunday, March 30th at 7 p.m. to talk about the consequences of human activity on the New England landscape through the years.

There will be accompanying book discussions, scrapbooking exercises, oral history projects, films, children's programs, even a slide show on *Photographing the Great Depression*, by Judith Davidov, author of *Women's Camera Work*, at the Leverett Library, on Wednesday, February 27th, at 7:00 p.m. With all this activity, how can anyone find

time to read?

Well, the seven librarians have thought of that (Don't you think there should be a *Grimm's Fairy Tale* called *the Seven Librarians?*) and they are leaving you plenty of time to pick up a copy of *The Worst Hard Time* at any local branch or library; they've laid in plenty of audiobook versions too. They are leaving you three weeks to read the 352 page book, from January 14th to February 2nd, before the programs and related films start, and another month before the book discussions are scheduled. Montague will hold their discussions on Tuesday, March 4th (at the Carnegie at 6:30 p.m.), Tuesday, March 18th (at the Millers Falls Library at 6:30 p.m.), and on Wednesday, March 19th (at the Montague Center Library at 6:30 p.m.); Wendell will hold their book discussion on Wednesday, February 27th, at 7:00 p.m.

San Soucie said she felt like *the Worst Hard Time* was an apt choice for Montague. "People here are pretty interested in ecology and land preservation," she said. "This is a book about a man-made disaster, when the government allowed or encouraged people to over-farm the land."

Heidkamp explained that widespread row farming coupled with a lack of crop rotation in the Midwest plowed up all the prairie grass, and in the 30s, when the rains failed, the topsoil blew away in huge clouds of dust that blackened the skies for hundreds of miles. A mass exodus occurred from the hardest hit states at this time, but others hung on, and it is their stories Egan relates in *the Worst Hard Time*.

Sharry said after all the possible titles for the first seven town read had been examined, *the Worst Hard Time* emerged as "By far the best choice. It's a fabulous book." She ordered 60 copies for the Sunderland library. On Tuesday, the first day of registration to check out the book for the community read, she had already checked out 20 copies.

Wendell and Montague libraries also have multiple copies, and extras are available at World Eye Books for those who would like to own their own copy. In Wendell, copies of the book will also be available for borrowing at the Wendell Post Office and the Swift River Elementary School.

WENDELL COUNTRY STORE
 "It's just a stone's throw from reality."
 Groceries - Videos - Home Baked Goods
 Beer - Wine - Liquor
MON - SAT 7-9, SUNDAY 8-8
 978-544-8646
 Lockes Village Rd.
 1/2 mile south of Wendell Center

WE HAVE IT ALL FOR YOU
TRACTORS FOR FARM, HOME & CONSTRUCTION

We Carry John Deere and Kubota Tractors, Stihl Chain Saws, Blowers, Tractor Mowers, Ariens Snow Blowers.

Also:

- Wood Chippers
- Log Splitters
- Winches
- Materials Handling Equipment
- Fire Proof Safes

Sales • Service • Parts
 SERVING THE AREA FOR OVER 46 YEARS

SIRUM EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.
 310 FEDERAL STREET • RTE. 63 • MONTAGUE
 413-367-2481

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG
Accidents and Noise Complaint

Thursday, 1-10
 8:30 a.m. Accident Seventh St., property damage, report taken.
 11:14 p.m. Unwanted person at East Main St., peace restored.
Friday, 1-11
 2:39 a.m. Medical emergency at Wentworth Congregate housing; transported to hospital.
 8:16 a.m. Larceny phoned in, Food City parking lot, report taken.
 8:13 p.m. 911 call, accident on 5th St. with property damage; [redacted] arrested for leaving the scene, operating to endanger, OUI, revoked license.
Saturday, 1-12
 4:35 a.m. Phoned in, loud noise disturbance at Springdale Cemetery, [redacted] arrested on a default warrant.
 8:37 a.m. Walk-in reports vandalism on Franklin St.; services rendered.
 5:14 p.m. Breaking and entering,

Lake Pleasant Road; report taken.
Sunday, 1-13
 6:44 a.m. 911 call, fire alarm, Crocker Ave, services rendered.
 11:37 a.m. Phoned in, vandalism on Taylor Hill Rd.; services rendered.
Monday, 1-14
 5:49 a.m. Phoned in, animal complaint at Hillside Plastics Millers Falls Rd.; report taken.
 7:39 a.m. 911 call, accident with property damage, Montague City Rd.
 8:01 a.m. 911 call accident with property damage Hillside Ave & Unity St.; services rendered.
 4:23 p.m. Motor vehicle violation, arrest of [redacted] operating motor vehicle with revoked licence, obstructed license plate, class D drug possession.
Tuesday, 1-15
 1:20 a.m. Phoned in loud noise disturbance Second St. Sports Bar; peace restored.



The Nancy Pearl Action Figure: Press a button and she 'Shushes' you!

Answers for last issue's crossword puzzle
Ups and Downs of 2007

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1. HALLMARK | 2. ROCKE. |
| 7. HILLVALLEY | 3. SOFTBALL |
| 8. BENCHES | 4. DAKIN |
| 10. JEP | 5. RIVER |
| 13. BOOKMILL | 6. FLORE |
| 15. MOTHERGOOSE | 9. CARNEGIE |
| 16. CASTLE | 11. PATH |
| 18. BANDSTAND. | 12. USHER |
| | 14. COTE |
| | 17. SLATE |
| | 19. WENDELL. |

Diemand Farm

- Farm Fresh Eggs
- Whole Roasting Chickens
- Pot Pies
- Homemade Soups
- Desserts

Products Vary Weekly

Farm Store Open Every Day
 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell • 978-544-3806

Jack Nelson

- Clay/Stone Sculpture
- Pottery
- Fine Art Drawings and Paintings

BY CHANCE OR APPOINTMENT.

TELEPHONE 413.863.9299
 email: carriagehouse@signedinstone.com
 65 CANAL STREET • TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

Montague Yoga Spa
 Licensed Massage Therapy
GIFT CERTIFICATES
KRIPALU YOGA
 Montague Center
 413-367-7530
 Norman Lerchen, M.A., LMT

2ND STREET BAKING CO.

Fresh Baked Bread Daily!

- World's Best Scones
- Cheesecakes
- Pies
- Cookie Platters
- Cakes to Go or to Order

69 2nd St., Turners Falls
 863-4455
 OPEN TUESDAY-SATURDAY 7-6 AND SUNDAY 8-1

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

KUSTOM AUTOBODY
 MA Reg #RS2066

48 Randall Road
 Montague
 Phone/413-863-3780
 Mike Fuller, Owner

CopyCat PRINT SHOP

- full color offset printing
- digital copies
- oversize copies
- files accepted via email

21 Years of Making Copies and Still the Original!

up-to-the-minute technology • old-fashioned personal service
 180 Main Street, Greenfield • 413-774-3500 • greenfield@copycatprintshop.com

BRIDGE from pg 1

and pushing. She was stuck there for about forty-five minutes, as other cars attempted to access Prospect Street, and gave up the attempt.

Somewhere during that forty-five minutes, "It suddenly became very evident what the issue is here," said Sawyer-Laucanno. "Suppose an ambulance has to get down the street today? Suppose there's a fire? We have to get that bridge open."

The bridge, of course, is the beautiful old barrel vault bridge that arches over Spring Street and for the better part of a century connected one end of Prospect Street to the other. Since 1999, the bridge has been closed, and the neighborhood pinched off in the middle, accessible by pedestrian traffic, or by a complicated series of left turns from downtown, or by a death defying lunge against opposing traffic heading up around the bend of Unity. The bridge was closed because "the concrete under the bridge was cracking and becoming unstable," said DPW superintendent Tom Bergeron.

Fortunately, in an odd example of bureaucratic synchronicity, Mass Highway, which had been plodding through the design phase for replacing the bridge for years, suddenly decided to fast track the process and get the \$2.1 million bridge

construction project out to bid by the end of this year.

Montague town planner Dan Laroche said, "That's a relatively small sum of money for a bridge project. Repairing bridges is priority number one for the governor and the legislature. Because it's a relatively small sum, and they have a big pot of money to spend, they could fit this project in this year. By spring or summer of 2009, it will be under construction."

LaRoche said Mass Highway recently notified the town of the accelerated schedule. The need to acquire temporary and permanent easements for constructing the new bridge "is the driving force for the special town meeting" scheduled for Wednesday, January 23rd, to get the language for those easements approved so the state can proceed quickly to the 100% design phase for the new bridge.

That day cannot come too soon for residents like Marie Castine, who has operated a hair salon, Castine's Creations, on the corner of Prospect and Unity for the last 35 years. "Business is the worst it's ever been," said Castine. "People have to call me and ask me how to get here. There is no easy way. It's way past time when that bridge should have been fixed."

Nina Rossi, whose house on Central Street abuts the area where construction easements will be required, attended a

meeting with other abutters and Mass Highway representative Pamela Prentice on Wednesday, January 9th in town hall. She said some abutters were concerned about the stability of the soil under the bridge, which is located in an area where an "underground spring" or perhaps storm drain runoff, has flowed down the hill for decades. Some of the houses are located quite close to the present bridge abutments, and Mass Highway is seeking permanent easements for a few extra square feet of land on both sides of Spring Street to make way for the new construction. "But I'm sure the engineers from Mass Highway have that [unstable soil] factored in, they've been studying it for so long," Rossi said.

The new bridge will be a single concrete span on concrete abutments, 23 feet wide with a six-foot sidewalk. Laroche said the neighbors' concerns from a 2003 25% design hearing had been taken into account in the design, which, he said, would feature "nice lighting and railings to fit in with the neighborhood." However, Sawyer-Laucanno, who was also present at the January 9th meeting, said he thought Mass Highway would only supply those features if the town was willing to pay extra for them, and Laroche admitted he had not seen final design drawings, which were

not provided at last week's meeting as expected.

In any event, it is unlikely the new bridge will fit as harmoniously into the lay of the land as the old barrel vault does. "I love that old bridge," said Rossi. "They don't build bridges like that anymore. It's not square to your view anyway you approach it."

Rossi noted the neighborhood had found various uses for the bridge since it had been closed to automobile traffic, "some good, some bad." She said it had been "a bit of a drinking spot," for a while, and "a platform for graffiti, especially when [TFHS high school student] Erik Zeiba died." But she also noted that the neighbor-

hood has held annual "bridge parties" there for the last three Octobers, with live music, and 20 to 40 neighbors attending.

Librarian Sue San Soucie said she remembered walking up to the Central Street School when she was a little girl, and pausing under the bridge with other school children to yell and hear the echoes.

At the January 9th meeting, the Mass Highway representative assured abutters that every attempt would be made to replace native plantings when the new bridge was constructed next year. Rossi had the last laugh on that one. "Oh, yes, please replace the bitter-sweet and poison ivy," she said.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Suspicious Vehicles, Yelling

Wednesday, 1-9
5:15 a.m. DMV Rt. 2, vehicle removed.

6 a.m. Alarm on State Road, building found secure.

Friday, 1-11
12:15 a.m. Report of loud music and vehicles spinning tires on Mountain Road; searched area, vehicles gone on arrival.

12:45 p.m. Breaking and entering at Pratt Street; report taken.

8:13 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for speed-

ing, no inspection sticker and operating a motor vehicle without a license. Vehicle towed.

Saturday, 1-12
1:20 a.m. Assisted Northfield with two arrests.

7:34 a.m. One car accident on Route 2, top of West bypass.

11:38 a.m. Suspicious motor vehicles at Mountain Road.

11:25 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle after suspension, default and straight warrant.

Sunday, 1-13
12:48 a.m. Report of fight on Pratt Street. Male and female yelling at one another; no physical altercation.

11:25 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for speeding, operating a motor vehicle with a revoked license and an active warrant.

Monday, 1-14
8:30 Accident on Route 2 and Old State Road West; vehicle towed, no injuries.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

A Custom Touch
Interior / Exterior Painting & Home Repairs
Anthony C. Tucker: 863-4833
70 Oakman Street, Turners Falls

HOMESPUN
by Andy's
From Curtains to cutting boards & so much more.
Come in to see our everyday specials.
Mon.-Fri. 9:30-5:30, Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 12-4
329 Deerfield St., Greenfield 773-3911
www.andysaok.com

RENAISSANCE PAINTING
SINCE 1970
LICENSED, INSURED
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, ALL PHASES • POWER WASHING
BRIAN McCUE, PRESIDENT
240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA
PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896

H₂O MARKETING
BOYSEN HODGSON
Designing the change you wish to see in the world.
GRAPHIC DESIGN | WEB SITES | LOGOS | MARKETING
413 303-9193 | www.h2-om.com

Geri Johnson
CRB, CRS, GRI
Seniors Real Estate Support
Geri Johnson & Associates REALTORS
66 French King Highway
Gill, MA 01376
(413) 863-9736
Fax (413) 863-9739

Got Gas?
Aubuchon has all the propane you need, all year round.
\$1.00 OFF fill-up with this coupon
Turners Falls Store Only
220 Avenue A
413-863-2100
AUBUCHON HARDWARE (expires January 31, 2008)

Your Clear Choice for QUALITY VINYL REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
SUNRISE
(413) 498-4318
Fully Insured
Free Estimates
Honest Work
Honest Prices!
Mass. Contractor Reg. #107141
Mass. License #059565
JOE GRAVELINE

If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world.
~ J.R.R. Tolkein
As a locally owned cooperative, we've been helping people celebrate with good food for 30 years in Franklin County.
Franklin Community Cooperative
Deli & Bakery Organic Produce
Supplements & Natural Groceries
Local Specialties
One co-op...two stores.
Green Fields Market
144 Main Street, Greenfield
M-F 8-8, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5
(413) 773-9567
McCusker's Market
3 State Street, Shelburne Falls
Open Daily 7-7
(413) 625-9411

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Tri-County Awarded Town Hall, Senior Center Renovation

BY JOSH HEINEMANN

Wendell received three bids for renovating the town hall to accommodate the needs of the Good Neighbors food pantry. Each bid gave a price for each detail of the overall job: installing shelving, repairing floor joists, and so forth, and each bidder was comparatively high on one item, lower on another.

Sun Builders of Wendell bid \$250 for repair of the floor joists, depending on what was necessary, while Tri-County Builders, also of Wendell, bid \$400 for that aspect of the job, bringing their total bid to \$3700. That amount topped Sun Builders' total bid, but since it was a firm number the selectboard accepted it.

Selectboard member Christine Heard thought it would be too difficult to separate the project into its many component parts to get the lowest cost for each item.

Tri-County also received the contract for carpentry work to convert the former town library into a senior center, for \$5,750. Tri-County was the only bidder on that job.

Pushing for Regionalization

Michael Idoine of the finance committee came to the selectboard office and said his committee (consisting of two members, Idoine and Jim Slavas) was ready to submit a budget request within a week. Slavas attended the Mahar K through 12 regionalization meeting, where he

reported other parties are pushing hard for a four-town K through 12 school district, to include Wendell, New Salem, Petersham and Orange. Aldrich said two members of the New Salem selectboard also attended that meeting.

Heard asked when the finance committee wanted to discuss pay scales, and Idoine suggested they take that up at the next selectboard meeting, January 23rd.

Preparing for Auction

The January 9th Wendell selectboard meeting opened with town treasurer Carolyn Manley asking questions to help her prepare town properties for auction. She said she would not be ready for March 15th, but expected to be ready to offer 15 to 20 tax title properties for auction later in the spring. Several properties have problems, and their auction will have to wait for another year, Manley said.

While on the topic of problem properties, the board discussed a house on Depot Road, owned by Fleet Bank, that has never been occupied, is situated on a lot that is too small for both a well and a septic system, and whose prior owner and abutters have different ideas of where the border of the lot is actually located. The building has fallen into disrepair, and the board of health has recommended that it be demolished, rather than sold as is or with a disclaimer.

Selectboard chair Ted Lewis asked if the town owned the

house and suggested that the fire department use it for practice, if so. Selectboard member Dan Keller said that would require DEP approval. He favored avoiding liability by demolishing the building and selling the property as undeveloped land.

Another property has 39 heirs who need to be contacted before the town can take the property.

Town Counsel Criticized

Manley asked the selectboard's opinion of the new town counsel, Kopelman and Paige, and said, in her opinion, their slow responses working on the USDA loan for the new town buildings almost blew the closing. Lewis said he did not like working with Kopelman and Paige, and said they had not followed through with written copies of telephone answers, as they said they would during the interviews, in January of 2007, when the town was seeking a new attorney to replace John Gates, who was retiring.

But Keller said that in his dealings with them during the construction projects he found Kopelman and Paige to be prompt and very helpful. He agreed that sometimes a telephone call at the right time might help keep a project moving.

Manley also wanted advice on picking a title search lawyer and auctioneer. Land court is held in Boston, and paying for a lawyer's trips to Boston would be expensive. She said Ashfield has a good auctioneer, but he is expensive. Later, Manley noted

that the main purpose of the sale of properties taken by the town is to put the parcels back on the tax rolls, rather than to make money on the sale. She said the town should advertise the auction throughout the state.

Health Board Complaint

Lonnie Ricketts of the board of health brought a list of complaints about conditions in the kitchen of the office building, perishable food left on counter tops, spoiling in the refrigerator, the coffeepot unwashed, and signs of rodents on the countertop, all since the conservation commission recently moved into the new office building. Ricketts had photographs. A toaster oven and another cooker are located in the kitchen, and neither is clean or vented, Ricketts said. The refrigerator is meant for employees working all day in the building to keep their lunches. Any unsealed food should be taken home, and counters cleaned at the end of every day. He got approval from the selectboard for a board of health member to clean out the refrigerator weekly.

Selectboard members signed an appointment slip for Jim Dunn of West Street to the planning board, as requested by other members of the planning board. They also signed the warrant for the Massachusetts primary election.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich read a letter from the USDA that said Wendell has borrowed over \$500,000 from the USDA, and so is subject to

an annual audit. According to town auditor Tom Scanlon, the town is due for an audit this year anyway.

Power Line Spraying

National Grid submitted a map of the electric power lines for which they plan to control vegetation by spraying, also showing public water supply wells and private wells within one half mile of the proposed spraying.

The steering committee for Hands Across North Quabbin Network sent the town an invitation for a cross section of residents to attend a meeting on January 26th at 1:00 p.m. in the Athol CCD Building, to participate in planning an action forum, scheduled to take place May 3rd. The forum is planned to identify a significant issue that participants will be willing to work on for the upcoming year. A similar process was a major factor in the restoration of accreditation for the Athol-Royalston school district.

The selectboard decided not to take advantage of the Energy Performance Contracting offered by the Franklin County Regional Council of Governments. The new large buildings that are occupied most often were designed with low energy consumption always in mind; the new senior center will be insulated and the town hall gets only occasional use; and the highway garage and fire station building need more than energy performance contracting.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

GREENFIELD
Est. 1891
Veterinary Clinic

**Robert J. Sagor,
D.V.M.**

18 French King Highway
Greenfield

Office Hours by Appointment

(413) 774-9919

SALON 107

\$7.00 cuts

*to all disabled, veterans, and senior citizens!
We are willing to travel to the houses
of elderly who can no longer get out much.*

*(Now hiring 3 licensed and experienced stylists or barbers
to start immediately either FT or PT)*

114 Wells Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
772-0284

Looking to hire
supervisor/stylist!

Debra Mathey
owner and stylist

**Antique
Clocks**

Bought & Sold

BOB PACY

WILL TRAVEL

(781) 438-8489
(508) 633-2552

NAWCC No. 0101315
STONEHAM, MA 02180

OUTSIDE THE BOX
Repair and Custom

European, Domestic, Asian & Heavy Truck

Preventative Maintenance
Aftermarket Parts, Installations
Performance Modifications
Suspension Upgrades
General Repair • Rust Repair
Custom Exhaust • Detailing

144 Shelburne Rd.
Greenfield

Sam and Zack
773-0091

**Renaissance
Builders**

Stephen Greenwald

PO Box 272
Turners Falls, MA 01376
413/863-8316
Fax 413/863-9712
www.rebuild.net

Pam Veith Real Estate

SRES, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR, REALTOR®

75 Main Street
Northfield, MA 01360

Office: 413-498-0207
Dir. Fax: 413-498-0208
Home Phone: 413-863-9166
Home Fax: 413-863-0218
Email: bedson1@comcast.net

Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald
ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR
REALTOR®

"My Office is Always Open to You!"

Sokolosky Realty

56 4TH STREET • TURNERS FALLS, MASS. 01376

OFFICE (413) 863-4393
HOME (413) 367-9970
FAX (413) 863-4949

Jean Donovan, CRS, ABR
BROKER

**CREATIVE HAIRCUTTING
PERMS & COLORS**

Men, Women & Children

CASTINE'S HAIR CREATIONS

You can get there from here...

863-2022

74 PROSPECT ST. TURNERS FALLS

BLACK JUNGLE
Terrarium Supply

Rare,
Exotic,
Tropical &
Carnivorous Plants
Poison Dart Frogs

413-863-2770
www.blackjungle.com

370 Avenue A, Turners Falls MA, 01376

MCTV Schedule Channel 17: Jan. 18th-24th

Friday, January 18
 8:00 am Montague Update: Steven Kulik
 9:00 am Montague Select Board (1/7/08)
 11:00 am Carlos W. Anderson: Shekinah
 12:00 pm Preachin the Blues
 1:00 pm Road to Recovery: Addiction Treatment
 6:00 pm On The Ridge: Christmas Show
 7:00 pm GMRSD Meeting (1/8/08)
 9:30 pm Our Lady of Czestochowa: Volume 7
 10:00 pm Peske Park Dedication
 10:30 pm Denmark The View the Vision
 11:00 pm Montague Grange Variety

Saturday, January 19
 8:00 am On The Ridge: Christmas Show
 8:30 am GMRSD Meeting (1/8/08)
 11:00 am Our Lady of Czestochowa: Volume 7
 11:30 am Peske Park Dedication
 12:00 pm Denmark The View the Vision
 12:30 pm Montague Grange Variety
 6:00 pm Montague Update: 3D Collaborative
 6:30 pm Road to Recovery: Helping Families Find Recovery
 7:30 pm Sustainable Energy
 8:30 pm This is Montague
 9:00 pm Naturalist Laurie Sanders
 10:00 pm Peoples Harvest

Sunday, January 20
 8:00 am Montague Update: 3D Collaborative
 8:30 am Road to Recovery: Helping Families Find Recovery
 9:30 am Sustainable Energy
 10:30 am This is Montague
 11:00 am Naturalist Laurie Sanders
 12:00 pm Peoples Harvest
 6:00 pm Chronicles of Czestochowa: Paul Menchaca
 6:30 pm Physician Focus: Preventing Medication Errors
 7:30 pm Common Man: Eric Goodchild
 8:30 pm Great Falls Middle School Soccer
 9:30 pm Carlos W. Anderson: A House Divided
 10:30 pm Discovery Center: Woodpeckers

Monday, January 21
 8:00 am Chronicles of Czestochowa: Paul Menchaca
 8:30am Physician Focus: Preventing Medication Errors
 9:30 am Common Man: Eric Goodchild
 10:30 am Great Falls Middle School Soccer

11:30 am Carlos W. Anderson: A House Divided
 12:30 pm Discovery Center: Woodpeckers
 6:30 pm Independent Voices 39
 7:00 pm Montague Select Board: (1/7/08)
 9:00 pm Our Lady of Czestochowa: Volume 7
 9:30 pm Montague Update: Susan Shilliday
 10:00 pm Living in the Shadow of Vermont Yankee
 11:00 pm Mik TV

Tuesday, January 22
 8:00 am Independent Voices 39
 8:30 am Our Lady of Czestochowa: Volume 7
 9:30 am Montague Update: Susan Shilliday
 10:00 pm Living in the Shadow of Vermont Yankee
 11:00 am Mik Tv
 6:00 pm Montague Update: John Hanold
 7:00 pm Select Board Meeting (Live)
 TBD GMRSD (Broadcast and Joined in progress following completion of Select Board Meeting)
 10:00 pm Positive Profiles in Courage
 10:30 pm Windchanger: Purple Koi

Wednesday, January 23
 8:00 am Montague Update: John Hanold
 9:00 am Positive Profiles in Courage
 11:00 am Windchanger Purple Koi
 6:00 pm Naturalist Laurie Sanders
 6:30 pm Denmark The View the Vision
 7:00 pm Physician Focus: Becoming a Smarter Patient
 7:30 pm Sustainable Energy
 8:30 pm This is Montague
 9:00 pm Birds of Prey
 10:30 pm Living in the Shadow of Vermont Yankee

Thursday, January 24
 8:00 am Naturalist Laurie Sanders
 8:30 am Denmark The View the Vision
 9:00 am Physician Focus: Becoming a Smarter Patient
 9:30 am Sustainable Energy
 10:30 am This is Montague
 11:00 am Birds of Prey
 12:30 pm Living in the Shadow of Vermont Yankee
 6:00 pm Montague Update: Paul Mariani
 7:00 pm Montague Select Board: (1/22/08)
 9:00 pm Mind Control
 9:30 pm Montague Machine
 10:30 pm Senior Self Defense

THE HEALTHY GEEZER Dialysis Explained



JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION
BY FRED CICETTI
LEONIA, NJ --

Q. This may sound like a crazy question, but is it possible to use your own stomach to take over for your kidneys when they aren't working right?

This question isn't as bizarre as it seems. It is possible to use the abdominal cavity, which includes the stomach, to perform kidney functions.

Kidneys are designed to remove waste and extra fluid from your blood. These organs contain millions of tiny blood vessels to handle this task. They also make hormones that keep your bones strong and your blood healthy.

If your kidneys aren't working properly, unwanted sub-

stances in the blood can be removed through a process called dialysis. Most people who need dialysis can lead a reasonably normal life.

There are two types of dialysis - hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis.

In hemodialysis, a patient is connected to an artificial kidney. This mechanical kidney - or dialyzer - filters the blood and then it is returned to the patient. The treatment time typically lasts three to four hours. Most people suffering chronic kidney failure require hemodialysis three times a week. Hemodialysis can be done in a healthcare facility or at home.

In peritoneal dialysis, the filter that is used is the peritoneum, the large, blood-rich membrane lining the abdomen and the organs within it. A fluid is sent into the abdominal cavity via a catheter inserted into the abdominal wall. This fluid (dialysate) is left in the cavity long enough to absorb blood wastes. Then the fluid is drained and replaced.

Peritoneal dialysis can be done by hand or with a machine.

In continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD), the abdominal cavity is filled with dialysate and drained by hand. A usual schedule is three or four half-hour exchanges during the

day and one at night. The procedure can be done anywhere. You can follow your normal routine while the fluid is in your abdomen.

In continuous cycling peritoneal dialysis (CCPD), a machine infuses and drains dialysate several times while you sleep. This procedure requires that you are linked to the machine for 10 to 12 hours at night. During the day, you are free of the machine, but you maintain fluid in your cavity.

Dialysis is usually prescribed when kidney problems are responsible for the following: heart failure, abnormal brain function, inflammation of the sac around the heart, an overload of body fluid, high acid or potassium levels in the blood.

More than half of the people on long-term dialysis are 60 or older. Older people often adapt more easily than younger people to long-term dialysis. However, seniors are more likely to find the treatments tiring.

If you have a question, please write: fred@healthygeezer.com.

Erving Selectboard Meeting cancelled due to snow (1/14) has been rescheduled on Tuesday, January 22nd at 6 p.m. at town hall. Call 422-2800 x 100 for more info.

Learn Video Editing At MCTV

Montague Community TV (MCTV) will offer free video editing training on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. starting on Wednesday, January 23, 2008. The classes will take place at the MCTV studio at 34 Second Street, Turners Falls.

MCTV has about ten programs including the Veterans Day event, Senior Center events and Discovery Center Concerts, that need to be edited. This is a perfect opportunity to volunteer to help your community and learn to edit (or hone your skills) at the same time.

If you already know how to edit using Final Cut, and Wednesday evenings are not good for you, call the station,

ask for Robin and we'll arrange time for you to come in and do some editing at your convenience.

But don't let lack of editing knowledge stop you, we'll train you and work with you as you

edit programs.

To sign-up for the class please call the station at (413) 863-9200 and ask to speak to Robin or Dean. If you already know how to edit ask to speak to Robin.

Suzee says: Hey. Wash it!
Wash big stuff!
Get it all done at once!
 Up to 37 loads at a time!
(whoa.)
Always Hot Dryers!
 Suzee's Gear for sale at : www.suzeesthirdstlaundry.com

WINTER SALE
 January 22nd - February 2nd
20% OFF
 All regularly priced merchandise
10% OFF
 All previously marked down items
NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
 Hours: Mon.-Sat. 9-5:20, Fri. 'til 8:20
TEXTILE COMPANY, INC.
 Power Square, Greenfield, Mass. • (413) 773-7516

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

COUTURE BROS.
 Since 1910
Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor - Retailer
 CALIFORNIA BRAND PAINTS - INDUSTRIAL COATINGS
 PAINTS - STAINS - SUNDRIES - WALLPAPER - BRUSHES & ROLLERS
 COMPUTER COLOR MATCHING - SANDBLASTING MEDIA - GLASS
 ARTIST SUPPLIES - CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING/MATTING & MORE
 187 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346
Celebrating our 97th Anniversary!

Avenue A Cafe
 Home of Cup O' Joe
 Now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings until 8 p.m.
 Come by for a hot meal and great conversation!
 Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 6am-8:00pm • Tues, Thurs 6am-5pm
 Sat 7am-3pm • Sun 8am-1pm
 111 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376
 (413) 863-2800 / www.avenueacafe.com

EDWARDS TREE SERVICE
 Matthew Edwards
 ☛ Storm Damage Prevention & Restoration
 ☛ Cabling & Bracing
 ☛ Shade Tree Maintenance
 ☛ Tree Removal
 ☛ Owner
 ☛ Climber
 ☛ Insured
Wendell • 978-544-7452

COUNTRY OIL
 SINCE 1986
HEATING-COOLING-PLUMBING
 Annual Heating System Cleaning
 Plumbing Repairs
 LICENSED TECHNICIANS
 #M10588 (MA)
 540 Northfield Rd., Bernardston 1-800-327-9992
 www.countryoil.com 413-648-9912

Simons & Simons
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW
 Thomas G. Simons • Gerry G. Simons
 Estates • Wills • Real Estate
 Personal Injury
 77 Fourth Street • Turners Falls, MA
 (413) 863-9506

CASH PAID FOR YOUR CDs
 LPs
 DVDs
TURN IT UP!
 NORTHAMPTON • EASTHAMPTON • BRATTLEBORO • KEENE • TURNITUP.COM
 413.502.1065 413.527.3850 802.251.8015 803.358.6933

JEP'S PLACE: Faith, Hope and Other Disasters Part LXII

CHRISTMAS

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH GILL - Christmas was a bright spot in our lives. Miss Pogoda put on a Christmas play, giving all the students a part. I had only to read the play a few times to learn most of the lines, in addition to my own. If someone was out sick during rehearsal, I knew their part and filled in.

A couple of days before Christmas, Miss Pogoda sent the boys out to find a Christmas tree. We'd long since picked one out during the summer, but we weren't about to give up our holiday from classes. While we roamed freely through the woods, happy to have a day off, the girls made popcorn to string. They also cut and pasted colored strips of construction paper to form chains, and made

angels, bells, and other decorations to hang on the tree. About an hour before the school day ended, we showed up with the tree, a hemlock, which became a thing of beauty with the ornaments the girls made.

The Christmas play crowned the grandeur of the Christmas pageant. Our parents came to watch. Every student had their moment of glory with a speaking part, from the youngest to the oldest.

Irene got to play Mary. Miss Pogoda asked her to bring a doll to use as baby Jesus. After school, Irene confessed that she had only a rag doll Ma had fashioned out of a stocking. Miss Pogoda told Irene not to worry because she would bring a doll she'd saved from childhood.

The doll had silky blond hair and was beautifully dressed.

For the play, Irene removed the dress and wrapped the baby in a blanket. At the end of each day, she dressed the doll and put it back in the box. Miss Pogoda allowed Irene to take the doll home each night, impressing on Irene that this was a favorite doll from childhood and asking her to take good care of it. The real baby Jesus would not have received better care.

For Pa, this was his worst Christmas. He had little hope of going back to work soon; there were bills to pay; I'm sure the mortgage was in arrears, and Ma was barely supporting us with her WPA sewing job. Still, it wasn't all that bad. Ma was working steady; the kitchen was warm; there was food on the table; Ma was happy to be getting out of the house and to be the breadwinner. While she prepared food for Wigilia, the traditional Polish Christmas eve dinner, we got ready to go to the school play - the highlight of the year.

The house bustled with preparations. We took turns using the mirror hanging on the kitchen wall. Pa sat at the table with a necktie on and his hair slicked down, ready to go to the play.

Ma began humming Christmas carols. She liked to sing, *Dzisiaj w Betlam*, "Today in Bethlehem". Pa sang a verse. She answered with the next; then, they both sang the chorus together. The spirit of Christmas filled the kitchen. I felt warm and secure in the presence of this love and harmony.

Emmy was standing in front of the mirror combing her hair when someone knocked. She opened the door. A wintry blast blew in. A fellow member of the Saint Stanislaus Society stood there, grinning. He held a food basket wrapped in cellophane with a big red bow on the handle.

The Saint Stanislaus Society offered insurance at reasonable rates, marched in processions to the church on holidays, threw a Christmas party for members' kids and gave baskets to the poor. Pa was always quite proud of his involvement with Saint Stan's and the giving of charitable gifts to the poor at Christmas.

At first we thought the man from the Society might have stopped to get directions to a poor family's home. Then we realized that we were the

recipients. The bustling stopped. Pa looked mortified. The man stood in the doorway grinning like a fool.

"Come in," Pa said.

The man stepped inside and closed the door. He held the basket in front of him. No one came to take it. After a long silence, the man stepped forward to set the basket on the table. He stepped back, still grinning. He waited for a response. None came.

"Merry Christmas," he said, lamely, as though he didn't know what else to say.

"Thank you," Pa replied.

The man stood, shifting his weight from foot to foot.

"Well, I got to get going. Got more baskets to give to the...." And he was gone.

Cooled by the blast of frigid air, the kitchen felt chilly. The lamp that had cast such a cheerful glow now seemed dull. The room looked drab. Black patches showed where the linoleum had worn through. Clothes drying on a line strung by the wood stove now hung like dingy rags. Even the mirror looked shabby with the silver backing peeling away in one corner and its glass wavy with imperfections.

The girls stopped primping. Pa got up, went into his bedroom and closed the door. We tromped somberly to the school. Miss Pogoda didn't ask why Ma or Pa hadn't come to the play.

That evening, when the play was over, Irene lovingly dressed Miss Pogoda's doll for the last time, put it back in the box and closed the cover. It was getting late and Irene was keeping Miss Pogoda from leaving. At last, Irene handed her the doll.

"Merry Christmas, Irene. You've taken such good care of the doll, you may keep it." Irene was dumbfounded and could only hold it close.

- Continued Next Week

REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS CALL 863-8666, FAX 863-3050

20 words for \$6. 15 cents each extra word. 3rd week free.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Plow Frau & Bow Wow is a VERY successful "clean-out, hauling, and snow plowing" business. Community oriented, environmentally friendly, FUN, interesting, and unique. Please call Sita for details: 413-834-7569.

CARPENTRY - No Job Too Small - General Carpentry and home repairs. Custom shelves a specialty. Call David, 413-863-9296.

GENTLE YOGA - Wednesdays 12-1:30PM, January 9th - February 13th, Soothing pace to support health and happiness. Living Room

Yoga on Chestnut Hill, Montague. 4 1 3 - 3 6 7 - 2 6 5 8
www.livingroomyoga.net;
enzer@earthlink.net.

MASONRY - Stephen Cahill Masonry. Brick and stonework fireplaces, chimneys, patios, walkways, steps, repointing, foundation repairs. Insured. Free estimates: 413-824-9717
doosel9@yahoo.com.

FOR RENT - Large three bedroom house available on peaceful cul-de-sac right near downtown Turners Falls. \$750 plus utilities, available now. (510) 499-8894

Special Offer for Reporter Subscribers!

Any paid subscriber to the *Montague Reporter* may have one free classified ad in 2008, up to 20 words. Contact us at 413-863-8666 or

reporter@Montaguema.net

(Pay for a second week, get a third week free!)

Rt. 63 Roadhouse



Saturday, Jan. 19th

9:30 p.m. Come Rock Out!

Outerspace Band

ONLY AREA SHOW
Tickets on sale at the Roadhouse

Jan. 25th -- James Montgomery

Ottomatic Slim opens 8:00 pm

OUR KITCHEN -- **GOOD FOOD** -- IS OPEN
ALL NIGHT LONG

Route 63 Roadhouse • Millers Falls
413-659-3384 • www.rt63roadhouse.com

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Negus & Taylor, Inc. Monuments

People often come to see us because their parents and their grandparents did. We're proud to have that kind of loyalty, and we work hard to keep it. - Gary and Nancy Melen

We engrave memories that last forever

MAIN OFFICE 773-9552
10 Mill Street, Greenfield, MA

"The perfect remembrance"

HANDYMAN FOR HIRE

Remodeling & Renovation

TODD MULLER
413-775-3575
"One Call Does It All"

Serving the entire Montague Reporter readership area

HIC# 149347

Patrick Smith
HIC #134741
Insured

Montague, MA 01351

EASTERN WEATHERIZATION

Specializing in Cellulose Insulation
Infrared Quality Assurance Guaranteed

Toll Free 866-262-5361
413-367-2228
FAX 413-367-2212

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Newest

IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

774-7775

Easy in-town location
Secure 24-hour access

VARIETY OF SIZES
PLENTY AVAILABLE

OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors and Artists encouraged to inquire

Brian R. San Soucie Locksmith - CRL

Serving the Area for over 30 years Certified • Bonded • Insured

We Install all Types of Locks & Entry Devices for Businesses and Homes

- Dead Bolts
- Household Lock Sets
- We Master Key & Re-Key
- Safe Combinations Changed

28 Montague Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Beeper 290-1162
863-2471
Fax 863-8022

CARSENSE AUTOMOTIVE

Your Automotive Answer

Check Engine Light on? We Can Help!

TELE: (413) 772-8862 — CELL: (413) 512-0413

409 DEERFIELD STREET • GREENFIELD

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17th
 Film Showing: *An Inconvenient Truth* presented at the Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls. Museum opens at 6:30 p.m.; program starts at 7 p.m., with one intermission. www.greatfallsma.org

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18th
 Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust Benefit Concert & Silent Auction, Sweeney Concert Hall, Smith College, 7:30 p.m. Piano performance by Steven Schoenberg. Silent auction. Tickets: \$20, or \$50 includes post-concert reception, available through the Northampton Box Office or at the door.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Lost In The Grove** - rock & roll covers, come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **The Lonesome Brothers: Ray Mason & Company** make their Voo Debut, 9 p.m. \$5.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Josh Levangie** - Johnny Cash covers, no cover. 9 to 11 p.m.

The Fourth Annual Duopalooza Concert Benefit for Class Action, All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, Greenfield. Charlie King & Karen Brandow host, Claudia Schmidt & Sally Rogers join them. 8 p.m. Tickets: door: \$18, \$15 advance. Call (413) 585-9709 or info@classism.org.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19th
 Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography: Paul Taylor *Themes and Variations* Reception 1 to 5

THE LADY KILLIGREW:
 still proudly serving
BROWN RICE SALAD

410 Greenfield Rd., Montague MA
 7 Days / 8am - 11pm (at least)
 (413)367-9666

p.m. at Gallery 85, Turners Falls Artist Talk - 7:30 p.m. Photographs displayed 1/17 to 3/16. Susan kae Grant *Night Journeys* Reception at Gallery 52 & 56, 1 - 5 p.m.

Echo Lake Coffee House, Leverett: **Mike Agranoff**, comedic



Gypsy Wranglers perform at the Wendell Full Moon Coffee House Saturday, January 26th, 8 p.m. Special blend of Acoustic Swing Music drawn from Gypsy Jazz, Cowboy Swing, French Musette, Big Band and New Orleans Jazz.

singer/songwriter, 7:30 p.m. \$12/\$10 seniors. (413) 548-9394. Mike Agranoff plays a fingerstyle guitar in idioms ranging from ancient harp tunes to obscure Tin-Pan-Alley compositions.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Outerspace Band**, 9 p.m.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rockit Queer 4*, the Valley's best dance party, 9 p.m. 863-2866.

Deja Brew, Wendell: DJ Mafu's DJ Party, no cover. 9 to 11 p.m.

All Out Adventure Winter Outdoor Recreation Programs: Wendell State Forest. **Every Saturday till February 23rd.** Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, kicksledding, ice skating, sled hockey & snowmobile rides. Pre-registration please. (413) 527-8980, www.mass.gov/dcr/universal_access.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20th
 Scandinavian Dance, Third Sundays at the Montague Grange, Montague Center. Music for traditional couples' dancing, instruction provided. \$8 donation suggested. Info (413) 253-0525.

The Dead of Winter Film Series at the Montague Bookmill, Montague Center. Free film for the frozen: *Day For Night* (1973) Francois Truffaut's paean to filmmaking. 7 p.m. Free (with a passed hat); food & drink at the Lady Killigrew & the Night Kitchen.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21st
 Ristorante DiPaolo, Turners Falls, *Interplay Jazz Band* - John Michaels

- guitar, Mark Dunlap -bass, Adam Call - sax, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

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



Evening Sing-Alongs at Montague Center Library, 6:30 p.m. Children's Librarian, Linda Hickman, plays guitar and banjo performs children's music. For children of any age and their families. Info 863-3214 during the week, or Montague Center Library, 367-2852, on Monday evenings.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25TH
 Montague Parks & Recreation Family Fun Nights, Friday evenings 6:30 - 8 p.m. Unity Park Fieldhouse, Turners Falls. Ping-pong, board games, music, and raffles! Snacks. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. Registration not required, drop-in program, also February 29th, & March 28th.

Introduction to Snowshoeing for Seniors. 9 - 11:30 a.m. For ages 50 and older. \$5 per person, \$17 with snowshoe rentals. Pre-registration required. 800-859-2960. Learn to snowshoe, observe animals' life stories in the snow.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **James Montgomery & Ottomatic Slnb** opens. 8 p.m. (413) 659-3384.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Lady Elvis and Fletcher & Manzi, 9 p.m., \$3 cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Adam Bergeron** - Classical Piano, no cover. 8 to 10 p.m.

Science & Nature Poetry & Prose Open Mike Night at the Great Falls Discovery Center featuring special guests Susie Patlove and Susan Middleton. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26th
 Wendell Full Moon Coffee House, Wendell: Gypsy Wranglers. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse, 8 p.m. Open Mic 7:30 p.m.

6th Annual Anti-Racism Film Festival at All Souls Unitarian - Universalist Church, Greenfield. 1 to 9:30 p.m. Movies: at 1 p.m.—*The Letter*, 3 p.m.—*Edge of America*, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.— Pizza and Salad Dinner (Donations requested), 6:45 p.m.—*Freedomland*.

At the Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Hayward Jones Fitzpatrick (AKA Unit 6.75)** 863-2866.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Strange Brew** - rock & roll! 9:30 p.m. (413) 659-3384.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27th
 Family Contra Dance at the Montague Grange. Dances are taught and geared toward the whole family. \$7-12/family or \$4/person. Dances are the last Sunday of the month thru April, 413-367-9608.

Quabbin Valley Pro Musica concert at Central Congregational Church, Orange, 4 p.m. Charles Heffernan, conducts *Laudate Dominum*. Tickets are \$10 each at the door or at www.1794meetinghouse.org.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28TH
 Live jazz at Ristorante DiPaolo, Turners Falls, *IDia Silverstein & Jeff D'Antona* - wind instruments & piano, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st & 2nd
 Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls: Local Award Winning Film Weekend, *The Nightingale Princess*, Hampshire College student film & *Darkon* - everybody wants to be a hero. On Saturday local filmmakers Christopher Dreisbach & Luke Meyer will be

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

Upcoming at the Great Falls Discovery Center
www.greatfallsma.org 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Winter hours open: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday & Saturday & by special arrangement 863-3221

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18th
 Exhibit Explorations: *Who Lives Here?* Join Refuge staff for this tour designed for families with young children. 11 - 12 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25th
 Nature Prose and Poetry Readings. Join Friends of GFDC for this evening of readings and discussion. 6:30 to 9 p.m. With special guests Susie Patlove and Susan Middleton

present to discuss these intricate and involving films. Music before the movie 7 p.m., movie 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH
 Exhibition opens - South Gallery, Greenfield Community College
 Hours: Mon. - Thur. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BOOKMILL
 MONTAGUE-MA
 FREE FILMS FOR THE FROZEN
Sunday, January 20th 7pm
Day For Night
 1973 Francois Truffaut's paean to film making.
 Food & Drink available at
 The Lady Killigrew.
www.montaguebookmill.com (413)367-9206

GREENFIELD GARDEN CINEMAS
 Main St. Greenfield, MA
 413-774-4881
www.gardencinemas.net
 Showtimes for
 Friday, Jan 18th - Thursday, Jan. 24th
 1. JUNO PG13
 DAILY 6:30 9:00
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00
 2. NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN
 DAILY 6:30 9:00 R in dts sound
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00
 3. NATIONAL TREASURE:
 BOOK OF SECRETS PG
 DAILY 6:30 9:10
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00
 4. THE BUCKET LIST PG13
 DAILY 6:45 9:15
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:15 3:15
 5. ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS PG
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:15 3:15
 5. I AM LEGEND
 DAILY 6:45 9:15
 6. 27 DRESSES PG13 in DTS sound
 DAILY 7:00 9:30
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30
 7. CLOVERFIELD in DTS sound
 DAILY 7:00 9:30
 MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30
 7. PATRIOTS VS. CHARGERS
 3 p.m., free!

Dora Dora
 Cafe & Pub
Draft Beer Fine Wine Great Food
Open Wed-Sun at 4 p.m.
 Friday 1/18 9 - 11 p.m.
 Johnny Cash Covers
 Josh Levangie
 Saturday 1/19 9 - 11 p.m.
 DJ Mafu's DJ Party!
 Sunday 1/20 7 - 9 p.m.
 Classical Piano
 Adam Bergeron
 No Cover Any Night
978-544-BREW
 57A Lockes Village Road
 Next to the Wendell Country Store

REYNOLDS PROPERTIES
 256 North Pleasant Street
 Amherst, MA 01002
Lynn Reynolds
 ABR GRI CRS
 "Aiming for
 Astonishing Service"
 413-367-2425 lynnreynolds@verizon.net

LETOURNEAU APPLIANCE SERVICE
413-863-8291
 Washers • Dryers • Refrigerators • Ranges
 Dishwashers • ALL MAKES, ALL BRANDS
Senior Citizen Discount
24 Hour Service • Paul Letourneau

MontagueWebWorks.com
 build | manage | create | 413.522.4808

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION: SNOW FALLING from CRABAPPLES

BY LESLIE BROWN
MONTAGUE CENTER - Today my neighbor told me a Yankee proverb I hadn't heard: Snow falling off the trees is followed by rain; snow blown off the trees is followed by snow.

Today the trees have bowed to shake off part of the eight inches of wet snow that fell overnight and into the morning. It looks as if we'll be able to see if Yankee wisdom holds up at the end of the week, when another storm is forecast.

Inside it is warm, and I am planning next year's garden. Before I order seeds for the coming season, I'll check the supply of leftovers from last year's garden.

Many seeds are still viable for another year if they have been stored properly. The best methods involve keeping seed dry, relatively dark and cool. One best practice recommends sealing seed packets with tape and putting them in the refrigerator in a sealed jar or can.

Mine have spent the winter in the garage, cool and dry all right, but possibly vulnerable to mice or the occasional chipmunk.

Even if your storage methods aren't perfect, it's worth checking the viability of your leftover seed before throwing it away.

Seeds found in such unlikely places as tombs have germinated well, long after one would

expect them to be nonviable. few seeds on top and fold over the paper to cover. Keep moist with regular misting, or put

Some farmers who grow heirloom varieties save their own seed year to year. These old

disappointingly if saved for the next year. These seed packets usually number a hundred, which means that when I start them mid-February, I'll grow many more onion and leek plants than I can ever use. It goes against the grain to throw them out though, and I usually have good luck sharing them with friends along about April when they can be put in the ground.

So, it's none too soon to consider what you want to plant, and to enjoy the pleasure of combing the colorful seed catalogues before placing your order. If you hope to start seedlings of vegetables or flowers from seed, it's definitely time to start.

A good rule of thumb is to start cold tolerant plants like onion, lettuce and spinach eight weeks before you hope to plant them outdoors. Pepper and tomato plants, which will need one indoor transplant, should be started about twelve weeks ahead for the traditional planting on the Memorial Day weekend.

So, while the garden is covered with feet of snow, it's not just fanciful or wishful thinking to begin planning for next year. Not only is the timing right, it's warming for the soul.



expect them to be nonviable.

There are some simple rules of thumb: hard-shelled seeds last longer; flower seeds are generally short-lived.

Seed viability - the capability of germinating and producing a new plant - is easily checked. Simply dampen a couple of paper towels or napkins, place a

inside a plastic bag. Put your sprouting packet in a warm place. Most seeds will sprout within seven to fourteen days. If half of your seeds show signs of life, you can still use them, but you should plan on double planting in order to get a decent-sized crop. If almost all germinate, use them with confidence.

plants reproduce faithfully, creating the same varieties you started with. Hybrids are so highly crossed their seeds are often sterile, and of no use for saving.

I'm ordering fresh onion and leek seed this year, as I do every year, because experience has shown that these seeds produce

THIS WILD PLACE: STARS AND SPARROWS

BY FRAN HEMOND
MONTAGUE CENTER - The Breakfast Club at Cold Brook Farm, birdfeeder for an assorted clientele of juncos and titmice, chickadees and nuthatches, cardinals and woodpeckers, sets its hours to coincide with the rising sun. The little rusty-headed tree sparrow that is first to arrive at daybreak perches on a bush and basks in the morning warmth. He does not care that the rays that warm him have traveled 93,000,000 miles at 186,000 miles per second (the speed of light in a vacuum, says *Britannica*) to reach him. This hardy soul is here for breakfast.

It is below zero. Magically



Mr. Cardinal

juncos move in and scuff back and forth to retrieve seed from the foot-deep snow. The cardinal hops around in the rhododendron. In the cold its

leaves are so tightly compacted that the bush is a mere tangle of branches. Two titmice dine politely with a chickadee at the twirling feeder. A blue jay flies in and everyone scatters. He won't stay long, and we know that they all have to eat.

He reminds me of the athletic squirrel of an earlier year who could leap to the top of a swinging feeder and somehow hang upside down on a wire to get his daily ration. After the unwelcome visit of a cooper's hawk, he disappeared and the squirrel population deserted the old catalpa on the pond and shifted to the

trees to the west.

This time of year, the Breakfast Club is in a great place for the observer. The ecliptic, the apparent path of the sun across the sky, clears the eastern horizon above South Pond, to my right. The morning sun beams down nicely on the feeder and its occupants. The sun continues on over open fields to the woods by the river. Here, as it slides down to the western horizon, the setting sun can be a sight to behold. Sometimes there are sun dogs to either side, sometimes Venus or Jupiter blaze in its afterglow.

In the summer months, the Breakfast Club's location brings a problem. The ecliptic has shifted north. The sun now rises behind the pine trees on the hill, and aims right into the Breakfast Club window. On a bright morning it shines out the view of ducks on the pond and birds at the feeder. Not a big deal, but surely a reminder that the sun is a given, and we are the ones who must adjust. And as our sun moves in the ecliptic against a background of stars that are blotted out in the daytime by its brilliance, cast into constellations and imagined into a zodiac by a wondering earth, my little tree sparrow takes advantage of a warming sun on a bitter winter morning.

Ja'Duke Premieres a Blackbox Theater in the Industrial Park



KAT HOYDEN PHOTOS

Students rehearse at Ja'Duke Center for the Performing Arts' new state-of-the-art blackbox theater on Industrial Boulevard. Grand opening February 2nd, with *Nunsense*

The Ja'Duke Center for the Performing Arts is readying the grand opening of their brand new performance space, the **Blackbox Theater**, "the biggest little theater in New England." Designed to comfortably fit 98 patrons, the performance space can be flexibly configured to allow directors and performers the artistic freedom to present their work, complete with state-of-the-art lighting and special effects, like fog and snow.

Ja'Duke is now planning a performance series of plays, children's programs, and concerts to showcase their new space.

The musical *Nunsense* will premiere at the blackbox theater's grand opening on Saturday, February 2nd, and will continue on Sunday for a 2 p.m. matinee.

Reserve tickets by calling the theater at 413-863-8333, or purchase them at World Eye Bookstore in Greenfield.



The Rendezvous

eat duck, drink pbr, wifi the internets, sip absinthe, knit, root at ms.pacman, booty dance, see death vessel on 2/5, play volley's best juke, chill on the deck, play scratcha, make on a sherry, watch the reds debate, live a life with the blackbox center, this party, 7pm on saturday, 9pm on sunday.

RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM

3PM-1AM / 7 DAYS
78 3RD STREET
TURNERS FALLS
(413) 863-2866

THIS WEEK:

FRIDAY, 1/18,
LONESOME BROTHERS 9pm, \$5

SATURDAY, 1/19,
ROCKITQUEER 4 (dance party)
9pm, FREE

PATRIOTS ON BIG SCREEN SUN. 3PM!