



OUR LADY OF PEACE INAUGURAL
a ceremony to remember, pg 5



FRUIT O' THE VINE
wine tasting at the Gill Store, pg 3

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

Year 4
No.15

50¢

The Montague Reporter

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 19, 2006

Airport Extension Prompts Lively Debate

BY PHILIPPE DEGUISE

The Montague select-board remained grounded during Tuesday evening's (1/17) presentation by the airport commission on proposed improvements and a possible 1200 foot extension to the 3000 foot runway. While the proposal was discussed in some detail, accusations of mismanagement were lobbed at the commission members, who refrained from responding due to a number of pending legal issues. The ensuing turbu-

lence appeared to be a taste of things to come, as the proposal is yet to be debated by residents of the five villages and their town meeting representatives.

All agree the Turners Falls Airport is facing a turning point in its existence. At issue is the condition of the 1978 runway and whether or not it meets federal standards. In his presentation to the

See AIRPORT
Page 5

Southworth to Purchase Esleeck Mfg.



ARIEL-JONES PHOTO

BY PHILIPPE DEGUISE

TURNERS FALLS - A local institution and major employer is being sold, but the ramifications of the sale to the workers and the town remain uncertain. In a news release issued last Thursday (1/12), David Southworth, president of Southworth Company of Agawam, a paper manufacturer, announced his company's plans to acquire Esleeck Manufacturing Company Inc., (EMCo) of Turners

Falls. Details of the offer-remain confidential, but the deal should be closed within six to eight weeks. In the meantime, the fate of the employees' jobs remains uncertain.

Southworth Company is a privately held corporation with 150 employees that has been manufacturing paper products in the Pioneer Valley since 1839. A family business, it currently operates one mill in West Springfield and carries out its other

operations from headquarters in Agawam. In 2003 it acquired Permalite ReproMedia Corporation of California, a producer of coated paper and films used in digital media and high-end applications. Southworth has continued to operate Permalite's facilities in the west, but has for the most part taken over administrative affairs for the California company from its Agawam headquarters.

According to South-

worth, the electronic media has had a major effect on paper usage in general. This, he said, is especially true in the areas of high-end printing and packaging. As a result, he said, acquisition of Permalite ReproMedia Corporation was a way to "evolve with the times by increasing categories of products." The acquisition of EMCo, however, does

See ESLEECK
Page 12

Lake Grove Farm Program Draws Opposition



Roland Paulauskas (left), executive director of Lake Grove School at Maple Valley, told residents at Tuesday's planning board hearing his school's expansion plans do not include increasing the size of the student population. John and Terry Koehler are seated at right.

BY DAVID DETMOLD

WENDELL - Lake Grove School at Maple Valley, home to 64 emotionally disturbed boys and young men, ages 10 - 21, in the heart of Wendell, plans to add a "therapeutic animal program" in a farm-like setting on recently purchased acreage on Wendell Depot Road, adjacent to the school's administrative offices. The school provides comprehensive treatment services for sexually abusive youths within a residential school setting. Past incidents of students going absent without leave from the Lake Grove campus, coupled with a history of poor

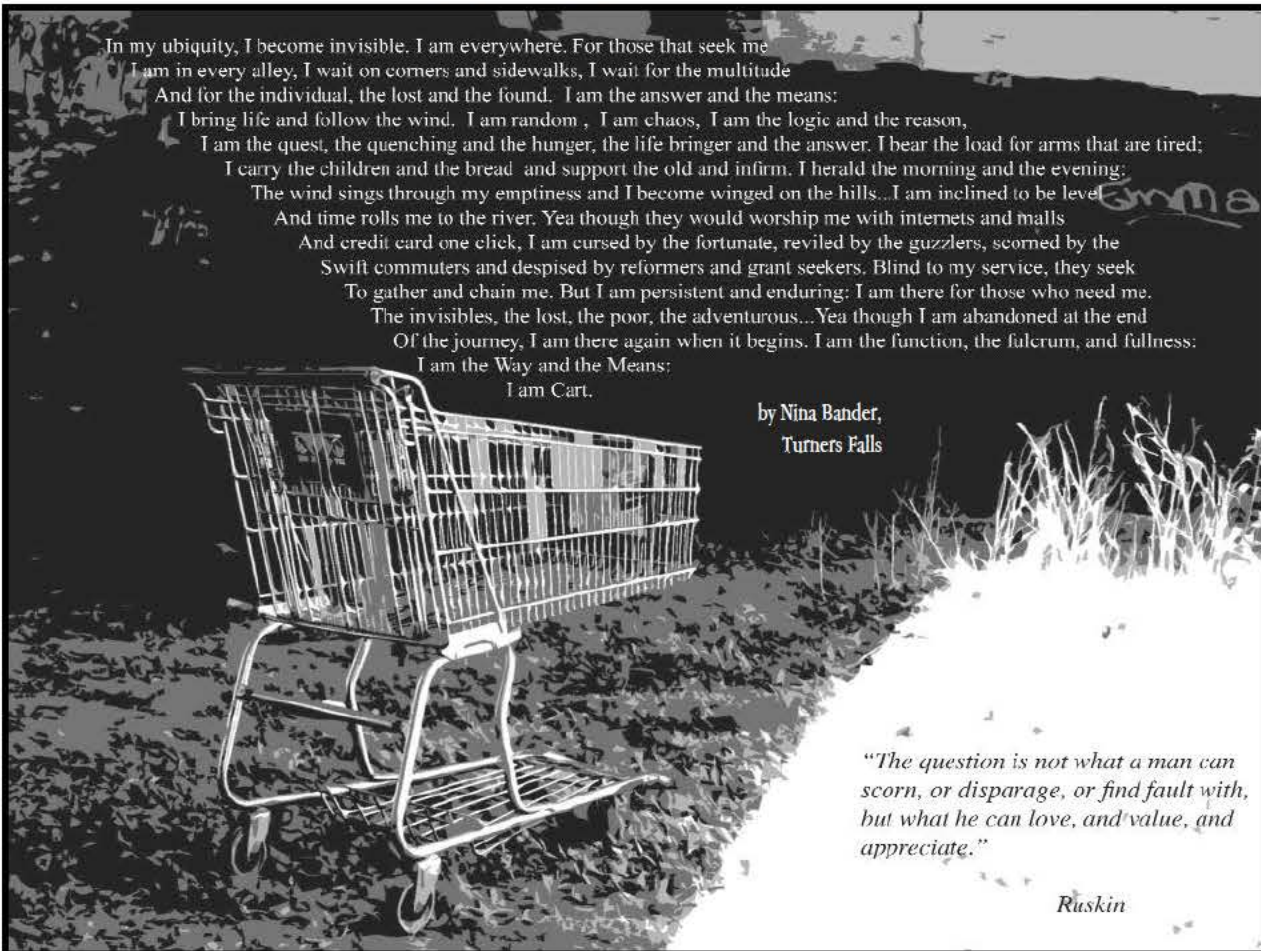
communications between the school, the police, and neighbors, led to the abutters putting safety concerns front and center at a continuation of the planning board's site plan review hearing on January 17th. The hearing had been continued from January 5th to allow time for Lake Grove officials to respond to abutters' concerns regarding setback of buildings, hours of construction and operation, noise concerns, and other issues.

Resident Mary Gilman said, "It is clear that all the abutters' emotions are running very high. There is our safety to consider.

See LAKE GROVE
Page 11

Ode to a shopping cart

more poetry on pages 9 & 10



In my ubiquity, I become invisible. I am everywhere. For those that seek me
I am in every alley, I wait on corners and sidewalks, I wait for the multitude
And for the individual, the lost and the found. I am the answer and the means:
I bring life and follow the wind. I am random, I am chaos, I am the logic and the reason,
I am the quest, the quenching and the hunger, the life bringer and the answer. I bear the load for arms that are tired;
I carry the children and the bread and support the old and infirm. I herald the morning and the evening.
The wind sings through my emptiness and I become winged on the hills... I am inclined to be level
And time rolls me to the river. Yea though they would worship me with internets and malls
And credit card one click, I am cursed by the fortunate, reviled by the guzzlers, scorned by the
Swift commuters and despised by reformers and grant seekers. Blind to my service, they seek
To gather and chain me. But I am persistent and enduring; I am there for those who need me.
The invisibles, the lost, the poor, the adventurous... Yea though I am abandoned at the end
Of the journey, I am there again when it begins. I am the function, the fulcrum, and fullness:
I am the Way and the Means:
I am Cart.

by Nina Bander,
Turners Falls

"The question is not what a man can scorn, or disparage, or find fault with, but what he can love, and value, and appreciate."

Ruskin

PET OF THE WEEK
Southern Belle



Scarlett

Scarlett is a 1 1/2 year old red greyhound in need of a good home. Scarlett is a super sweet, super smart little girl. She loves to give kisses and really just wants to play all day. She is glad to get to be a pet Grey because she really just doesn't seem to enjoy running at all, other than a little trot! She should do well in a home with kids over 8 and other dogs, but she cannot live with cats. For more information on adopting Scarlett contact the Dakin Animal Shelter in Leverett at 548-9898 or via email at info@dakinshelter.org.

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GILL-MONTAGUE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN PRESCHOOL FUN FAIR

Do you need more information about Childcare, Preschool, Playgroups, Story hours and after school care?

Sunday, January 22nd
between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.
(snow date: Sunday, January 29th)

Montague Catholic Social Ministries, Books & More, and the Brick House on Avenue A and 3rd Street in Turners Falls will host a preschool fun fair.

Parents and guardians of children ages 0-5 who are interested in learning more about options for preschool, Head Start, family childcare, after school care, playgroups, story hours, and community health programs in the Gill-Montague area can meet representatives of programs that serve children in our two-town area.

Free snacks and hot cocoa provided by Cup o' Joe's and the bellybowl.

Library News



PHOTO BY LINDA HICKMAN

TURNERS FALLS - Laurie Davidson and Tom Carroll of Montague Center are performing Music and Movement for young children weekly at the Carnegie Library through February. The free programs are held on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. The series is sponsored by the Family Network. For more information, call 863-3214.

Senior Face of Hunger

ANNA VIADERO - The face of hunger among Franklin County and North Quabbin elders may surprise you: 22% own their own home, 66% have high school diplomas, 53% admit to choosing to pay rent or

fuel bills before groceries. The Franklin County Home Care Nutrition program can help get nutritious food to area elders. If you would like to help, please call (413) 773-5555 or (978) 544-2259.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES Jan. 23rd - 27th

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

Monday, 23rd
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. PACE Aerobics

1 p.m. Canasta
Tuesday, 24th
9:30 a.m. Tai Chi
Wednesday, 25th
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, 26th
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, 27th
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11:00 a.m. PACE Aerobics

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



FARRICK PHOTO

Realtor Mark Abramson seems pleased as Crocker Cutlery Partnership Ltd. representative Tracy Miner and MCCI's Michael Muller shake hands after signing a three-year lease at Crocker Studios on 2nd Street in Turners Falls. MCCI will reopen the public access studio on February 1st, and rename it "MCTV at the Crocker Building." Muller says, "Exciting times lie ahead for Montague and our public access channel. Now is a good time to get involved." Call 863-9200 for information about learning video production or hosting your own TV show, or getting your organization on the air.

POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST
The Iron Bridge, Montague



BY LILLIAN FISKE - The iron bridge was built in 1895 over the Sawmill River just above Stratton's dam. Locals will recognize this scene as being just up the river from the Book Mill. Three school teams are headed for home and it was a slow journey. Different teams went to the Meadows, Turners Falls Road, Chestnut Hill and Dry Hill. Usually the team was driven by a farmer who lived at the end of the route. Postcard courtesy of the Montague Historical Society collection.

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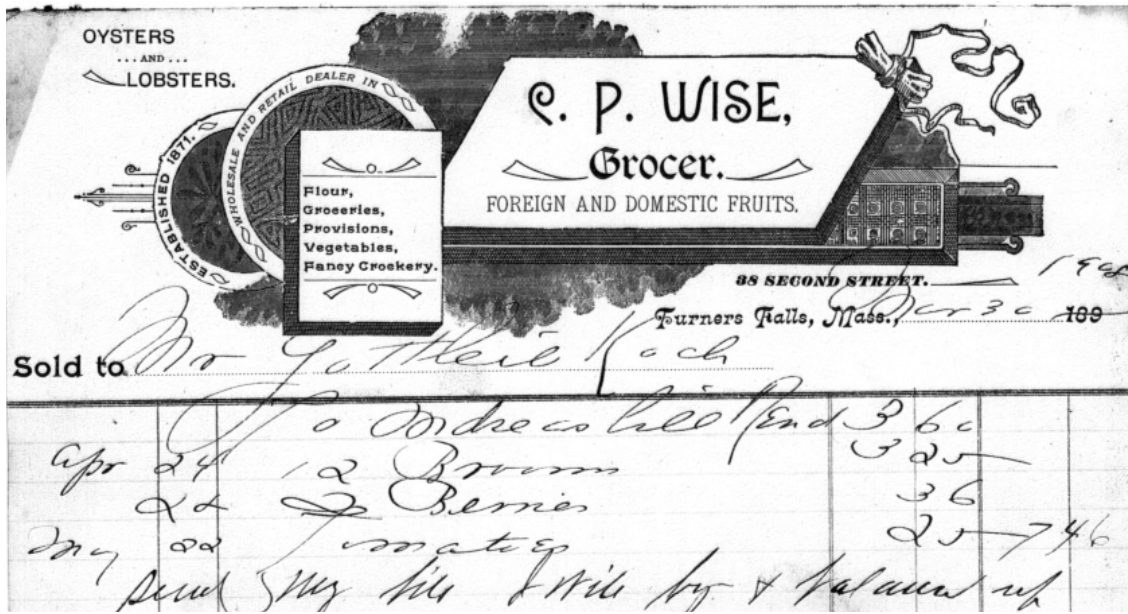
Grocers of Turners Past

BY EDWIN POTTER

TURNERS FALLS - During the first quarter of 1900 there were a number of grocers in Turners Falls. From my collection of old billheads, which I acquired from Eugene Koch some thirty years ago are the following listings.

L.W. Atkins in 1906 was located on Third Street. According to his billhead he handled beef, veal, ham, tripe, and sausage as well as canned goods. Not too many years ago, one could see some of the white letters of his sign on the brick walls of the block across from the Cutlery Block. Oysters were sold at 30 cents a quart; a gallon went for \$1.18.

Also in 1906, Antoni Kleszczwski was located on Third Street in the O'Keefe Block. This invoice heading



Wholesaler C.P. Wise on Second Street sold goods to Gottlieb Koch, as shown by this 1908 bill of sale for brooms, berries, and tomatoes.

informs that he handled tea, coffee, meats, and groceries. Another billhead reads Kleszczwski & Welcome, at 49

Third Street.

Two other grocers were located at 38 Second Street. W.E. Porter reads: Retail Dealer

of Flour, Groceries, Vegetables, Fancy Crockery, Foreign and Domestic Fruits, Oysters and Lobsters. Porter's billhead

reads: "Successor to C.P. Wise," and was dated 1911. Two billheads from the prior firm, C. P. Wise, are dated 1906 and 1908, and indicate that business was established in 1871. One of the invoices lists oranges as being sold at 45 cents a dozen.

On the corner of Eleventh Street and H Street was Shanahan Brothers, handling meats, groceries, and fish, in 1911. They also had a grocery at 166 Main Street in Greenfield.

W.H. Sweeney, in 1911, was a dealer of meats and provisions on Fourth Street in Turners Falls. Gottlieb Koch, a well-known grocer, had a store for over 50 years in Turners Falls. His son Eugene was with him for many of these years, at the store in the yellow brick building on the corner of 5th and Avenue A.

GILL WINE TASTING A SMASH

BY JOE PARZYCH - The Gill Store Wine Tasting, on Thursday, January 12th, drew a crowd of connoisseurs to sample the fruits of the vine. The crowd was congenial and orderly. Owner Alden Booth was on hand to greet people and discuss the store's addition of locally brewed beer and foreign and domestic wines. He did not have to escort anyone to the door. Though one woman, waving her arms a bit too enthusiastically, did knock over a bottle of fine wine. She wishes to remain anonymous, and we will respect her wishes, as her husband is a prominent lawyer, and we do not want him to use his expertise on us as prominent defendants.

The wine tasting at the Gill

Store reminded me of the time my father made some wine out of honey. Cliff Hatch says mead is the proper term for honey wine. The wine my father made was beyond mead.

It all began when he bought some buckwheat honey from another beekeeper.

Buckwheat honey was not desirable back then, and my father got a bargain on it. He figured he would feed it to his bees and they would take away the buckwheat flavor. He ended up tainting his whole hive-full of honey with buckwheat flavor, and couldn't find anyone to buy it. He decided to make the best of the situation by making wine out of the honey. That would at least give him something to drown his sorrow with.

My mother had a lot of fruit preserves that had granulated. She donated quite a number to the cause. The result was a cloudy nectar that made up in potency and smoothness what it lacked in color. For some reason, it did not have any taste of alcohol, and could only be described as ambrosia.

He should have stuck to wine making. His earlier attempts at moonshine and homebrew, during Prohibition, were disastrous. More on these memories as soon as my head clears.



(Left to right) Store owner and brewer of People's Pint beer Alden Booth surveys the scene at the Gill Store wine tasting while Cliff Hatch mulls over the ingredients of a bottle of fine wine. Vicki Van Zee offers Hatch a glass, as Patricia Crosby waits her turn.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Marijuana Found, Turned In

Thursday 1-12

10:00 a.m. Officer helped EMTs at a West High Street address with a medical emergency. Subject transported to hospital.
3:30 p.m. Walk-in to station turned in marijuana that was found. Seized to be destroyed. Owner unknown.
11:30 p.m. 911 hang up call from a Wheelock Street address. Investigated. All was well.

Friday 1-13

2:05 p.m. Report of vehicles parked in roadway on Mountain Road.

Located and moved along.

Saturday 1-14

10:10 a.m. Responded to an alarm sounding at Erving Elementary School. All secure.
11:45 p.m. Report of a car that had skidded off the road into a ditch on Route 2 in the Farley Flats area. AAA sent a tow truck to pull vehicle out of ditch and all three of the uninjured passengers drove to Greenfield. No damage to vehicle noted.

Sunday 1-15

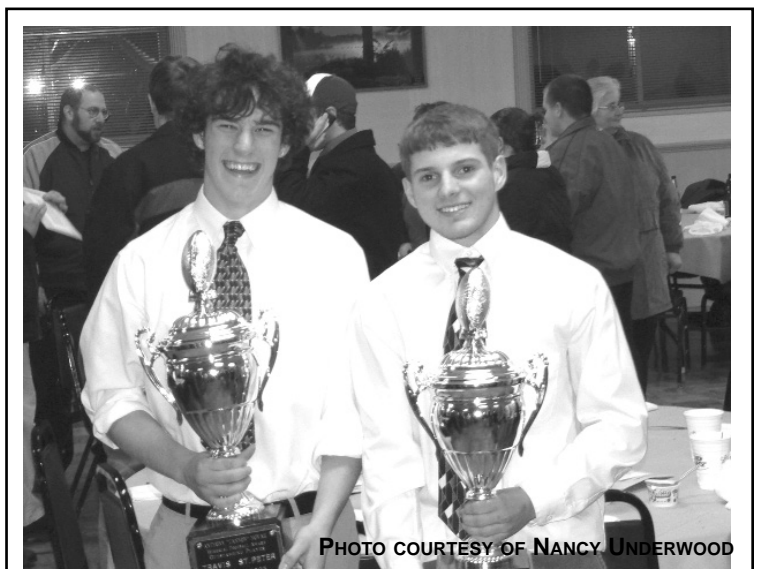
4:45 p.m. Report of a disabled motor vehicle on Route 2, one mile west of papermill. Vehicle moved to Mountain Road. AAA on its way.

Monday 1-16

12:20 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Pratt Street address. Found to be verbal only. Male party transported to Greenfield.

Tuesday 1-17

7:39 p.m. Report of a one car accident at the Boxcar. No further information available.



Football pros Travis St. Peter (left) and Nate Underwood were awarded Cannon Novak Awards on December 12th, 2005 at St. Kazimierz Hall in Turners Falls. This is the 47th Annual award. One award was given for defense (Travis) and one for offense (Nate.) Both boys are seniors at TFHS from Gill.

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Editor

David Detmold

Assistant Editor

Kathleen Litchfield

Editorial Assistants

Nina Bander
Hugh Corr

Circulation

Jean Hebden
Julia Bowden Smith
Philippe Deguise

Layout & Design

Lisa Davol
Boysen Hodgson
Kären Hoyden
Karen Wilkinson
Suzette Snow Cobb

"The Voice of the Villages"

Photography

Lisa Davol
Joe Parzych
Ariel Jones
et al

Technical Administrators

Michael Muller
Michael Farnick

Founded by

Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold
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MLK Day at Vermont Yankee

Eleven area residents celebrated Martin Luther King's birthday in the custody of the Brattleboro police, after being arrested on January 16th in an act of civil disobedience at the headquarters of Entergy Vermont Yankee. The eleven were the third wave of protesters arrested there in as many months, and organizers have vowed to keep returning until Entergy abandons its plan to boost power at the aging nuclear reactor to 120% of original design capacity. The 33-year-old GE Mark 1 boiling water reactor on the banks of the Connecticut River is 12 miles from downtown Turners Falls. The fuel pool on the seventh story of the reactor building, cooled by river water, contains approximately 500 tons of lethally radioactive waste in the form of spent fuel rods. That fuel contains, among other isotopes, 35 million curies of Cesium. The bomb the U.S. dropped on Hiroshima contained just 2,000 curies of Cesium. Cesium, a cancer causing isotope with a radioactive half-life of 110 days, is chemically similar to potassium. If ingested, the body stores cesium in muscle tissue.

Cesium is just one of a toxic pharmacopoeia of radionuclides housed in the reactor core and fuel pool, each of which assault the human body in a different way, some attacking the thyroid, some the bones, some the lungs. These isotopes, chemically similar to iodine, calcium, and other nutrients the human body needs, are released routinely in small amounts during the course of daily operations at the plant.

Vermont Yankee is a deadly neighbor; the heightened levels of

breast and thyroid cancer in counties surrounding the plant are accumulating proof of that. The heightened rates of Strontium-90 in baby teeth near the plant are further evidence.

The pipes in the plant's generating system circulate radioactive water under intense heat and pressure. Metal fatigues over time, especially when in contact with radioactivity.

It is the height of folly to increase pressure on the plant's 33-year-old systems, and decrease the margin of error within which operators can react in the event of an accident. A power uprate at Vermont Yankee would do both those things.

"If the fuel pool at Vermont Yankee ever caught fire, an area the size of New England would be made permanently uninhabitable," said protest organizer Debbie Katz.

With the regulatory process stacked against local residents, who have turned out in the hundreds at public hearings to denounce Entergy's plans, we need the example of a Martin Luther King to inspire us now. When justice is denied, when people's rights are sacrificed on the altar of corporate profit, when the safety of our homes is threatened and government offers no relief, we must act.

"I am here because I have family, children and grandchildren, and I am doing this because I simply don't know what else to do anymore," said Jane Newton, 74, of South Londonderry, VT, one of those arrested. "Entergy's uprate is like a war against our human community."



More than 120 protestors lined the street across from Vermont Yankee headquarters on January 16th, opposing the planned uprate.

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KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

WORD ON THE AVENUE

January is the start of the town's budget season. If you could give one piece of advice to town hall on what needs to be improved in town, what would it be?

COMPILED BY LISA DAVOL

"Something needs to be done about the pick up and drop off at Sheffield school. People let their kids out right in the middle of the street. The parking lot is not great either. The whole thing needs to be re-designed."

- Chris Boyle of Turners Falls



"Find alternatives to any toxic waste dumps! Just because we are a poor community doesn't mean we should have to put up with toxic dumps."

-Christine Bates and daughter Kiwi Carlton from Turners Falls

"I almost lost my car on Turners Falls Road earlier today. Most sections of roadway are OK, but some of them are terrible."

- Mark Desreuisseau of Gill



"This road, Avenue A, is full of pot holes."

- Melanie Demers of Turners Falls

"They somehow found money to build a bike path but couldn't afford to fix up the skate park. Kids are lost today."

-Tom Smith of Greenfield

no photo available

American Dead in Iraq as of 1/18/06

US FORCES
Casualties in Iraq
as of this date

2,219

Afghanistan 2,56

Wounded in Action 17,097

Marine Corps League

Winter Birds at Discovery Center

Saturday, January 21st, 1-2 p.m. - Introduction to Winter Birds. Learn from Sue Cloutier about the birds that brave the winter weather, and where some of our summer residents are now. Discover key features of 15 common winter birds and how to invite them into your yard. Open to all ages.

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

Register now for "On the Trail with the Fisher Cat," February 2nd and "Tracking Fishers and Other Woodland Predators" on February 4th, led by tracker-naturalist David Brown. Call Northfield Mountain: 413-659-4461. See www.greatfalls-ma.org for more info.

Spaghetti Supper

Saturday, Jan 21st served continuously 5 - 7 pm. Montague Congregational Church. Proceeds will benefit Brianna White. She is a senior at Franklin Tech, Culinary Arts program who is taking part in the People to People program this summer. For reservations or more info call: 367-0041

We welcome your letters.
The Montague Reporter

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Bishop McDonnell Blesses Our Lady of Peace

BY DAVID DETMOLD

TURNERS FALLS - The snow was falling fast, and the streets were covered with ice, but every pew was filled at the dedication of Our Lady of Peace on Sunday, January 15th. Bishop Timothy McDonnell was the main celebrant as the parishes of St. Mary, St. Anne, and Sacred Heart were enfolded into one new parish. Pastor Stanley Aksamit, and the Reverends John Bonzagni, Christopher Connelly, James Diemand, and Albert Routhier assisted the bishop. The new parish will worship in the church formerly known as St. Mary's, on the corner of 7th and L in Turners Falls.



DETMOLD PHOTO

Bishop McDonnell blesses the sacramental wine at the inaugural mass at the new Our Lady of Peace Church.

With fourteen tall candles burning along the main aisle, echoing the fourteen sculpted bas-reliefs of the Stations of the Cross mounted on the walls of the nave, the church was filled with light. Like the robe of St. Mary, the main motif of the walls and pillars of the church was blue with gold trim, a color scheme in which Montague residents could immediately feel at home. Blue also predominated in the stained glass windows, including the three large ones above the main altar, where the suffering, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus were depicted.

A combined choir from the three former parishes filled the hall with hymns, some sung in French and Polish, honoring the ethnic backgrounds of the original parishioners of St. Anne's and Sacred Heart. The new con-

gregation stood as one to sing "All Are Welcome" as their bishop, wearing a crimson zucchetto and carrying his crozier, symbol of his rank as shepherd of the diocesan flock, entered with his attendant priests.

In his right hand, Bishop McDonnell carried a lit censer, with which he blessed the altar and the assembled statuary from the former churches, including a statue of St. Anne with her child Mary standing in front of her, and one of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The opening hymn ended with the repeated refrain, "All Are Welcome in this Place."

The bishop addressed the parishioners. "Peace be with you," he told them. "Our Lady

of Peace be with you." With a nod toward the weather, he quipped, "Perhaps we should have called it, 'Our Lady of Snow.' What a wonderful day this is," he continued, representing the culmination of "so much work by so many people, so much talk, so much effort for so many years."

According to published reports, the parishes of St. Mary's, St. Anne's and Sacred Heart were joined by necessity, due to a decline in attendance and the high cost of maintaining church buildings. But the bishop put the best face on things, reminding the congregation, "People have come together in the past to form parishes just as

you have come together to form this one. I congratulate you." He proceeded to bless every corner of the church and the congregation itself with holy water sprinkled from a brass aspergillum.

The Church's holiday season ended with the Feast of the Epiphany on January 8th, so the first mass at Our Lady of Peace emphasized a "rededication of the church," appropriately enough, "and the congregants' baptismal responsibility in terms of living their faith," according to Father Aksamit. Among the areas of the church building the bishop sprinkled with holy water were the doors themselves, which Aksamit said, "Highlighted the role of

the doors. Through the doors we welcome people, symbolic of opening our hearts and space to be hospitable to one another and create a new community."

Bishop McDonnell emphasized, "People are the church. The building is simply the shell in which people are brought together with God." He invoked God to "Lead us as we become a new community of your faithful people." And, reading from a breviary held in front of him by a young altar boy, McDonnell prayed, "Loving God, by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus your son, you bring together people of all nations to

See **BISHOP**
Page 6

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BROKER

BISHOP
continued from page 5

be as one."

Robert Lapinski gave the first reading, from *Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-16*. "For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice."

Alana Martineau sang a plaintive rendition of "the Lord is My Shepherd, I Shall not Want." As she sang, one of the altar boys gazed up at the Bishop's crozier, with which he had been entrusted, and turned it this way and that.

Bernadette Wyman read from *Ephesians 2: 19-22*. "So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

The bishop refilled the censer, and the scent of burning incense filled the building, as Deacon of the Mass Albert Routhier gave the gospel reading from *John 14: 23, 24, 27*. "Jesus answered and said to him, 'Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my



Alana Martineau sings a rendition of "the Lord is my shepherd" (above) while altar boy Brian Scranton (below) holds the bishop's staff.

words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be trou-

bled or afraid." them, but they are about to begin a new life together." He spoke of the "pilgrim journey of our lives as Catholics," and the importance of carrying their faith before them, wherever they may go.



DETMOLD PHOTOS

bled or afraid."

Then the bishop gave the homily, and he spoke of the dedication of the united parish by comparing it to a wedding, "a celebration of people coming together. When a couple comes before the altar and pledges their vows... their whole past brings them to their wedding day. Their pasts are still with

and share the Eucharist. They were God's people because of the Eucharist, in their unity with the apostles and with their representatives, the bishops," McDonnell said.

"Because each church was the local house of God, each community put their best effort into the building of the house of God. Isn't that the case with

each of the churches now made one? Sacred Heart, the little church with the big heart, founded in 1912 to minister to the Polish and Polish Americans. It was a pilgrim church founded by people willing to travel far across the sea to find a new life, but always carrying the faith with them. Saint Anne, founded in 1884 by Quebecois who traveled here, seeking work in the mills... But French gave way to English, and the mills closed, and the young left to find work elsewhere, but still the church remained a vibrant part of a smaller community, a constant reminder of their faith.

"In 1872, St. Mary of the Assumption was founded, one of the earliest parishes in the then new diocese of Springfield. But it is only a building. It takes its life from what goes on within and without its walls.

"You worship together. You

pray together. You take care of one another. You are strengthened by God's grace as you gather for Mass. Take God's love outside these walls to proclaim the wonder of God's love in your everyday world... Coming together, you have the ability to multiply the best of what has been in the three parishes."

The bishop concluded his homily by commending the parishioners thoughts to, "Celebrate people yet unborn, who because of the pilgrim path you are willing to tread will share the benefits of the rich history you bring to this new commitment. O Lord, make us one. Our Lady of Peace, pray for us."

Then, at the 110-year old altar of St. Mary's, lit by the candles from St. Anne's, with the bas relief of the Last Supper from Sacred Heart taking pride

continued next page

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BISHOP
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of place in front, the bishop blessed the sacramental wine and bread and invited the parishioners to join the first supper at their new church.

"I was pleased to see all the people there, in spite of the weather," said Father Aksamit after the mass. "There were people from all three parishes there, some who up until that point I didn't know whether they were going to come with us or seek another place of worship. Many people said there was a good spirit there. I ask myself, 'What do we have to do to keep the momentum going forward?'"

The process of enfolded the three parishes took thirteen years of planning, Aksamit said, and did not come about without pain and acrimony. "Now, you are inviting these initially separate communities to continue their journey in a new way. Hospitality is important, and we have to be patient with each other, and forgive each other for the mistakes along the way."

Aksamit said St. Anne's wheelchair accessible hall will continue to be used for community meals and AA meetings, while the finance committee of Our Lady of Peace determines the best way to make their basement hall accessible. He said the building committee was exploring the possibility of moving at least one of St. Anne's bells to the spire of Our Lady of Peace. As for the fate of the two church buildings no longer in use, "it will be up to the bishop to decide what to do with them."

"The main reason we came together as one parish was to be able to focus on our mission more effectively, to be able to put our energy into programs of outreach, service, and education, to reach out to people who have drifted away, and people who have never been part of our church, to youth and families."

After communion, the assembled sang a hymn written for the day by

Priscilla Yankowski, called "Our Lady of Peace," and the bishop praised the congregation for having a talented composer in their midst. Then Father Aksamit introduced poet Paul Mariani, who read a poem of the same title, which elicited a round of applause led by the bishop himself.

In his closing thoughts, Father Aksamit said, "We are not just three parishes becoming one. When you bring people together, we are more than the sum of our parts. We have a lot of work to do. Our task is to become the dynamic church of God, focusing on the real needs of families, youth, and adults... Who would have thought we would be here today, founding a new church? We are now founders and pioneers." He thanked all the groups and individuals who made this day possible. He urged the congregation to take the mission statement home with them, read it over, and "thank God for the dreams and challenges it contains. Read it and become a new parish."

When the doors were flung open and the people began to file out, a miracle had occurred. The snow had stopped, the clouds had lifted, and the highway department had plowed the streets, making plain the way for each to follow.

Mission Statement of Our Lady of Peace

We, the parish community of Our Lady of Peace, are descendants of various ethnic orientations and proud traditions. We are a Catholic community united in keeping our faith alive and growing. We nurture this faith by being committed to the Eucharist, prayer, family, social justice, education and service. We hope enthusiastically to reflect the life of Jesus by following his teachings of love and peace, by living the gospel values, seeking to be inclusive of all, and striving to become a community of diminishing strangers.



DETMOLD PHOTOS

Young and old traveled through the snow to the dedication of the new church

Our Lady of Peace

On the occasion of our three dear churches enfolded into One January 15, 2006

From French Canada they came, and the Polish shires, Sharing the rails west from Fitchburg along which the Irish Toiled. Tall trees by the thousands felled, then sent swirling Down the river & the falls, year in, year out, and sterling Silver knives the Germans forged on those old assembly lines. And the paper mills along the cold canal, which time resigns To memory now, amid the red brick buildings standing still Along the avenues and grid of streets, and up along the hill Above the river, and those granite walls along the railroad track. St. Patrick's & the old French nuns and summer polkas....Oh back, Lord, bring back the sweet memories of the Faith that bound Us all together, each gold thread, woof and warp around And through the fabric of our daily journeys here In the very place we all together shaped. With all our care, We thought things would never change, though the river changes And -yes- we change with it.

But isn't it the Spirit Who arranges In the end? And so this space, named for a mother who keeps Within her deepest self a son, her gift to us, so that the heart leaps At the constancy of it, at what remains at the very core of Who We keep coming back to...and why, in spite of everything we do. Lady of Peace, remembering your own sweet mother & your Son, Come this day and renew us all again, your many here as one.

Paul Mariani

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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Electric Poles and Electric Votes

BY JOSH HEINEMANN

The Wendell selectboard began its January 11th meeting with a pole hearing for a site on Farley Road. Richard Nalewski from the national grid said that Adrian Montagano wanted electric service to his structure, and that in order to counter the pull of the new wire, a pole was needed across the street guyed to the existing pole, and in turn guyed to a ground anchor. The reasonable place for both the pole and the anchor would be on the property of Chris Neill. Neill objected because the pole would worsen the already limited visibility from the end of his driveway, and he was supported in his concern by neighbors and abutters Rosie Heidekamp, Zenia Wild, and Sally Alley Muffin Stiffin. Neill wondered if any other options had been considered, and Nalewski listed some, and gave reasons why they were unsuitable.

Underground service to his building had been rejected by Montagano as too expensive. Ordinarily a push pole could brace the existing pole (#55) but a push brace would not work because pole #55 has a transformer as well as the service to Heidekamp's house, both of which make a push brace unworkable. Wild suggested the transformer could be moved back one pole, but Nalewski said that would also be expensive, although he did not have the figure, and the cost would have to be borne by Montagano. That would not change the service to Heidekamp which would still make a push pole unworkable. Neill suggested a second pole next to #55 guyed to it and braced by a push pole, but Nalewski said he had never seen it, and it would be too ugly and cost more for the extra pole.

Heidekamp asked if the neighborhood could pay for the extra cost of underground service, if they knew what it was, but Nalewski did not have that figure. She suggested a two week recess so the neighbors could find out what different options cost, and try to work something out. Selectwoman Christine Heard said, "That makes as much sense as anything else," and the board continued the hearing to 7:00 p.m. on January 25th.

Pierce Salvage Yard License

The selectboard then opened a continuation of the hearing for the renewal of Robin Pierce's class III automobile salvage license, and the transfer of that license to John Germaine of Boylston. Neither Pierce nor Germaine attended, but two neighbors, Dave Ewell, and Keith Washburn, were there. Washburn said back taxes were the issue, and the whole thing hinges on Pierce keeping his promise to pay them. Town

coordinator Nancy Aldrich said Pierce had come in to learn the amount he owed the town for his Stone Road property, but had not paid it yet, and select board member Dan Keller said Pierce has until January 31st to pay one year of taxes and prevent a lien from being placed on his property. Pierce is three years in arrears. If tax bills come out before the 31st, he will have 30 days before he must pay another year's taxes to avoid a lien.

Washburn said, "I have to use whatever means I have to stop the sale of this junkyard," and asked why the board had been so accommodating to Pierce. Selectboard chair Ted Lewis answered that Pierce has had his license for years, has complied with town rules and has paid his taxes for so many years that, "I was surprised to learn he was behind."

The board recessed the hearing on Pierce's license until January 25th.

While the selectboard was conducting this second hearing, Montagano's neighbors continued talking with Nalewski in the

hall outside the office rooms about the location of the utility pole, trying to find a solution satisfactory to all. In the morning Nalewski called with a workable plan. The electric company had been planning to install a wire to Montagano's building capable of conducting the load to another building beyond that, the home of Zenia Wild. She took back her request for service, choosing to continue relying on solar power, and with the only building needing service being that of Montagano, the wire going there could be smaller and lighter, and pole # 55 would not need to be guyed.

Wendell Declines Alcohol Sting

Police Chief Ed Chase met the board next to discuss a letter sent to Franklin County towns by the Greenfield police chief regarding liquor law compliance checks. Chase's opinion was that he did not see Wendell needing these checks, at least not until there had been a complaint.

Keller said his concern was the whole sting-like feel of the

proposal (which would have police staying outside while an underage person enters an establishment and tries to buy alcohol) especially since there have been no complaints, and for Wendell the operation seemed a waste of a limited police budget. The board voted unanimously to turn down the proposal.

New Salem or Bust

Aldrich read from the recent FRCOG traffic count showing that 82% of the vehicles passing the site of the proposed new office building on Morse Village Road were speeding. Lewis suggested lowering the speed limit there when construction starts; Chase suggested starting that process now. Lewis said the state required a live person to do a count of traffic for a number of days as part of a request for a speed limit change, and he asked Chase to talk with road commissioner Harry Williston to find out how many days and hours of monitoring were required per day. Heard reminded the board the Scutaris had asked for a lower

speed limit at the Country Store, and that maybe both counts could be done at the same time, with community policing money being used for the counts.

Aldrich reported that Jim Toth of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) and engineer Bob Leet had looked at the Depot Road Bridge over Kempfield Brook and recommended replacing the two rusted outside beams, which would cost less than \$10,000, rather than widening the bridge, which would be much more expensive.

Town accountant Janet Swem still needs figures from fiscal 2005. She said the delay is making her job difficult, and is postponing a required audit.

The Board appointed Jay Blackbird temporary electrical inspector.

The Swift River School capital improvements committee has some money left in its budget and wants approval to replace a window at a cost of \$1,500, and to do repairs to the

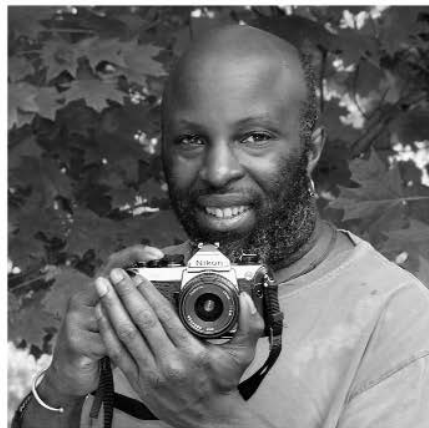
See **WENDELL**
continued page 13



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the poetry page

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

- William Carlos Williams

Maine Lobster

Crustacean bottom dwellers,
You feed off detritus,
Discards of a ruthless sea.

Heirs of Maine coastal waters
Days past, now numbered,
Soon legends for posterity.

Antennae survey the ocean floor
To find an untilled bounty-
but even the sea can be emptied.

Soft innards, betrayed by marble eyes,
Protruding from an armor shell,
Hard from a Yankee ancestry.

What will I tell my children of you?
How do I explain, in you and
namesake fishermen, the similarity?

--Raymond DiDonato
Wendell

Themes and Variations
for Eric Malone

Something keeps sneaking in
between the clarinet and the guitar
In the corner of my eye a blur, a streak,
something red. In the corner of my ear
scurries, little feet, paws, antlers rubbing
against the wall, perhaps a tail dragging
across the floor. And that
shrill wail? It's certainly not an
accordion, not a violin.
Could it be an organ grinder
with a trained monkey?

Something keeps sneaking in
underneath the clarinet.
I think it's hiding
in the canebrake
or just beyond. But I more than sense,
in that non-sense
sense, in the downward sweep,
the upward plunge,
the tintabulant tin tin tin
at the OK chorale
a hurricane stalking the reeds.

Something keeps sneaking in
between the radio and the clarinet.
It has bison horns
and cloven feet and
huge black eyes
and ears that waggle
in the prairie wind.
It refuses to announce itself,
just stands there, arms akimbo,
as if to say my presence
is your absence.

Something keeps sneaking in
encircling the sampler and the clarinet.
Which is the way it is these days
as the dark grows longer
than Pinocchio's nose

Readers are invited to send poems to the Montague Reporter at 24 3rd Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376; or reporter-poems@montaguema.net
Poetry Page edited by Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno & Chris Janke
designed by Boysen Hodgson

Full Moon at Year's End

for Michael and Isabel
3:30 a.m.
1 January, 1999

To offer for example
a ray of light,
beechnut
from the long gathering
and for the third term--
a staple--cotton
and joy of clementines
from Spain

To hang recipient
in a picket fence
surround of seconds
Here the altar
Here the wine

To offer up once more
the passage crossed
to scrutiny, to saying
its cost
and what abides
delicate and able--a light
to meet
what coming dark

Recipient of grace
Recipient of time
Recipient of love, lark
that sings
in an always spring

--Patricia Pruitt
Turners Falls

I Flip You

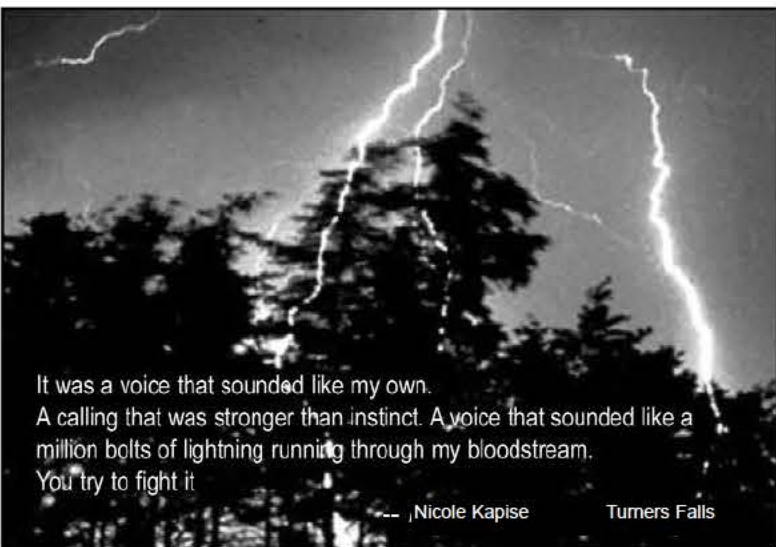
I flip you
Neat package, tucked flesh
Twirl you
Into my sweet tap cut of love
Flicking off the chips with my tongue
Standardized, fulfillment

--Nina Bander
Turners Falls

compression

Seeking the cage in which my voice can
singOUT
Maybe like some saltandpepper swishcan
Some doublewalled ketchup squishbottle
Some badmarriage squeezebed
Some nice man boringden
Some home alone badgirl dingup drug
Seeking structure to bring me wantout
Got the twig fence, break stick, scream heel dance
Got the howldrunk poem grunt tattoo whirl skirt
Gonna follow penny bright hom blasts going
Gonna be headbang and rustshins
Gonna turn the junklock and pick the breeze
Gonna hover with the antlers, the chandeliers,
Be all doublehung and tyvek
Be all hemtight and squeeze out
Be all corseted and Xeroxed,
Swaddled and ballpeened:
Gonna be that shapedform
That space between / form
That language becoming
That art, this.

--Nina Bander
Turners Falls



It was a voice that sounded like my own.
A calling that was stronger than instinct. A voice that sounded like a
million bolts of lightning running through my bloodstream.
You try to fight it

-- Nicole Kapise Turners Falls

Thanks to all who submitted poetry for this issue. We welcome new submissions every month. The Poetry Page will return in February.

Nicole Kapise is a Turners Falls resident. She works for Sheffield School, writes for the Montague Reporter, and is working on her first novel.

Patricia Pruitt is the author of several poetry chapbooks and member of the Montague Select Board.

Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno is a poet, painter and biographer. He edits, along with Christopher Janke, this poetry page.

Patrick Doud is a poet and fantasist. He lives in Gloucester. This poem is an extract from his book-length poem, Bomb.

Kathryn Flagg, a 60-year resident of Millers Falls, now resides with her son and family in Allendale, New Jersey.

Turners Falls, where Nina Bander has lived since 1987, is often the subject of her work in art and poetry.

Raymond DiDonato resides in Wendell with his wife and children.

CONTRIBUTOR'S NOTES:

the poetry page

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LAKE GROVE
continued from page 1

There is our liability. There are our property values. And there is the consideration of the rural character of our town. Is this the sort of thing we would sit down and plan for our town if it was up to us? It's already a huge school, with problems keeping the students safe on campus, and working well with us as a community."

But executive director Roland Paulauskas assured the planning board that the therapeutic program would make the students easier for his staff to work with, by providing them with animals to work with and assume responsibility for. The school does not plan to expand the student population as a result of the new program, Paulauskas said. The farm program is dependent on the school receiving grant funding to pay for the expansion.

"I absolutely understand your concerns," Paulauskas told the nine residents at the hearing. "I also choose to live in Wendell, with my wife and three-year-old son. [At Lake Grove] we deal with emotionally disturbed kids. I know incidents happen. I am concerned about your emotional well being." He suggested setting up an advisory board to meet quarterly - or as needed - to

improve lines of communication between the school, the town, and the neighbors, and proposed holding regular open houses at the school, for people to familiarize themselves with the staff and the program.

Richard Mackey said, "I didn't move here to join an advisory board on a child prison. I haven't heard anything about policing. You call the police chief and he's too tired to come out. Are you supposed to get guns and stand on the edge of your property?"

Joel Sears spoke of numerous incidents where Lake Grove students had been spotted off campus, sometimes on the property he and his wife Wanita own, abutting the school's planned expansion. He said he believed the staff were inadequately trained to control the students, and questioned whether the expansion of the school's program would make it more difficult for staff to keep track of the students.

Paulauskas said the animal program would be available to only "the more trusted kids," and the privilege to work with the animals would be revoked if the kids violated that trust or went AWOL. He said his staff was mandated by the state Department of Education to maintain a 1 to 4 ratio with the students during waking hours, 1

to 6 at night. All staff undergo 60 hours of training when they come to work at the school, plus frequent updates in crisis intervention and methods of controlling the behavior of what he admitted was a "difficult population" of students.

Mackey said he frequently heard students using loud obscenities outdoors near his property, and wondered whether the staff was trained to control this type of behavior. Paulauskas assured him profanity was against the rules of the school.

John Koehler asked if any additional staff would be hired or additional security measures taken to monitor the expanded perimeter of the school's property, which he estimated would increase by more than 30 percent with the added farm acreage. Paulauskas said the school had 27 videocameras in operation 24 hours a day inside and outside their buildings, and would add some on the barn once it is built to monitor activity there. No new staff is to be hired, but the same 1 to 4 ratio would be maintained for students using the farm program.

Lake Grove intends to build a 32 by 64 foot barn, along with a greenhouse, and various maintenance and storage buildings as part of their expansion. A proposed soccer field under the

power lines has been put on hold, for now, but a planned skate park behind the existing administration building is still part of the proposal. An existing house on the new property will be renovated, to be used for offices on the first floor, and housing for a full-time caretaker on the second floor. The school plans to have two potbellied pigs, two goats, two dozen pigeons, two cockatiels, two rabbits, two dozen chickens, a Jersey cow, and up to eight dogs, which he promised would be of a variety that did not bark.

"We won't have big dogs," he said. "We want them for therapeutic purposes so kids can pet them and play with them."

Planning board chair Deirdre Cabral thanked Paulauskas for opening his proposal up to comment and review beyond what state regulation requires for a non-profit educational institution like Lake Grove. Since much of Lake Grove's regulation takes place at the state level, local authorities like Wendell's planning board would otherwise be limited to review of setback requirements, building height, and the like. Cabral assured residents their concerns had been heard, and would be considered when the board set conditions for the proposed expansion. She noted she herself had experi-

enced an AWOL student from Lake Grove on her property in the past. But she said her board would take only reasonable action, consistent with state law, in reviewing the proposal, and setting conditions for the expansion.

Abutter Marty Arsenault said she thought the therapeutic animal program would be "a wonderful thing" for the students. "I know the benefits of working with animals." Her husband Dave said they had experienced no incidents with Lake Grove students in nine years. The Arsenaults made a number of suggestions regarding screening the expansion from neighbors, which Paulauskas and another official from Lake Grove, Clifford Gelinas, promised to consider. Gelinas said no more trees would be cut down during construction of the barn, and evergreens would be planted along certain parts of the perimeter. Construction would take place from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekdays, and the farm program would only be in use during those times, Paulauskas promised.

The hearing was continued until February 7th at 7 p.m., for purposes of review of final documents from Lake Grove, and to provide the Wendell police or the state police a chance for comment.



AIRPORT
continued from page 1

selectboard, airport manager Michael Sweeney outlined the work required to modernize the facility, including a new runway and taxiway, removal of aviation obstructions and the updating of runway lighting and navigation aids. In addition, Sweeney called for the runway to be extended from the current 3000 feet to 4200 feet to meet Federal Aviation Administration standards for an airport in this class.

The cost of the new, expanded runway is estimated at seven million dollars, which would be spent over two years. Of that, the FAA, through the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission would provide \$6,825,000 and \$175,000 would be paid for by the town of Montague.

The subject of expanding the runway has not met with widespread approval at public hearings in the past. And for years the airport commission has requested funding from town meeting for studies to examine the presence of endangered species and Native American archaeological

sites on airport land. At those meetings, town meeting members say, assurances have been given that the purpose of such studies was not to pave the way for extending the runway.

But two months ago, while preparing a study outlining improvements to the facility, the airport commission discovered that the length of the present runway did not meet federal standards. Now, the sudden imperative to extend the runway has angered some community members who feel deceived and has led others to question whether they can trust the commission members' word.

"We just stumbled on the regulation. Words like 'deceived' and 'lied' are prominent. We didn't know, and we're not lying or deceiving," said commission member Mark Fairbrother.

According to Sweeney, the federal standard was in at least two previous airport master plan documents. But, "we didn't appreciate the significance of it. Our understanding of it is new," Sweeney said.

"We need an independent assessment," said Mike

Naughton, of the capital improvements committee. "This expansion just dumped in our lap at the last minute leads us to question the assumptions tonight's presentation is based on. We just can't accept what we're hearing anymore," he added.

Although the airport commission has not received an official letter from the FAA on the matter, Sweeney and the commissioners are concerned that funding for the project could be delayed or lost if not applied for within the next few months. The deadline for the current cycle of funding is October 1st.

According to Sweeney, Turners Falls airport traffic is estimated to increase by 17% by the year 2010. Although the new runway could attract small jets, he anticipates these would account for no more than 1% of local air traffic. The facility, limited to planes 12,500 lbs. or less at present, would not see a visible change in the types of aircraft using the runway. In addition, said Sweeney, the extension would result in a slight decrease in noise over Turners Falls and

would have no impact on noise levels over Millers Falls. "It would remove a significant capital improvements need for many years," he added.

It is estimated that 175,000 cubic yards of soil will have to be moved if the runway extension is built. Scrub oak and pine will

have to be cut down and replaced with grasses. This will provide grassland habitat for endangered species such as moths, butterflies and birds. There are also three or four Native American archaeological sites in the area, which

continued on page 13

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GILL POLICE LOG

Car vs Deer

Thursday 1-12
11:01 p.m. Assisted Erving police with 911 hang-up call.

Friday 1-13
11:40 a.m. Assisted with disabled tractor trailer unit at French King Bridge.

5:20 p.m. Assisted Montague police with motor vehicle accident, traffic control.

Saturday 1-14
5:32 p.m. Report of a possible despondent subject on Walnut Street.

Sunday 1-15
3:02 p.m. Assisted Bernardston

police with motor vehicle accident Route 10 at Route 142.

Monday 1-16
8:55 p.m. Responded to a dog attack at corner of Myrtle and Oak Street.

Tuesday 1-17
12:35 p.m. Report of suspicious person on West Gill Road, all OK.
2:40 p.m. Purse stolen from Greenfield located on French King Highway, returned to owner.
5:40 p.m. Car vs. deer accident on Route 2 near Pisgah Mountain Road, no personal injury. Report taken.


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Simpson, however, is dubious of Sweeney's financial projection for revenues from the hangars. He says that under the current approach to management and client relations, it is difficult to imagine a developer willing to risk his or her own investment. In addition, leases are now expensive at the Turners Falls Airport and limit the ability of an owner to pay all the associated costs such as a mortgage and insurance.

"There are options, we've been told," said Fairbrother. One is to not lengthen the runway. In that case, he said, the FAA would abandon the facility and the town would be left paying the price. Another option is to close the airport. But that, he said, is not realistic for monetary reasons due at least in part to the FAA's investment over thirty years. The town might have to compensate the FAA before it could close the airport, Fairbrother said.

The proposal before the town, its various committees and the selectboard is to improve the airport by upgrading safety standards in addition to extending the runway by 1200 feet. In the meantime, selectboard chairman Allen Ross said, "We need more hard information. A lot of questions need to be explored."

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Should Seniors Get Tested for AIDS?

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ-Q. *I'm a 65-year-old man who is dating a 58-year-old woman. Recently, my grandson, who is rather outspoken, asked me if I was protecting myself against AIDS. At the time, I thought the question was ridiculous, but now I'm wondering.*

A growing number of older people have HIV/AIDS. About 19 percent of all people with HIV/AIDS in this country now are over age 50. New AIDS cases rose faster in the over-50 population than in people under 40.

Since the early 80s, HIV in people over 50 accounted for about 10 percent of all cases. However, the method of transmission has changed.

Blood transfusion was once the major transmission mode. Now, heterosexual contact and IV drug use are the main causes of HIV infection in seniors.

Heterosexual transmission in men over 50 is up 94 percent, and 107 percent in women since 1991. But there may even be many more cases, because doctors do not always test older people for HIV/AIDS during routine exams, and older people often mistake signs of HIV/AIDS for the aches of normal aging, so they don't get medical attention.

The number of HIV/AIDS cases among older people is growing every year because older Americans know less about HIV/AIDS than younger people. Healthcare professionals often do not talk with older people about prevention; older people are less likely than younger people to talk about their sex lives or drug use with their doctors.

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that damages the immune system. This makes you vulnerable to dis-



ILLUSTRATION JESSICA HARMON

eases, infections, and cancers. When that happens, you have AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), which is the last stage of HIV infection.

HIV symptoms include headache, cough, diarrhea, swollen glands, lack of energy, loss of appetite and weight loss, fevers and sweats, repeated

yeast infections, skin rashes, pelvic and abdominal cramps, sores and short-term memory loss.

Your health care provider can test your blood for HIV/AIDS. You can also test your blood at home with the "Home Access Express HIV-1 Test System" that you can buy at your drug store. It is the only HIV home test system approved by the Food and Drug Administration and sold legally in the United States.

Anyone can get HIV and AIDS. HIV usually comes from having unprotected sex or sharing needles with an infected person, or through contact with HIV-infected blood.

You can not get HIV from casual contact such as shaking hands with someone who has HIV/AIDS; using a public telephone, drinking fountain, restroom, swimming pool, hot tub; sharing a drink; being coughed

or sneezed on by a person with HIV/AIDS; giving blood, or from a mosquito bite.

You may be at risk if you do not use condoms, you do not know your partner's drug and sexual history, you have had a blood transfusion or operation in a developing country, or if you had a blood transfusion in the United States between 1978 and 1985.

There is no cure for HIV/AIDS. But if you become infected, there are drugs that help keep the HIV virus in check and slow the spread of HIV in the body. Doctors are now using a combination of drugs called HAART (highly active antiretroviral therapy) to treat HIV/AIDS. Although it is not a cure, HAART is greatly reducing the number of deaths from AIDS in this country.

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

ESLEECK

continued from pg 1

little to expand the company's product lines. Esleeck is attractive to Southworth due to its modern, high-tech computerized machinery and skilled workforce.

"Both companies have different manufacturing capabilities," said Southworth. His company plans on keeping the machinery in its current location. "The cost of moving it would be prohibitive," he said. "We will put some of our product in their machines," he added. At present, Southworth plans on operating the plant five or six days a week, although a seven day a week operation is not out of the question. Financial and administrative operations will be transferred to the new owner.

"We will substantively keep most of the 90 or so employees. We need to evaluate the number of positions needed," said Southworth. Most of the production people will remain, he added. However the decision as to which positions will be retained has not yet been made. Charles Blanker, the current president of Esleeck, will stay on in some as yet undetermined capacity, while his father William Blanker, the company

chairman, who has worked there since 1949, will help in the transition.

The Blankers and Southworth have known one another for years. Both owners of small, independent paper manufacturing firms in the Pioneer Valley, they began discussing the acquisition a few months ago, according to Southworth. While both companies produce similar products, Southworth has thrived by focusing its distribution through large retail chains like Staples. For its part, EMCo, according to some employees interviewed on condition of confidentiality, has not made enough of an effort to modernize its marketing strategies. In addition, they point out, Southworth's website is vibrant, while EMCo's remains basic and unattractive in a world where technology plays an increasing role in marketing.

"There was the very real possibility Esleeck might not have operated," said Southworth, referring to that company's financial difficulties. Only recently the Blankers had appeared before the selectboard to urge for an abatement of sewage fees, warning the plant might close if rate relief were not granted. In addition, the company faced the challenge of

higher operating expenses due to steep increases in energy costs.

In August 2000, the paper mill in Millers Falls owned by International Paper closed its doors, preceded in January of 1995 by the closing of Strathmore Paper. That mill, also owned by International Paper, was cleaned out, its machinery hauled away and its employees left on the unemployment line. Meanwhile the Strathmore site has still not been reoccupied, although the town recently examined with the idea of purchasing it to clear the way for private redevelopment.

"Everything we made we put back into the mill," said William Blanker. "We had ample opportunity to sell to someone else and to close the mill," he said. He pointed to the number of paper mills that have closed regionally and nationally in recent years. "In the past four years alone, one hundred mills have closed," he added. "We recognized something needed to be done. We have known Southworth for years. They believe in treating employees well. Southworth will decide what to do with the employees," he added.

"It leaves us out in the cold. There aren't enough jobs out

there," said one employee who was not thrilled at the uncertainty brought on by the acquisition. According to the employee, EMCo has not made a profit for the past five or six years partly due to a failure to modernize the administrative sector of the company, which resulted in lost revenues. In the past year, the plant has not operated on a number of Fridays, which resulted in hourly employees losing pay. Signs of impending financial difficulties became apparent to the staff this past summer when workers were asked not to do any more maintenance work than absolutely necessary.

In addition to the potential loss of jobs and changes in the tax base, of concern to the town is the impact an eventual closing or slow-down at EMCo could have on the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF). According to Robert Trombley, superintendent of the facility, EMCo accounts for 15 to 20 percent of the WPCF's annual revenue, or \$200,000. If the new owner were to eventually close the plant, that would cause a commensurate rise in sewer rates for the remaining users. Due to recently approved rate increases to pay for mandated upgrades to the plant and the town's sewage system, users

could find themselves feeling the heat. "When Strathmore Paper closed in 1999, the town had a rate shock," he said.

"Paper fiber is a good settling agent," Trombley explained. A change in the mix at the plant would result in less liquid being absorbed and thus a greater volume to handle. EMCo is currently responsible for 33% of the suspended solids. "If they change paper type, the content will change." He said he hopes the plant continues to operate, but wondered whether the operating schedule would differ. In the meantime, he added, he did not believe sewage rates for 2006 would have to be revisited.

Southworth is upbeat about his future working relationship with the town of Montague. "We are a financially stable company coming in to pay tax and sewer," he said. "We look forward to working cooperatively with Montague as a good corporate citizen," he added.

"I am glad the plant was sold to someone in the industry, to keep jobs here. They've been an anchor on the island," said selectboard member Patricia Pruitt.



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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

MLS

AIRPORT
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Sweeney said the commission has been working with the Narragansett Indian tribe on. "We will do all we can to not impact the sites," he said.

Another goal of airport modernization and expansion is to construct new hangars in which to store aircraft. There are currently eight hangars at the site, which provide the bulk of the airport's annual revenue. Although these hangars are privately owned, they are located on municipal land and the owners must sign a lease for their use. These are usually long-term leases, lasting anywhere from ten to twenty years with a built-in clause for automatic renewal. Sweeney hopes to attract developers who would be willing to build a number of new hangars, each of which would provide the airport up to \$12,500 per year in additional annual revenue. While the airport operated at a \$22,000 loss in 2004, Sweeney forecasts a profit of \$35,000 by 2010 through such leases.

According to Bob Bacon, owner of Northampton Airport, where the runway was resurfaced in 2000, a hangar has an

expected life span of forty years. Northampton currently has fifty such units, all of which are rented. However, he warns that few developers would want to spend money building a structure without a long-term lease, particularly on public land. As a result, he said, attracting such developers may not be an easy task.

On the other hand, Sweeney alluded to a developer who recently contacted him about building a hanger at the Turners Falls Airport. Whatever the case, Bacon explained the reason for Northampton's success is that the runway was resurfaced. At the Tuesday night meeting, Sweeney's profit projections were criticized because they did not seem to account for the added expenses of plowing and mowing a larger area, nor of maintaining a greater infrastructure. However, Brian Carroll, chair of the airport commission, said he did not see anything that would justify an increase in operating costs. "We would have to have the revenues to justify these, but I don't see it," he said. Sweeney added he saw no reason to add hours to his own position or to hire anyone else, because of the amount of work that is subcontracted.

Divisiveness was evident between the Airport Commission and a number of those who use the facility, particularly over hangar leases. According to Fairbrother, leases dating back to the 1980s and 1990s had been recently updated after being undervalued. The increased rates did not please many of the long-time owners. This resulted in lawsuits by some of them against the commissioners.

One of the dissatisfied pilots who spoke at the meeting was Josh Simpson, who with his wife has owned two hangars at the airport for many years. Simpson, who said he is committed to aviation, explained that at one time the pilots, the commissioners and the airport manager were "on the same team." "But in the last two years things have been different. There is a sudden cry for the airport to make money, but it is not being addressed in a friendly or cooperative way," he said.

According to Simpson, the Airport Commission has tried to squeeze the owners of the hangars by claiming minute violations such as having a bicycle stored inside. When his own lease was not renewed, he asked why but did not receive an

answer. He attended meetings, but received the silent treatment, he said. As a consequence he sued the commission and has spent thousands of dollars on litigation. "A phone call could have fixed it, instead of \$5,000," he added.

In the meantime he does support the runway expansion as being a good thing for the town. "The town would be shortsighted not to take advantage of the reimbursement for the project," he said, adding that the airport supports the region's economy. And he added, the balance paid by the town is a good investment in existing infrastructure.

Simpson, however, is dubious of Sweeney's financial projection for revenues from the hangars. He says that under the current approach to management and client relations, it is difficult to imagine a developer willing to risk his or her own investment. In addition, leases are now expensive at the Turners Falls Airport and limit the ability of an owner to pay all the associated costs such as a mortgage and insurance.

"There are options, we've been told," said Fairbrother. One is to not lengthen the runway. In that case, he said, the FAA would

abandon the facility and the town would be left paying the price. Another option is to close the airport. But that, he said, is not realistic for monetary reasons due at least in part to the FAA's investment over thirty years. The town might have to compensate the FAA before it could close the airport, Fairbrother said.

The proposal before the town, its various committees and the selectboard is to improve the airport by upgrading safety standards in addition to extending the runway by 1200 feet. In the meantime, selectboard chairman Allen Ross said, "We need more hard information. A lot of questions need to be explored."



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WENDELL
continued from page 8

overhang, at a cost of \$700.

Selling Cars without a License

Aldrich reported that Ted Descavich has been buying and selling cars from his property on Mormon Hollow Road, running a business without the proper license. He had agreed to attend this meeting but did not come, so Heard suggested the board contact building inspector Phil Delorey, and have him report back to the board at the next meeting, after going to the site and speaking with Descavich.

Aldrich reported that Wendell is on the list for the state revolving loan fund for the center septic system construction, but Keller said the 50-page application form, and the length

of the process would delay the bidding, then the construction, and ultimately cost the town more than it might save by getting a lower priced loan.

Town Office Move in March

Keller said that crews could break ground for the new town office on April 15th. Allowing town officials one month to move their offices and files to temporary quarters in trailers near the highway department, would mean the town should have the trailers in place and functional by March 15th. Allowing Triumph of Littleton, the company that has offered the best deal, the two weeks they need to get the trailers in place and functioning, means the order should go out on March 1st. With the delivery and set up

charge of \$266, rent for each office trailer will be \$280 a month, steps add \$35 a month, and the storage trailer will add some more. Keller said the total cost will be \$9,500 a year and the town has budgeted \$20,000 for the temporary offices.

Aldrich reported that the town of Ashfield had sent Franklin County towns a copy of their response to Secretary of State Bill Galvin's instructions to follow the Voter Helper Act and install at least one electronic voting machine in each precinct where paper ballots are still used. Several attempts to retrieve the letter off its disc and print it out failed, and since the meeting was already late she said she would have it printed for the next meeting, but the board responded out loud to her

summary of the letter. Heard and Keller wanted a guarantee that such machines actually work. Lewis said, "Once they get one machine in here they will mandate it."

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20TH
Contra Dance with Tomczak Productions at the Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 p.m. to midnight. 802-387-9380.

Hilltown Folk presents
HUUN-HUUR-TU
Tuvan Throat Singers at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall in Shelburne Falls. From the tiny republic of Tuva comes a quartet of the world's most unusual musical traditions from their small patch of land nestled between Siberia and Mongolia. It is other-worldly, deeply spiritual music that is rooted in the sounds of nature; wind and rushing water, singing birds, galloping horses. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and under 18 are half price. You can buy tickets at The Hempest, Boswell's Books, World Eye Bookshop, and on-line at www.hilltownfolk.com. For more information, call (413) 625-6878.

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST
Gender-Role-Free Contra Dance at Montague Grange Hall, 7 p.m. Music by Shirley White & friends with caller Tom Toomey. All are welcome. Sliding scale admission, \$5 to \$10. More info: www.lcfd.org/westma/.

5th Annual Anti-Racism Film Festival at All Souls Unitarian-

Universalist Church. Films include: *The Hurricane*, *I Sit Where I Want*, and *Crash*. 399 Main St., Greenfield. (There's a pizza and salad break at about 6 p.m.) 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. 413-773-5018 for details.

Contra Dance with *Burnt Turnip* - Lisa Greenleaf, caller. Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 to 11:30 p.m. (413) 774-2830.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27TH
Introduction to Snowshoeing for Seniors - Learn how to snowshoe and observe the life signs of animals in the snow. Northfield Mountain Recreation Area, Route 63 in Northfield. 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Pre-registration required, (800) 859-2960.

Contra Dance with *David Kaynor & Greenfield Dance Band* at Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 p.m. - midnight. (413) 367-9380.

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH
The National Spiritual Alliance will sponsor a **Psychic Fair** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Thompson Temple across from the Post Office in Lake Pleasant. Divination methods include astrology, I-Ching, hand reading, spiritual counseling, and tarot cards. Consultation is with a medium of choice. TNSA's basic principles include belief in an infinite and eternal creating and evolving force, the interconnectedness of everything, the siblinghood of

humanity, personal responsibility for thoughts, words, and deeds, non-judgmentalism, continuity of life of the soul, communication between the worlds of form and formlessness, and reincarnation as the method of progression toward perfection. TNSA was incorporated in 1913 and evolved from the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association formed in 1874. Lake Pleasant is the oldest continuously-existing spiritualist community in the United States.

Peoples Music Network presents a **FREE Children's Show** with four Super Acts, 1:30 p.m. at Johnson Hall, Amherst College for ages 3-12. It is a zany, yet thoughtful crew of musicians; playful and sincere. Be ready to sing, shout, howl, have fun, be animals, be silly, be together. Show features Sarah Pirtle, Two of a Kind, Tom Neilson and Jackson Gillman.

Annual Bowl-athon - NEL-CWIT (New England Learning Center for Women in Transition) Benefit to assist abused women and their families. Pizza, bowling and bowl-

ing shoes provided - bowlers asked to raise money to help support services through pledges. French King Entertainment Center, Rte. 2 in Millers Falls. Pizza at 12:30 p.m. and bowling at 1:00 p.m. (413) 772-0871.

Introduction to Snowshoeing Workshop - Indoor introduction followed by outdoors practice of new snowshoeing skills. Visit wildlife hotspots. Northfield Mountain Recreation Area, Route 63, Northfield. 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (800) 859-2960.

Contra Dance with *Tophill Productions* at the Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 to 11:30 p.m. (413) 773-1671.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH
Montague Family Dance, 4:00-5:30 p.m. with caller Cindy Green. Family-style contra dancing for all ages. Simple dances with easy instruction geared for little feet. Lots of fun, humor and some singing games too. Great for 3-10 yr olds and their parents. Chase the Winter Blues away with laughing folk

music and a fun caller. Always on the last Sunday of each month. \$5-10 per family, includes a snack. And then... 6:00 p.m. - Potluck supper downstairs at the Grange Hall precedes the evening contra dance. Come for either or both. 7:00 p.m. - Contra Dance at the Montague Grange Hall. Co-host callers Lisa Sieverts, Tim VanEgmond and David Kaynor with all-acoustic music by the All-Comers Band. No previous dance experience necessary. All are welcome, with or without a partner. Come and experience this traditional New England form of entertainment in our nice old hall. Admission by self-determined donation. Proceeds help maintain the building. Potluck downstairs at the hall precedes the dance.

COMING SOON to the Shea Theater: February 10th, 11th & 12th Stoneleigh-Burnham School presents *Alice in Wonderland* and on February 17th, 18th, 24th, 25th & 26th, Ja'Duke Productions presents *Annie*.

Montague Parks & Recreation Department presents its **WINTER CARNIVAL** scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, February 4th & 5th.

BORDEAUX WHINE BY DENIS BORDEAUX 1/06



California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger denied clemency to 75-year-old convicted murderer Clarence Ray Allen, legally blind and deaf, who was executed on Tuesday, January 17th, 2006

Sunday at 7
THE DEAD OF WINTER
Free films for the frozen
Sunday, January 22nd To Have & To Have Not
1945. Bogart, Bacall. Faulkner's screenplay from a Hemingway story. Put your lips together and whistle.
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- GLORY ROAD** PG
DAILY 6:30 9:30
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:30 3:30
- MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA**
DAILY 6:30 9:30 PG13 in DTS sound
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:30 3:30
- THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA**
DAILY 6:30 9:30 PG
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:30 3:30
- SYRIANA** R
DAILY 6:45 9:15
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:15 3:15
- FUN WITH DICK AND JANE**
DAILY 6:45 9:15 PG13
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:15 3:15
- THE LAST HOLIDAY**
DAILY 7:00 9:10 PG13 in DTS sound
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:00 3:00
- UNDERWORLD: EVOLUTION**
DAILY 7:00 9:10 R in DTS sound
MAT SAT, SUN, WED 12:00 3:00

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Living the Dream of Justice and Equality

BY CHRISTINE HARRIS

GREENFIELD - Greenfield Community College honored Food Bank of Western Massachusetts director Mistinguette Smith, and Turners Falls High School sophomore Ali Urban at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance on Monday, January 16th.

"It doesn't matter who we are or where we are, we all have something to give. We just have to have the courage to give it," said Smith, a Northampton resident. "Dr. King did that in a big way and he had a big impact on the history of this country. I'm pleased that other people feel like my smaller contributions are a reflection of that same spirit." Smith was honored with the Living the Dream Award presented by G.C.C. president Robert Pura. Sixteen-year-old Ali Urban of Millers Falls was honored with the Bright Lights Award, which recognizes young people who espouse the ideals of peace and justice in their lives.

A lifelong community activist, Mistinguette Smith has taken on such societal challenges as domestic violence, reproductive rights for women, AIDS and HIV awareness and, now, hunger. To combat these social ills, she uses a tool in which she has total faith: the power of people working



CORI URBAN PHOTO

Greenfield Community College third annual awards honoring people in the community who "live the dream" of Martin Luther King, Jr. went to Turners Falls High School student Ali Urban of Millers Falls, and to Food Bank of Western Massachusetts director Mistinguette Smith of Northampton.

together. "We have all the knowledge, all the power and all the resources we need to make the kind of communities in which we want to live," said Smith, "but we do not have them when we are alone."

At the Food Bank, Smith confronted hunger in western Massachusetts by attacking the underlying problems. Her response was to create an entirely new program direction for the

Food Bank called Target: Hunger. This program takes a public health and community organizing approach to measurably reducing hunger in specific communities. Target: Hunger is being launched in two communities, one urban and one rural, with the goal of reducing the number of people who are hungry and in need of a meal from a meal site or pantry by 10 percent in four years.

G.C.C.'s Bright Lights Award, Ali Urban, exemplifies the future of Martin Luther King's legacy, said Pura, who established the youth award last year.

A sophomore at Turners Falls High School, Urban has begun following the same path espoused by Smith of 'acting together in community,' by helping out at the Community Meals program, volunteering at Historic Deerfield to teach fam-

ilies the lessons of history, hunger is also a metaphor for her life's mission of community activism. "There is a hunger in all of us," she said. "For some of us, it is a hunger for food; for others, it is a hunger for community; for others, it is a hunger to be connected with one another, which cannot happen when there is injustice in the world."

Monday's winner of

Urban's mother, Corinne, said of her daughter, "She sees the injustice in the world that breeds ill will and hinders peace ... and she wants to do something about it."

Urban said her goal in life is to become a lawyer so she can help families and single mothers, especially.

ies the lessons of history, teaching children at the Y and at summer Bible camp, raising money for the Gill-Montague Education Fund which provides scholarship funds for student activities. She also contributes frequently to her community newspaper, as a writer and photographer.

"In my life I've had many blessings," said Urban, "and I hope to, as a way of expressing gratitude for that, be involved in different activities that allow me to give back to our community."

A Community Meals volunteer since the second grade, Urban said, "I've seen really good people who just are down on their luck. They're very grateful, and it really is a moving experience to meet people who I may not encounter otherwise. I've seen people pass up a meal for themselves so they can bring it to someone else who they know could use it more."

Urban said her goal in life is to become a lawyer so she can help families and single mothers, especially.

FREE WRITING CLASS AT GCC

A free beginning English writing class will be offered in the evening at Greenfield Community College starting January 30th. The ability to write effectively is essential to college success. This class is being offered specifically for people who want to improve their writing skills but may have concerns about getting started in school. The classes are funded through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care through money raised through sales of "Invest in Children" license plates. Although the purpose of the grant is to make college accessible to people who work in, or are interested in early childhood care and education as well as school aged programs, others will be considered for participation as space permits. The class has been scheduled with working students in mind, and will meet Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:10 p.m. starting January 30th at the GCC main campus.

To find out more about this opportunity, contact Anne Jemas, grant coordinator, at 775-1731 or at jemasa@gcc.mass.edu.

Black Ducks Enjoy January Thaw

BY FRAN HEMOND

MONTAGUE CENTER - Light, shadow, and color define the bird shapes this lovely January morning. The Breakfast Club window offers a varied scene. The bright pond reflects the dark patterns of winter trees. The surface seems dappled by the bushes along the shore, and sparkles with ice floes from December's freeze.

Here by the house, the rhododendron have shaken their load of frozen snow and their green leaves shine with white memories of the holiday's weather.

The breakfast birds have arrived with a leader. The tubelike feeder swings gently, propelled by a vigorous-living chickadee. He's big and quick and obviously respected by his kin, who busy themselves in the bushes. He tosses seed with abandon, the most profligate of feeder visitors, and good friends to the juncos who wait expect-

tantly for scatterings on the ground below. The master is off, then back to sample another feeding station, now undecided which has the tastier morsels. Too much on his mind to linger longer or reward his chickadee admirers with a glance, he flutters a moment, bounces on a rhododendron branch, and is off to new pastures.

At his departure, the tree sparrows, their caps shining red in the morning sun, join the waiting chickadees for a turn at the feeder. A tufted titmouse stops by; he has not been a regular for some days and his neat gray back, muted white breast and handsome darker crest give a touch of elegance to the assorted group. A blue jay disrupts their feeding, but no suet and he's gone, to stare from the catalpa. Somebody in



white rumps up, their little red legs paddling fast so they can reach deep for good pondweed. The white under wings are a good field mark for blacks in flight. The pair feed for some time, then he swims over to their favorite beaver log. She follows respectfully. He preens a bit and she copies his action while

he climbs aboard the floating tree to sun on this rare January morn. She joins him, her aspect just a little lower.

And so two handsome black ducks take good advantage of the January thaw, in the tranquility of North Pond, confirming the opinion of one old-time bird-book writer that blacks are smarter, more versatile and more wary than some of their kin.

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