



**ANNA GARBIEL**  
Remembered  
Page 4



**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS**  
History in the Making  
Page 3

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 6 - NO. 16

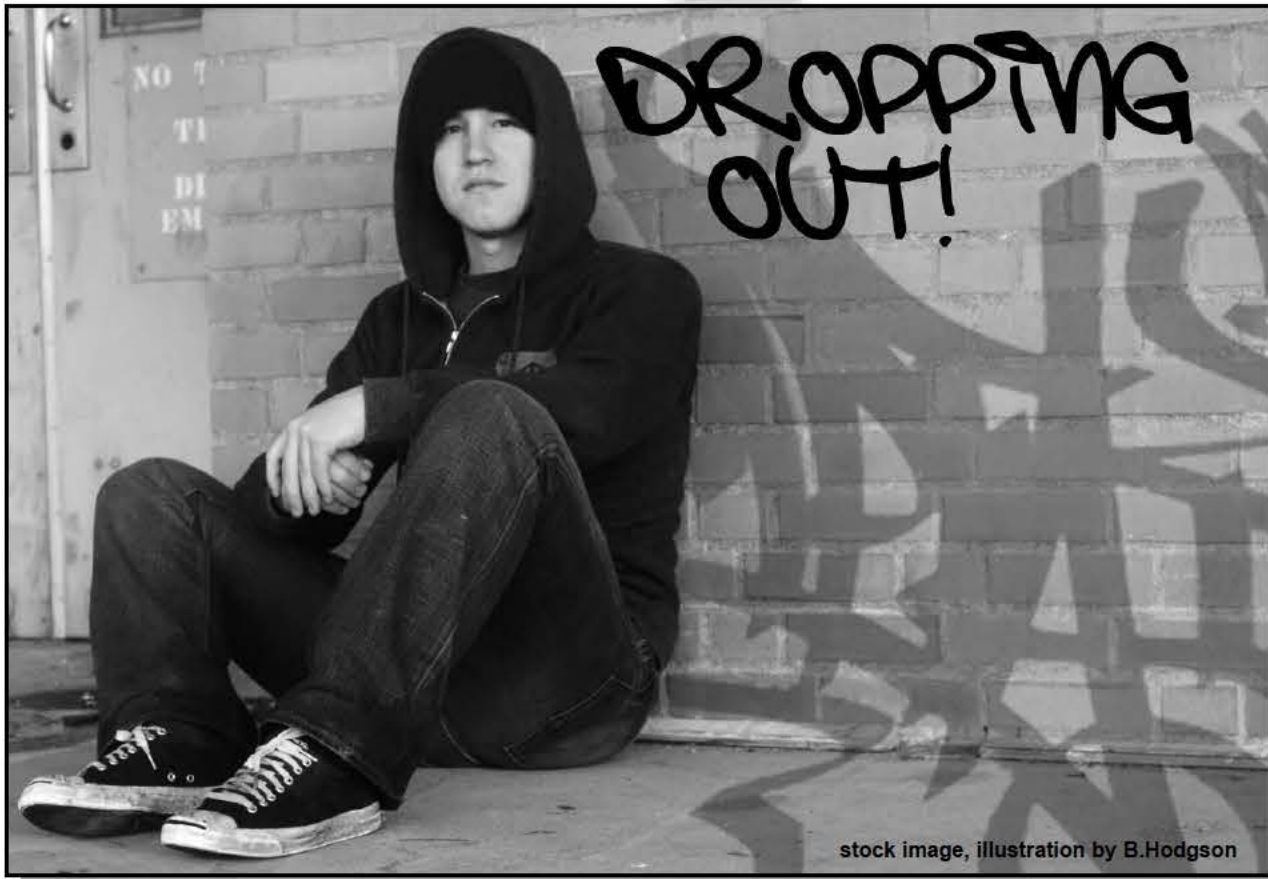
also serving Gill, Erving and Wendell

50¢

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 24, 2008



stock image, illustration by B.Hodgson

## 22.9% of TFHS Students Leave School in 2007

**BY DAVID DETMOLD**  
**TURNERS FALLS** - Last year, the revelation that Turners Falls High School was experiencing a 10.4 percent dropout rate alarmed local observers and school community members alike. At 10.4 percent, the rate of students who dropped out in 2006 at Turners Falls High topped even such urban centers as Boston, Holyoke and Worcester.

Now, according to figures released Tuesday by

the state Department of Education, the rate of students dropping out at the Turners Falls High School in 2007 has more than doubled, to 22.9%. The rate of young men dropping out of the high school far outstrips the cohort as a whole: 35.2%. Young women dropped out of Turners Falls High in 2007 at 7.1%. Fourteen of the 35 low income students (40%) dropped out. Four of the six Hispanic stu-

see **DROPOUT** pg 7

## Ranks of the Hungry Growing throughout Franklin County

**BY JOE KWIECINSKI**

"One of the myths about people who are food insecure or hungry is that they aren't like you and I, that we could never be where they are. But the truth is that any one of us could have a life circumstance - an accident, loss of a job, serious illness, or loss of a loved one - that would put us in financial peril and force us to seek emergency assistance."

That's the word from Jo Comerford, director of

programs at the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts in Hatfield, as she sat down to discuss the rising demand for food in the four Western Massachusetts

*Regional 4H Clubs collect six tons of food for local pantries*

see pg 6

counties her organization serves. "In 2006, we distributed more than 913,000 pounds to Franklin County," Comerford said, "and in 2007, we gave out close to 977,000 pounds."

Founded in 1982, the Food Bank is the number one

see **FOOD** pg 6

## Living the Dream Ceremony Triumphs over Adversity

**BY ALEX GOTTSCHALK**

**GREENFIELD** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was remembered at an observance ceremony at Greenfield Community College on January 21st in the Sloan Theater.

"Everything that can go wrong today, has gone wrong," quipped host Herbert Hentz, GCC director of admissions, to the near capacity crowd in the theater. The co-founders of the MLK

Observance Ceremony, Dwayne and LaWanza Brewington, were both ill and unable to attend. And the bus carrying students from the Hilltop Montessori School of Brattleboro - who were there both to receive a "Living the Dream Award" and to perform songs for the audience - had broken down. To remedy this, Hentz reshuffled the order of the



Sunny Miller, departing director of the Traprock Peace Center

program until the students arrived.

After introductory remarks by Hentz, GCC choral director Margery Heins took the stage with her assembled choir for two numbers, "City Called Heaven" and "Free At Last." The members of the choir were drawn from the GCC Choir and the Congregational Church Choir of Ashfield, as well

see **MLK** pg 8

## Darkness Illumined

Night Journeys: Susan kae Grant  
Themes & Variations: Paul Taylor  
At the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography

**BY ANN FEITELSON**  
**TURNERS FALLS** - Step into the new Hallmark Museum gallery at 52/56 Avenue A, cross the room, noting the photographs of floating shadows of babies, cradles, and caged rats, walk down a ramp, and you are in a dark, cave-like space filled with whispers: "I don't remember how he got in..." "I know how to get there, but nobody cares..." "A secret place to come back to..." Two soundtracks of whispers fade and overlap as you

move through the dimness. "Not old enough..." "She's afraid to stop..." Images of birds, branches, a mask held up to the light, a glass held up to be filled, printed on translucent cloth, seem to have been released from a whirlwind and suddenly stilled. The semi-audible and the semi-visible, suggestive words and provocative pictures, create a dream-like experience.

The installation of photographs and whispers is part of Susan kae Grant's "Night Journeys" and "Themes & Variations".

see **PHOTO** pg 16



What is Being Offered by Susan kae Grant

## From Montague Town Meeting

Montague town meeting members worked their way through twelve articles over two and a half hours on Wednesday. The lengthiest discussions centered on Article 7, authorizing the purchase of \$81,000 worth of mowing and maintenance equipment for the Turners Falls Airport, and Article 9, allowing the Gill Montague regional school committee to close local schools on the affirmative vote of two thirds (instead of eight out of nine votes) of the full school committee and a majority vote of town meeting. Both items passed, the first by majority vote, the latter by a standing vote of 45 - 21. We'll have the complete blow by blow in next week's issue of the *Montague Reporter*.



**PET OF THE WEEK**

**Rescue Me**



**O.C.**

My name is O.C. and I'm a seven-year-old boy cat looking for a good home. Have you ever heard the expression Scaredy Cat? Whoever started that expression sure doesn't understand what it's like to be a cat. Imagine thinking you have a great life with people you care about, then being left behind when your family moves away? As if that weren't horrible enough, imagine being scooped up and brought to a shelter. My whole world keeps changing. I just hope someone gentle and loving brings me home and sets the world right again. Can you rescue me and give me a good home? For more information on adopting me please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or via email leverett@dpvhs.org.

**Writers Wanted**

to participate in a free Community Journalism Workshop with Wesley Blixt, at the Montague Reporter, 58 4th Street, Turners Falls, Sun. Jan. 27, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Call 863-8666 to register. What's news; how to tell a story; necessary elements; working the strengths of a community weekly, & more!

**LIVE IN MONTAGUE?**

EST. 1754

www.MontagueMA.net  
local gossip, news & business listings

**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

**MONTAGUE LIBRARIES NEWS**

**Mother Goose Loose Again**

Mother Goose on the Loose will be held Saturday, February 2nd, at the Carnegie Library at 10:30 a.m. The program is an interactive mix of guitar and banjo music, rhymes, stories, puppets, and other visuals. The free sessions are designed for babies through preschoolers and are performed by Children's Librarian Linda Hickman and musician Michael Nix. The monthly Saturday programs are

held the first Saturday of each month through spring. Linda Hickman also performs the programs solo on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. weekly at the Carnegie Library. The programs are supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. For more information call 863-3214.

**'Tranquility Zone' - Beauty Theme**

You are invited to Tranquility Zone with the theme: Beauty on Sunday, January 27th, at 10:00 a.m. An hour of reflection, music, prayers, writings from the Holy Scriptures of the World, including Zoroastrian, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, Islam, Baha'i... The readings will be followed by a period of silent meditation.

Please feel free to bring and share a writing that has touched you. Brunch will then be served. Held at the home of Shay & Charles Cooper 71 Kentfield Road, Wendell Depot (1st road on the left of Wendell Depot Post Office). Call 978-544-2190 for more information. Sponsored by the Baha'is of Wendell.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG**

**Accidents with Property Damage**

1/16 -- 5:37 p.m. Reported accident with property damage near Seventh and Avenue A in Turners Falls.  
5:45 p.m. Reported accident with property damage on N. Leverett Road in Montague.  
6:12 p.m. Reported motor vehicle theft from parking lot on Avenue A, Turners Falls.  
1/17 -- 2:42 p.m. Reported unwanted person at Park Street address, Turners Falls.  
11:01 p.m. Several calls reporting fight on Third Street, Turners Falls. Peace restored.  
1/19 -- 1:11 a.m. Following a traffic stop, arrested [redacted] charged with speeding, OUI liquor, alcohol in motor vehicle, possession of open container  
3:35 p.m. Domestic disturbance on Montague Street, Turners Falls. Peace restored.  
6:14 p.m. Report of accident with property damage on Third Street, Turners Falls.

1/20 -- 9:30 a.m. Report of burglary, breaking and entry on Turners Falls Road, Montague.  
2:08 p.m. Walk-in straight warrant arrest of [redacted]  
8:30 p.m. Report of accident with property damage at Exxon on Third Street, Turners Falls.  
1/21 -- 11:04 a.m. Reported accident with property damage on Route 63, Montague. Removed to hospital.  
5:30 p.m. Walk-in report of accident with property damage on First Street, Turners Falls.  
1/22 -- 11:08 Report of vandalism at Powertown Apartments, Fourth Street, Turners Falls.  
12:07 p.m. Burglary, breaking and entry reported on High Street, Turners Falls.  
12:43 p.m. Report of domestic disturbance on Third Street, Turners Falls. Peace restored.  
4:58 p.m. Report of suicide attempt at Farren Emergency Shelter. Removed to hospital.

**SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES -- January 28th-February 1st**

**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.

**Friday, 1st**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics

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

**Monday, 28th**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics  
**Tuesday, 29th**  
9:30 a.m. T'ai Chi  
**Wednesday, 30th**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
12:45 p.m. Bingo  
**Thursday, 31st**  
9:30 a.m. T'ai Chi

**Monday, 28th**  
9:30 a.m. Exercise  
9:45 a.m. Library  
12 Noon Pitch  
**Tuesday, 29th**  
9 a.m. Aerobics  
12:30 p.m. Painting  
**Wednesday, 30th**  
9:00 a.m. Line Dancing

**FACES & PLACES**

DETMOLD PHOTO

*Our Lady of Czestochowa in the Snow*

**Seeking Stories from Seniors**

*Local Color*, stories by Western Massachusetts senior citizens about life as they remember it, celebrates ten years in print this year!

If you are 65 years old or older you are invited to submit a nonfiction story about some memory of your life to *Local Color* #10.

There is a 1500 word limit for submissions. No poems, please. Send your story via email (editor@localcolormemoirs.com) in the body of the email or as an MS word attachment or send a hard copy (handwritten is OK) to: *Local Color*, PO Box 116, Montague, MA 01351.

Deadline is March 15th, 2008 and publication date is June 1st, 2008. Feel free to invite friends to send their stories, too. Authors retain all copyright for their story. Authors receive one free copy of the book and can buy additional copies at a discount.

Read more about *Local Color* at www.localcolormemoirs.com

**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

**POETS WANTED**

TO SUBMIT ORIGINAL POEMS  
SEND TO: REPORTER-  
POEMS@MONTAGUEMA.NET  
OR TO: MONTAGUE REPORTER 58  
4TH STREET, TURNERS FALLS,  
MA 01376 FOR PUBLICATION IN  
OUR MONTHLY POETRY PAGE.  
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE  
NECESSARY, AS A POET.  
KINDLY INCLUDE A 20-WORD  
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE.

**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**

*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**



**NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD**

**Wanted: Library Director**

**BY NICHOLE CLAYTON** - On Tuesday, January 22nd, the board of Erving Library trustees, Marcia Bernard, Marion Overgaard, and Beth Bazler came to the selectboard to present their fiscal year 2009 budget. The budget included a proposal to hire a new director for the library, as well as a library aide. Even with line items for those two positions included in the budget, and with all other costs and expenses of running the library, the trustees were able to present a level funded budget.

A state grant of \$1800 for automation costs, and the fact that automation at the library is nearly complete, helped the trustees find money for the new salaries. Most of the difference will come from the \$12,500 in stipends the trustees have shared to run the library in recent years.

Andy Tessier, selectboard chair, expressed admiration for the trustees' work. "I am impressed that you were able to keep the budget level funded. Thank you."

After the meeting, Barnard spoke of the trustees' decision to take themselves out of the running as candidates for the new posts, (state law prohibits elected town officials from hiring themselves, in effect, as their own replacements). "It's bittersweet." The threesome have given countless hours to reorganize the library; circulation and attendance at summer programs have climbed steadily under their tenure. They have taken library science courses to earn state accreditation. The Erving Library is probably the only accredited library in the state that has been run on an extended basis by its board of trustees.



Marion Overgaard, Beth Bazler and Marcia Bernard, the Erving Library Trustees, have asked the selectboard to hire a library director and a librarial aide to take over running the library as of July 1st. They've been the hardest working library trustees in Massachusetts.

new positions, if approved at town meeting, will be unbenefited posts, 17 hours a week for a library director, and 12 hours a week for an aide. Bernard said the three trustees will probably remain on the library board for a period of time to ensure a smooth transition. "But we are all probably looking for jobs," she added.

In other news, the selectboard signed an electricity supply contract with the Hampshire Council of Governments (HCOG), in hopes of saving money on the town's electric bills.

Cory Green was promoted to rank of sergeant within the Erving police department. Chief of police Chris Blair recommended Green for promotion; the selectboard unanimously approved the request.

The Union 28 school committee sent their budget request to the selectboard. The school committee is asking for a 7.7% increase in the budget. The selectboard did make note of the fact that the school committee was asked last month to present a level funded budget for '09. No discussion took place on Tuesday regarding the difference between what the school committee is asking and what the town is indicating it has to offer.

The selectboard will meet next on January 28th at the town hall at 6:00 p.m., but will convene the following week on February 4th at the Erving Elementary School, where the cable advisory committee will hold a public hearing on the town's future cable contract with Com Cast beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**Turners Falls Comes Out for the Big Game**

**BY MATT ROBINSON**  
**FOXBOROUGH** - The New England Patriots defeated the San Diego Chargers 21 -12 on Sunday, January 20th in Gillette Stadium. The latest win put the Pats into the Super Bowl for the fourth time in seven years.

Among the Turners Falls faithful in attendance were two of the coaches who led Turners Falls High School to a perfect season back in 1976. Coaches John O' Riley and Jim Koldis braved bitter cold and five hours of driving to witness history in the making. Another former TFHS coach, George Bush, also attended. No other team has ever gone 19 - 0, not in one season. The undefeated New England Patriots are poised to do just that.

However, the Patriots looked anything but perfect in Sunday's game. Although QB Tom Brady managed to throw two touchdowns, he also threw three picks. One of those interceptions was thrown in the 'Red

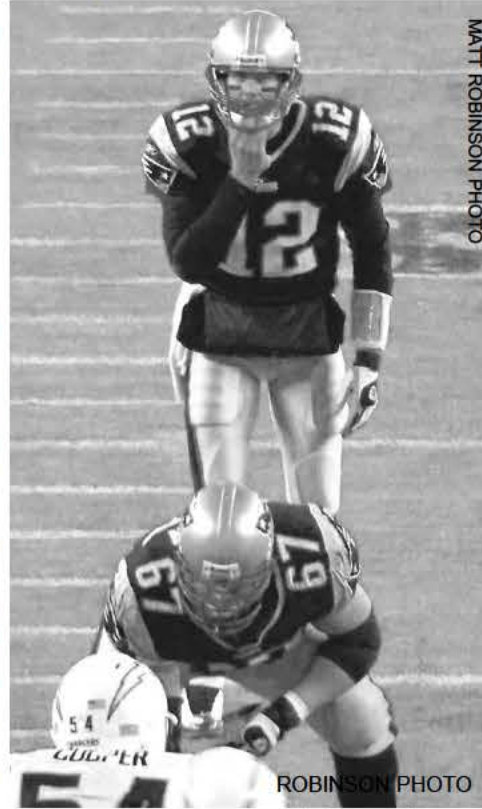
Zone.' But Laurence Maroney stepped up and ran for 122 yards, tipping the scales toward the

the end zone, holding them to four field goals.

The New York football Giants beat Green Bay in overtime 23 - 20 to earn the right to represent the NFC in the big game. And the right to play the spoiler, a role they were unable to play when they lost to the Patriots during the regular season.

They were the last foes. The last challenger. The last team to play the Patriots in the regular season. The last best chance to prove the Pats are not infallible. And they almost won. The Patriots squeaked by the Giants in that game, by three lousy points. But by winning that game, the Pats ended the regular season undefeated.

So on February 3rd, these two cold weather neighbors will travel to the desert to settle the argument. Are the Patriots the best team ever? Bragging rights will be on the line, and the whole world will be watching to see if the Pats can win one more game. Just one more game. Then they can rest.



Patriots quarterback Tom Brady waiting for the snap from center Dan Koppen in Sunday's game.

Pats. And the defense did their part. They kept the Bolts out of



# 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](http://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

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



159 Avenue A

Turners Falls, MA

01376

863-4373

Tracey Kuklewicz  
Vice President

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



# The Montague Reporter

24 3rd Street, Turners Falls, Mass. 01376

## Editor

David Detmold

## Assistant Editor

Kathleen Litchfield

## Editorial Assistants

Hugh Corr  
David Brule

## Circulation

Suzette Snow Cobb  
Don Clegg

## Layout & Design

Kathleen Litchfield  
Boysen Hodgson  
Kathryn 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 Detmold  
August, 2002

Arthur Evans

## Remembering Anna Garbiel

1952-2008

EXISTIMATIO LONGO,

VITA BREVIS

"Reputation is long, life is short."

BY PATRICIA CROSBY

**MONTAGUE CENTER** - I first met Anna Garbiel in 1966, when we were both incoming freshmen at Turners Falls High School - she from Montague Center, I from Gill. In Latin and French class, she was the quiet, demurely-dressed, wavy-haired girl with a seat on the far wall who always had the right answers, and whose ivory skin, slightly-tilted blue-green eyes, and distinctive husky voice made her stand out in any crowd.

Anna, affectionately known by her family nickname 'Jukey,' was a gentle leader, an obliging friend, and a mighty presence. There probably wasn't a boy in the class who didn't admire her, and many bids were made for her companionship, but she was also a busy young woman and most were kindly refused. Not least of Anna's attractions was her maturity. Like most farm children, with life and death responsibilities from a very early age (crops not gathered in time are ruined; cows that aren't milked sicken, and Anna loved cows; chickens that aren't fed really do die), she had an air of knowing the difference between the important and the trivial, and without ever seeming overburdened, she quietly went her way, tending to school, farm, and family.

When it was time to make a float for the Booster Day Parade, it was Anna's barn we turned to, and the sight of fourteen-year-old, ladylike Anna on a tractor, moving equipment to make room, wowed most of us who had yet to sit behind the wheel of a car. An equally unexpected accomplishment of this graceful, almost dainty girl was her performance on the basketball court. I guess farm kids got a chance to take a break

sometime, and there must have been a basketball hoop somewhere on the Garbiel Farm where Anna honed her skills against her siblings, because she could move and shoot and block with the best of them. The striking thing about her game was that - like her - it was quick, correct, measured and effective, without ever appearing aggressive, rowdy or rude. She had a long shot that would make people gasp: to see that slight, calm-faced girl in the royal blue silks stand, aim, and lift her arms, sending the ball in an elegant arc to the hoop, where it flowed through with a swish.

Anna should have been our Booster Day Queen and our Class President, but she was never either, and the reasons are proba-



Anna Garbiel, ca. 1970

bly a source of shame to many beside myself. As I remember it, we were 'saving her' for Queen, passing her by in our Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior years and then somehow neglecting to pull together the staved-off votes in our Senior. More outrageous was our behavior when it came to our Senior class presidency. Even though the class before us had broken the gender barrier by naming a female president of the Senior class for the first time, there were still some among us uncomfort-

able with the idea of 'a girl leading us down the aisle at graduation.' In a ridiculous bit of pre-election chicanery, a group appealed to her to withdraw from the race and run for vice-president instead. The most distressed I've ever seen her, she turned to her family for advice, and the next day came back to school with her answer - a firm and principled No. Vote for her or not, she was running for president. She ran and lost.

Nevertheless, the admiration that followed her in high school apparently continued through her college years and beyond. I distinctly remember a few years after high school picking up a cheerful young man walking on Route 2 in Charlemont on a frigid day in December. When we asked him what he was doing on the road on such a cold day, he laughed and said, "I'm in love." Grilled further, he confessed that he was determined to visit a young woman he had met while she was home for the Christmas holiday, Anna Garbiel. It seemed so fitting that an old-fashioned girl like Anna should be courted in such a classic, old-fashioned way, by a smitten young man, walking through the mountains from North Adams to Montague in freezing weather with a smile on his face.

Years went by, I moved away, Anna stayed, and when I came back I found Anna was principal of the school she attended as a child in Montague Center. I could-

n't help thinking how proud her parents - often referred to in our high school years as "Montague's largest landowners and taxpayers" - must have been to see their daughter grow up and become principal of that school.

My final interaction with Anna in recent years was a misery to me, as I'm sure it was to her, but it was also to me a final illustration of what our basketball coach, the late Charlotte Robinson, once called Anna's unique qualities of "humbleness and graciousness." I was on the Gill-Montague school committee when the decision was made to reduce principals for Gill and Montague Center to half-time. It was a painful decision, not least because both Anna and her counterpart were excellent school leaders as well as friends, but we had struggled with the budget for so long and in so many ways, and there seemed no other way to cut costs.

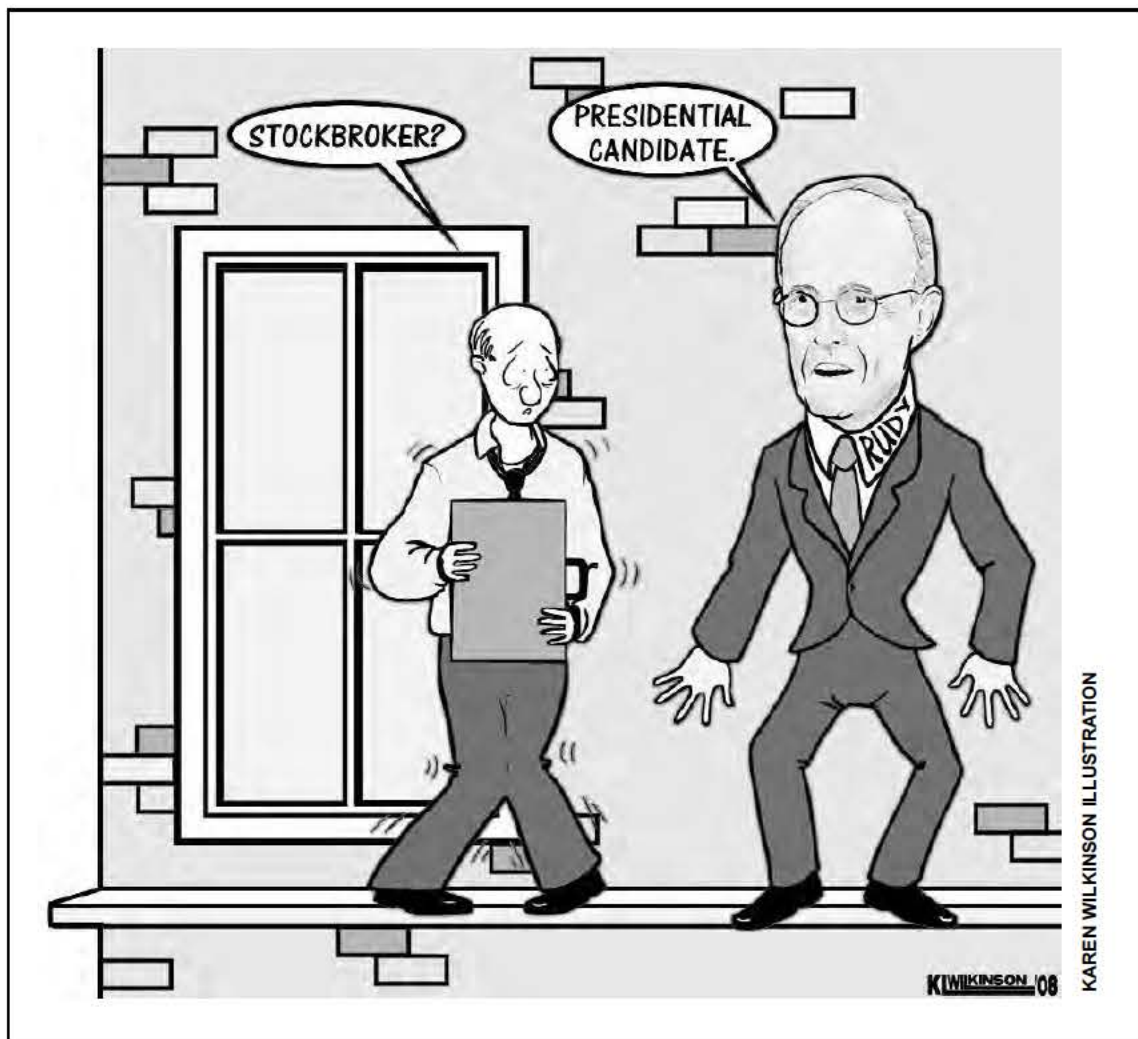
I avoided seeing Anna face-to-face for many months afterward and was ashamed to face many of my former classmates still living in the area as well. But finally one day we found ourselves getting out

of our cars at the post office at the same time and greeted each other tentatively. Anna by then had moved on to become a top administrator in the Athol Regional School District. "I'm so sorry, Anna," I started to say. "Every time I think of you, I..." but she cut me off, shaking her head and smiling. "It's okay, Tricia," she said. "You did what you thought was the right thing, and it's all worked out for the best."

Gracious is exactly the right word for that acknowledgement. When someone is gracious, they may have good reason to disagree with you, be dismissive of you, or even dislike you, but instead they receive you warmly and put their feelings aside to protect yours.

*Noblesse oblige.* We didn't have to save you for Queen, Anna. You always were one.

*Memorial contributions suggested to the Anna Garbiel Fund, care of Linda Ackerman, Greenfield Savings Bank, 195 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376, to assist her husband with medical expenses and to establish a scholarship in Anna's memory.*



KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Polling Change Discussion Monday

As many voters in Montague Center are now aware, the polling station for Precinct 1 has been moved from the Montague Center Library up the hill to the Montague Center fire station. Since it's a natural community gathering place, we've always considered the library an appropriate location for voting. It's located in the vicinity of a high density of voters, many of whom can just walk over and vote, rather than drive. Additionally, those Montague Center residents who live further out are likely to pass through the Center coming or going from one place to another, so it's also a high visibility

location for anyone driving through Montague Center.

One of us was informed yesterday, after a call to the town clerk's office, that the main issue prompting the change of location is space, for both vote counting and for access for those who are disabled. These are important issues, and we hope our community can work together to either remedy them or at the very least have an open discussion so that we can all better understand why this change is taking place.

For anyone interested, this topic will be addressed at the selectboard meeting on January 28th, at 7:45 p.m.

- Emily Monosson & Jane Stephenson  
Montague Center

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## American Dead in Iraq and Afghanistan as of 1/23/08



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



**NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD**

# Gill Seeking Deep Cuts if Override Fails

BY DAVID DETMOLD

A glum selectboard found no silver lining in a draft analysis prepared by town administrative assistant Tracy Rogers, outlining the 16% budget cuts that will be required, on average, from all major town departments if the town fails to pass a \$93,000 Proposition 2½ override on February 5th.

"When I see this in black and white, it's really very scary," said board member Nancy Griswold. Among other cuts, the board is considering closing town hall one day a week to save on staff salaries, turning off some street lights (\$5500 remaining in that line item for the rest of the fiscal year), eliminating the planned purchase of a new computer (\$2000), trimming any town matching funds in the agricultural protection program that are not already committed (\$15,547 in the budget for APR matches currently; no word on how much is committed), and seeking deep cuts from the police, fire, library and highway department for the last four months of the present fiscal year (March - June).

Due to a binding vote at a July 2007 school district meeting, Gill cannot cut back on its '08 contribution to the Gill-Montague schools. The town has been oper-

ating without a budget since July, waiting for the state Department of Revenue to certify the town's triennial property valuation so a tax rate can be set, before scheduling an override to try to balance the budget. But as the DOR continued today to request more data from the town before setting a tax rate, and the consequences of waiting escalate if the override eventually fails, the board finally opted for a come hell or high water vote on February 5th, the date of the Massachusetts presidential primary.

Even if the news from the DOR is good (new growth *could* reduce, or conceivably eliminate the need for the override) the \$93,000 figure is posted now, and cannot be changed prior to the vote.

The board will hold two information sessions to go over town's budget problems with the voters, on Saturday, January 26th at 10:00 a.m. and Monday, January 28th at 7 p.m., at town hall.

"I don't know where the police come up with \$8000 other than [eliminating] a person," said Ann Banash, going over the figures for possible cuts. The town is looking to possibly eliminate \$13,000 from the highway budget in the last quarter of '08, and seeking any other cuts to equal the \$93,000 target. "We can't have any fires this

year," said Banash. Speaking of fires, there was a rare gleam of potentially good financial news from Rick Wood, CFO of Northfield Mount Hermon, regarding Gill's request for the private school to pay for a new \$450,000 pumper for the Gill fire department. Wood said he would bring that request to the school's board of trustees this week. "That's a good start, said Banash.

**In other news, the board:**

· agreed to require water users in the Riverside district who use private wells to install sewer meters, rather than be billed a flat

fee, as part of new sewer regulations under review by town counsel.

· signed a \$2500 purchase order for the fire department's annual air pack test and for replacement of mask harnesses.

· agreed to seek comparative bids on town property, casualty and workers compensation insurance from Massamont Insurance Agency, as well as from the town's current provider (MIA) in the next two months.

· set a date for a special town meeting, to finalize the town's '08 budget, on Tuesday, February, 19th at 7 p.m.

· agreed to lobby the GMRSD

to spend an unanticipated overage (\$48,000) in capital improvement funds to replace the Gill Elementary School's boiler.

· set a joint meeting with the finance committee for Tuesday, January 29th, to initiate the town's '09 budget season.

· and held a hearing, and agreed to open up the availability of low and moderate income eligible interest free loans for housing rehab from this year's CDBG funds for residents of the entire town. Four residents are currently on a waiting list to be served by this program, but some extra funding may become available this year.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG**

## Three Car Vehicle Crash

**1/16**  
11:30 a.m. Officer requested to a West Gill Road residence to assist in the removal of an unwanted person.

**1/17**  
10:20 p.m. Main Road resident requested assistance with a CO detector that was going off; assisted fire department with same.

**1/18**  
8:10 a.m. Officer assisted vehicle off the road in Mountain Road area.  
3:49 p.m. Officer called to a three car motor vehicle crash on Route 2. Several parties were transported to the hospital. Matter is under investiga-

tion.  
9:40 p.m. Officer assisted Bernardston police with warrant apprehension. Suspect fled on foot.

**1/19**  
4:15 p.m. Officer called to Mobil station for gas drive off.  
1:30 a.m. Officer assisted Northfield police with motor vehicle stop, resulting in OUI arrest.

**1/21**  
1:15 a.m. Officer requested to assist in removing unwanted subject from Northfield Mount Hermon campus.  
11:25 a.m. Assisted Montague police with 911 hang up at a G street residence.

## HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) are currently applying for funding for the Towns of Erving, Bernardston, Colrain, Gill, Montague, Northfield Rowe, Orange, Shelburne & Whately. At this time we are establishing a waiting list for each town.

Income eligible applicants who qualify for a full-deferred payment loan will be able to borrow up to \$30,000.00. This is a 0% interest, deferred payment loan, the loan is secured by a lien placed on your property, and the loan is due when you sell or transfer the property.

The goal of this program is to enable low to moderate-income homeowners to bring their homes into code compliance, handicap accessibility, do needed repairs and weatherize their homes.

Homeowners and any tenant families must have an annual gross income equal to or less than the following amounts:

# In Household	Gross Annual Income
1	\$40,150.00
2	\$45,900.00
3	\$51,600.00
4	\$57,350.00
5	\$61,950.00
6	\$66,550.00
7	\$71,100.00
8	\$75,700.00

If you are interested in applying for the Housing Rehab program please call Charity Day @ (413) 863-9781 ext. 132 or email at [cday@fchra.org](mailto:cday@fchra.org)

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

**T.L.C.**  
TURNS 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  
LALautosales.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 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





### FOOD from page 1

provider of food for more than 400 independent agencies, including shelters, pantries, and meal sites throughout Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties.

In Turners Falls, the food pantry at the Franklin Area Survival Center at 96 Fourth Street is experiencing urgent need. Mary Cavanaugh, a member of the center's board of directors, is in charge of purchasing, storage, and distribution for the pantry, the largest in the county. Cavanaugh stressed, "Every day there are more and more people coming through our doors. Right now we're averaging about 20 - 25 families a day who step up to the counter. This is a big demand for

us. The number of total people served has doubled since last year alone. In addition, the pantry accommodates 80 to 90 walk-ins on a daily basis."

In short, the Survival Center's client list has expanded to about 10,000 people a year.

"We're definitely picking up more and more food than last year," agreed Del Parsons, the center's manager and resident truck driver. Among his duties, Parsons travels to the Food Bank once a week. Franklin Area Survival Center also obtains part of its supply of foodstuffs through donations, along with purchases from Food City.

Volunteers Shirley Smead and Lou Hood agree that the local pantry is giving out larger and larger amounts of food. Hood is 83 years old and has volunteered at the Survival Center for close to 23 years, longer than any other volunteer at the site. Hood keeps the USDA shelves stocked, weighs donations, and unloads trucks, among his other duties.

Meanwhile, over in Wendell, Kaymarion Raymond, a member of the board of directors for Good Neighbors food pantry, is definitely

feeling the pinch. "Gas and fuel prices are going up," Raymond pointed out, "and that affects everything. We jumped from 45 to 50 households receiving our food and services in December alone. However, the

once working are no longer able to maintain their households."

Adding to the difficulty, the Greenfield food pantry is facing a perilous financial situation of its own. "We've cut back from being open five days a week to four days," Schnelle said, "and yet we're serving the same number of people as a year ago."

Like the other Franklin County food pantries, the Center For Self-Reliance continues to be able to serve the critical needs of the hungry in our area thanks to the support of the community. "People and groups were very generous to us over the holidays," Schnelle noted. "Between Thanksgiving and the new year we received more than two tons of donated food from church groups, individuals, local businesses and schools, and, of course, the Food Bank."

According to Comerford at the central food clearinghouse in Hatfield, the Food Bank's member programs are continually experiencing rising demand as overall economic conditions worsen. "Our human needs in the communities we serve simply exceed our ability to meet them in a just, equitable way. Consider this: the minimum level for food stamps in our state is \$10 at this time. What can a person possibly do with \$10 when faced with today's food prices?"

Residents in Franklin County can help in several ways. They can make financial or food donations to the area's member programs, volunteer to stock and distribute, and organize food drives at their businesses, religious congregations, civic groups, and schools. For more information, call the Franklin Area Survival Center at 413-863-9549, Good Neighbors at 978-544-0203, the Center for Self-Reliance at 413-773-5029, or the Food Bank at 413-247-9738.



Lou Hood has been volunteering at the Franklin Area Survival Center for 15 Years

community has been very generous to us. Foster's in Greenfield, for example, has helped us a lot, along with Trader Joe's in Hadley."

Good Neighbors has been attempting to improve its services through a major reorganization, which will culminate in the spring with a move into new quarters at the Wendell town hall.

Elsewhere, Dino Schnelle, coordinator of the Center for Self-Reliance at 3 1/2 Osgood Street in Greenfield, is seeing troubling economic signs. "Back in 2001," he said, "we clearly knew the economy was slowing down, because we were seeing a rise in client activity. And we're observing the same pattern emerging now."

Schnelle continued, "We're seeing 30 to 40 new households a month, about 60 to 70 new people on our lists. But even more significant is the fact we're seeing 20 to 30 households made up of returning clients who haven't received our services for between 12 and 18 months. And the number one reason they're coming back to us is due to layoffs and unemployment. People who were

## 4-H Feeds the Hungry with Six Tons of Food

BY WESLEY BLIXT

AMHERST - Massachusetts 4-H clubs have collected more than six tons of food for local food pantries in the state - and while the drive ended nearly a month ago, the donations are still trickling in.

4-H members in every area of the state took part in the effort. Barnstable County set the record with 2665 pounds of groceries - about 225 bags - collected for the Cape Cod Hunger Network. Massachusetts 4-H, run by University of Massachusetts Amherst Outreach through UMass Extension, has clubs and runs affiliated youth and family programs throughout the Commonwealth.

Wendy Marcks, extension educator in Waltham, said that 4-H members were spurred on by news of food pantry shortages and escalating heating costs. The northeastern donations went to the Greater Boston Food Bank, in part because of its renowned distribution

resources.

"The Food Bank was amazed at the amount of food we collected, and they were very helpful," said Marcks. "We heard that a lot of people in need are middle class people, some of whom are simply stung by mortgage problems and heating costs."

Marcks said that each 4-H member was responsible for collecting a least one bag of groceries. Some members, she said, were careful to assemble a bag that included each of the elements of a full meal.

"Especially for the younger members, that somehow made it more concrete, and increased the impact of the experience," said Marcks.

In Franklin County, 4-H collected 1050 pounds of food, and donated it to the Center for Self Reliance in Greenfield. Massachusetts 4-H is tentatively planning additional food drives in the future.

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG Motor Vehicle Mayhem

1/16  
7:30 a.m. Report of past breaking and entry to motor vehicle on Maple Avenue. Report taken.  
1/17  
5:50 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for speeding and possession of Class D drug - marijuana. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for possession of Class D drug - marijuana.  
1/18  
6:11 a.m. Alarm at Smokin Hippo restaurant. No problem found.  
3:39 p.m. Assisted Gill Police with

accident on Route 2 near boat ramp.  
1/19  
9:45 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for operation of motor vehicle with revoked license, operation of a motor vehicle without insurance, registration not in possession and speeding.  
1/20  
4:47 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.  
1/21  
2:53 p.m. Medical assistance at Lillian's Way.

**BUY A HOME WITH NO \$ DOWN**

- 100% LOAN - LOW 30 YEAR FIXED RATE
- CLOSING COSTS CAN BE INCLUDED IN LOAN
- NO MORTGAGE INSURANCE REQUIRED
- MINIMUM CREDIT QUALIFICATIONS MUST BE MET

Now is a great time to buy your dream home!

**NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE** CALL **TIM PREVOST 413.773.8984**

Program subject to change without notice

A sumptuous array of silk, heirloom whites, velveteen, rayon, wool & Japanese printed cottons. Vintage-inspired buttons, jewelry & scarves.

**Delectable Mountain Cloth**  
125 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301  
www.delectablemountain.com  
please visit our website or the store for even more (802) 257-4456

**HK Power Town Apartments**  
152 Avenue A  
PO 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**

**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

**Dillon CHEVROLET**  
54 MAIN STREET  
GREENFIELD, MA 01301

**BOB ANDERSON**  
Sales Representative  
(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



### DROPOUT from pg. 1

dents dropped out of the high school last year.

There were 96 students in the cohort: 54 males and 42 females. According to the percentages, it appears 19 of the 54 male students at Turners Falls High School dropped out last year.

"These are just not acceptable figures for a community that values education," said G-M interim superintendent of schools Ken Rocke, following the announcement of the DOE statistics at Tuesday's school committee meeting.

Rocke seemed at a loss to supply answers as to the cause of the spiraling loss of students in the upper grades. "The idea that 35.2% of our males are not graduating from our schools is disconcerting to say the least. We

can guess they are not going into the military; they need a diploma to do that." (The DOE report indicates they are not pursuing GED exams, switching schools, or moving straight to community colleges, either.)

Rocke continued, "If this is even close to accurate, it says something very disturbing about our district. What does it say about our schools? I don't know. There is a lot we don't know."

He added, "We don't know why kids are leaving. We don't know where they go when they leave. And we don't know what to do to keep them in the schools."

Some of the dropouts from Turners Falls High wind up accessing the services of the Brick House's Hot Spot Teen Center at 24 Third St., a drop in center fully equipped with

computers, musical equipment, a stage for open mic performances, a history of producing CDs with local teens, a pool table and a welcoming, supportive environment.

Jared Libby, coordinator of youth programs at the Hot Spot for the last four years, said, "Ever since we've been open, we've seen a number of dropouts come through. Some drop out and do nothing. Some drop out and get GEDs (general equivalency diplomas) and go to Greenfield Community College. That has been a population we hoped to work with in the first place."

Libby said his first piece of advice, when hearing of a teenager planning to drop out of school, is to tell them not to do it. "Anyone who does drop out, I encourage them to get a GED.

You don't get anywhere in life without a diploma: It's hard to get a job; it's hard to get into community college."

Libby said from the teenage dropouts he has talked to over the years he has come to the conclusion, "It's not a question of the academics being too hard at the high school. A lot of people don't see a specific correlation between what they get taught in the schools and what they need to know to survive in life."

In his observation, Libby said, "I would agree more men drop out than women. Young women are more willing to stick with something and see the big picture, even if they don't see immediate benefits. The young men," Libby generalized, "are a little more short sighted, a little more frustrated."

Offering his best idea for a solution to the doubling rate of drop outs at the high school, Libby said, "What I think would help keep young men engaged would be investing in non-core curriculum subjects, like arts programming. When the school day gets stripped down and there's nothing creative in between the core curriculum, it's hard to stay engaged. You don't have a balance."

Former Brick House director Nancy Emond has been working at the Turners Falls High School for the past year and half with a program she researched and secured \$58,000 in CDBG grant funding for, called Reconnecting Youth. The program teaches life skills (like decision making, self esteem building, goal setting,

DROPOUT cont. next page

## ARMY MISSES RECRUITMENT BENCHMARKS

BY PAMELA SCHWARTZ

**NORTHAMPTON** - The Army failed to meet its 90 percent benchmark for new recruits having at least a regular high school diploma by nearly 20 percentage points, with a rate of 70.7 percent in 2007, according to a county and state-level report on 2007 military recruits released this week by the National Priorities Project (NPP), a non-profit research group providing its fourth annual analysis of military recruits.

NPP based this analysis on military recruitment data obtained from the Department of Defense through a Freedom of Information Act request.

Since 2005, the percentage of recruits with at least a high school diploma dropped almost 12 percentage points in two years, according to NPP. Department of Defense (DoD) studies have shown that a high school diploma is a powerful indicator for recruits'

success, with around 80 percent of those with regular high school diplomas finishing the first term of enlistment, compared to only half of those without a diploma.

At the same time, the percentage of 'high quality' recruits continued their downward trend, dropping 12 percentage points since 2004, from 60.9 percent in 2004 to 44.6 percent in 2007. The DoD defines 'high quality' to include recruits who have at least a regular high school diploma and have scored in the upper half of the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT).

National Priorities Project's analysis also found that in 2007, upper-middle and high-income neighborhoods, or those with median household incomes of \$60,000 and greater, were under-represented by an even larger margin than in 2004. Meanwhile, the percentage of recruits from low and middle-income neighborhoods

(\$30,000 to \$54,999) grew since 2004.

"Once again, we're staring at the painful story of young people with fewer options bearing the greatest burden," Speeter noted. "Instead of spending millions more on new enlistment bonuses, we need to change the terms of where these soldiers are fighting and why they're taking the risk of never coming home."

County, city and state-level findings include:

• Harris County, TX, Maricopa County, AZ and Los Angeles County, CA had the highest absolute number of recruits.

• Edwards County, TX, Dixie County, FL, Galax City, VA and Turner County, GA had the highest recruitment rates, all over 10 per 1,000 youth.

• Alabama, Montana and Maine had the highest recruiting rates for the states.

• Nevada, Montana and

Mississippi had the lowest percentages of recruits with a regular high school diploma or better.

• Mississippi, Louisiana and Nevada had the lowest percentages of 'high quality' recruits.

• States with higher recruiting rates correlated with lower percentages of 'high quality' recruits.

For more information on the study, go to [www.nationalpriorities.org](http://www.nationalpriorities.org)

**The Rendezvous**  
 C'mon by, we've made a couple changes. **BAR WITH FOOD**

**Fri. 1/25 9pm. \$3**  
**LADY ELVIS w/ Fletcher & Manzi**

**Sat. 1/26. 9pm. \$3**  
**Hayward Jones Fitzpatrick**  
 (unit 7 rhythm section)

**\$2 off any panini or entree with this ad!**

**AWESOME! NEW! EXPANDED! MENU!!!**

78 THIRD STREET  
 TURNERS FALLS, MA  
 RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM  
 TEL: 413-863-2866

### Gill-Montague Education Fund Begins New Funding Cycle

**TURNERS FALLS** - The Gill-Montague Education Fund has begun a new funding cycle as applications for grants up to \$1,000 are now being accepted.

Faculty and staff in Gill-Montague schools have been invited to submit proposals for educational enrichment opportunities, and those proposals will be considered after the February 1st deadline.

This is the second of two funding cycles for the 2007-08 school year.

The criteria for evaluating proposals are:

- Projects enrich and support district and school goals and curricula;
- Projects specify clear goals, an implementation plan, timelines and an evaluation process and;

• Projects demonstrate a strong connection to improved student learning.

The Gill-Montague Education Fund is a non-profit organization established in 1996 by the parents and citizens of the towns of Gill and Montague to support district schools. Its goals are to provide programs and resources for the schools that would enrich the educational opportunities available to students and to encourage advocacy for public education within the community.

The GMEF has awarded more than \$37,000 in grants during the last three and a half years to enhance learning in various fields including science, music, art, athletics, language and reading.

Funds for the grants come from an annual musical gala at Turners Falls High School. This year, "The Essence of Country" with Don Campbell will be featured on April 26th. Tickets go on sale February 16th on the GMEF website ([www.thegmef.org](http://www.thegmef.org)).

The site also provides guidelines on how to apply for grants and access for staff to obtain all necessary forms. A special feature of the website is "Our Newsroom," which will offer articles illustrating the enrichment of the grants, student achievements as well as activities of the GMEF and profiles of the GMEF members

For more information, contact Joyce Phillips at [jp44@comcast.net](mailto:jp44@comcast.net).

**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**

Come in and see what's on SALE!  
 Everything Heart Shaped: Locketts, Earrings, Necklaces & More

772-0859  
 Corner of Main & Chapman Streets, Greenfield  
 Mon-Sat., 9:30-5:30  
[www.countryjeweler.com](http://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](http://www.bakerofficesupply.com)

**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



**DROPOUT** from pg 7

mood management, and communication) to a dozen ninth graders, who attend class with Reconnecting Youth teacher Sheila Thom, with Emond working in a support role. Emond said none of the students who have attended the program so far have dropped out, to her knowledge, although the program is still in its infancy at Turners Falls High School.

Emond said part of the goal of the program is to support youth to "maintain abstinence or drop use of drugs." She said the confidential setting allows youth to talk freely about the problems they experience in their home environment, or within the larger school community, and allows them to bond with a supportive peer group.

Additionally, the after school component of the program works with youth to teach them practical skills like opening a bank account, reviewing necessary documents like drivers licenses and social security cards, budgeting, and job interviewing. Students who participate in this part of the program, which was funded with a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, receive stipends based on their attendance, up to \$250. She said the program provides a "reality check" for students about the cost of renting an apartment and the availability of jobs.

Emond noted the town of Montague's Community Development Block Grant proposal this year, focused heavily on funding the new police station, contained no money for renewing the Brick House's share of the program, which is jointly sponsored by the Franklin Hampshire Career Center and the GMRSD.

TFHS principal Jeff Kenney said the students who have participated in the three semesters of Reconnecting Youth so far have given the program a thumbs up.

"The initial feedback has been very positive. We own the program. When the grant money runs out [in March, according to Emond] that should not stop us. Sheila Thom is doing a terrific job. We're looking at that as one of the ways to bring these (dropout) numbers down."

**MLK** from pg 1

as Heineberg's Recital Chorus, and were accompanied by Amy Crawford.

The floor was then opened to audience members to share their thoughts on the slain civil rights leader and the relevance of his message to the world today. Greenfield resident and local musician Annie Hassett led the crowd in a spontaneous and rousing rendition of "No Easy Road To Freedom."

Dr. Robert L. Pura, president of GCC, presented the "Bright Light" award after noting, "It's been tough to look at all the letters [of nomination] and pick one person who deserves the award."

This year's recipient was Sunny Miller, outgoing director of the Traprock Peace Center in Deerfield, whose "willingness to speak out" on injustice was described by Pura as one of her most consistent traits.

Miller accepted the award and called the moment, "truly humbling, such an honor." During her acceptance speech Miller spoke extensively about the psychology of non-violence and how it pertains both to the current war in Iraq and within the local community. "We didn't prevent the war in Iraq and we're losing our husbands, sons, daughters over there... We're losing part of our big family. There are four million refugees in Iraq; have you heard their stories? Seen them getting hospital care? What can we do differently?"

Miller also talked about nuclear energy and the environmental health and safety problems that attend it. "While we are living in a nuclear age

we have a responsibility to ask questions." During this segment of her talk Miller singled out Gill resident Sally Shaw for her work opposing the continued operation of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, as well as local homesteader and war tax resister Juanita Nelson and her late husband Wally, for their steadfast witness for peace and justice.

Miller passed out cards with King's "Six Steps to Nonviolence" and then

MA under the auspices of Boston University. Miller reminded the audience that academia had been singled out along with the military and industry in the first draft of President Eisenhower's famous speech decrying the influence of those institutions in perpetuating a permanent wartime economy in America.

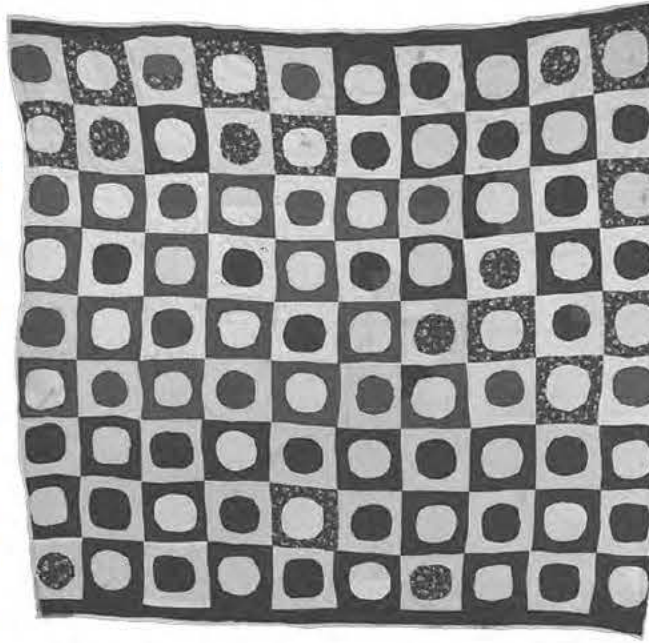
The "Living the Dream" award went to the 8th grade students of the Hilltop Montessori School of Brattleboro, VT. The seventeen students recently had taken a trip to Gee's Bend, Alabama to speak with residents there about that town's importance in the struggle for civil rights and, in the words of Pura, "to look at themselves and the greater community, and to accept the opportunity to look at themselves and others. These are young people who have deeply examined what it means to be 'different' and have come back and provided service."

At this juncture all the students had arrived and, led by their director Paul Dedell, performed the six songs that comprised their show, "Life, Love and Lard". Lyrically, the songs drew on the civil rights struggle from the perspective of the residents of Gee's Bend,

both black and white, as well as the perspective of the students themselves. The musical backing of electric and acoustic guitar, as well as bucket and drum, was a sparse but effective cross-pollination of blues and traditional high school band music.

"I think that was well worth the wait," said Hentz, as the audience applauded rapturously.

The ceremony closed with a rendition of "We Shall Overcome," led once again by Heins and Crawford.



*Quilt from Gee's Bend, Alabama*

described how these steps could become cornerstones of U.S. policy in Iraq and the rest of the world. Miller also addressed the responsibility of the academic community nationwide to take part in teaching the philosophy of non-violence. "Academia needs to stop their role in promoting warfare. How could we allow our universities to become places where we study war and not the teachings of Dr. King?" she asked, illustrating the point with the examples of the research going into the use of depleted uranium as a weapon, and the planned opening of a proposed bio-warfare lab in Roxbury,



**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.anewfacedayspa.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**  
Specializing in  
• Civilian Firearms  
• Training for Home Defense

**863-2964**  
**Cell: 413-843-1692**

**Lee Laster • Alan Lambert**  
Certified Instructors

**www.upperhandonline.com**

**PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU, Incorporated**  
Insurance

**PZ**

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

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 Avenue 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





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

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

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

**Susie Patlove and Susan Middleton will read from original works at the Great Falls Discovery Center on Friday January 25th at 6:30 pm.**

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

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

design by Boysen Hodgson

### Shell\*

Once I held a nautilus  
the size of a human heart,  
but so light, the remains of its life  
in the sea now just an elegant  
curl of calcium. What genius grows love  
from the inside out, building a  
new chamber each year and walling  
off the old ones? How can it bear  
to move farther, always farther,  
from the dark seed of its  
original life?

--Susan Middleton  
Ashfield

[\*From Seed Case of the Heart,  
Slate Roof Press, 2007.]

### The War in Me

He went into the air, my father,  
the night he died.  
Huge fistfuls of who he was  
thickened the indoor sky.  
I buried that air inside my bones,  
took a long breath of him into  
the girl he'd seeded  
on another night, his uniform  
over the sudden chair, in his ears  
the sound of boots marching,  
in his nose the burst smell  
of blood and cordite.  
Inside the body of my mother,  
I grew from his need to forget.

Years later, my hand resting  
over his stopped heart, all questions  
became unanswerable, took off  
through the green hospital wall,  
perched on the ledge below his window  
and waited for a time  
when who he was would surface  
in the look of a young stranger,  
a blue-eyed corporal  
who on the road to Baghdad  
had done what he could not tell.

--Susie Patlove  
Charlemont

### Ode to Forest

The house of safety has no solid  
walls to hold you in, keep others out.  
Vertical posts, many. Beams, only  
an occasional cracked branch fallen  
into the mortise fork of another tree.  
The house of quiet fills with sound:  
birds' daytime gossip, the moonlight  
whuffing of bears at play, the fisher's mewl.  
When even the animals are silent,  
wind-flutes siren through the attic canopy.

The house of stillness continually moves:  
white-tailed ghosts who vault from room  
to room, creek waters turning in their  
jagged beds, and under the floorboards  
worms and silverfish tunneling, tunneling.  
The house of blindness sees everything:  
you entering its back rooms and closets,  
consulting guidebooks, bagging specimens.  
It echoes your name ceaselessly,  
syllables you can't quite recall on your own.

--Susan Middleton  
Ashfield

### Audience With Death

Pondering the fiber content of your sprouted wheat cereal listed in the Nutrition Facts,  
You enjoy the cardboard-mixed-with-honey flavor,  
Calculating your daily intake,  
When your six-year old grandson walks up to the table  
With a bowl of an artificially flavored and colored  
"breakfast cereal".

"How can you let him eat that?" you cry,  
As your daughter closes a cupboard door.  
Look at this stuff - partially hydrogenated oil,  
High fructose corn syrup -  
You list off the ingredients,  
Like a criminal rap sheet.

But no one listens to your pontificating,  
And your grandson laughs at the funny, tilted way that your glasses  
rest upon your nose,  
and a bead of milk  
Clinging to your beard -  
In your excitement you forgot to wipe it away.

Beside you, the cane sits,  
Silent, not coming to your defense,  
Its shining, steel finish  
Cold, not just to the touch.  
It waits for you, as if to say,  
"I know you're not going anywhere without me."

The soapbox on which you stand -  
Figuratively for goodness-sakes -  
Draws no crowd, catches no ear.  
"They never listen-  
All this crap they put in their bodies.  
Well, wait until they get to be my age - just wait".

But the speeches, the acrimony,  
The bully-pulpit thirsting for an audience  
Isn't for them, it's for you -  
Seeking comfort in numbers,  
A choir of believers  
To help stave off death.

But death waits in the wings,  
Laughing hushed, but you hear it.  
Neither your speeches nor fiber calculations,  
Keep it at bay, though it stays a whisper.  
Snickering as you buy organic, non-GMO,  
Free range, high fiber, low fat foods.

Meanwhile putting who knows what chemicals  
into your body each day - damn pills!  
Oh, death thinks this is a riot,  
Barely catches a breath it's laughing so hard,  
And it knows the punchline -  
the pills are nothing more than a slow, ironic countdown.

Death is sly, though,  
Hidden most of the time,  
But reminding you of its presence every so often.  
Like the time you nearly took out your eye,  
Or the time you broke your ankle on the ice.  
Death is a cruel torturer, for sure.

In the end, when death finally gets its way,  
Sitting behind you, waiting patiently,  
Listening as you labor breath after breath -  
Unless it is merciful and you pass in your sleep -  
Your audience is here, all of them,  
But you can't stop to speak, can't pause a bit.

You want death now, you beg for it  
But it won't take you - not yet -  
Because your audience is here.  
And it was not you who summoned them, but death - smug death.  
Your only victory is that while death may have summoned them,  
They have come, at last, to listen to you.

R. J. DiDonato  
Wendell



### Advice from Seaweed

Wash up before every meal.  
- Look to the top of things.  
Go with the flow.  
Always give shelter to the needy.  
Be different sometimes.

--Wyatt Grant  
Raleigh, North Carolina

### Missing You

Thirty years don't just get set aside  
Like a blanket in the closet.

The creases get smoothed.  
The fabric caressed.

--Leslie Brown  
Montague City

### CONTRIBUTOR'S NOTES

Leslie Brown is an educator and social worker who also dabbles in acting and writing.

Wyatt Grant is 10 years old and lives in Raleigh, North Carolina. He likes to play basketball and wrote "Advice from Seaweed" at his school, Washington Elementary.

Susie Patlove won the 2000 Greenfield Library Poet's Seat Prize and is a member of the Slate Roof publishing collective.

Susan Middleton lives in Ashfield. In addition to writing poetry, she edits science books, tutors ESL students, and leads hikes for the Appalachian Mountain Club.

John Coletti is the author of *The New Normalcy* (Boogaloo 2002), *Physical Kind* (Yo-Yo-Labs 2005), and *Street Debris* (Fall Swoop 2005), a collaboration with poet Greg Fuchs with whom he also co-edits *Open 24 Hours Press*. He currently is the editor of *The Poetry Project Newsletter*.

Ario Quint is the author of *Days On End* (Open 24 Hours Press) and *Photogenic Memory* (Lame House Press). He is The Program Assistant at The Poetry Project.

Philadelphia poet Frank Sherlock is the author of *Over Here* (Katalancho Press), *Daybook of Perversities & Main Events* (Cy Gist Press) and

*Wounds in an Imaginary Nature Show* (Night Flag Books). A collaboration with Brett Evans entitled *Ready-to-Eat Individual* is forthcoming on Lavender Ink Press in the spring.

Sue Memhard is a gallery represented artist (painter), writer of children's stories and published poet (Boston Globe, poetry journals).

Ray DiDonato, a long-time poetry contributor to *The Montague Reporter*, lives in Wendell with his wife and children.

Gini Brown, an artist, lives in Berkeley.



**NOTHING IN NORMAL LIGHT**

this point gets to you where  
the plan removes itself onto  
greener pastures

a few friends are in love

get stoned  
as ever

in dark times the cars  
the sky in dark times  
consider this

we invade at midnight  
we get the beer  
we get the fuck out

another rising hour builds  
a blank page and past lives  
back of the mind put together  
the world isn't fair  
that last thing you think about

that last thing

--Arlo Quint  
New York


**from Over Here**

Out there is sunsetted a low-wattage glow

to backlight the active to give the theories their shine

Stacked books of forever stamps have already

blanketed trails Finding the next lost history via

these lives will be a wandered conversation beginning w/

the theory that turns on the active A child

stands alone w/ a gas can in hand

Bomb belt hula hoop juice box w/ a pull pin Keep the straw squeezed &

nobody gets hurt It has almost been covered almost

a memory like the time when the bison had space

--Frank Sherlock  
Philadelphia

**from Daybook of Perversities & Main Events:**

Resume the illusion of sovereignty as

a rebel victor in an abolitionist state

It is called a privilege to grow

skeletons that grow to become

something Introducing a child you'll love

--Frank Sherlock  
Philadelphia

**night dream**

tonight again  
the raccoon is crouching beside the skunk.  
each of them is loudly munching and  
crunching his late night dinner.

i think: they are old friends  
passing the time of night,  
perhaps discussing  
the evening's likely rain.

their bodies are huddled so close to each other-  
and now to me -- as i step outside in the darkness  
that i am astonished. but they are not at all  
even as my flashlight beam

lasers their neon green eyes  
and they become a small  
four-eyed night monster,  
one sided with black and white stripes.

oh, they are too busy with eating  
and getting along with each other  
to think about me. i am just  
another creature of the day dream,

and they know nothing about that.

--Suo Memhard  
Shutesbury

**A Woman Speaks to Her Tongue**

A woman speaks to her tongue bids it  
lie still and let those around the table  
take up the soft air that holds them  
let them speak of themselves and each other  
touching on the flesh from which they came-  
the woman herself her father her grandmother  
in the hovering time that folds itself  
over the day the trees not yet leafed out  
sky flying above them like kisses blown

If they eat out-of-doors the sauce is birdsong  
the salt unseen stars watching them  
with the eyes of ancestors while the last stored  
butternut gleams orange in a white bowl  
and the woman's tongue lies against her palate  
like a child in the womb-nothing is longed for  
nothing is more perfect than the imperfection  
that flies down lands on her shoulder  
only to become weightless as it disappears  
into the tender light wide with April

--Susie Patlove  
Charlemont

All These  
Neat little bottles  
I send out in notes  
soft sweet emptiness  
soak up lots of bread  
daddy knows  
heart across fence  
fills no borders

--John Coletti  
New York

**Grolla**

Numbered bits of  
flaming paper  
one day late &  
three grand short  
still here little plump  
home calling soft answers  
Wyoming mackerel  
sucking coin

--John Coletti  
New York

**ALL SMALL CAPS**  
A NIGHT OF SPOKEN WORD

• Doors open 7:00 p.m.  
• Open mic 7:15-8:00  
• Featured readers 8:15-9:30


All comers are invited to  
read from their own  
work or the works of  
others, poetry or prose.  
Admission: \$1-5

Upcoming Readings

January 28 - John Coletti, Arlo Quint  
& Frank Sherlock  
February 25 - Geoffrey Olsen & Alan Davies  
March 31 - Julia Cohen & Mathias Svalina  
April 28 - Gina Myers, Lori Shine  
& Betsy Wheeler

Website: <http://allsmallcaps.blogspot.com>  
Email: [allsmallcaps@gmail.com](mailto:allsmallcaps@gmail.com)

**Deja Brew Pub & Cafe**  
57 Lockes Village Rd., Wendell  
Fresh beer, Fine wines, Home cooking  
Entertainment Nightly • Open Wed-Sun, 4 pm  
**(978)544-2739**



**Readers**

We are a family of readers  
We read while we wait  
We read in the car  
We read with our nose in our  
plate

We are a family of readers


A silent and  
Motionless brood  
We dare not interrupt  
The written word  
When I crack the spine  
And actively engage  
I'm unaware of the time  
And stay glued to the page

A hush fills my ears  
I forget where I was  
I look up and see  
You are still young  
With guilty relief  
I take in your soft skin  
And return to the page  
And then another  
I steal a chapter  
And then another

We are a family of readers  
We are a family of readers  
We are a family of cheaters?

--Gini Brown  
Berkeley CA

**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**

*We Specialize in Impossible Deadlines!*

- 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](mailto:greenfield@copycatprintshop.com)



**THE OCCASIONAL DINER**

**Fine Food and Cheer Await at Hope and Olive**

BY LESLIE BROWN

**GREENFIELD** - Eating on the screened riverside porch of the Bottle of Bread was like stopping in at friends' for potluck: warm, friendly and unpredictable. Dining at Hope and Olive is a cosmopolitan experience: flavorful, locally grown food served with élan in a European pub atmosphere.

Two years ago last December, a nighttime fire destroyed the Bottle of Bread in Shelburne Falls. The owners of the business lost everything. In its five years of existence, the restaurant had built a solid base of fans in the community.

After the fire, the community responded with fundraisers to support the owners and their employees. One local eatery, the Tusk 'N' Rattle in Shelburne Falls, put out food, ran a cash bar and put out a jar for donations, raising \$10,000. Many others helped out.

This local support enabled Evelyn Whitbeck-Poorbaugh, and Jim and Maggie Zaccara to purchase the former Polish-Americans Citizens Club on the corner of Hope and Olive in Greenfield. The new restaurant, called, aptly enough, Hope and Olive opened on September 22nd, 2007.

This new 7,000-square-foot space is at least three times the size of the former restaurant. It is light and airy, warmly painted in earthy tones and furnished with dark brown furniture.

You enter the restaurant by gradual ramps leading to the front door, which opens into a large space dominated and divided by the length of the wooden bar, each side of which is filled with tables set for one, two, three or more diners, as well as booths in the back section which still sports the original tin ceiling.

We went on a Friday night, planning to eat before attending the Duopalooza benefit concert at All Souls. At six-thirty, the place was packed, with standing

room only. We ordered from the bar and were soon seated at a small triangular table with three tall stools, where we enjoyed a glass of wine while waiting for a booth. At seven-twenty, we were seated in a booth on the backside of the bar.

The three of us ordered from different sections of the menu in order to sample several aspects of the offerings: a salad of mixed greens topped with warm goat cheese followed by fish stew; the roast chicken sandwich with tomato pesto dressing and goat cheese and the stuffed acorn squash with cranberries, lentils and tempeh.

Everything was fresh, delicately flavored and delicious.

The fish stew was served as a thick bowl of fish, mussels and vegetables with a savory sauce; the sandwich served on lightly grilled bread was dressed with a side of salad greens, sweet

tended to, and allowed to take all the time they wish to enjoy the fine food and convivial atmosphere.

For another occasion, we would certainly plan to arrive a bit earlier and to set the evening meal as an event in and of itself,

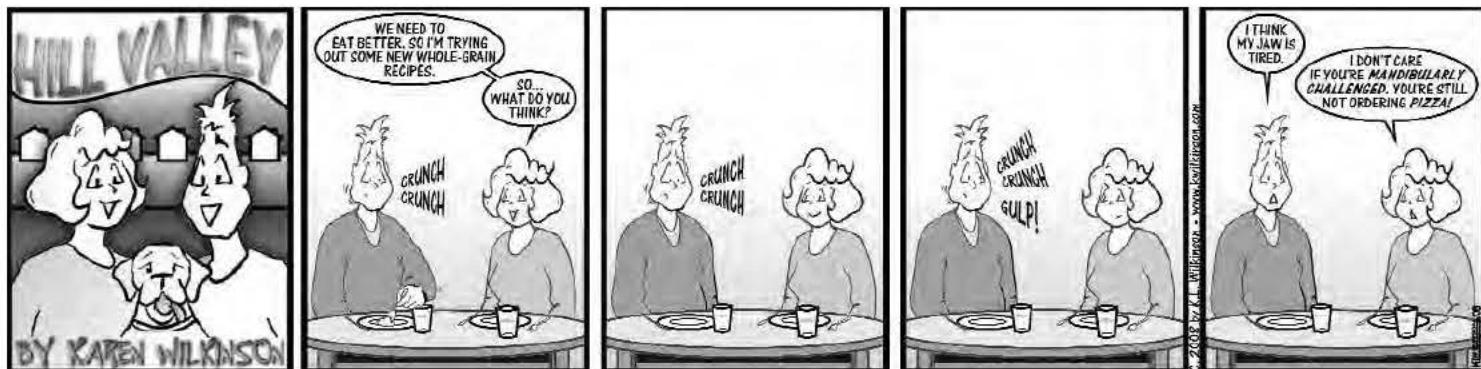
fully savored and enjoyed with the good company of friends.

Hope and Olive is open for lunch Tuesday-Friday from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; for dinner Tuesday - Saturday 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.; and Sundays for brunch from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. for dinner. The menu includes traditional choices, vegetarian meals and specials ranging from \$6.50 to \$19.00 for luncheon salads, pizza, sandwiches and entrees like peanut-crusted sirloin tips; dinners at \$12 - \$21 (butternut squash pasta to grilled skirt steak). The Sunday brunch features a huge array of choices including omelette with hen of the woods mushrooms, goat cheese, shallots and arugula, raspberry cream cheese French toast and an artery-stopping Polish breakfast plate with pierogies, kielbasa, kraut and eggs.

Plan to try Hope and Olive soon with friends. As Julia Child would say, *Bon Appetit!*



Culinary excellence at the corner of Hope and Olive



SEND YOUR VOTE TO → WAFFLESTCLOWN POBOX 96 WENDELL 01379

**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

Original designs in clay by Artist Jaye Pope  
**GOOD DIRT POTTERY**  
PO Box D-5 Montague MA 01351  
Gooddirt@Montaguema.net 413-367-0155  
www.gooddirtpottery.com  
call for hours  
Clay is Good Dirt

**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

**H<sub>2</sub>O 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  
AUBUCHON HARDWARE  
413-863-2100  
(expires January 31, 2008)



## NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

# Airport, CDBG Grant, Police Station on the Agenda

BY ALEX GOTTSCHALK -

Montague selectboard member Pat Allen opened the board's meeting on the frigid night of January 22nd with a call for a moment of silence for Anna Garbiel, the former Montague Center Elementary School principal and village mainstay who passed away last Thursday after a protracted illness. Allen said Garbiel would be "sorely missed."

The crowded agenda got underway with Brian McHugh of the Franklin County Regional Housing Authority outlining the town of Montague's million dollar FY2008

Community Development Block Grant proposal. A portion of the grant money - \$71,600 - would be devoted to no interest housing rehab loans for low and moderate income homeowners in Montague. McHugh stressed the grant funds would be allocated according to standards set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to correct code violations. "We inspect houses and follow state codes for everything, whether it's septic, lead abatement or fire regulations. We don't do remodeling or additions. We're not going to change people's wallpaper if they don't like it."

Approximately six housing units in Montague will benefit from this grant.

The lion's share of the grant - \$700,000 - is earmarked for the construction of the new police station, next to the fire station on Turnpike Road. Regarding this project, town administrator Frank Abbondanzio said, "Most of the pieces are in place. [It] will serve both the interests of town and the fire district."

### Police Station

Tying into this agenda item, the police station building committee asked the board to endorse a proposal granting their committee the ability to approve change orders, subject to periodic selectboard review, for the upcoming \$5.6 million Turnpike Road building project.

The committee has recently hired the Maguire Group of Foxborough as the Owners Project Manager for the police station building project. Anthony Diluzio will serve the town as project manager and Ted Fiffy will fill the role of clerk of the works.

Selectboard member Allen Ross was lavish in his praise for the committee: "You've obviously been very responsible, candid and sharing every step of the way with us. Keep us informed, so there won't be any surprises. Your work has been enormous and detailed and we're very grateful."

To this end, the selectboard voted unanimously to accept the proposal. "Get to work, guys!" Allen told committee members after the vote.

### RiverCulture Backed

The selectboard agreed to continue matching funds for the two-year-old RiverCulture arts and economic development program for downtown Turners Falls, directed by Lisa Davol. The program has been funded by the Mass Cultural Council, with support from local businesses, organizations, and the town of Montague. The town's match would continue for the next two years, with \$20,000 dollars matched in 2008, and \$15,000 in

2009. "It's been a great program, better than we dared hope. It's really caught on and expanded," said Allen.

### Airport Equipment

Turners Falls airport commission chair Peter Golrick and airport manager Michael Sweeney were on hand to discuss Wednesday night's special town meeting article to purchase maintenance equipment for the airport. Sweeney presented a detailed estimate of costs for new airport maintenance equipment, including an 81-horsepower tractor, a 15-foot 'brush hog,' a 'Gator' utility wagon, a five-foot wide snow blower and a rider mower. "It's quite a bit of equipment for a modest amount of money," said Sweeney, who showed in his handout that money for the equipment would come from the airport enterprise fund and the airport timber harvest project. The purchase of the equipment could possibly enable the airport to qualify for the USDA WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program).

"It's a very good confluence of different interests," stated Sweeney. "It helps us stay within budget and doesn't cost us in additional taxes."

The board endorsed the warrant article to purchase the airport maintenance equipment, with this caveat from Ross: "This type of equipment can get very costly, very quickly."

Also in airport related news was the approaching visit of Peter Welch from the Massachusetts Aeronautic Commission (MAC). Tentatively, Welch plans to come to Montague at 4:00 p.m. on

February 25th to review guidelines and regulations for the Montague airport. Allen stated that Montague has not in fact jeopardized their grant application with the MAC for runway expansion money, despite the fact the selectboard voted last month to expand the size of the airport commission by adding two members, which some on the commission had feared the MAC might view as an attempt to reorganize the board in the middle of the expansion project.

"By adding two new members we are technically reorganizing, but they [MAC] don't need us to rescind the last vote. They have actually been pretty flexible, despite what they had written," Allen said.

### Stalemate on Board Make-Up

As in past meetings, the discus-

sion around the airport became stalemated by the ongoing question of the role of non-residents who serve on the airport commission. Both Allen and board member Patricia Pruitt called for a straw vote to be taken at town meeting on January 23rd to informally poll townspeople on the issue of whether residents of other towns should be allowed to serve on Montague boards and commissions and, if so, whether they should be allowed to participate in the financial decision making of those boards. Ross did not support the motion, but was outvoted.

That led to a lengthy and inconclusive discussion Wednesday night at town meeting on the question of non-residents serving on town boards, which was finally tabled with no straw poll taken.

## Rt. 63 Roadhouse

### James Montgomery



### Blues Band

8 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 25th

Ottomatic Slim opens the show

Sat., Jan. 26th -- **House Party**

J. Geils tribute band - Only Area Show 9:30 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

**GREENFIELD**  
Est. 1901  
**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  
stylist or barber!

Debra Mathey  
owner and stylist

**Antique Clocks**  
Bought & Sold

**BOB PACY**

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

NAWCC No. 0101315  
STONEHAM, MA 02180

WILL TRAVEL

**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**

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



**THE HEALTHY GEEZER**

# The Ideal Diet

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ -- Q. *What is the best diet for losing weight?*

The subtext of this question is, "What's an easy fix?"

There are no shortcuts that work consistently and healthfully. The answer is simple. The best diet for losing weight gives you fewer calories than you burn. Facing an energy shortage, your body will reach into fat for

stored calories and you will drop pounds.

Federal guidelines say that men and active women need about 2,500 calories daily. Other women and inactive men need only about 2,000 calories daily. It is recommended that you consume 300 to 500 fewer calories to lose one to two pounds a week.

Exercise is important to weight loss, because it burns

calories. You should exercise vigorously for a half-hour most days. Walking quickly works. You can do your half-hour all at once, or break it up into shorter sessions.

Any senior will tell you that it's more difficult to lose weight as you get older. One reason is that metabolism - the process that converts food into energy - is slowed by aging. Another reason is that muscle burns up more calories than fat does. As you get older, muscle decreases and fat constitutes more of your weight.

So, seniors get a double whammy that leads to weight gain. And older women get a triple whammy, because of their gender. Women usually have less muscle than men and tend to be smaller than men. A smaller body requires fewer calories.

If you are considering a diet and exercise program, you should consult your doctor first. Before you begin, it would be helpful to find out how much fat you have to lose. What's important is not weight, but the amount of fat you are carrying. The body mass index (BMI) is a measure of fat based on height and weight.

If you want to calcu-

late your BMI, you divide your weight in pounds by height in inches squared and then multiply by a conversion factor of 703. Here's an example:

$$\text{Weight} = 175 \text{ lbs, Height} = 6'1" (73")$$

$$\text{Calculation: } [175 \div (73)^2] \times 703 = 23.1$$

A BMI between 19 and 25 is normal. Overweight is 25 to 29.9. Obese is 30 or higher.

If you don't like math, you can use a simple BMI calculator at: <http://www.nhlbi.support.com/bmi/>

Here are a dozen tips for losing weight that I collected from a variety of reputable sources.

1. Keep track of the food you eat; this prevents overeating.
2. Don't cut back too much because your body will begin conserving energy and make it difficult to reduce.
3. Begin exercises to develop muscle so your body will burn more calories.
4. Avoid fads. Eat a balanced diet or you may deny yourself important nutrients.
5. Losing weight is difficult so don't be tempted by reduction plans that make it sound easy.
6. You know what's fattening without checking a book. If it tastes heavenly, avoid it as much as possible.
7. Drink water. It has no calories and will help you with your hunger.
8. Eat because you're hungry, not because you're bored. Take a walk instead.
9. Eat slowly and savor your food so you don't feel deprived



JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

later.  
10. Don't skip meals or you will become ravenous and then overeat.

11. Alcoholic drinks are loaded with non-filling calories. They also dissolve your inhibitions and make you eat more. Be careful.

12. Seconds? Ain't gonna happen.

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

### MCTV Schedule Channel 17: Jan. 15th-31th

**Friday, January 25**  
 8:00 am Montague Update - Paul Mariani  
 9:00 am Montague Select Board (1/22/08)  
 11:00 am Mind Control  
 11:30 am Montague Machine  
 12:30 pm Senior Self Defense  
 6:00 pm Montague Update - Steven Stoa  
 7:00 pm GMRSD Meeting (1/22/08)  
 9:30 pm Our Lady of Czestochowa - Latin Tridentine Mass  
 10:30 pm Common Man - Jeff Brewer

**Saturday, January 26**  
 8:00 am Montague Update - Steven Stoa  
 8:30 am GMRSD Meeting (1/22/08)  
 11:00 am Our Lady of Czestochowa - Latin Tridentine Mass  
 12:00 pm Common Man - Jeff Brewer  
 6:00 pm Special Town Meeting (1/23/08)  
 8:00 pm Road to Recovery - Investing in Treatment  
 9:00 pm Teachers at Sea  
 9:30 pm Prevailing Winds in Denmark  
 10:00 pm Art Fest

**Sunday, January 27**  
 8:00 am Special Town Meeting (1/23/08)  
 10:00 am Road to Recovery - Investing in Treatment  
 11:00 am Teachers at Sea  
 11:30 am Prevailing Winds in Denmark  
 12:00 pm Art Fest  
 6:00 pm Montague Update - Jamie Berger  
 7:00 pm Physician Focus - Pathology & the Patient  
 7:30 pm Senior Self Defense  
 9:30 pm Sustainable Energy  
 10:30 pm Carlos W. Anderson - Cost of Freedom  
 11:00 pm Encore Body Art - Helga and Crabby

**Monday, January 28**  
 8:00 am Montague Update - Jamie Berger  
 9:00 am Physician Focus - Pathology & the Patient  
 9:30 am Senior Self Defense  
 11:30 am Sustainable Energy

12:30 pm Carlos W. Anderson - Cost of Freedom  
 1:00 pm Encore Body Art - Helga & Crabby  
 6:30 pm Independent Voices 38  
 7:00 pm Montague Select Board - (Live)  
 9:00 pm Our Lady of Czestochowa - Volume 5  
 9:30 pm Montague Update - Ted Graveline  
 10:00 pm This is Montague  
 10:30 pm Changing Face of Turners Falls

**Tuesday, January 29**  
 8:00 am Independent Voices 38  
 8:30 am Our Lady of Czestochowa - Volume 5  
 9:00 am Montague Update - Ted Graveline  
 9:30 am This is Montague  
 10:00 am Changing Face of Turners Falls  
 6:00 pm Montague Update - Steven Stoa  
 7:00 pm GMRSD (1/22/08)  
 10:00 pm Coffee House - Jeff Martell

**Wednesday, January 30**  
 8:00 am Montague Update - Steven Stoa  
 9:00 am GMRSD (1/22/08)  
 12:00 pm Coffee House - Jeff Martell  
 6:00 pm Special Town Meeting - (1/23/08)  
 8:00 pm Physician Focus - Men's Health  
 8:30 pm Power Canal Draw Down  
 9:00 pm Preachin the Blues  
 10:00 pm Road to Recovery - Helping Families Find Recovery

**Thursday, January 31**  
 8:00 am Special Town Meeting (1/23/08)  
 10:00 am Physician Focus - Men's Health  
 10:30 am Power Canal Draw Down  
 11:00 am Preachin the Blues  
 12:00 pm Road to Recovery - Helping Families Find Recovery  
 6:00 pm Montague Update - Jamie Berger  
 7:00 pm Montague Select Board - (1/28/08)  
 9:00 pm Birds of Prey  
 10:00 pm Enjoy the Ride  
 10:30 pm MCTV Video Camp  
 11:00 pm Over the Falls: The Big Read

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

**EDL** Dealer in Used Home Furnishings  
 SMALL FURNITURE • COLLECTABLES • DECORATIVES  
 374 Deerfield Street • Greenfield  
 featuring: Lamps Mirrors Chairs Baskets  
 Cookery Figurines End Tables  
 I Make Lamps Lite! Open 7 Days a Week  
**GOOD USED USABLES**

**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

**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  
 540 Northfield Rd., Bernardston 1-800-327-9992  
 www.countryoil.com 413-648-9912  
 #M10588 (MA)

Annual Heating System Cleaning  
 Plumbing Repairs  
 LICENSED TECHNICIANS

**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  
 413.582.1065 413.527.3650 802.251.8015 803.358.6933



**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

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

## MAGGIE, DUKE AND MISERY

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH GILL - Work at the mill continued intermittently, and Pa was still short of money. One day, a man in the next town saw our horse, Maggie. Though she

was high spirited, she was easy to handle. The man was smitten with her and offered to pay a good price. Pa took it.

I was heartbroken. Since he had allowed me to name her, I'd assumed she was mine and I had expected her to stay with us permanently.

A couple of years later, as we were driving on a country road to pick blueberries, I spotted Maggie plowing a field in team with another horse. I begged Pa to stop, and ran out to see her. The farmer brought the team to a halt, and let the horses rest. I called her name. Maggie pricked up her ears.

Maggie's coat was dull and ratty. She didn't hold her head high the way she used to. I talked to her for a while. She shook her head up and down a couple of times as if to let me know she remembered me.

When the farmer said, "Giddy up," she put her head down and threw her weight into the harness and the team went back to plowing the land. I never saw her again, and I always felt emptiness when I thought about her.

After Pa had sold Maggie, he bought Duke, a strong healthy horse that had been mistreated and had turned mean. He tried to kick or bite whenever he got the chance. Pa warned everyone to be careful around him.

While bringing our cows in from the pasture one evening, I tried to drive Duke in too. He was grazing and wasn't about to leave. The stick I carried was short. I was afraid to get close to Duke, so I tossed the stick at his rump. It just bounced off.

With nothing in my hand, Duke came charging at me, ears laid back, teeth bared. I ran for the fence. Duke was right behind me. I stumbled and fell, and turned to look to see Duke's front hooves high in the air, ready to crash down. I closed my eyes and turned my head away, waiting for the hooves to hit me. The hooves crashed down next to me. Ma had been watching

from the kitchen window, and had run out, flapping her apron to divert him.

When Pa got home, Ma told him that Duke had to go. Pa listened to her for a change. I'd hoped he'd buy Maggie back. Instead, he bought a swaybacked old mare that was ready for the glue factory. Her hooves were diseased, and hadn't been trimmed in years. Her feet were so big she looked like she was wearing snowshoes.

Mr. Cislo trimmed her hooves back until they showed pink. They were still so long she stepped on my heels when I led her. But I could walk on ahead of her without holding onto her bridle, and she followed me like a dog. Pa laughed at her sad condition and named her *Biala Bieda*, which strictly interpreted means White Misery, but actually has the connotation of 'sad sack'. But we all loved her and she became a pet.

One afternoon my sister Irene came to grief when we began feeding White Misery grass in her stall. We brought handfuls of grass into the stall from the rear. If White Misery was standing too close to the side of the stall, we'd nudge her hind leg and she'd move over.

She really liked the fresh grass. But on one trip, I got some nettles mixed in with the grass. It must have stung her tongue, because she spit them out, moved over, and blocked our way.

Irene arrived with a handful of grass and nudged Misery's leg. The mare wouldn't move. Irene got more persistent and nudged her leg harder. Misery lifted up her hoof and kicked. It didn't seem like a strong kick but it caught Irene in the stomach and sent her flying. She lay still on the barn floor.

I ran to the house and told Ma the story from the very beginning. Ma was busy and only half listened. When I got to the punch line, "Irene's laying on the floor and she won't get up,"

Ma dropped what she was doing and ran to the barn.

She carried Irene into the house and laid her on her bed. Irene woke up after a while, but kept moaning. When Pa came home, Ma told him what had happened and asked him to take Irene to a doctor.

"She's not bleeding," he said. "What's a doctor going to do?"

It took years for Irene to recover.

Misery slept standing up, as horses usually do. Horses have the ability to lock their legs and stand even when sleeping. But one morning we found Misery down in her stall, unable to get up.

"Someone must have fed her too much corn. Too much corn will cripple, every time," Pa said.

That evening, after work, Johnny came to the farm and helped dig a grave for the mare in a field away from the house. The adults were secretive about what was about to happen and Ma told all of us to stay in the house. We heard a loud gunshot. Johnny had shot Misery in the head. He dragged her body to the grave with Studer's homemade tractor. I guess that's when Pa got the idea that a tractor made sense.

He later bought a tractor made from a cut down Reo truck. He figured a tractor would last longer than another worn-out horse, and he wouldn't have to feed it when it wasn't working or bury it when it needed to be killed.

Pa gave me the job of cleaning out the barn. Congealed blood lay six inches deep in the gutter. It was then that I realized that a farm was an awful bloody place and not at all the happy scene depicted in children's books like *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, as Irene repeatedly tried to tell me. Everything that had happened to poor Misery got me depressed. The only bright spot in my life was our teacher Miss Pogoda.

- Continued Next Week

**EDWARDS TREE SERVICE**

Storm Damage Prevention & Restoration  
 Cabling & Bracing  
 Shade Tree Maintenance  
 Tree Removal

**978-544-7452**

**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

**REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS CALL 863-8666, FAX 863-3050**

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

**BENEFIT BREAKFAST** - The Four Rivers Charter Public School is having a pancake breakfast at Applebee's in Greenfield on Saturday, January 26th from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The cost of the tickets are \$6 each. The funds raised will go towards the cost of a trip for a community based service project in Mexico that the Spanish 3 & 4 students are going on in April. Tickets are available at the door the day of the breakfast. **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.

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

**FOR RENT** - Isla Mujeres (Mexican Caribbean) Vacation Rental. Available by day (\$50) or week (\$300) lovely, newly constructed and fully furnished 1-bedroom bungalow with large living room/dining room, private bath & efficiency kitchen. Close to beach. Info @ <http://lacasaroja.weebly.com/> or call Luis 413-475-2982.

**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](mailto:reporter@Montaguema.net) (Pay for a second week, get a third week free!)

**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

**EASTERN WEATHERIZATION**  
 Specializing in Cellulose Insulation  
 Infrared Quality Assurance Guaranteed

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

Montague, MA 01351

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

**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*. Drop-in, also Feb. 29, & March 28.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls:  
**James Montgomery & Ottomatic Slim** 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.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Wildwood Unplugged** - Indie Folk, no cover. 9 to 11 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 26th**  
Wendell Full Moon Coffee House, Wendell: **Gypsy Wranglers**. Special blend of Acoustic Swing Music drawn from Gypsy Jazz, Cowboy Swing, French Musette, Big Band and New Orleans Jazz. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse, 8 p.m.

**THE LADY KILLIGREW:**  
still proudly serving  
**BROWN RICE SALAD**

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



*Zydeco Connection performs at Green Trees Gallery Mardi Gras Party on 1/2 at 7 p.m. This local zydeco band features Lil' Cyn on accordion and vocals, Eileen Almeida on rub-board and lead vocals, Smilin' Steve on bass, Mike Rose on guitar, and from Louisiana, Thomas Breau on drums.*

Open Mic at 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*.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Mother Turtle** - Soul Rock, no cover. 9 to 11 p.m.

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.

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](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/universal_access).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 27th**  
At Laughing Dog Farm, Gill *How to build a low-cost, unheated hoop-house* and grow food around the calendar, 10 -12:30 p.m. Suggested donation of \$15-\$25 is appreciated. Followed by soup, bread and informal discussion. Limited to 12. RSVP (and directions) [dbotkin@valinet.com](mailto:dbotkin@valinet.com).

Family Contra Dance at the Montague Grange. Dances are taught and geared toward the whole family. Dances are the last Sunday of the month thru April, 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.1794meeting-house.org](http://www.1794meeting-house.org).

The Dead of Winter Film Series at the Montague Bookmill, Montague Center. Free film for the frozen: **Don't Look Back** (1967) Portait of Bob Dylan by DA Pennebaker. 7 p.m. Food & drink at the Lady Killigrew & the Night Kitchen.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Steve Crow & Peter Kim** - Acoustic Duo, no cover. 8 to 10 p.m.

**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.

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

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

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30th**  
Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Ottomatic Slim** - rocken blues great harp, 7 to 10 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 31st**  
Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: open Mic hosted by Peter Kim, Jimmy Arnold with Dave Boatwright, all welcome to play. 8:30 to 12 a.m.

The Dead of Winter Film Series at the Montague Bookmill, Montague Center. **Special event:** local author & filmmaker John Marks: Marks's new book, *Reasons to Believe: One Man's Journey Among the Evangelicals and the Faith He Left Behind* ties in with his new documentary *Purple State of Mind*. Marks will sign books and introduce his film, 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1st**  
Deja Brew, Wendell: **Green Thumb Brothers** - Reggae, no cover. 9 to 11 p.m.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **TBA** - rock & roll covers, come dance! 9:30 p.m

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd**  
Groundhog Day Farmers' Market and Week of Winter Fare, 10 to 2 p.m. held at the Second

Congregational Church, Greenfield. [www.buylocalfood.com](http://www.buylocalfood.com) or call Ferdene Chin-Yee (413) 665-2041.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Usquabae Jazz** - Jazz, no cover. 9 to 11 p.m.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **TBA** - rock & roll covers, come dance! 9:30 p.m

Mardi Gras Party with **Zydeco Connection**, 7-10 p.m. at Green Trees Gallery, 105 Main St., Northfield. Doors open at 6 p.m. for gallery viewing. Louisiana gumbo and beverages on sale. (413) 498-0283 [www.greentreesgallery.com](http://www.greentreesgallery.com)

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

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd & 3rd**  
The Ja'Duke Center for the Performing Arts presents *Nunsense* at 8 p.m. and Sunday, February 3 at 2 p.m. Reserve tickets at 863-8333 or available at World Eye Bookshop.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd**  
Deja Brew, Wendell: **Adam Bergeron** - Classical Piano, no cover. 7 to 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4th**  
"Meet the Artists" reception, 12 to 1 p.m., South Gallery, Greenfield Community College. The exhibition on display through Thursday, February 14th. Mon. - Thur. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Brave the cold--come to our  
**Open Mic!**

Friday January 25 7-9  
at The Brick House  
24 3rd St. in Turners Falls

**ONGOING**  
On display at Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, Turners Falls: Paul Taylor *Themes and Variations* at Gallery 85, Susan kae Grant *Night Journeys* at Gallery 52 & 56. Photographs displayed till March 16th.

**FREE FILMS FOR THE FROZEN**  
**Sunday, January 27th 7pm**  
**Don't Look Back**  
(1967) Portait of Bob Dylan by DA Pennebaker Food & Drink available at The Lady Killigrew & the Night Kitchen  
[www.montaguebookmill.com](http://www.montaguebookmill.com) (413) 367-9206

**GREENFIELD GARDEN CINEMAS**  
Main St. Greenfield, MA  
413-774-4881

[www.gardencinemas.net](http://www.gardencinemas.net)  
Showtimes for  
Friday, Jan 25th - Thursday, Jan. 31st

1. JUNO PG13  
DAILY 6:30 9:00  
MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00

2. SWEENEY TODD  
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. NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN  
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 PG 13  
MAT FRI, SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30

**Draft Beer** **Great Food**  
**Fine Wine**

**Open Wed-Sun at 4 p.m.**

Friday 1/25 9-11 p.m.  
Indie Folk **Wildwood Unplugged**  
Saturday 1/26 9-11 p.m.  
Soul Rock **Mother Turtle**  
Sunday 1/27 8-10 p.m.  
Acoustic Duo  
**Steve Crow & Peter Kim**  
Thursday 1/31 8-10 p.m.  
**Radio Free Earth**  
No Cover Any Night  
**978-544-BREW**  
57A Lockes Village Road  
Next to the Wendell Country Store

**Upcoming at the Great Falls Discovery Center**  
[www.greatfallsma.org](http://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 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  
**JANUARY 26th** 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Discussion of Lester Brown's new publication, *PLAN B 3.0*. Books available for sale in Museum Store.  
**THROUGH JANUARY 31st**  
Green River Landscapes by Frank Gregory on Display in the Great Hall

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd**  
*Winter Birds*, join Refuge staff for bird walk along the canal and river-side. Meet at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 9 a.m.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8th**  
Great Falls Coffee House, 7 to 9 p.m. Amanda Community Chorus performs music from around the world. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. \$6-\$12 donation suggested.

**REYNOLDS PROPERTIES**  
256 North Pleasant Street  
Amherst, MA 01002

Lynn Reynolds  
ABR GRI CRS

"Aiming for  
Astonishing Service"

413-367-2425 [lynnreynolds@verizon.net](mailto: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



# BIRDWATCHING BONANZA

BY FRAN HEMOND

**MONTAGUE CENTER** - The good bird sights in Montague are in many places, sometimes in your own backyard. The houses on our river opposite Barton Cove have a fabulous view of the eagle nest that is getting ready for this year's production. Pat Carlisle has a telescope with the eagle nest in sharp view, and recently the male and female eagles, their white heads and white tails giving them their regal aspect, sat on opposite sides of their large nest in a tree across the river, apparently contemplating on offspring for the season. Closer by in the yard, a flock of redpolls, little winter finches with bright heads and black chins, enjoyed her feeder full of sun-

flower seed. This is their trip south for the winter.

The canal at Migratory Way is hosting more than thirteen goldeneyes, little diving ducks. They are often opposite the parking spots beyond the gates. Six drakes, their white bellies a sharp contrast to their shiny green heads that look black at a distance, obliged recently by performing near shore. The good-sized white spot near their eyes gives them not only a name but real distinction. The seven girls, fabulous little divers who challenge the watcher to find them popping up from a



*The Common Goldeneye*

dive, are demurely feathered. Their gray bodies are topped by dull brown heads with white collars.

Not long ago, a flotilla of mute

swans stopped by on the canal. They need no identification; their five feet of bird and frequency in parks make them well known. Unfortunately, this species introduced to beautify parks of American cities, had moved into the habitat of less aggressive

American birds, and has propagated freely. A group sailing along with wings spread as if drying them out before lift-off is indeed a sight to behold, as a

walker on the canal road interpreted the scene to me.

The swan boats in the Boston Public Garden, that delight children with boat rides on the park's waterway, share the space with real mute swans and kids' boats on a string in that big city. Our native swan, the whistling swan, is smaller, with a straight neck and black bill, and I have only seen him on the Delmarva Peninsula (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia) a flyway for many water birds. But he may stop by.

Montague regularly offers lots of interesting sights: turkeys scurrying through the fields and woods, hawks in the sky and over the meadows, gulls and ducks in the river, and regular customers at your feeder.

## PHOTO from pg. 1

Grant's exhibit "Night Journeys," on view through March 15th.

It is intriguingly voyeuristic to walk through someone else's dreams, but these are your dreams, too (whether or not you assume there is a collective unconscious), if only because your dreams have vanished and will continue to vanish, whereas Grant has captured hers - flying, falling figures; dogs in pursuit; suitcases and briefcases; the devil with a long tail - and you won't forget these. There are other archetypes you will enjoy recalling: Alladin's lamp, a mirror, a swing, a snake. Evocative of fear (but not frightening), wonder, and most especially, of yearning (outstretched hands are everywhere), they are not psychoanalytic or autobiographical. They are about the experience of the ephemeral, more about dreaming than about dreams, about not quite knowing. Created with a spirit of seduction and playful distortion, they are not nightmarish; rather, they are appealing, populated by sprites, not monsters. The lack of gravity is the most pronounced otherworldly effect, followed by the two-dimensionality of shadows. The rats and mice are creepy, a nod to fear, but they are only shadows of paper cut-outs, not vicious or inescapable. Your worst dreams are not here.

Grant, a professor at Texas Women's University in Dallas, submitted herself to a dozen nights of sleep studies, wired with electrodes, observed all night long, asking to be awoken and interrogated when she reached deep, REM (rapid eye movement) sleep. She found she had vivid recall of her dreams when awakened. The researchers would say, "Susan, what was the last thing you saw before we called your name?" The entire process, part science, part introspection, was the inspirational springboard for these images and sounds. The whis-pers are taken from extensive

transcripts of what she told the sleep researchers.

In her talk at the Hallmark Institute on Saturday evening, Grant explained the "smoke and mirrors" behind the images, which are painstakingly staged by suspending and wiring tables, chairs, beds and branches, and then lighting them with powerful theatrical spotlights and secondary lights, to cast multiple shadows onto a 12 foot wide backdrop. The sets take from three weeks to three months to build. Models are brought in to pose in birthday hats, bunny ears, crowns and diaphanous dresses. The photographs are only of shadows, not the objects that cast them.

"When I went to bed, I was convinced that I went somewhere. I wanted to see what that looked like," she summarized for the audience. Her work penetrates and illuminates the dark within us.

At the 'old' museum (really only two years old), the original Hallmark Museum at 85 Avenue A, is a concurrent exhibit of photographs by Paul Taylor, titled "Themes and Variations," which initially seems much more objective and focused outward. Taylor, who has taught at RISD, GCC and U Conn, shows several themes: nudes, shells, the sun, birds in flight, photographs of Turkey and the Connecticut River valley. The river valley landscape is instantly recognizable to those of us who live near it, with its tangled tree limbs and the familiar distance to the opposite riverbank.

What is remarkable, and unfamiliar, about these pictures is the resurrected historic photographic process of wet-plate collodion (involving mixtures and baths of nitrated cotton, ether, alcohol, potassium iodide, silver nitrate, silver iodide, ferrous sul-

fate and potassium cyanide) which Taylor uses, lugging it all along outdoors with him. Invented in 1848, it is cumbersome and demands great patience, requiring a portable darkroom and syrup-coated glass plates that must be exposed while wet. Taylor uses antique equipment, bought cheaply on eBay, a camera from 1910; lenses from 1880-1920. The earlier lenses give a softer



*Paul Taylor - Untitled Connecticut River Landscape #21*

effect than contemporary lenses. Out in the field (literally), dust, dirt and scratches, spontaneous and fortuitous marks of chance, add to the organic nature of the image. It is as if the trees and the earth had just bubbled up out of primal soup. We seem to be looking at an eternal Connecticut River valley.

Did I say the wet-plate collodion process was unfamiliar? Actually, its historical authenticity is something we do recognize, like an old family photo. We have seen this kind of photograph before, and we are at home with it. The images are dark at the corners, as if in a photo album, or at the remove of the far end of a telescope. The implication is that we are looking at the past.

The long exposures (three minutes), when something, somewhere - or maybe everything! - moves, the early-morning or late-evening subdued light, the waves of the chemical

solutions and the traces of their passing, the diffusion of light through fluid, and a final tea-staining of the paper, contribute to the sense of evolving primordial timelessness in these landscapes, and to a sense of mystery that Taylor seeks - as does Grant. Both artists used the words "ethereal" and "mysterious" in talking about their work; both are inwardly meditative. Together on the podium at the end of Saturday evening, taking questions, they agreed about intuition, inner turmoil, the intoxication of creation. Grant: "You don't know what you're doing, but you're doing it." Taylor: "You don't know what's going to happen until it happens."

In Taylor's landscapes, it is as if the world blinked awake, raw, stunned. Some of his Connecticut River views are beautiful, but others are bleak, with broken trees and snarls of vines. Moments of awakening, the existence of another dimension, are the poetics of photography. Photographers, their eyes trained on the concrete and factual, on minute differences of grays, wind up in a territory mystical, magical, transcendental, and deeply human. Taylor said, "These are the most expressive trees in the world." They are, but only when he records them.

Prior to shooting the Connecticut River valley, Taylor spent years - from the mid-'80s to 2000 - developing his photographic expertise in the service of other artists' work, at the Renaissance Press, a fine arts collaborative atelier that he founded in Ashelut, New

Hampshire, where he lives. He is a master of processes from the dawn of photography to the present, including photogravure, platinum, cyanotype, gum dichromate and gelatin silver techniques (examples are in the show), and has worked with luminaries like Willem DeKooning, Sally Mann, Robert Mapplethorpe, Aaron Siskind and many others.

In returning to making images that were solely his own, he first photographed the sun. The sun is a profound subject, and he found it compelling - "so fantastic in its basic simplicity" - the source of life, the source of photography. This was followed by photographing the sun through the trees, (the river-scapes) and then by several trips to Turkey where he photographed the Cappadocian region at the invitation of an American patron of the arts living there.

It is worth a trip to the museum just to see these stunning images of Turkey. Volcanic eruptions eroded by weather, and hollowed out from within by Byzantine monks make a phantasmagorical, otherworldly, exotic landscape. Taylor has made subsequent trips to Turkey, gaining insights through interactions with local Turks and studying Turkish history, culture and local customs, even marrying a Turkish woman.

He became fascinated with the ancient carving marks in the interior of the monasteries, and photographed them. They are primitive handwriting, scratches made on the walls of a cave an eternity ago, covered by eons of soot. At first glance, they may not seem to be about very much that is visually interesting (textures of stone? obsession? laborious mark-making? the obliteration of time?), and you won't find them as much fun to look at as any of the other images in the two shows, but they are analagous to Grant's dreamscapes in that they are an unflinching meditative look into inner darkness.