



LOCAL FILMMAKER

Finds Inspiration at the Bridge of Names
see page 7



'CINDERELLA'

A Magical Production
see page 16

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 4 - NO. 39

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

July 13, 2006

Following a Tornado Home

BY JONATHAN VON RANSON
WENDELL - At 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12th, there was a virtual power wash from the skies outside the windows of the *Montague Reporter*, where I had dropped by for an hour. The rain stopped, and a few minutes later there was the high-pitched whine as from a machine from somewhere out on the street. "What's that," cracked a computer technician from the next desk, "a Jet Ski?" He was referring to the eerie intensity of the rainstorm, like so many of our 'weather events' these days.

A half hour later, *en route* home to Wendell with my wife, Susan, we began to realize just how intense this weather event had been. We met a tractor trailer backing down Wendell Road, a quarter mile before the Wendell State Forest headquarters. The driver climbed out of the cab and told us a tornado had knocked down trees and blocked the road up ahead.

Susan said, "Oh my God." I felt the shock too, but heard myself saying something reassuring...for myself too.

We tried Mormon Hollow Road. At the intersection near Lake Grove School, a flagger told us we couldn't turn toward the center unless we lived "this side of the highway garage."

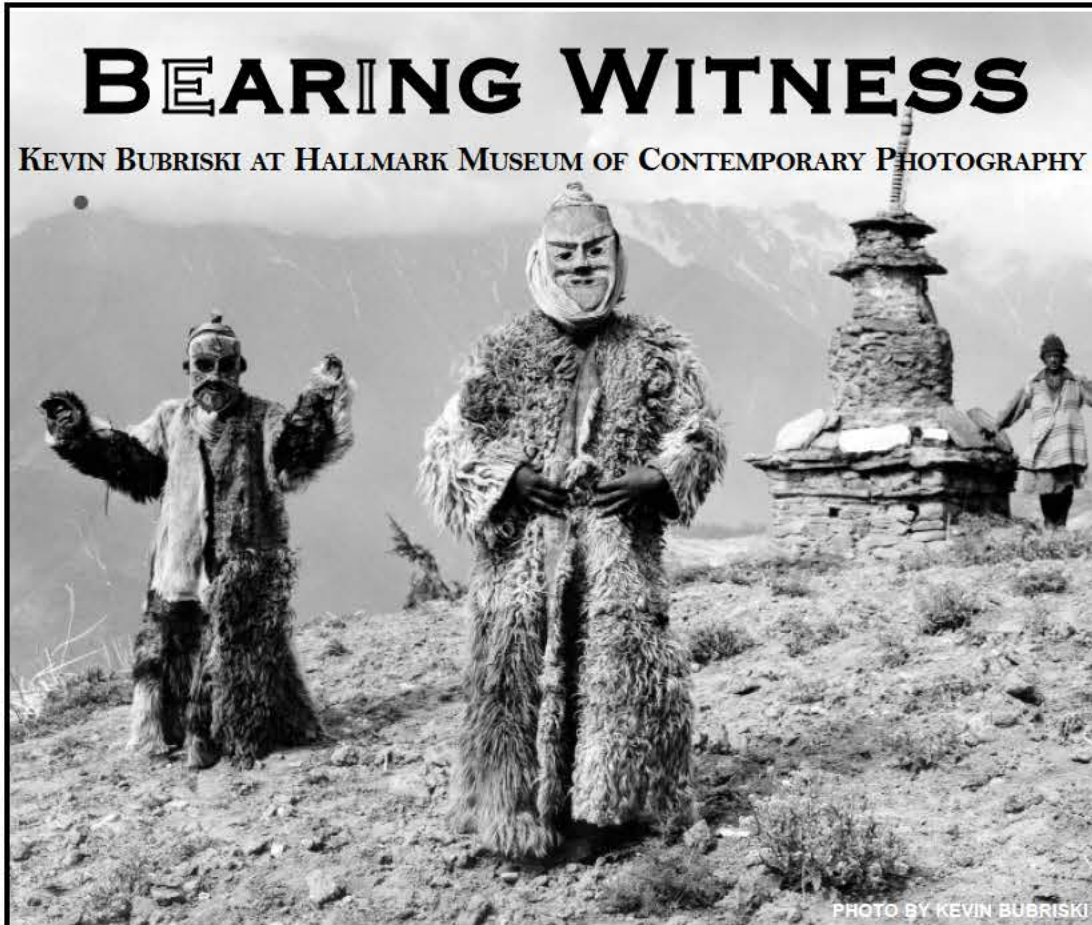
"Where's the damage?" I asked.

"In the Center."

My bravado evaporated. The Center is where we live. The only way in, the man said, was from the opposite direction - from Lake Wyola, probably a 20-minute drive from there. I told him we were going to park at the highway garage and drove past him, determined to check on my homestead on the exposed ridge, with livestock and pets.

From the highway garage, we could see where the twister had gone through. Trees had fallen into the road, bringing power lines and poles with them. We struck off across a field, keeping the road and power lines on our right where some chain saws were already buzzing. On our left, the roof of

see **TORNADO** pg 5



BEARING WITNESS

KEVIN BUBRISKI AT HALLMARK MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTO BY KEVIN BUBRISKI

Masked and costumed dancers at Limitang village in Nepal.

BY CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS - In 1975 Kevin Bubriski, fresh out of Bowdoin College with a B.A. in art history and a minor in economics, joined the Peace Corps. His first choice of a place to serve was Nepal, and he got his wish. After a few months of intensive language training he found himself working as a water services technician in an impoverished remote northwest region of the country. For the next three years, Bubriski endured hardship after hardship, which is to say he shared the life of the villagers. He lived with a family in their stone house, miraculously fitted into a steep mountainside. Rations were meager, water scarce, the climate hostile. But there were triumphs: he managed to get piping down the mountain so the village could have water year round. He formed a strong and lasting bond with the see **HALLMARK** pg 10



Goat Rescued from the Rubble

PHOTO BY JONATHAN VON RANSON

Ward Smith, Paula King, an unidentified young helper, Apollo Compagnone, the phoenix-like goat, and Clearwater Liberty stand triumphant after freeing the goat from under the rubble of what was the Shulman-O'Kane barn in Wendell. Their property was among the worst devastated by the powerful tornado that struck town Tuesday, though the house apparently escaped with relatively little damage.

Montague Finally has a Budget

BY JOANNA FRANKEL - Town meeting members got down to the nitty gritty Wednesday night, July 12th, working their way through a lengthy special town meeting, carefully debating every facet of a negotiated budget compromise and turning back a few of the selectboard's proposed cuts as they closed a \$600,000 budget gap. Both the town and the G-M schools came away with a budget in hand by the time the meeting closed at 10:30 p.m..

After a \$600,000 Proposition 2 1/2 override was turned back on June 6th by 58% of the voters, the Montague selectboard, finance committee, and the G-M school committee went back to their respective drawing boards and labored over cuts to services and personnel. Last night, town meeting members responded, adding their views to those who have been working to close the budget gap.

Three articles were presented at the meeting, the first amending the town's operating budget with a re-see **MEETING** pg 12

Stewards of the Sawmill River

MONTAGUE CTR

SCHOOL RECEIVES \$18,000 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY GRANT

BY VERA FOLEY

MONTAGUE CENTER - "The program is so valuable," Montague Center School PTO secretary Susan Dresser said, referring to the Hitchcock Center of the Environment's work with Montague Center School students over the last three years. Her opinion is shared by Bob Mahler, the school's departing principal, who added, "Colleen Kelly has been great."

"Colleen Kelly," Dresser explained, "leads the environmental studies program," at the school. In the past, Kelly has held weekly, or biweekly, sessions with the students, but two new grants to the

see **SCHOOL** pg 8

PET OF THE WEEK

Sugar & Spice and...



Ginger!

Ginger is a 2 year old calico cat in need of a good home. She's got dark gold eyes and very clean and neat patched fur.

Ginger would very much not like to live with a dog, but otherwise she's a friendly and mellow gal who loves petting.

For more info on adopting Ginger, please contact the Dakin Animal Shelter in Leverett at 548-9898 or via email info@dakinshelter.org.

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY NEWS

Insect Trivia Contests

BY LINDA HICKMAN
TURNERS FALLS- As part of the Carnegie Library's What's Buzzin' at Your Library Summer Reading Program, there are weekly insect trivia questions for adults and children. To participate, come to the Carnegie and fill out an answer form with your contact information.

A winner for each question will be chosen weekly. Adult trivia winners will receive a \$10

gift certificate to Books and More bookstore. What's Buzzin' at Your Library water bottles and flexible flying discs will be given to child trivia winners. The Carnegie Library is open on Mondays-Wednesdays, 1 - 8 p.m., Thursdays 1 -5 p.m., and Fridays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The library is closed on Saturdays for the summer. For more information, please call 863-3214.

ERVING LIBRARY NEWS

Dance Performance

The Erving Public Library had a great performance by the Crescent Dancers at the Library Tuesday. About 80 patrons were mesmerized by the Middle Eastern dance performance and about 30 even got up and danced at the end!



TOWN-WIDE TAG SALE
Gill Town Common
Saturday, July 22nd
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Bring Your Own Table and Chairs
For help setting up call Liz: 863-0175 or Susie: 863-8733
Rain Date July 29th

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SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES July 17th - 28th

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

- Monday, 17th**
10:15 a.m. Aerobics
11:30 a.m. PACE Aerobics
- Tuesday, 18th**
9:30 a.m. Aerobics
- Wednesday, 19th**
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
- Thursday, 20th**
1 p.m. Pitch
- Friday, 21st**
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. PACE Aerobics

- Monday, 24th**
10:15 a.m. Aerobics
11:30 a.m. PACE Aerobics
- Tuesday, 25th**
9:30 a.m. Aerobics
- Wednesday, 26th**
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
- Thursday, 27th**
1 p.m. Pitch
- Friday, 28th**
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. PACE Aerobics

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

- Monday, 17th**
9:30 a.m. Exercise

FACES & PLACES

Wandering troubadours serenade teen artists at work on the mural outside the Brick House Community Resource Center

PHOTO BY JARED LIBBY

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It's a Boy!
Ryan Austin Bowden-Smith
July 5, 2006 8 lbs 11 oz.
Parents: Brian & Julia Bowden-Smith, Turners Falls
Grandparents: Jean Hebden, Donald Mays, Paula Albano all of Turners Falls and Jimmy Smith of Greenfield

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215th Army Band Coming July 20th

MONTAGUE CENTER - The 215th Army Band of the Massachusetts National Guard, under the command of CW4 James M. Girard, is distinguished with many awards for military training as well as musicianship. They will bring their stirring martial music to the Montague Center common on Thursday, June 20th, at 7 p.m. In case of rain, the concert will be held inside the Montague Grange, next to the village common.



The 215th Army Band of the Massachusetts National Guard

During the 1986 Presidential Summit with the Soviet Union in Iceland the 215th was the only United States military band to perform for President Reagan.

The 215th received honors for their successful tours of Jamaica and Greece.

In May 1995, the band traveled to the Netherlands to help commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of WW II.

In 1996, 2000, and 2005 the band traveled to Fort Monroe, VA

to back-up the United States Continental Army Band. The band has recently returned from Heidelberg, Germany where they backed up the US Army Band Europe.

Formed in Boston in 1950 with only 14 members, the band moved to Fall River in 1974. Primarily, the band performs across the state in concerts, parades, and state functions.

Those who know the 215th know of their professionalism and dedication to their unit, the military, and to the community in which they serve.

The band will be performing in town and cities throughout Western Massachusetts as part of a July concert tour. For details of other Pioneer Valley performances, go to the band's website: <http://215tharmyband.com>.

National Spiritual Alliance 94th Camp Week

LAKE PLEASANT -- The National Spiritual Alliance will conduct its 94th Camp Week celebration from July 14th to 23rd. All events except TNSA's annual meeting and election of officers are open to the public and will be at Thompson Temple across from the post office. The Camp Week 2006 schedule includes:

Friday, July 14th: All-you-can-eat community dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed at 7 by a talk on spiritualism by Robert Cox of New Salem.

Saturday, July 15th: Psychic Fair from 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Stained Glass Workshop from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. with Rev. Cori Lovering.

Sunday, July 16th: Sunday services at 3 p.m. with Rev. Eileen McGrath, speaker, and Caroline Grinnell, moderator.

Monday, July 17th: Healing Your Inner Child Workshop from 2-4 p.m. with Maria McCarthy. Theater & Improvisation Workshop from 7-9 p.m. with Katherine Mayfield.

Tuesday, July 18th: Past Life Regression Workshop from 2-4 p.m. with Rev. Betsy Newton. Psychic Development Circle from 7-9 p.m. facilitated by Rev. Betsy Newton.

Wednesday, July 19th: Channeling Workshop from 2-4 p.m. with Rev. Trisha Newton. All Message-All Healing service from 7-9 p.m. with Rev. Betsy Newton, Katherine Mayfield, and other TNSA certified mediums.

Thursday, July 20th: Neale Donald Walsh Workshop from 2-4 p.m. with Sandra Stevens. Sugar Addiction Workshop from 7-9 p.m. with Rev. Barbara Hardie.

Friday, July 21st: "How to Build a Bird House or Feeder Workshop" from 2-4 p.m. with Spencer Stremmlau. Louise Shattuck Memorial Walking Tour of the History of Spiritualism in Lake Pleasant from 6-7:30 p.m. with David

James, followed by a narrated slide show from 8-9:30 focusing on the village as an international Spiritualist resort a century ago.

Saturday, July 22nd: Annual banquet and mid-1800-1900 Period Dress Costume Party beginning at noon.

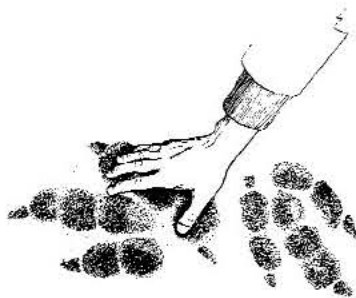
Sunday, July 23rd: Services at 3 p.m. with Rev. Carlos Anderson of Hope Community Church in Amherst, speaker, and Marty Ostrowski, moderator. For more info: www.thenationalspiritualallianceinc.org.

Dinosaur Program at Barton Cove

BY KARL MEYER

NORTHFIELD - On Saturday, July 15th, at 10 a.m., Northfield Mountain and the Amherst College Museum of Science will co-lead a dinosaur program visiting two dinosaur track sites. The Connecticut Valley is a world-renowned location of fossil dinosaur footprints.

Tracks quarried in the mid-1800s from the Barton Cove



"bird track quarry" were bought by colleges and museums throughout the western world. One of the finest track collections - amassed by Amherst College President and Geologist Edward Hitchcock, resides at the Amherst College Museum. Once locked in a basement room of the Pratt Museum, this dinosaur track collection is now prominently displayed in the brand new Amherst College Museum of Natural History.

The program will begin at the Barton Cove quarry site with local history buff Paul Grzybowski, who will recount a history of the people who quarried tracks here over 100 years ago. The group then visits Amherst College to view the Museum's track collection with Education Coordinator Steven Sauter. Mr. Sauter will share theories about how the tracks were made, how geologists viewed the tracks when they were first quarried - and how modern fossil footprint research can show possible social behavior in dinosaurs during the early Jurassic period.

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Not Your Average Mexican Election

BY CHUCK COLLINS

OAXACA, MEXICO - Looking south across the border at Mexico's recent presidential election has been confusing for U.S. citizens and our media, and it's not just because the Number Two candidate is refusing to concede defeat.

Maybe it's because, fixed in our minds, we've have a stereotype of Latin America as rife with 'banana republic' elections, with ballot boxes stuffed before election day and other images of overt fraud. After all, prior to the year 2000, Mexico was run by a single party for more than seven decades that routinely stole the elections they couldn't legitimately win.

So the two following statements may seem contradictory: Mexico has just completed its most competitive and transparent election in history - and apparent second-place candidate Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador is completely justified in his call for a full counting of the ballots.

As of the most recent count this moment, the vote shows conservative candidate Felipe Calderon defeating left populist Lopez Obrador by 243,934 votes, in an election where over 41 million Mexicans voted. That's a mere 0.56 percent margin. With 130,489 polling stations, the difference between the two candidates is fewer than 2 votes per polling site.

There are many unresolved questions about the voting process and count. But Mexico has cause for pride in its independent system for counting votes, which is superior to the U.S. system in many respects. We should emulate some of Mexico's anti-fraud measures, including voter identification cards with photos, uniform ballots in all districts, transparent ballot boxes, and voter lists with photos of voters.

The election was indeed Mexico's cleanest, but it was only six years ago that the country had its first competitive and clean presidential election in 71 years. - and the margin of victory for President Vicente Fox in that race was wide. In this election, the new system is being fire-tested.

One vote count I attended was the exemplar of transparency. In the rural county seat of Miahuatlan, Oaxaca, I witnessed three polling areas close down and count their votes on the city's main plaza. Poll workers opened ballot boxes, separated ballots into piles for each candidate and then, together with observers from each of the major parties, counted the ballots out loud. There was a chorus of twenty voices carefully counting ballots... "treinta ocho... treinta nueve." Each observer signed the tally sheet, showing proper oversight and accountability. The ballots were sealed and transported to the district office under armed guard.

Yet bad habits die hard, especially in the Mexican countryside. I accompanied election observers to seven polling sites in rural Oaxaca and documented numerous cases of voter coercion and vote buying, potentially influencing hundreds of ballots. I witnessed polling areas and vote counts where representatives of only one party were present - and proper procedures were not followed.

Independent election observers have documented numerous examples of human error and vote shaving. At one polling site in the state of Mexico, Lopez Obrador won 188 votes but the tally sheet registered only 88. There are also allegations of more serious manipulation under review.

see OAXACA pg 6

"I move we open up the Pearly Gates."

"I HAVE A SECOND FROM MRS. ROBINSON."



CARTOON BY NINA BANDER

GUEST EDITORIALS

Stolen Flags

During the July 4th holiday weekend flags were stolen from the Bridge Street light poles in Millers Falls. In the village of Montague City the rope was cut, and the flag stolen from the flagpole dedicated to Homer Gamelin, a long time Montague Veterans Agent.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the people in this community who helped

me in attempting to procure the items needed to replace the flag in Montague City; they gave up much of their time on a busy holiday weekend, they are: Chris Boutwell, town accountant Carolyn Olsen, Matt Cadran of the department of public works, the members of the Turners Falls Fire Department and Veterans Agent Leo Parent, who along with Chris Boutwell provided

flags for the Montague City flagpole.

The flags in the village of Millers Falls are all donated by an anonymous donor.

I sincerely hope that the people who stole these flags read this letter. They should think twice about the work and dedication of the honest people of this community.

- Art Gilmore
Millers Falls

Fellow Citizens of Gill

I feel that Gill is in a crisis! For quite a few years as a moderator and as a citizen I have noticed the number of vacant seats on Gill town boards and committees. These are openings I feel should not exist; this is your town.

Your town needs you to take part in all aspects of town life including and at a minimum town meeting. The town meeting, as we have in Gill, is maybe the closest form of democracy that exists in any organized governing body in the world! You, the voting citizen, directly vote and affect policy and law.

I remember several years ago a citizen who had been raised in a Palestinian refugee camp stood up during a town meeting discussion and said words to the effect, "Please do not stop discussing this. Where I came from, such discussion would never be allowed for fear of

reprisal and possibly death." I ask you to give some thought to the opportunity you give up when you miss town meeting.

In the past I have heard that "qualifications" are needed for people to be appointed to committees, or that a "new person in town" would not be a good choice. What is interesting to me is that the law does not, in most cases, call for you to live in town for a certain period of time, or have a great knowledge of the subject. The law requires you to be a citizen. As one citizen to another, I ask you to help out. Please offer up some of your valuable time for Gill.

You can only expect the kind of government you take part in. Thanks.

- Ray Steele
Moderator, Town of Gill

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TORNADO
continued from pg 1

the old Powling barn, now belonging to daughter Cheryl Richardson, was missing. As we approached the common, things... the light... everything... somehow looked different.

The Powling yard contained some fine leafy debris and a toppled granddaddy Baldwin apple tree. Once on the common, we could begin to see the extent of the devastation - in that part of the swath, anyway. Tops of trees missing. Whole trees gone. Branches and treetops scattered on the lawn. A tree tipped up in the cemetery, its huge root disc on edge, its trunk and branches weighing on tombstones. Metal roofing and plastic high in a tree across a field. Walls of impenetrable thicket, of bushes, branches and whole trees, where once there had been lawn, lane or driveway.

I heard excited voices on the other side of one such thicket fence and glanced that way.

Where earlier the weathered old barn of the Harrington House had stood, there was empty sky. Getting closer, I could see it was now a low pile of jumbled boards. Apollo and Clearwater were pulling things away. "Their goat's trapped under here," Apollo shouted, and ran to get a battery-powered saw.

The goat was Bob Shulman's and Kate O'Kane's old pet buck. With Ward Smith and Paula King helping, we cleared some debris, peered in to see his position and that he was alive, then pried, propped and pulled to give him some breathing room. By this time he had been pinned perhaps an hour.

When Apollo returned, the key cut was made in a post and we were successful. The ancient animal got up in stages: first to his hind legs and knees, then, with help, to his four feet. He was in no hurry to walk, so Clearwater - Wendell's assistant librarian and a goat lover - talked to him and let him adjust a while. Soon we were able to pick a way out of the area, which was a vir-

tual demolition dump.

The old goat, in defiance of his probable shock, reached to nibble at leaves that caught his fancy, relieving some of our concerns about pain, broken bones or internal injuries.

Next door, Jonathan Dorr's house had become a chaos of limbs, trunks and leaves. On the other side, the old Center School and recent senior center, already gutted for renovation for a wing of the new library, had developed a new list toward the north. So had many of the still-standing garden plants, bushes and tall grass on that side of the common, suggesting a spiral - funnel - wind pattern.

By 4 o'clock, reinforcements were arriving on the common from volunteer fire departments. Trained disaster relief personnel from as far away as Springfield were cutting trees off the power lines, which sprang back up into the air when released. People went to get tarps and brought them around. Neighbors climbed up and helped put them onto roofs that had lost roofing.

Selectboard member Dan Keller checked about where to set up a generator to power a community freezer for residents whose power was out. His selectboard colleague, Christine Heard, accompanied

Danny Bacigalupo, Wendell's road boss, on an inspection. Refreshments showed up, brought by residents for the workers.

People stood scattered in little knots around the common sharing reactions to the unimagined act of natural fury.

The stories told then and in the next hours were of the sight of the funnel and the sound the twister made as it came through. A trailer, already partially dismantled, wrapped around a tree at a home on Morse Village Road. Several houses on Wickett Pond Road enveloped in fallen trees but not damaged. An exploded electric service box on the common. Splats of goeey black mud from swamps at least a quarter of a mile away on the side of our own house, nearby but unscathed.

Anna Jean Marsh said she watched the tornado from her house on the common, and at one point saw some things inside the house all move in one direction as if drawn by a powerful vacuum. Fencing broke at Sylvia and Tom Wetherby's on Morse Village Road as dozens of trees fell into her and Tom's clearings, and she had to move her goat flock indoors. Bethany Masselli on New Salem Road. lost some sheds...literally. Gone. That's just a sampling of the damage.

Apparently no person or goat or other livestock got hurt. No house was seriously damaged, despite the twister's explosive power, manifested in the swath of mangled forest and ruined outbuildings. That was a noticed and appreciated bit of good luck for the town that made the national news on Wednesday by unwillingly hosting the area's latest tornado, following, in the last 30 years, tornadoes in Leverett, New Salem and Great Barrington.



Historic Building at Risk Following Tornado

JONATHAN VON RANSON WENDELL - After the tornado hit Wendell Tuesday, the skeletal front wall of the former senior center was leaning even further north than it used to - 10 inches out of plumb - prompting the building inspector to call for it to be razed. Jerry Eide, a member of the town's historic commission, argued at Wednesday's selectboard meeting to save it. He blamed the new lean on the architect's decision to gut the structure, weakening it, and the contractor's failure to install diagonal bracing, rather than on the tornado itself.

The building inspector, Phil Delorey, had earlier said he felt the old building at this point was "condemnable as a structure." He mentioned rotted sills and the lack of a way to structurally correct the front wall's tendency to rack due to its many windows. "It can't be earthquake proof," he said, citing the requirement for new public buildings. He challenged the idea of preserving

"history you can't see," that "will be covered with 2006 construction materials."

Eide stood fast, calling it "the most important building in town" because of its history. Wendell's first town hall, it came out of the Commonwealth's decision to institute a separation between church and state, an issue, he said, that's close to the heart of this rights-loving town. (Selectboard member Christine Heard later complimented Eide for his eloquence on this point).

At this point in time, Eide admitted in response to a question from Delorey, you could raze the building and rebuild to recreate its 1930s schoolhouse look, but instead he recommended town officials try to save what historic "tissue" remains by asking the contractor to quickly stabilize the post-and-beam frame and hire a historic preservation expert to assess the shell as it stands.

A language issue became clear. Eide said he and Jean

Forward, the other member of the commission, had understood the building's transformation into a wing of the new library involved efforts at "preservation" - work that has not been done. The reason, town librarian Rosie Heidkamp said, is that the project has always formally specified "restoration." Without Massachusetts Historic Commission funds, preservation was never a real possibility.

"The longer we wait, the more it costs us," reminded selectboard chair Ted Lewis. "We've got no leeway with money." The board said it would aggressively pursue insurance coverage, from both town and contractor's insurance policies, for the wind damage to the old senior center.

The post-tornado slant (literally!) on the project has also created time issues. "Without a decision," Delorey said, "the contractor can't go ahead." A key engineering report on the building's post-tornado condition that will play heavily into the decision is

due from Bob Leete. Members also discussed hiring him for the historic assessment Eide recommended, since he has the experience with post and beam construction that Eide said was needed.

The town received brilliant help from nearly twenty agencies in the twelve hours following the tornado, the board agreed. They arranged to obtain the names of the key people and write personalized thank-you letters to them. The board also discussed with Danny Bacigalupo, road boss, and Asa DeRoode, civil defense director, how to deal with the remaining debris left along roadsides. Member Dan Keller recommended the job be put out to bid.

A proposal took shape for the town to take responsibility for clearing debris back eight feet from the edge of the road, leaving the rest for the landowner. The highway commission will request an estimate from a tree removal company. This would be

put together with cost figures for the work done after the tornado by the agencies that helped out and used as the basis for a grant application to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WENDELL POLICE LOG

Missing Kayak

Monday, 6-26
9-1-1- hangup on Rush Road. Officer sent. No problem.

Saturday, 7-1
Report of shots fired/fireworks on Farley Road. Officer responded. Nothing found.

Sunday, 7-2
Wickett Pond Road resident reported kayak missing from Wickett Pond.

Wednesday, 7-5
Report of unwanted person at Wickett Pond Road residence. Person served with no-trespass order and sent on their way.

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NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

G-M School Committee Approves \$470,000 in Cuts

BY DAVID DETMOLD - Six weeks after warning the taxpayers of Montague they would be facing "a very painful hack job," if they did not pass a \$600,000 override to plug a gap in Montague's '07 school assessment and town operating budget, selectboard chair Patricia Pruitt found herself on Tuesday night, July 11th, urging the school committee to reconsider a 5-2 vote quashing further cuts to a less-than-level service budget. "We're dealing with inadequacies here," she said. "We're trying to get to the best level of inadequacy we're going to get." Sort of like trying to find Jumbo Shrimp or Senate Intelligence.

In an impassioned defense of his dissenting vote, which seemed to doom the compromise \$16,555,477 school budget when committee member Kris Boyle joined him in voting "No," (a two-thirds vote is required to certify a school budget), Montague Center's Richard Colton said, "It's time to stop confusing status quo management for leadership. I feel like I have no choice but to join hands with our educators and especially the voiceless children of our

community. I'd like to see the top leadership point out just exactly what education means to this town... I will not buy this budget."

But Pruitt argued, "The failure of the override is a real signal of the anger and the economic tightness people are feeling in this community. The causes of this may not be here, in this school system or in this town, but we are engaged in finding a budget for our schools. The citizens feel they've paid enough for something that isn't getting them 100% MCAS scores, or getting all their children into Harvard or Yale... In this town people know how to cut corners in order to get by. They expect their schools to do the same."

Looking beleaguered, Gill-Montague superintendent Sue Gee reminded the school committee that their school system had been placed "on watch" by the state Department of Education "as a result of the override defeat. If there are not sufficient funds to improve student achievement, we are in jeopardy of making those improvements, which are absolutely necessary." She also

pointed out that if a budget weren't put in place, teachers who have been laid off as of July 1st begin to collect unemployment benefits, until such time as a budget is approved and they can be rehired. Committee member Valeria Smith estimated the district would spend \$40,000 - \$50,000 a month on unemployment for laid off teachers, worsening the budget picture for each day the lay-offs continued.

Urging the committee to adopt the compromise budget, Gee said, "We need to gain the confidence of the parents we serve, to reduce loss of enrollment through school choice. Parents will make decisions over the summer, and we will further the downward spiral," if budget uncertainty continues, she said.

The \$16,555,477 budget, which contains \$474,418 in additional cuts from the "level service" budget the school committee approved in March, includes the loss of five teaching positions and two paraprofessionals. Gee outlined those cuts as follows: one kindergarten teacher in Hillcrest, one grade 5 teacher in Sheffield, one and a half English language learning teachers district wide, and the technology integration specialist at the Middle School. The two paraprofessional positions, Gee said, had been determined to be "not needed for delivery of services," due to the level of enroll-

ment in the elementary schools.

Gee said even with the loss of one Grade 5 teacher, Sheffield would still be able to keep class sizes at 20 students or less. She said the remaining .5 teaching positions could be taken from any number of places in the district, or perhaps could be left intact if savings are realized in unemployment benefits by swift passage of a budget.

The proposed loss of the technology integration specialist was the subject of a letter of protest signed by a number of middle school teachers. Gee said the compromise budget still contained money for the addition of one art teacher in the elementary schools, and a two-thirds art position for the middle school.

For her part, committee member Boyle stuck to her "No" vote on the budget in protest of the loss of teaching positions. She felt the school committee should seek savings by acting on numerous studies calling for a new configuration of the district elementary schools, the most recent of which has proposed either a 2-school or 3-school elementary model. She called for a roll call of school committee members, to see how many were willing to vote to close an elementary school within six months.

As the committee began to debate the motion, an unidentified man in the audience called

out, "If you vote on that, you're going to lose more students to school choice than you have ever thought of."

Gill committee member Ted Castro-Santos said, "When I first joined the school committee, I had made my mind up about closing a school, and had decided which school I felt we should close. In the intervening two years, I have discussed this issue with a number of people, and I am no longer nearly as sure about what the correct configuration is for this district. School closure needs to be on the table, as soon as we're done with this budget. We need to make a serious change to this district."

As a number of school committee members indicated they were not ready to approve Boyle's motion, she withdrew it. School committee chair Mary Kociela implored Colton to reconsider his vote against the budget, and, when a second motion was made to approve the budget - at one dollar less than originally proposed - Colton voted with the majority.

Following the meeting, Gee said, "The reality is the state is demanding we make improvements. Regardless of our resources, we have to do it, and we can. We have to focus on curriculum, instruction and student assessment. Everything else is secondary."

MCTV Schedule

Channel 17

Friday, July 14	7:00 PM Montague Selectboard 7/10
Eagle All Day from 6:00 AM	8:30 PM GaiaVision
6:00 PM Montague Special Town Meeting 7/12	9:30 Classic Arts Showcase
9:00 PM Montague Update	Tuesday, July 18 Eagle All Day From 6:00 AM
10:00 PM from the MCTV Archives	7:00 PM GMRSD Committee Meeting LIVE
Saturday, July 15	10:00 PM Montague Update
Eagle All Day from 6:00 AM	11:00 PM from the MCTV Archives
6:00 PM Prevailing Winds in Denmark	
6:30 PM Montague Selectboard 7/10	Wednesday, July 19
8:00 PM The Truth About Alcohol	Eagle All Day from 6:00 AM
8:30 PM From the Discovery Center	6:00 PM Franklin County Democrat
Sunday, July 16	6:30 PM Montague Selectboard 7/10
Eagle All Day From 6:00 AM	7:30 PM The Truth About Tobacco
6:00 PM GMRSD Committee Meeting 7/11	8:00 PM Surviving the Vernon Reactor
9:00 PM Turners Falls H.S. Girls Softball Championship	Thursday, July 20
10:30 PM Montague Update	Eagle All Day from 6:00 AM
Monday, July 17	6:00 PM Montague Update
Eagle All Day from 6:00 AM	7:00 PM GMRSD Committee Meeting 7/18
6:00 From the Discovery Center	10:00 PM From the Discovery Center

OAXACA

continued from pg 4

When an election is as razor-close as this race, even in the most advanced electoral systems incidents of human error, vote shaving and minor fraud take on much greater significance.

North of the border, the U.S. news media has stumbled in interpreting the July 2nd election by prematurely calling a winner. On July 7th, *The New York Times*, in an article headlined "Conservative Wins in Mexico in Final Tally," reported Mexican "election officials declared Thursday that Felipe Calderon, a conservative, had won the race for president by less than 1 percent of the official count."

A serious omission in such accounts is that under Mexican law the vote counters don't declare a winner. The Federal Election Institute (IFE) submits their results to Mexico's Election Tribunal, the only body that has the legal authority to declare a

winner.

The Election Tribunal has the power to certify the results or order a full counting of all ballots. They could investigate irregularities and annul the results of the election, as they have done previously with two governor's races in the Mexican states of Colima and Tabasco. They have until August 31st to issue their ruling.

In this context, many Mexicans view President George W. Bush's congratulatory call to candidate Calderon as meddling in Mexico's internal affairs.

The Mexican election of 2006 was a remarkable achievement, but the nation's journey to free and fair voting is far from perfect or finished. It is important for our president and the U.S. media not to rush to judge this election or the legitimate protests of candidate Lopez Obrador.

In the coming weeks, we will see how Mexico's Election Tribunal and political system handle this close race and allega-

tions of fraud. The fact that there is a prolonged process shows that Mexico, far from having a 'banana republic' election system, is an engaged and active democracy.



Chuck Collins, a senior scholar at the Institute for Policy Studies, is a former resident of Turners Falls. He has spent the last year living in Oaxaca, where he observed the Mexican election.

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Next for Local Filmmaker: Bridge of Names

BY AMY LAPRADE AND DAVID DETMOLD

LAKE PLEASANT - These days, anyone with the drive to do so can make a movie with digital technology for very little money, says Montague Center resident Marina Goldman. She should know. She's been making independent films in the area since 1996. Goldman came before the Montague selectboard on Monday, July 10th, seeking permission to film a new feature, to be called "Bridge of Names" on location - where else? - in Lake Pleasant.

Goldman's first local feature, "All American Boy," a coming of age story about a boy growing up in the 60s was shown locally, before going on to win audience awards at the Hollywood Film Festival. One scene was filmed inside Carrolls Supermarket in Millers Falls, to take advantage of a period interior that had changed little since the 60s. Goldman was the assistant director, location scout, and an extras casting director on that film. "You multi-task when you're involved in making indie films," she laughed.

Recently, Goldman collaborated on "Bit My Pretty Little Heart In Two," produced by Larue Pictures from Orange, which was shot at the Montague Book Mill. In that film, Anne Sexton, Emily Dickinson, and Sylvia Plath came back from the dead to give advice to a lovelorn 20-year-old. It aired at the Northampton Film Festival among other showcases.

Involved in theatre since she was little, Goldman said she decided to go into film, "Just to do something different."

On her upcoming project, Goldman will collaborate with Northampton's Bill Dwight on "Bridge Of Names," written and directed by Elizabeth Foley and Peter Hobbs, of Elyria Pictures. Elyria is a company based both in Northampton and New York City.

This film will focus on a character named Steve, "a young man in search of a new way of looking at the world after becoming disenchanted with punk music." He meets a girl who begs him to convince her friend, a visionary preacher stricken with cancer, to seek help. Through that meeting, Steve and the preacher have a cathartic impact on each other's



DETMOLD PHOTO

Independent filmmaker Marina Goldman

lives.

Elyria wanted to use Lake Pleasant for the film's setting because of its unique historical background and magical atmosphere. The smallest village in Montague, Lake Pleasant is the site of the oldest continuous spiritualist community in America, the National Spiritual Alliance.

Goldman plans to film scenes on the Bridge of Names itself, and in the center of town, with a cast and crew totaling up to 15 people, with a cast of four and the need for a number of extras on the week of August 21st - 26th. "I would love to invite residents of Lake Pleasant to be extras in the film," said Goldman, who has already made that invitation to postmaster Joyce Cote, Spiritualist Alliance members David James and Katherine Mayfield, Doris Farnum and other villagers. She assured the selectboard her company would have appropriate insurance. The board approved her request.

The Bridge of Names, for which the village is regionally famous, is the modern incarnation of the old footbridge that unites the two sides of Lake Pleasant. Rebuilt in 1975 by the Lake Pleasant Village Association, the footbridge was paid for by subscription, with residents - and some famous interlopers - purchasing pickets for \$10 a piece. Among the local names routed into the pickets, visitors will also find Elvis Presley, various members of the Beatles, John Wayne and a num-

ber of other luminaries. A good backdrop for an independent film.

In other news, the board delayed action on a request by Shelburne resident, Robert Jaros, who asked permission to take advantage of Montague's one remaining beer and wine license for package stores to establish a private "wine club," which Jaros would manage, to be based out of a medical office building at 7 Burnham Street, owned by Dr. James Andreas. Andreas, who was present and spoke affirmatively for the proposal, said he had notified abutters of the plan, but not the building's tenants, as the club would only meet occasionally, after hours, in the building's large conference room. No sale of wine to the public is planned, but members, who currently enjoy traveling to small wineries in various parts of the country for wine tastings, would be able to ship bottles of wine across state lines back to their Burnham Street address, if they were licensed as a private club. As private citizens, they are not allowed to do so.

The board wrote to the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission in Boston for guidance, and asked Jaros to return to the board's next meeting for further discussion. Board member Allen Ross said he was worried about setting a precedent, where any group of people could get together and request similar treatment, and board chair Patricia Pruitt admitted, "This is a little bit unusual."

Jaros said, "This is not a business opportunity. This is a social opportunity." He offered to tailor his proposal to meet the town's requirements.

The board appointed Ross to be Montague's representative to the Franklin Regional Transit Authority, which is in the process of merging with the Greenfield-Montague Transit Authority. Ross pledged to work to maintain bus routes and service for the town.

The board approved a renewal of a lease arrangement for a parcel of town-owned land for use of a community garden in Montague Center. The parcel, which abuts the playing field on School Street, is cooperatively gardened by a small group of residents, who lease the land for \$10 a year.

In Turners Falls, the renovation of Peskeomskut Park will finally get under way this week, using over \$300,000 in Community Development

Block Grant funds. A new bandshell, tot lot, and walkways will be constructed, new loam and plantings installed, and a permanent home for the Farmers Market created. During construction, there will be no parking on 6th Street; a pedestrian walkway will be established with temporary fencing along Avenue A.

Frank Abbondanzio said the remaining memorial tree plantings in the park, which honor women in Turners Falls who were killed in incidents of domestic violence in the 1980s, as well as a Tibetan refugee who died in the Crocker Building fire nine years ago, would not be moved during the park renovation. The board said they would consider the possibility of holding a public replanting ceremony for the memorial trees that have died in the intervening years.

The board granted a permit for public gathering for the Congregational Church for Montague Old Home Days, to be held on the Montague common, August 18th - 20th. Ya'll come back now, hear.

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NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Erving Seeks Savings at POTW#1

BY DAVID DETMOLD

In an effort to save a little on energy bills - and perhaps cut down on some offensive aroma at the town's wastewater treatment plant - the Erving selectboard met with Peter Valinski and Susan Guswa, from Tighe and Bond, to discuss ways of keeping heat in the building, and some of the odor away from the neighbors. According to town administrative coordinator Tom Sharp, on Monday, July 10th, Valinski and Guswa discussed facility improvements with the board, including replacement doors, repairing or

replacing the electrical system, possibly replacing old windows with more energy efficient models, and a new roof. The consultants will return with recommendations on these improvements, along with a cost analysis. The board has also asked Tighe and Bond to recommend ways of improving the process regarding nitrogen and phosphorus.

Treatment plant director Mike Pierce, taking a break from repairing pumps after Tuesday's lightning storms caused some damage to the facility, said the plan is to use

an anoxic zone to remove nitrogen and phosphorous, employing one of the tanks on site that has not been in use since the Erving paper mill shut down. Lightning had also shorted out the treatment plant's telephone line, Pierce said. He told a reporter, "Yours is the first call that's gotten through all day," before heading back to repairs in the basement.

On Monday, the board also called on Pierce, asking him to get tough with residents who have connected sump pumps or roof leaders to the sewer system. In order to cut down on

inflow and infiltration to the sewers, the board asked Pierce to investigate the problem, with an emphasis on Erving Center residents who may be contributing to I & I.

In other news, town officials and members of the conservation commission walked the seven-acre site of the old town landfill on Wednesday, July 12th, at the end of Maple Avenue in Farley, with Larry Hansen from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. They discussed final plans for improving the ground cover and capping the former

dump.

The board met with Karen Axtell, from MassHighway, on Monday, regarding the Route 2 bypass north of the Erving Paper Mill, long delayed over the problem of finding a potable water source for the mill. Now that town meeting has approved the transfer of a parcel of land on which a proven well has been found, Axtell came to witness the signing of the deed. The town donated the land to the paper mill. "The ball is now in MassHighway's court," said Sharp, "to get that road project finished."

SCHOOL

continued from pg 1

Hitchcock Center, one from the Massachusetts EPA for \$9,468, and the other from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust for \$8,985, will nearly double the funds available for the program.

Julie Johnson, director of the Amherst-based Hitchcock Center, said in addition to funding Kelly's work as a weekly Environmental Integration coach at the school, the grant would allow expanded field trips for the students to the Great Falls Discovery Center and to Lake Wyola, the Sawmill River's source, for further study.

The full grant award came to \$18,453, the largest amount the Hitchcock Center has received for work with the Montague Center School to date. The grant will allow for purchase of additional supplies and materials linked to the expanded environmental program.

The program itself provides an educational opportunity for the kindergarten through third-graders who attend Montague Center to take a cross-disciplinary approach to learning about the local environment. In other words, the program does not simply focus on science, "it involves reading, math, drawing...all of which are associated with river topics," said Dresser.

"The River" in the case of Montague Center, means the Sawmill River, where the second and third-graders do their field research. The kindergarteners and first graders use the school's conveniently located pond, right beside the playground. Older

grades take field trips to collect data along the river.

"The third graders learned about dissolved oxygen, PH levels, and the biochemical side to the health of the water," Mahler said. "Relating studies to the river is a way to connect kids with the environment." Also, the second-graders came up with a "Quest" project, in which they thought up clues leading, of course, to the river, which the person following the quest would use to find the location of a hidden box. Writing the clues, some of which were in verse, also served as a language skills exercise.

Mahler said the fact the program has been ongoing for three years in a row was a big help in getting the additional grant money. "We have a track record with the program." The money offered for these programs is limited, and such awards are highly competitive.

"The PTO has been involved in fundraising for the environmental program," said Dresser. "Our goal is to make the community aware of the strengths of our school. We could become a magnet for students with environmental interests." In the past, further support for the program came from a Gill-Montague Education grant, Mahler said.

Being the recipient of this grant, through the Hitchcock Center, is not the Montague Center School's only mark of environmental distinction. The Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and the Massachusetts Department of Education have cited Montague Center as one of four schools in the state that are "Using the

Environment as an Integrating Context' (EIC) schools, which indicates the length to which the school's track record with environmental studies extends.

Gill-Montague superintendent Sue Gee said, "I am really pleased with the success of the Sawmill project as a long term study. The teachers at Montague Center have been very committed to the environmental curriculum. The school's location has enabled them to focus the school and community on a project of great importance to society today. The grant is a continuation of a long-term relationship developed by principals Bob Mahler and Anna Garbiel. Their leadership was instrumental to move the project forward."

Johnson said the third graders who will be graduating this year will be the first class to have received the benefits of an interdisciplinary approach to environmental education since kindergarten. "They will receive special awards when they graduate as 'Official Sawmill River Stewards,'" Johnson said.

The Hitchcock Center is located on the Larch Hill Conservation Area in Amherst, where it has operated since moving from its original location in Leverett in 1975. According to its website, www.hitchcockcenter.org, the Hitchcock Center has "emerged as one of the leading science and environmental education organizations in Western Massachusetts."

For more information about the Hitchcock Center, call (413) 256-6006, or email hccenter@crocker.com.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG
Laurel Lake Bike Accident

Friday 6-30

9:09 p.m. After a motor vehicle stop, a criminal application was issued to [REDACTED] for operating an uninsured vehicle, operating after registration revocation, and a seatbelt violation.

10:34 p.m. After a motor vehicle stop, a criminal application was issued to [REDACTED] for operating without insurance, operating after registration revocation, and defective exhaust.

Saturday 7-1

7:25 p.m. Officer responded to a North Street address for a report that a teenager was out of control. Officer spoke with mother who stated her son was verbally abusive. Officer gave subject a ride to stay with a friend.

Sunday 7-2

7:18 p.m. Report of a lost wallet on Millers side of bridge. Owners located.

Thursday 7-6

7:50 a.m. Officer assisted EMTs with medical emergency at a River Road address. Subject transported to hospital.

9:00 p.m. After a motor vehicle stop, [REDACTED] was issued a criminal

application for illegally attaching plates, possession of a class E drug, and speeding.

Friday 7-7

9:14 a.m. Officer responded to medical emergency at Laurel Lake. Male injured in bike accident. Orange ambulance on scene. Subject airlifted to UMass.

10:10 p.m. Report of a disturbance at a Pratt Street address. Peace restored.

Monday 7-10

9:00 p.m. Report of a possible jumper on the French King Bridge. Nothing found.


11:05 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Maple Avenue address. Fight between two brothers.

[REDACTED] was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery.

Tuesday 7-11

5:15 a.m. Report of a subject on outside of rail on French King Bridge. White sedan parked on bridge. Mass State Police, Gill Police, and Fire Department responded. Nothing found. Fire Department checked river with boat. Nothing found.

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NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Town Hall Hours, Riverside Building's Fate Discussed

BY DAVID DETMOLD

Closing town hall for lunch hour and figuring out a long term plan for keeping the Riverside Municipal Building open were some of the items on the selectboard's agenda Monday, July 10th.

Administrative assistant Deb Roussel said the town hall staff would go home for half hour lunch breaks, saving the town some money, if the town hall could be closed in the middle of the day. But selectboard member Ann Banash frowned on the idea.

"I have a little problem with closing town hall," she said. Board chair Phil Maddern suggested staff take a rotating lunch

break. Banash seconded that idea, and suggested the office hours of individuals could be posted, so the public could know when they would be 'out to lunch.'

As for the Riverside building, Roussel briefed the board on the status of lease negotiations with Steve Hussey, educational director of the Four Winds School, a small alternative middle school that leases approximately a third of the building from the town. He currently pays \$645 a month, but in the year since the last negotiation, the cost of heating fuel has escalated from \$1.75 a gallon to around \$3.00 a gallon, and shows no sign of moderating.

The board will meet with Hussey on July 24th to discuss an increase in the monthly fee.

However, the board expressed doubt the town could afford to maintain the building over the long term, although a recent study committee looking into the future of the facility had recommended no change in the status quo. Presently, the Riverside water district office and the Gill historical society and museum share space in the building.

Board member Ann Banash said the building costs the town at least \$10,000 a year to maintain, at the old fuel prices. Roussel said, "That is the most expensive building in town to

heat." The board discussed the need to reglaze or replace the windows, paint the exterior, and put a new roof on the building.

Board chair Phil Maddern said, "I would like someone to tell us what to do with that building. You get a committee up and they tell you, 'Don't change a thing.' I don't see any point in bringing the building up to code when we don't know what we're going to do with it."

In other news, the town highway chief, Mick LaClaire, met with the board to go over a number of small items. The county building inspector has ordered the town to alter the rise in the new town hall steps to conform to code, and LaClaire said he

had a plan for doing that. A sump pump in the town hall basement dry well (which is not as dry as it should be given all the recent rain) and a dehumidifier for the town hall basement were also discussed.

Board member Lee Stevens asked LaClaire to discuss with MassHighway the need for a road sign on the town line on Route 10 going west. LaClaire and a number of other town officials will be meeting with MassHighway on Monday in Northampton for a pre-construction meeting about the Main Road reconstruction project, which is scheduled to get underway sometime this year.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GILL POLICE LOG

Calls for Medical Assistance

Wednesday 7-5

3:00 p.m. Responded to Gill Elementary School for a reported fire alarm.
4:40 p.m. Report of a disabled motor vehicle in the Main Road area; same was assisted in finding a tow company.

Friday 7-7

8:00 a.m. Report of a person lying in the road on the French King Bridge - no one was found in the area upon arrival.
10:20 a.m. Fire alarm at an NMH dorm - found to be a false alarm.
4:00 p.m. Medical assistance for a West Gill Road residence.
4:30 p.m. Separate medical assistance for a West Gill Road resident. This resident was transported to FMC.

5:15 p.m. Report of a suicidal person at a River Road residence. Same identified and transported voluntarily to FMC.
6:10 p.m. Medical assistance, West Gill Road residence. Same refused medical treatment.
9:30 p.m. Report of a barking dog at a Center Road residence. Upon police arrival, no sound heard.

Saturday 7-8

1:45 a.m. Noise complaint French King Highway. No noise found on arrival.

Sunday 7-9

5:05 a.m. Suspicious person near a Main Road business. Officer identified the individual. No problem found.

Monday 7-10

12:50 p.m. Erratic operator reported on Route 2.
6:00 p.m. Assisted disabled motor vehicle near Gill lights.
7:40 p.m. Report of a possible jumper on the French King Bridge. Same was found by the Erving police.
10:15 p.m. Alarm at NMH; all secure.
11:05 p.m. Assisted Erving police with arrest.

Tuesday 7-11

5:00 a.m. Suspicious motor vehicle and person reported on the French King Bridge. No one found upon arrival.
2:50 p.m. Fire alarm reported at a Riverview Drive residence. All OK.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Motor Vehicle Stops

Thursday 6-29

1:09 a.m. [redacted] was arrested and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon.
11:46 p.m. After a motor vehicle stop in front of Scotty's, [redacted] was arrested and charged with operating with a suspended license.

Friday 6-30

11:09 a.m. After a report of an accident on Turners Falls Road at Swamp Road, [redacted] was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of liquor (2nd offense), operating under the influence of liquor and causing serious injury, operating with a suspended license, failure to drive within marked lanes, and operating to endanger.
10:53 p.m. Report of a disturbance at a Chestnut Street address. [redacted] was arrested and charged with possession of a class B drug, possession of a class C drug, possession of a class E drug, and open and gross lewdness.

Saturday 7-1

6:32 p.m. After a motor vehicle

stop near the Patch, [redacted] was arrested and charged with operating with a suspended license and speeding.

Sunday 7-2

12:21 p.m. Walk in to station reported trespassing at an L Street address. [redacted] was arrested and charged with trespassing.

Monday 7-3

4:28 a.m. After a motor vehicle stop on Unity Street at Maple Street, [redacted] was arrested and charged unlicensed operation, and possession with intent to distribute a class D drug.
10:15 a.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Randall Road address. [redacted] was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery, threatening to commit a crime, rape, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Wednesday 7-5

3:24 a.m. Report of a motor vehicle accident at a Swamp Road address. [redacted] was arrested and charged with operating under the

influence of liquor, marked lanes violation, possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle, speeding, and person under 21 in possession of liquor.

8:11 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.

11:20 p.m. After a motor vehicle stop on 1st Street, [redacted]

[redacted] was arrested and charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and miscellaneous equipment violation.

Thursday 7-6

1:25 a.m. [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.

10:33 a.m. [redacted] was arrested on 3 default warrants.

Saturday 7-8

2:18 a.m. After investigating a 911 hang up from Keith St. address, [redacted] was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery.

4:00 p.m. [redacted] was arrested and charged with indecent assault and battery on a person 14 or over.

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HALLMARK

continued from pg 1

Nepalese.

And he learned to see. Fortunately for us, he also documented a little of what he saw. Making these photographs wasn't easy. He wasn't trained as a photographer, and had only \$60 a month to spend on all of his needs, including film. So just as he had to ration his food, he also had to ration his shots. Waste was not part of the Nepalese ethos, and since Bubriski had adopted other Nepalese ways, he found himself easily accommodating this privation as well. It was excellent training. Looking at his world through a viewfinder made him highly conscious of what to shoot and how to shoot it.

By the time his first tour of service was over and he had moved on to his next, somewhat more comfortable, assignment for a year in Katmandu, Bubriski had become a photographer, and a good one. His early photographs of life in Nepal reflect his philosophy that a camera is merely "a window onto reality." And what a reality: steep mountainsides, haggard villagers, ragged kids, and numerous portraits of his host family in the northwest, including a stunning image of his hostess mashing apricot seeds on a stone to extract all-purpose apricot oil for use as a liniment and for cooking. While these are exotic images, they are far more than that. Bubriski's sensitivity to the life (and often death) around him make these photographs testimonials about what it is to be human, bear witness to the experience of survival, reach into inner recesses of the human condition.

Unlike many Peace Corps volunteers who went off to serve in remote places, then returned to live conventional American lives content to tell their children and grandchildren about their experiences, Bubriski couldn't stay home. After a stint in Santa Fe, he got a grant in 1985 from Harvard's Film Study center to return to Nepal. It wasn't a lot of

money, recalled Bubriski: "I got airfare and all the film I needed." This time he packed a 4x5 field camera. And for three years he actively went in search of images, rather than let the images find him. He also had a concept in mind. Before leaving Katmandu in 1979 he picked up a group of 19th century British photographs of the Nepalese royal family. These stylized images of the affluent rulers depicted scenes of domestic comfort in which the family members pose in full regalia or in their finest Western clothes. Bubriski thought that it might be interesting to photograph the "real people" of Nepal in a similar fashion. The contrast couldn't be greater, and yet the dignity possessed by the subjects in the Victorian photos is also present in Bubriski's images of people eking out an existence in the rugged mountain villages of Nepal.

These are the images that are most on display at the show that opened last Saturday, the 8th of July, at the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography at the corner of Avenue A and Third Street in downtown Turners.

They are stunning images. In one, a couple in black, the woman with a giant nose ring, face the camera, as self-possessed as any royalty. In another, masked and costumed dancers in Limitang village gesticulate on a steep hillside while in the background a craggy cloud-shrouded Himalayan ridge rises. Another photo captures an old woman in front of a stone wall, who pulls a black wool blanket tightly around her. Her face is full of lines, testimony to the harshness of a life lived in an ungriving, cold

place. In another, a dozen school children stand in the shell of an uncompleted concrete building that dwarfs the Buddhist monuments in the foreground. Another photo depicts a fierce Hindu shaman who dances for the camera, his sacred instruments raised in a ritual as ancient as the place in which he lives. Bubriski clearly enjoys a familiarity with the people he photographs. Indeed, these are images made by an insider inti-

photographs on display is one of statues in a Tibetan monastery that were desecrated during the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Among the mostly indecipherable shard heaps stands one perfectly intact foot, as if waiting to be reconnected to a body. On the opposite side of the world, Bubriski captured the awesome power of Peru's ancient Inca capital of Machu Picchu in two photographs. In one, a giant entryway composed of a congeries of huge stone slabs seems to allow entrance only to another looming stone wall; the other image is that of curving stone steps worn by time, wind and human soles. And then there are also shots of the citadel in Aleppo, Syria, as well as photos of placid Tuscan hay bales.

Although the major focus of the show is on places far away, among the more poignant photographs are a series Burbiski shot at ground zero in Manhattan. Unlike many photos of this horrific event, Burbiski did not photograph the actual site of the collapsed World Trade towers. Instead, in the same tradition, and with the same acute sensitivity in which he photographed the Nepalese, he focused on those witnessing the destruction (and by extension, of course, he becomes another witness). Although there are only a few of these images in the show, they speak volumes. Grief, agony, amazement and even disbelief emerge from the faces of those gathered at the scene. A man tries to comfort a woman; two women stare, open-mouthed at the wreckage, tears forming in the corners of their eyes.

In the end, what ties together

all of the carefully-selected images in the show is Bubriski's sense of the importance of recording what there is to record, and what is vanishing before our eyes. Or as a Rastafarian artist in Belize told Bubriski, "You're taking my picture to show the future what the past looked like." That, of course, is a mission of any photographer, but in Bubriski's case a number of places he's photographed, including Tibet and Nepal, have so radically changed in the last decade that Bubriski's images really are of gone worlds.

Yet life continues to go on, struggles to survive; buildings collapse and buildings are constructed. And Bubriski tends to his organic vegetable garden with as much care as he gives his photography. Ways of living are ways of living. And living deliberately (in Thoreau's sense) is what Bubriski has done and continues to do. It's this deliberateness that informs the photographer, that gets translated into images that in turn can move a viewer. It's a conspiracy of sorts: the witness makes witnesses of us all, perhaps even turns us into actors.

Paul Turnbull, director of the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, summed up in his introduction to Bubriski's fascinating talk at the Hallmark Institute on Saturday evening why Bubriski's work is so compelling: "It's because these are real people, my fellow brothers and sisters, parents, grandparents. Their homes are crude rock, but they're home. It allows me to gain a perspective on my own life. It gives me hope."

"Bridging People/Bridging Cultures" is on view until September 24th. Regular museum hours are Thursday through Sunday from 1-5 p.m. Two of Bubriski's books, *Power Places of Katmandu* with a text by Keith Dowman, and his most recent, *Pilgrimage: Looking at Ground Zero* are also on sale.



In an image from Bubriski's slide presentation, *Dul Bahadur's wife grinds apricot pits for oil*

mate with a culture and landscape he clearly sees.

But Nepal isn't the only place featured in the "Bridging People/Bridging Cultures" exhibition. Indeed, Bubriski, although based in Shaftsbury, VT, has spent most of his life traveling, recording, bearing witness. Aided by grants from the National Endowment for the arts, and Guggenheim and Fulbright Fellowships, he has more than made good on his donors' backing. Among the more striking


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Hallmark Student Print Show Rakes in the Dough for Doctors Without Borders

BY CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO
TURNERS FALLS - When George Rosa III, president of the Hallmark Institute of Photography, got the inspiration to start a contemporary photography museum in downtown Turners Falls, he wasn't thinking of it as being a philanthropic organization. Instead, he planned to make it the pre-eminent New England showplace for displaying the work of internationally-known contemporary photographers. He had a few other visions in mind, as well: building a renowned image collection where researchers could engage in archival work, creating a greater sense of the Institute as a major player in the training of photographers, and tapping into the growing arts renaissance in Montague. All of that has been realized. But more, too, has been achieved. The Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography has become a leading Western Massachusetts philanthropy.

The philanthropy thing started by accident and because of an accident. When the tsunami devastated South and Southeast Asia in December, 2004, a student at the Institute, Katherine Kerkman, came to Rosa with an idea she had for helping relief efforts for the survivors. Rosa welcomed her proposal to hold a benefit sale of student work, and offered to donate all the matting and framing for the larger prints. And so, before the museum even officially opened, Hallmark inaugurated the space with a show of student work, in the hope of raising some money to benefit AmeriCares, a non-governmental organization providing direct assistance to the millions in need. On April 30th and May 1st, 2005, the Museum collected nearly \$11,000 for AmeriCares.

Paul Turnbull, a former owner of Hallmark Institute, now the

Museum's director, was not part of the tsunami benefit planning. He hadn't been hired yet. He had seen the show, and was thrilled with the result. But another benefit for a worthy cause wasn't foremost in his mind. He was too busy getting the museum up and running and deciding which photographers to feature. But then Turnbull, who says he isn't much of a television viewer, happened to see a TV documentary on Doctors Without Borders. The program focused on an American ophthalmologist in Tibet who was routinely performing up to 60 eye surgeries a day, mainly on children, to save them from going blind.

Turnbull was so moved by the agency's work that he decided to write a check to the organization. A day or so later he called George Rosa to inquire whether the Museum could put on another student show to benefit Doctors Without Borders. Rosa readily agreed, though neither was sure the Museum could rake in so much cash again. They both knew the tsunami disaster had occupied center stage in the hearts and minds of those who donated, and consequently they were able to tap into the huge outpouring of awareness and sympathy for the survivors. But would Doctors without Borders be able to attract the same numbers of folks with a few bucks in their pockets who had come out to benefit tsunami relief?

There was also another problem: the small amount of lead time to get the student work together, jury it, and hang the

show before the end of the school term. For both students and instructors this was the most hectic time of the academic year. But when they approached Hallmark instructor Alan Thornton to get the word out to the students, he didn't balk. He immediately began soliciting photographs from the students.



This photograph by Jeff Volkenant was part of student show at the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography.

Despite it being near the end of term, the student response was enthusiastic and overwhelming. "The students were supportive of the cause, and, of course, were delighted at a chance to show their work to the public," said Thornton. "But I wanted them to really consider what they were doing and how they were doing it. I insisted that each submission be done from a fine arts standpoint, which meant that the students had to get paper releases [if people were photographed], and include bios." Undeterred by Thornton's requirements, the students submitted more than 160 images.

Turnbull was the judge. "I first thought we'd have a three-person committee," he noted, "but because of time constraints I ended up doing the judging myself." The task wasn't easy. "A great many of the photographs were very, very good. I started out rejecting those that

weren't as technically accomplished as others. Next I sorted out photographs with similar images, and chose what I felt were the best." In the end 130 photos were chosen. Of the 130 11" x 14" photographs, 50 images were selected to be framed and hung on the walls of the museum; the others (matted) were displayed in large bins.

According to Laurie Wheeler, the Museum's Archivist & Exhibitions Manager, the submitted images were mostly the students' personal work. In other words, these were images they'd snapped for themselves, rather than for a particular class project.

Thornton said the show represented a unique opportunity for students to go public with these personal images. "Hallmark teaches students to become commercial photographers. And while we encourage students to think of images in terms of pure aesthetics, our emphasis is on training students to become professional commercial photographers. Aesthetics, of course, always plays a part. But in the case of fine arts work the 'client' is first and foremost the photographer."

Thornton said he was "enormously pleased" with the quality of work. "I'm proud of every single piece up there." He added, "It's also nice for the students to be able to add a group museum exhibition to their resumes."

Thornton was right to be proud. The show was extremely strong; indeed, the range and quality of work was first-rate. Among the more accomplished pieces were two by Patrick

Collins. The first was a minimalist black-and-white image of a lone blackbird on a telephone wire (which I can now also proudly say, I own). The second was a color shot of two curving staircases ascending a water tank with a vertical blue strip of sky in the middle. Unlike the shot of the bird, this one was manipulated. Collins shot the staircase climbing up the side of the water tank; flipped and duplicated it; then bisected the twin staircase images with the vertical blue. Diana Garcia shot a stunning image of Miami at night in which the garish colors pulsate. According to Garcia, a Miami native, this was not digitally altered; the camera simply rendered the cityscape as it was. Kristen Sanger's simple image of a paint brush full of wet red paint created a statement about the process of creation itself in which the photographer is both witness and creator. Joseph Lacerte's black and white image of palms in the desert evoked another world in which empty space is the primary component. In contrast to Lacerte's somewhat exotic image, Gerry Bouchard's shot of the Gill-Montague Bridge reminds local viewers that a good image can be found... anywhere.

Apparently, those who flocked to the show felt they need look no further. The Museum raised almost \$11,000 for Doctors Without Borders. "I was dumbfounded," acknowledged Turnbull. "I had hopes we'd raise some money, but really didn't expect we'd equal the amount raised for the tsunami benefit."

Rosa, too was delighted with the public's reception to the show, not to mention the amount the exhibition brought in. "This is not a rich community, and yet twice we've managed to raise double digit amounts for good causes. This show was a success all around - for the school, the

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Red Sox Get Defensive

BY LEE CARIGNAN

TURNERS FALLS - Over the years it seemed unthinkable that the Red Sox would someday establish a major league record for the most consecutive errorless games and establish themselves as the best defensive team in the game. After all, management has always considered superior defense an afterthought, focusing instead on offense and failing to realize it left the team too vulnerable. Last week, those days seemed like decades ago, as the Sox established a new MLB record with their 17th consecutive errorless game. They've successfully handled 668 defensive chances since being charged with a miscue. These aren't your father's Boston Red Sox. This team can flash the leather. This team has become multi-dimensional, with strong pitching, hitting and defense.

Last year the Red Sox had plenty of holes in their infield, including shortstop Edgar Rentaria, who was booed by Boston fans as he piled up a major league high of 30 errors last season. Rentaria got traded to the Atlanta Braves because of

his spotty play. By comparison, current shortstop Alex Gonzalez entered last night's game with a league-leading .995 fielding percentage, having committed only 2 errors in 221 plays. He went 57 consecutive games without being charged with an error, establishing a new Red Sox record for shortstops. After a slow start, Gonzalez has recovered at the plate, now hitting .284 and has been a solid contributor as a number nine hitter in the lineup.

During the off-season the Sox made a commitment to improve their defense and pitching. They scrapped their entire infield from last season by signing former Golden Glove free agent shortstop Alex Gonzalez, second baseman Mark Loretta, and picking up third baseman Mike Lowell from the Josh Beckett trade. The wholesale changes had Sox fans concerned about the team's chemistry, and whether they would be sacrificing some of their offensive punch. After all, Mike



Lowell was coming off the worst year of his career and Gonzalez was a career .247 hitter with little power. There was also the uncertainty of Kevin Youkilis being a full-time player. But general manager Theo Epstein's moves paid immediate dividends. Not only has their defense been nearly flawless - as advertised - the new guys are contributing at the plate too.

Mike Lowell has proved last season was an aberration by hitting .301 with 11 HRs and 44 RBIs for the Sox. Fenway Park has definitely helped the right-handed hitter. Second baseman Mark Loretta has also been great at the plate. He's hitting .304 with 3 HRs, 34 RBIs and was the starting second baseman for the American League at this year's All-Star game. The key for Loretta, a lifetime .300 hitter, is staying healthy. First baseman Kevin Youkilis has been a pleasant surprise too. He has adjusted well to his new

position and is hitting .297 with 10 HRs, and 43 RBIs. Youkilis has allowed the Sox to move Coco Crisp down to the 8th spot, giving their lineup good depth.

The Red Sox have been solid in the outfield. Ramirez, underrated for defense, continues to be steady in left field. He is racking up the assists with his quick release and experience playing the left field wall. In center field, Coco Crisp has been as good as advertised with his speed and range to the ball. He has been an improvement over former center fielder Johnny Damon. Trot Nixon has also been steady in right field.

The Red Sox made the right off-season decisions, improving their defense after a sub-par 2005 season in the field. As the first half of the season ended, the Sox were the hottest team in baseball, recently winning 12 games in a row. With their new look, they are getting the job done defensively for the first time in years. They hold first place with a comfortable three-game lead over the Yankees and the Blue Jays, with a 53-33 record.

Newt Guilbault Team Makes State Tourney

BY DAVID DETMOLD

TURNERS FALLS - The Newt Guilbault League's 10-and-Under team carried the hometown colors all the way to the statewide Cal Ripken League state championship in Douglas last weekend, after besting five teams in Western Mass tournament play in Williamstown, from July 1st - 4th. In Williamstown, the Turners squad defeated Lenox, Northampton, Lanesboro, before beating Lee twice running to win the right to represent Western Mass at the state Division I finals. In total, Turners outscored their opponents 60 - 13!

In Douglas, the team won their first game on July 8th against Marlboro, before losing in a 6 - 0 washout to Littleton on Sunday the 9th. In the final heartbreaker, Northampton got their revenge, besting the Turners team 4 - 3. Still, this is the farthest the Turners Falls Newt Guilbault league has ever gone in tournament play.

The team was led by pitchers Brodie Markol, Cody Booska, and Marcel Ortiz, who acquitted themselves as handily in the batter's box as on the mound.

The entire team batted well, but special praise is due for Nino Rodriguez, Kramer Patenaude, Tyler Charboneau, George Atkins, and Liam Ellis. Emmet Turn, Trent Bourbeau, and Alex Carlisle took turns holding down the fort in left, distinguishing themselves equally at bat as in the field. Danny McCormack joined the team in center in the Douglas tourney.

The team was coached by Mike Markol, Steve Miller, and Dennis Booska.

MEETING from page 1

duction of \$98,090. This figure would be reached by cutting a \$2,000 stipend set aside for troubleshooting computer problems at town hall, reducing the hours of the assistant town clerk as of next May, (\$3,360), cutting two positions from the DPW for a \$62,585 savings (a tree specialist and a mechanic, both of whom have worked for over 20 years at the department), cutting the position of town nurse (\$23,695), reducing \$7,500 from the library budget (cutting back employees' hours and new materials), and reducing the parks and recreation budget \$7,500 by reducing the hours of part-time summer staff.

After clarifying what these cuts would mean for the town, a lengthy discussion ensued among town meeting members. The most hotly contested of the proposed cuts was the town nurse. While some felt the position was a luxury other area towns don't supply and Montague could no longer afford, others argued for the position.

Jay DiPucchio, Precinct 5 representative and member of the board of health, was only the first of many to decry mandates the

state requires of towns like Montague but fails to fund. He detailed how unfunded mandates affect local boards of health, with fears of flu epidemics and emergency planning in a post-911 world. While he has a stake in the public health issue, he also acknowledged the bind the school system is in - struggling with unfunded mandates of their own - and called on rural Western Massachusetts towns to engage in collective "civil disobedience" to get Beacon Hill's attention.

Two hours into the meeting, town meeting member Mike Naughton (Precinct 2) proposed amendments to Article 1 to retain the position of town nurse and eliminate \$7500 in cuts to the library. The article was amended, but only after a standing vote of 41-23 on the library budget. The amended article passed by majority vote.

Earlier, selectboard member Allen Ross had asked for suggestions of where the money should come from if meeting members decided to restore cuts to the town side of the budget, and some town meeting members responded. One proposal involved rescinding an

article from the March 23rd '06 special town meeting that set aside \$65,000 for a feasibility study for a community center. Mike Naughton and David Detmold (Precinct 5) supported using \$25,000 from this article to make up the difference in the town nurse salary and restored library funding, with the balance reserved in stabilization. They said it was unlikely the town would afford to build two new buildings at the same time, and that a new police station should be the top priority for Montague at this time. Meanwhile, a townwide forum could be held - at minimal cost - to determine whether and when residents would support moving ahead with the community center idea.

In the end, the meeting decided to amend the article by reducing the amount provided to the school assessment through taxation from \$152,000 to \$127,000, and to make up the difference in the school budget by tapping the stabilization fund for \$25,000. The amended article passed unanimously.

School board chair Mary Kociela and superintendent Sue Gee explained the reduced school budget will entail a cut of seven positions in the district, five teach-

ers and two paraprofessionals. "Literally, sweat and tears went into this budget," said Kociela, as she asked for and received the support of town meeting members. Article 2, appropriating \$192,000 to bridge the gap in the G-M school budget, carried easily.

Article 3, the final vote of the meeting, was amended by the school district. Rather than appropriating \$125,000 for textbooks from the town's so-called "education stabilization fund," the school committee increased the size and scope of the request to \$141,900, to cover added computer and technology support. The discussion surrounding this increase returned to the theme of unfunded mandates. As the state has required greater accountability in the forms of standards and MCAS testing, the schools have had to purchase new textbooks and curricula and track students' performance through the use of different technology. Rather than the state funding these tools, districts are having to pay for them, and that means people like the town residents who labored long over the budget details at last night's meeting. The amended article for textbooks and technology

eventually passed.

As the labyrinthine discussion wound to a close, town moderator Ray Godin again lamented the absence of his most reliable second for routine motions. Charlotte Robinson, who supplied the needed second for the better part of 40 years (she was the last of Montague's original elected town meeting members) died on June 27th, at the age of 81. She will be missed.

Seventy-one town meeting members attended Wednesday's meeting, ten more than the needed quorum. As the night wore on, and members left, doubts were raised whether a quorum was still present to complete business. Among the persistent no-shows were the following members, who have missed at least the last three town meetings: Brian Costa (precinct 6), Arthur Evans (1), Kathy Hyson (3), Don MacPhail (3), Jonathan Parrott (2), Ed Voudren (4), Lynn Wasielewski (6) and Don MacPhail (4). Thirty-one members called to excuse themselves from the meeting, there were 19 no-shows.



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THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Anxiety Troubles: Many Right Into Old Age

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ *Q. You know, I thought maturity with its wider perspective on life would bring me some peace, but I'm more anxious now than when I was younger. Is that common among geezers?*

Because the stresses of health problems, losses and other major life changes build up as we get older, we tend to become anxious. Some surveys suggest that one in five older adults suffer anxiety symptoms that require treatment.

In addition to psychological causes, medical disorders common in older adults can be directly responsible for the anxiety we feel. These include heart disease, neurologic illness, thyroid and other hormone problems. In addition, anxiety can be a drug side effect. And seniors take a lot of medicine.

Until recently, anxiety disorders were believed to decline with age. There has been more research into depression and

Alzheimer's than anxiety among seniors. But mental health experts are altering their views about anxiety.

There are several reasons anxiety disorders in seniors have been overlooked. One of the main ones is that older patients are more likely to emphasize their physical complaints and downplay emotional problems.

Anxiety disorders are serious medical illnesses that affect approximately 40 million American adults. They all involve excessive, irrational fear. Anxiety disorders are chronic and can worsen if untreated.

Panic disorder brings on sudden, unpredictable attacks of terror. These attacks create additional anxiety because victims worry about the next one. Older adults who get panic attacks usually had them when they were younger.

The following are some symptoms: pounding heart, per-

spiration, dizziness, fainting, numb hands, nausea, chest pain, feeling that you're smothering, fear of loss of control, a sense that you're losing your mind or about to die.

If you have obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), you may be haunted by unwelcome thoughts or the need to engage in rituals. You may be obsessed with germs or dirt, so you wash your hands repeatedly. You may feel the need to check things repeatedly.

The disturbing thoughts are called obsessions, and the rituals that are performed to try to prevent or get rid of them are called compulsions.

Victims of OCD consume at least an hour a day with their compulsions.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can develop after a frightening experience. Often, people with PTSD have repeated memories of the experience both during their waking hours and in nightmares. A person

having a flashback may believe that the event is real.

Victims of PTSD may have trouble sleeping, feel detached, or be easily startled. They may have intimacy problems. They can become aggressive or even violent.

Social phobia, also called social anxiety disorder, involves excessive self-consciousness in social situations. People with social phobia are afraid of being judged by others and being embarrassed by their own actions.

Social phobics can be afraid of one type of situation or they may experience symptoms almost anytime they are around other people. Symptoms include blushing, sweating, trembling, nausea, and difficulty talking.

A specific phobia is an exaggerated fear of one thing. Some of the more common specific phobias are triggered by heights, animals such as snakes, closed spaces, and flying.

Generalized anxiety disorder

(GAD) means excessive worry about a variety of things

or life in general. People with GAD expect the worst and seem unable to relax. Often, they have trouble falling or staying asleep.

Anxiety disorders are treated with medication and psychotherapy. Both approaches can be effective for most disorders. Anxiety disorders are not all treated the same, so it is important to determine the specific problem first.

Although medications won't cure an anxiety disorder, they can keep the symptoms under control and enable people to have normal lives.

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



ILLUSTRATION: JESSICA HARMON



FINDING BALANCE: TIPS FOR A HAPPY LIFE

Driving in the Ocean of Grace

BY JENNY CHAPIN

MONTAGUE CENTER - In 1992, when I legally changed my last name, I also added a middle name, amending my parents' decision to give me only a first one. I chose a quality I wanted more of in my life, a quality that spoke to me of ease of movement through this corporeal plane, and of a connection with the Divine that would help my heart blossom into a depth of love that I had faith was right there, although I didn't feel it often. I chose the name Grace.

My yoga teacher training was in the discipline of Anusara yoga. The name is Sanskrit for "flowing with grace." To help us step into that flow, we are invited to continually soften in heart and mind, in

gaze and attitude, so that when grace occurs, we are not hindered from folding into it.

Grace is the essence that infuses all of life with its desire to participate fully and joyfully in all that comes our way, to be present and accounted for, knowing that there is no separation between us and everything around us.

Grace is our connection to the ebb and flow in and around us. It is our ease with chaos, our ability to remain present with the complements of and shifts between growth and decay, movement and stillness, light and dark. Grace is the insight, at a cellular and a heart level, that there is a baseline flow that never stops, and that always holds us, regardless of how much we waver in our

belief in, understanding, or appreciation of that baseline.

Sometimes it seems that much of opening to grace has to do with simply getting out of my own way. Stepping away from the story line of whatever's going on and returning to the simplicity and directness of the breath going in, going out, until I reconnect with the Breath that is breathing me. It's about reestablishing my heart as my center, entering into that place with gentleness and acceptance, and letting it fill my whole being. Clearing out the detritus to find the empty stillness where I can rest and just be.

To open to grace, we have to be open to it. Grace cannot be forced, cannot be willed to materialize. It is not under our

control. The only way to plan for it is by being attuned to it so that we notice it when it happens, rather than being distracted elsewhere and missing it entirely. There is an element of faith, or even underlying certainty, to the process: grace will occur, if I make room for it, if I am willing to feel it. However, I must release my need for it to look a certain way and instead allow my eyes to perceive realms beyond what is routine, into what is magnificent.

Elusive, magical, amazing grace! Inherent in the flooding of grace into our beings is the prerequisite of surrender: that moment when we open our heart to something which is beyond words; that moment when we release our ideas of who we are and our attachment

to where we are; that moment when we dissolve into universal energy. In that moment, we discover there is no demarcation between us and everything else.

At that point, we recognize that we humans - imperfect, not always lovable, sometimes destructive of that which we hold most dear - are included in the encompassing circle of universal splendor. This, I think, is the best grace of all: to be contained within this realm of what is fierce and exquisite, radiant and divine.

Jenny Chapin is an acupuncturist, bodyworker, and yoga teacher in Greenfield. Suggest a topic or question for her column at jgchapin@crocker.com.

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NUTRITION PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Full time for elder services agency to manage senior citizens nutrition program in accordance with regulations governing Title IIIC of the Older Americans Act. Requires experience in

program development and management, budget development and oversight, multi-site personnel supervision, knowledge of nutrition and food service techniques, and ability to work cooperatively with elderly consumers, agency staff and community groups. Position also requires excellent communication, organizational & time management skills, and computer proficiency. Must have valid driver's license, insured transportation, and capacity to climb stairs and navigate uneven terrain to visit all dining center locations throughout our Franklin County/North Quabbin service area. Send resume and cover letter including salary requirements by July 21st, 2006 to: Elizabeth Foster, DHR, Franklin County Home Care Corporation, 330 Montague City Road, Ste., 1, Turners Falls, MA 01376. FCHCC is committed to diversifying its workforce. Minority, bilingual, bi-cultural applicants are especially encouraged to apply. EOE/AA

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BOOK REVIEW

SIN OF ARSON BY TED GRAVELINE

Reviewed by **KATREN HOYDEN GILL** -This latest release by author Ted Graveline, from Fire House Books, is a work of fiction, unlike Graveline's previous two releases, *Tales of a Fire Fighter* and *Strike a Second Alarm*. His earlier books were personal reflections on his career experiences as a Greenfield firefighter.

Sin of Arson is an investigative mystery featuring a pair of buddies, Ted and Dan, who work together by day, and socialize with each other and their spouses on nights and weekends.

As I met these two heroes at the beginning of the book they reminded me of another duo of detection well established in the history of popular culture, Sergeant Joe Friday and his philosophical partner Bill Gannon, with their deadpan dialogue and terse professionalism on the job, not to mention their very dry sense of humor. The similarity, however, quickly disappears at cocktail hour, meeting the ladies in their lives and noting the commentary on small town politics, the small towns and their environs being our own Franklin County.

Like any good mystery, the story progresses with twists, turns and deadends, like a labyrinth. Along the way the main characters and their relationship unfolds; suffice to say they are not at all what they seemed in the beginning.

The story is partly written, as the author says in his introduction, in a dull, tedious manner, specifically during the dry, technical aspects of detective work, like writing up reports, noting the details that might be evidence at a crime scene and following up leads, no matter how remote, in the hopes of shaking something loose to reveal

the perpetrator. Having agreed with the author, I must say the story also includes coy references to romance and sensuality that touch on poignancy. Current community issues like substance abuse, homelessness and tolerance toward sexual as well as religious orientation are handled sensitively in a regular-guy kind of way.

Scenes involving gastronomy, however, are lurid, abundant and aromatic. You've been warned.

In the course of their investigation, our heroes only waver in their intrepidity when Ted comes up with a wacky plan that seems hardly legal, but they carry it out anyway. It goes off without a hitch, though I found myself hoping Ted and Dan would stylistically borrow a chapter from another duo well established in the history of popular culture: Lucy and Ethel. In fact, I wondered if it was originally in there that way, it seemed so perfect, and perhaps I was only reading the censored version.

There is ample room with this cast of characters for the

development of a sequel or two with an increased degree of comic relief to offset the tedium of investigative procedure, even more irreverence of established mores, and added helpings of *haute cuisine*, please. Fertile ground for an author not afraid to play with fire. Ted and Dan have arrived.

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FRIDAY, JULY 14TH
Mark Snow at Rt. 63 Road House in Millers Falls. Rockers, come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY JULY 14TH TO 16TH
The Country Players present Rogers and Hammerstein's fairy-tale classic, *Cinderella* at The Shea Theatre. July 14 & 15 at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. For ticket reservations, call the Shea Theatre Box office, 863-2281. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students.

SATURDAY, JULY 15TH
Rt. 63 Road House, Millers Falls: Rock 201, rockers, come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

Tully Mountain Singers perform at the North Quabbin Center for the Performing Arts, 1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem. 7:30 p.m. (978) 544-5200.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JULY 15TH & 16TH
Vermont Renaissance Fair last weekend! Pirates of the Renaissance. Bringing Olde England to New England. (802) 463-2565 Held at Franklin County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., rain or shine. Adult - \$12, Child (5-13 years) - \$6, Weekend Pass - Good for any two festival days. Adults \$18, Child \$9

the animals that live there. Limited to 24 participants (ages 10 and older). 8-11 a.m. Contact Northfield Mountain Recreation Area at 800-859-2960.

THURSDAYS, JULY 20TH & 27TH
COOP Concerts: Franklin County Musicians' Cooperative performs folk, alternative rock, classical, Celtic, blues and more. Three great

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UNTIL SEPTEMBER 24TH
Kevin Bubriski Photo Documentary Exhibit, Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, 85 Avenue A, Turners Falls. Gallery open, Thursday-Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. 863-0009.

FRIDAY, JULY 21ST
Catamount: classic rock at Rt. 63 Road House in Millers Falls. Come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JULY 21ST & 22ND
Ja'Duke Productions presents Guys and Dolls at The Shea Theatre. 8 p.m. call 863-2281 for tickets and information.

SATURDAY, JULY 22ND
Rt. 63 Road House, Millers Falls: Loose Change: come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

Deerfield Land Trust Farm Festival, Mill Village Rd, Deerfield. Tours of blooming flower fields, greenhouses, hayrides, Lion's Club BBQ. 2 to 5 p.m. Live Polka music by The Mello Tones 4 p.m., Live

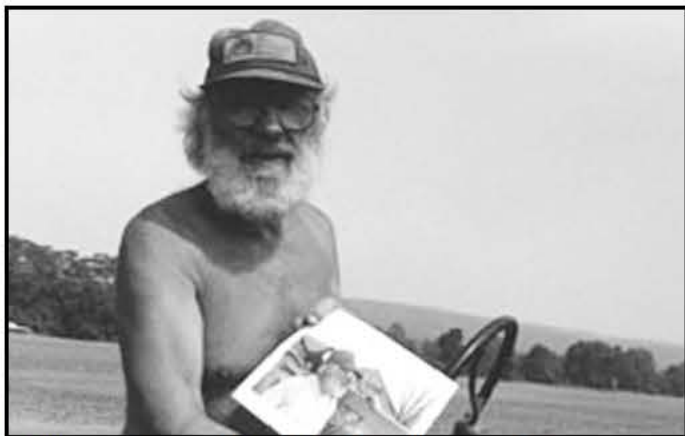


Photo by George Bluh: Mitch Mieczkowski holding George Bluh's Photograph, Montague, MA, 1997. Eastern European Farmers photo documentary exhibit at Memorial Hall Museum in Deerfield Through October 31st

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH
A Day In Provence at Stockbridge Farm, South Deerfield, 11 -5p.m. Free Admission. Take a stroll through our lavender field and experience the glorious sights and aromas. More information available at www.stockbridgeherbs.com or 665-6918.

MONDAY, JULY 17TH
Parting of the Seas: The Canal Draw Down at Turners Falls-Go down into the bottom of a working river and gain unique insights into both the structure of the river and

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Family Nature Program geared towards the family group with lots of crafts, nature activities and live animal presentations. Programs at 12:30 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. The GFDC will be open to the public every Sunday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY THRU AUGUST 27TH
On display: Senior Expressions: Paintings from the Montague Senior Center. The opening reception is **JULY 18**, 5 to 7p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19TH & 26TH
Junior Rangers Program at 10:30 a.m. For Jr. Rangers- 5-6 year olds. Games, crafts & activities for earning a Jr. Ranger badge.

THURSDAY, JULY 20TH
Exploring Insects: Beetles: Discover neat facts and make projects. Bees, Butterflies, Beetles, and Bugs presented by Sue Cloutier of the Conte Refuge, Great Falls Discovery Center. For school-age children - their care-givers are welcome to attend. Please call the library to register, enrollment is limited. 863-3214. 2 - 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 22ND
Beaks and Feet- Bird Adaptations Family oriented activities that focus on the adaptations of migratory birds' bills and feet-how they fit habits and habitats. Sketching to focus observations, make-your-own binoculars, and role playing. 1- 2 p.m.

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Blues music at 7 p.m. with the Janet Ryan Blues Band. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, children and seniors are free. More info. 625-9152.

MONDAY, JULY 24TH
Montague Community Band, 115th Season! Concert on the lawn of the Great Falls Discovery Center, 7 p.m.

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 24TH
Kevin Bubriski Photo Documentary Exhibit, Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, 85 Avenue A, Turners Falls. Gallery open, Thursday-Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. 863-0009.

UNTIL OCTOBER 31ST
Exhibit: George Bluh Photographs: Eastern European Farmers: An exhibit of a photo/journal documentary of farmers of Eastern European heritage in Franklin and Hampshire Counties. Memorial Hall Museum, 10 Memorial Street, Deerfield. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 774-3768.

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3. AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH DAILY 12:00 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:00 PG
4. CLICK PG13
DAILY 12:15 3:15 6:45 9:00
5. CARS G
DAILY 12:15 3:15 6:45 9:15
6. YOU, ME, AND DUPREE PG13 DTS sound
DAILY 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:30
7. PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST PG13 DTS sound
DAILY 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:30

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GARRISON KEILLOR CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH HIS BASE

BY DOUG TURNER

LENOX - When Minnesota boy Garrison Keillor led his Tanglewood audience in singing the national anthem before his weekly radio broadcast of *A Prairie Home Companion* Saturday, July 1st, you knew he was sincere.

The Tanglewood crowd may not be accustomed to singing the Star Spangled Banner before the start of a performance, but they rose as one, even if they did not sing as one.

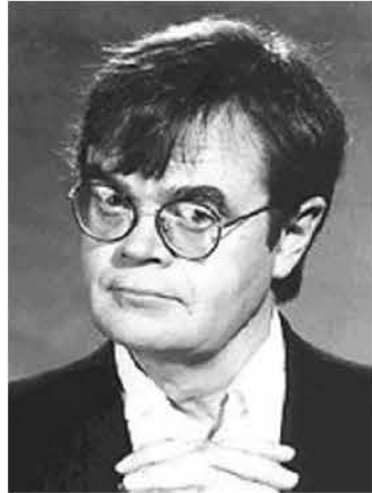
When Keillor decried the Iraq War and the “fools” who led us into it, again, you got the feeling he was being sincere.

But these remarks were made prior to going on air, and later it occurred to me that perhaps the man in the long red tie was trying to endear himself to the presumably Northeast liberal audience.

Keillor's ‘pixilated’ blend of satire, anecdotal wisdom and gospel music make for a strange landmark on the

American scene. One might even say that Prairie Home has become the Grand Ole Opry of the deep North.

I say ‘pixilated’ not in the language of today’s computer lexicon. I refer to the



Garrison Keillor

‘pixilated’ of the classic Frank Capra film with Gary Cooper, *Mr. Deeds Goes To Town*, in which Cooper as small town Vermont poet Longfellow Deeds undergoes a hearing on his sanity, after he decides to donate a \$20 million inheritance to “the common man.”

Two of the witnesses called before the board of physicians are spinster sisters who refer to Deeds as ‘pixilated’ - that is, sprinkled with pixie dust - *craze!*

But, according to the same sisters, so is the chief prosecutor.

Keillor is Longfellow Deeds. His generous contribution to the American entertainment wasteland may soon be curtailed by the Republicans, if they keep their majority in November.

I found it odd to be sitting among a crowd of 10,000 on the Tanglewood lawn listening to the radio. I’d come to see Keillor and his ‘made in America’ troupe perform,

but from my vantage point I couldn’t see into the darkness of the music shed, so I might as well have been at home or in my car. Later Sunday evening I would see the same show courtesy of public TV on WGBY, Channel 57 from Springfield. But the lawn provided an altogether different viewpoint of the American vista from that which Prairie Home delivered over the airways..

Keillor’s guest was Meryl Streep, who also stars in the recent Robert Altman film, which follows the Prairie Home Companion cast through their paces in delivering the weekly broadcast.

Keillor said that he wrote a part for Streep in his weekly Old Testament satire, “Stories from the Scripture-Scripture-Scripture!” - a somewhat predictable piece entitled *The Prodigal Daughter*, saved by the sound effects man.

I was blown away by Jearlyn Steele, whose gospel rendition of Mahalia Jackson’s “How I Got Over” stirred me like Gabriel’s horn.

Keillor’s Guy Noir vignette was a better showcase for Streep, featuring her Fargo imitation, and displaying a lovely singing voice. Keillor’s dialogue was snappy.

But overall I thought the show was just a tad boring. I felt there should have been a local performer on the bill. The Wailin’ Jennys are from Canada and do play the region quite a bit, but this Prairie Home Independence Day celebration at Tanglewood was woefully lacking for the area’s best talent.

THEATER REVIEW

A Graceful and Magical Cinderella

BY NICOLE KAPISE

TURNERS FALLS - My fellow theater critic (seven-year-old AlysonRose) and I were invited to attend the Sunday July 9th performance of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, presented by The Country Players.

AlysonRose, determined to have a perfect view of her favorite princess, found us a pair of front-row seats, and we waited breathlessly for the magic to begin. All around us were pint-sized princesses in full royal regalia, every one anticipating the arrival of their idol. No one

who makes the impossible happen - provided one wishes as hard as one possibly can. Sue MacDonald and Marvin Shedd appear as the Queen and King, settled and companionable, as evidenced by the Queen mending the King's trousers while he waits in his underdrawers.

With appearances also by Chad Glabach, Amie Villeneuve and Lauria Kincaid as well as The Country Players Ensemble, the actors bring *Cinderella* to the stage with beauty and skill. Marvin Shedd, in a conversation after the show, agreed that it was



Andrew Boivin of Turners Falls plays Prince Charming alongside Erin Richman of Westminster, who plays Cinderella.

was disappointed.

The Rodgers and Hammerstein *Cinderella* is quite different from the animated Disney film, having been originally written as a musical: every scene features a song as well as dialogue. These songs were a delightful surprise to my Disney-generation daughter. I, having seen the film production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* years ago, was happy to revisit familiar music. Erin Richman makes her Country Players debut as Cinderella, dancing and dreaming her way to love and happiness. Her voice is simply beautiful and she brings the spirit of Cinderella to life with grace and elegance.

Andrew Boivin is the dashingly handsome Prince Christopher, a kind but lonely young man whose dreams of love are finally met when Cinderella appears at the ball he dreaded attending. Jerri Higgins appears as the less-than-pleasant (but not terribly evil) Stepmother who tries unsuccessfully to pawn off her squabbling daughters Joy and Portia (Kali Bradford and Cayla Plasse) to the unsuspecting prince.

JoAnn Greenleaf is Cinderella's Fairy Godmother,

a good performance. "It's a lot of work, but we have a good time," he said. "Sue MacDonald and I have performed together before, and we have new actors as well." The young viewers all appeared to enjoy the show (despite a well-articulated "eeew" when the Prince kissed Cinderella). Eyes went wide with the appearance of Cinderella's life-sized horse and pumpkin coach, and there was crowd-wide applause when the Prince finally found his lost dream girl. Audience member three-year-old Lily was enjoying her first-ever theater experience. Dressed in a white gown worthy of Cinderella herself, the little sprite informed AlysonRose of her favorite part of the show: "I like Cinderella!" AlysonRose agreed. "I like the dancing, and when Cinderella met the Prince," she said. "And the King smiled at me!"

The Country Players will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* this weekend, Friday, July 14th and Saturday, July 15th at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 16th at 2:00 p.m. For a magical experience, for music, for dance, for childhood dreams, take yourself off the Shea Theater to see wishes brought to life.

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