



AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Valley Idol 2010

Page 8

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 8 - NO. 34

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

50¢

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MAY 27, 2010

N.U. Proposes Community-Based Solution to Richardson Road Beaver Pond



BY DAVID DETMOLD

LEVERETT - At the Leverett selectboard meeting on Tuesday, May 25th, Marcia Wellman of Northeast Utilities' municipal relations department and N.U. spokesman Frank Poirot proposed a community-based model to resolve the problem posed to the utility's power line from a

large beaver pond at the top of Richardson Road.

For many years, beaver dams have flooded a narrow, 2500-foot section of the border between the towns of Montague and Leverett, submerging the bases of five wooden utility towers (along with a good chunk of Richardson Road).

The utility has been seeking a solution that will allow them to replace and provide future maintenance for those utility towers.

Wellman proposed meeting collaboratively with abutting landowners, along with two officials each from the towns of Montague and Leverett, and a

see **BEAVER** pg 7

Mullins Hits 500 by Moonlight



Turners Falls High School girls softball coach Gary Mullins tips his bat as his team, coaches and the crowd cheer for his 500th victory

TURNERS FALLS - Bouncing back from a 4-1 beating at the hands of Pioneer Regional High on Tuesday, the Turners Falls girls softball team whipped Greenfield 14 to *nada* on Wednesday at Bourdeau Field, to hand coach Gary Mullins his 500th career victory.

Assistant coach Mark Sullivan said Mullins has coached the girls softball team for 31 years, and has qualified for the Western Mass tournament for 30 years. He was inducted into the Massachusetts softball hall of fame in 1995. He has won 20 Franklin County League North titles. Between May of 2004 and April of 2007 the TF girls held a 59 game winning streak. Under his leadership, they have won 12 Western

Mass titles, nine trips to the state championships, with four state titles in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2008.

And on Wednesday, Coach Mullins notched his 500th career win.

Emily Mailloux pitched a strong game, and her team backed her up with a barrage of hits and an impressive showing in the field. Dakota Smith-Porter capped the evening with a three run homer over the right field fence in the bottom of the sixth.

On Thursday, Coach Mullins and the girls softball team will try to extend their season record of 14 - 4 (10 - 4 in league play), when they face Pioneer for a home field rematch, starting at 7 p.m.

Senior Writers Reading



JOEY R. PARZYCH PHOTO

Laura Rodley (left) and the writing group at the Gill-Montague senior center.

BY **JOSEPH A. PARZYCH**

TURNERS FALLS - A writers group started by Anna Viadero in 1998 at the Gill Montague senior center returned to write again at the site of their original inspiration, after having migrated to the Mill House in Greenfield for a few years.

When Viadero's sched-

ule made it hard for her to continue leading the group at the Mill House, the group continued to meet and work, and in February of this year, Laura Rodley took over leadership of the unruly lot, now back at the original site at the Gill-Montague senior center.

Rodley, who was born in the U.S., has a hint of English accent in her gen-

tle voice acquired from having spent a few years in England. She appears to have studied diplomacy, as she calmly reins in participants bent on doing things their way.

The group size has waxed and waned over the years. Members moved or passed on, and new mem-

see **WRITERS** pg 14

Ceiling Falls at Between the Uprights



The ceiling collapsed at Between the Uprights bar on Monday night.

BY **DAVID DETMOLD**
TURNERS FALLS - The Celtics were trailing Orlando 47 - 51 at the half when the ceiling started to give way.

"It sounded like some-

one dropped a pair of barbells in the apartment upstairs," said Between the Upright's owner and manager Lew Collins.

"There were about a dozen people in the bar at

the time," said his sister, Brenda Collins. That was about 10 p.m. on Monday night. "Lew said, 'Everybody get the hell out.'"

see **CEILING** pg 13

PET OF THE WEEK

Adventurous Bunny



Bling

My name is Bling and I'm a three-year-old male American rabbit in need of a good home. I am quite the adventurer! I love running around and exploring every bit of space that I can. I am also very neat and like to use my litter box to go potty in. I am quite friendly once I get to know you and will come and explore you and run around your legs. Please come and meet me! I would love a home where I can have lots of toys to play with and area to run around in. I am a very active bunny and can provide you with lots of entertainment. For more information on adopting me, please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or via email: info@dpvhs.org.

EXCAVATING
Fencing - Patios - Walks -
Walls Installed - Tree Work
Loam - Compost - Mulch
Septic Systems Installed

DEMERS
LANDSCAPING
413-863-3652

Writers Wanted

The Montague Reporter is seeking to hire committed reporters to cover local school committee and selectboard meetings. If you aren't committed yet, we can get you committed. For details call (413) 863-8666.

The Montague Reporter

Published weekly on Thursday. (Every other week in July and August. Wednesday paper fourth week of November. No paper last week of December.)

PHONE (413) 863-8666
FAX (413) 863-3050
reporter@montaguema.net
Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Montague Reporter
58 4th Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is Tuesday at NOON.

This newspaper shall not be liable for errors in advertisements, but will print without charge that part of the advertisement in which an error occurred. The publishers reserve the right to refuse advertising for any reason and to alter copy or graphics to conform to standards of the newspaper, such as they are.

Local Subscription Rates:
\$20 for 6 months

MONTAGUE LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Library Hours

BY LINDA HICKMAN

MONTAGUE - The Carnegie Library changes to its summer hours as of this week. The Carnegie Library is now closed on Saturdays through Labor Day weekend. Its weekday hours do not change. It is open Monday - Wednesday 1 - 8 p.m., Thursday 1 - 5 p.m., and Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The Montague Center

Library and Millers Falls Library hours remain the same year round. The Montague Center Library is open Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 - 5 p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m. The Millers Falls Library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 - 5 p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m. For more information, call the Carnegie Library at 863-3214.



LINDA HICKMAN PHOTO

TURNERS FALLS - Ruth O'Mara read books and discussed a bird's nest with Heather, Lila and Eliza Montminy and Haley and Orrin Anderson, all of Turners Falls, during the May 26th Story Hour on birds on the front lawn of the Carnegie Library. Story Hour

meets every Wednesday morning at 10:15 a.m. For more information, call 863-3214.

TURNERS FALLS WATER DEPARTMENT

Semi-annual water bills due Tuesday June 1st. Payments can be made by mail or at the Water Department Offices, 226 Millers Falls Road, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Memorial Day. A drop box is located at the offices to the left of the entry door. To obtain a receipted bill, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and the entire bill with your payment. Payments received after June 1st are subject to a \$20.00 late fee.

Memorial Day Meeting

at Moore's Corner School, Leverett
Sunday, May 30th
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Why were so many from Leverett fighters for the Union in the 1860s, given that the Town voted against adopting the VConstitution in 1789?

MONTAGUE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

All States Asphalt will be chip sealing the following streets in Turners Falls starting Tuesday, June 1st, weather permitting: Griswold, Country Club Lane, Avenue B, Avenue C, Davis Street to Griswold Street, Keith, Charron, Stevens, Roosevelt, Bourdeau, Marshall, Burnett, Crocker Avenue from Montague Street to Highland Circle, Oakman from Grisold to Crocker Avenue and ZHighland Circle. No on street parking will be permitted while sealing is going on, the process should last from Tuesday, June 1st until Friday, June 4th depending on weather.

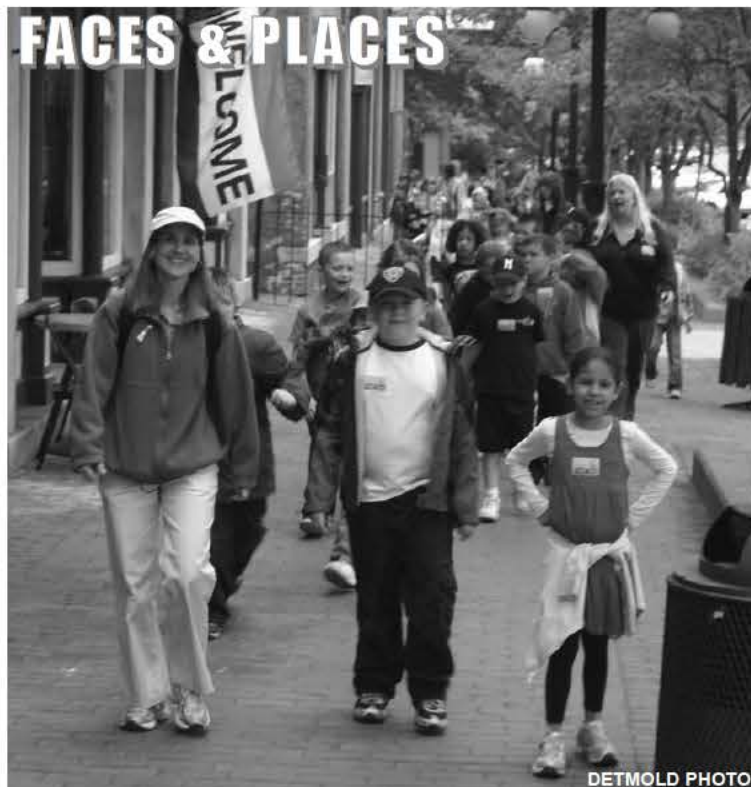
SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES - May 31st to June 4th

GILL/MONTAGUE Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Friday at Noon. Meal reservations must be made a day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open. Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. For information or to make meal reservations, call (413) 863-9357. Call the senior center for information on any programs.

Monday, May 31st
CLOSED - MEMORIAL DAY
Tuesday, June 1st
9:00 a.m. Walking Group
10:00 a.m. Brown Bag
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting
1:00 p.m. Canasta
Wednesday, June 2nd

10:00 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, June 3rd
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, June 4th
10:00 a.m. Senior Aerobics
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
1:00 p.m. Scrabble
1:00 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING Senior Center, 18 Pleasant St., Erving (Old Center School, 1st Floor), is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For info and reservations, call Polly Kiely, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3308. Lunch is daily at 11:30 a.m., with reservations 24 hours in advance. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity.



DETMOLD PHOTO

Sheffield School's First Graders march to the Shea Theater for Junie B. Jones last week. Michelle (front right) strikes a pose.

Buddha's Birthday Celebration

at the New England Peace Pagoda
100 Cave Hill Road, Leverett
Sunday, May 30th, 11 a.m.
Light Lunch, Ceremony, Speakers, Gardens. For directions or information please call (413) 367-2202. All Are Welcome.
"Na Mu Myo Ho Ren Ge Kyo,"

Psychic Fair

The National Spiritual Alliance will sponsor a Psychic Fair Saturday, May 29th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Thompson Temple across from the Post Office in Lake Pleasant. Divination methods include astrology, hand reading, vibration connection, and tarot cards. Consultation is with a medium of choice. Reiki and spiritual healing services will also be available.

For more information, contact the TNSA internet website www.thenationalspiritualallianceinc.org

Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

Grade 6

Allison Cooke
Timothy Momaney

Grade 7

Melanie Howard

Grade 8

Denis Gheorghita

NANCY L. DOLE BOOKS & EPHEMERA



32 Bridge Street,
2nd Floor
Shelburne Falls

413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com closed Mondays



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

on Avenue A for over 10 years



If we don't carry your favorite brand, we'll order it for you!

Open Mon-Thurs 10am-10pm
Fri & Sat 10am-11pm - Sun Noon-7pm

59 Avenue A • Turners Falls
863-9900

THE SHADY GLEN



BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
DAILY SPECIALS
SEAFOOD
HOMEMADE COOKING
SOUPS & PIES
SUNDAY BREAKFAST 7 - 2
7 AVENUE A | 863-9636



Local Briefs

JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

COMPILED BY DON CLEGG - Local community meals return to Our Lady of Peace Church on Seventh Street in Turners Falls, sponsored by the Franklin County Community Meals program. Please join in for a free hot meal and good company in church's refurbished dining and kitchen facilities. All are welcome and doors open at 5:00 p.m. each Monday, with the meal served at 5:30 p.m.

Relay for Life team Emma Kisses Mikey's Smile has been sponsoring a year-long **bottle and can drive**. The Relay team

wants your returnable bottles and cans. Pick-up can be arranged weekly or bi-weekly. The relay team will also keep track of the total and make a donation in your name to the Franklin County Relay for Life. To arrange pick-up, email: MikeysSmile@msn.com for more information, or call 413-863-6137.

The 2010 Franklin County Relay for Life is being held at the county fairgrounds in Greenfield from Friday, June 11th, at 6:00 p.m. and continues through the night until Saturday, June 12th, at

3:00 p.m.

The Red Fire Farm, 172 Meadow Road in Montague, will present a skills sharing class on "organic soil fertility" on Saturday, June 12th at 10 a.m. A slide show presentation will be held in the barn, followed by hands-on soil testing and cover crop observation. Potluck lunch at noon.

The Great Falls Discovery Center's fifth annual **Family Fish Day** takes place on Saturday, June 5th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be face painting, fish printing, and a free raffle for everything from fishing gear to fishing trips! No need to bring any equipment; the center will provide it all. For more info and to find out how to register, call the Discovery Center at 413-863-3221. Don't forget the Center is now open seven days a week from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Public Hearing on Stretch Energy Code

Town of Gill
Gill Energy Commission

The Gill Energy Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 15th, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., in conjunction with the pre-town meeting, Town Hall, 325 Main Road, Gill, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to review whether the Town should adopt a new General By-Law mandating enhanced energy efficiency in buildings as authorized by the Green Communities Act, Appendix 120.AA of the Massachusetts Building Code (780 CMR) and known as the "Stretch Energy Code," a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk.

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

Town of Gill Memorial Day Services

The town of Gill will hold their annual Memorial Day services on Sunday, May 30th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the First Congregational Church of Gill. Gary Bourbeau presiding.

Following Church services, the group will walk across Main road to the veterans' monuments. There, in honor of thirteen veterans buried in Gill cemeteries who lost their lives while serving our country, a rose ceremony will be held. A rose for each of the thirteen will be received by a Gold Star Family member, or placed on a wreath in front of the monuments. All are welcome.

New flags and a small geranium will be placed at each veteran's grave site on Friday, May 28th by the Memorial committee and members of the Marine Corp League.

Turners Falls Annual Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 31st, 10:00 a.m.

Parade starts at 2nd Street parking lot and proceeds down Avenue A to the veterans memorial.

All servicemen and service-women are invited to join us in the parade. There will be special speakers and wreath placing ceremonies.

Come join us in honoring our veterans.

Montague Center Memorial Observance

BY ANN FISK - A Memorial Day Service will be held on the village common in Montague Center on Sunday, May 30th.

This ceremony will begin at 11:15 a.m., sponsored by the Montague Center Firemen's Association.

Everyone is invited to attend

as we honor our local veterans.

The Montague Grange began this tradition 56 years ago with the placing of a large granite stone in the center of the green, dedicated to all Montague Veterans. Byron Klaus is the sole remaining member from the committee that placed the stone.

NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Noise Complaints Aired at Selectboard Hearing

BY BILL DRAKE - Complaints about loud music emanating from La Bodega, 104 4th Street, during a specially permitted Mother's Day event brought Marc Cannon, owner of La Bodega, before the Montague selectboard on Monday night to answer to the continued complaints against his store.

Pat Allen, chair of the selectboard, outlined two specific issues regarding the noise complaints: first, the loudness of the second annual Cinco de Mayo / Mother's Day event which ran from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 9th, and secondly, that there is continuous music playing from an outdoor speaker on nice days on the bodega's L Street patio.

The Cinco de Mayo/Mother's Day event prompted six separate calls to the police for noise complaints.

"Same DJ as last year," said Cannon, "and actually the music was a little lighter."

While the music, equipment, and vibe of the party was the same, though smaller because of the cold, windy weather that weekend, the noise complaints were new.

"I think it was officer Dempsey who came down at 11:15 a.m., parked in front of the speaker and said to me, 'Marc, to me the music is not loud but I'm here 'cause we had a complaint,'" said Cannon. "And then, that was the only time a police officer showed up, was at 11:15."

But while the party was a singular event, the complaints have kept coming.

"So that's that day," said Allen, "but I think that precipitated the other complaints."

Because the music in the patio

plays continuously from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. during fair weather days, Allen and the other selectboard members felt the continuous music was the real issue, rather than the noise complaints aimed at the once a year permitted event.

"I thought I was being considerate bringing it out in the late morning," said Cannon. "Very considerate."

"My concern," said police chief Ray Zukowski, "is that it's affecting the whole neighborhood. It's not loud, but it's bothering people, so we've got to try to work something out here where people aren't bothered."

During the meeting, Cannon repeatedly stated the music is not loud during the day and asked both the selectboard and Chief Zukowski to bring down a decision **see MONTAGUE pg 5**

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

River View Muscle Therapy

Muscle Therapy
Swedish Massage
Therapeutic Touch

By Appointment Only
Julie Lowensburg, RN, LMT
Member, AMTA

2 Bridge Street • Shelburne Falls • 413-625-9932 or 624-0020



PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU

CONSULT US
PZ

25 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-4331
www.pzinc.com

INSURANCE

Visit Our Tip of the Week at www.pzinc.com

BASICALLY BICYCLES

New England's
Recumbent
Headquarters

413-863-3556

88 Third Street,
Turners Falls, MA 01376



HP Velotechnik
Catrike • Sun • Rans

Order online at www.BasicallyBicycles.com

Renaissance Builders

Quality, Craftsmanship, Original Thought

www.renbuild.net
863-8316



Brian R. San Soucie
Locksmith - CRL

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

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

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

28 Montague Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

863-2471

Pipione's

SPORT SHOP

- Fishing supplies; Live bait
- Baseball & Softball Supplies
- Fishing & Hunting Licences
- Paintball & CO₂ Refills

Open 7 am 7 days a week

101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246



Pam Veith Real Estate



75 Main Street
Northfield, MA 01360
Office: 413-498-0207
Ofc. Fax: 413-498-0208
Home Phone: 413-863-9166
Home Fax: 413-863-0218
Email: bedson1@comcast.net
Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald
ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR
REALTOR®

"My Office is Always Open to You!"

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

774-7775

Easy in-town location
Secure 24-hour access

VARIETY OF
SIZES
THE BEST
PRICES



OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

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

Great Rates, Fully Insured!

Greenfield Co-operative Bank

A Great Financial Partner

BestLocalBank.com

Reach All Locations 772-0293

Greenfield • Northfield • Sunderland



MEMBER FDIC
MEMBER SIF

The Montague Reporter

Editor

David Detmold

Editorial Assistants

Hugh Corr
David Brule

Layout & Design

Claudia Wells
Boysen Hodgson
Katren Hoyden
Karen Wilkinson
Suzette Snow Cobb

"The Voice of the Villages"

Photography

Claudia Wells
Joe Parzych
Shawn Woolsey

Distribution Manager

Don Clegg

Technical Administrators

Michael Muller

Circulation

Janel Nockelby

Founded by

Arthur Evans
Harry Brandt
David Detmold
August, 2002

Power Town in the Dark

Two weeks ago Erving fire chief Almon "Bud" Meattay asked the selectboard to consider setting up a \$50,000 emergency fund to help the town deal with unanticipated natural disasters.

"We've had floods, ice storms and now three forest fires in the month of May alone," said Meattay. "We need to be prepared."

Last night around 11 p.m. damaging storms blew through the country knocking out power in many towns. For the second time in a month, our readers woke up to food warming in the refrigerators and no ability to turn on their electric lights or computers.

This morning at dawn the street lights were out, the neighborhood was quiet, unusually quiet, in downtown Turners Falls. Neighbors had been up all night removing tree limbs from the streets and alleys. Delivery trucks brought supplies to darkened stores. Emergency generators kept the coolers running at the supermarket, and power supplied to the bank.

On the Bailey bridge to the Patch, a masked intruder lumbered along until he spied a human interloper and dived down the bank of the canal. Cottontail rabbits took their ease along Power Street as robins called from the damaged trees. Presumably, the turbines at the hydro-generating facilities along the canal continued spinning but

all lights in the buildings and nearby houses were out.

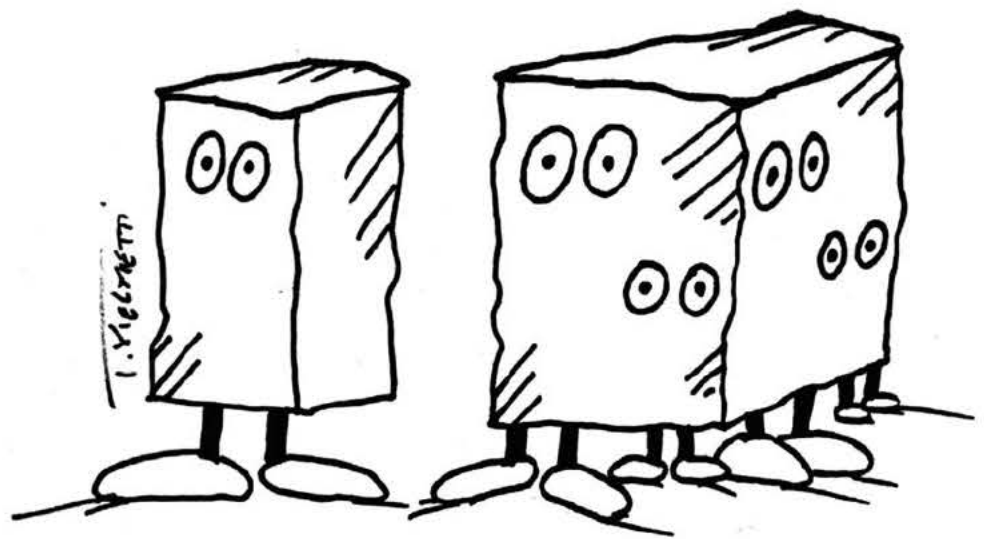
Back in the early 1960s when a massive blackout darkened New England, Turners Falls, due to its proximity to hydro power, was one of the first communities to get the lights back on. But now our reliance on centralized power grids makes us all equally vulnerable to the unpredictability of storms, falling limbs, and downed power lines.

Unless of course we have solar panels on our roofs, windmills in our yards or other means of generating our own power.

In North Levertt, Dan Bennett has proposed restoring the turbine to the old sawmill. He'd like to see the old industrial capacity of that mill restored. This is but one of many examples of how people in our towns are thinking of ways to reclaim our native capacity to manufacture our own power and produce our own goods – regardless of blow-outs in the Gulf of Mexico, or the repeated collapse of power lines.

It will be days before power is restored and our towns resume their normal working lives. This gives us time not only to help each other through the immediate emergency, but also to consider ways of insuring our towns and villages are more prepared for whatever unexpected events Mother Nature has in store for us.

We have sown the wind, and we will reap it now.



The single size, and family size, cardboard box sunblock, UVA, UVB, SPF, 100.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank You Montague

I would like to say a big thank you to all the voters of Montague who supported me in last Monday's election and re-elected me for a second term as town clerk. I am overwhelmed by all the support, kind words, lovely letters and advertisements on my behalf.

To everyone who allowed

me to put up lawn signs in your yards, thank you! To my family, friends and co-workers, you are the best! To my assistant Mandy Hampp, board of registrars and poll workers, you did a fantastic job in my absence and you are all outstanding! I am surrounded by the best and blessed to have you all in my

life.

I am proud to say that I live in and work for the town of Montague. Thank you again for your support.

- Deb Bourbeau
Millers Falls

Banks Still Trying to Weaken Financial Reform

"Senate passage last week of the Restoring American Financial Stability Act provides long overdue relief for consumers and taxpayers in Massachusetts and the country. This bill to rein in Wall Street is a bill that Main Street will like. While the bill isn't perfect, it includes strong measures to curtail Wall Street's gambling, regulate the shadow derivatives markets, protect consumers' investments and prevent future economic melt-downs.

As the bill heads to a conference committee (a similar version was passed by the House of Representatives in December), we urge Congressional leaders to agree on the strongest provisions of the House and Senate bills, while rejecting the efforts of lurking Wall Street lobbyists to weaken or delay passage of a strong final law.

The conference committee should finalize a bill that includes a strong, independent consumer financial protection

agency, preserves authority for state attorneys general to enforce the laws, opens up the shadow markets where derivatives are traded, and ends, once and for all, 'too big to fail.' We applaud our senators Scott Brown and John Kerry for voting for these important reforms in the Senate bill."

- Elizabeth Weyant,
Massachusetts Public
Interest Research Group
Boston

Statistics Don't Stand Up

The May 13th Healthy Geezer column on Vitamin D was informative, as usual. A statement in the last paragraph, however, appears to need fixing.

If "each year, one third of people 65 and older, and one half of people 50 and older fall at least once," then getting older makes one less likely to fall. Wouldn't that be grand!

- Ivan Ussach
Gill

Fred Cicetti, the columnist who writes the Healthy Geezer, responds:

"The numbers are correct. The reason the incidence of falls is higher for those over 50 is because that group includes those over 65. The number of falls drops in the older age group because there are fewer people in the over-65 group."

Be careful, whatever age you are.

The Reporter Got it Wrong

In last week's article on Gill-Montague school committee elections, it was reported that "Montague voters in effect picked Gill's new school committee representative for them."

This statement is inaccurate and misleading. Like it or not, for better or worse, Gill joined with Montague to regionalize its school system back in the seventies or eighties. Our schools became—not a department of either town—but a regional school district, with its own staff, its own administra-

tion and its own governance structure. Membership on the committee is weighted geographically to ensure that the perspectives of all school district members are incorporated, and as a Gill citizen, I would hope if the committee and district were making decisions that shortchanged the children of our member town, the Gill representatives would be particularly sensitive to this and take action.

But our elected school committee members represent all of us. Publicity prior to the election reminded citizens of Gill and Montague that they "can" vote for all those running for GMRSD School Committee. They not only "can," they should.

The majority of registered voters in the Gill Montague Regional School District who went out of their way to vote on May 18th chose Jane Oakes to represent the interests of the district's children, and to advocate for the twelve years of quality public education that we owe them.

- Patricia Crosby
Gill

Sign Me Up!

☐ \$20 for 26 issues (local)

☐ \$25 out-of-area subscribers

The Montague Reporter

58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

We Welcome Your Letters!

Montague Reporter

58 4th St Turners Falls, MA 01376

FAX (413) 863-3050

reporter@montaguema.net

American Dead in Iraq and Afghanistan as of 5/26/10



NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ladd Calls for District Approval of G-M Budget

BY ELLEN BLANCHETTE
GILL-MONTAGUE - The Gill-Montague school committee voted to approve both an FY '11 operating budget for the district and town assessments to support it Tuesday night. But not without discussion.

With newly elected chair Emily Monosson running her first full school committee meeting, members took the opportunity to express their views with cordiality and openness.

Superintendent Carl Ladd recommended a new budget to the committee based on the draft of April 27th. This reduces the budget for the Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD) to \$16,408,162, down slightly from the March budget of \$16,537,788. Current assessments to the towns reflect a small reduction, for Montague \$9,424,931, down from \$9,469,407, and for Gill, \$1,729,624, down from \$1,801,281.

The school committee voted unanimously to approve the new operating budget. But when it came to approving the assessments, Jeff Singleton of Montague said he would vote for the budget but would not vote to approve the assessments either as a school committee member or at town meeting. Singleton said, "The assessment is more than the town can afford," and added, "Asking the town to throw all of the stabilization fund at this... without a plan for the future is not a reasonable thing."

Jennifer Waldron of Gill responded to Singleton, "I feel like no matter what we do you're going to vote against it when we go to town meeting."

Marje Levenson of Montague said, "There is such a thing as a minority opinion."

Waldron replied, "I wish we could all stand together as one voice."

Sorrel Hatch of Gill said, "What would be best would be if

we could pass a budget at town meeting." Talking about the continuing failure of the school district to approve budgets at town meeting, causing the state to assume fiscal oversight of the district budget for the last two fiscal years, Hatch said, "This is detrimental to the school district. It's really damaging to the schools. I really don't want to go forward like this again with a split vote, for the budget but not the assessment."

Levenson responded, "If you believe the state should stay at the table, then Singleton's position is entirely logical." To which Singleton added, "Our only power is to vote this budget down."

Kristen Boyle of Montague spoke of the effort to keep the state at the table. "I don't think it's working. If you go to Boston you hear they think Franklin County has too many superintendents and too many school districts. They are going to send

us a message." She encouraged the committee and the towns to work together cooperatively. "If we could be one community that comes together and works as a team... [and] heed the warning calls in regards to regionalization."

Ladd told the committee there will be a comprehensive district review by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education this year, and the state will factor the district's ability to pass a budget into their review. According to Ladd, one of the things the state will look at is the district's capacity to carry forward with the educational programs they have in place, and the strategic vision they've developed.

"I don't like to be an alarmist. I don't want to pass a budget out of fear. Do I think we're really at a crossroads of whether [the district] will be able to sustain itself? Yes. Schools can't cut their way to solvency and the town can't tax its way to solvency. The piece that exacerbates this is that we're

a Level 4 [underperforming] district - all the spotlights shine on Gill-Montague."

Jane Oakes of Gill asked superintendent Ladd if he had seen any benefit to having the state at the table. Ladd said the district has received more targeted assistance, but this is in part because the district is rated Level 4, adding the state "has taken notice of us."

Ladd spoke strongly in favor of passing the budget and assessments at town meeting in June. "I think it's the best way to move forward. It takes away the stigma of not being able to agree on a budget. We have a responsibility to make the best case for educating our kids."

The committee voted to approve the assessment six to two, with Boyle, Hatch, Langknecht, Monosson, Oakes and Waldron voting in favor, and Levenson and Singleton voting against. Joyce Phillips was absent.

The Montague town meeting will be held on Saturday, June 5th in the Turners Falls High School auditorium.

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

John Ward, Selectboard Chair

BY DAVID DETMOLD - John Ward is the new chair of the Gill selectboard. That was the chief result of the organizational meeting the selectboard held on Monday, May 25th, following the May 17th town election that brought Randy Crochier to the board.

Fire chief Gene Beaubien told the board that the fuel pump repair is complete on Engine #3. "It's home," he said.

Not quite home, but under repair at Raymond's in Bernardston, is the free army surplus pickup truck that the fire department hopes to use as its new brush truck. "It ran great," said Beaubien. The Five quarter ton will be retrofitted with tanks and pumps if town meeting approves a \$13,000 dollar warrant article at the annual town meeting on June 21st.

"That looks like a no-brainer", said board member Ann Banash. Although Beaubien told the board he only had \$54 left in his labor account, the board told Beaubien to go ahead and purchase three to

four sets of turnout gear before the end of the fiscal year on June 30th. The board cautioned him not to have any more major fires before July 1st.

In response to a request from a Riverside resident, Beaubien asked the board to come up with a new price per gallon cost for the fire department to fill up residents' swimming pools on request. Beaubien said the fire department would use the opportunity to teach new recruits how to use the pumps.

The Gill Board and Finance committee have held a series of joint working sessions on the FY '11 budget. Town administrative assistant Ray Purrington said the town hopes to maintain level funded budgets for all departments (including the school department), with the possible exception of cost of living increases for employees and a few other items.

The personnel committee has recommended a three percent COLA to make up for last year's zero percent cost of living

increase.

Purrington said the finance committee and selectboard have not made a final decision on the COLA recommendations.

"Starting in FY '11, community policing funds will be zeroed out for the police department, said Purrington, therefore ward articles may appear at this year's town meeting to replace bullet proof vests and guns, items that were formerly purchased with a community policing grant.

Also Purrington said step increases may be on the warrant for the positions of tax collector, treasurer, town clerk, and administrative assistant, since these positions are underpaid in relation to similar positions in neighboring towns, according to the recent HRS consultant study.

"We will continue our practice of applying a hefty amount of free cash to meet next year's budget, said Purrington, who added the select board does not anticipate dipping into the town's stabilization fund to meet any operating costs in the coming fiscal year.

The town of Gill has presently \$195,374 in free cash and \$115,911 in stabilization funds.

MONTAGUE from pg 3

bel meter from the police station and test the music to see if La Bodega is in violation of town regulations governing the control of noise.

"It is my understanding that the taxpayers bought this apparatus that determines decibels," said Cannon. "At no point has that ever been brought down to the store to test, to see if the music passed. At no point."

According to Chief Zukowski, music complaints during the day in Turners Falls are rare.

"In the day time we don't usually have noise complaints like that," said Zukowski. Typically, the busy time for noise is between 9 p.m. and 2 in the morning, and the complaints center on the bars in town, rather than a corner store tucked into a residential neighborhood."

Cannon said only one person has ever come up to him personally and asked him to turn down his music.

"We're a community store, everything we do is a celebra-

tion of the community," said Cannon. "It was no louder than any other music in town," said Jean Hebden, a town meeting member from Precinct 5 who lives across the street from La Bodega. "When they have a permit to have it, except maybe the community band, they're not that loud, but the Block Party, Between the Uprights, even Jake's when they have bands playing outside. I can hear all that music outside at my house, but I know it will be over sooner or later, and I know that some people are enjoying it."

"I'm at Marc's store every day, sometimes multiple times a day," said Erin Grady, and what Grady sees at La Bodega gives her hope for the community. "I believe what Marc is trying to do for the Latin community as well as the community as a whole is a positive thing, and I encourage him."

Cannon said, "If anyone has a problem with my music, let them come talk to me. I'm a good neighbor. We can work it out."



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

LIEBENOW AUTO BODY

"WE DO THE COMPLETE JOB"

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

LOCAL PICK-UP & DELIVERY

Mass Repair Shop #1839

774-4420
163 WELLS STREET
GREENFIELD

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



MontagueWebWorks.com



build | manage | create | 413.522.4808



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

18 French King Highway
Greenfield

Office Hours by Appointment

(413) 774-9919

Leaf Busters

Gutter Cleaning and Repairs,
Spring Cleaning, Power Washing,
Lawn Maintenance and Odd Jobs

Call for a FREE Estimate

Justin Hanecak
413-512-1553



Simply Computing

computer set-up
training
QuickBooks

Debbe Dugan
863-5030

Your Pace at Your Place



Rau's Auto

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics



Wendell Works Adopts a Mission for Economic Development

BY JOSH HEINEMANN – Eleven citizens of greater Wendell, including Leverett and New Salem, met at the Wendell library for the second monthly meeting of the newly formed Wendell Works, held on May 19th at the Wendell Free Library. The first order of business was to adopt a mission statement. After a few adjustments to the language, the mission statement read as follows:

“Wendell Works is an umbrella organization. Its mission is to develop and support an association of independent business and socially responsible agencies committed to advancing the quality of life for the people of greater Wendell through economic development and family programs. It promotes opportunity through professional networking, education, advocacy, managerial skills, research, workspace, rentals, and information on funding. Its governorship practices respect for our environment, the necessity of fair trade and the rights of all to acquire the means for a decent basic livelihood, safe housing and adequate health care.”

The word “cooperative” was removed from the mission statement and from the group’s name

because the word carries a legal status the group has not yet established. The group’s goal is to create a legal entity that is eligible for grants and is able to negotiate with the owner of the former Maple Valley School, to see if it is possible for a community-based enterprise to develop a profitable reuse for that 53.3 acre campus in the center of town. Maple Valley School closed in June 2009, and the property has been idle since then.

The main building was designed to fit Maple Valley’s use as a residential school for boys who have had brushes with the law. The campus features a modern commercial kitchen. The dorm rooms are small and somewhat Spartan and the whole campus has security features appropriate for close monitoring of the former students. The rooms would not be comfortable for long term residents, as for example if the buildings were reused for senior housing.

However when reports were given, Opeyemi Parham, from Leverett, suggested a retreat center, or a healing space, a hostel, or an indoor space for people who use the state forest for skiing, or snowmobiling, and for whom the

sleeping arrangements are not as important as simply having shelter.

It may be possible to build

another structure on the property within the guidelines of the proposed town conservation development bylaw. It may be possible to create several uses for the buildings and land.

Town librarian Rose

Heidkamp suggested holding evening meetings, as was done in the early stages of design for the new town office building and new library, to get input from townspeople on the possibilities

see **WENDELL** pg 16

HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is administering deferred payment loans on behalf of the Town of Leverett.

Income eligible applicants who qualify for a full-deferred payment loan will be able to borrow up to \$35,000.00. This is a 0% interest, deferred payment loan, the loan is secured by a lien placed on your property, and the loan is due when you sell or transfer the property.

The goal of this program is to enable low to moderate-income homeowners to bring their homes into code compliance. Examples of eligible work include: Roof replacement, foundation repairs, electrical and plumbing, windows, wells, septic replacement and much more!

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

# In Household	Gross Annual Income
1	\$43,800.00
2	\$50,050.00
3	\$56,300.00
4	\$62,550.00
5	\$67,600.00
6	\$72,600.00
7	\$77,600.00
8	\$82,600.00

If you are interested in receiving an information and application packet please contact Charity @ (413) 863-9781 ext. 132 or cday@fchra.org

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG Arson Attempted in Millers Falls

Thursday, 5/13
9:47 a.m. Burglary / breaking and entering on Millers Falls Road. Report taken.
9:33 p.m. Suspicious situation on Gill Montague Bridge. Investigated.
Friday, 5/14
11:03 p.m. Trespassing at Unity Park. Dispersed gathering.
Saturday, 5/15
6:43 a.m. Vandalism at Thomas Memorial Country Club. Report taken.
3:37 p.m. Domestic disturbance at a

Millers Falls Road address. Peace restored.
7:15 p.m. Arson attempt at Grand Avenue address in Millers Falls. Investigated.
Sunday, 5/16
3:11 a.m. Pedestrian accident at Southworth on Canal Street. Report taken.
8:38 a.m. Domestic disturbance on K Street. Services rendered.
8:42 p.m. Domestic disturbance on G Street. Services rendered.

CARSENSE
AUTOMOTIVE

Your Automotive Answer

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT EXPERTS

TELE: (413) 772-8862 **U-HAUL**

409 DEERFIELD STREET • GREENFIELD

One Century. One Family

ICOUTURE BROS.
Since 1910

Professional Painting & Decorating

Contractor - Retailer

187 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

The **WAGON WHEEL** RESTAURANT

Spring Specials
SIT INSIDE
or
OUTSIDE
BREAKFAST,
LUNCH & DINNER
7 days a week
Route 2, Gill • 413-863-8210

**UPINNGIL**
Cheese • Milk
Honey • Eggs
Whole Wheat Flour
Upinngil Grown & Milled
Certified Organic
Farm store open daily, 8-7
411 Main Road, Gill | 413-863-2297



Animal Crackers
Saturday Fish Special
• Aquarium Plants
• Saltwater Fish & Lots of Critters
Open 7 Days
Fun stuff for pets and their people.
Animal Crackers
Aquarium & Pet Supplies
44 Deerfield St. (Rte 5 & 10)
Greenfield, MA 413-774-7346



CopyCat
PRINT SHOP
We Specialize In Impossible Deadlines!



**PETER WATERS**
HOUSE PAINTING
Interior Exterior 978-544-6534 Wendell MA



TotallyFree
Checking
Free Gift!
Free Checking!

Love it!
S GREENFIELD SAVINGS BANK
Linda Ackerman
195 Avenue A, Turners Falls
413-863-4316
www.greenfieldsavings.com
Member FDIC ■ Member DIF

GREENFIELD@COPYCATPRINTSHOP.COM
413-774-3500
Please visit our website for printing tips and online services:
copycatprintshop.com
UP TO THE MINUTE TECHNOLOGY
OLD-FASHIONED PERSONAL SERVICE



BEAVERS from pg 1
landowner representing the interests of property owners further down Richardson Road, whose homes may be at risk in the event of an accidental breach of the beaver dams.

Wellman proposed four meetings – two in Leverett and two in Montague – to take place before the end of June. Based on whatever consensus solution emerges from those meetings, Wellman said her company would examine the permitting issues and proceed towards implementation within a year and a half.

Present in the room besides the selectboard were the three landowners whose property directly abuts the beaver lake: Dan Bennett, Mary Calagione, and Kevin Hart.

Bennett said, "I'm uneasy in the presence of a large organization that is maneuvering us into a co-opting situation. I'm paranoid."

Bennett added, "I like the 2000 agreement. I wish we could go with that."

Bennett was referring to an agreement arrived at between abutting landowners and N.U. a decade ago that proposed solving the problem of the beaver pond by installing "beaver deceivers," devices designed to lower the water level gradually, disrupting the beavers' habitat as little as possible, to allow utility access to maintain the power line towers.

Wellman said the utility did install a beaver deceiver at the beaver pond, but it had not worked as planned.

Bennett replied the utility had failed to maintain the device after the beavers "sabotaged" it, and he suggested N.U. should install another one.

Montague selectboard member and conservation commission chair Mark Fairbrother also

attended Tuesday's meeting in Leverett. He said he would be meeting with Montague town administrator Frank Abbondanzio and Wellman on Friday afternoon to discuss the proposal.

Welcome said the goal of the utility company was "to achieve a community-based solution and gain ongoing access to the power lines."

Dan Bennett also sought approval to designate an industrial corridor along the Sawmill River from the border of Shutesbury to the border of Montague. He enumerated a list of important mills and blacksmith shops that had powered the economies of Moores Corner and North Leverett in the 18th and 19th centuries, down to the present day.

Bennett is organizing a second walking tour of the corridor, and will gather volunteers to work with the highway department to clean up some of the historical sites along the Sawmill River corridor.

The North Leverett Sawmill, recently restored with \$135,000 in community preservation act funding, would be one stop on the industrial corridor walking tour, Bennett said. The building is owned by the Kirley family, but the town has placed a historical restriction on any changes to the exterior. Bennett said it would not be difficult to restore the turbine to working condition, and make the sawmill operational again.

The former Universalist Society upstairs meetinghouse and first floor one room schoolhouse in Moores Corners would be another stop on the tour, Bennett said. The recently restored schoolhouse, home to the Leverett Historical Society, is 200 years old this year.

Blacksmith shops, coke kilns, grist mills, and twenty dams lined the Sawmill River from Lake Wyola to Montague Center. The Leverett Village Coop is built on the foundation of the old Watson Farm barn. At the confluence of Dudleyville Brook and the Sawmill another grist mill and blacksmith shop were located.

Upstream towards Lake Wyola, Bennett said, a bucket shop once operated, and downstream from the North Leverett Sawmill, a system of canals fed a mill pond for a pail factory. But Bennett did not attempt to render the distinction between pails and buckets into layman's terms for uninitiated.

The coke kilns provided charcoal to power the blacksmith shops, and later provided charcoal for gas masks in World Wars I and II.

Bennett said the anti-federalist sentiment left over from the ashes of Shay's Rebellion led the town of Leverett to vote against supporting the proposed Constitution, as George Washington attempted to move the country toward a stronger central government in 1789. But by the time of the Civil War, Leverett sent as many volunteers to fight on the Union side as would eventually enlist to serve in World War II.

The select board enthusiastically backed Bennett's proposal to designate an industrial corridor along the Sawmill.

The board tentatively proposed a June 15th date for a special town meeting to vote on appropriating any funds necessary to finance energy performance contracting with Siemens Building Technologies for energy conservation enhancements in town buildings. At that meeting, the board also hopes to receive town approval to spend \$150,000 grant from the Department of Energy Resources to replace inefficient boilers at the town hall.

Les Allen received approval to install a new dishwasher at town hall, primarily for use at the senior center's noon meals on Friday. Franklin County Home Care will pay half the

cost of the \$3200 installation.

At the same time, Allen achieved his long hoped for goal of getting selectboard to purchase three new chairs for the selectboard members to sit on (cushions not included), so that the chairs the board borrowed from the senior dining room could be returned.

The new chairs will be delivered by the end of the week.

The board accepted a report from Sam Dean on providing

enhanced security for town hall computers. Although Peter

see **BEAVERS** pg 8

My thanks to all of you who voted and supported me in the recent election.

- Sandy Brown

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

BRAND NEW HUGE WASHERS!
OPEN 365 DAYS 6 A.M. - 10 P.M.
SUZEE'S THIRD STREET LAUNDRY
TURNERS FALLS
FREE WIFI
SUZEE'S THIRD ST. LAUNDRY (413) 491-1376

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WENDELL POLICE LOG
Heavy Metal Lifted at Wendell Depot
Friday, 5/7
7:51 p.m. Intoxicated individual at Ruggles Pond Headquarters Building. Transported to Baystate Franklin Medical Center by Orange Ambulance.
Sunday, 5/9
4:30 p.m. Resident reports hitting a deer on Montague Road on 5/8.
Tuesday, 5/11
8:30 a.m. Caller reports metal being taken from railroad tracks at Wendell Depot crossing. Possibly a green truck involved. Referred to railroad police.

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

Renaissance Excavating, Inc.

COMPLETE SITE WORK
Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam
Main Road, Gill
Douglas Edson 413.863.4462

DOLAN & DOLAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS 01376
413-863-3133
PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

Greenfield Imported Car Sales
Formerly LaBelle & Leitner
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS
AUDI — VW — VOLVO — BMW
Now Specializing in Toyota and other Asian Cars
413-774-5517
335 High Street, Greenfield
greenfieldimportedcars.com (sales)
GICP.com (parts: 774-2819)

Phil & Paul Waldron

Waldron Building & Remodeling
A Name You Can Trust
Kitchens, Baths, Decks, Replacement Windows
Additions, New Construction 413-422-2252 Phil
Sheetrock, Painting & More.. 413-834-0534 Paul
Fully Insured, CS #088999 & HIC 145293
Free Estimates & Reasonable Rates


LAURALYN J. BROWN, DVM
NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS
Compassionate and Professional Care for Your Small Animal
EXPANDED HOURS WITH DR. AMY RUBIN, DVM
194 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls 413-863-0025


COUNTRY OIL
SINCE 1986
HEATING-COOLING-PLUMBING
540 Northfield Rd., Bernardston 1-800-327-9992
www.countryoil.com 413-648-9912
Annual Heating System Cleaning \$10 Off with this Coupon Expires April 30

Brooks-Thompson Crowned Valley Idol



DETMOLD PHOTO

Michelle Brooks-Thompson of Sunderland is the new Valley Idol

BY DAVID DETMOLD
TURNERS FALLS - Confirming expectations raised with her audition night performance of the old Four Tops standard, "I Believe in You and Me, (done in Whitney Houston style) Michelle Brooks-Thompson of Sunderland made it a race for second place as the judges at the Shea Theater's 5th Annual Valley Idol competition joined the audience in awarding Brooks-Thompson the Valley Idol crown and Audience Favorite awards on Saturday night.

Brooks-Thompson displayed the vocal prowess and cool stage presence of a young Aretha Franklin, and dazzled the hall with her power and range on songs as various as Proud Mary and Your Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman.

"You saved the best for last," said judge Fern Bork, as Brooks-Thompson blew the competition away with her superlative finale "And I'm

Telling You," by Jennifer Hudson. Brooks-Thompson is the Valley's new Dream Girl.

We can't wait for the results of her recording session with Paul Interlande's Angry Chair Music, part of the first place \$1,000 prize package (plus \$250 for audience favorite) Brooks-Thompson, a mother of young twins, brought home for her performance.

Jerri Higgins of Greenfield took second place in the competition, pulling ahead of Jen Tobey of Montague, who placed third. Higgins wowed judges and audience members alike with her high energy rendition of Led Zeppelin's Rock and Roll, conjuring the spirits of the Renaissance Community that must still linger in the Shea Theater's floor boards.

Valley Idol is The Shea Theater's largest and most successful yearly fundraiser, taking in almost \$10,000 this year to help run the nonprofit community theater.

Upinngil Farm Launches Farm Community Growers Project

BY SORREL HATCH

GILL - Are you an enthusiastic gardener with an overabundance of veggies? A young person looking for an entrepreneurial farming experience?

Upinngil Farm, at 411 Main Road in Gill, welcomes local farmers and gardeners of all ages to sell their produce at our community farmstand. We believe growing and eating local food is the first and most critical step toward a sustainable agricultural future.

Every year our farmstand attracts more customers. You

can help us provide greater bounty and diversity. We can help you by providing a convenient, easy way to market your produce in all its colors, shapes and sizes. No quantity is too small.

Here are the general guidelines for the Community Growers Project: Produce must be of high quality and extremely fresh. You should contact us ahead of time to determine if there is a good chance of selling it (maybe we already have plenty of zucchini!) A fair price will be discussed and negotiat-

ed upon arrival, preferable between 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The grower will be paid up front. We will be responsible for clearly labeling all produce with its origin. We will also be responsible for keeping the produce fresh and attractive and removing produce when it is no longer fresh. Each grower's hard work will be recognized with a poster on the wall above the stand.

For more information, call: (413) 863-4431.

BEAVERS from pg 7

that the town only had funds to upgrade only one computer at a time; they will start with the tax collector's computer.

The select board then spent a good deal of time discussing the budget intricacies surrounding the extended absence of the town clerk, who is out on sick leave. Assistant town clerk D'Ann Kelty is presently in Europe and will not return until July.

In the meanwhile, town clerk Lisa Stratford's availability will be limited to prepare warrants, handle dog license applications, and perform the many duties (including taking selectboard meeting minutes) that have become part of the town clerk's job.

Interim town administrative assistant Wendy Foxmyn will be leaving her position in mid-September when Margie McGuinnis returns from a yearlong maternity leave.

Foxmyn told the board she had approximately 100 hours of comp time coming, which she needs to use within the next few months.

The selectboard proposed arranging a transfer from the finance committee reserves to pay Foxmyn an extra five hours a week, to pay her for some of her accumulated comp time. "We need a minimum of work to keep the ship afloat," said chair Rich

d'Ericco warned

Brazeau.

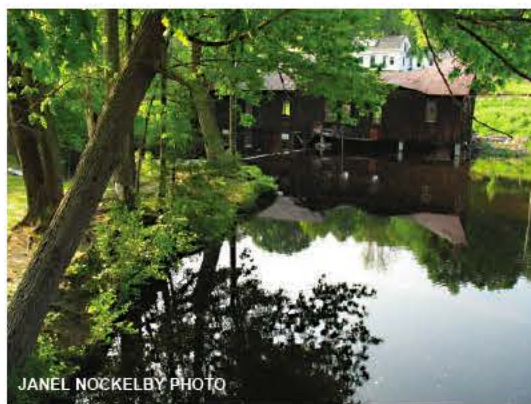
Brazeau also said if Foxmyn were to take all the vacation time she is entitled to all at once, the town would probably find itself in the position of having to hire an interim interim town administrator, at the

same time as they are seeking backup for the town clerk.

Until Kelty returns in July, the board appointed Shutesbury town clerk Leslie Bracebridge as Leverett's assistant town clerk, to help out in a pinch.

Brazeau advised the board of upcoming efforts to remove weeds from Leverett Pond, in part to restore the inlet channel at the south end of the pond that feeds a fire hydrant there, and to open a foot-path for skaters and recreational boaters near the boat ramp. Brazeau said the DEP has approved use of a short-lived herbicide to help deter the aggressive milfoil clogging parts of the pond.

The fortunes of the North Leverett Cemetery Association have improved in recent days. David Glazier, son of Arnold Glazier, has offered to take over his father's responsibilities in maintaining the five North Leverett cemeteries, along with the other members of the association.



JANEL NOCKELBY PHOTO

North Leverett Sawmill Sited in the 1750s

Owned and Operated by these Millers:

Joseph Slarrow	-1779
Richard Montague	-1789
James Curtis & Samuel Leland	-1827
Horatio & Gilman Watson	-1919
Dan & Perry Glazier	-1965
Lewis Taylor	-1972
Hugh & Lloyd Kirley	

PLACE YOUR COLOR BIZ CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

HOMESPUN By Andy's
 329 Deerfield St., Greenfield 413-773-3911 www.andysok.com

Braided Rugs Home Accessories Curtains

Come In To See Our Everyday Specials
 And Ask Us About "Try Before You Buy"

Your Local STIHL Dealer
 413-367-2481

Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.

Sales, Parts & Service
 310 Federal Street (Route 63)
 Montague

Weekdays: 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

F.M. KUZMESKUS INC.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION MOTORCOACH TOURS & CHARTERS

413-863-2595 • WWW.TRAVELKUZ.COM

HOPE & OLIVE

LUNCH TUES - FRI, 11:30 - 2:30 * DINNER TUES - SAT, 5 - 9
 SUNDAY BRUNCH 10 - 2, DINNER 5 - 8

homegrown, farm-inspired
 food and drink

PHONE 413-774-3150 • 44 HOPE STREET, GREENFIELD
 WWW.HOPEANDOLIVE.COM

Diemand Farm

- Farm Fresh Eggs
- Whole Roasting Chicken
- Pot Pies
- Home Made Soups
- Desserts

Products Vary Weekly

Farm Store Hours: Monday - Saturday, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Closed Sundays

Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell • 978-544-3806

Dennis L. Booska
 Dennis L. Booska, Jr.

Phone & Fax
 413-863-3690

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member
 The Flooring Network.

Tile Lino Carpet

Both Ends of the Bridge Busy



Jack hammer SPSTF Brdg

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH

Riverside - SPS has blocked off the right turn off at the north end of the Gill-Montague Bridge onto Riverview Drive, using ever popular Jersey barriers and chain link fencing. The blocked off road is the future staging area for the paint crew, when they begin sandblasting and painting the bridge. SPS has enclosed an equipment yard further down the street where they are storing heavy equipment, lumber and supplies, and where carpenters are also assembling concrete forms.

Turners Falls End

On the Turners Falls end of the bridge, tap-tapping to detect weak spots in concrete has ceased and an SPS crew, equipped with hard hats, goggles and respirators, is hard at work jack hammering deteriorated concrete on the southern bridge abutment.

According to SPS workers, the reinforcing bars were too close to the surface where they rusted and expanded, cracking and crumbling the concrete. Some of the concrete appears to have been watered down during pouring to avoid voids, further weakening it.

Crumbling concrete is more evident on the Gill end approach pillars without reinforcing bars, indicating soupy concrete pours.

Modern concrete is poured drier. Vibrators liquefy the concrete to fill voids without weakening the mix, if used judiciously. Over zealous vibrator use sends aggregate to the bottom.

Good concrete will continue to gain strength for about 50 years. Concrete with insufficient cement or too much water will soon begin to deteriorate.



Mark Croft foreman

Road de-icing chemicals will destroy the best of concrete. With spray from the dam freezing on the bridge adding to de-icing during winter storms, the concrete on the Gill-Montague Bridge gets more than its fair share of de-icing chemicals.

Modern reinforcing bars are plastic coated or galvanized by being dipped in molten zinc. SPS workmen dislike being stabbed by sharp needle-like zinc "icicles" that form on the re-bar end during the hot dipping process. It appears that plastic coated reinforcing bars are slated for use on the Gill-Montague Bridge.

Next Door to G-M Bridge

Right next door, on the Turners Falls end, Stanley Roofing Company of Ipswich is rebuilding a leaking roof over the passageway between the two buildings of the Discovery Center.

"The roof wasn't pitched enough to let the water run off," Mark Croft said. "The roof was leaking into the passage room where the dinosaur footprints are."

Croft is foreman of the crew reconstructing the roof. "We raised the top end to provide an eight inch pitch to allow proper water runoff," Croft said. "We're installing 2-1/2 inches of fiberglass insulation and two inch thick foam boards on top of it; roll roofing, then tar and stone as a final layer."

At the same time, workmen of Arctic Refrigeration of Greenfield are installing two replacement five ton capacity air conditioning units atop the passageway roof.

Mystery Cables by the Bridge

Visible from the Center's rooftop, lengths of cable stretch across the canal below. Strips of something hang down at eight or ten foot intervals. People have speculated these strips are provided for bridge repairmen who might fall into the canal, giving them something to grab onto until rescued.

In reality, the "something hanging down" are antennas, beamed to record implanted chips in fish making their way upstream to spawn.

"Every few days we tag about 20 fish, mainly shad, at the fish lab," said John Noreika

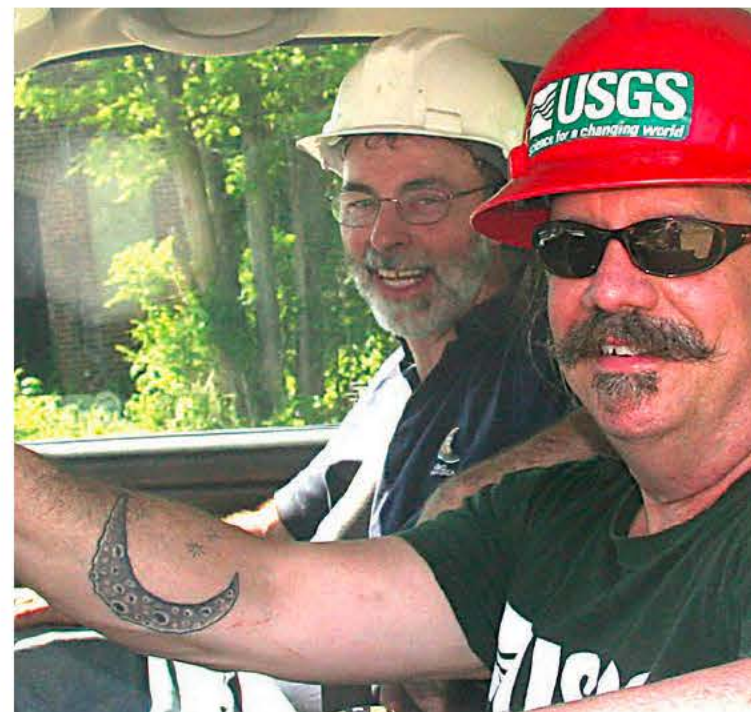
of the Silvio Conte Fish lab. "We vary the tagging according to the weather, because water temperature affects the way fish spawn."

The antennas record both the canal fish that choose to go through the water gushing through the gates, and fish choosing to use the recently modified gentler fish ladder. The fish ladder has recently been modified, adding smaller steps to assist the shad.

Shad are not robust swim-

mers. There is some suspicion that as many fish go through the gates as go up the fish ladder. The antennas will soon tell all. Stay tuned.

The hormones that give the fish a burst of strength and vitality to swim against the current and leap up falls to spawn also result in their death soon after spawning, from the stress of hormones as well as the stress of the strenuous upstream journey.



Fish Lab Ant John Noreika and Steve Walk

97.3 FM
WJDF
THE BEST MUSIC

Turn It Up In Turners every Tuesday, highlighting businesses in the Montague area

To advertise contact Wendy Gaida 978-544-5335 or wendy@wjdf.com

PLACE YOUR COLOR BIZ CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CO. INC.
SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

Complete Masonry Supply
Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more.

298 Avenue A., Turners Falls 413-863-4322
and at our new location 529 S. Main St., Brattleboro or 802-579-1800
www.shanahansupply.com

Sokolosky Realty

159 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS, MASS. 01376

Terry Sicard
Sales Associate

OFFICE (413) 863-4393
HOME (413) 863-2191
FAX (413) 863-9658

Mike and Tony's Pizzeria
@ the Green Emporium
Thursday - Sunday 5 - 9 p.m.

fabulous dining,
great music, neon art,
full liquor bar,
and the best pizza!

www.greenemporium.com Colrain Center 413-624-5122

JOHN DEERE Your Local John Deere Dealer for 49 Years
413-367-2481

Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.

Sales, Parts & Service
310 Federal Street (Route 63)
Montague
Weekdays: 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

It Figures!
Kate McGrath, MBA
413-768-9095

Income Tax and Accounting
Specializing in QuickBooks

BAKER Office Supply

Check out Our Large Selection
Art Supplies 10% Off with this coupon
Great for Summer Projects

310 Main Street, Greenfield • 413-774-2345

the poetry page

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

- William Carlos Williams

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

design by Boysen Hodgson

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

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

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

Who I Am

My house, where I live.
I'm Tibetan,
I respect my elders.
My house,
full of gods.
Talk in Tibetan

My school, where I learn.
I'm Asian-American,
I learn English.
My school,
full of Americans and foreigners.
Talk in English

Ask me do you speak English
Yes
So you are American
Yes
Ask me do you speak Tibetan
Yes
So you are Tibetan
Yes
Which one would you wanna be?
Both is my answer.

-- Tashi Tsering

Little Boy!

The blue waves are splashing our feet
while we stand by the light blue sparkling water.

A blond, blue-eyed boy
is looking into my eyes
remembering ...

The days we spent together
laughing, playing, and making up jokes ...

I can't forget the day at the beach
when it was just me and him
the little boy standing beside me
the whole way.

--Katie Sankova

Puerto Rican Flag

Puerto Rican flag,
Beautiful,
Symbol of patriotism,
Of freedom.
Its triangle, blue as sky,
Three red lines representing blood,
And two white lines that symbolize Peace.

Puerto Rican flag,
Symbolizes a Spanish-speaking country,
Delicious foods,
And good music.
Traditional dances, Bomba and Plena,
Beautiful animals, Coquí and Cotorra,
Traditional desserts, Arroz con Dulce and Coquito.

All this and much more, come from a small,
But beautiful island called
PUERTO RICO!!

--Chris Torres

The Sister I've Never Had

Hanging around together all the time
She feels like a sister I've never had
Even though I just met her
I trusted her really fast

When I'm with her I have fun,
But when I'm at home I get bored
So we text and chat
And still have fun
Even if we're apart.

--Natalie Torres

My Poem

Nancy is my sister and
she is sometimes crazy.
And she is nice.

Nancy is my sister all the time.

Crazy sister is a happy sister.
Yes she is my sister,
but she is funny.

--Aisha Pizarro

Being in Mexico

Being in Mexico
is a hard thing
Hunting for animals
and for what you see.

People think it is easy,
but it's really not
Seeing the coffee hanging
on the top of a beautiful plant,
and cutting it off.

--Carlos Ovalle

Christmas

Christmas is a happy
holiday for my family
because all of our
siblings come over
and also my uncles
and aunts.

We hang out. Eat.
Play some games.
Then the last thing
we do is open our
presents.

I like Christmas,
because it brings
my family together.

--Melvin Moreno

CONTRIBUTOR'S NOTES:

All of the poets in this month's poetry page are English as a second language (ESL) students at Great Falls Middle School or Turners Falls High School. The students created their first newsletter together in December 2009, and many of these poems first appeared there in addition to recipes, sports articles, news, and descriptions of holiday traditions. Thank you to the students for contributing their poems to The Montague Reporter and to Melinda Haskins Rogers, their teacher at GFMS and TFHS, for encouraging them to write poetry.

MARINI BUILDERS

Since 1976

- Garages
- Decks
- Home Improvements
- Excavating
- Additions
- Structural Repairs
- Sump Pumps
- Concrete

Gill, MA

Licensed - Insured - References

Marini19@comcast.net 413.863.5099



Local Farmer-Owned

Shop with your neighbors
Support local agriculture

Products for your animals,
home, farm, garden & yard

269 High St. Greenfield (413)773-9639

CRUISE & TRAVEL COMPANY



30 Montague St.
TURNERS FALLS



413-863-3143 | 888-763-3143
www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com



Vigil Strange I Kept on the Field One Night

Vigil strange I kept on the field one night:
When you, my son and my comrade, dropt at my side that day,
One look I but gave, which your dear eyes return'd, with a look I shall never forget;
One touch of your hand to mine, O boy, reach'd up as you lay on the ground;
Then onward I sped in the battle, the even-contested battle;
Till late in the night reliev'd, to the place at last again I made my way;
Found you in death so cold, dear comrade-found your body, son of responding kisses,
(never again on earth responding;)
Bared your face in the starlight-curious the scene-cool blew the moderate night-wind;
Long there and then in vigil I stood, dimly around me the battlefield spreading;
Vigil wondrous and vigil sweet, there in the fragrant silent night;
But not a tear fell, not even a long-drawn sigh-Long, long I gazed;
Then on the earth partially reclining, sat by your side, leaning my chin in my hands;
Passing sweet hours, immortal and mystic hours with you, dearest comrade-Not a tear, not a word;
Vigil of silence, love and death-vigil for you my son and my soldier,
As onward silently stars aloft, eastward new ones upward stole;
Vigil final for you, brave boy, (I could not save you, swift was your death,
I faithfully loved you and cared for you living-I think we shall surely meet again;)
Till at latest lingering of the night, indeed just as the dawn appear'd,
My comrade I wrapt in his blanket, envelop'd well his form,
Folded the blanket well, tucking it carefully over head, and carefully under feet;
And there and then, and bathed by the rising sun, my son in his grave, in his rude-dug grave I deposited;
Ending my vigil strange with that-vigil of night and battlefield dim;
Vigil for boy of responding kisses, (never again on earth responding;)
Vigil for comrade swiftly slain-vigil I never forget, how as day brighten'd,
I rose from the chill ground, and folded my soldier well in his blanket,
And buried him where he fell.

--Walt Whitman
Camden, NJ (1819-1892)

"Poem #639"

My Portion is Defeat-today-
A paler luck than Victory-
Less Paeans-fewer Bells-
The Drums don't follow Me-with tunes-
Defeat-a somewhat slower-means-
More Arduous than Balls-

'Tis populous with Bone and stain-
And Men too straight to stoop again-
And Piles of solid Moan-
And Chips of Blank-in Boyish Eyes-
And scraps of Prayer-
And Death's surprise,
Stamped visible-in Stone-

There's somewhat prouder, over there-
The Trumpets tell it to the Air-
How different Victory
To Him who has it-and the One
Who to have had it, would have been
Contender-to die-

Emily Dickinson
--Amherst (Dec 10, 1830 - May 15, 1886)

Forget Them Not

I wonder how many of you,
The residents of Montague,
Have to the monuments been
that honor brave women and men
who served our nation in all wars,
Both at home and on foreign shores.
At Seventh and Avenue A.
You can see it every day.
And even if you have been there
Did you take time to really stare
And next to some names a star see?
These were slain so we would stay free.
Just who were these who paid the price
And their young lives did sacrifice?
These fifty-two young men from here
Who left fam'lies that were do dear?
In World War I six heard death's knell.
In World War II forty-three fell.
The Korean War took one more.
Two died in the VietnamWar.
Who were they? We really should know.
Their names are listed here below.
Forget them not, I beg of you,
As "They Died for You Montague."

--Gerald Collins
Class of '52

World War I

Peter E. Belado, Edward L. Callahan, Allen W. Clarence,
William L. Daley, Alexander Kviatkoski,
Harold William Martin

World War II

Walter J. Aldrich, Russel F. Bourdeau, Charles D. DeWolf,
Ernest W. Dion, Edward H. Dubreuil, Norman E. Edmund,
Ernest D. Gelinias, Robert M. Gillette, Edwin F. Grogan,
James A. Gun Jr., James H. Guy, Charles T. Hillman,
Paul I. Jablonski, Henry M. Jalicki, Charles J. Kabaniec,
Stephen J. Krejmas, Edward A. Kulis, Arthur L. LaMountain,
Raymond J. LeBeau, Francis J. Lipinski, Edwin L. Marvel,
Rudolf F. Musek, Charles F. Molongoski,
Edmund T. Molongoski, Raymond J. Morin,
Edward A. Osowski, George E. Pierce. Joseph A. Richotte,
Henry J. Roscoe, Karle E. Schuhle, Joseph J. Sheff,
Edward L. Simanski, Edwin J. Sojka, Max Soloman,
Frederick H. Stanley, Charles E. Stenard Jr.,
Edwin L. Taber Jr., Leon J. Venskoski, Marcel V. Viens,
Edwin R. Welcome, Clayton V. Whiteman,
Harry W. Woodin Jr.

Korean War

Jeremiah D. Shanahan

Vietnam War

Bernard S. Plaza, Steven W. Davis

Fragment: A Farewell

I saw his round mouth's crimson deepen as it fell,
Like a Sun, in his last deep hour;
Watched the magnificent recession of farewell,
Clouding, half gleam, half glower,
And a last splendour burn the heavens of his cheek.
And in his eyes
The cold stars lighting, very old and bleak,
In different skies.

Wilfred Owen
--Reading, England (1893 - 1918)

Of Soldiers and Snow

Come now my comrades, my friends, my brothers.
Turn your haggard faces North,
North to the wind and frost
Sent on the wings of a blizzard
By General Winter, Jack Frost, the North Wind.
And grab your guns and boots,
Your tattered boots, sewn and re-sewn with holes yet again,
For tonight, two foes we will face.
Let us march into the storm as it rains bullets and ice.
Hear the thunder of guns and the silence of winter
As we dye the snows red.
We must soldier on, my boys, into a white oblivion,
Never forgetting each other's blackened faces,
Stricken by frost, yet unable to cry,
The frigid winds lament the passing of each boy,
Each boy whose mother will cry,
Each man whose wife will weep.
But we must trail on, number shrinking as the drifts grow,
Leaving not a trace, but crimson footprints in the snow.

--Savannah Wagner
Savannah Wagner lives in Effingham County, GA, and she won best poem by a ninth grader for the Young Georgia Author's Winners.

Lament to the Spirit of War

You hack everything down in battle....
God of War, with your fierce wings
you slice away the land and charge
disguised as a raging storm,
growl as a roaring hurricane,
yell like a tempest yells,
thunder, rage, roar, and drum,
expel evil winds!
Your feet are filled with anxiety!
On your lyre of moans
I hear your loud dirge scream.

Like a fiery monster you fill the land with poison.
As thunder you growl over the earth,
trees and bushes collapse before you.
You are blood rushing down a mountain,
Spirit of hate, greed and anger,
dominator of heaven and earth!
Your fire wafts over our land,
riding on a beast,
with indomitable commands,
you decide all fate.
You triumph over all our rites.
Who can explain why you go on so?

Ancient Sumerian Priestess Enheduanna
Mesopotamia (c. 2300 BCE)

Net Energy Key Indicator of Sustainability

BY DAVID DETMOLD

WENDELL - David Murphy, professor of environmental science and forestry at the State University of New York at Rochester, journeyed to Wendell on Friday to hold a workshop in the afternoon with county energy planners and to deliver a lecture on "net energy" to a crowd of about 40 at the town hall in the evening.

Murphy's thesis is that the

amount of energy being invested globally to extract energy from various fuel sources is increasing in relation to the amount of energy being delivered to society from those fuels, and at some point in the not too distant future that ratio will reach a point where economic growth of the kind industrial societies have generally become accustomed to will no longer be possible.

"We are not just interested in the lack of energy that will face us when we stop using fossil fuels," said Wendell energy commission member Jonathan von Ranson, as he introduced Murphy. "We're interested in taking care of the planet. This talk is about limits on our economy - an almost un-American concept. But we are not Communists or anarchists. Most of us are interested in belonging to the planet's life systems, not just being exploiters of them."

To begin his slide show presentation, Murphy, who is regarded by colleagues as one of the top experts in the country in the analysis of the relationship between the availability of energy and the economy, showed a photo of a cheetah running

down an antelope.

"The concept of energy returned on investment (EROI) is based on nature," said Murphy. The cheetah needs to bring in more energy by eating its prey than it expends in capturing it. Even so, deep water oil platforms pumping fuel from a mile below the surface of the Gulf of Mexico need to provide society with more energy than society expends in constructing, operating, and maintaining that platform, shipping the oil to a refinery, processing it, and delivering it to fueling stations around the country in order for society to benefit from that investment.

In the East Texas oil fields in 1929, oilmen threw up wooden derricks and tapped into oil fields just hundreds of feet below the surface of the land, a process that required very little energy investment in relation to the amount of energy produced by those gushing oil wells. Murphy calculated the EROI of tapping the East Texas oil fields of the late 1920s as about 100 to 1.

He said it cost about \$2.2 billion to construct a deep water oil rig like the Deepwater Horizon, that caught fire following an oil well blow out on April 20th, and burned for three days until it sank on Earth Day last month, initiating an ongoing oil leak of untold proportions in the Gulf of Mexico. The EROI for oil has been steadily declining from 1929 to the present day, as the easiest fields are depleted. Murphy calculates society is

gaining about 11 units of energy for every unit invested in oil production today, down significantly from the 100 to 1 EROI of the early days of oil strikes.

The net energy produced from deep water oil fields, or from more difficult to extract sources like shale or tar sands will continue to decline, Murphy said. Forty-three of the world's fifty major oil fields are in decline, and we are using oil four times faster (80 - 85 millions of barrels a day) than we are finding new sources of oil.

"If we are to transition to a low EROI economy, we can't really afford to live the lifestyle we've been living the last 20 or 30 years or so," Murphy said. "We have to start consuming a lot less."

Biofuels, like corn based ethanol, require so much energy investment per unit of energy harvested that the net energy result is statistically one to one. Murphy said biofuels may have limited value at the local level, for farmers to grow their own fuel, but will have no net positive effect on the energy requirements of society as a whole. The final EROI for nuclear power,

due to the unknown costs of decommissioning and cleanup aging reactors, is difficult to calculate, but it probably falls in the range of 15 to 1 at the optimistic end to 5 to 1, if more of the externalities are calculated, Murphy said.

Hydropower has a great net energy ratio, greater than 100 to 1, but Murphy felt new sources of hydropower were in short supply. He said tidal power and wave power energy production has not yet reached commercial scale development.

Wind power has an EROI of about 18 to 1; solar power scores much lower, about 3 to 1.

The average EROI for all fossil fuel sources is about 22 to 1, Murphy said.

Murphy said the ongoing disaster at the Deep Water Horizon oil well blowout in the Gulf of Mexico may prove to be a "tipping point" in terms of public consciousness about our energy future. Although he argued against this same proposition when he said, "We can't get people to agree that evolution is real. How can we get them to agree that peak oil is real?"

WE DIG FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Washed Stone
- Title V Sand & Gravel
- Processed Gravels
- Red Rock Stone
- 50# bags or bulk
- Brick Red Bark Mulch
- Mason Sand
- TRG
- Loam, screened/unscreened

MACKIN FUEL TRUCKING SAND & GRAVEL

(413) 774-1285

RENAISSANCE PAINTING

SINCE 1970
LICENSED, INSURED
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, ALL PHASES
POWER WASHING


BRIAN MCCUE, PRESIDENT
240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA 01351
PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896 • RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE
KUSTOM AUTOBODY
MA Reg #RS2066

48 Randall Road
Montague
Phone/413-863-3780

Mike Fuller, Owner

Office Hours By Appointment

 **DANIEL COHEN, D.M.D.**

4 Dell St.
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone: (413) 863-9656

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

413-256-6217

*fine instruments
bought and sold
repaired and restored*

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

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$8.00 PER WEEK

Four Winds School

Cogito ergo periculosus sum.

www.fourwindsschool.info 863-8055

LAPINE MULTIMEDIA

MOVIES, SLIDES, VIDEOS
& MORE!
CONVERTED TO DVD,
VHS & OTHER FORMATS!

Bill & Kathy White
413-773-7747

LOGOS & BRANDING
GRAPHIC DESIGN
ILLUSTRATION
WEB SITES
COPY WRITING
BUSINESS STRATEGY
INTERNET MARKETING
MISSION & VISION

H₂O
BOYSEN HODGSON

413 303 9193
www.h2-om.com

SKIP'S ROADSIDE DINER

POLISH, ITALIAN & AMERICAN FARE
Open 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM Daily - Closed Sundays
Boston Globe States:
**Best Polish Food this
side of Krakow!**
24 French King Hwy @ TF Bridge
863-9991

Geri Johnson
CBB, CRS, GRI

Geri Johnson & Associates REALTORS

66 French King Highway
Gill, MA 01376
(413) 863-9736
Fax (413) 863-9739

United Siding & Window

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS • SIDING • ROOFING

Since 1970

FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed & Insured
MA Reg # 105027
MA Construction
Supervisor's Liscence # 7543

Bob Edwards
603.239.8389
413.834.3902

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG Vandalism on Hoe Shop Road

Friday, 5/14
3:45 p.m. Report of car vs. moose accident on Gill Center Road, near Gill town line.
7:02 p.m. Report of possible suicidal subject en route to French King Bridge. Stopped subject in area. Referred to Erving police.
Saturday, 5/15
1:03 p.m. Report of loose dog in traffic at Gill lights intersection.

Tuesday, 5/18
9:35 a.m. Report of wires blocking roadway on Main Road.
11:50 a.m. Assisted subject at station with larceny by check incident.
Sunday, 5/23
8:05 p.m. On the lookout for despondent subject in a green van, unknown destination of travel.
Monday, 5/24
10:03 a.m. Report of

possible on-going vandalism on Hoe Shop Road.
6:40 p.m. Report of suspicious red pickup truck in Riverside area.
Tuesday, 5/25
11:45 a.m. Restraining order service on Mountain Road.
1:50 p.m. Report of past breaking and entering on Ben Hale Road.
Wednesday, 5/26
10:20 a.m. Report of gunfire in the Barton Cove area.



JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ – Q. I'm 74 years old. Are my organs too old to donate?

There are no cutoff ages for donating organs. Organs have been successfully transplanted from newborns and people older than 80. It is possible to donate a kidney, heart, liver, lung, pancreas, cornea, skin, bone, bone marrow and intestines.

While organs must be used between 6 and 72 hours after removal from a donor's body, tissues such as corneas, skin, heart valves, bone, tendons, ligaments, and cartilage can be preserved and stored for use later.

The evaluation of organs is

THE HEALTHY GEEZER: Organ Donors Needed

based upon medical standards. The conditions that will absolutely exclude donation are HIV, active cancer and systemic infection.

If you are at least 18 years old and want to be an organ donor, follow the instructions at: <http://organdonor.gov/donor/index.htm>, a federal website where you can download and print an organ-donor card.

Most organ and tissue is given after the donor has died. However, some donations are made by living donors. The first successful transplant by a living donor in the United States was of a kidney transferred between identical twin brothers in 1954.

More than 100,000 people in the U.S. are on the waiting list for organ transplants. The number of people needing a transplant is rising faster than the number of donors. Each day, 18 people die in this country waiting for transplants.

The United Network for

Organ Sharing (UNOS) maintains the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), a national computer registry that matches donors to waiting recipients.

Every transplant hospital in the United States is a UNOS member. You have to go to a transplant hospital to get on a waiting list. To find a transplant hospital, use the UNOS directory at www.unos.org/members/search.asp.

The following are corrections of some common misconceptions about transplants:

- The doctor treating you in a hospital has no tie-in to transplantation, so you don't have to worry about the doctor giving you inferior care to get your organs for someone else.

- Organ donation is not against the beliefs of most religions, including Christianity, Islam and all four branches of Judaism — Orthodox,

Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist. You can find more information about religious views on organ donation at www.organdonor.gov.

- An open-casket funeral is not precluded by organ donation. Donation does not change the appearance of the body. Organs are removed surgically in a routine operation.

- Costs for organ removal are paid by the recipient, not the donor.

- Organ transplant recipients are selected on the basis of medical urgency and compatibility, not sex or race.

Medical schools need complete bodies with all their organs and tissue to teach anatomy. Research facilities need bodies to study disease. Donating organs can preclude the use of a body for study. However, some

Open for the season
Great Falls Farmers Market
Wednesdays
2 - 6 p.m. Rain or Shine
May thru October
Avenue A & 2nd Street
Annuals, Perennials
Fresh Produce in Season
Baked Goods • Fresh Eggs
New Vendors Contact Don
413-336-3648

schools and research facilities will allow donors to give an organ for transplantation and then accept the altered body for study.

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

CEILING from pg 1

No one was injured when three layers of ceiling, including the original plaster in the old Oddfellows Building fell down, taking the tongue and groove pine and modern acoustical paneled drop ceiling down with it. More than three quarters of the ceiling on the 2nd Street side of the bar collapsed. But the accident occurred in slow motion.

"I had time to get all the important things out of the bar," said Lew. "I called Mike Morin, and he called the building inspector, to come look at the sprinkler system," which was damaged.

By the time they got there and started looking the place over, "You could get a haircut from the ceiling fans," Collins said.

"Dave and I were standing out front about an hour and a half later," when the ceiling finally

gave way and collapsed in a cloud of plaster dust. There was no one inside the bar by that point.

A dumpster was in location and clean-up well under way by Tuesday afternoon, as a pipefitter worked to restore the sprinkler system so Collins could open up the Fat Boyz nightclub side of the bar for regular operation, while repairs are underway. Fire chief Ray Godin approved the system on Wednesday. "As far as I'm concerned, they're ready to rock and roll."

"It was one of those things that when it was ready to go, it just let go," said Collins, who said there was no unusual activity in the apartment above that night. "It's just lucky no one was injured."

And the Celtics lost to Orlando, 96-92, in overtime.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE IRVING POLICE LOG Tickets, Arrest for Illegal Drivers

Wednesday, 5/19

10:30 a.m. Citation issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked license and without insurance.

Thursday, 5/20

10:30 a.m. Citation issued to [redacted] for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.
11:10 a.m. Citation issued to [redacted] for reckless oper-

ation of a motor vehicle and no inspection sticker.

Friday, 5/21

10:28 a.m. Report from a High Street residence that the rear window of a motor vehicle was broken overnight. Just wanted police department advised.

Saturday, 5/22

2:55 a.m. Report of a suspicious person in French King Entertainment Center. Checked same. All set.
11:01 a.m. Located loose

Chow dog in middle of Route 2. Returned dog to owner.

Advised of leash law.
8:47 p.m. Report of two black bears at the lower end of Mountain Road. Patrolled area. Unable to locate.

9:37 p.m. Report of breaking and entering at a North Shore Road camp. Camp secured. Spoke with owners.

Sunday, 5/23

1:35 p.m. Report of a loose dog on Lillian's Way. Resident caught same. Returned to owner.

8:39 p.m. Suspicious person and vehicle at storage sheds. Checked same. Subject advised she works for owners. All set.

Monday, 5/23

10:12 a.m. Report of a black bear on Mountain Road. Gone upon arrival.
1:50 p.m. Report of a black bear on the porch of a Mountain Road residence. Advised environmental police. Bear gone upon arrival.

12:41 a.m. Arrested [redacted] for third driving under the influence offense.

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

Patrick Smith
CSSL # 100236
Insured

EASTERN WEATHERIZATION
Specializing in Cellulose Insulation and Vinyl Replacement Windows:

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

THE TEXTILE CO. INC.
Retail Fabric Store

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

CASH & CHECKS ONLY
Mon.-Sat. 9-5:20, Fri. til 8:20
Power Square Greenfield (413) 773-7516

AJ's CYCLE MOTO GUZZI

274 Rt. 2, Gill

- heated clothing • used bikes
- boots • gloves
- accessories
- gift certificates

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

MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

Ron Sicard
Sales Professional

DILLON CHEVROLET INC. 54 MAIN ST. P O BOX 729 GREENFIELD, MA 01301
Phone (413) 773-3678 Fax (413) 774-5746
DILLON@CROCKER.COM Toll Free 1-800-698-3678

Jonathan Abbott
SSI / Disability Attorney

If you can't work, let me work for you.

tel: (413) 253-0052 Amherst, MA
In Home Appointments
jabbottesq@verizon.net

got enlightenment?
we're here to help

HIMALAYAN VIEWS
Thur to Sun • 10 - 6
South of MagicWings on 5/10 665-5550 tibetanplaza.com

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

Located in the Heart of Montague Center.
"Going Away for Vacation?"
Leave the Lawn care to Us

Residential & Commercial - Fully Insured
45 Main Street, PO Box 926, Montague, MA 01351
Gary Turn, Owner Phone: 367-0230 Cell: 522-2563

Carol's Beauty Nook

29 G Street, Turners Falls
Open Tue, Thurs, Fri
Ann Bagnell & Carol Demers
Gift Certificates Available 413-863-2888

Private Room Available
THE CHURCH STREET HOME
24 Church Street, Greenfield, MA 01301

A retirement home for independent senior women of Franklin County since 1942.
Family-style meals, beautiful surroundings, and the security of a hostess on duty at all times.

Visitors always welcome!
(413) 773-7252



GO GREEN FAMILY

Episode 13: Dangerous Encounters

BY JEANNE WEINTRAUB-MASON

MONTAGUE CENTER — After arriving at the Deerfield Inn for the Strawberry Festival, Jayden Bartlett slunk away from her mother and scooted over to the food tents. She studied the crowd intently until she spotted Alex Tinker, whose broad shoul-

ders displayed a Hawaiian shirt covered in palm trees. Jayden summoned up her courage and walked over.

"Hey Alex—How's it goin'?" You still planning to get to the WildWaffle music festival next week?" she asked brightly.

"Sure thing," Alex said, taking in Jayden's tightly stretched tank top and shiny belly button ring. "What about you?"

"I want to go, but I don't have wheels."

"If you can get yourself to Greenfield, I can give you a ride," Alex offered. "Here—hand me your cell." Jayden passed her cell phone to Alex, and he punched his phone number in. "Just give me a call," he added, grinning.

Meanwhile, Jayden's mother

Beverly was making her way to the food tents. To stay cool on this warm day, she had donned a wide-brimmed felt hat embellished with a velvet ribbon, and slipped on her favorite loose-fitting organic ivory hemp T-shirt dress. As she strolled carefully in her ruby Jimmy Choo sandals, Beverly admired the way her freshly lacquered red toenails gleamed in the bright sun and wondered what it would feel like to have her family declared the winner of the "Eating Green" challenge. It really was a shame that Connor and Gerry were tied up with that baseball game today. She and Jayden would be the only Bartletts present when the results were announced.

Just then Beverly spotted fellow Go Green Family contestant

Nell Robbins-Levine with a ratty-looking dog beside her in the dessert-tasting tent. She headed in their direction.

Meanwhile, Bingo the dog caught a whiff of hemp. Memories of torment and abuse from the days before he was rescued flooded Bingo's brain. There was a woman covered in the same smell and staring at him in the same way as that hateful old lady who used to whip him. When the suspicious woman in the hemp dress approached the table where they were standing and leaned over to sample a strawberry tart, Bingo placed himself in front of Nell.

"Why hello, Nell," the woman said. "Enjoying the festival?"

"Uh, sure," Nell answered nervously.

"Emily Woo told me that after you'd both decided to eat vegetarian, you had a little trouble staying away from meat. What a pity—I imagine it will be a bit of a blow to Jane to lose this chal-

lenge."

As Bingo sensed Nell's repressed anger, a growl escaped from his throat.

"What's wrong with your dog?" Beverly snapped. "He strikes me as a little too aggressive to bring to a festival like this."

Suddenly, Bingo just couldn't help himself. In a flash, he nipped Beverly in the ankle.

"You horrible, horrible dog!" Beverly screamed, before clicking away as fast as her Jimmy Choo's could carry her.

Which family do you think deserves to win the Eating Green challenge? Cast your vote at www.montaguema.net and read next week's installment to find out who the Go Green Family judges selected.

Continued next issue.

Missed an episode? Want to learn more about the Go Green families? Visit www.montaguema.net.



Nursery and Garden Center
135 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls

49 Years Growing Experience

175 Acres of Nursery Plants
Garden Center & Gifts
**Hanging Plants,
Vegetable Plants,
Fruit Trees,
Annuals, Perennials
and Roses**

Large Assortment of
Shade and Flowering Trees
Field Grown Lilacs,
Hemlocks, Arbor Vitae

**Our Yard is
Filled with Color
Yours Should Be Too!**

- Landscape Design
- Mulch
- Deliveries Available
- Nursery Stock Arriving Daily

Open Seven Days
Mon to Sat 7am to 5:30pm
Sunday 9am to 5pm

Tel: (413) 863-2510

Fax: (413) 863-3079

WRITERS from page 1

bers joined. At present, there are eight participants; Rosalie Bolton, Estelle Cade, Pat Carlisle, Lilian Fiske, Fran Hemond, Dorothy Hmielski, Harry Stafursky and yours truly.

At meetings, Rodley furnishes the group with a prompt or suggested topic, which is akin to releasing a rabbit at a greyhound racetrack. Pens and pencils begin scribbling at a ferocious rate until Rodley signals a warning that time is nearly up. Each person then reads their piece aloud and the others comment. Comments are supposed to be positive, something Rodley continues to

emphasize. Since these are first drafts, comments are generally focus on what someone found interesting, impressive or funny.

Then Rodley throws out a second prompt and the writers seize upon it for another race to the bottom of the page. All too soon the session is over.

There never seems to be any "writers block" here. The problem is more one of getting writers to stop writing. Memories and recall of specific details spring from the distant past. Hearing another's account of an event never fails to trigger memories of a similar experience in others.

The group is lively and young at heart. While occa-

sionally stories of sad or moving experiences are shared, more often laughter is the norm.

On Sunday, May 23rd, the group gave a reading of essays and stories from 3 to 5 p.m. at the senior center, followed by refreshments and socializing. The older set enjoyed the reading. Young people who came also enjoyed hearing stories of grandma and grandpa's youth,

when children played ring around the stagecoach, and students were required to name all three presidents.

For those that missed this great reading, booklets of works by the "As You Write It" writers are available at the Montague senior center. Call 863-9357 for more information.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Cocaine, Assault and Battery Arrests

Thursday, 5/20

1:43 p.m. Arrest of [redacted] for domestic assault and battery.

5:53 p.m. Arrest of [redacted] on a straight warrant for assault and battery.

Friday, 5/21

5:51 p.m. Arrest of [redacted] for disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace.

Saturday, 5/22

5:45 p.m. Arrest of [redacted] for a subsequent offense of operat-

ing a motor vehicle with a revoked license, revoked registration and without insurance.

Monday, 5/24

1:54 a.m. Probable cause arrest in The Patch of [redacted].

2:19 p.m. Structure fire at Couture Brothers on Avenue A. Referred to other agency.

8:27 p.m. Arrest of [redacted] for aggravated assault and battery, possession of a class B drug (cocaine), possession of a class B drug (cocaine) for distri-

bution, obstruction of justice, disorderly conduct, and daytime felony breaking and entering (person in fear).

10:15 p.m. Arrest on Fourth Street of [redacted] for disturbing the peace and assault and battery on a police officer.

Tuesday, 5/25

1:00 p.m. Report of assault at the Farren Care Center. Advised of options.

5:56 p.m. Breaking and Entering on G street. Investigated.

TOWN OF MONTAGUE SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE

The Town of Montague is accepting bids for the purchase of surplus equipment at the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF). A list of the equipment to be sold can be obtained and viewed at the Montague WPCF, 34 Greenfield Rd., Montague, between 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The bids should be in a sealed envelope marked with the equipment being bid on and mailed or delivered to the Montague WPCF, 34 Greenfield Rd., Montague, MA 01351. Bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 10th, 2010 at which time bids will be opened and read aloud at the Montague WPCF, (413) 773-8865.

The Town of Montague reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

RIVERSIDE RADIATOR
General Auto Repair
RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS
and HEAVY EQUIPMENT
Foreign and Domestic
Propane Filling Station
Route 2, Gill
863-4049 1-800-439-4049
8-5 Mon-Fri (closed Sat.)

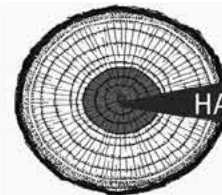
LOCAL SERVICE • NATIONAL STRENGTH

MetLife

MetLife Home Loans

TIM PREVOST - Mortgage Consultant
413-773-8984
tprevost@metlife.com

All loans subject to approval. Certain conditions and fees apply. Mortgage financing provided by MetLife Home Loans, a division of MetLife Bank, N.A. Equal Housing Lender. ©2008 METLIFE, INC. PEANUTS © United Feature Syndicate, Inc. L09086294[exp0909][AI States][DC]



HARTWOOD TREE SERVICE

Licensed and Insured

Christopher J. Morin, owner
7 Kimberly Lane
Turners Falls

413-522-6119 cjmorin2011@yahoo.com

Locally owned since 1941



Full service market
Fresh Local Produce

70 Allen Street
Greenfield, MA

Beer & Wine

413-773-1100
FAX 413-773-1105



"Helping Seniors stay comfortable in their homes a specialty"

Robert Schmid Home Repair

25 years experience
Licensed and Insured
Senior Discount

Carpentry, Painting and Handyman Services

413-548-9360 rs.home.repair@gmail.com

BARLOW

- Paving
- Excavating
- Demolition
- Septic
- Power Sweeping
- Landscaping
- Seal Coating

Turners Falls

413.772.2155

cell: 325.5596

www.barlowpavingexcavating.com

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



THURSDAY, MAY 27th

Deja Brew, Wendell: Larry Kopp, country & city blues guitar with vocals, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: BirdSwing's fullmoon Dinner Date Night and open jam session, 7:30 p.m., free.

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, MAY 28th to 30th
Gas Engine Show/Flea Market. Fri. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun, 10 to 5 p.m. The Auction kicks off the Annual Gas Engine Show/Flea Market/Tag Sale put on by the United Church of Bernardston.

SATURDAY, MAY 29th

Montague Bookmill, Montague Center: Singer, Songwriter and multi instrumentalist Heather Maloney, 8 p.m. to perform and celebrate Memorial Day weekend. Portland Maine singer songwriter Clara Berry opens. Maloney has proven herself as a skilled songstress and singer, and a powerhouse performer; she uses her heartfelt intelligent lyrics, humor, spirited musicality and joyful performances to offer tales of love, self inquiry and the human experience.

Eagles of Barton Cove, 1 to 2 p.m. at the Discovery Center, Turners Falls. Look in the sky: Is it a hawk or an eagle? Come learn about these amazing birds and find out what's happening with the eagle cam at Barton Cove. Will it ever return? A DVD about this national symbol also will be

shown in the Great Hall.

SUNDAY, MAY 30th

HOOTENANY benefitting the 1794 Meeting House, 2 to 5 p.m. at Batenkil Farm, 137 South Main St. New Salem. Featuring Bucky Williams on the Gut

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2nd

Great Falls Farmers Market. On the lawn near the Discovery Center, Avenue A, Turners Falls. 2 to 6 p.m. Rain or shine every Wednesday.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4th

Ferd's Amazing Card Party held at the Grange hall, Montague Center. Hearts, Spades, Oh Hell, B.S., Go Fish, Bridge, and other favorites! Kid friendly. Bring a dish and a beverage of choice for dinner. Music, chairs, tables and wonderful neighborly interactions will be provided. \$5 suggested donation at the door, 6 p.m. This is a Friends of the Montague Grange sponsored event, part of a multi-year fundraising effort to repair and rejuvenate the 175-year old hall.

JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION



Heather Maloney at the Montague Bookmill on Saturday May 28th, 8 p.m. Portland Maine singer songwriter Clara Berry opens.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5th

Family Fish Day at the Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls. Fifth Annual Family Fish Day event from 10 to 2 p.m. Free raffle for everything from fishing gear to fishing trips! No need to bring any equipment, we have it all. This year, we're adding face painting and fish printing!

SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH

Arena Civic Theatre 40th Anniversary Gala at the Moose Club, Greenfield. The semi-formal event will provide a buffet dinner with a variety of meat and vegetarian dishes, dessert, a cash

bar and a musical presentation of various show tunes spanning their 40 years of performance in Franklin County. The Gala event begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails, dinner and performance. Tickets are \$30, are limited, and need to be purchased by June 5th. www.arenacivictheatre.org/gala or call Sondra Radosh: (413) 549-1511.

The Sirius Community Coffee House: Open Mic and featured performer Liz Rogers, singer songwriter. Accompanying herself on guitar, her voice has been compared to Joan Baez and Joni Mitchell; her songs speak of love, courage, beauty and the search for home. www.elizabethrogers.com. 8 p.m. \$5 - \$10, (413) 259-1808.

ONGOING

On display at the Great Falls Discovery Center: Wildlife And Nature Photography by Jennifer Nefedov thru May 31st.

Through May 31st Artists of Franklin County will grace the windows and storefronts of downtown Greenfield with art. Paintings, photography, pottery and more will be on display as artists share their work with the community to help celebrate the coming of spring. Come to Greenfield and prepare to be AWE'd. The AWE project is sponsored by the Artists of Franklin County, a non-profit organization.

On display at The Wendell Free Library: exhibition of work by Morgan Mead of Wendell. This exhilarating exhibition of six brightly colored mixed media paintings is Morgan's first public showing of his work, all of which has been done this past year. On display thru June 30th

OPEN REHEARSALS

Amandla Chorus Open Recruitment Rehearsals on Tuesdays, June 1, 8, & 15, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Temple Israel, 27 Pierce Street, Greenfield. The Amandla Chorus is seeking new members and invites interested singers to attend one, two, or all three open rehearsals taking place the first three Tuesdays in June. Amandla is a mixed-voice chorus with approximately 40 members that performs songs of justice, hope, and celebration from around the world. (413) 773-8655; www.amandla-chorus.org.

Montague Reporter
would like to thank the
Conte Anadromous Fish
Research Center for letting
us use their emergency
power to finish and put out
this issue of the paper

Christina's
A Taste of Italy
Now Home Delivery
Thursday - Sunday
Nights
Daily Specials
Hours: Tues-Sun 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Fridays and Saturdays til 10:00 p.m.
413-423-3100
20 French King Highway (Route 2) Erving
Full Liquor License

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



www.gardencinemas.net
Showtimes for
Fri., May 28th to Thurs., June 3rd

1. PRINCE OF PERSIA
DAILY 7:00 9:30 PG13 in DTS sound
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:00 3:00
2. SHREK FOREVER AFTER 3D
DAILY 6:45 9:00 PG in DTS sound
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:00, 2:15, 4:30
3. IRON MAN 2
DAILY 7:00 9:30 PG13
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:00 3:00
4. DATE NIGHT DAILY 6:40, PG13
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:15 3:15
4. MACGRUBER DAILY 9:20, R
5. LETTERS TO JULIET
DAILY 6:40 9:20 PG
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:15 3:15
6. SEX IN THE CITY
DAILY 6:30 9:30 R in DTS sound
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:30 3:30
7. ROBIN HOOD
DAILY 6:30 9:30 PG13 in DTS sound
FRI, SAT, SUN, MON 12:30 3:30



Draft Beer Fine Wine Great Food
Friday, 5/28 9 to 11 p.m.
Saturday, 5/29 9 to 11 p.m.
Schedule unavailable at
press time due to power
outage caused by severe
storm damage. Call Deja
Brew or visit website for
event schedule
978-544-BREW
57A Lockes Village Road
Next to the Wendell Country Store
www.DejaBrewPub.com

The Rendezvous
Springtime on
the Deck!
CHECK
THEVOO.NET
for our
NEW PUB MENU!
and
CALENDAR OF
EVENTS!
SUNDAY BRUNCH 10AM-4PM
78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS
THEVOO.NET 413-863-2866

THE LADY KILLIGREW:
still proudly serving
BROWN RICE SALAD

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

Bucket, Richard Chase, Bo Henderson, John Harkins on guitar, Nate on the mandolin...and MORE! Refreshments to benefit the Meeting House will be available.

MONDAY, MAY 31st

Memorial Day Poetry - Spoken Word Festival, Deja Brew, Wendell. Doors open at 1 p.m. Festival 2 to 6 p.m. \$1 to \$5 sliding scale. First slot at 2 p.m. With good weather bring a blanket to sit on, we will be outside with an out door stage. There will be food to purchase and alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks. Bring one piece about or by another writer who you think we need to remember or bring a piece about authors you think we need to remember and of course bring the pieces you want to offer to the festival. Each slot will be 5-8 minutes. Contact: paul@humanerrorpublishing.com.

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

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

EDWARDS TREE SERVICE
Matthew Edwards
Certified Arborist
Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture
Residential / Commercial / Municipal
60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping
Fully Insured With Workers Comp. • Insurance and Liability
WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM
Wendell, MA
Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties
413-325-7823 or 978-544-7452

Clay/Stone Sculpture
Pottery
Fine Art Drawings and Paintings
BY CHANCE OR
APPOINTMENT.
TELEPHONE 413.863.9299
email: carriagehouse@signedinstone.com
65 CANAL STREET • TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

Negus & Taylor, Inc. Monuments
People often come to see us because their parents and their grandparents did. We're proud to have that kind of loyalty, and we work hard to keep it.
- Gary and Nancy Melen
We engrave memories that last forever
MAIN OFFICE 773-9552
10 Mill Street, Greenfield, MA
"The perfect remembrance"

About Face Computer Solutions
413.367.0025
Computer Repair Custom PCs
IT Support & Consulting
Network Installation/ Maintenance
info@about-facecomputers.com

B. RUBIN & SONS INC.
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS
Shocks • Tires • Batteries • Starters
Struts • Tune-ups • Brakes • Oil Change
194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236
10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES
MASS INSPECTION STATION: NO. 13051



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

Too Soon to Set Out Tomatoes?

BY LESLIE BROWN

MONTAGUE CITY - After a warm stretch in April and a chilly, windy spell in May, we have resumed warm, summerlike conditions. Flowering plants have responded accordingly.

My beach roses are in bloom, the peonies sport large buds and the bush roses will blossom not long after. At the edges of the yard, the locust blooms are prolific, dangling their blooming clusters, which smell to me like grape soda. The mountain laurel buds

show pink and red.

In the sunroom, the tomato and pepper plants are following an internal clock. They are perky and green following the transplant from two to four inch pots. Their stems are sturdy and they have put on good growth. But regardless of the outside temperature they are not yet ready to move into the garden.

Amid all of my efforts to become more of an organic gardener by composting, encouraging earthworms, and now adopting a space or two for no-till gardening, I've apparently and accidentally created a yard that is increasingly inviting to a great variety of birds.

When we first moved here, little of the yard was open land and none had been recently tilled for gardening. The house came with

a forsythia bush, an enormous blue spruce, a bridal wreath and a beauty bush and little else by way of landscaping.

Coming from six months living in a small for one person apartment, we were itching to spread out, grow and develop. We cut down the shrubby side yard and rototilled a garden space. We planted the first of many flowering plants, bushes and shrubs. We started a small orchard of peach and apricot trees. We attempted an asparagus bed.

Thanks to the generosity of a professor at UMass, we planted a whole stand of laurel of native and more exotic varieties. We cut down the blue spruce that threatened to shade out any efforts at gardening. We created a clearing in the small woods that bordered the railroad tracks. We began to create perennial beds to edge the yard.

Unknowingly, we created habitat for the more common New England birds, chickadee, titmouse, cardinal and robin, but which also invited birds that love more open land, like the phoebe and the oriole. This year, there was even a fly-by bluebird. We

also kept the woods that made shelter for thrush, woodpecker, and most recently a spectacular scarlet tanager. Proximity to the river has also brought visits from a variety of hawks and the occasional eagle.

Once, at dusk, a fisher cat slumped through the yard. We have morning evidence of deer, raccoon and possum. Now, at twilight, despite the huge regional decrease in their population, we have three bats that cross and re-cross the garden, gathering insects. The earthworms abound in the garden soil, and there are a number of ladybugs on the roses, grooming them of aphids.

While it would be tempting to plant out the warmth-loving plants and seeds of tomato and pepper, green bean and squash and cucumber, it is better to hold off. The temperatures will likely moderate again and it is not too late to have a killing frost.

There are fifty tomato starts in the sunroom. I hope to share many with fellow gardeners. But they are four to six inches tall and their stems and roots could do with beefing up a bit.

There are much larger hot-house plants to be bought, some

with blossoms at the ready. It is all too tempting. Even as a seasoned gardener, I've been burned. I put the first beautiful, hefty plants out last year because it was warm and it was Memorial Day weekend, the traditional marker for planting these tender crops. The next few days were cold and extremely windy and my crop took a severe hit. I won't do that again.

I may lose some of my usual customers for free plants. They won't be able to wait and will have already bought plants and put them in early. I suspect I'll find others.

I won't lose my own crop to the temptation of early planting. I'll let my sunroom plants develop thicker stems and a bit more height and then I'll gradually harden them up by putting them out on gentle, warm days and bringing them in at night.

This may sound like pampering. It will be worth it.

The amazing thing is I'll likely have tomatoes to pick as soon as anyone else. These variables have a way of leveling off. I can't rush nature's clock anymore than I can guarantee a nesting bluebird just by putting up a bluebird house. Right now I'll settle for the unsolicited but most welcome scarlet tanager and for the unparalleled taste of a warm sun ripened tomato in mid August.

illustration & design by peter chilton

May+June
in Turners Falls

FISH!

VIEW OUR EVENT CALENDAR AT
WWW.TURNERSFALLSRIVERCULTURE.ORG

TURNERS FALLS RIVERCULTURE

HILLSIDE PLASTICS, INC.

Western Massachusetts Electric

Massachusetts Cultural Council

MONTAGUE

WENDELL from page 6

for reuse of the former Maple Valley School.

Paul Richmond asked what the group would need to feel confident they have enough of a plan to start a dialogue with Maple Valley's owner, Tuoev Brason. Selectboard member Dan Keller said, "I don't think we need a formal position to have a meeting and see how the ideas of Wendell Works fit in with the owner's ideas."

Charles Cooper said Brason is concerned about the expense of maintaining the school buildings that are not providing any revenue at the present time.

Wendell Works will meet next at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23rd, at the Marion Herrick meeting room in the Wendell library.ing room in the Wendell library.



DETMOLD PHOTO

David Thompson (left) and Joe Novak planted flowering shrubs from Stewarts Nursery at the Carnegie Library last week.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Kubota Your Local Kubota Dealer
413-367-2481

Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.

Sales, Parts & Service
310 Federal Street (Route 63)
Montague
Weekdays: 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

GREENFIELD SOLAR STORE

SOLAR ELECTRIC

Solar Store of Greenfield
2 Fiske Ave, Greenfield • 413-772-3122
www.solarstoreofgreenfield.com • Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5

RISTORANTE DiPAOLO
Wednesday Wine Specials Glass \$5, Bottle \$20, Appetizers \$10
Upcoming June 11th - 12th MarkaMusic
GREAT ITALIAN FOOD
Open Daily at 5:00 | Closed Monday & Tuesday
413-863-4441

Mary Lou Emond
Certified Residential Specialist

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

Songline Emu Farm

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS 1995-2010

Farm Store Open
Thu. Fri. Sat. 12 - 5pm
Emu Meat, Eggs & Oil Products

66 French King Hwy.
Gill Ma 01354
www.songlineemufarm.com

FREE HATCHING TOURS - 12-4PM EVERY SATURDAY IN MAY

TURN IT UP!

MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309