



## TRANSATLANTIC

Conflict Resolution  
Page 8



## THE GARDEN

In November  
Pages 16

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 7 - NO. 7

also serving Gill, Erving and Wendell

50¢

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

NOVEMBER 13, 2008

### Intertribal Repatriation Site Proposed at Indeck

BY DAVID DETMOLD

**GREAT FALLS** - Representatives of three Native American tribes came to Turners Falls on Wednesday, November 5th, to meet with town officials and with John Anctil, the present owner of the land on the northeastern end of the peninsula between the power canal and the Connecticut River in Turners Falls, where the former Indeck co-generation plant was located. That site, with its concrete silo and cement foundations, is being considered by the Narragansett Indian tribe and the Wampanoag tribes of Mashpee and Gayhead (Aquinnah) as a possible location for the repatriation of native burial remains that originated in the area of the Great Falls.

The remains in question are presently held by colleges, universities, and museums around the region. As one example, Doug Harris, deputy historic preservation officer for the Narragansett, told town officials he had seen a Native American skull in the Museum of Natural History in New York City simply labeled: Turners Falls.

The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 gives the Narragansett and Wampanoag tribes the right to reclaim such items. The terms of the act state that museums which have received federal funding are

see **SITE** pg 10

### Local Gay and Lesbian Citizens React to Civil Rights Setbacks In State Referenda



DETMOLD PHOTO

*Carol Samuels and Norene Pease, of Lake Wyola, married in May of 2004, when same sex marriage first became legal in Massachusetts. Speaking of the passage of gay marriage bans in California, Arizona, Florida, and the prohibition on unwed couples adopting children in Arkansas last week, Samuels said, "The majority shouldn't determine rights for the minority. We've learned over and over again that doesn't work."*

BY DAVID DETMOLD

**WENDELL & ELSEWHERE** - On the night of November 4th, as much of the world celebrated with the people of America on the historic election of the nation's first black president, gay and lesbian citizens and their allies watched the results of state referenda in California, Arizona, Florida and Arkansas with

growing alarm. It seemed the dream of the advance of African American civil rights represented by Barack Obama's election was being contradicted by the constriction of civil rights for gay citizens, as these states joined a growing list of others that have enacted bans on the ability of gays and lesbians to marry or

see **RIGHTS** pg 9

### GMRSD Subtracts \$153,000 from Fiscal '09 Budget

BY ELLEN BLANCHETTE - Members of the Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD) school committee met Wednesday night and were able to come together to agree on a reduced '09 operating budget to present to the towns at Tuesday's district meeting [November 18th, 6:30 p.m., at the Turners Falls High School; all registered voters of Gill and Montague welcome to attend]. The budget the school committee adopted on Wednesday night — \$16,666,328 — represented a compromise between the various budget numbers floated at the meeting, and passed by a 6-3 vote.

Superintendent Ken Rocke presented the school committee with a detailed analysis of various budget scenarios and what each one would cost. His preference was for a formula that reflected a percentage increase for the district assessment that matched the percent of the overall school budget increase, and this was what the committee chose to adopt.

The school committee agreed on a 3.0% increase over the FY08 the budget, a significant reduction from their original budget request, with a 3.0% assessment increase. This formula set the overall budget at \$16,666,328, down \$153,676 from their most recent number of \$16,820,004. Under the reduced figure, the town of Montague would pay an assessment of

see **GMRSD** pg 13

### Pauline Productions Presents: "The Mystery of Irma Vep" A Penny Dreadful by Charles Ludlam

BY SUDI NIMMS

**ASHFIELD** - If you're in the mood for a good laugh, if you enjoy sight gags, puns, mystery, farce, clichés, mysterious howling creatures, and poking fun at melodrama, then *The Mystery of Irma Vep* is for you.

Now playing at the First Congregational Church in Ashfield, *Irma Vep*, a *Penny Dreadful* by Charles Ludlam, stars Valley favorites Jeannine Haas and Kelsey Flynn.

Directed by Van Farrier, *The Mystery of Irma Vep* weaves the ghoulish story of eight characters played by two actors (Haas and Flynn) in a "hilarious full-length quick-change act spoofing Gothic Horror Tales."

There is a new lady at Mandcrest Manor who has replaced Lord Edgar's first wife, the deceased Irma Vep. But did the new couple simply hear the wind howling on the moors or was it something more sinister? Is Irma Vep really one of the dearly departed or does she haunt

Mandcrest among the un-dead. You see, Irma Vep is an anagram for "vampire" and Lord Edgar and his new wife are fearful of ominous signs amid thunder and lightening crashes.

With help from odd Jane the housemaid, brave and lusty Nicodemus the stablehand, a cheerleading Egyptian mummy and more, this small but vibrant and energetic cast keeps the audience in stitches. With deft comedy reminiscent, at any given time, of the Marx Brothers, Lucille Ball, the Three Stooges, and Carol Burnett, Haas and Flynn are more than engaging. The script itself is full of fun. Guffaws break out at any moment, and the nature of this quick-change genre affords unexpected and delightful mishaps that also delight. There was the sticky door that wouldn't open, and upon yanking would cause an actor to lose a wig. Or the sound cue that preceded the

see **VEP** pg 12

### Montague Integrative Health Opens Natural Care Practice

BY BRIDGET SWEET

**MONTAGUE CENTER** - Four local natural health care professionals greeted friends and current patients from Amherst, Greenfield, Leverett, Montague and Shutesbury at the open house of their new joint practice, Montague Integrative Health, on Sunday, November 9th. MIH is located at 432 Greenfield Road, right next door to the Montague Book Mill and the Night Kitchen. Certified nutrition specialist Diana Allen and chiropractor Dr. Ellen Mitnowsky joined certified yoga instructor, massage therapist and health education specialist Nancy Paglia and naturopathic doctor Emily Maiella to create MIH.

Allen, board-certified by the American College of Nutrition with a degree in human nutrition, offered food - including her raw pumpkin pie - and beverages to guests at the open house. She enthused about the donated apple cider from New Salem Preserves in New Salem.

Allen recently co-authored *The Ultimate Detox Diet* with Teri Kerr and Karin Matthews, and has conducted a series of nutrition talks at Green Fields Market. She had her book on hand for the open house, complete with recipes and health information for the reader.

When asked about the benefits of providing four natural health practices under one roof, Allen said, "All in one. It's con-

venient for people; it exposes the patients to different modalities to help heal. For example, diet, supplements and exercise aren't effective until all are put together."

She pointed out, "Our location is 20 minutes away from Amherst, Northampton and Greenfield, with Route 47 and the interstate to all points."

In her six years of practice, see **CARE** pg 12



Emily Maiella, Nancy Paglia, Diana Allen and Ellen Mitnowsky.

**PET OF THE WEEK**

**Seeks Loving Home**



**Sarah**

My name is Sarah and I'm a two-year-old female shorthair cat looking for a human companion. I'm a cool lookin' gal with an irresistible purrrrrrr. I need a new home. Have you got a place for me?

For more information on adopting me please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or via email: leverett@dpvhs.org.

**GREAT FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

**Grade 6:**  
Mackenzie Salls  
Liam Theis

**Grade 7:**  
Sierra Bodell

**Grade 8:**  
Abigail Rubin

**WENDELL COUNTRY STORE**

"It's just a stone's throw from reality."  
Groceries - Videos - Home Baked Goods  
Beer - Wine - Liquor

MON - SAT 7-9, SUNDAY 8-8  
978-544-8646

Lockes Village Rd.  
1/2 mile south of Wendell Center

**NANCY L. DOLE BOOKS & EPHEMERA**

Buying and selling used books

32 BRIDGE STREET, 2ND FLOOR  
SHELburnE FALLS, MA

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

**The Montague Reporter**

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

Advertising and copy deadline is Tuesday at NOON.

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

Local Subscription Rates:  
\$20 for 6 months

**CARNEGIE LIBRARY NEWS**

**Mother Goose Loose**

BY LINDA HICKMAN

**TURNERS FALLS** - Mother Goose on the Loose, an interactive mix of guitar and banjo music, rhymes, stories, puppets, and other visuals, will be held Saturday, November 15th, at the

Carnegie Library at 10:30 a.m. The free sessions are designed for babies through preschoolers and are performed by musician Michael Nix and children's librarian Linda Hickman. For more info: call 863-3214.

**Hospice Aides Honored**

During National Home Health Aide week, November 9th - 15th, Hospice of Franklin County is celebrating its own team of Home Hospice Aides.

"In October, our seven Hospice Aides achieved the status of Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse's Aide, which requires additional study and examination beyond standard Home Health Aide certification," said Terry Gaberson,

Executive Director of Hospice of Franklin County. "Caring for a loved one at the end of life is one of the most physically and emotionally demanding situations a family member may ever face. Our Hospice Aides provide invaluable direct care and assistance in a way that truly honors a patient's dignity and independence and supports the family's ability to care for their own."

**Art Walk Proposals Welcomed**

**Turners Falls** RiverCulture is seeking proposals from artists, landscape designers, groups and interested area residents to design and implement a temporary art installation, lasting up to three years, for a public walkway connecting downtown Turners Falls to the residential hill section of Turners Falls. Project budget is \$4,500 including a \$1,000 design fee and \$3,500 for construction materials, labor, delivery, assembly and installation requirements. All persons interested in applying, please call Lisa Davol at 413-230-9910 or email her at riverculture@montague.net. Deadline to submit proposals is Thursday, December 4th at 4:00 p.m. The RFP can be viewed on the homepage of the RiverCulture website - www.turnersfallsriverculture.org

**Market Basket Winners**

BY DON CLEGG

**GREAT FALLS** - Last month, at the final day of the Great Falls Farmers Market for the season, there were two winners drawn for farmers market gift baskets. The winners were Marie Tennyson and Melissa Belmonte, both of Turners Falls. Both said they shop at the market frequently; Melissa attended every week.

The vendors would like to thank everyone who shopped at the Farmers Market this season. Next year's market promises to

be bigger and better. For more information, contact the market master: sealeggsdc@yahoo.com

Listed below are the names of the vendors who contributed to the gift baskets: Back Door Bakery, Margaret Bates; Peter Kretzenger; Jo of Pedestrian Perspectives; the Great Falls Discovery Center Gift Shop; Explorations in Color, Anne Harding; Lisa's Handcrafted Soap, Lisa Adams; Road Farm; Cheryl's Sugar Shack; and Sugarbush Farm.

**SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES -- Nov. 17TH to Nov. 21th**

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

For trips: Call the Senior Center 413-863-9357 or 863-4500.

- Monday, 17th**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Easy Aerobics
- Tuesday, 18th**  
9 a.m. Walking Group
- Wednesday, 19th**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
12:45 Bingo

- Thursday, 20th**  
10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation  
1 p.m. Pitch
- Friday, 21st**  
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics  
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics  
Chair Yoga resumes Nov. 18th and 25th at 10:30 a.m.

**Christmas Bazaar** and Flu Clinic on Saturday Nov. 22nd.

**Christmas Party** at the Tech School, Monday Dec. 8th. Make reservations now \$10.00 per person.

**ERVING Senior Center**, 18 Pleasant St., Erving (Old Center School, 1st Floor), is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For information and reservations call Polly Kiely, Senior Center director at 413-423-3308. Lunch daily at 11:30 a.m. with reservations a day in advance by 11:00 a.m. Transportation can be provided for meals, Thursday shopping, or medical necessity by calling Dana Moore at 413-422-2584.



Save the Date!

**Hunger Banquet**

The Greenfield Center School will hold a 'Hunger Banquet' on November 21st to raise money for the Center for Self Reliance, located in Greenfield, and Oxfam, the international hunger relief organization.

Guests who buy tickets for the banquet will be randomly assigned to either a high-, middle-, or low-income tier and receive a corresponding meal. The 15 percent in the high-income tier will be served a sumptuous meal. The 35 percent in the middle-income section will eat a simple meal of rice and beans. The 50 percent in the low-income tier will help themselves to small portions of rice and water.

Guided through the evening by Center School student and teacher volunteers, the guests will experience and visualize how inequitably the world's food is distributed. One hundred people are expected to participate.

**WILL PAY FOR SCRIBBLING**

**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

**LIVE IN MONTAGUE?**

EST. 1754

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

on Avenue A for over 10 years

**Jay K's Liquors**

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**

Lunch Specials from 11:00 a.m.  
Mon: American Chop Suey • Tues. Chicken Fricassie • Wed: Chicken Souvlaki, Rice • Thurs: Corn Beef & Cabbage • Fri: Fried Scallops  
Sat: Yankee Pot Roast

Open Sundays 7-2  
863-9636

# Farewell to Duke Ducharme

*In Penny Lane there is a barber showing photographs  
Of every head he's had the pleasure to have known,  
And all the people that come and go  
Stop and say bella.  
- Lennon/McCartney*



Edward (Duke) Ducharme, (left) and Ed Podlenski worked together for more than 35 years at Ed's Barbershop.

**BY JOE KWIECINSKI**  
**TURNERS FALLS** - Denise Edwards, who now owns Ed's Barber Shop at 74 Avenue A, has hung Edward R. (Duke) Ducharme's tattered green sweater in a section of her shop as a remembrance of the man who served as a mentor to her when she was learning the trade. Duke Ducharme, long-time Turners Falls barber, died last month at the age of 88. He passed away on October 22nd, and he is missed.

Edwards asked Duke's son, Rick Ducharme of Turners, for the privilege of obtaining the sweater as a sign of her affection for the man she knew for about a quarter of a century.

"Duke was a fabulous man,"

said Edwards. "He had a great sense of humor and he knew all about everyone who came into our shop. I truly miss him every day."

Ducharme and Edwards first met when Duke was a field inspector for the Massachusetts Board of Registration for Barbers in Boston for 27 years. Ducharme went all over the state, giving practical exams to new barbers and inspecting their shops from 1963 through his last day on the job. He retired on December 31st, 1989.

"I first met Duke at Brom's Academy in Holyoke," explained Edwards, "when he was the state barber inspector. He sort of became my mentor,

always setting the highest standards as I developed my trade." Edwards went on to work with Duke for 13 years at Ed's Barber Shop, which was owned by another popular local practitioner of the tonsorial arts, Ed Podlenski. Now retired, Podlenski lives in Chandler, AZ.

A 1937 graduate of Turners Falls High School, Ducharme worked with Podlenski for more than 35 years, either full-time or part-time at Ed's shop. After Ducharme retired from his state position, he immediately went back to work with Podlenski on a part-time basis, from 1990 through 2003.

Beloved throughout the community, Ducharme's passing has left a deep mark on his son Rick. "My dad was an easy-going man who really loved people," said the younger Ducharme. "Wherever he'd go, he'd strike up a conversation with a stranger and they'd be chatting like old friends in no time."

Duke Ducharme was a history buff who enjoyed reading books on the American Civil War and World War II. He loved to go dancing with his wife, who predeceased him. And Duke liked going to the racetrack at Hinsdale and Saratoga, according to his son.

Rick Ducharme recalled that his father really enjoyed initiating young boys into the ritual of getting their hair cut. "All the kids knew my father as 'Duke.' He loved to cut the little kids' hair," Rick said with a wistful smile. "He made an elaborate

show for a little boy. After he would cut his hair, he'd put powder on a brush and ceremoniously wipe the back of his neck. He'd hold a mirror up to let the boy see the back of his head. Then he'd take Stephan's Hair Tonic and rub it into the boy's scalp before combing his hair. He'd show them how they looked, give them a lollipop, and send them on their way."

## G.C.C. CHORUS

The Greenfield Community College Chorus invites everyone to a free concert at the Sloan Theater on the GCC Main Campus on Saturday, November 15th at 7:30 p.m. The chorus will perform a concert of Handel & Haydn, led by Margery Heins, conductor, and Amy Roberts-Crawford, accompanist.

## FCHCC Honors Paul Douglas



Paul Douglas receives the Cevasco/Manwell/Quinn Advocacy Award at Franklin Home Care's annual meeting, November 7th, from FCHCC board president Regina Curtis, with Rep. Steve Kulik looking on.

**BY ANNA VIADERO**  
**TURNERS FALLS** - The Franklin County Home Care Corporation (FCHCC) honored and thanked many volunteers and staff at their Annual Meeting on November 7th at the Shea Theater in Turners Falls. Paul Douglas, former director of the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority was among those honored for his work on the FCHCC

board. Douglas was given a special recognition award, named the Cevasco/Manwell/Quinn Advocacy Award, in honor of his advocacy on behalf of area elders. In accepting the award, Douglas said the spirit of community comes from "common unity," a spirit he feels is very much part of the fabric of Franklin County.

## Dynamite, Whiskey and Wood in Moores Corner

The Leverett Historical Society presents a showing of the film *Dynamite, Whiskey, and Wood: History of Connecticut River Log Drives 1870-1915* on Thursday, November 20th, at 7:30 p.m. at the historic Moore's Corner Schoolhouse.

This documentary film takes you back in time to the days of log drives on the Connecticut River. Learn about the lifestyles of the log drivers, the tools they used, and some entertaining

local lore. This fascinating film was produced by Leverett's own Ed and Libby Klekowski. There will be free popcorn, no admission; all are welcome.

The schoolhouse is located three miles east on North Leverett Road, diagonally across from the Village Co-op, where overflow parking will be.

The historical society will hold a brief meeting prior to the program at 7 p.m. For more info: Call Dawn Ward at 413-367-9562.

## Winterize the Grange

On Sunday, November 16th between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., any and all friends of the Montague Grange will meet at the hall to complete the work on the window frames. We have all the tools; just bring some good cheer.

This is an opportunity to have fun and help button up the Grange for the winter. The more people the better. Music will be provided, and perhaps even some refreshments.

## MONTAGUE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS SOUGHT

**MONTAGUE** - The planning board is seeking two additional members. The planning board has one full and one associate's position open.

Interested residents could contact the chair, Doug Stephens, at dougstephens@dougstephens.net or the town planner, Dan Laroche at planner@montague.net, or simply attend a planning board meeting, second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in town hall to get familiar with the board.

## WE HEAT FRANKLIN COUNTY

- System 2000 (Energy Kinetics)
- Thermo Pride
- Weil-McLain
- Other Major Brands
- Expert Burner Service



**(413) 773-3622**

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

**A.H. Rist**  
INSURANCE  
AGENCY, INC.

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

email: [tracey@ahrist.com](mailto:tracey@ahrist.com)  
web: [www.ahrist.com](http://www.ahrist.com)

**Tracey Kuklewicz**  
Vice President

**863-4373**

**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**

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER**

*New Expanded Interior Dining!*

Route 2 • Gill  
413-863-8210

**BERKSHIRE BREWING BEER NOW AVAILABLE**

# AJ's

## CYCLE

274 Rt. 2, Gill

- gloves
- boots
- accessories
- gift certificates

**(413) 863-9543**  
Allan • David  
email: [AJCYC@CROCKER.COM](mailto:AJCYC@CROCKER.COM)  
[WWW.AJCYCLE.COM](http://WWW.AJCYCLE.COM)

## CRUISE & TRAVEL COMPANY

**30 Montague St.**  
**TURNERS FALLS**

**413-863-3143 • 888-763-3443**  
[cruise.travel@verizon.net](mailto:cruise.travel@verizon.net)

## B. RUBIN & SONS INC.

**COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS**

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

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • **413-863-2236**  
**10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES**  
MASS INSPECTION STATION NO. 13051

# The Montague Reporter

24 3rd Street, Turners Falls, Mass. 01376

<b>Editor</b> David Detmold	<b>Layout &amp; Design</b> Claudia Wells Boysen Hodgson Karen Hoyden Karen Wilkinson Suzette Snow Cobb	<b>Photography</b> Joe Parzych Shawn Woolsey
<b>Assistant Editor</b> Kathleen Lichfield	<i>"The Voice of the Villages"</i>	
<b>Editorial Assistants</b> Hugh Corr David Brule		<b>Technical Administrators</b> Michael Muller Michael Farnick
<b>Circulation</b> Suzette Snow Cobb Don Clegg	<b>Founded by</b> Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold August, 2002	

## Bring Open Minds to District Meeting

**BY MIKE NAUGHTON** - Next Tuesday, November 18th, there will be a meeting of the Gill Montague Regional School District, at which the district hopes to finalize its budget for the current year. As I write this, the meeting is barely one week away, and town officials have no idea what the district plans to propose.

For that matter, the school committee has no idea, either, as they aren't planning to discuss the issue until Wednesday, November 12th. At the urging of town officials, the district has agreed to meet with the towns' selectboards and finance committees the following night to discuss their decisions.

Here we are, almost five months into the budget year, and the regional school district, the largest governmental entity in our two towns, does not have a budget. However we feel about how we got to this point, I don't think we need any more proof that the system as we know it is broken.

Why can't the towns and the district agree on a budget? Simply put, it's because the district needs more money than the towns have. Roughly half of the revenues of Gill and Montague go to support roughly half of the district's budget each year.

That worked as long as the state - which contributes the other half of the district's budget - kicked in their share. But starting in the recession of 2002, the state stopped doing that. Instead, they level-funded, or even reduced, aid to the district, and the towns were left to pick up the difference. The district's budget kept increasing, and instead of being asked to fund half that increase the towns were asked to fund the entire amount. And, for a few years, they tried.

But the only way they could manage it was to take money away from other programs, or, in Montague's case, to use one-time revenues to make up the difference. Montague currently has around \$1.4 million in the assessors' overlay reserve, money left over from the settlement of a tax case with the former Index

power plant. This is a good example of one time money, money we do not expect to get again. Once it's gone, it's gone.

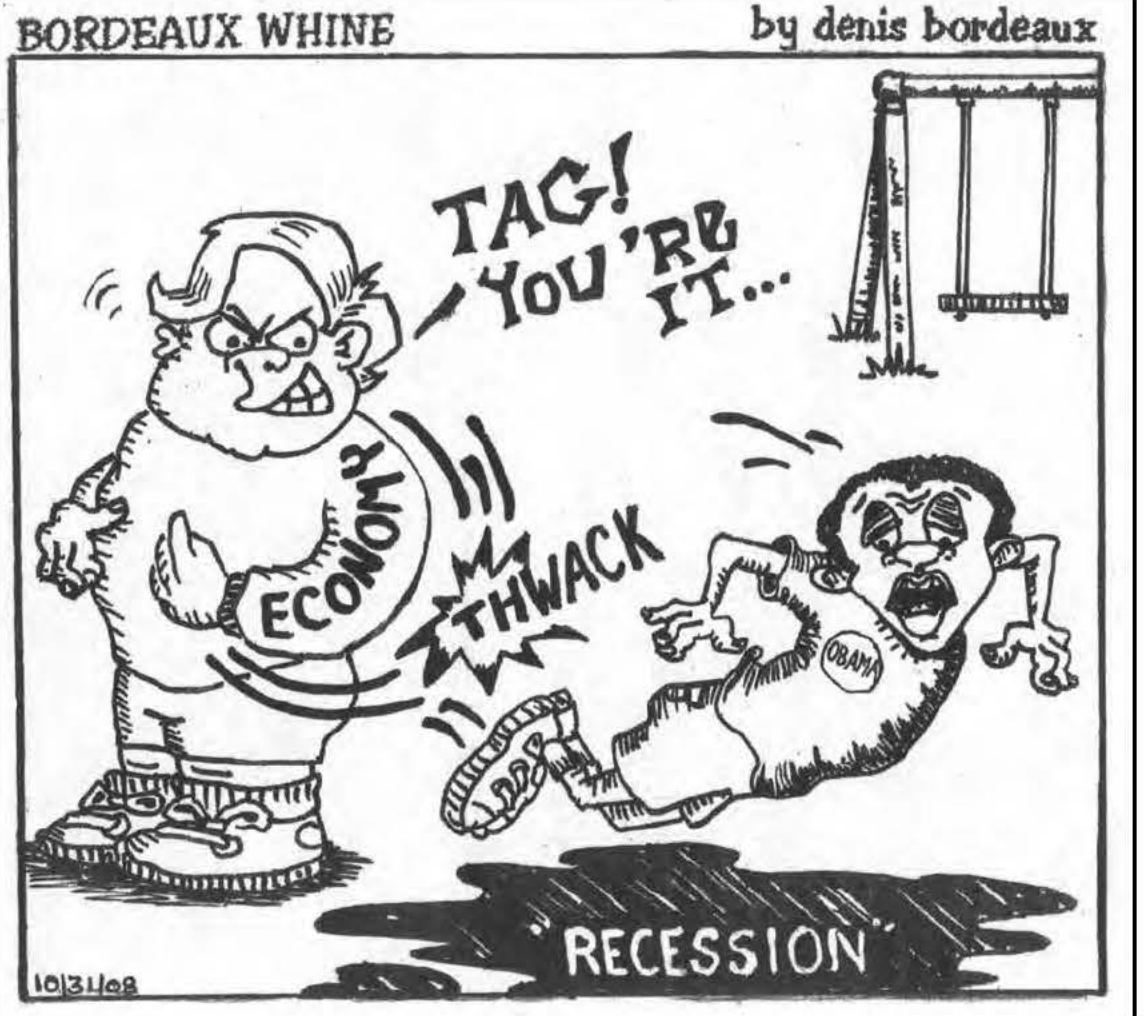
If we depend on one-time revenues to pay our operating expenses—and the school district assessment is definitely an operating expense—then we'll be in big trouble once it's all used up. It's a little like winning \$10,000 in the lottery and using it to buy a house that costs \$1,000 a month—you can afford the first ten payments, but what do you do after that? You'd better be sure you have some other source of income, or you'll be out on the street.

Nevertheless, Montague has used some of its reserves to fund its operating budget, and it has dug itself into a hole that it is now trying to get itself out of, and meanwhile the school district still needs more money. Welcome to FY 2009.

You might think that town and school district officials would have been working together over the summer and fall to figure out what to do about this. You would be wrong. When we go to the district meeting next Tuesday we expect to be considering proposals that are less than a week old, and therefore have not undergone much discussion or debate. Therefore, I'd like to suggest a few principles to guide our thinking when we consider them.

First and foremost, consider what the towns can actually afford. No matter how good something is, if we can't afford to pay for it then we shouldn't buy it. Too often, we are treated to emotional appeals that tempt us to forget this simple truth. We do our kids and their future no favors, nor to we affirm the value of our schools, by spending money we don't have. Our kids deserve the best education we can afford, but affordability is the cornerstone—without it, the whole edifice will come crashing down.

Second, consider the implications for the future. Planning for FY 2010 will begin a few weeks from now—what will that budget



look like? Will the FY 2009 budget lay a solid foundation for next year, or will it continue to push us further out onto thin ice?

Third, don't be afraid of not passing a budget. By law, if the district doesn't have an approved budget by December 1, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) "shall assume operation of the district" (M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 16B). Since the state's failure to adequately fund its share of the district's budgets is the primary reason we're in this crisis, a plausible case can be made for making the state come in and help get us out of it. And help is what we need right now. What we've been doing hasn't worked - let's not let fear of the unknown keep us from trying something new.

I hope we can all come to the district meeting with both eyes and minds open, so that we can clearly and thoughtfully consider what is presented to us. I hope to see you there.

*Mike Naughton has been a Montague resident since 1974, a town meeting member from Precinct 2 for over a decade, and he rejoined the Finance Committee in July, 2008. He can be reached at mjnaught@crocker.com or by looking in the telephone book. The opinions expressed here are his own and are not necessarily shared by anyone else in town government or otherwise.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Our New President

We have a new president, Barack Obama, whose leadership qualities feel relatively like a spring breeze to me. But whether you, yourself, preferred him or John McCain (or Ralph Nader or whomever), it's fair to say the feeling of being an American will shift now in the direction of listening, reaching out and participation rather

than leading by ideology and dogma. I predict this change both within American society and on the world stage. It's a different way of making the world safer, one that is surely worth a try.

-Jonathan von Ranson  
Wendell

### Coincidence? You be the Judge

Soon after John Kerry's defeat in 2004, Kerry and professor Austan Goolsbee (both Skull & Bones members) started to groom Obama for president. Obama gave a speech at the Democratic National Convention in 2004. He was a great orator, but most importantly he was a minority. Being a minority, he would be guaranteed 50% of the vote

Kerry, along with professor Goolsbee and later Rahm Emanuel drove up oil futures and bet using hedge funds. The money gained was used to drive oil futures up higher and the rest was siphoned off to Obama's campaign. This cycle was repeated, bankrupting financial firms and requiring a government bailout. The losers were the American taxpayer, 401k holders, retirement accounts, stockholders. The economy failed.

The Democrats blamed the Republicans and Obama

exclaimed, 'We need change!' The failed economy allowed for a sweep of the presidency as well as a majority in the House and Senate. Now Democrats control, and more importantly, Skull and Bones retained power. Additional supporting facts: in the eight months prior to the election, oil peaked above \$140 a barrel; today oil prices are \$53.67 a barrel. Coincidence? You can be the judge!

The truth be known, the American people would be outraged.

- Martin Yarmac  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

The  
Montague Reporter  
now offers  
Color Advertising  
at a reasonable rate.

Add a splash of color to  
your business image!

Call 413-863-8666  
for details.

**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 11/12/08

**US FORCES**  
Casualties in Iraq  
as of this date  
**4195**

Afghanistan **626**

Wounded in Action **30,802**

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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

**GUEST EDITORIAL**

# Hold the State Accountable

BY JEFF SINGLETON

**MONTAGUE** - I have a radical idea. It is that the state of Massachusetts should be accountable for the financial disaster it has helped create in the Gill-Montague regional school district. It is a very sad thing that this idea should be considered radical but that is often what happens in the business of government. Public officials are so used to doing things the old way they cannot see a new way. They come to accept a totally dysfunctional reality as the only possibility.

No one really debates the reality. For the past eight years, "Chapter 70" state aid to the Gill-Montague Regional School district has been level funded. This has placed a huge burden on the district and led to totally unaffordable assessments to the towns. It has produced annual budget battles that deeply divide our communities and undermine support for public education.

This year the reality became so obvious we started to do something about it. State aid increased by less than one percent but the state imposed a budget on the member towns of over four percent. That is to say, the towns of Gill and Montague were supposed to pay for the contradiction in state policy. This is why Montague town meeting sent a letter of protest to the state. It was a key reason why the last district meet-

ing voted the school budget down 195 to 44. We have finally gotten aggressive, meeting twice with the state officials to protest the situation.

Yet now some local officials want to throw away all the progress and return to the same old pattern. Even worse, the school district, rather than working with the member towns to create state accountability, has sat on its hands, waiting for the state to impose a budget on us. For nearly two months, the school committee has barely discussed the budget issue at all. (This editorial is being written the day before an eleventh hour school committee meeting on the budget).

Meanwhile, the selectboards and finance committees of the towns have met on a weekly basis trying to find a solution to the budget problem. The towns, not the school committee, called two meetings with the state on the school budget. The towns, not the school committee, finally initiated meetings with the district on the school budget. This is totally unacceptable.

The school committee's behavior is reason enough to vote down their budget at the November 18th district meeting. But there is another reason. Voting down the school budget appears to be the only way to force some level of state accountability. If the district meeting rejects the budget, then

the state will "takeover" the school district. While this is certainly uncharted territory, it could, depending on what we do, force the state to be part of the budget process next year. This would be a radical change, and our only hope.

There is a tendency to automatically reject a state "takeover" as a blemish on the school district and towns. "We need to show the state we can solve this ourselves," is the mantra. Let's try to get out of the box here and ask a rather obvious question: Why? Why on Earth should the school district and towns alone try to solve a problem partially created by state policy? The mantra makes no sense.

A state takeover will not certainly guarantee a solution to the school budget problem. But, with some local pressure, it will bring the state to the table next spring. It creates possibilities we do not now have, some hope of changing the dysfunctional patterns of the past.

Without a takeover I can guarantee that once again we will have a huge school funding gap next spring. I can guarantee that the school district and towns will be in conflict once again because we are trying to solve a problem locally that can not be solved locally. And I can guarantee that the state, sitting on the sidelines, will once again send us inadequate aid and wave goodbye.

*Jeff Singleton is a member of the Montague finance committee.*

## NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

### Dorsey Road Purchase Info Meeting

BY DAVID DETMOLD

**ERVING** - The town of Erving will hold an informational meeting on Monday, November 17th, at 7:00 p.m. at town hall on the proposed purchase of 21.3 acres of land on Dorsey Road near the French King Bridge. The state Department of Conservation and Recreation, through their land preservation specialist Jen Soper, has approached the town of Erving for help in purchasing the land from the Carroll family. The state has \$150,000 to put toward the purchase of land, which will be permanently conserved for public recreation, if the town of Erving can find \$45,000 to assist the state to meet the family's \$195,000 asking price on the land.

DCR would own title to the property and would manage the land; the public would have access to it under terms and conditions determined by DCR. There are four building lots on the property; the purchase would ensure those lots are never developed.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) from the state to the town for this property would be calculated at a higher rate, due to the presence of buildable lots on the property.

Erving administrative coordinator Tom Sharp said the town was consulting town attorney Donna MacNicols to determine the legality of Erving giving money to the

state for the land conservation purchase, without gaining title to the property. Towns that have passed the local option Community Preservation Act are entitled to assist in land purchases by the state within their boundaries, but Erving has never approved a CPA bylaw.

The finance committee and the selectboard will be present at the Monday hearing, along with Soper, and a Franklin Land Trust representative. The public is invited to attend.

On Monday, November 24th, at 7:00 p.m. at town hall, Erving will hold a special town meeting with seven articles, including a warrant to approve the \$45,000 for purchase of the Dorsey Road property. Other items on the agenda include allocations of \$30,000 for consulting and legal costs for the town's wastewater treatment facilities; \$150,000 for the town to conduct inspections and repairs of sewer lines; \$20,000 for the town to purchase three quarters of an acre of land adjoining the water tower across Route 2 from the former Smokin' Hippo restaurant; \$20,000 to purchase computer software for the tax collector's office; \$109,578 to purchase self-contained breathing apparatus for the fire department; and \$2,112 to pay for legal services resulting from the town's recent cable contract negotiation.

## ONE WEEK TO GO! WENDELL SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE AND THANKSGIVING RAFFLE

There is just one week to go for Wendell residents to subscribe to the *Montague Reporter* at a reduced rate and have your name entered to win one of seven great raffle prizes from local businesses. As of this writing, we can tell you, your chance to win one of the prizes is excellent!

Thanks to the generosity of some anonymous Wendell readers, who have put up the funds to purchase the raffle prizes, every new Wendell subscriber added before November 18th will have their name entered to

win one of the following gift certificates.

Just like last year, first prize

is a \$50 gift certificate at the **Diemand Egg Farm**; second prize, a \$40 gift certificate at the

**Copper Angel**, and five third prize winners will each receive \$20 gift certificates at the **Deja Brew Cafe & Pub!**

New subscribers in Wendell will also be able to take advantage

of a discounted subscription price. Get the next 26 weeks of the *Montague Reporter* delivered to your door for \$15, five dollars off the regular price. You'll get news from the Wendell selectboard, Wendell town meetings, local profiles and community features, news from the Wendell Free Library, entertainment at the Deja Brew and the Wendell Coffeehouse, poetry readings and even the occasional Wendell police log!

All that, plus the satisfaction of knowing you are helping to keep the Voice of the Villages alive and growing!

Use the subscription blank on the opposite page take five dollars off, and send your name and address with a check for \$15 to the *Montague Reporter*, 58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376. We must receive your subscription by November 18th in order for your name to be entered in the drawing.



**DEMERS' LANDSCAPING**

*Landscaping & Excavating*  
Estimates Given - Fully Insured

136 Turnpike Road, Turners Falls, MA 01376

COMPLETE TREE SERVICE • LOTS CLEARED • WOOD CHIPPING  
WOOD CHIPS • MULCH • LOAM • LAWNS AND SOD INSTALLED  
PLANTING • MASON AND STONWORK  
ALL TYPES OF FENCING • DOZER AND BACKHOE WORK  
SEPTIC SYSTEMS INSTALLED

Edward A. Demers, Prop. Since 1970 Tel. 863-3652

**GO GREEN SAVE GREEN**

Announcing the Energy-Efficient Mortgage (EEM)  
Allows you to borrow for energy improvements when buying a home such as: New Furnace, Windows, Insulation, Solar, Wind and more!

SAVE MONEY, CONSERVE ENERGY, LIVE COMFORTABLY!

**NationalCity** Mortgage CALL  
TIM PREVOST  
413-773-8984

Office Hours By Appointment

 DANIEL COHEN, D.M.D.

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

**NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**

**UPINNGIL**

411 Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354  
413-863-2297

Farm store open daily, 8-7.  
Fresh milk, farmstead cheeses, eggs, and butter.  
Also selling Gill trash stickers and the Montague Reporter.

Pick-your-own fruit and farm stand vegetables seasonally.

**Animal Crackers**  
Aquarium & Pet Supplies

Fun Stuff for Pets... and Their People!

44 Deerfield St./Rte. 5 & 10, Greenfield 774-7346 Pet Grooming by Appointment

**Renaissance Excavating**

COMPLETE SITE WORK

• SEPTIC & DRAINAGE SYSTEMS • SAND, GRAVEL & LOAM  
MAIN ROAD, GILL



DOUGLAS EDSON (413) 863-4462

## NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

# Gill Voters May Face Pyramid Override this Year

BY DAVID DETMOLD - The Gill selectboard met on Monday, November 10th, and discussed - once again - the fiscal impasse with the Gill-Montague Regional School District over the present year's operating budget. Selectboard member Ann Banash proposed that the town consider a "pyramid override," to provide funds for the gap between what town meeting has appropriated for the schools this year (\$1,339,362) and the assessment figure the town is eventually faced with for '09. That figure may be known as soon as next Tuesday, when the voters of the towns of Gill and Montague reconvene at 6:30 p.m. at the Turners Falls High School in a district meeting, for a second attempt to resolve the budget dispute with the regional schools.

The latest proposal from the school committee, from Wednesday night's meeting, if accepted by the voters of both towns on Tuesday, would leave Gill facing a \$1,388,700 assessment for Fiscal '09, \$49,338 more than town meeting approved in May.

The town of Gill is already facing a budget deficit to meet present year departmental budgets of about \$104,000, without adding any additional amount for the regional schools.

After the district meeting is over, Banash proposed a pyramid override whereby voters in Gill would have to decide between three different Proposition 2½ override amounts at a yet to be scheduled special election. The lowest amount would simply fund the difference between town meeting's approved budget for the regional schools and the final GMRSD assessment figure. Approving this amount would mean the town would have to make deep cuts in townside budgets. According to

administrative assistant Tracy Rogers, those cuts would include leaving the three police officers' positions unfilled for the remainder of the year; taking \$5,000 out of the fire department's budget; reducing the highway department's budget by \$4,300; cutting board and committee stipends in half, eliminating the shared clerical position in town hall; cutting \$800 out of the library budget (the highest figure possible without jeopardizing state library aid); eliminating the animal control officer; reducing the budget for the recreation committee by half, eliminating the budgets for the historical commission and memorial committee, and cutting the town's budget for the Gill-Montague senior center to zero for the remainder of the year.

The middle override figure would fund the schools and restore all these cuts except for the third police officer's position. The third override figure would restore the third police officer as well.

Rogers told the board that she had received numerous volunteers to join the new Commission on Education in Gill, approved at a joint meeting of the selectboard and finance committee on October 28th. That commission will be comprised of twelve members: four appointed by the selectboard, four by the finance committee, and four by the town moderator. It will examine future educational options for the town, including but not limited to the possibility of withdrawing from the Gill-Montague regional school district, joining another school district, or paying tuition to have their upper school students attend area middle schools or high schools while maintaining the elementary school under the direction of a Gill school committee.

Rogers told the board, "I get the sense that most of the people who called to volunteer for the commission are interested in pulling out of the district. If you are interested in getting a more well-rounded group, you better put out the call for more volunteers."

Banash said, "We need people who are willing to put in the time for the next couple of months. It's going to mean weekly meetings plus outside work," she predicted.

The commission will be expected to prepare a draft report and hold public hearing prior to annual town meeting next May, when the matter of whether or not Gill should pursue a different educational option for its students may come to a vote.

In other news, the board noted the appointment of Tupper Brown as chair of the finance committee, and the resignation of Lee Nowill from that board. Jim Paulsen was reappointed to the finance committee, as well.

Rogers announced that a solar light for the flagpole on the town common should be installed this week, paid for with grant funds.

The board met with Kevin Chickering, a Main Road resident who has repeated complaints about the presence of junk items on the property of his neighbor, Lawrence Krejmas. Chickering's house is for sale, and he feels the condition of his neighbor's property is adversely affecting his prospects for selling the house.

The board said the building inspector and police chief had conducted visual inspections of the Krejmas property from the road, and could not do more without a warrant. Chickering said he will contact the county building inspector, and follow

up with the zoning board of appeals and the board of health, if need be, to seek redress of the conditions cited.

The selectboard met with the cemetery commission about the erosion abatement work scheduled in the near future for the Center Cemetery, where several graves are threatened by erosion from Unadilla Brook. Thanks to the efforts of representative Chris Donelan, the state budget had included \$30,000 to pay for this work, but that money was eliminated in the recent cuts imposed by governor Deval Patrick.

The board assured the commissioners that the \$20,000 voted at annual town meeting to pay for the erosion abatement work would still be available to them. The town had been hoping to use that money for other purposes, when the state appeared to be ready to pay for the work. But now, the selectboard simply urged the commissioners to proceed quickly, during November, when it will not be necessary to hire a biologist to monitor the work, since species of concern will be hibernating, and to do whatever else they can to minimize the capital outlay required for the project. The highway department will

perform the erosion control work, with equipment rented from Doug Edson of Renaissance Excavating, Rogers said.

Town treasurer Ronnie LaChance met with a representative from the Department of Revenue to go over town fiscal policy and procedures on Wednesday, November 12th. LaChance told the board she would prepare a silent auction for a four-acre parcel taken for back taxes - the so-called Dawson property on Main Road, north of Martin Yarnac's property and on the same side of the road. LaChance also notified the board of her plan to refinance the remaining principal on the former Mariamante parcel on West Gill and Main Road. The town purchased this twelve-acre parcel in 2004 for \$245,000, and, in the absence of a buyer, has paid down \$27,400 of the principal on the loan along with \$33,666 in interest, to date.

LaChance said 88% of the town's taxpayers had paid their 2009 real estate taxes, which were due on October 1st. The remaining twelve percent of town taxpayers still owe a total of \$71,000, and LaChance urged them to "please get that payment in."

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG Wreckless Skateboarder

Tuesday, 11/4

7:40 a.m. Fire alarm sounding at Erving Elementary School. Spoke with custodian. Local construction blamed for false alarm.

Friday, 11/7

11:30 a.m. Report of three persons at the Usher Plant. Spoke with same, found to be employees installing fence.  
5:20 p.m. Report of youth in dark clothing skateboarding in traffic on Route 2 at North Street. Located youth and advised of dangerousness of actions. Parents advised.

5:55 p.m. Report of one-car accident on High Street. Arrested [redacted].

Charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, driving to endanger and destruction of property over \$250.

Saturday, 11/8

10:45 p.m. Citation issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle after suspension of license, failure to inspect vehicle and defective plate light.  
11:53 p.m. Arrested [redacted] in a straight warrant.

Sunday, 11/9

11:01 a.m. Report of motor vehicle accident with not personal injury on Route 2 at Route 2A intersection.

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



### EDWARDS TREE SERVICE

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

**Matthew Edwards**  
Certified Arborist

- ☛ Owner
- ☛ Climber
- ☛ Insured

**Wendell • 978-544-7452**  
[www.mattedwardstree.com](http://www.mattedwardstree.com)



### LAPINE MULTIMEDIA

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

**Bill & Kathy White**  
**413-773-7747**



### COUNTRY OIL

SINCE 1988  
HEATING-COOLING-PLUMBING

Annual Heating System Cleaning

Plumbing Repairs

LICENSED TECHNICIANS

#M10588 (MA)

540 Northfield Rd., Bernardston 1-800-327-9992  
[www.countryoil.com](http://www.countryoil.com) 413-648-9912



### T.L.C.

Specializing in all aspects of Lawn and Property Maintenance.


Located in the Heart of Montague Center.  
"Now accepting calls for fall clean-up and new clients for snow removal within 12 miles of Montague Center"

**Residential & Commercial - Fully Insured**

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

### Simply Computing

computer set-up  
training  
QuickBooks



**Debbe Dugan**  
**774-5451**

Your Pace at Your Place

### The Gill Store & Tavern

Now Serving

Lunch and Dinner  
Wed - Sat 11 - 11  
Sunday Brunch  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lunch and Dinner Specials Daily  
Seafood - Vegetarian - Local Beef  
Individual Grilled Pizzas and More!

Full Bar with People's Pint Beer on Tap  
Bottled Beers, Complete Wine List,  
Daily Drink Specials

Main Road Gill Center  
413-863-9006

**NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD**

# Montague Prevails in Kosuda Court Case

**BY DAVID DETMOLD** - Massachusetts land court judge Dina Fein has acted in favor of the town of Montague in the case of Gary Kosuda and his derelict Railroad Salvage Building in the Patch. Fein found Kosuda personally liable for the actions of his holding company, Kosudaville LLC, and ordered a receiver, Mark Draper of the firm Annino, Draper & Moore, to take control of the property. Kosuda was ordered to provide \$90,000 to the Draper, to be used to pay for whatever measures will be required to secure the property, abate hazards there, and render the road that runs beside it - Power Street - safe for traffic. Power Street has been closed to traffic since February of 2006, due to the deteriorating condition of the three-story structure, and the ongoing collapse of its roof and walls.

Building inspector David Jensen said Kosuda, a resident of Fort Lauderdale, FL, had failed to make the \$90,000 payment by the court ordered date - Friday, November 7th - and as of Wednesday had still not made payment. Another court date will be scheduled.

"We can expect the court to

stay on top of this. I think this is really good news," town administrator Frank Abbondanzio told the selectboard at their Monday meeting, on November 10th.

**In other news**, the board heard an update on the combined sewer overflow remediation work at the wastewater pollution control facility. Superintendent Bob Trombley told the board "hard numbers and estimated numbers on change orders still to come," indicate there is presently \$400,000 left unencumbered in the \$5.7 million project. The last of the money consists of funds provided by the US Department of Agriculture, which can only be tapped once all other projects funds have already been expended, Trombley said.

With the unspent funds, Trombley said, "There's a possibility we can go back and look at dewatering solids handling," which would provide long-term operational savings for the department. "We'll be back to discuss that with the selectboard at a later date."

"This seems like a very closely supervised operation," said board chair Allen Ross.

The board appointed Michael Little to fill in at the WPCF on a temporary basis, filling in for his brother John, who suffered abrasions and a concussion in a motorcycle accident on November 5th as he was driving home from work on Montague City Road. He hit another car, and slid into the guard rail, but has no memory of the accident. Michael Little has a Class III wastewater treatment plant license, and was hired at \$16.30 an hour.

John's son, Tim Little, also works at the WPCF, and is about to go for his Class III license, Trombley said.

In connection with a planned energy audit of town facilities by Siemens Building Technologies, Trombley said engineers will be looking over the plant on Friday, November 21st at 9 a.m. with an eye towards the potential of reinstalling a hydroelectricity turbine there, at the point where water is discharged to the Connecticut River.

A group of four student council members: Josh Gammon, Brooke Hastings, Nicholas Skarzynski, and Lisa Jackson from Turners Falls High School came to the

meeting to give the board an update on student activities at TFHS. The board welcomed them, and urged them to attend future meetings to keep the lines of communication open between town officials and high school students; the students said they would like to attend board meetings on a regular and ongoing basis. The students talked about applying for college, winning the Booster Day football game, adopting more families for the holiday gift giving Adopt-a-family program, taking shifts at Food City as bell ringers for the Salvation Army, and plans for a dodge ball tournament fundraiser for the Make-a-Wish foundation. Three students, Sam Colton, Nick Skarzynski, and Josh Gammon qualified for a second round in the national U.S. Senate Scholarship Project on U.S. History, which Gammon said, "Speaks wonders about the history program" at the high school. Gammon invited everyone to come to the traditional Turkey Day game, and the rally the night before.

Abbondanzio said the Capital Improvements Committee is preparing a request for proposals for a building reuse feasibility study for the Montague Center School. That study will

reportedly cost the town \$20,000.

The reorganized Turnpike Road landfill advisory committee will meet for the first time on December 2nd, to consider reissuing an RFP for a possible landfill at that site, or other alternative uses of the town-owned land.

Board chair Allen Ross, who has backed the idea of siting a landfill on the DEP-permitted land off Turnpike Road, clarified his position on the matter on Monday.

"I know there hasn't been a groundswell of opinion to re-look at the landfill site," Ross said. "As I look at it more, because of the size and location of the site, it might not be that developable. If we're really not going to do a landfill in the foreseeable future, what else can the land be used for?"

**In other long range development news**, Abbondanzio said the prospect of establishing a second industrial park on Millers Falls Road was looking more likely, "because of the possibility of a land swap," with Northeast Generation, which owns hundreds of acres of land at the north end of the Montague Plains. But it could take five to ten years before a new industrial park could begin producing new tax revenues for the town, he said.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG**

**Loud Disturbances and Thefts**

**Wednesday, 11/5**

3:02 p.m. Report of motor vehicle accident with personal injury in the area of Cumberland Farms and N Street, Turners Falls. Referred to other agency.  
7:01 p.m. Report of unwanted person at a Turners Falls Road address, Montague. Services rendered.

**Thursday, 11/6**

7:18 p.m. Report of motor vehicle disturbance at a Millers Falls Road address, Millers Falls. Investigated.  
11:09 p.m. Report of loud noise disturbance at a Fifth Street address, Turners Falls. Peace restored.  
11:16 p.m. Assisted motorist at an East Main Street address, Millers Falls.

**Friday, 11/7**

2:47 p.m. Report of an assault on the streets and on the bus, Turners Falls. Referred to an officer.

2:54 p.m. Report of disorderly conduct on a school bus, Turners Falls. Referred to an officer.

4:00 p.m. Report of shoplifting at Food City, Avenue A, Turners Falls.

4:17 p.m. Report of larceny at an Avenue A address, Turners Falls.

**Saturday, 11/8**

12:48 a.m. Report of a fight on Avenue A, Turners Falls. Investigated.

4:48 p.m. Report of larceny at a South High Street address, Turners Falls.

6:45 p.m. Report of vandalism at an Avenue A address, Turners Falls. Investigated.

**Sunday, 11/9**

12:00 a.m. Officer noticed an open door / window at an East Main Street address, Millers Falls. Investigated.

12:43 a.m. Report of possible runaway at an X Street address, Turners Falls.

2:30 a.m. 911 open line call from a Fourth Street address, Turners Falls. Peace restored.

2:47 a.m. Loud noise disturbance at an Avenue A address, Turners Falls. Peace restored.

11:22 a.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at a Central Street address, Turners Falls.

**Monday, 11/10**

1:27 a.m. Officer noticed open door / window at an East Main Street address, Millers Falls. Investigated.

**Tuesday, 11/11**

8:15 a.m. Report of vandalism at a Federal Street address, Montague. Investigated.

11:14 a.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at a Montague City Road address, Turners Falls.

12:54 p.m. Report of larceny at a Newton Street address, Millers Falls.

6:51 p.m. Report of burglary / breaking and entering at an Oakman Street address, Turners Falls.

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**

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



**MontagueWebWorks.com**

build | manage | create | 413.522.4808



**CopyCat  
PRINT SHOP**

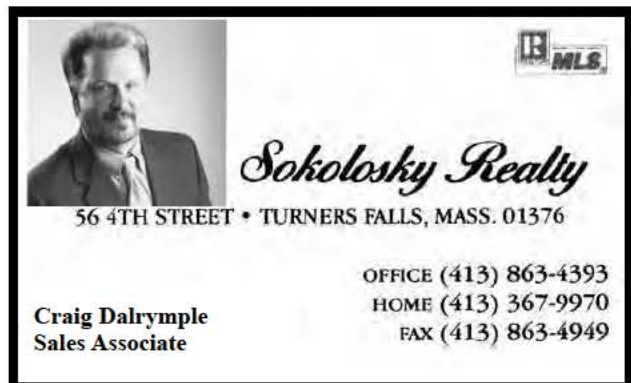
*We Specialize in Impossible Deadlines!*

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

**22 Years of Making Copies and Still the Original!**

up-to-the-minute technology ♦ old-fashioned personal service

180 Main Street, Greenfield ♦ 413-774-3500 ♦ greenfield@copycatprintshop.com



**Sokolosky Realty**

56 4TH STREET • TURNERS FALLS, MASS. 01376

**Craig Dalrymple**  
Sales Associate

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

New Energy for New England

**ATLANTIC**  
Groundsource LLC.

**Heat your home with  
geothermal!**

Call the experts! • 413-587-0021  
Dave@AtlanticGroundSource.com  
www.Atlanticgroundsource.com

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



**Shanahan Construction Supply Co.**

COMPLETE MASONRY SUPPLIES

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

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

**EDL** Dealer in Used  
Home Furnishings

SMALL FURNITURE • COLLECTABLES • DECORATIVES

**374 Deerfield Street • Greenfield**

featuring: Lamps Mirrors Chairs Baskets  
Cookery Figurines End Tables

I Make  
Lamps Lite!

Open 7 Days a Week

**GOOD USED USABLES**

# Promoting Equity in the World

## REBECCA FLETCHER JOINS TRANSATLANTIC NETWORK

BY JOE KWIECINSKI

**TURNERS FALLS** - When she graduated from Hampshire College in 2002 with a major in Philosophy of Religion, Rebecca Fletcher wanted — above all — “to be useful to others in the world and to help solve problems.”

Six years later, the intensely focused-yet-amiable Fletcher is well on her way toward that goal, but with an increasingly acute awareness of just how fragile those “solutions” can be.

Fletcher serves as Outreach and Services Coordinator at Equity Trust, Inc. at 177 Avenue A in Turners Falls, a non-profit organization that works to bring about economic justice. Equity Trust aids communities in securing resources to provide affordable housing and preserve working farms that grow food. Both objectives depend on community access to land.

Fletcher recently returned from a week and a half in Ireland as a delegate to the inaugural summit of the Transatlantic Network 2020. Meeting first in Belfast, in Northern Ireland, the conference brought together accomplished people in disparate fields between the ages of 21 and 35. Fletcher was one of 26 Americans chosen to attend the summit, which will meet annually. She was also the only conferee selected from New England.

The Transatlantic Network members began collaboration on “repairing relationship” projects between North America and Europe. During the next 12 years, participants will be working on yet-to-be-defined undertakings.

The group includes diplomats, artists, journalists, engineers, and members of non-profits. The summit participants also include the youngest woman of the Welsh assembly, a rocket scientist from NASA, and a Canadian author-playwright.

“It was an exhilarating experience,” said Fletcher, “and a distinct privilege to be there. One of the benefits was the chance to see how other nations view the United States, how they see our capacity to do good or bad. Above all, though, there is a lot of affection for the American people.”

The delegates began by learning about the city of Belfast



DETMOLD PHOTO

*Rebecca Fletcher recently returned from a week and a half in Ireland as the only New England delegate to the Transatlantic Network 2020. Of her visit to Belfast, Fletcher said, “Peace is much more tenuous there than I had imagined.”*

and its current conditions.

“Peace is much more tenuous there than I had imagined,” Fletcher said. “Being there was a very visceral experience. There are so many wounds in the process of being healed.” Fletcher added that 83 huge concrete walls still stand, dividing Protestant and Catholic neighborhoods, erected to keep out incendiaries during the long years of denominational strife known as ‘The Troubles’.

The summit moved on to the Wicklow Mountains, south of

Dublin, in the Republic of Ireland. Here the group divided into five tracks or mini-courses — each participant enrolled in subject matter other than their own area of expertise — including immigration, water conservation, climate change, world peace, and conflict.

“It gave us an opportunity,” said Fletcher, “to study with people who were experts in fields with which we were unfamiliar.”

In addition, the conference members worked in smaller

groups, discussing issues they want to address in the future such as community access to land, poverty, and inequality. All

of the summit members vowed, “to remain in touch on upcoming projects,” Fletcher said.

One of her most enduring impressions of the conference is of the wealth of knowledge other conference members had about America. Many had closely followed our national financial crisis and the intricacies of the U.S. political system. “There was a guy from Kosovo,” Fletcher recalled, “who knew exactly how many members there are in our House of Representatives.”

Four hundred and...

Back at work at Equity Trust in Turners Falls, Fletcher is once again immersed in the daily labor of “promoting equity in the world by changing the way people think about and hold property.” It’s hard work, but somebody’s got to do it.

For more information, call Rebecca Fletcher at 413-863-9038.

**More huge washers than ever!**  
 now sporting:  
**4 TRIPLE-PLUS LOADERS! (3&1/2 loads!)**  
**1 QUINTUPLE LOADER! (5 loads!)**  
 THIRD ST. LAUNDRY  
 plus all our single loaders!  
**Always Hot Dryers!**  
 Suzee's Gear for sale at : [www.suzeesthirdstlaundry.com](http://www.suzeesthirdstlaundry.com)

**97%** of us would want to be called if our teens were at a party where alcohol was served.

From the 2008 survey of Turners Falls High School and Great Falls Middle School parents.

With 206 parents responding!

**Look How Much We Care!**  
 Brought to you by the Gill-Montague Community School Partnership.

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

*Baker Office Supply*

(413)774-2345 | 310 MAIN ST., GREENFIELD | [WWW.BAKEROFFICESUPPLY.COM](http://WWW.BAKEROFFICESUPPLY.COM)

*Jack Nelson*

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

BY CHANCE OR APPOINTMENT.

TELEPHONE 413.863.9299  
 email: [carriagehouse@signedinstone.com](mailto:carriagehouse@signedinstone.com)

65 CANAL STREET • TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

**HOPE & OLIVE**

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

*We serve homegrown, farm-inspired food and drink. Presented simply, using the best ingredients from our neighborhood.*

PHONE 413 774 3150  
 44 HOPE STREET, GREENFIELD

[WWW.HOPEANDOLIVE.COM](http://WWW.HOPEANDOLIVE.COM)



**RIGHTS** from pg 1  
adopt children.

In the week since the election, we spoke with a number of gay and lesbian citizens in our readership area to gauge reaction to these events.

Margo Culley, a former professor of English at UMass, commented on the paradox of an election that seemed on one hand to advance the hope of equality for all Americans, while at the same time snatching away equal rights for gays and lesbians to marry and have families.

Culley said, "It's particularly complicated when you realize that the [African American] voters who voted overwhelmingly for Obama were, it seems, the very same ones who voted against gay marriage in California. So there's a very deep puzzlement there. On the one hand, you'd think African American voters would know first hand the effect of discrimination. On the other hand, church is very important in their lives, and very important in the movement for African American civil rights, yet many black churches oppose gay marriage."

Culley, who served on the Wendell selectboard for nine years, recently attended the christening of her newest grandnephew at her family home in Connecticut. "It was the week Connecticut had just legalized gay marriage. I was just shocked to hear straight from the pulpit a statement against gay marriage. I decided to speak to the priest

after Mass, which is not my usual way.

"I have been in a committed relationship with a woman for 30 years. I told him I had grown up in this town as a Catholic," Culley said. "He knows my family very well. I had gone to a Catholic school right down the road. I thought it was very sad, indeed tragic, to come home and find myself no longer welcome in the church of my youth."

She added, "Churches can be great contradictions: progressive in some areas and slow to move in others. Though a majority of African American voters in California, according to exit polls, supported Proposition 8 banning gay marriage, they alone would not have caused the measure to pass. The Mormon church, conservative evangelical leaders, and Roman Catholic clergy all supported the ban on gay marriage."

She continued, "My own personal history in the African American civil rights movement goes back to the 60s. I was there when people were risking their jobs and sometimes their lives to win the right to vote. I am aware of how foundational the black Church was to organizing the community for civil rights, so it is very saddening to see that perhaps resistance to rights for gay citizens has not achieved popular consensus in some of those same communities."

She concluded, "If we had allowed civil rights for African Americans to be decided by the popular vote, we would never be

where we are today. We needed *Plessy v. Ferguson*; we needed *Brown v. Board of Education*. I'm absolutely suspicious of putting civil rights to a popular vote."

Carol Samuels, an athletic coach in Amherst, took advantage of the opportunity to marry her partner, Norene Pease, less than a month after gay marriage became legal in Massachusetts in May of 2004. When she heard that the voters in California had chosen to take that right away on November 4th, Samuels said she felt, "angry and fortunate, both at once."

"My first cousin just married his partner of many years, out there. I know people it's affecting directly. But you keep putting one foot in front of the other; you keep working. It will be a lifelong struggle for our generation, and it will continue long after we're gone."

Echoing Culley's remark, Samuels said, "The majority shouldn't determine rights for the minority. We've learned over and over again that doesn't work."

She said when she and Pease got married, "I didn't really think it was going to have the impact it did. I thought it was historic; I thought it was good for our health benefits, I thought of the practical side. But once we got married, I found we were embraced by some of our straight neighbors, who congratulated us for what they saw as an achievement, maybe congruent to removing the stain of slavery as has been talked about this week with the election of America's first black president. It gave an opening for neighbors who didn't know how to relate to us, to relate to us as a married couple. And as we were reciting our vows in front of our friends and family, I found that was a really meaningful ceremony. We've referenced some of those vows in the difficult and humorous parts of our relationship since then."

"Some would argue otherwise," Samuels continued, "but Massachusetts didn't implode," when gay couples

were allowed to marry. "I think the state has strengthened."

As for California, "They've



Rudy Renaud

already had lawsuits filed," to overturn the marriage ban. "There are marches being held. People are not going to just lie down for this. Hopefully it will empower people to keep on fighting and working for equality."

Rudy Renaud, a former Turners resident recently relocated to Greenfield, called the passage of Proposition 8 in California, "sad, and it's sad that it's getting glossed over." She was particularly incensed by websites promoting the gay marriage ban that featured photographs of "priests making phone calls," in support of the referendum. "They spent so much time and money to defeat gay marriage, when they've got so many problems in their own house," Renaud said.

As to why a majority of voters continues to support bans on gay marriage, although by dwindling margins, Renaud said, "I think they are scared. A lot of these campaigns are led by fear. The ads the Mormon Church were putting out were very misleading: 'First gay marriage — then they'll be teaching the gay agenda in elementary schools!'"

She said she met James Dobson once, the leader of Focus on Family, and said she came to the conclusion that even evangelicals like Dobson, "know

that what they're saying is wrong. But it's a way to build coalitions through fear, and raise money."

She theorized, "A lot of people who fight so hard against gay civil rights have a deep seated homophobia in themselves, about themselves." She cited a documentary called *License to Kill*, which included the story of a serial killer who targeted gay men in Minneapolis, though he admitted in a prison interview that he himself was gay. She referred to the example of Reverend Ted Haggard, the former president of the National Association of Evangelicals, minister of the 14,000-member New Life Church in Colorado Springs, and a prominent backer of Amendment 43 banning gay marriage in Colorado, who stepped down from his post after revelations he had paid for gay sex on a regular basis.

"One of the things worth noting, is that some folks who wanted to do away with gay marriage in California, they really think that civil unions are the same thing, so why not just have that and make everybody happy?" Renaud pointed to a number of ways in which civil unions are not equivalent to civil marriage, including the ability to

see RIGHTS pg 10



Margo Culley

DETMOLD PHOTO

2ND STREET  
BAKING CO.  
Order NOW for Thanksgiving  
Deadline Sat. Nov. 22  
• Pies  
• Braided Breads  
• Cheese Cake  
Come in and get the list.  
69 2nd St. Turners Falls 863-4455

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

**CREATIVE HAIRCUTTING PERMS & COLORS**  
Men, Women & Children  
**FASTINE'S HAIR CREATIONS**  
You can get there from here!  
**413-863-2022**  
74 PROSPECT STREET TURNERS FALLS

**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

**MONTAGUE THE BOOKMILL**  
413-367-0309  
89 1/2 MAIN ST 603-358-6833  
TURN IT UP!  
ALWAYS BUYING CDs LPs & DVDs  
BRATTLEBORO 2 ELLIOT ST 802-251-6015  
MUSIC & MORE  
NORTHAMPTON 413-282-0072  
5 PLEASANT ST 413-582-1885  
EASTAMPTON 116 PLEASANT ST 413-582-1885  
website: TURNITUP.COM

**HOMESPUN BY ANDY'S**  
320 DEERFIELD ST., GREENFIELD 413-773-3911 WWW.ANDYSORK.COM  
BRAIDED RUGS HOME ACCESSORIES CURTAINS  
COME IN TO SEE OUR EVERYDAY SPECIALS AND ASK US ABOUT "TRY BEFORE YOU BUY"

**Psychotherapy**  
**Ronald Sigmund Meck MA, CAGS, LMHC**  
30 years in practice  
• Traditional Talk Therapy  
• Expressive Arts • Body Psychology  
• Adults, Teens, Children, Couples & Families  
bigsigmund@aol.com  
413-367-9763 413-695-9743

**Greenfield Center School**  
Knowing Children since 1981  
• K-8th Grades  
• Social Justice Focus  
• 2 Teachers per classroom  
• Individualized approach  
• Project-based  
Greenfield, MA \* 413-773-1700 \* www.centerschool.net

**SITE** from page 1

required to produce a list of all Native American burial remains and associated objects under their control or possession, and to follow procedures for returning them to federally recognized tribes that have an established cultural affiliation with the area in which the remains and objects originated.

In the case of items originating near the Great Falls, in and around Gill and Montague, the problem is, "We don't have a place to put them," Harris said, "a place that is safe and appropriate."

Besides Harris, Bettina Washington, tribal historic preservation officer for the Wampanoag tribe of Gayhead

(Aquinnah) and Chuck Green, cultural resource coordinator for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (which received federal recognition last year) attended the meeting in town hall along with Anctil, members of the selectboard, town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, town planner Dan Laroche, and RiverCulture coordinator Lisa Davol.

Harris said the tribes may seek funds to purchase some of the land owned by Anctil at the tip of the peninsula to use as a repatriation site for burial remains and objects, and perhaps also as a site for an inter-tribal council facility to be used for archival research and conference space.

Harris said tribal elders have



Doug Harris

some concerns about the site because the peninsula on which the Indeck plant was located is, to some extent, man made with fill from the excavation of the power canal. Therefore, "There may be arguments within the culture about reburial in a place that is not part of the Earth Mother."

To address these concerns, Harris said the tribes are proposing a novel arrangement, where trucks loaded with soil from Narragansett and Wampanoag tribal lands would travel to Turners Falls and deposit the soil at the end of the peninsula. This admixture of earth from Wampanoag and Narragansett lands would then be used for reburial of repatriated remains from the Great Falls area, if the proposal is agreed to by all parties and sufficient funding can be found.

Anctil, who hopes to develop a film and video production facility and school at the former Strathmore Mill complex, just west of the former Indeck site, seemed positive about the idea of establishing an intertribal

council center and repatriation site on the adjacent land. "I would picture a repatriation site as a calm, quiet, serene space," said Anctil, who took the tribal representatives on a tour of the former Indeck site following the meeting.

Selectboard chair Allen Ross, who attended a conference in Nashville, Tennessee in September as a guest of the United Southern and Eastern Tribes, welcomed the tribal representatives to Montague last week, saying he looked forward to finding ways for "the tribes and the town to work together to enhance our relationship, in terms of understanding."

**RIGHTS** from pg 9

have your partner recognized under the Family Medical Leave Act, the right to visit your partner in the hospital, and the ability to gain social security benefits if your partner dies.

"I wish there was a better way to educate folks," about the differences, she said.

Renaud is a union organizer for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. She said union members can have same sex couple benefits clearly spelled out in contract negotiations, "But very few people are in unions anymore."

Carrie Petrik, a geology

recognized."

Even with the passage of Proposition 8, Petrik said, "We are planning on getting married this summer, before we move."

She said, "The whole election for me has been a double-edged sword. Partly, it's this symbolic moment of our country moving forward from its deeply entrenched racial roots, but at the same time a huge voice in this country yelled out that they do not want to see gay people get married. So that really asked us to question, 'What does it mean that our right to be married can be denied to us by the majority?'"

Petrik said, "In terms of this



Jennica Huff (left) and Carrie Petrik

student at UMass, lives in Wendell with her partner, Jennica Huff. She had this to say about the passage of Proposition 8.

"It made me disappointed for the state of California. I'm trying to go to graduate school in geology; and one that I am looking at is the University of California at Riverside." After the California Supreme Court decision legalizing gay marriage in May of this year, Petrik said, "It felt wonderful that my partner and I could get married and move to a state where our marriage would still be

being a struggle that homosexual couples face as opposed to heterosexual couples, it's all part of the deal. There are all kinds of things you have to deal with. The main thing is not to take them out on the person you love, but to use them instead as motivational factors in bringing about change."

She concluded, "It took 50 years since African Americans gained the right to vote before we elected a black president. I'm not willing to wait 50 years for my civil rights," Petrik said.

see **RIGHTS** pg 11

## A Regional Vision for Preservation Tourism

BY DAVID DETMOLD

**GREAT FALLS** - At the November 5th meeting between representatives of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead (Aquinnah), the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, the Narragansett Indian Tribe and officials of the town of Montague, Doug Harris, deputy historic preservation officer for the Narragansetts, expounded on a vision for the region he has described before. The tribes are interested in developing the area around Great Falls as a destination point for 'preservation tourism,' and would like to see the protection of sites considered sacred to Native Americans, cultural education, and historical tours all become part of an approach that could bring federal assistance and economic development to Montague, Harris said.

Harris said a trail system still exists from early days around the Falls, leading up to the land preserved on the Greenfield side of the river by the Friends of Wissatinnewag, as do inter-related stone sites in a 16-mile radius of the Turners Falls airport, where a stone formation considered sacred by the tribes is at the center of a dispute with the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Register for Historic Preservation over the planned runway expansion.

"This area is laden with pre-contact history. From the tribal side, it is under-explored," said Harris.

He added, "We are afraid of tourism to sacred sites. But if tourism becomes a mechanism of education and respect, hopefully it can be a mechanism for preserving and protecting what we need to protect."

"We're looking for a way to do this that is mutually beneficial. There is plenty of money out there," Harris continued, citing the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities as two possible sources of funds to develop a preservation tourism model in Turners Falls. "We're right on time with this partnership. We are in an area that is begging to be understood, and there is money to help us with that process."

Archeologists and tribal oral historians agree that the area around the Great Falls is one of the oldest continuously utilized areas in what is now known as New England, with artifacts dating back 10,000 - 12,000 years. Harris said, in pre-contact days, the local Pocumtuck tribe "welcomed their relatives" from other tribes to share in the resource rich area during the season when salmon and shad ran on the river, and during harvest time, since the fertile flats along the riverbanks were ideal for growing corn.

Around 1200, the Iroquois pushed into the region from the west, seeking corn and wampum, coming into contact with and bringing conflict with

the local tribes. Then, beginning in the late 1400s, Native Americans in this area were heavily afflicted by infectious diseases that spread from the fishing fleets following John Cabot and other early explorers to North America. These diseases - ranging from the common cold to smallpox -- were fatal to tribal people who had no immunities to them, Harris said.

The area around the falls is also rich in post-contact Native history, in particular with battle sites from Metacom's Rebellion, or King Phillip's War, in the 1670s, which Harris called "the most devastating war America has ever had... by percentage of the population," killed during the conflict.

Chuck Green, a member of the Mashpee selectboard — and as a representative of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe that first welcomed the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock and came to their relief at the 'first Thanksgiving' — told those in attendance at the November 5th meeting not to focus on the massacre that occurred at the Falls (on May 18th, 1676 when a party of settlers under the command of Captain William Turner surprised and overwhelmed a Native encampment there). "You live in a place where people traveled through and interacted. This was a wealthy region. The rivers, the growing land, the intersection of culture, that's what's important."

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

**Renaissance Builders**

Stephen Greenwald

PO Box 272  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
413/863-8316  
Fax 413/863-9712  
[www.renbuild.net](http://www.renbuild.net)

**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](mailto:bedson1@comcast.net)

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

"My Office is Always Open to You!"

**J&M HOME IMPROVEMENT**

**VINYL SIDING - VINYL WINDOWS**

**JIMMY**  
(413) 592 0169  
CELL: (413) 636 3071

**LIC#**  
153335

**RIGHTS** from page 10

Rick Dodge, an antique dealer in Montague Center, who raised two children with his partner after the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled in favor of the rights of gay couples to adopt in 1993, also spoke about the passage of Proposition 8.

“California certainly was a big deal, because the religious right had it all planned to stop [gay marriage] in California. They knew they couldn’t stop it in Massachusetts, after a few years. In Massachusetts, changes to the state constitution have to be filtered through the legislature, and they fended it off while people had three years to get used to gay marriage. In California you can vote for a change to the state constitution outright.”

Dodge said now, in the aftermath of the passage of Proposition 8, “It’s a huge mess. What are they going to do with all those 18,000 couples that married in California since June? A lot of people came from other states to get married there. Jerry Brown, the California attorney general, says he going to fight to keep those marriages legal.”

Dodge talked about Arkansas banning unmarried couples from adopting, having previously banned gay marriage by referendum in 2004. “It’s vindictive against the kids who need homes, and against unmarried couples or

unmarried single people who just want to look after kids. But it was all aimed at gay people.”

[An article in Wednesday’s *New York Times* states, “Right now, there are 3,700 other children across Arkansas in state custody; 1,000 of them are available for adoption. The overwhelming majority of these children have been abused, neglected, or abandoned by their heterosexual parents. Even before the law passed, the state estimated that it had only about a quarter of the foster parents it needed.”]

Petrik also spoke about the Arkansas referendum, which she called “the awful proposition that single parents are not to be allowed to adopt or foster children, specifically directed at homosexual couples. That the prejudice could be so deep that they want to take it out on children just amazes me. That really feels vindictive to me.”

Dodge spoke about the Florida referendum. “In Florida, they passed the constitutional amendment to define marriage as between one man and one woman, and also to prohibit any type of civil unions from being formed in the future, and domestic benefits for cohabiting single couples whether they are gay or straight.”

Dodge said the anti-gay referenda, “definitely sent a message to families that it is not OK to

love one another in a committed relationship if you’re a same sex couple. It sends the message that the majority can be very cruel. There were a lot of negative ads out there.”

Paul Sheren, of Montague Center, an e-Health business analyst for Bay State Health, said, “The most deplorable thing about the California vote is that it actually takes away rights that had been established. I can’t recall in American history where civil rights have been removed before. That’s a real blot on our history.”

Sheren and his partner of 25 years, Miguel Romero, became the first same sex couple to marry in Montague, six months after the state supreme court paved the



Paul Sheren

way for gay marriage in November of 2003. Sheren and Romero wed in a small private ceremony at their Montague Center home on June 4th, 2004.

Speaking of the state of matrimony, Sheren said, “We enjoy it

It’s symbolic of our commitment to each other.” He added, “Nobody has been harmed by the thousands of weddings that have taken place in California since the spring. Or in Massachusetts. It should be a non-issue by this time.”

Sheren called the move by different states to block gay marriage and equal rights for gay citizens, “the last stand of the religious right. They feel angry and powerless at the way things are moving. Just today, we heard that Connecticut had cleared the way for gay marriage, following the Connecticut supreme court’s decision [one month ago legalizing same sex unions]. And with New York recognizing marriages performed in other jurisdictions, the groundswell is happening.”

With a touch of irony, he took up the argument of the other side. “If the institution of marriage really needs protection, then people who don’t live up to their contract and commit adultery should pay civil fines. Everyone should be entitled to one mistake, but there should be a limit on the number of times people get divorced. Fine people for abusing the system, and raise some needed revenues for struggling local economies.”

More seriously, Sheren said, “It’s really not difficult to make it a win/win situation, to make people understand there is a differ-

ence between a civil marriage and a religious marriage. I accept the fact that in some people’s view of religion, marriage is between one man and one woman.” But civil marriage need not be bound by religious strictures, Sheren argued.

And if churches are behind the effort to enact state bans on gay marriage, Sheren said, “The government has a responsibility to deprive them of their tax-free status.”

He took a long view of the progress of equal rights for gay citizens. “Eventually, a new generation will be much more accepting of an open definition of marriage.”

And he took a broader view as well. “Is same sex marriage more important than health care or education or ending the war? It is not. And it should not factor in the same ways as these other issues. But on the other side, they should give up the resistance to gay marriage if we could pull together as a community and provide health care for everyone, and fix the economy, and save the environment. My faith in a person as charismatic and enlightened as Barack Obama is that he will lead us in the direction of hope, for the whole community. If Barack Obama can lead us together toward the goals that are really important, that will be his legacy.”



**We Have this Moment**



Timm Zywna and David Cruz married in Oakland on June 17th

BY DAVID DETMOLD

**OAKLAND, CA** - Timm Zywna, a former resident of Turners Falls now living in Oakland and working as a project manager for the Gap retail chain, talked about the difficult times

gay couples in California find themselves in following the reversal of the state supreme court’s decision this May legalizing gay marriage.

Zywna married his partner, David Cruz, on June 17th, the

first day gay couples could legally marry in California.

“We haven’t found out yet if our certificate is still valid, with the recent passing of Proposition 8. When the amendment kicks in, I don’t think it will nullify our marriage — but we will have to do some research,” Zywna said.

“When we heard the news [about the state supreme court’s decision], we had been together for ten years. We were registered as domestic partners. We talked it over. We wanted to make sure it was the right decision for us.

“About a week later, I contacted our Alameda County clerk

recorder to make a reservation to get married. We decided to go for it because it felt like it was validating our relationship in a way that showed that we were equal to other folks. It was an opportunity we didn’t want to pass up, and we were afraid it would be taken away. We did it for that reason, not because we thought it would solidify our relationship. We knew we would be together no matter what.

“At 5 p.m., on June 17th, Alameda County allowed gay marriage, one day before San Francisco.

We bought suits. It started to sink in the day before: ‘Wow! We’re getting married.’ We invited 10 or 12 friends, and David’s

family, who live locally. They met us at the courthouse. There were people outside handing out flowers to the couples getting married. I thought, ‘This is really exciting!’ People were standing outside with signs saying, ‘We support you.’ There was lot of excitement in the air.

The vows we said were off the top of our head, the things we say to each other every day. It didn’t hit me how momentous the occasion was until it was happening. We exchanged the rings we had given each other when we became domestic partners five years ago.

We said, ‘Regardless of what November brings, we have this moment now.’”

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

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

**Diemand Farm** Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell  
It's time to order your *Fresh Thanksgiving Turkey* and don't forget to visit our store  
Mon-Sat 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sunday 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Call: 978-544-3806

A sumptuous array of silk, heirloom whites, velveteen, rayon, wool & Japanese printed cottons. Vintage-inspired buttons, jewelry & scarves.  
**Delectable Mountain Cloth**  
125 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301  
www.delectablemountain.com  
please visit our website or the store for even more  
**(802) 257-4456**

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

**Applied Dynamics Corporation**  
Electric Motors Controls  
Energy Management  
AC/DC Drives  
Pumps  
Gear Reducers  
Power Distribution  
Sales and Service  
New and Surplus  
Hoists and Cranes  
Full Service Machine Shop  
Lynn Ballint  
Western Mass Regional Sales Manager  
Cell: 413-329-2096

**RISTORANTE Di Paolo**  
**FINE ITALIAN DINING**  
Denise DiPaolo, Owner  
Hilton Dottin, Chef  
TEL 413-863-4441  
FAX 413-863-4421  
166 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
www.ristorantedipaolo.com

**CARE** from page 1

Allen said she has seen, "people with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, food sensitivities and eating disorders." She can use a sliding scale and a lower rate for package (5 to 10 visits) deals. Allen's hours are Mondays, Wednesday afternoons, and Thursdays, plus she can be available to clients on weekends. Reach her at 413-205-6971 or at nutrition4evolution@earthlink.net. Allen maintains a blog at eat2evolve.blogspot.com.

Chiropractor Ellen Mitnowsky works in low-force technique and network spinal analysis. She answered many guests' questions during the course of the afternoon. Mitnowsky's patient Lisa McKenna of Montague Center laughed and said, "She was the first person to relax me enough to straighten me out." McKenna said she's glad Mitnowsky is in the neighborhood now, and plans to continue her visits.

Mitnowsky said, "This is a quiet and pleasant office. Patients come in with pain; I like to find

out their lifestyle, what the stressors are, and help them change conditions at work or at home," that can lead to discomfort. "I can refer them now to yoga or nutrition downstairs," Mitnowsky said, adding that all four of the healers at MIH are "like-minded."

Mitnowsky accepts all major health insurance, with Mass Health and Boston Medical. She has flexible hours and can be reached at 413-772-0612.

Nancy Paglia is a multi-talented Kripalu Yoga instructor and Swedish massage therapist. She has her Master's degree in Health Education and is nationally certified in Kripalu Yoga and massage.

Paglia also teaches a yoga class at the Montague fire department on Monday nights. She has a new class starting on November 10th. She has also worked at Leisure Services and Supplemental Education in Amherst for the last 20 years. She has conducted workplace wellness programs for companies such as Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Paglia offered a "\$10 off a one

hour massage" coupon to potential clients as they walked into her softly lit, straw matted room.

"Yoga mats are available," Paglia noted. "Clients don't have to bring their own." She has been teaching yoga classes for the last eleven years with the same five clients at 432 Greenfield Road.

One of her clients, Janet Teng, 73, of Amherst, visited and said proudly, "Yoga helps with balance and keeps joints supple for my age."

She has a DVD: "Yoga with Nancy Paglia," available and a CD: "Peaceful Reflections: Guided Relaxation for Health and Well-being."

Paglia feels, "I'm helping [clients] stay sane in an insane world. People are thinking of their priorities in the tough economy. Health is an investment."

Paglia also offers sliding scale fees; her hours vary by appointment. She can be reached at 413-548-9015.

Dr. Maiella of Valley Naturopathic Family Medicine, prefers to be called Emily. She maintains a dual practice here

and in Brattleboro.

Her grandfather, Anthony Maiella, a recently retired doctor, donated his wooden bed, cupboard and desk for his granddaughter to use. Maiella proudly displayed his picture along with his certificate.

When asked what being a Naturopathic Doctor (N.D) entails, she said, "I have the same school training in pathology in medicine as a doctor. Then, an N.D. focuses on why there is disease, and finds ways to boost the immune system with herbs, to treat the disease so it does not happen again."

Her pharmaceutical grade vitamins, such as, "Hot Flash Formula," by Herbal Vitality and "Liquid Serenity" by Wise Woman Herbals were on display at the open house. Maiella happily stated, "I am not one to load people up on vitamins. It's not cost effective, and some people don't like to take them. I like people to use diet versus supplements."

"If readers are frustrated with health care, with their health, then come to see us," Maiella said.

She said she wants, "to connect with people on the level they need to be connected with. I have a mainstream practice with a holistic path. I am not a 'holier than thou' doctor."

"The Latin word for doctor is *docere*, which means 'teacher,' explained Maiella. "I want my patients to walk away with knowledge."

Her hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays by appointment. She can be reached at 413-230-4462 or at drmaiella@gmail.com. She has a web page at www.valleynaturopathic.com too.

MIH offered a \$100 raffle prize to open house guests for the nearby Night Kitchen, and the winner was Michelle Gregory of Greenfield. (All four health care professionals agreed if new clients mentioned this article, they could receive a 20% discount.)

Here is another Latin phrase: *Tolle Totum*. That means, 'Treat the Whole Person'. Visit and find out the benefits of this natural approach for yourself, with four ways to health under one roof.



**VEP** from 1

screwed in.

The seasoned actors use facial expression and physicality to play up the goofs, and these snafus add more hilarity to the fun and frolic of this boisterous romp.

Pauline Productions was founded by Jeannine Haas in

2006 as a vehicle to foster strong roles for women, both on stage and behind the scenes. Said Haas, "I know what kind of material I want to bring alive — that will challenge, delight, disturb, affirm, or inspire audiences." And with a play full of vampires, ghosts, mummies, and werewolves, it

seems she's done all of the above.

The production will also lend its support to the 'Share the Warmth' program, a new community outreach effort working with Ashfield residents in a variety of ways to help them keep warm this winter.

The play's author, American actor, director, and playwright Charles Ludlam (1943-1987), got his degree in dramatic literature from Hofstra University in 1964. Ludlam established the Ridiculous Theatre Company in New York. He wrote pastiches of Gothic novels and became most noted for *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. A connoisseur of camp, Ludlam wanted to ensure cross-dressing in the show. Therefore, rights to perform the play include a stipulation that the actors must be the same gender. *The Mystery of Irma Vep* is based

around the idea of nineteenth century fictional publications known as the Penny Dreadful.

For those who haven't heard of a Penny Dreadful, they were British Victorian-era serial magazines of lurid tales that would appear in parts over a number of weeks, each part costing one penny. Targeting an audience of working-class adolescents, they offered stories of famous criminals, reprints or rewrites of Gothic thrillers, and stories of highwaymen as popular heroes. One of the most famous Penny Dreadful was *The String of Pearls: A Romance*, which introduced the character of Sweeney Todd. Eventually the Penny Dreadful morphed into comic magazines.

Wouldn't you like to have a hot toddy in the drawing room by the fire at Mandecrest manor? Discover a little mystery, mayhem, and

madness on a trip back in time to the howling moors of old England and enjoy a little fright — and a lot of fun. You'll be glad you did.

The show runs again this Friday and Saturday nights, November 14th and 15th at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, November 16th, at 2:00 p.m., at the wheelchair accessible First Congregational Church, 429 Main Street in Ashfield. Tickets are \$18 general, \$16 for students and seniors. More funny than scary, the show is touted as "largely acceptable for younger audiences;" however, it may be a bit much for the under-ten crowd.

For reservations, call 413-268-3850, or email PaulineProd@aol.com. Tickets are also available at the door. For more about Pauline Productions visit their website: www.PaulineLive.com.

Enjoy the show!



**WE HAVE IT ALL FOR YOU**  
**TRACTORS FOR FARM, HOME & CONSTRUCTION**  
 We Carry John Deere and Kubota Tractors, Stihl Chain Saws, Blowers, Tractor Mowers, Ariens Snow Blowers.  
 Also: ● Wood Chippers ● Log Splitters ● Winches ● Fire Proof Safes ● Materials Handling Equipment

**SIRUM EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.**  
 310 FEDERAL STREET RTE. 63 MONTAGUE  
 SERVING THE AREA FOR OVER 46 YEARS  
**413-367-2481**

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

**Antique Clocks**  
 Bought & Sold

**BOB PACY**  
 WILL TRAVEL

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

NAWCC No. 0101315  
 STONEHAM, MA 02180

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

Cooling System Specialist

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

**COUTURE BROS.**  
 Since 1910  
 Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor - Retailer

CALIFORNIA BRAND PAINTS - INDUSTRIAL COATINGS  
 PAINTS - STAINS - SUNDRIES - WALLPAPER - BRUSHES & ROLLERS  
 COMPUTER COLOR MATCHING - SANDBLASTING MEDIA - GLASS  
 ARTIST SUPPLIES - CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING/MATTING & MORE

187 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346  
 Celebrating our 98th Anniversary!

**GREENFIELD IMPORTED CAR SALES**  
 Formerly LaBelle & Leitner

AUDI • VW • VOLVO • BMW  
 Large selection of diesel and all-wheel drive vehicles

Locally Owned for 27 Years

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

**A Custom Touch**  
 Interior/ Exterior Painting & Home Repairs

Anthony C. Tucker: 863-4833  
 70 Oakman Street, Turners Falls

**Tognarelli**  
 HEATING & COOLING

123 Avenue A • Turners Falls MA 01376

Specializing in oil heating alternatives  
 Pellet Stoves • Gas Conversion Burners  
 Financing Available

**YORK** 413-863-2295 **SPACEPAK**  
 Central Air - Anywhere



JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - [Part two of a three-part series on the PSA test for prostate cancer.]

Cancer of the prostate is one of the most common types of cancer among American men. More than 6 in 10 cases of prostate cancer cases occur in men 65 and older. Treatment for prostate cancer works best when the disease is found early.

Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) is a protein produced by the cells of the prostate gland. The PSA test measures the level of this protein in the blood. It can be detected at a low level in the blood of all adult men.

A fundamental problem with the PSA test is that, while elevated

levels can indicate the presence of cancer, they can also be caused by other problems such as benign enlargement of the prostate that comes with age, infection, inflammation and seemingly trivial events such as ejaculation and a bowel movement.

Another major problem with the PSA test is defining what is "abnormal." Older men usually have higher PSA measurements than younger men. African-Americans normally have slightly higher values than whites.

PSA test results are usually reported as nanograms of PSA per milliliter (ng/mL) of blood. In the past, most doctors considered PSA values below 4.0 ng/mL as normal. However, recent research found prostate cancer in men with PSA levels below 4.0 ng/mL

Some researchers have suggested lowering the PSA cutoff

levels. For example, a number of studies have used cutoff levels of 2.5 or 3.0 ng/mL instead of 4.0 ng/mL.

Many doctors are now using the following ranges with some variation: 0 to 2.5 ng/mL is low, 2.6 to 10 ng/mL is slightly to moderately elevated, 10 to 19.9 ng/mL is moderately elevated, and 20 ng/mL or more is significantly elevated.

Because age is an important factor in increasing PSA levels, some doctors use age-adjusted PSA levels to determine when diagnostic tests are needed. When age-adjusted PSA levels are used, a different PSA level is defined as normal for each 10-year age group.

Doctors who use age-adjusted

levels usually suggest that men younger than age 50 should have a PSA level below 2.4 ng/mL, while a PSA level up to 6.5 ng/mL would be considered normal for men in their 70s. Doctors do not agree about the accuracy and usefulness of age-adjusted PSA levels.

But there's even more to make you nuts when you're evaluating your PSA.

PSA is either free or attached to a protein molecule. If you have a benign prostate condition, there is more free PSA. Cancer produces more of the attached form. A free PSA test that indicates prostate cancer can lead to more testing, such as a biopsy.

PSA velocity is the change in PSA levels over time. A sharp

rise in the PSA level may indicate a fast-growing cancer.

The relationship of the PSA level to prostate size is PSA density. An elevated PSA in a man with a very large prostate is not as alarming as a high PSA reading in someone with a small prostate.

Another problem with PSA are false test results.

If you have an elevated PSA but no cancer, you get what is called a false positive. This type of result can lead to medical procedures, anxiety, health risks and expense. Most men with an elevated PSA don't have cancer.

When you have prostate cancer and your PSA test comes back in the normal range, you get a false negative. Most prostate cancers are slow-growing; they can be around for many years before they cause symptoms.

[To be continued next week.]

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

GMRSD from page 1

\$7,290,677 and the town of Gill would pay an assessment of \$1,388,700, roughly.

According to Roche, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education commissioner's office has sent a letter to the district stipulating a budget increase for the GMRSD of 3.5% for '09, with a total budget of \$16,747,233. Roche said the state would require a budget of this amount should the voters of the member towns fail to agree on a final figure with the schools by December 1st, at which point the DESE is required by statute

to take over the school district and impose a budget. In coming to an agreement on a lower figure at the Wednesday meeting, the school committee hopes to head off the prospect of a state takeover.

A meeting will be held Thursday, November 13th with town officials and school committee members at town hall at 6:30 p.m., to go over the newly approved school committee numbers. The school committee members expressed their strong hope that all registered voters in Gill and Montague would attend the district meeting on Tuesday to approve the budget.

MCTV PROGRAM SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 14TH THROUGH 20TH. Table listing TV programs and times for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

CARSENSE AUTOMOTIVE. Your Automotive Answer. Check Engine Light on? We Can Help! TELE: (413) 772-8862 -- CELL: (413) 512-0413. 409 DEERFIELD STREET • GREENFIELD

Sharon Cottrell, Property Manager. HallKeen Real Estate Management and Investment. Power Town Apartments. 152 Avenue A, P.O. Box 48, Turners Falls, MA 01376. Tel: 413.863.9433. TTY: 800.439.0183. Email: hkptown@verizon.net

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. MAIN OFFICE 773-9552. 10 Mill Street, Greenfield, MA. 'The perfect remembrance'

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

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

Locally owned since 1941. FOSTER'S SUPER MARKET. Full service market. Fresh Fish from the Boston market. Beer & Wine. 70 Allen Street Greenfield, MA. 413-773-1100. FAX 413-773-1105

Ann Forslund REALTOR®. Prudential Prime Properties. 3.5 East Main Street, Orange, MA 01364. Bus: 978-544-9000 Fax: 978-544-9099. Cell: 413-422-8542 www.prudentialorange.com. serving Franklin County & North Quabbin areas. Offering A Fresh Start for Home and Life.

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Newest IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE. UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD. 774-7775. VARIETY OF SIZES PLENTY AVAILABLE. Easy in-town location. Secure 24-hour access. OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA. Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors and Artists encouraged to inquire

413-863-2888. Carol's Beauty Nook. 29 G Street, Turners Falls. Open Tue, Thurs, Fri. Ann Bagnell & Carol Demers

# JEP'S PLACE: Part XCVIII

## Chickens



**BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH GILL** - Pa felt stronger after his heart attack, but the company doctor said Pa didn't pass his physical exam and couldn't go back to work at the paper mill just yet.

I don't know if the temporarily diminished blood supply affected Pa's judgment, but he got the great idea of raising chickens after looking through some brightly colored seed catalogues that also featured mail order chicks. He immediately sent off for a thousand chicks.

A few weeks later, the

mailman drove into the yard, causing quite a stir, because he usually left mail up at the mail box a quarter mile away and only delivered important mail like registered letters and packages to the door. His car was stuffed to the ceiling with cardboard cartons carrying baby chicks. Fluffy yellow heads stuck out of half-inch round portholes, peeping shrilly like excited tourists arriving on the Queen Mary. It was early spring and very cold, so we brought them into the house.

The brooder house wasn't quite ready yet, so Pa built a big box on stilts, about six feet wide and eight feet long. It was about four feet high and just the right height for viewing the little golden chicks. Pa cut a hole in the middle of this contraption and fastened an inverted white enameled milk pail to the floor of it. A tall kerosene lamp placed under the pail provided heat for

our fluffy guests.

We were fascinated by the noisy chicks, peeping shrilly, and watched them for hours. My mother was less than enthusiastic about turning her living room into a chicken coop, and their stay was short lived. One more day of peeping, she said, and she'd take refuge in the brooder house herself. To our dismay, the chicks were transferred to the brooder house in their ocean liner boxes.

The chicks grew fast — all except for the runts. Big chicks pecked the runts when they tried to feed and the runts did not grow. They came dashing out of hiding, screeching and flapping their wings as they ran the gauntlet of larger chicks pecking them. They would peck a few quick bites of feed while more chicks gathered to peck them unmercifully. They fell farther and farther behind, until they were dwarfed by the larger ones, growing thinner and weaker until we finally found them pecked to

death, one by one.

Pa began wringing the necks of the runts, even those just a little behind in growth. I begged him to stop.

"If the runts were kept apart from the others and could get enough to eat, I know they'd grow big and strong."

I didn't think ahead to the time they matured. I don't know what I thought would become of them if they had grown big and strong — I just wanted to save them.

"All right, I'll let you do that; it will teach you a good lesson," Pa said.

I segregated the runts in a big dog house, and made them a fenced area, but they never did catch up.

One evening I checked on my charges, huddled together for the night in their haven, where I'd fed, named, and kept my friends safe from all harm. There was Gimpy who had a bad leg, Whitey who had a few white wing feathers, but never matured

fully out of the down stage, and the others, all named for their characteristics or imperfections.

Pa came to the enclosure. I didn't know what he was going to do, but I feared the worst.

"See? They're still runts, like I told you. They'll never amount to anything; just eat feed for nothing."

With that, he wrung their necks, every one. I was devastated.

The other pullets continued to grow. About half of them turned out to be roosters. We sold those as broilers, leaving the others for egg production.

Production would have been great if we'd wanted to produce manure. By the middle of summer, the farm seemed in danger of being paved over with the stinking stuff. Ma urged Pa to fence the chickens as far away from the house as possible. He didn't need much urging and fenced them way out by the woods.

— Continued Next Week

## TFHS Generosity Shown, Even During Trying Times

**BY JOSHUA GAMMON**  
**TURNERS FALLS** - November at Turners Falls High School means preparing for the Turkey Day Rally and bonfire; it means the traditional Turkey Day football game; and it means getting ready to Adopt-a-Family.

For many years now, under coordination with the Student Council, the high school has participated in the Adopt-a-Family program of Franklin County. Under the program, area organizations adopt an anonymous family, and then proceed to raise both funds and gifts for the family in time for Christmas. Given a description of each adopted family - its needs and desires - students gather everything from shoes to fit a little girl, to a toy truck for a young boy, to toiletries and canned goods. The week before Christmas, all presents are taken to a central location and distributed by the Adopt-a-Family organization to the adopted families.

Last year, the students

adopted two families. This year, the student council asked the student body what it thought about a plan to adopt an unprecedented four families. An astounding majority of students said they wanted to help even more families than ever before.

"Times are tough right now," said student council member Katie Kuklewicz, "but that only means that there are more families in need."

This year the student council decided to involve the entire community by raising money, collecting food, or buying gifts for the families. They decided not only to collect at school, but to also volunteer shifts at local grocery stores asking for canned goods and anything else community members can spare for the cause.

A sound majority of the students have shown a clear desire to embrace this campaign by volunteering their time and

donating items.

Making this Christmas memorable for four families is the ultimate goal of this campaign, but all agree, those involved in the process will remember helping these families forever.



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

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

**LIVING ROOM YOGA WORKSHOPS:** Solstice Yoga, December 4th & 11th. Yoga for Creativity, December 6th. Serene home studio in Montague. Details: 413-367-2658

**www.livingroomyoga.net.**

**HOBBY SHOP** - Inventory for sale: Bird Houses, Whirly Birds, Jelly Cabinets, Towel Holders, Quartz Clocks, Napkin Holders. 7 Meadow Drive, Riverside, Gill. Call: Charles Shebell, 413-863-2465

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

---

**CLASSIFIEDS: \$6 FOR 20 WORDS (15 cts./extra word)**  
**RUN SAME AD TWICE, THIRD WEEK FREE**  
**MONTAGUE REPORTER 58 FOURTH STREET TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376**

.15 for each additional word			

---


**Reporter Subscribers!**

Any paid subscriber to the *Montague Reporter* may have one free classified ad in 2008, up to 20 words. Contact us at 413-863-8666 or reporter@Montaguema.net (Pay for a second week, get a third week free!)



**Robert J. Sagor, D.V.M.**  
18 French King Highway  
Greenfield  
Office Hours by Appointment  
**(413) 774-9919**

Patrick Smith  
HIC #134741  
Insured  
Montague, MA 01351




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

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

**SALON 107**  
\$7.00 cuts

To all Disabled Veterans and Senior Citizens! We are willing to travel to the homes of Elderly who can no longer get out much. (Now hiring Massage Therapists & Yoga /Aerobic Instructors)



114 Wells Street  
Greenfield, MA 01301  
772-0284  
Debra Mathey  
Kari Ann Master Barber  
Pam Class One Hairdresser



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



SILVERADO

**DOLAN & DOLAN**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

**Good Dirt Pottery Studio**

Clay is Good Dirt

38 Main Street, Montague  
413-367-0155  
www.gooddirtpottery.com

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13th**  
Deja Brew, Wendell: *Free Range*, Betsy, Mark & Bruce rock with 60's & 70's oldie cover tunes, 10 p.m.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Bok Choy*-jazz, \$3 cover, 9:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH**  
Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center present *Dodging the Bow* at the Great Falls Coffeehouse, Friday, November 14, 7 p.m. A Celtic acoustic trio performing a repertoire of traditional and contemporary songs from Ireland, Scotland, and England and folksongs from North America. Cellist Mark Fraser, pianist Daphne Bye, and Jennie McAvoy on guitar. Doors open 6:30 p.m. - coffee & homemade baked goods. Sliding scale donation \$6 - \$12, free for children.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Dance or Die, electro-indie djs. \$3 cover, 9:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Evenspeak*, classic & Southern rock, 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Warped Americana*: Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Joe Fitzpatric, 9 to 11p.m.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15th**  
Fete Noel: Holiday Fair Montague Congregation Church, Montague Center: baked goods, raffles, luncheon, Christmas Nook. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Benefits local and worldwide mission programs such as Western Mass Food Bank, Heifer Project.

Wendell Full Moon Coffee House, Wendell: *Reggae Alchemystics* with *Loose Caboose* opening. Benefit for the Friends of Wendell. Doors open 7 p.m. Open Mic 7:30 to 8 p.m.. Decadently Delicious Dessert-O-Rama

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

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

on sale. Coffee by Deans Beans! Admission \$6 to \$12. All ages! [www.wendellfullmoon.org](http://www.wendellfullmoon.org).

Greenfield Community College Chorus: *Handel and Haydn* Concert. The GCC Chorus is made up of students, faculty, and community members. 7:30 p.m. at Sloan Theater, GCC main campus. Info: (413) 775-1171.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rockit Queer*, dj dance party! \$3, 9:30 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *John Sheldon & Blue Streak*, come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Karaoke Night with TNT Productions. Try out your vocal skills! 9 to 11 p.m.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16th**  
Winterize Windows Workday. Think "WWW" stands for World Wide Web? NO! It stands for Winterize Windows Work-day. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., friends of the Montague Grange meet at the hall to complete the work on the window frames. We have all the tools; just bring some good cheer!

Slate Roof poets Janet MacFadyen and Janine Roberts join guest photographer Stephen Schmidt for a reading/slide show at 2 p.m. at the Leverett Library, Leverett. Leverett resident Janine Roberts reads from *The Body Alters*, Janet MacFadyen and Stephen Schmidt - both of Shutesbury - present a multi-media fusion of poems and nature photography entitled *Under the Influence of Water*. Free, open to the public, and wheelchair accessible.

*Scandinavian Dance* at The Montague Grange, Montague Center, 3 to 6 p.m. Telemark (Norway) Gangar, for Hardanger Fiddle. No Partner necessary. Dancers with all levels of experience are welcome. \$8 donation, (413) 253-0525.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17th**  
Evening Sing-A-Long at the Montague Center Library, 6:30 p.m. The Children's Librarian, Linda Hickman, plays guitar and banjo and performs a variety of children's music. The program is designed for children of any age and their families. More info, call the Carnegie Library 863-3214 during the week, or the Montague Center Library, 367-2852, on Monday evenings.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19th**  
Route 63 Roadhouse: *Reprobates*, rockin blues, 7 - 10 p.m., no cover.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Quizmastah Chad's Quiznite Quiz, \$3 to play.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20th**  
Deja Brew, Wendell: Wailin'



*The Nutcracker at Symphony Hall, Springfield at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, November 21st at 7:30 p.m. Featuring spectacular sets and beautifully costumed Russian dancers, Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker is an annual treat for the whole family. Whimsical and imaginative storytelling blends with the richness of Russian classical dance. [www.nutcracker.com](http://www.nutcracker.com)*

Dave Robinson, Tommy Filault & Co. Blues based roots music, 8 - 10 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse: Open Mic hosted by Peter Kim & Jimmy Arnold, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., no cover.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st**  
A Bouquet of Music Healing Arts Concert Series featuring Mohawk Trail Regional High School Select Chorus under direction of Nick Waynelovich. Held in the main lobby or in the Ethel Lemay Healing Arts Garden (weather permitting) At Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield. Noon-12:45 pm. (413) 773-2573

Route 63 Roadhouse: FAT, legendary valley band back to rock out the Roadhouse, 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Josh Levangie*, country folk guitar, Johnny Cash favorites, 9 to 11 p.m.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: DJ Andujar's Birthday Bash, \$3 cover.

Moscow Ballet performs its *Great Russian Nutcracker* at Symphony Hall, Springfield, 7:30 p.m. [www.nutcracker.com](http://www.nutcracker.com), (413) 788-7033.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd**  
*Moose Sign Field Walk*. Spend an afternoon immersed in prime moose habitat in eastern Franklin County searching for sign such as tracks, scat, antler rubs, and feeding sites. Discussion of the lives of moose and opportunities and challenges they face. Directions to our meeting place will be emailed to registered participants. Program Co-sponsored by Northfield Mountain and MassAudubon's Arcadia

Sanctuary. 1 to 4 p.m. For ages 12 & up, \$10, pre-register, (800) 859-2960.

At The Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Critters Are Doing What?* 11 to 12 p.m. What are the critters doing at this time of year? A program for the whole family oriented to learning survival strategies of animals as they prepare for the hard cold winter ahead. (413) 863-3221.

Christmas Bazaar: Featuring raffles, food, crafts and gifts. Held at the Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, 9 to 1 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Miller's Falls: *Heroes*, classic & current rock & roll covers, 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Eric Love*, Eric's smooth voice and mellow style singing favorite 60's & 70's covers, 9 - 11 p.m.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Clayton Sabine Band*, rock, 9:30 p.m. \$3 cover.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd & 23rd**  
*Seeds of Solidarity* at the Red Apple Farm Harvest Festival, Phillipston. 6th Annual Thanksgiving Harvest Festival! Celebrating, Sharing, Community. Come share and taste New England's bounty. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$2/person (1/2 off with non-perishable food donation) [www.redapplefarm.com](http://www.redapplefarm.com).

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23th**  
At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Marisol Celestia & Allison O'Brien, singer songwriters, \$3 cover.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26th**  
Route 63 Roadhouse, Miller's Falls: *Heroes*, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29th**  
The Shea Theater, Turner's Falls: The Hampstead Stage Company's production of C.S. Lewis' popular classic *Prince Caspian*. Fast moving stage play finds the four siblings, Lucy, Edmund, Peter, and Susan, pulled back into the land of Narnia, where a thousand years have passed since they last visited. \$5, 2 p.m. show. Tickets: 863-228, [www.theshea.org](http://www.theshea.org).

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30th**  
Family Dance, Montague Grange, Montague Center, 4 to 6 p.m. Family-style contra dancing with caller Kathy Torrey and live music from traditional contradance band *Shingle the Roof*. Simple contras, circle dances, and singing games with easy instruction for beginners of all ages, especially those with little feet. \$4/person or \$10-15/family, includes a light snack. Always on the last Sunday of each month til April. Info (413) 367-9608, [www.MontagueMA.net/Montague\\_Gränge](http://www.MontagueMA.net/Montague_Gränge)

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

**ONGOING**  
At the Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Winning entries of the Massachusetts Junior Duck Stamp competition on display through December 13th.

Select Photographs: 1956 thru 2005 by photographer Paul Capinigro on display in Gallery 52 & 56 at the Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, Turners Falls. At Gallery 85: Lois Greenfield - *Celestial Bodies, Infernal Souls*. Exhibits through December 14th.

**GREENFIELD GARDEN CINEMAS**  
Main St. Greenfield, MA 413-774-4881  
[www.gardencinemas.net](http://www.gardencinemas.net)  
Showtimes for Fri, November 14th - Thurs, November 20th

- 1. ROLE MODELS**  
DAILY 6:30 9:00 R  
FRI, SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00
- 2. MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA**  
DAILY 6:30 9:00 PG DTS sound  
FRI, SAT, SUN 12:00 3:00
- 3. HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL**  
DAILY 6:30 G
- 3. NIGHTS IN RODANTHE**  
DAILY 9:00 PG13
- 4. APPALOOSA** DAILY 6:45 9:15  
FRI, SAT, SUN 12:15 3:15 R
- 5. ZACK & MIRI MAKE A PORNO**  
DAILY 6:45 9:15 R  
FRI, SAT, SUN 12:15 3:15
- 6. SECET LIFE OF BEES**  
DAILY 7 9:30 PG13 DTS sound  
FRI, SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30
- 7. QUANTUM OF SOLACE**  
DAILY 7 9:30 PG13 DTS sound  
FRI, SAT, SUN 12:30 3:30

**Draft Beer** **Great Food**  
Fine Wine  
**Open Wed-Sun at 5 p.m.**  
*No Cover Any Night*  
Friday, 11/14, 9 - 11 p.m.  
*Warped Americana: Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Joe Fitzpatrick*  
Saturday, 11/15, 9 - 11 p.m.  
*Karaoke Night with TNT Productions*  
Thursday, 11/20, 8 - 10 p.m.  
Blues based roots music: *Wailin' Dave Robinson, Tommy Filault and Company*

**978-544-BREW**  
57A Lockes Village Road  
Next to the Wendell Country Store

**The Rendezvous**  
free wifi always

**GREAT FOOD.**  
12 HOURS A DAY, 13 ON WEEKENDS!

THURS: 11/13 9:30 \$3  
**BOK CHOY JAZZ**

FRI: 11/14 9:30 \$3  
**DANCE OR DIE**  
(electro/indie djs)

SAT: 11/15 9:30 \$3  
**ROCKIT QUEER**

WEDS: 11/19 8PM  
**QUIZMASTAH CHAD'S QUIZNITE QUIZ**

LUNCH EVERY DAY, and now SUNDAY BRUNCH too!  
open 11am-1am every day

76 THIRD STREET  
TURNERS FALLS, MA  
RENDEZVOUS@TMA.COM  
TEL: 413-863-2866

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

Great Ice Cream, Fair Trade Coffee, and a Whole Lot More!

**Bart's**  
Treat yourself to breakfast or lunch at **Bart's Café**

286 Main Street, Greenfield, MA 413-641-0030

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

**KUSTOM AUTOBODY**  
MA Reg #RS2066

48 Randall Road  
Montague  
Phone/413-863-3780

Mike Fuller, Owner

PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU, Incorporated  
*Insurance*

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

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

November Garden



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK

BY LESLIE BROWN

**MONTAGUE CITY** - Sadly, this season's garden has been put to bed. Although the dead stems of the Basil plants are still fragrant when broken, there is nothing producing. Nestled in the early morning blanket of fog the river produces in early to mid-fall, we too have now experienced several heavy frosts. Even the hardy mums have succumbed.

Before the ground gets too hard, there are some basic chores you can accomplish that will make next spring's new garden easy as pie. Pull all of your dead plants and the remaining weeds. Resist the urge to add them to your compost pile because doing so may add new weed seeds when you spread compost around your plantings next spring.

Seeds are so tenacious that scientists have been able to germinate some stored in the Egyptian pyramids thousands of years ago. As it is, you will likely get "volunteer" tomatoes from any seed that has dropped into your garden soil. We once grew a fabulous full-sized pumpkin

from a plant that grew in the compost pile.

Instead, cover your tired ground with a good layer of healthy composted manure and turn it under. This garden sanitation is important to your head start next year. You can also add a light treatment of lime if your soil tends to be acid.

Our garden began as an overgrown shrubby side yard and has been worked for thirty plus years. When we first cut down the small trees and burgeoning weeds and turned the earth, we found large rocks, small stones, some paving and the shards of bottles and pottery. Since then such a crop of stone has been harvested that we seem finally to have mined it all but the occasional oversized pebble.

For a time those rocks were our best crop in the hard, unfriendly soil. But years of working and turning with manure, lime and green sand have finally produced rich, friable dirt that is friendly to crops.

Turning this friendly soil each fall with manure has not only helped to keep down the weed seed. It's also kept the earthworms happy. They are true gardeners' friends, aerating and feeding the soil. Earthworms ingest organic matter in the soil. Their castings contain nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, which are readily available to plants. Their tunneling habit brings oxygen and water deep into the soil. Because earthworms are most numerous in the top six inches of the soil, it is best to turn the garden under once in the fall and then let these useful creatures rest until they are ready



CLAUDIA WELLS PHOTO

again.

Separate cloves from the bulb and plant pointed head up about 2-3 three inches deep. If you have some bone meal, drop a pinch in the hole. Allow 4-6 inches between cloves and about a foot between rows. Once the ground begins to freeze hard, mulch the bed with straw, leaves or pine needles. When the green tops start to show in the spring, pull the mulch back from the emerging plants and leave it between the rows to keep down weed growth. Feed with an organic fertilizer.

When the leaves start to die back in the in mid-simmer, pull the bulbs and dry gently for storage and future use. Cure in a dry, ventilated place like a garage or barn for a week or two, and enjoy. If you have a successful crop, save some of the largest bulbs to plant in the fall.

Garlic is a wonderful flavor for almost any cooking and as well is what the French call a digestif.

**Garlic Mashed Potatoes**

Boil the desired number of potatoes (peeled and cut in half) Along with 4-6 peeled cloves of garlic.

When the potatoes are soft, drain and mash immediately with the garlic.

Add a little milk or cream and butter and season as desired.

Cook plenty as there is rarely too much.

These garlicky mashed potatoes will mellow for the next day's serving.

Happy gardening and enjoy!

**Wendell Meetinghouse Workday**

BY MOLLY KAYNOR - October 18th and 19th were helpful days for the Wendell Meetinghouse. Volunteers took care of yard work, bulbs were planted, clapboards were repaired on the front of the building, Charlie Davico's custom-made trim was installed under the eaves, the front facade got another coat of paint,

checks to help pay for paint and other materials.

Jerry Eide says the bell tower repairs will be finished in the spring. Once it is ready for paint, Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse will be getting bids on painting the tower, which will most likely happen in May.

We are considering the idea



DETMOLD PHOTO

The Wendell Meetinghouse

and the bell tower repairs have begun. Tables and benches were set up in the gazebo across the street where there seemed to be a constant supply of chili, salads, homemade soups, brownies and pies and hot drinks. Some folks donated

of having an annual meeting-house workday in the spring rather than the fall when it is too cold for paint and we all desperately need to attend to winter prep at our own homes. I'll let you know when the time comes.

**29TH ANNUAL CRANBERRY FAIR**  
 Saturday Nov. 22nd, 9am - 3pm  
 First UCC Church (2 Floors!)  
 165 Main Street, Amherst  
*Thrifty Holiday Shopping*  
 Fun Games for Children! • Free Cranberry Punch!  
 Antiques & Collectibles • Jewelry, China & Glass  
 Household & Linens • Toys, White Elephant  
 Clothes & Accessories • Books, Audio, Video  
 Delicious Hot Brunch & Lunch - Baked Goods & Preserves  
**Amazing Silent Auction**  
 !30 Merchants!  
 "Stars on Main" Queen Quilt  
 Limited Raffle

*Delectable Mountain*  
**Thirtieth Anniversary Sale on Textiles**  
 20% off of all fabrics,  
 10% off of all scarves and shawls;  
 In store and in stock only.  
 Please help us celebrate thirty years of fine, natural fiber textiles.  
 Now through sale ending, TBD

Open daily at 10 a.m., Sunday at 1 p.m.  
 Closed daily at 5 p.m., Friday at 6:30 p.m.  
 125 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301  
 Ph 802-257-4456 - Fax 802-254-6525  
 www.delectablemountain.com

**THE SHEA THEATER**  
 "FAMILY SERIES"  
 PRESENTS: THE HAMPSTEAD STAGE CO.  
**"PRINCE CASPIAN"**  
  
 A STAGE PLAY FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY  
 SAT. 11/29 | THANKSGIVING | RESERVE EARLY!  
 2PM | 5 | WEEKEND | 863-2281

**THE SHEA THEATER**  
 "DATE NIGHT SERIES"  
 PRESENTS: COMEDY HYPNOTIST  
**"HYPNO-LORENZO"**  
  
 A HILARIOUS EVENING OF COMEDY + AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION!  
 SAT. 11/29 | THANKSGIVING | RESERVE EARLY!  
 8PM | 10 | WEEKEND | 863-2281