



POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL
Benefits Habitat for Humanity
Page 7



NATURE ABOUNDS
Along Canalside Bike Path
Page 13

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 6 - NO. 7

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Land Conservation Discussed in Gill

BY DAVID DETMOLD - Tony Mathews, chair of the Gill conservation commission got together with the selectboard on Tuesday, November 13th to discuss the possibility of the town conserving the development rights on a 8.8 acre parcel of surplus land at the southwestern end of Barney Hale Road. Town treasurer Ronnie LaChance said she had been readying the parcel, known as the Franklin property, for auction after an abutter inquired about purchasing it. The town acquired the acreage, which contains an area of swampland, for back taxes in 2003.

Blunt, a consultant to the Mass Department of Conservation Resources, about the possibility of the state acquiring the development rights to the property, allowing the town to sell the land separately without fear of losing important habitat. He said Blount expressed an interest in having the state buy the land outright, adding the parcel to about 1300 acres of state conservation land near the French King Bridge, or in buying the development rights, which would add the acreage to 1000 acres under conservation restriction in the same area. If the state bought



DETMOLD PHOTO

Tony Mathews of the conservation commission discussed protecting an 8.8-acre lot on Barney Hale Road from development with the Gill selectboard on Tuesday, Nov. 13th. Ronnie LaChance, left, and Nancy Griswold, right.

LaChance said no taxes had been paid on the parcel since 1971. The land is currently valued at \$51,600. Town administrative assistant Tracy Rogers estimated the annual taxes on the property, if it were returned to the tax rolls, would amount to about \$700.

But Mathews said the conservation commission has a mandate to preserve key parcels of land from development. "That's our job: not just to enforce wetlands protection, but also to preserve natural resources. There is nothing more biologically diverse than a swamp," Mathews said.

Before meeting with the selectboard, Mathews said he talked with Terry

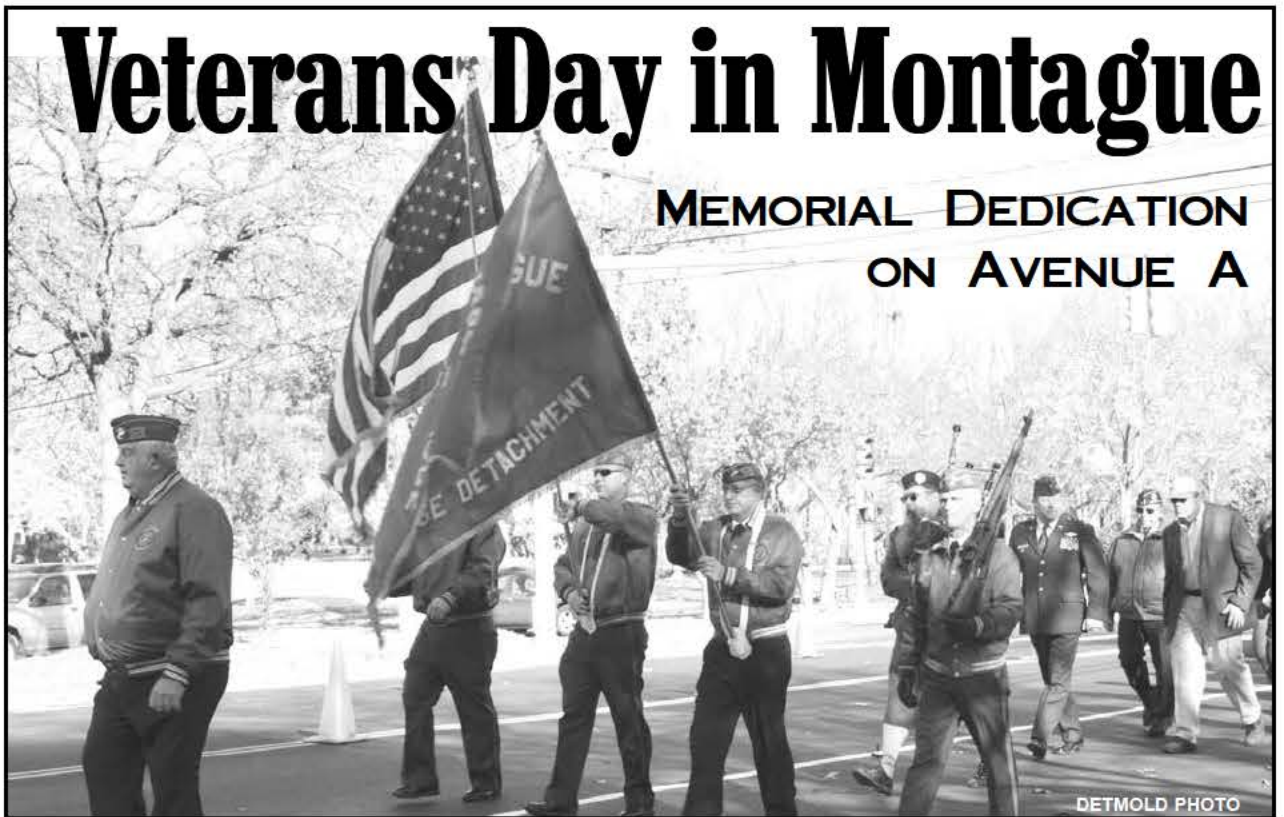
the land, it would take it off the tax rolls permanently.

Speaking for the selectboard, Ann Banash said she thought the worst that could happen if the acreage were sold into private hands would be for a driveway to be built through the swamp, leading to developable back lots. She asked LaChance to calculate what back taxes and penalties on the land amounted to, and determine what the town would seek to sell the parcel for at auction, while Mathews will continue to explore the possible sale of the parcel's development rights to the state.

The alternate proposals may eventually come see GILL pg 11

Veterans Day in Montague

MEMORIAL DEDICATION ON AVENUE A



DETMOLD PHOTO

Members of the Oak Ridge Detachment of the Marine Corps League lead the procession to the new Veterans Memorial on Avenue A in Turners Falls, with bagpiper Eric Goodchild, Colonel Michael Boulanger, and Ken Morin close behind.

BY DAVID DETMOLD

TURNERS FALLS - At the end of his speech, Art Gilmore said he would step down from his position as chair of the Montague Soldiers Memorial Trustees when his term runs out next year. But as he received the applause of hundreds of onlookers at Sunday's Veterans Day dedication of the new veterans memorial on Avenue A, which he worked so tirelessly to build, Gilmore had reason to be proud.

And though he thanked everyone from town hall workers to electrician Bernie Sadoski, who "dug a trench to the Carnegie Library, drilled through the wall, and ran electrical cord through three rooms of the library" to bring power to the new memorial, the entire edifice is, to a great degree, a tribute to Gilmore's own tenacity, diplomacy, and powers of persuasion.

Though the fund drive to build a unified memorial to Montague vet-

erans of all of American wars - originally price tagged at \$160,000 - was begun under the chairmanship of trustee Michael Cenzano five years ago, expected financial support from the state for the project never materialized, and the trustees were left facing the daunting task of raising 95% of the funds for the memorial locally. After Cenzano stepped down due to health problems two years ago, Gilmore took

see VETERANS pg 10

Antique Macks Bring Christmas to DC

BY DAVID DETMOLD

GILL - Fred Chase has been working on Mack trucks for 44 years, but he's never had the chance to drive in a convoy of antique Macks, loaded with Christmas trees, bound for the U.S. Capital building in Washington D.C. before. "It's a pretty unique experience," said Chase, leaning against the fender of a cobalt blue 400 horsepower '79 Mack Super-Liner in the yard of his Four-Wheel Drive Service, on Route 2 in the town of Gill. "It'll never happen again in my lifetime."

Chase is the president of the Western Massachusetts chapter of the Antique Truck Club of America, and when it comes to Mack trucks, he knows what he's talking about. A licensed master mechanic, Chase has been repairing all makes of trucks and equipment since he first opened his



DETMOLD PHOTO

Fred Chase II, left, his son Fred Chase III, center, and his brother Bill Chase, stand beside a 1942 EF Mack truck, rigged out with a 1904 body. This truck will take a ride in an antique truck convoy loaded with Christmas trees and bound for the nation's capital over Thanksgiving weekend.

276A Route 2 garage in 1978, "But I specialize in Macks, and I've been pretty much keeping busy working on Macks ever

since." Volvo acquired Mack Trucks in 2001, but Chase would rather not talk about that.

see TRUCKS pg 11

PET OF THE WEEK

Good As Gold



Carey

Carey is a ten-year-old male collie shepherd mix in need of a good home. He has a gorgeous pale golden coat, his fur is very smooth and long. He has big ears that stand straight up and lovely brown eyes. Carey is an older dog and not keen on spending his days in the shelter. He would like to find his forever home as soon as possible since being in the shelter is stressful for him. He is an easygoing, sweet and gentle dog – an excellent companion for someone looking for an older dog. Carey is in good health, housetrained, obedient and ready to go home! For more information on adopting Carey please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or via email at leverett@dphvs.org.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY NEWS

Library Holiday Hours

BY LINDA HICKMAN
MONTAGUE - The Carnegie Library in Turners Falls and the Montague Center Libraries will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21st, the day before Thanksgiving. All of the libraries will be closed on Thanksgiving. Regular hours will resume the day after Thanksgiving. During fall –

spring, the Carnegie Library is normally open Monday – Wednesday, 1 – 8 p.m., Thursday, 1 – 5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Montague Center Library is open Monday and Wednesday, 2- 5 and 6 8 p.m. The Millers Falls Library is open Tuesday and Thursday, 2- 5 and 6 - 8 p.m.

WENDELL LIBRARY NEWS

Music and Movement

WENDELL - Music and movement with Linda Hickman and Michael Nix will be held Saturday, November 17th at 10 a.m. at the Wendell Free Library. Music and Movement with Linda Hickman and Michael Nix is a free, interactive program featuring songs, finger play, movement, puppets, and music, designed for babies and preschoolers and their parents or caregivers. Children of any age and their families are welcome to sing and dance to traditional favorites and fun interac-

tive songs. Michael and Linda will play guitars and banjo. All participants will have a chance to play along on a variety of musical instruments. Linda Hickman is the children's librarian at the Montague Libraries and is constantly dreaming up fun programs for kids. Michael Nix performs on many stringed instruments throughout the United States and Asia and is also a favorite children's performer. This program is funded in part by the Wendell Cultural Council.

Dot Black of Erving Honored

Every year Franklin County Home Care Corporation, the Area Agency on Aging, is faced with a \$150,000 deficit for Meals on Wheels, the program that provides one hot meal a day, and a daily check-in from a Meals on Wheels volunteer driver for homebound seniors. Dot Black of Erving, a senior herself, is a spark plug! This year FCHCC presented Mrs. Black with an award as top fundraiser in the annual Meals on Wheels Walkathon—and also thanked



Pam Kelly, (l) Director of Development at FCHCC, high fives Dot Black of Erving (r) for her work with seniors

the whole walking team that Dot helped organize! Dot's name will be engraved on a plaque held in perpetuity at the Franklin County Home Care Corporation's Board Room. Thanks Mrs. Black!

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES November 19th - 24th

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.

Monday, 19th
 10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
 11 a.m. Easy Aerobics
Tuesday, 20th
 9:30 a.m. T'ai Chi

Wednesday, 21st
 10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
 12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, 22nd
 THANKSGIVING
Friday, 23rd
 10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
 11 a.m. Easy Aerobics
Saturday, 24th
 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

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



Skin and Bones played to delighted listeners at the Great Falls Coffeehouse on Friday, November 9th.

Joyce Cote

Retirement Potluck

LAKE PLEASANT – A gathering to bid farewell to the reign of Joyce Cote as Postmaster of Zip Code 01347 will take place Saturday, November 17th, at Thompson Temple, across Montague Avenue from the building where Cote supervised the comings and goings of uncountable pieces of U.S. mail for 24 years, until her retirement November 2nd.

The event will begin at 1 p.m. with a potluck lunch. Following lunch, there will be an opportunity for personal reminiscences of the "Cote era."

The tribute will conclude with a half-hour slideshow focusing on the building of the Bridge of Names in 1975. The slide show was created from photographs taken by the late Louise Shattuck, whose maternal grandfather built the original footbridge in 1888 to span a gorge at the southern end of Lake Pleasant and connect the two halves of the community.

Haunted Winners

Two lucky audience members, drawn at random at the Country Players' production of *Haunted Lives* at the Shea Theater won dinner and overnight accommodations at the 'haunted' Charlemont Inn. The winners were Maude Behrens and David Mako. Ms. Behrens has yet to collect her prize, but the entire Mako family of South Deerfield enjoyed their stay at the Charlemont Inn last weekend. They did not report any encounters with other-worldly residents.

Please Note:

Next week, the *Montague Reporter* will publish on Wednesday, November 21st instead of on Thursday, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

- Grade 6:**
Heather McKenna, Ashleigh Lovett
- Grade 7:**
Kylee Bristol
- Grade 8:**
Sara Hanley

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Congratulations, Doris Farnum, our 700th Subscriber!

BY KATHY LITCHFIELD
LAKE PLEASANT - Doris Farnum became the 700th subscriber to the *Montague Reporter* last week, and has chosen to receive a \$70 gift certificate to Foster's Market as her prize.

A Greenfield native, Farnum has lived in Lake Pleasant for 54 years, and been married to her husband Eugene Farnum for 61 years.

"We bought our house in Lake Pleasant. I like this village because it's small, because we know everybody. I would never want to live in a city.

"I like living in Montague. I think it's a growing town, and it's a nice town," said Farnum, who appreciates seeing the new businesses opening along Avenue A in Turners, and visiting the Great Falls Discovery Center there.

Farnum has two children in their 50s - Carol Howard of North Leverett and John Farnum of Lake Pleasant, who is also her neighbor. Her three grandsons are also close by: Kevin Howard of Lake



DETMOLD PHOTO

Doris Farnum

viously at the former Millers Falls Tool Co. and J.H. Smith in Greenfield, after her children were grown.

Farnum enjoys the *Montague Reporter*. "I love it, because it has so many interesting articles. And they go into depth on things like the new

police station. Sometimes there are articles about local people I know. I was buying it every week!"

The *Montague Reporter* awards a prize to every 25th subscriber as a way of recognizing and thanking both our loyal readers and our advertisers. The prize is the winner's choice of free gift subscriptions to the *Reporter* or a gift certificate to the advertiser of their choice.

Who will our 725th subscriber be?

Pleasant, Mark Howard of Deerfield and Wayne Farnum of Sunderland. She also has three great grandchildren: Ryan Howard, 15, Melanie Howard, 10 and Michael Longto, 15.

"It's nice having a close family. I feel very fortunate; it's a good life," said Farnum, who says her hobbies include gardening and doing crafts. She is also an avid reader. And why not? She was the Millers Falls librarian for 22 years, retiring at the age of 70. She worked pre-

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Seven-foot Statue Stolen

Thursday 11-8

5:28 p.m. Debris reported in breakdown lane Route 2 west-bound at bypass. Checked same and moved debris off roadway.

Friday 11-9

2:36 p.m. Assisted motorist with cleaning up lumber that fell off his pick up truck onto the side of the road.

Saturday 11-10

8:50 a.m. Alarm French King Restaurant; secured building; no entry made.

9:32 a.m. Stolen seven-foot carved statue from Mountain Road.

Sunday 11-12

7:47 a.m. Report of erratic operator Route 63 south. Found to be mechanical problems with

truck. Assisted operator in moving vehicle to safe area to wait for tow from employer.

11:00 a.m. Resident called to advise lost keys.

7:00 p.m. Arrested [redacted], and charged with a marked lanes violation, operating with a suspended license, unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WENDELL POLICE LOG

Jeep Hazard

October 30th

Disabled jeep reported on Depot Road causing possible hazard. Owner located and

moved vehicle off road, and will repair and remove in the morning.

November 7th

Locke Hill Road resident inquiring about person selling frozen meat from a pick up truck.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Good Morning, Athol!

BY NINA KELLER - Having read a report in the *Montague Reporter* about a local dining opportunity on Route 2, I wanted to alert readers about another local dining option. There is a delightful restaurant in Athol, just off Main Street. It is called Good Morning Athol Cafe. The proprietors are from Senegal.

What a beautiful room to enter! To sit in booths surrounded by warm yellow hand-painted walls with artwork from another country.... The sweet demeanor of Fatou, as we were greeted at the door, is enough to call us back. She found our company worth the time to stand and converse, while she came and went with her platters.

The fare is one that tempts both familiar taste buds and those that choose to wander into the flavors of West Africa.

Names of dishes are in both Wolof and English, and descrip-

tions are in English.

Yassa is chicken cooked in olive oil, with onions, garlic, lemon, mustard and olives. Other dishes include peanut sauces, curry, vegetables and ginger, volumes of rice with hot sauce available. Crepes come both savory with ham, cheese, beef, chicken, turkey, cheese, sauces or sweet with hazelnut, chocolate, cream cheese, berries or fruit.

And there is more on the breakfast and specialty menu.

This delightful eating experience exists, and is not yet well known, lying as it does off the main street. Passersby might not notice it is there. The Good Morning Athol Cafe is located across from the *Athol Daily News*, and next to the new police station at 248 Exchange Street. It opens at 6 a.m., six days a week; closed Tuesdays. For more info, call 978-249-7563.

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Why I Chose to Serve

BY KEN MORIN

TURNERS FALLS - When I thought about why I chose to serve, I wondered why anyone including my brothers and sister chose to serve in the U.S. military. So I asked them.

My brother George, the first of many in my family to serve in the armed forces

sat a truck loaded with 5,000 gallons of jet fuel. Wil jumped in the truck and got it away from the fires. He received the Bronze Star Medal for Valor. Today, at 75, Willie holds three jobs and is still seen jumping in and out of his truck.

For my brother Sammy, it



Viet Nam veteran Ken Morin of Turners Falls addresses the crowd at the Veterans Day dedication ceremony on Avenue A, with members of the Oak Ridge Detachment of the Marine Corps League Color Guard looking on.

replied, "for the benefits." Having grown up in the Great Depression he entered the U.S. army in 1948. His first mission was the Berlin Airlift. Over his 20-year tour he served time all over Europe, Japan, Korea and in the States. He retired in 1968. His youngest son, John, is currently serving in the US army, stationed in Baghdad.

In 1951, my brother Wilfred signed up for the army and became a paratrooper with the 11th Airborne. He recalls that times were tough and the allotment checks were sent home to help the family. He served three years and then enlisted in the air force, where he served for 20. He made two tours in Vietnam. It was in 1967 when his base came under attack and the ammo dump caught fire. Next to it

was, as he put it, "adventure." In 1952 a bunch of his friends decided to enlist: Eddie Slate, the late Billy Gay and others. On his 17th birthday he left high school and spent the next four years in the

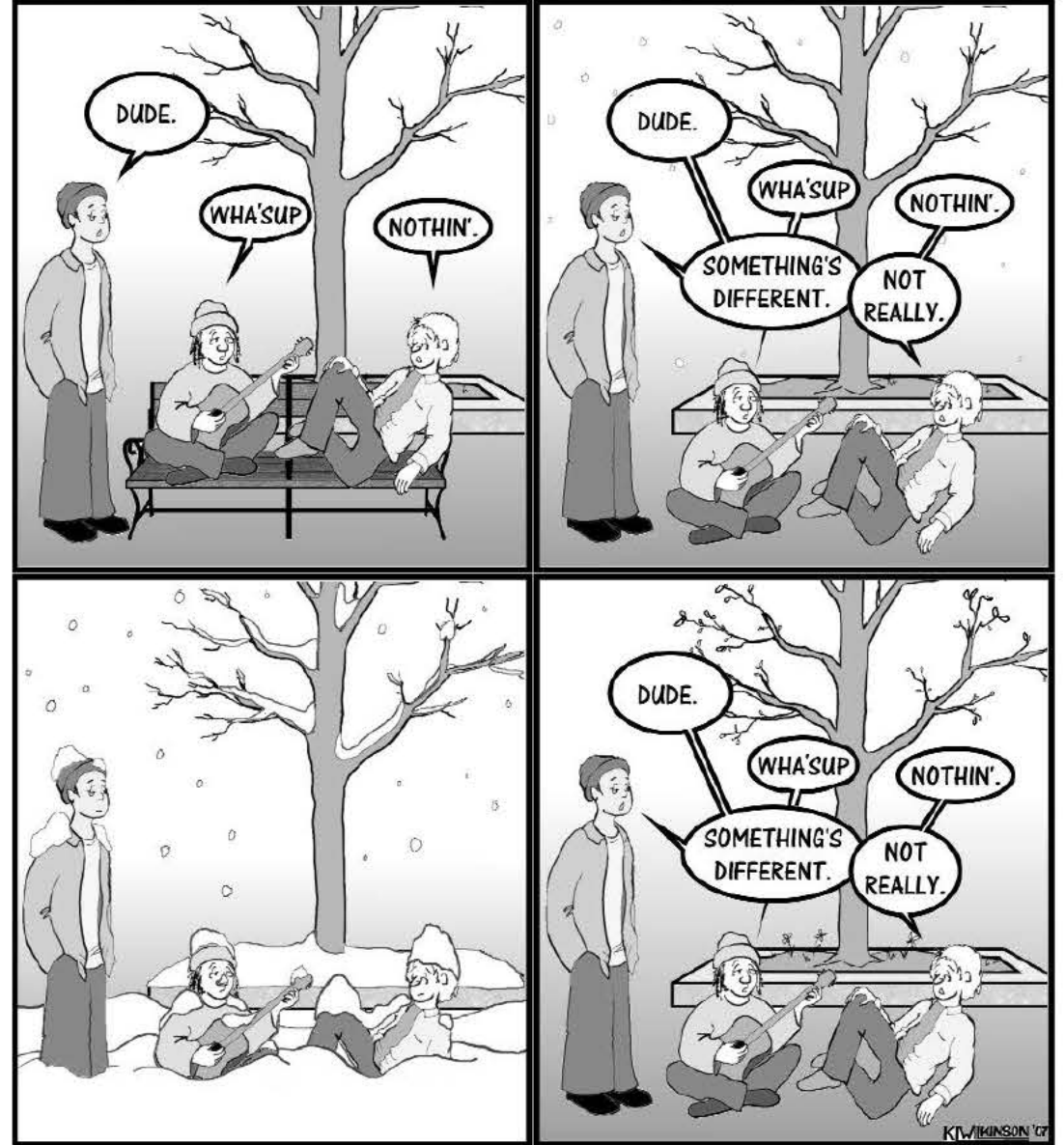
"I am proud to stand here today and honor all United States veterans past and present for their service, courage and commitment."

-Ken Morin
Turners Falls

Mediterranean Sea aboard a ship in the U.S. Navy.

My sister, Doris Barbeau,

CHILLIN' ON THE AVENUE



KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

entered the US air force in September, 1956. She recalls a recruiter coming to the high school and discussing the job training and opportunity for travel that enlisting in the military would provide. While serving, she met her husband, Bob. They were soon married and started a family. Being pregnant was not an option at that time, and she had to leave the service. Doris recounts the experience was wonderful and she would have remained in the air force if the rules had been different.

My brother Richard L. Morin, retired Turners Falls Fire Chief, made the decision to enlist long before graduating high school. When asked why he made the decision he replied, "too many kids at home." He then got serious and responded that he was influenced by the service of his siblings and a strong sense of American pride. Ritchie left town in August of 1962 and served with the United States Marines, including a tour in Vietnam in 1964. He truly cannot imagine his life today if he had never served his country. It meant that much to him.

For me, the youngest son, I was classified 1A in the draft in 1968 while attending an equipment operator's school. To be able to pursue the construction field, I signed up with the US Army. In February, 1969 I left for basic train- see MORIN pg 6

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trustees' Thanks

The Trustees of the Town of Montague Soldiers Memorial extend their sincere thanks to all of the following who participated in the dedication of the new memorials on Avenue A, or who assisted in the ceremony held on Veterans Day, November 11th, in Turners Falls:

Oak Ridge Detachment Color Guard, the Womens Barbershop Quartet, "Friends," selectboard members Pat Allen, Patricia Pruitt, Vietnam veteran Kenneth Morin, Col. Michael Boulanger, Mayor-Elect, City of Westfield, the Montague Elks, bagpiper Eric Goodchild, veterans agent Leo Parent, electrician Bernie Sadoski,

library director Sue SanSoucie, Turners Falls American Legion, Bruce Dunbar of Troop 6 Boy Scouts, Greenfield Community College for loaning the chairs, Linda Ackerman of the Greenfield Savings Bank, town hall employees, highway department, Turners Falls fire department, and the Turner Falls police department.

Finally, thank you to all the nearly 300 private individuals, businesses, organizations, and churches that donated to the memorial. Without you it never would have happened.

- Art Gilmore, Chair,
Soldiers Memorial Trustees
Montague

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- Phil Desbien
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BACK AND FORTH ON NUCLEAR POWER

Going Nuclear: A Green Makes the Case

BY PATRICK MOORE

In the early 1970s when I helped found Greenpeace, I believed that nuclear energy was synonymous with nuclear holocaust, as did most of my compatriots. That's the conviction that inspired Greenpeace's first voyage up the spectacular rocky northwest coast to protest the testing of U.S. hydrogen bombs in Alaska's Aleutian Islands. Thirty years on, my views have changed, and the rest of the environmental movement needs to update its views, too, because nuclear energy may just be the energy source that can save our planet from another possible disaster: catastrophic climate change.

Look at it this way: More than 600 coal-fired electric plants in the United States produce 36 percent of U.S. emissions -- or nearly 10 percent of global emissions -- of CO₂, the primary greenhouse gas responsible for climate change. Nuclear energy is the only large-scale, cost-effective energy source that can reduce these emissions while continuing to satisfy a growing demand for power. And these days it can do so safely.

I say that guardedly, of course, within months of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad announcing that his country has enriched uranium. "The nuclear technology is only for the purpose of peace and nothing else," he said. But there is widespread speculation that, even though the process is ostensibly dedicated to producing electricity, it is in fact a cover for building nuclear weapons.

And although I don't want to underestimate the very real dangers of nuclear technology in the

hands of rogue states, we cannot simply ban every technology that is dangerous. That was the all-or-nothing mentality at the height of the Cold War, when anything nuclear seemed to spell doom for humanity and the environment. In 1979, Jane Fonda and Jack Lemmon produced a frisson of fear with their starring roles in *the China Syndrome*, a fictional evocation of nuclear disaster in which a reactor meltdown threatens a city's survival. Less than two weeks after the blockbuster film opened, a reactor core meltdown at Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island nuclear power plant sent shivers of very real anguish throughout the country.

What nobody noticed at the time, though,

was that Three Mile Island was in fact a success story. The concrete containment structure did just what it was designed to do -- prevent radiation from escaping into the environment. And although the reactor itself was crippled, there was no injury or death among nuclear workers or nearby residents.* Three Mile Island was the only serious accident in the history of nuclear energy generation in the United States, but it was enough to scare us away from further developing the technology. There hasn't been a nuclear plant ordered up since then.

Today, there are 103 nuclear reactors quietly delivering just 20 percent of America's electricity. Eighty percent of the people living within 10 miles of these plants approve of them (that's not including the nuclear workers). Although I don't live near a nuclear plant, I am now squarely in their camp.

And I am not alone among seasoned environmental activists in changing my mind on this subject. British atmospheric scientist James Lovelock, father of the Gaia theory, believes that nuclear energy is the only way to avoid catastrophic climate change. Stewart Brand, founder of the *Whole Earth Catalog*, says the environmental movement must embrace nuclear energy to wean ourselves from fossil fuels. On occasion, such opinions have been met with excommunication from

the anti-nuclear priesthood. The late British Bishop Hugh Montefiore, founder and director of

Friends of the Earth, was forced to resign from the group's board after he wrote a pro-nuclear article in a church newsletter.

There are signs of a new willingness to listen, though, even among the staunchest anti-nuclear campaigners. When I attended the Kyoto climate meeting in Montreal last December, I spoke to a packed house on the question of a sustainable energy future. I argued that the only way to reduce fossil fuel emissions from electrical production is through an aggressive program of renewable energy sources (hydroelectric, geothermal heat pumps, wind, etc.) plus nuclear. The Greenpeace spokesperson was first at the

see **GO NUCLEAR** pg 6

Nuclear energy may just be the energy source that can save our planet from catastrophic climate change.

Stealth Nuke Effort Must be Stopped

BY BONNIE RAITT, JACKSON BROWNE, GRAHAM NASH & HARVEY WASSERMAN

In 1979, we helped organize five nights of concerts at Madison Square Garden and an anti-nuke rally that drew 200,000 people. These efforts and the ongoing work of many grassroots and national safe energy groups have helped to hold off the building of new nuclear reactors ever since. But three decades later, we're facing the same nuclear issues. And to counter this threat, we are organizing once again.

One of America's most critical financial and ecological decisions is now before Congress. The atomic energy industry wants at least \$50 billion in loan guarantees for a "new generation" of reactors that have already begun to fail, and that Wall Street won't finance. If these subsidies pass, scores of new radioactive terror targets, thousands of tons of radioactive waste and untold billions in bad debt could haunt us and our children for a long time to come.

Yet the sentence allowing all this to happen was slipped into the Senate version of the 2007 energy bill without serious public debate. Without strong public opposition, it could become part of the new energy bill. And with the millions the nuke lobby is spending, defeating this huge taxpayer rip-off will require a maximum effort from everyone committed to a safe energy future.

The push for new nuclear plants is full of irony. The terror attacks of September 11th, 2001, made it clear no reactor can be protected from a jet crash. The first plane that hit the World Trade Center flew directly over the Indian Point reactors, 45 miles north of New York City. Had it hit the nuke complex, the death toll would by now be in the hundreds of thousands, based on a study by the environmental group Riverkeeper.

Federal inspectors from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission recently found significant leaks at Indian Point. Furthermore, the company was recently fined for its flawed siren system, and the owner of the reactor, Entergy, has not sufficiently answered community concerns about safety issues and the inspection process.

Meanwhile, a major earthquake has hit the world's largest reactor facility, at

Kashiwazaki, Japan. The quake exceeded the reactors' design safeguards, and caused radiation releases and a significant amount of damage to the reactors. Experts are concerned about much stronger quakes there in the future. At least one U.S. reactor -- at Perry, Ohio -- was affected by an earthquake

two decades ago, as well as last year. The nuclear facilities at Indian Point, at Seabrook, NH, and at Diablo Canyon and San Luis Obispo, CA, are

also on or near major fault lines.

Meanwhile, a cooling tower at the Vermont Yankee reactor has simply collapsed, spewing hundreds of thousands of gallons of hot water into the Earth. The reactor was recently allowed to upgrade its power level, and the collapse may have been caused by improper supports, rotted wood beams and an "insufficient" inspection program. Twenty-one other towers there are at similar risk.

Reactors like Vermont Yankee are being sold as an answer to global warming. But atomic plants in France and Alabama have been forced to shut because their waste heat has helped drive nearby rivers to 90 degrees and hotter.

Karl Grossman, journalism professor at SUNY College at Old Westbury, NY writes, "As the global warming crisis is acknowledged (after years of the vested oil interests denying it) the big pitch is: Nuclear plants don't emit greenhouse gases and thus don't contribute to warming. In reality, the overall nuclear cycle--which includes uranium mining and milling, enrichment, fuel fabrication and disposal of radioactive waste--produces greenhouse gas emissions that play a significant part in global warming. The claim that it does not 'is a fiction that has been a prime feature of the nuclear industry's and Bush administration's PR campaign,' notes Michel Lee of the Council on Intelligent Energy Policy and Conservation."


The 'new generation' of reactors that wants your tax money is also being touted as safer, cleaner and cheaper. But the first European model, being built in Finland, is already eighteen months behind schedule

see **NO NUKES** pg 6

The atomic energy industry wants at least \$50 billion in loan guarantees for a "new generation" of reactors.

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GO NUCLEAR from pg 5
 mike for the question period, and I expected a tongue-lashing. Instead, he began by saying he agreed with much of what I said - not the nuclear bit, of course - but there was a clear feeling that all options must be explored.

Here's why. Wind and solar power have their place, but because they are intermittent and unpredictable they simply can't replace big baseload plants such as coal, nuclear and hydroelectric. Natural gas, a fossil fuel, is too expensive already, and its price is too volatile to risk building big baseload plants. Given that hydroelectric resources are built pretty much to capacity, nuclear is, by elimination, the only viable substitute for coal. It's that simple.

That's not to say that there aren't real problems -- as well as various myths -- associated with nuclear energy. Each concern deserves careful consideration:

- Nuclear energy is expensive. It is in fact one of the least expensive energy sources. In 2004, the average cost of

producing nuclear energy in the United States was less than two cents per kilowatt-hour, comparable with coal and hydroelectric. Advances in technology will bring the cost down further in the future.

- Nuclear plants are not safe. Although Three Mile Island was a success story, the accident at Chernobyl, 20 years ago, was not. But Chernobyl was an accident waiting to happen. This early model of Soviet reactor had no containment vessel, was an inherently bad design and its operators literally blew it up. The multi-agency U.N. Chernobyl Forum reported last year that 56 deaths could be directly attributed to the accident, most of those from radiation or burns suffered while fighting the fire. Tragic as those deaths were, they pale in comparison to the more than 5,000 coal-mining deaths that occur worldwide every year. No one has died of a radiation-related accident in the history of the U.S. civilian nuclear reactor program. (And although hundreds of uranium mine workers did die from radiation

exposure underground in the early years of that industry, that problem was long ago corrected.)

- Nuclear reactors are vulnerable to terrorist attack. The six-foot-thick reinforced concrete containment vessel protects the contents from the outside as well as the inside. And even if a jumbo jet did crash into a reactor and breach the containment, the reactor would not explode. There are many types of facilities that are far more vulnerable, including liquid natural gas plants, chemical plants and numerous political targets.

- Nuclear fuel can be diverted to make nuclear weapons. This is the most serious issue associated with nuclear energy and the most difficult to address, as the example of Iran shows. But just because nuclear technology can be put to evil purposes is not an argument to ban its use.

The only practical approach to the issue of nuclear weapons proliferation is to put it higher on the international agenda and to use diplomacy and, where

necessary, force to prevent countries or terrorists from using nuclear materials for destructive ends. And new technologies such as the reprocessing system recently introduced in Japan (in which the plutonium is never separated from the uranium) can make it much more difficult for terrorists or rogue states to use civilian materials to manufacture weapons.

The 600-plus coal-fired plants emit nearly 2 billion tons of CO₂ annually -- the equivalent of the exhaust from about 300 million automobiles. In addition, the Clean Air Council reports that coal plants are responsible for 64 percent of sulfur dioxide emissions, 26 percent of nitrous oxides and 33 percent of mercury emissions. These pollutants are eroding the health of our environment, producing acid rain, smog, respiratory illness and mercury contamination.

Meanwhile, the 103 nuclear plants operating in the United States effectively avoid the release of 700 million tons of CO₂ emissions annually -- the

equivalent of the exhaust from more than 100 million automobiles. Imagine if the ratio of coal to nuclear were reversed so that only 20 percent of our electricity was generated from coal and 60 percent from nuclear. This would go a long way toward cleaning the air and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Every responsible environmentalist should support a move in that direction.



Patrick Moore, an early member of Greenpeace, is chairman and chief scientist of Greenspirit Strategies Ltd. He and Christine Todd Whitman are co-chairs of a new industry-funded initiative, the Clean and Safe Energy Coalition, which supports increased use of nuclear energy. This editorial first appeared in the Washington Post, reprinted here by permission of the author.

* Ed. Note: For a different view of the health impact to local residents from the Three Mile Island accident, go to: www.tmia.com/Press/P2.html#health.

NO NUKES from pg 5

and \$900 million over budget. The official cost estimates for these new reactors are in the \$4-5 billion range. But if history is any indicator, they will come in far, far higher. Their construction time is almost certain to exceed the four to five-year window being advertised.

All this comes as the renewable energy industry is soaring to new heights of power and profitability. Wind farming

has boomed to a \$10-15 billion per year industry. Worldwide growth rates are exceeding 25 percent. New forms of amorphous silicon solar cells are taking rooftop photovoltaics to vastly increased levels of efficiency and profitability. Biofuels, tidal, geo and ocean thermal, wave energy and many more rapidly developing forms of green power are soaring, regularly coming in ahead of schedule and under budget.

When we first launched our anti-nukes campaign in the 70s,

many of these green technologies were just beginning to take off. But in the nearly 30 years that have followed, green power has become one of the world's great growth industries. It has brought us to the brink of a technological revolution that could hold the key to stopping global warming while bringing us long-term prosperity based on safe, secure energy supplies.

With renewable energy, conservation and efficiency, we can end our dependence on

polluting fossil and nuclear fuels and create true energy independence. But these nuclear industry loan guarantees could make that all but impossible. These 'new' reactors are the same as the old ones, with a few bells and whistles, and a proven 50-year track record of catastrophic failure.

On the brink of winning a green-powered planet, we intend to do all we can to avoid another radioactive dead-end. We hope you will join us.

For more information, and to join 120,000 others who have signed a petition opposing the Congressional bailout of the nuclear industry, go to www.nukefree.org.



Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, and Graham Nash are aging rock stars who co-founded Musicians United for Safe Energy in 1979. Harvey Wasserman is a former communitarian from Montague who is now senior advisor to Greenpeace USA.

MORIN from page 4

ing. I got married in June, and in December left for Vietnam. It was quite a year. With an equipment operator classification, I built roads and bridges for our troops. The experience led to a lifelong career in construction.

There are many more family members who have served and are serving today.

For some, the military means an opportunity for education and training, where college is not an option. For others, it's adventure, excitement and world travel. For all it means carrying out a duty and ensuring freedom.

There are others not as fortunate as our family that have been wounded or killed while serving in the military. All men and women that join are putting their lives on the line. I am proud

to stand here today and honor all United States veterans past and present for their service, courage and commitment.

I feel honored to have been asked to speak here today and appreciate having had the opportunity through Warner Brothers Construction to work on such an important project. I would like to thank all the individuals, groups and organizations for their financial

contributions and support to make this project a success. Also, I sincerely thank the trustees of the veterans memorial, especially Art Gilmore, for their time, vision and dedication to this project. Thank you.

Ken Morin gave this speech at the Veterans Memorial Dedication in Turners Falls on Sunday, November 11th.

MEETING NOTICE

The Montague finance committee will devote its regular meeting on Wednesday, November 28th to a public hearing on the subject of stipends paid to certain appointed and elected positions and to members of certain boards and committees. The hearing will run from 5:30 p.m. to no later than 7:00 p.m. Its purpose is to solicit opinions from residents as the committee forms a recommendation to the 2008 annual town meeting.

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Powder Puff Football Benefits Habitat for Humanity

BY ALI URBAN

TURNERS FALLS - The Turners Falls High School's Bourdeau Field was lit up Friday night, November 9th. This was no usual football game, however. The lights were on for the junior and senior girls to battle it out on the field in the second annual Powder Puff Football Game.

The girls-only flag football game was played on a 50-yard field refereed by members of the TFHS football team. The seniors dressed in orange, their class color, while the junior opposition wore yellow.

Junior Tranae Gallagher was one of the main organizers of the event, and was happy to be able to continue the tradition begun last year by the class of 2007's Haley Trenholm. "I went and watched the game last year and really liked it," Gallagher said. "I thought it was a great idea and wanted to make it happen again."

Gallagher and classmate Amber Marion, a senior, organized the game as part of their community service assignment for the Wellness class.

Wellness and physical

education teacher Deb Loomer believes in the phrase, "Do good, feel good," and encourages her students to look beyond themselves and take part in some kind of community service to share their time and talents. She instructs each member of her class to choose some form of community service, and actively volunteer.

Some students volunteer at school events, others help at animal shelters and others work at community meals. "A well person in society cares about other human beings," Loomer says, and the Powder Puff Football Game helps students put this lesson into practice.

The proceeds from the event benefited Habitat for Humanity. Gallagher chose Habitat as a beneficiary because she thinks it's a great cause that helps people in the immediate area.

Loomer agreed. "The students see a direct correlation to their work (in making the game a success) and the effects in their own town with the construction of two buildings through Habitat for Humanity."



Senior Alix Ackerman cheers for her team at the second annual Powder Puff Football Game, November 9th. The senior girls won against the junior girls 36-24.

A second Habitat home for an income eligible family is currently under construction on L Street in Turners Falls.

In addition, Gallagher said the game fostered a sense of



connectedness among the students. "It brought people in the school community together," she said.

Gallagher and Marion learned more about the event last year and worked to secure referees, coaches, announcers and ticket sellers.

"Everyone was really willing to get involved," said Marion. "They were working for a good cause and had a lot of fun."

In addition to teachers Donna Fowler, Hannah Neville, Deborah Partridge and Sue

Vincent, who served as team coaches, new assistant principal Donna Fitzpatrick and secretary Sharon Girard were asked to serve as honorary coaches. "We wanted to provide an opportunity for them to get involved with students and see a different side of kids than in school," Gallagher said.

"It felt like you were playing in a real game," said senior Chelseigh St. Peter, who racked up the most points, scoring five touchdowns. "It was a lot of fun."

Nineteen seniors and ten juniors participated in the four-quarter game. The seniors won, 36-24.

But the big winner was Habitat for Humanity: The event raised \$255 for the charity.

"I felt really good doing it," said Gallagher. "Everyone playing had a lot of fun, and there were no losers, because we helped a good cause."

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG Parking Lot Larcenies

Thursday 11-8

8:40 a.m. Report of vandalism at Food City. Front windows broken with what appeared to be a beer bottle. Report taken.

11:22 p.m. Walk-in to station reported a larceny in the Shady Glen parking lot. A vehicle was entered and a bag containing hockey equipment was stolen. Report taken.

Friday 11-9

7:45 a.m. Walk-in to station reported a breaking and entering in the parking lot between the Shady Glen and 2nd Street bar. A vehicle was entered and \$25 in quarters, CDs, and a pouch was taken.

9:00 a.m. Report of a breaking and entering at a 13th Street address. A vehicle was entered and a cell phone, CD player, and CDs were taken.

8:25 p.m. Report of vandalism in the 3rd Street parking lot. Four tires had been slashed on a vehicle.

9:40 p.m.

[redacted], was arrested on a default warrant.

Saturday 11-10

1:07 a.m. Report of a fight at the Rendezvous on 3rd Street. Participants gone on arrival.

12:56 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Federal Street address. Caller stated that his girlfriend punched him. Caller also stated he could not make a report at that time because he had things to attend to.

1:54 p.m. Female party from previous call reported she was a victim of domestic violence. Incident found to have occurred in Greenfield. Referred to Greenfield Police.

Sunday 11-11

2:00 a.m. Report of a fight at a 2nd Street address.

[redacted], was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery and

resisting arrest.

Tuesday 11-13

2:40 p.m. Report of a larceny from a Turnpike Road address. A boys BMX bike was stolen. Report taken.

10:40 p.m. Report of a loud noise disturbance at a 4th Street address. Neighbors were playing loud music. Advised to turn it down.

Wednesday 11-14

1:07 a.m. Report of a burglar alarm sounding at the Hallmark Institute of Photography on Industrial Blvd.

[redacted], was arrested on two straight warrants.

1:39 a.m. While on patrol officer found a suspicious vehicle at the Mohawk Ramblers on Lake Pleasant Road.

[redacted] was arrested and charged with speeding, failure to operate within marked lanes, operating under the influence of liquor (2nd offense), operating to endanger, and failure to use care in starting, stopping, turning, or backing.

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~ J.R.R. Tolkien

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NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

DOE Eases Supervision of GMRSD

BY DAVID DETMOLD

Gill-Montague interim school superintendent Ken Roche delivered what he called "some good news for the district" at the school committee meeting of November 13th. Based on a phone conversation with the district's contact person at the state Department of Education,

Lynda Foisy, assistant associate director of accountability and targeted assistance, Roche said, "due to the positive nature of the report of the DOE monitoring team" the DOE is no longer considering the GMRSD a candidate for possible state takeover. "We are a viable district," said Roche, who called

the development "an indication of the positive things going on in our district and the state's recognition of those changes. We are well down the path of school improvement," Roche said.

According to the superintendent, Foisy told him "further fact finding is not required in the process," and the report on the district's "turnaround plan," which Roche had originally been scheduled to deliver to the DOE in Boston in December, has now been pushed back until February. At that time, Roche said he will ask for more financial assistance from the DOE to implement some of the main goals the state has targeted for the district's improvement, including "transition assistance for reconfiguration of elementary schools, and remodeling help" for elementary schools that remain open. Also, Roche said he would seek financial assistance from the DOE for "professional development, curriculum coordination, and math and English language assistance coaches."

Roche said the draft report of the DOE monitoring team,

which will soon be finalized and made available to the public, "lists our inability to provide educational resources as a problem of fiscal capacity within the district."

In other news, committee chair Mary Kociela said the committee has met twice in retreats recently to work out an agreement on reconfiguring Montague elementary schools, and would meet in retreat two more times, if need be. She said the committee was on track to arrive at a decision on this topic by the end of November.

In his draft turnaround plan for the district, Roche listed reconfiguration of district elementary schools and joining the state's cost saving Group Insurance Commission (GIC) health plan as two items necessary to stabilize district finances. The GMRSD voted to join the GIC in September. Other aspects of Roche's turnaround plan involve taking savings realized from joining the state health plan and from closing an elementary school (or schools) and reinvesting them in restoring educational services at district schools, and new programs in

the upper school "to make what we're offering more relevant to all students and lower the dropout rate." He said the five-year budget planning process the schools have embarked on with the town of Montague will be a key element in sustaining the district's progress, by ensuring resources are adequate to meet the needs of educational programs, and by allowing the district to tailor its wage and benefit package for employees to a sustainable budget.

The school committee discussed rotating committee meetings to district schools, on a once a month basis, but no decision was reached on this. Holding school committee meetings at district schools other than the high school would necessitate taping them for rebroadcast on MCTV, rather than airing them live from the high school's TV studio. But committee member Terry Lapachinski urged consideration of the idea as a means of reaching out to all parts of the school community and getting the committee members more familiar with each of the district schools.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GILL POLICE LOG

Car v. Utility Pole

<p>Tuesday 11-6 10:55 a.m. Report of an illegal fire at West Gill Road residence.</p> <p>Wednesday 11-7 5:31 p.m. 911 call at Walnut Street residence for subject upset at telemarketer.</p> <p>9:03 p.m. Report of possible prowler at Ben Hale Road residence.</p> <p>Thursday 11-8 5:43 a.m. Officer requested for unwanted subject at Walnut Street address.</p> <p>4:03 p.m. Report of a credit card fraud from Main Road resident.</p> <p>6:55 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency at North Cross Road residence.</p> <p>Friday 11-9</p>	<p>9:35 p.m. Annoying phone call complaint from Myrtle Street residence.</p> <p>Saturday 11-10 2:45 p.m. Report of loose cows on Main Road, owner contacted.</p> <p>Sunday 11-11 1:20 a.m. Assisted Bernardston police with drunk driving arrest. Suspect ran on-duty Gill cruiser off of roadway on Gill Road.</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Assisted Boyle Road resident with trespass order.</p> <p>11:15 a.m. Alarm sounding at Barton Cove Road business.</p> <p>4:32 p.m. Report of car vs. utility pole accident on West Gill Road. Upon investigation it was determined the accident occurred over the town line in</p>
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Bernardston.
5:00 p.m. Report of loose cows on Main Road.
6:12 p.m. Report of stolen laptop computer from residence on Main Road.

Monday 11-12
3:20 p.m. Walk-in report at station of a past breaking and entering with assault and battery. Under investigation.

4:47 p.m. Report of larceny from French King Highway business.

Tuesday 11-13
8:55 a.m. Assisted with medical emergency at French King Highway business.

12:40 p.m. Report of a larceny over \$250 from Walnut Street residence.

1:10 p.m. Assisted Northfield police with search for missing nine-year-old child.

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Lively Bench Debate

BY JOHN HANOLD - The selectboard meeting of Tuesday, November 13th, featured lively discussion on the topic of the possible relocation of a bench on Avenue A in front of the former VFW Hall, and the young people that congregate along that portion of the block between Third and Fourth Streets. Richard Mascavage, owner of Pipione's Sport Shop at 101 Avenue A, alleges that the long-standing assemblage of young people near his shop has harmed his business by intimidating customers so they don't come in.

In an October 30th letter to the board, Mascavage requested that the bench be removed. Avenue A Café owner Evelyn Daly offered to have the bench relocated further down the block, in front of her shop at 111 Avenue A.

The extended discussion of varying points of view concluded with a vote to try to place another bench in front of Daly's café, if one could be found in storage at the highway department or built from molds from the Montague Machine Company, which may still have the original molds in storage. If that is not possible, the bench will be moved as requested. The board will revisit the issue in three weeks to determine the action to be taken.

There seemed to be general agreement that more benches, not fewer, are needed on Avenue A and that both consideration on the part of congregators and tolerance on the part of shoppers is the best long-term solution. Megan Green said she felt insulted to be told her friends are

intimidating customers without a description of what the intimidating behavior was, closing with "We are a younger part of the community."

Jeanne Golrick offered that downtown Millers Falls has had similar problems on occasion, and that sidewalks are meant for walking and that groups gathering on them tend to be intimidating.

Jean Hebden of downtown Turners Falls, on the other hand, asserted that the benches themselves are inanimate town property, whose positioning should not be determined by business owners. She feels it is individuals, not benches, that need attention - if they do something illegal, the police should be called, - but until then the gatherers should not be blamed for congregating. Hebden said, "If I wanted to live in a unfriendly place where people weren't welcome on the street, I'd move to Greenfield."

The board considered separate applications from the Shea Theater and the Second Street Sports Bar and Fat Boyz Nightclub, for one-day permits for fundraising or annual outdoor events. On the strength of several years of incident-free activity on the night before Thanksgiving, Lew Collins, manager of the Sports Bar at 23 Avenue A will be permitted to segregate a portion of the sidewalk between the doors of his two facilities from 6:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. on November 21st, so patrons can smoke outside or go from one to portion of his club to the other.

He promises the same level of security as in prior years.

The applications from the Shea board of directors represent far-sighted planning: a wine-tasting on the premises on January 10th, 2008, and a barbeque contest in Peskeomskut Park on July 12th, 2008.

In related business, the board approved \$5,000 a year for three years from program income to help support the theater's operations. Selectboard member Allen Ross observed, "The Shea is one of our cultural institutions, a bare-bones operation - but we need income sources. How can we develop income sources in the next years?"

The chair of the Shea board, Robin Paris, responded that the theater strives toward self-sufficiency, but offered no new ideas to the board.

The remainder of the meeting focused on updates on the combined sewer overflow (CSO), Strathmore Mill stabilization, and police station construction projects.

CSO work will require the redirection of traffic near the wastewater treatment facility for four months while road realignment work and tank installation occur at depths up to 35 feet. On a positive note, the bid accepted for replacement of the First Street pumping station generator came in at \$23,744, rather than the higher figure forecasted (although the eleven week lead-time for the equipment means a continued wait for completion of that project).

Bids for the expedited upgrade of the sprinkler system in the Strathmore are expected next week, after a bidders' conference on November 14th, and town administrator Frank Abbondanzio reassured audience members that no one lives in the mill anymore, that access is strictly limited to employees of Southworth Paper and Turners Falls Hydro who have a need to be there. The mill's security may actually be enhanced by extended stays by Turners Falls Hydro watchmen.

Finally, the police station feasibility committee, having completed its initial role with the positive town-wide debt exclusion vote in favor of the new police station on November 6th, will now be re-chartered for the design and construction

phase of the project, and be augmented with members familiar with these aspects. The expanded committee of about a dozen members will immediately authorize final drawings by the architect and the solicitation and employment of an owner's project manager, per state statute. Final drawings must be complete by February 15th, 2008 to support the town's Community Development Block Grant application for the project, which Abbondanzio again pegged at \$700,000. The selectboard demonstrated its continuing support of the station by voting \$30,000 of program income as a matching grant for the CDBG allocation.

The purchase of land from the Diocese of Springfield, and a co-operative agreement between the selectboard and the Prudential Committee of the Turners Falls Fire District, now need to be completed, in tandem with the architectural work.

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VETERANS from 1 over the role of chair, guided a scaled down version of the monument through the planning stage, chipped \$60,000 off the price tag, and pushed a revitalized fund drive through to completion.

Asked how he felt as the ribbon cutting neared, Gilmore would only say, "I'm tired." Then, with Sunday morning's 37-degree wind blowing over the hill, he added, "I'm freezing." But his eyes held the glint of satisfaction that comes from a job well done.

Selectboard chair Pat Allen,



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whose board supported the memorial renovation since it was first announced, and contributed financially to its completion, read a speech at the Veterans Day ceremony, as follows.

"As always, Veterans Day is an important day for our town and our country. This year, today is particularly special in Montague. We have created a new home for our soldiers who served our country and its ideals in wars that have touched our families across the centuries, from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 to the war in Iraq and other conflicts we are currently engaged in."

She quoted Conway poet Archibald MacLeish's elegy, "The Young Dead Soldiers Do Not Speak."

*The young dead soldiers do not speak.
 Nevertheless, they are heard in the still houses:
 who has not heard them?
 They have a silence that speaks for them at night
 and when the clock counts.
 They say: We were young. We have died.
 Remember us.
 They say: We have done what we could
 but until it is finished it is not done.
 They say: We have given our lives
 but until it is finished
 no one can know what our lives gave.
 They say: Our deaths are not ours: they are yours,
 they will mean what you make them.
 They say: Whether our lives and our deaths were for
 peace and a new hope or for
 nothing we cannot say,
 it is you who must say this.
 We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning.
 We were young, they say. We have died; remember us.*

She continued, "With these monuments, some new, some

refurbished, we do, and will, remember them, our soldiers: our sons and daughters, fathers and mothers, friends and colleagues. We will read their names: some whose families were here for a short time but most, we will recognize, whose families helped form and develop our community since 1754.

"The board of selectmen is very proud to have supported this memorial renovation commemorating the efforts of Montague's soldiers throughout the world and the years. This project took years, much effort by individuals, and strong financial support from many more, both individuals and businesses. It has taken the dedication of a number of individuals who wouldn't stop either, because they recognized the deep importance of what this monument means to all of us, and in their persistence they have reflected the same steadfastness and perseverance as our soldiers.

"When you find yourself visiting this site, today, next month, next year, reflect on our soldiers' sacrifices, and remember the pledge we make today through this ceremony: that we will always give their service and memory honor and meaning; and that we will renew our efforts towards hope and peace that they worked for so valiantly, so that our children and our children's children may have the same freedoms we have received from those who served for us."

A number of speakers spoke of the sacrifices veterans have made in America's wars, ranging from the lofty metaphors of keynote speaker Colonel Mike Boulanger, (now mayor-elect of Westfield), to the plainspoken comments of Ken Morin, who talked about the reasons his five brothers and sister signed up to serve in Korea and Viet Nam,

including his brother Richard, former Turners Falls fire chief, who said he enlisted because "there were too many kids at home."

Boulanger called America's 1.4 million active duty military personnel "the pillars that bear the weight of freedom for all of us." He said, "Whether they served our interests in the mountains of Korea or the jungles of Viet Nam, they stood ready if requested to fight and die for our country." Boulanger, born in Montague, served 37 years in the air force, flying fighter planes in Viet Nam and Bosnia and two tours of duty in Iraq, where he earned the Bronze Star. He said military personnel, "through their sacrifice, are making this country safer and more secure." He continued, "Our forefathers blessed us with many freedoms in this country. There are cold-eyed men who would deny us these freedoms. It is the soldier who stands between us and them."

Before Morin took his place at the granite podium, Gilmore got a laugh when he told the crowd to "Please be seated." Aside from a few dozen chairs for the speakers and local dignitaries, it was standing room only for the two hundred or so onlookers, who declined his offer to take a seat on the lawn or sidewalk.

Morin spoke proudly of his years in the military, where he built roads and bridges in Viet Nam, a period of service that prepared him for a lifelong career in construction.

In fact, supervising a crew from Warner Brothers in Sunderland, it was Morin two weeks ago who installed the new one and a half-ton memorials for the Revolutionary and Civil War, and for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as the refurb-

ished three-ton memorial for World War I and the new two and a half ton granite podium in the center of the memorial plaza, from where the speakers delivered their remarks on Sunday.

Pam Lester, Exalted Ruler of the Montague Elks, recited the mystic Toast to the 11th Hour from memory, as the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month approached. It was on this date and time that the armistice ending 'the War to End all Wars' went into effect in 1918, bringing the hostilities that claimed the lives of over 20 million in World War I to an inconclusive close. Since then, well over 100 million more civilian and military deaths have been chalked up in global conflicts, with the toll still rising steadily.

The last surviving American veteran to serve overseas in World War I, Fred Woodruff Buckles, 106, lives in Charlestown, West Virginia, where he gave numerous interviews about his service this week. He lied to an army recruiter to enlist at the age of 16, and though he did not see combat, after the armistice he transported prisoners of war back to Germany.

According to the *Roanoke Times*, Buckles said of the German prisoners, "They were well-disciplined. They were no problem; I'll say that for them."

Leading the procession to the memorial at a little past 10 a.m., the Oak Ridge Detachment of the Marine Color Guard were followed by Shelburne Falls bagpiper Eric Goodchild, in kilts, playing "the Haughs of Cromdale". As the dedication drew to a close and trustees John Murphy and Don Girard cut the ceremonial ribbon, Goodchild piped up a plaintive rendering of "Amazing Grace".

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GILL from pg 1

before town meeting for determination.

While he had the selectboard's ear, Mathews let them know the town's conservation fund may soon need replenishing. The Remillard property on Bascom Hollow Road may soon be entered into the state's Agricultural Preservation Program, requiring a 10% local match, perhaps \$21,000. There is only \$15,500 left in the account, which had formerly been funded by town meeting to \$30,000.

Banash asked Mathews to, "Keep us informed on the Remillard place. I think preserving that hollow is right up there on our priority list."

Override Vote

In other news, the board decided to tentatively schedule a Proposition 2½ override vote for December 18th, to seek approximately \$93,000 in new property taxes to balance the budgets of town departments and to meet the town's assessment for the Gill-Montague schools for the current fiscal year. Failure to pass an override could spell layoffs for the town's already overstretched departments, since the town is required by law to meet its obligation for the \$16,180,901 regional school budget passed by the district meeting of July 31st.

The board has delayed setting

a firm date for the override, pending certification of property values by the state Department of Revenue. These figures may be set by the end of November, allowing the town to set a tax rate and inform voters of the actual impact of the override on their tax bills. If the state delays certification of property values beyond the end of November, the board plans to put off the override until some time in January.

In the meanwhile, the town hopes a good percentage of residents will pay the first half of their '08 taxes by the end of December, using an estimate based on last year's bills, to keep cash flow at town hall current with expenses.

On that note, tax collector and treasurer LaChance advised the board she may have to renegotiate the three-month \$650,000 loan the town took out to meet current expenses until the tax rate could be set and the tax bills mailed. That loan expires on December 21st. Banash advised her to wait to the last minute, to see how much tax revenue comes in by then.

Mariamante Loan

LaChance has also arranged to take out a one-year loan for \$231,300, the principal remaining on the town's purchase of the 12-acre Mariamante parcel on West Gill and Main Road. There have been no takers for the town's

Requests for Proposals from developers for that property. The loan, from Bank North, will be at 3.74% interest.

The board approved Western Mass Electric Company's request to install three jointly owned utility poles on West Gill Road, near the Mariamante parcel, to connect to a "more reliable" feed line for Riverside and French King Highway. WMECo's Jason Smith said the current line runs through Factory Hollow, where falling tree limbs have taken down lines and interrupted service recently. Ed Voudren, whose family's property abuts the location of the new poles, recommended a short guardrail be installed, to prevent speeding drivers from knocking down the new utility poles. "If they're coming around those S curves and they're cranking, every time they take that pole down like a bowling pin," Voudren pointed out.

Development Plan

The board approved a community development strategy prepared by Rogers, to qualify the town for state and federal community development block grant funds, which could be used primarily for no-interest housing rehab loans for income eligible applicants. Beside housing rehabilitation to correct code violations, the plan prioritized the town's short and long term needs as: purchasing a new dump truck for the highway department, from local taxes; selling the Mariamante parcel to an appropriate developer, after conducting a further archaeological assessment of the site, bringing utilities to the parcel, and revising a request for proposals on the parcel; painting the exterior of the Riverside municipal building and identifying future alternative uses for that building; creating a system for townwide data back-ups and creating new email accounts for all board and committee members; and stabilizing the river bank behind the Center Cemetery, while exploring having the cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Purchasing a new fire truck with the help of the Northfield Mount Hermon School was also high on the list.

The board has 50 new recycling containers available free at town hall, on a first come first serve for residents. Complaints to Duseau Trucking about certain residents having their trash or recycling missed during regular pick-up runs resulted in a pledge from the company to improve service.

TRUCKS from pg 1

The convoy heading for the nation's capital over the Thanksgiving weekend will be made up of fifteen antique Macks and Brockways (Brockway was a subsidiary of Mack from 1956 until the line's demise in 1977), loaded with 70 Vermont Christmas trees, including a 65-foot balsam fir from Somerset that will take its place on the west lawn of the Capital on Monday, November 26th. The convoy will make numerous stops at veterans hospitals and convalescent homes along the route, dispensing Christmas trees, presents, and good old-fashioned cheer. Among the stops: the Leeds VA Hospital and the Holyoke Soldiers Home.

Chase and his son, Fred Chase III, will be running the '79 Super-Liner on the DC trip, towing a '42 EF Mack freight truck on the trailer. On Tuesday, Chase's brother Bill was putting the finishing touches of paint on the freight truck's 1904 body (not the original body). The business logo on the truck's side panels read: Miller Trucking and Moving Company, Oxford, NJ.

Chase and his son will be the mechanics for the convoy, and hope to have all parts on hand for any emergencies that may arise. "The average age of the trucks is 50 years old," he said, "so we try

to carry everything we might need." Chase is built like a modern-day Paul Bunyan, and could probably loosen the rustiest lug nut just by glaring at it.

Seated in his office in front of a Cayuta Andes combination coal and wood stove, with an extensive collection of automotive manufacturer watch fobs hanging from the red oak timber frame roof beams, Chase gave credit to the other members of the Western Mass chapter who will be driving in the convoy. Rich Misterka, of Amherst, with his wife and son, will be driving a fire engine red '51 Mack LTH with trailer, and Doug Richardson of South Deerfield will be taking a vintage Brockway tractor trailer for the trip. Chase said the convoy is sponsored by the Vermont Bull Dawg Club, which, according to the June issue of *Double Clutch* magazine, "etched their place in history in 1994, when for the first time ever a convoy of antique Mack trucks delivered the Tree to Washington."

Chase missed that convoy, but he won't be left behind this time. And if there is any engine trouble on the highway, the rest of the drivers will be glad they have him along.

The convoy should be stopping at the Whately Truck Stop on Wednesday, November 21st, at about 9 a.m.

MCTV Schedule
Channel 17: Nov. 16th - Nov. 22nd

Friday, November 16
8:00 am Carlos W. Anderson: "So What"
9:00 am Montague Select Board (11/12/07)
10 am Montague Update: David Detmold
11 am Common Man Concerts: Jeff Brewer
12:00 pm The Spirit of Lake Pleasant
6:00 pm Montague Update: John Hanold
7:00 pm GMRSD Meeting (11/13/07)
10:00 pm Windchanger: Mona Lisa
11:00 pm Independent Voices #39

Saturday, November 17
8:00 am Montague Update: John Hanold
9:00 am GMRSD Meeting (11/13/07)
12:00 pm Windchanger: Mona Lisa
1:00 pm Independent Voices #39
6:00 pm Songs for Wee People
7:00 pm Positive Profiles In Courage
8:00 pm Physician Focus: Becoming A Smarter Patient
8:30 pm Thomas Jefferson Speaks
9:00 pm The Fabulous Maurice
10:00 pm Carlos W. Anderson: "Passion & Compassion"

Sunday, November 18
8:00 am Songs For Wee People
9:00 am Positive Profiles In Courage
10:00 am Physician Focus: Becoming a Smarter Patient
10:30 am Thomas Jefferson Speaks
11:00 am The Fabulous Maurice
12:00 pm Carlos W. Anderson: "Passion & Compassion"
6:00 pm Coffee House Series: Jeff Martell
7:30 pm Chronicles of Czestochowa: Part II
8:00 pm Elder Law
9:00 pm Variety Show
10:30 pm Encore Body Art: Mermaid Caught in Net

Monday, November 19
8:00 am Coffee House Series: Jeff Martell
9:30 am Chronicles of Czestochowa: Part II

10:00 am Elder Law
11:00 am Variety Show
12:30 pm Encore Body Art: Mermaid Caught in Net
6:30 pm Source To Sea 2007
7:00 pm Montague Selectboard: (11/12/07)
9:00 pm Emus
10:00 pm Flotilla
10:30 pm Taft Mountain Toppers

Tuesday, November 20
8:00 am Source To Sea 2007
8:30 am Montague Selectboard: (11/12/07)
10:30 am Emus
11:30 am Flotilla
12:30 pm Taft Mountain Toppers
5:30 pm The Pop Rockets
7:00 pm GMRSD (11/13/07)
10:00 pm Independent Voices #33
10:30 pm Common Man Concert: Jeff Brewer

Wednesday, November 21
8:00 am The Pop Rockets
9:30 am GMRSD (11/13/07)
12:30 pm Independent Voices #33
1 pm Common Man Concerts: Jeff Brewer
6:00 pm Windchanger: Green Screen/Water Vessel
6:30 pm Turkey Day Game 2006
9:30 pm Art Fest 2007
11 pm Chronicles of Czestochowa: Part II

Thursday, November 22
8:00 am Windchanger: Green Screen/Water Vessel
8:30 am Turkey Day Game 2006
11:30 am Art Fest 2007
1 pm Chronicles of Czestochowa: Part Two
2:00 pm Turkey Day Game 2007
6:00 pm Discovery Center: Woodpeckers
7:00 pm Montague Selectboard: (11/12/07)
9:00 pm Turkey Day Game 2007
11:00 pm Stephanie Marshall

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JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION

BY FRED CICETTI

LEONIA, NJ - Q. *I think I'm hearing talk radio in my head at night. I am awake and I can hear it when I cover my ears. Is this possible?*

This question came from Gale, my spouse of 43 years, who is sound of mind, but has a mouthful of fillings and bridgework.

I looked into this and I'm convinced that Gale is picking up radio signals through her teeth. If you've had similar experiences, I'd like to know about them. Please write me at fredcicetti@gmail.com and I'll

do a follow-up column if I get enough responses.

I came up with some fascinating stuff in my research. The following was posted on the *Alaska Science Forum*:

According to Robert Hunsucker, a professor emeritus at the Geophysical Institute with the University of Alaska Fairbanks, a receiver is so simple that anything from a phone to a person's mouth can act as one.

At its most basic, a receiver circuit consists of only three elements: an antenna, which picks up an electromagnetic radio signal; a detector, which is an electrical component that converts the radio wave to an audio signal the human ear can pick up; and a transducer, which is anything that acts like a speaker.

Such is the extremely rare case when a person's mouth acts as a receiver. The electrical conductivity of the human body can

act as an antenna. A metallic filling in a tooth, reacting just so with saliva, can act as a semiconductor to detect the audio signal. The speaker in this case could be anything that vibrates within the mouth enough to produce noise, such as bridgework or maybe a loose filling.

Here are two cases from *Straightdope.com*:

Case #1. George was fitted with a cap that was attached with brass wire. Thereafter he began hearing music in his head, generally popular tunes of the day, usually while he was outdoors. The music was soft but distinct. He never heard an announcer's voice or commercials and was unable to identify what radio station, if any, he was hearing. After a year or two of this, a new dentist put in a cap without a wire and the tunes stopped.

Case #2. Lois says it hap-

pened just once, in 1947, while she was riding a train from her home in Cleveland to college in Rhode Island. The experience lasted maybe 10 minutes. She couldn't tell what station she was listening to but recalls hearing commercials and an announcer's voice. She has silver tooth fillings but doesn't recall if she'd had one put in just before the event.

On the newsgroup *sci.electronics* comes this tale:

I have metal caps on both of my incisors. On one occasion, I picked up the local radio station on my capped teeth. I could not tune it at all. I could only cause the single station to come in or go out. I know it was being picked up and detected by the caps because I could make it go away either by placing my tongue against the caps or by taking my hand off of the aluminum window frame of the

window I was looking out of when I first noticed the effect.

The TV show *Mythbusters* tested teeth receiving radio signals and concluded that it was a myth because the staff could not reproduce the phenomenon on the air. I read a transcript of this episode. My conclusion is that the test was inconclusive.

The *Mythbusters* test was inspired by a story told by Lucille Ball, who said she heard music in her mouth. You can watch her tell the entire story to TV host Dick Cavett. Just go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQCjLaSsCff

I've watched this clip several times. I don't think Lucy was fabricating a story to entertain her audience. She seems to be relating a genuine and unsettling event in her life.

Again, if you have a story of your own, please write me at fredcicetti@gmail.com.

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION: Garden Cleanup

BY LESLIE BROWN

MONTAGUE CITY - While the oak leaves have turned bronze, the unusually long foliage season continues as maples hold on to reds, golds and rosy pinks. During this extended period the ivy geranium that has decorated the back stoop all summer still hangs; I am reluctant to abandon the last few blooms. The temperatures are seasonable, falling to the twenties overnight and often failing to rise above the high forties in the daytime. Gray skies prevail. The bare ash tree sports great chains of bittersweet.

On one recent frosty morning, two titmice hovered and landed in the hanging geranium, chattering at great length. These two seemed to remember that in cold weather a feeder full of sunflower seeds hangs on the hook still decorated by the geranium. Chastened, I remove the tired plant and make an expedition for a bag of birdseed. I've been fooled by the extended season.

Fortunately, the garden soil has not frozen hard. It's time for garden cleanup. Pulling the old plants and weeds is the first step. Then spread two bags of composted manure per garden square and turn the soil under.

Thirty years ago this garden space was a vacant lot of weedy

grasses and small trees. Now the turned soil is readily friable, or crumbly. It's easy to forget the years of adding soil nutrients like manure, compost and green sand, the perpetual harvest of rocks and human trash like glass and shards of pottery, the purchase (imagine!) of a box of earthworms, the hiring of a rototiller.

Now for the expenditure of a little needed exercise, the earth turns readily to the spade, revealing a fine soil full of fat, wiggling earthworms.

A little energy spent now will promote good garden hygiene and give you a head start on next spring. Weed seed, fungus and mold will be killed by the continuing frosts. Next sea-

son, as soon as the ground thaws enough to rake, you can plant all of those cold-tolerant early crops like greens, radish, onion and peas long before your neighbors.

Now begins the gray season. November is one of the gloomiest months: cold, dark and bare. Bringing the garden indoors can help brighten the days until the warmth returns.

This is a great time to pick up

highly fragrant white flowers in just a few weeks. They can be planted in potting soil with their tips exposed or in shallow pans filled with water and pebbles. If you use a pebble planter, push the bulbs down firmly into an inch-high bed of stone, so that the base of the bulb makes good contact with the water and the roots have something to hang onto. After watering, place the bulb container in a cool dark place until the green tips start to show. Then place out of direct sunlight in a well-lit room.

If you start these bulbs soon, you will have lovely scented blooms for Christmastime, giving you a sense of spring and a change from the usual Poinsettia or greens display. Keeping the flowering bulbs out of direct sunlight in a cool but bright room will guarantee longer blooming time.

A half a dozen spectacular Narcissus bulbs provide an inexpensive treat for the November-weary senses. Any



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK

other spring bulb can also be forced in this manner, but none is as deliciously fragrant.

It's also the season for the traditional holiday blooming cacti. These are originally forest growing cacti from the high elevations of Brazil. Now commonly available in many local stores, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter cacti are easily grown and can live for years producing a huge array of pink, red or orangish blooms at the holiday time. These plants are best grown in bright but indirect light. A period of six weeks of cool temperature, 55-60 degrees, will bring on blooming.

Finally, don't forget to cook with the bright colors of the fall season. Make soups or roasted vegetables to enjoy the bright colors and flavors of squash, pumpkin, carrot, parsnip, onion and potato. These hearty foods do much to warm both body and soul in these short, dark days.

OVEN ROASTED FALL VEGETABLES

Choose a blend of colorful potatoes, carrots, onions, peppers, pumpkins, garlic. Cut all fruits into 1/2 inch chunks. Coat with olive oil and sprinkle with a teaspoon each of thyme and oregano. Roast in a shallow pan at 400 degrees, stirring once or twice to turn until the vegetables are tender yet crispy.

SQUASH OR PUMPKIN SOUP

Cut acorn, butternut squash or small sugar pumpkins in half and bake, cut side down on a cookie sheet in a 400-degree oven until tender. Cool, then remove the seeds and scoop the flesh from the peel.

While the squash or pumpkin cools, brown chopped onion, garlic and an apple or two until soft.

Combine the above ingredients with chicken broth or orange juice sufficient to easily puree the soup in a blender or food processor. Season with your preferred spice: cinnamon, ginger, curry powder, cayenne or nutmeg. Thin with more broth or juice as desired and heat gently. Serve with a dollop of sour cream, whipped cream or maple cream.

a few Narcissus bulbs to force for the holiday season. These bulbs produce bunches of petite,

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ILLUSTRATION BY ANJA SCHUTZ

BY KARL MEYER

MONTAGUE CITY - The Canalside Trail in Turners Falls has just added the loveliest Connecticut River crossing in Massachusetts to its southern reach. The opening of the Rail Trail Bridge - formerly the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Bridge - is really the jewel in this four-mile recreation path. It reaches across the surprisingly quiet intersection of two storied New England rivers, the Deerfield and Connecticut. The bridge, first built by Pittsburgh's Keystone Bridge Company in 1880, spans the Connecticut just south of where the Deerfield empties into it from the southwest.

Standing on the bridge deck on a fall day, you are immersed in a panorama of water, ridgelines, and sparkling foliage, with little to interrupt the nature of this dynamic site save a peek you get of the Montague City Bridge upstream, and the nearly-hidden workings of Montague's water treatment plant. The current shimmers in fall sun. Looking west, you might have trouble picking out the larger Connecticut from the Deerfield, which merges from the left. But telltale turbulence and an attendant foam arc traces where the graceful downstream push of the big river overpowers the current of a mixing-in Deerfield.

Below the bridge, the pattering feet and rufous shagged heads of common mergansers can be seen as they make noisy take-offs on the water. Conversely, these well-represented waterfowl make perfect wakes as their water-skid landings bring them to a halt on the river to resume their fishing. If the sun is just right you may catch the lazy meandering of a thick, two- or three-foot carp, patrolling the shallows below. At that size, they have no fear of those mergansers, or even the larger double-crested

cormorants navigating the current. With just their angled heads raised, snake-like, above the surface, the cormorants ready themselves to dive for passing meals, using both wings and webbed feet to chase down underwater quarry.

The three-note cry of a late yellowlegs, a wading bird scouring the shallows, can still be heard as it hunts its way south along the river corridor. From the bridge, the rattlings and flashes of white from the wings of belted kingfishers are common. Crows, chipmunks and squirrels are always about, and midday sweeps of turkey vultures on motionless, upraised wings, are a graceful addition to the fall sky.

Looking east and downstream along the Connecticut, the backdrop is the sprawling ancient escarpment known as the Pelham Dome. At approximately 1,000 feet in elevation, some of its rock underpinning is nearly half a billion years old. Looking west

from the bridge deck is the northern extension of the Pocumtuck Ridge, not far from where Poet's Seat Tower overlooks Greenfield.

This river confluence is a dynamic spot in New England flood history. The trail's bridge had to be partly rebuilt by Pennsylvania's Phoenix Bridge Company in 1936, after devastating floods here. And, where the Montague City Bridge is just visible around the bend, is a spot where covered bridges were once the rule. Almost a full century before the flood that damaged this bridge, another devastating flood took out the covered bridge just five miles south at Sunderland, sending it barreling downstream into the covered bridge at Northampton, smashing it to bits. That February 1840 flood washed away forever the looping bend depicted so famously in Thomas Cole's, *The Oxbow, View from Mt. Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts,*

after a Thunderstorm.

If you continue south along the trail, it terminates at a small lot adjacent to the East Deerfield rail yard. Here, you can watch the slow dance of trains being channeled to and from distant points on the continent. Coal trains, some a half mile long, are discharged toward power plants in Bow, New Hampshire, or just 25 miles downstream to Holyoke. Following the trail north, you'll see the broad ditches on either side where canal boats once entered a manmade navigation corridor, hacked out of the rock here in the early 19th century.

The path takes to the streets briefly where you have to go left at Masonic Street, then right onto Montague City Road past the Farren Care Center. Turn left at Depot Street and pick the trail up again. Here you'll quickly come up on the broad embayment that was blasted out for power generation on a canal system converted to hydro-electric operations.

There are always scores of geese and assorted waterfowl here.

Along the path, bushels of migrating sparrows skitter from the weeds. If you pay attention, you might even spot a migrating merlin (once known as the pigeon hawk) making graceful, powerful, feints at nearby flocks of pigeons, or small knots of mourning doves along the route. At the Canalside Trail's northern terminus, bald eagles are still coasting low across the quiet waters of Barton Cove, hoping to snatch a meal from the surface, or scavenge up a bit of carrion along the shore.

Cooling thought: Skip the noise, the fossil fuel, the dust storm. Don't start the blower; pick up a rake and enjoy a little needed exercise - and then compost the leaves. They belong here, not in a landfill or incinerator.

Karl Meyer can be reached at: karlm@crocker.com

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

The Waterhole

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH GILL - A waterhole next to the brook was full of eels, snakes and lizards, but we only used it for fishing. A WPA crew had dug the hole and lined it with stones to serve as a fire pond. WPA stood for Work Projects Administration,

one of many make-work agencies formed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt during the Great Depression to give unemployed people jobs, in order to get the economy going.

The crew fenced the waterhole with four sturdy posts and hog wire, as a safety measure. We never dreamed that the fire pond would ever be needed to fight a fire. The waterhole was just a good place to fish. We perched on the fence until it sagged flat to the ground, giving us easy access to the little pond.

During the summer, we liked to fish late into the evening when the fish were biting best. The air got chilly next to the brook, so we came prepared with sheepskin coats. I don't know where they came from, but Ma said they were like the sheepskin coats that her father sewed. As nightfall came on and temperatures fell, we'd huddle under the coats, trying to cover our bare feet to keep them warm.

When our can of worms ran low, we'd cut down to a single pole. The fish poles were thin maple saplings with a piece of fish line tied to the end. We took

turns holding the pole. The others gave instructions, lots of instructions.

My younger sister Lora sometimes went wild with excitement when her turn came. Irene and I took up stations on opposite sides of Lora, peering into the twilight to catch the reflection of the water. We relayed instructions to her.

"A touch," we'd whisper.

"Another touch."

"A nibble."

"A bite!"

The cork bobbed, way under.

"You got a good bite! Pull the pole, Lora! Pull the pole. Give it a

yank!"

Lora yanked the pole with all her strength. The fish went flying up out of the water in an arc, high into the air, off the hook and far out into the pasture on the other side of the road.

Everyone went looking. We could faintly hear the fish flopping. It never dawned on us to simply catch another fish and forget about searching for the one flipping around in the dark. But we found the bullhead and somehow got it into a pail without getting stuck by the horns.

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BY MARIANNE SUNDELL WENDELL - The Wendell Holiday Fair on December 1st and 2nd will offer live music throughout the weekend and a variety of handmade arts, crafts, and farm goods at the Wendell town hall. The holiday fair provides a chance to buy locally made gifts in a festive atmosphere away from crowded shopping centers. Offerings include jewelry, pottery, fiber arts, blown glass, photography, herbs, stone and wood carvings, cards, prints, food, and more.

On Saturday, the fair runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. featuring music from Fran Doughty at 11:30 a.m. and Blame It on Tina at 1:30 p.m. Sunday the fair runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The line-up includes Kevin Skopura and Mario Cote at 11:30 a.m. and Moonlight and Morningstar at 1 p.m. Music starts at 11 a.m. both days, with local students. Erik Winter plays the piano on Saturday, and Django Skorupa plays piano, with Graham Skorupa on fiddle, on Sunday.

A wide variety of artists, craftspeople, and farmers will offer their work including fused glass jewelry, bowls, and plates by Ina Peebles; prints, cards and jewelry by Donna Horn; drawings and prints by Bob Ellis; stone carvings, customized printed products and



PHOTO BY JACK LAFORTE

Moonlight and Morningstar will perform at 1p.m. on Sunday, December 2nd, during the Wendell Holiday Craft Fair.

maple syrup from Laurel Facey; wooden gifts by David Scott; computer software by Robert Heller; healing herbs from Companions of Health farm; and cookbooks, T-shirts, cider and cookies by Friends of the Wendell Meetinghouse. Food will be available to benefit Hampshire/Franklin Children's Daycare Center.

evergreens by Joel & Wanita Sears; dichroic glass jewelry by Wendy Sherry; Jayne Rubenstein offers chair massage, wood burned and hand painted art, origami and face-painting; there will be jewelry, rattles, and clay pots by Dorothy McIver and Howard Clark; homemade sculptured pottery by Lydia Grey; glass sculptures, pendants, and glasses by Gabriel Drohen; gemstone jewelry by Amanda and Joe Serrell; cards and prints of original photographs by Ellen Blanchette; art dolls and poly clay jewelry by Belinda Lyons Zucker; herbal tinctures and salves by Nora Gurley and Clara Sarr, and

This year the music at the fair has been expanded to include performers throughout the weekend thanks to a grant from the Wendell Cultural Council, Barbara Caruso's work on the grant, and donations from members of the Wendell Open Space Committee. This is the first year musicians will join the others artists earning money for their contributions to the fair.

The Wendell Holiday Fair was started in 2004 to provide a community celebration and to support local artists, crafters, farmers and entrepreneurs. All offerings at the fair are produced locally. Vendor space is sold out.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
At The Rendezvous, 78 Third Street, Turners Falls: **Rusty Belle, Awkly Front, Rust Knuckle Raptor**, 8:30 p.m., \$5.

Millers Falls Pub, Millers Falls, **Kellianna** - acoustic rock, 8:30 - 11:30 p.m. No cover.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Josh Levangie** - Johnny Cash Covers, 9 - 11 p.m. No cover.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH
Comedy Show: Paul D'Angelo w/Jon Lincoln, Mary Beth Cowan, Mike Mindlin. Comedy at The Shea Theater, Turners Falls. Doors open 7 p.m., show 8 p.m. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. www.sheacomedy.com or at World Eye Bookshop, Greenfield.

Moose Sign Field Walk 1 to 4 p.m. For ages 12 and older. Fee: \$10 per person. Pre-register 800-859-2960. Directions to our meeting place will be emailed to participants.

Echo Lake Coffee House, 9 Montague Rd., Leverett, presents an evening of world fusion music with **Derrik Jordan** playing instrumental looping improvisations on electric violin. Admission \$12/\$10 seniors, 7:30 p.m. (413) 548-9394.

A Cappella Singers Sound off at Blake Student Center, 8 p.m., Northfield Mount Hermon School. Five a cappella groups, two NMH student ensembles. Callers perform at this A Cappella Festival. Each visiting group has an NMH alum as a member. Free, open to the public.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Nexus** - folk rock, 9 to 11 p.m. No cover.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH



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At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Iron City (Jazz Funk dance show)** 9 p.m., \$3.

Comedy at the Shea Theatre, Turners Falls. Paul D'Angelo with Jon Lincoln, Mary Beth Cowan, Mike Mindlin. Nobody investigates every bit of humor in a subject the way Paul D'Angelo does with his frenetic pace and wild, smart observations. 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Advance tickets at World Eye Bookshop.

Moose Sign Field Walk for ages 12 and older, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Spend an afternoon immersed in prime moose habitat in eastern Franklin County searching for sign such as tracks, scat, antler rubs, and feeding sites. Off-trail travel with a total distance covered, two - three miles. Directions to meeting place emailed upon registration. Call (800) 859-2960, \$10.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH
Miller Falls Rod & Gun Turkey Shoot 10 a.m. until Noon. Montague Road, Turners Falls. 863-3748.

Scandinavian dance at Montague Grange, Montague Center. Music for traditional couples 3 to 6 p.m. All levels of experience are welcome! No partner necessary. Clean, comfortable, low-heeled dancing shoes with smooth, non-rubber soles are best. \$8 donation. Call (413) 253-0525, www.guidingstargrange.org.

At The Rendezvous, 78 Third Street, Turners Falls: **Michael Metevier, D'Angelo Nieves, Daniel Hales** - singer-songwriters 8pm, \$3 cover.



The Greenfield Community College Chorus, made up of students, faculty, and community members, performs at Trinitarian Congregational Church, Northfield, 7:30 p.m. 11/18. Soloists include Mattilda Hammond of Greenfield, Henry Gatda of Millers Falls, Gretchen Harbourt of Bernardston, Colleen Rauch of Shelburne Falls, and Jennifer Gray of Orange.

Greenfield Community College Chorus performance of classical and ethnic music from around the world, 7:30 p.m. at Trinitarian Congregational Church, Northfield. Music by Josquin (Netherlands), Viadana (Italy), Bach (Germany), Esteban Salas (Cuba), Rachmaninoff (Russia), and contemporary composers Elliot Levine and Jim Papoulis (U.S.), choral arrangements of songs from Finland, Japan, England, Ireland, Africa, Israel, and the U.S. Conductor Margery Heins. Info., call 775-1171.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 18TH
Fall Chrysanthemum Show at The Botanic Garden of Smith College, Northampton. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH
Live jazz at Ristorante DiPaolo, Turners Falls, **Michele Feldheim**, piano, **Mark Dunlap**, bass, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **Ghost Quartet** - progressive electric jazz trio with guest (ghost) vocalists, trumpeter, other soloists. 8 p.m. free.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Kevin Skorupa & Mario Cote** - Celtic Night, 8 to 10 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

At The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: **DJ TriptophAntidote** dance party after 9 p.m. Free! This evening hours open 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. (kitchen closed). rendezvousfma.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD
Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Love Bomb** - Come dance! 9:30 p.m.

At The Rendezvous, 78 Third Street, Turners Falls: **Wood Green Empire**, Gypsy jazz at its djangoey best, 8 p.m. \$3 cover.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH
Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Drunk Stuntmen** with **YARN** as the opening show.

The National Spiritual Alliance: **Psychic Fair**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Thompson Temple across from the Post Office in Lake Pleasant. Info www.thenational-spiritualallianceinc.org.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH
Family Dance at Montague Grange, Montague Center. Simple dances paced for little feet. Dances are on the last Sunday of the month, through April '08. 4 to 6 p.m., \$4 per person, or families \$7 - \$12 sliding scale, includes light snack. Amy Cann leads with *Shingle the Roof*.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH
Live jazz at Ristorante DiPaolo, Turners Falls, **Mark Applegate**, guitar. **John Vaneps**, malletcat, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOV. 30TH & DEC. 1ST
Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls - Truffaut's **FAHRENHEIT 451** based on the Ray Bradbury novel. The Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association's 2007 Big Read will co-sponsor this harrowing story of a futuristic world where firemen start fires - with books - w/ discussion

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ciples into a visual arts curriculum with participants completing a JDS design as their visual "term papers".

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

Accessible Birding, look for birds in Turners Falls with members of the Hampshire Bird Club. It is a great time of year to find early wintering waterfowl, eagles, and migrating fall birds. Gentle pace, binoculars and other sup-

ports available for easier access. 10 am - noon Free. Pre-registration preferred. (413)545-5758.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH

Book Discussion Plan B 2.0, 11 a.m. - noon. Join Refuge staff on a discussion of PLAN B 2.0 by Lester R. Brown. This book addresses issues of global concern and the potential for rescuing a planet under stress. Lester Brown

is the president of Earth Policy Institute based in Washington, DC. He founded the Worldwatch Institute and is recognized internationally for his work in eco-economics. Book available for purchase at museum shop. (413) 863-3221

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Turners Fossils to be Housed at Discovery Center

BY BEN MILLER

GREAT FALLS - Wednesday night a small crowd gathered at the Great Falls Discovery Center to welcome some 200 million year old locals into the spotlight. Local geologists, historians and fossil hunters lectured about the importance of the area in the history of geology, and the evening was highlighted by the unveiling of a large set of fossils donated to the Center by Paul Fontaine and Dr. Harry Sharbaugh. Fossils from the Barton Cove area gave birth to paleontology in the 19th Century and have been studied widely. With this gift, some of them are finally being displayed in their community of origin.

The presenters described the fun, science, and conservation aspects of fossils. Turners Falls geologist Steve Winters got the evening off to a rocky start with some thoughts about the importance of fossils in geology.

"Geologists work on the assumption that sediments settle

in flat layers, with the youngest layers on top." To illustrate, Winters showed a slide with horizontal lines on it describing sedimentary layers. But on the next slide the layers went amuck, with the uppermost cut off. "This is what geologists work with," he explained. From the species identified in a sedimentary layer, geologists can establish a geologic time frame. "Fossils are key in geology."

The links between current climate changes and the importance of fossils in understanding them was touched upon. "Fossils provide a temporal scale... reliable dates... on global processes."

Local historian Sarah Doyle then took the stage, recounting the early history of fossil collecting around the world. Nineteenth century Amherst College professor of

natural history Edward Hitchcock made the first scientific articulation and defense of the fossil

waned.

Shelly Small, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife regional coordinator for museum acquisitions, spoke next. She laid out plans for a permanent display for the fossils in the Discovery Center.

For anyone tempted to try out fossil collecting Shelly cautioned, "Fossils should only be taken from private property with written permission from the owner." Alternatively, you can "apply for a license to gather on state land, or there can be up to a \$500 fine." In conclusion, Shelly added, "Fossils are a limited resource."

Greenfield Community College professor emeritus of geology Dick Little closed up the formal portion of the evening with photos of the area and some anecdotes and remembrances about the two donors. "All of the fossils have been donated for education, and these two gentlemen received...not a penny." One picture showed Paul Fontaine lifting a stone that would have weighed nearly 200 pounds. Little presented him with a framed print for his help in gathering stone for the GCC rock park.

Fontaine and Harry Sharbaugh, the amateur collectors who have chosen to give their

work to the benefit of the local community, discussed some of the intricacies of fossil hunting. Sharbaugh said, "Along shorelines is where we get prints. There is coarse sandstone along the shore. Fine particles settle at the bottom of the lake. Every year, an extremely thin layer, a millimeter or less, settles onto the lake bed." Over time, geologic time, those layers become stone, like the slate Sharbaugh held, showing the thin lines of sediment layers.

Speaking about the delicate process of separating layers to reveal fossils he said, "You have to choose when to stop. Usually you stop when you find something, but not always."

The fossils on display not only included dinosaur footprints, but also smaller patterns and plants, from crustaceous tracks to the lapping of water on the shore. As Sharbaugh described it, "Fossils tell us about the environment. A lot of things make up the environment."

Stop by the Great Falls Discovery Center to see the fossils. While you're there, the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center are running a benefit raffle, to be drawn Friday, December 14th, at 8:00 p.m. at the Great Falls Coffeehouse, with prizes donated from the Book Mill, Seth and Eva's, blown glass from Fluid Elements, and more. The Friends can be reached at (413) 863-3221 x3.



On Wednesday, GCC Professor of Geology Dick Little (left) showed off a collection of fossils donated to the Great Falls Discovery Center.

record based on fossils found here in Turners Falls. Those fossils are now housed in the Amherst College Museum of Natural History. Doyle said after the Civil War fossils were discovered in the West - including mammoth skeletons - and interest in local fossils

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK South Bakery a Tempting Destination

BY FLORE

BERNARDSTON - Meet the Doughertys, Mike and Kay, husband and wife team of talented bakers.

In France, they would be ordained as *Maitre Boulangers-Pâtisseries!* (Master bakers!)

The kitchen where those baking ovens roar is called in Gallic jargon *le laboratoire*. Indeed, this is where new recipes are created, tried out, tasted for their particular finesse, aroma and presentation, using nothing but the best ingredients. This is the innovative difference you will find at South Bakery, the Doughertys' laboratory..

Had you realized, the golden bread, *miche*, is kneaded with special care? One bite and you will be hooked for life on the assortment they produce. Lucky for us, the



Mike and Kay Dougherty

Doughertys chose Western Mass to place their creative spirits at work, would you believe, since 2001?


Asked what his recommendations are for young people choosing a profession, Michael said: "Whatever they decide, they should do it with passion!" Perhaps watching

his own father, who incidentally was a baker, helped him choose his trade!

Do tell, is there more noble a *metier*, than that of *boulangier*?

The Doughertys' friendly South Bakery is located in the heart of the village, on Route 5, in Bernardston. For special orders, phone 1-413-648-0070.

I strongly recommend, for lovers of salty things, their special, unusual, refined scallop pie! For your sweet tooth? Try all the fruit *tartelettes!* Are you aware of the fact that two Turners Falls eateries now carry some of South Bakery's toothsome goodies? Try the real croissants they specially deliver for Avenue A Café, and don't forget the tasty breads - from baguettes to rolls and multigrain loaves - at the Rendezvous.



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