



OFF THE BEATEN TRACK
Rhode Island Lighthouse
/ Page 12



A DOGS LIFE IN MONTAGUE
Photographs from the trail
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LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS GILL ERVING WENDELL

Year 3
No. 4

50¢

The Montague Reporter

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

NOVEMBER 4, 2004

Housing Corp Contracts For Mitzcovitz Land

BY IVAN USSACH

ERVING - The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Corporation (FCRHRC) has entered into a contract to purchase 8.2 acres along Route 2 in Ervingside, the selectboard learned at its November 1st meeting. The land, adjacent to Lillians Way, is owned by developer Ken Mitzcovitz, and sits over a Zone II aquifer (groundwater) recharge area. According to town administrator Tom Sharp, the FCRHRC intends to build four to six units of single-family affordable housing for first-time homebuyers, and four to six housing units for the elderly at the site.

Mitzcovitz had come before the planning board with plans for a proposed subdivision called Josephs Way that included septic fields. Based on guidance from the board of health and the selectboard, the planning board

see **FCRHRC** pg. 10

Stabilizing the Banks of the Connecticut River



BY JOSEPH PARZYCH

NORTHFIELD - Maxymillian Technologies of Pittsfield has a crew stabilizing the banks of the Connecticut River off Pine Meadow Road in Northfield, out behind Fred Skalski's property. Gary Polumbo is the super on the job. Wave action from boats and the rise and fall of the river tends to erode the banks, causing portions of the bank to slump off in various places.

The top of the riverbank is about 65 feet above the Connecticut River at this site. I say "about," because the level of the river fluctuates approximately five feet on a weekly basis, according to Northeast Utilities

see **RIVER** pg. 11

Local Voters Turn Out in Drove

BY CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS - Jay DiPucchio, Montague Democratic Party chair, was on the corner of Avenue A and Fifth Street early on election morning holding signs for Kerry, Kulik and Rosenberg. According to DiPucchio, "A man drove by, rolled down his window and shouted, 'You're wasting your time. Bush has already won it.'" Di Pucchio wasn't sure whether he was a Bush supporter or just a citizen who had been swayed by the Republican effort to portray the election as a foregone conclusion.

Fortunately, the angry car driver wasn't in the majority, in Montague anyway, where Kerry swamped Bush, 2905 to 1136. In unprecedented numbers, voters swarmed the Precinct 5 polls: some came in cars, many arrived on foot, and more than a few rode in wheelchairs. Some leaned on canes and negotiated the steps into the Senior Center with care and caution. One young man arrived on a skate-



Jay DiPucchio (left) and Kathy Hammock hold down the corner of 5th Street for local Dems, as ward boss Al Cummings looks on. "Four out of six ain't bad."

board.

"In the first hour we had more voters turn out in

Precinct 5 than in the entire last town election," said Nora Ryan, a Precinct 5 poll worker.

"Many of them were young people." Julia Bowden, another veteran elections worker, noted she had never seen so many so enthusiastic about voting. "There have never been so many people here. It's been steady, and even, at times, mobbed." Indeed, by 11:00 a.m. more than 200 had voted in the downtown Turners precinct that has the unfortunate distinction of traditionally casting the fewest ballots in Montague.

The voters themselves were not surprised that so many showed up to vote, though many expressed an underlying sense of unease about the results of the election itself. Laurie Callahan put it this way. "This is the most exciting election in my life. There is a lot at stake. I feel more strongly about this election than I ever have." Jimmy Grogan, another Precinct 5 voter echoed Callahan's comments but added he was hoping for a strong Kerry victory nationally. "I just hope it doesn't go

see **VOTE** pg. 6

Shady Glen Changes Hands

BY DAVID DETMOLD

TURNERS FALLS - Last Sunday, family photos came down off the wall and the clocks moved forward an hour as John and Linda Carey prepared to turn over the keys to the Shady Glen to new owners Elizabeth and George Zantouliadis the next day, November 1st. When I arrived "two hours late" for an interview on Sunday and mentioned everyone else in town seemed to be observing daylight savings time by moving the clocks back an hour, John realized the mistake. But with the Careys selling the business that has been the mainspring of daily life in town for forty years, it would have hardly been a surprise if the clocks in the diner had stopped running entirely, at least until the



Linda and John Carey have kept their customers well fed for forty years

Zantouliadis' had a chance to show that nothing much will change at the well-loved eatery.

Elizabeth insists, "We're going to keep things just the way they are." Seated at the counter with their five-year-

old son Dimitri in her lap, and with John Carey leaning over her shoulder to explain his system for menu planning, including the details of how to sell out of fresh fish by the close of Friday dinner, Elizabeth said, "He's got

forty years of advice and experience to share. We're just learning. He's got a winning formula here."

As long as that formula includes ice cream - especially coffee ice cream - Dimitri says that's fine with him.

A few days earlier, while Montague prepared for trick-or-treating, John Carey paused in the middle of his Sunday cleaning routine to talk about his feelings on selling the business. "I'm really not happy about letting it go," said Carey, sitting down for a cup of coffee. While we talked, two of his children stopped by, asking why he wasn't scrubbing the walls and the grill hood, on his last day as the Glen's proprietor.

see **SHADY GLEN** pg. 8

PET OF THE WEEK

On the Loose



Manny Moose

Manny Moose is a 10-year-old male Doberman mix in need of a good home. Even though Manny is 10, he actually is still quite playful. He loves wearing his spiffy jacket and playing with squeaky toys! He seems fine with dogs and cats, as long as they are gentle with him. Please consider Manny if you'd like a mellow house companion who still has lots of love to give. For more information about Manny, please contact the Dakin Animal Shelter in Leverett at 548-9898 or via email at info@dakin-shelter.org.

Sign up for New Programs Now at the YMCA in Greenfield!

Session II is starting now for youth and adult programs. Swimming, gymnastics, fitness, sports and strength classes for the whole family! Join the YMCA in Greenfield now and start taking advantage of all we offer!



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Book Sale

The Friends of the Montague Libraries will be holding their annual Fall Used Book Sale on Saturday, November 6th, from 9:00 A.M. until Noon at the Carnegie Public Library, 201 Avenue A, Turners Falls. The Friends are not accepting any further donations for this sale. Books will be sold for \$2.00 per bag. The annual scratch ticket raffle will also be started at the book sale. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. All proceeds from the raffle and book sale benefit the Montague Libraries.

FACES & PLACES



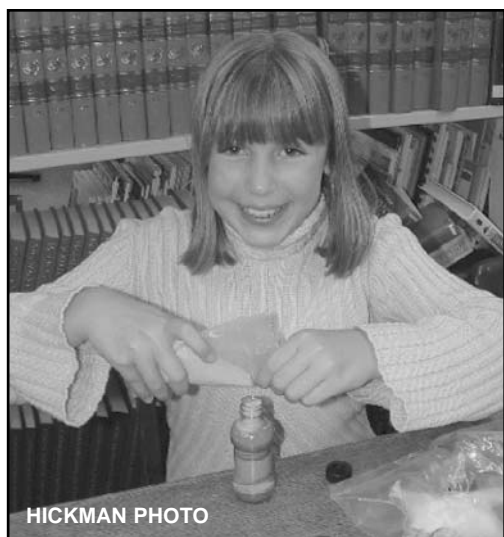
PARZYCH PHOTO

One of John Boyd's goats enjoys a fall snack on Pine Meadow Road in Northfield.

Library News

Millers Falls Library Club Meets on Tuesdays

MILLERS FALLS - The Millers Falls Library Club meets on Tuesday afternoons at 3:30 p.m. The free programs are



HICKMAN PHOTO

Shelby Lapinski of Millers Falls enjoyed making sand art at the Millers Falls Library Club

designed for elementary students and are run by the Montague Public Libraries' Children's Librarian, Linda Hickman. The projects vary from arts and crafts to service projects for the library, depending upon the interests of the participants. The programs are drop-in; no registrations are needed. For more information, please call Linda at the Carnegie Library at 863-3214 or e-mail childlib@montague.net.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES November 8th - 12th

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. Advanced registration at many of our activities is necessary. We need to know how many people will be joining so we can prepare our space adequately. A suggested donation of \$1 per exercise class is appreciated. Lunch reservations need to be called in by 11:30 a.m. the day before. Call Bunny Caldwell at 863-9357 weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (Leave message on machine at other times.) Transportation to the center can be provided. Trip coordinator is Jean Chase. Make trip reservations by calling 772-6356. Payment and menu choice is due three weeks prior to trip. All Hawthorne trips leave from the Parking Lot on First Street across from the Police Station.

Monday, 8th

1:00 p.m. Crafts

1:30 p.m. S.A.L.T. meeting

Tuesday, 9th

10:00 a.m. Tai Chi

10:00 a.m. Writing Class at St.

Anne's Community Room
1:00 p.m. Painting Class
Wednesday, 10th
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Foot screening. Reservations necessary, Gill/Montague seniors only, please do not come early
10:15 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11:15 a.m. Mealsite meeting
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, 11th
Centr CLOSED for Veterans Day Holiday
Friday, 12th
9:45 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11:00 a.m. PACE Aerobics

Please help support our **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** to be Saturday, November 27th. Non-food donations may be brought in any day between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Food donations may be brought in Friday, November 26th.

ERVING Senior Center, 18 Pleasant Street, Erving (Old Center School, 1st Floor), is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. For information and reservations call Polly Kiely, Senior Center

Country Fair Saturday, November 6th

First Congregational Church

148 L Street, Turners Falls
Luncheon 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fair will feature a variety of crafts, gifts, food, jewelry, theme baskets, toys, bottles, wooden crafts, white elephant items, children's table, raffle and silent auction.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION:
a collection of old, embossed Turners Falls, drug, beer and milk bottles will be on display, courtesy of Edwin Potter

Please join the Montague Board of Selectmen, Montague Planning Board and the University of Massachusetts Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning Department for a Public Forum on

THE ROLE OF THE ARTS, CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TOURISM IN THE FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF TURNERS FALLS AND THE REGION

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Hallowe'en Highlights



Katrina Garnet, a wicked cute leopard

Sunday's Rag Shag parade had no shortage of bewitching entrants, led down the Avenue by the dapper Count Dracula (bottom right, Al Cummings).

After the parade, trick-or-treaters made tracks for the pumpkin patch on 7th Street, where the Great Pumpkin (Charles Choleva, far right) awaited them. Meanwhile, aliens have taken over the Greenfield Savings Bank



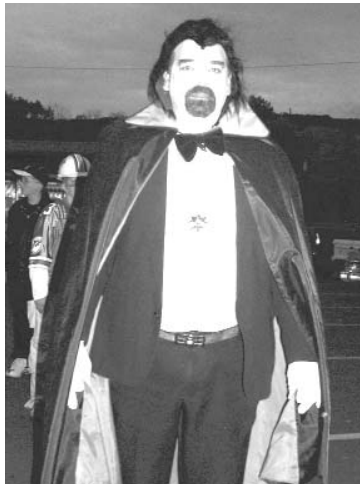
Invaded by aliens, tellers at the Greenfield Savings Bank say, "Take me to your lending officer."



Kate Boulanger, the littlest witch



Kelli Grace, bumblebee



The handsome Count, Al Cummings, led the parade



Charles Choleva, the Great Pumpkin of 7th St.

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MCSM CD Release Party

The Turners Falls Women's Resource Center (a project of Montague Catholic Social Ministries) invites you to join them for their first CD release party. The event will be held on Tuesday, November 9th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at MCSM, 148 L Street, Turners Falls. The party will feature live performances by Marcia Shuron Harris, Robin Lane, Ray Mason, Lela Ehalt and women from *A Woman's Voice*, the songwriters group featured on the CD. Funding for *A Woman's Voice* was provided by Open Meadows Foundation, Western Mass. Training Consortium, Women's Fund, Montague Catholic Social Ministries and The Brick House.

What a Hoot! at the Carnegie Library



TURNERS FALLS - The Carnegie Library in Turners Falls hosted a grand Halloween party on Saturday, October 30th.

Decorating wands was one of the many activities for children (top left).



Top right: Princess Abby Schlinger of Montague enjoyed a large ghoulish popcorn hand she received as one of the many party favors.

Bottom right: Pirate Andrew Palmer of Greenfield reached in to feel "monster brains, eyeballs and guts."

Bottom left: Have you ever seen a cuter vampire than Kimberly Santiago of Turners Falls?



LINDA HICKMAN PHOTOS

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Winning Ugly

Every four years, Americans engage in the great national purgative of a presidential election campaign. The preferred outcome is a clear victor in the electoral sweepstakes, a candidate and a party who have advanced clear goals for leading the country and been given a mandate from the voters to do so. On other occasions, the winner emerges from a national slugfest mangled with an aura of mediocrity, awarded the oval office by a wearied plurality sick of the contest and fearful of its outcome, no matter which of the bantamweights remains standing. This, after the most expensive, most negative electoral trench warfare we have ever seen, is what the country has achieved today.

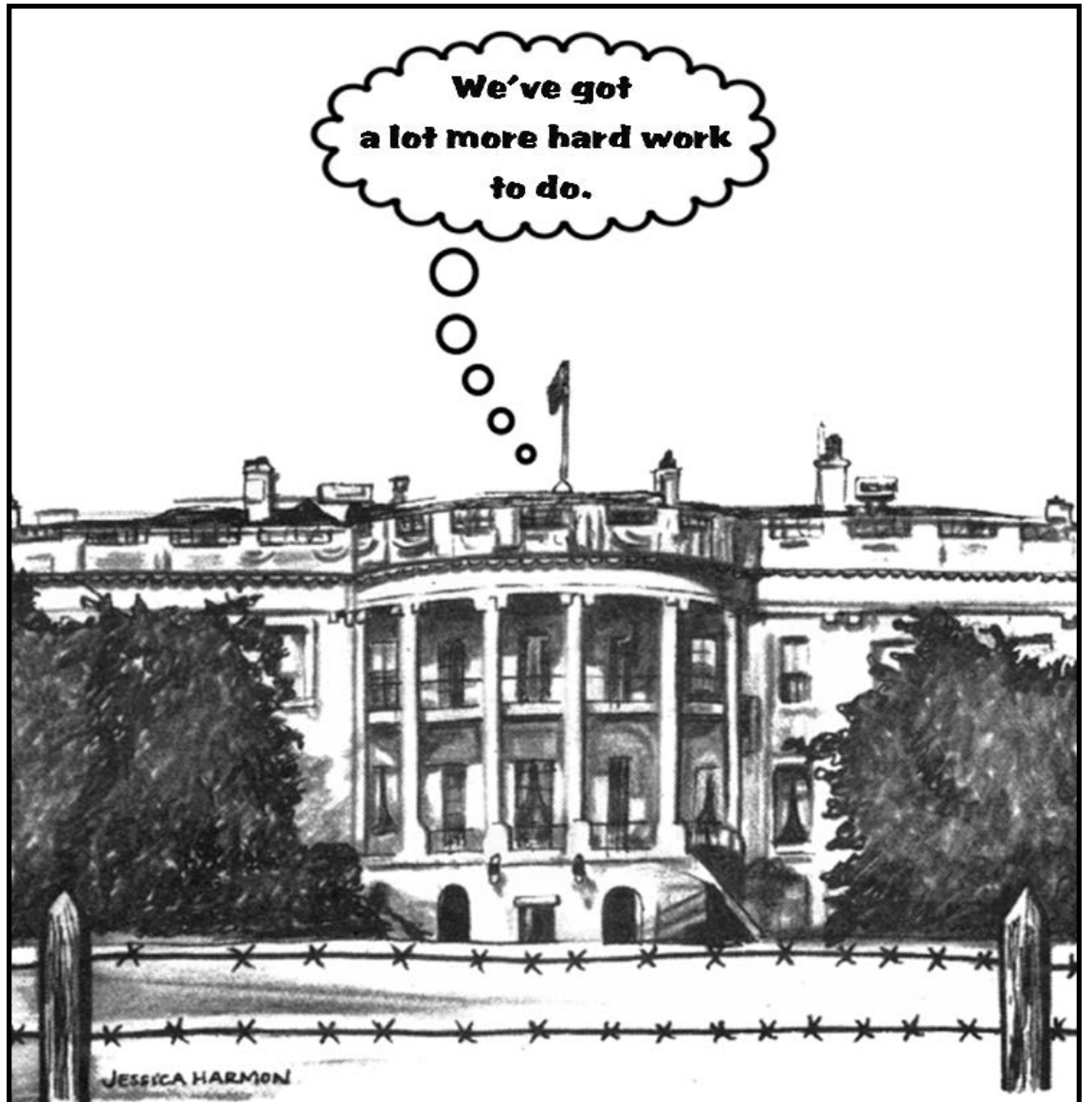
Once a bitterly divided Supreme Court stopped the Florida recount and handed George W. Bush the presidency in 2000, the Texas governor and his neo-con Praetorian Guards wrenched the country sharply rightward in both domestic affairs and foreign policy. Four years later, with a majority of the popular vote and an electoral college win in hand, with his administration freed from whatever brake the thought of running for re-election may have exerted on his

first term, Bush can be expected to take an even more aggressive tack. With the narrowly divided Congress tilting further to the right, thanks to partisan redistricting and the retirement of longtime Democratic stalwarts in the ever-more solid Republican South, the checks and balances of bipartisan government have been all but canceled.

In the coming term, the court that halted the process of picking through the chads to see how the people of Florida voted four years ago will face a realignment of its own, a realignment that will have long enduring consequences for the civil rights, privacy, and personal freedoms of all Americans.

We fear for our country. America, mired abroad in a descending spiral of chaos in Iraq, is divided at home in a way not seen since the worst days of Kent State. And a candidate who first ran on his record as a uniter, has slashed and burned his way to a second Pyrrhic presidential victory, earning the honor of presiding over a fractured and embittered land.

The Democrats may take no solace in the thought that the regional divide separating the Northeast, West Coast, and



upper Midwest from the Moral Majority in the midland will make the country increasingly ungovernable, and solutions to the desperate problems of health care, social security, education, jobs, and the burgeoning national debt increasingly hard to find. In a real sense, this is the ruling party's agenda, to shrink the reach of government by driving the deficit to unmanageable levels, forcing a cutback on social programs once championed by Democrats to level the playing field and provide security for

the working families of America. Not able to campaign honestly on such a platform, the Bush team won by characterizing his opponent as a weak and indecisive leader in a time of grave world peril. Yet, in the wake of 9/11, Bush spurned world solidarity and domestic unity to march forward to his war of choice in Iraq, destabilizing the Middle East - and the planet - even further.

We hold no brief for the Democrats, nor for John Kerry, a man we hold in esteem more

for the statement he made as a returning veteran of an earlier war than for any of the many positions he has taken on our present military entanglement. Testifying about Vietnam before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1971, Kerry asked, "How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?" Let him return to the dwindling, but, we hope, determined opposition in the Senate now to ask the same question of the administration about Iraq.

We welcome your letters.

The Montague Reporter

24 3rd St Turners Falls, MA 01376 PHONE (413) 863-8666 FAX (413) 863-3050 reporter@montaguema.net

LETTER TO  THE EDITOR

Prove me wrong

Dear Mr. President,

You ask me, someone who voted for your opponent, to give you a chance to gain my respect, and to support you so our country can heal and come together... well, you have a lot to do to earn my respect and support.

You oppose just about everything I believe in, and hire and work with people who are taking advantage of this country - raping it in effect - like the robber barons of 100 years ago. You are pushing for legislation that attacks the environment and divides our country on moral and extremist lines.

Your mind is closed to new ideas or concepts that differ

from your own, and in fact surround yourself with yes-men and women who will only tell you things you want to hear. A true leader would not only be open to new ideas, but would seek out other people's opinions, even if they are in opposition. I mean, read a newspaper now and then!

I fear for our country, Mr. President. I fear that your closed, thuggish mind will continue to make the world more unstable, while you further divide our own country.

Prove me wrong.

Michael Muller
Montague, MA

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GUEST  EDITORIALS

The Great Divider

BY PAUL KAUFMAN

MONTAGUE CENTER - George W. Bush, the presidential candidate in 2000 who touted himself as a political unifier, has turned out to be anything but. Presented in September 2001 with the most unifying event in American history since Pearl Harbor, he managed in two short years to drive a wedge right through not only the center of America but the center of the world as well.

"You're either with us or against us," he crowed, and most of the civilized world turned their backs.

Three years ago all of the world's newspapers featured headlines proclaiming "Today, We Are All Americans." Now, America stands practically alone, and even in those few cases where foreign governments are backing Bush, their citizens are not.

On Election Day 2004, America stands nearly alone in Iraq, bogged down in a costly war that even Osama Bin Laden brags is doing wonders for his recruitment drive. America stands alone in its unflagging support for Ariel Sharon's "peace plan" for the Palestinians. America stands alone in its rejection of the Kyoto Treaty, alone in its rejection of the World Court, alone with the largest governmental debt in its history, the largest trade deficit in its history, and the largest per capita consumption of fossil fuels.

Within America, Bush ran for reelection in 2004 by appealing to the farthest right wing of a right wing party, all the while accusing his liberal opponent of occupying the far left bank of American politics. While Kerry ran towards the middle, angering some of his supporters on the left. Bush ran towards the evangelical conservative right, relentlessly harping on Kerry's stance on the gay marriage amendment and abortion rights. The president who accused the Democrats of trying to spark "class warfare" when they dared to point out that his tax cuts favored the wealthy turned to religious warfare to shore up his sagging poll numbers.

The great political unifier has spent the past four years striving to consolidate his political power by turning South against North, conservatives against liberals, rich against poor, whites against blacks, rural folk

against city folk, doctors against lawyers, men against women, old against young, federal government against local government. Anyone who disagrees with him is unpatriotic, over-educated, soft on crime, and dangerous. Through the use of the Patriot Act and similar legislation, he has strengthened the tools his government can use to discourage, disable, and drown out disagreement and discussion. There is no need to discuss anything. George W. Bush goes by his gut, and whoever doesn't go along with him is thinking too much and must be silenced.

The Great Unifier has turned out to be the Greatest Divider of the last several generations, a disaster of a president who has abused his powers in a relentless drive to divide and conquer both the world and his own country, our country, your and my country. History will not be kind to the memory of George W. Bush. In my book, he will always be the Great Divider.

Sham NRC Hearing

BY SALLY SHAW

GILL - The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a sham hearing to receive citizen input on safety concerns about the proposed 120% uprate of the 32-year-old Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power state on November 9th, at 6:00 p.m., in the Vernon Elementary School. The elementary school is at 381 Governor Hunt Road, a little south of Brattleboro, off Route 142.

The NRC has reneged on its promise to release the engineering report on the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Reactor overrate before the November 9th "hearing" in Vernon. Nevertheless, all concerned citizens should attend this meeting and tell the NRC that this abuse of due process is unacceptable. Demand the report, sufficient time to review it, and more opportunities to participate.

Elected officials, please attend the meeting, urge Representative Olver to attend as well, and speak out for your constituents.

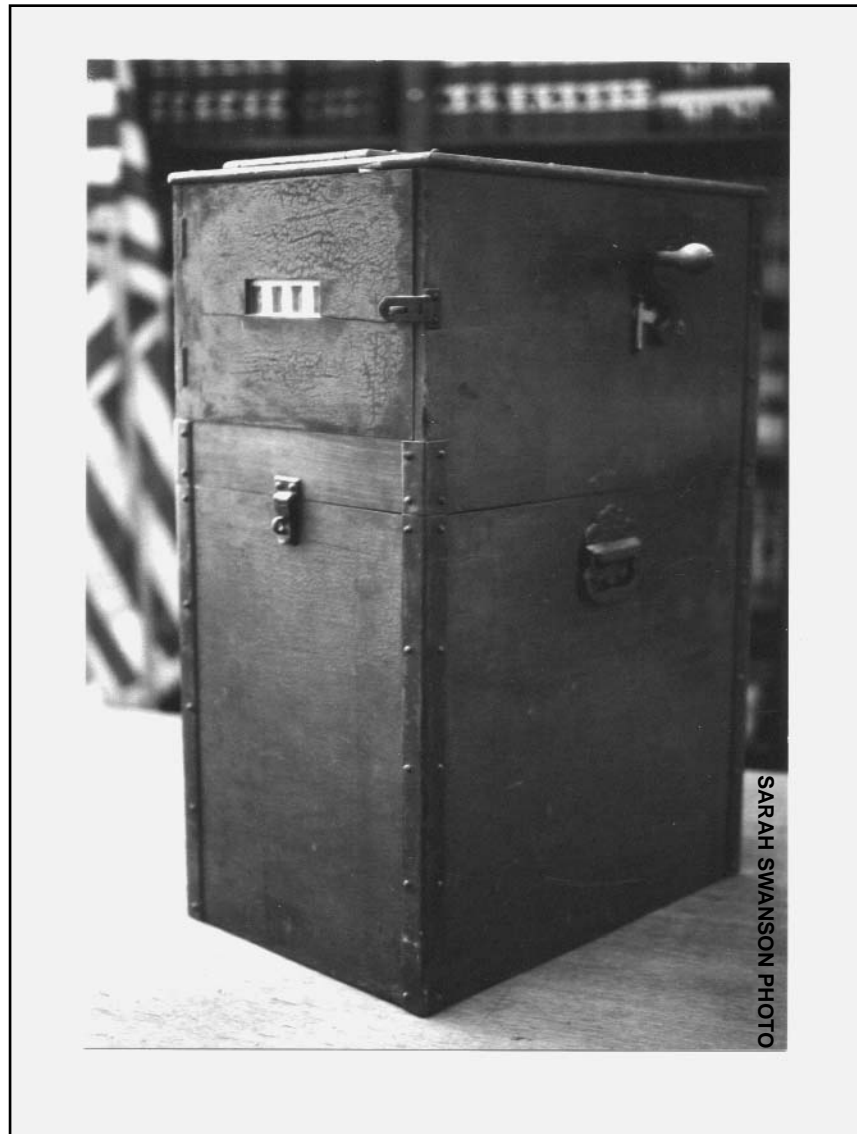
Not only is the engineering report unavailable, but the NRC's own ADAMS database which reveals the safety concerns that have been found in

routine safety inspections at the plant, has been taken offline indefinitely for "security reasons". Freedom of Information Act Requests, such as the one I filed, will take four to six weeks to process. So, in formal testimony on the uprate, the public has no access to documentable evidence. This is a travesty.

We must not play by the NRC's rules when those rules are so blatantly antidemocratic and biased toward the industry. The New England Coalition issued a statement calling on all area citizens to attend the November 9th meeting. This is the last public NRC meeting at which citizens can voice their concerns about the proposed power boost at VY. Over 1,000 people from Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire are expected to attend this meeting, as well as dozens of elected officials and the major media from all three states. NRC has concealed from the public the findings of the August inspection report, and has reneged on its promise to issue the full report well in advance of the meeting so the public could present well-informed concerns. This behavior is a direct insult to Vermonters, their elected officials, and all the citizens of New England.

The New England Coalition has it on good authority that the NRC is "sanitizing" the findings of the engineering team inspection to hide significant safety issues uncovered during the inspection. The recent VY Engineering Team Inspection provided less than one tenth of the analysis covered by the Independent Safety Assessment performed at Maine Yankee in 1996. The Coalition has been calling for an Independent Safety Assessment at VY since 2001, and believes that a full inspection would find that Vermont Yankee is a dangerous and worn-out relic that should be retired from service.

The Vermont Yankee uprate is on the forefront of the nuclear industry's agenda nationwide. Never before has an uprate been opposed by the public, even though 101 of them have been slipped through the NRC over the years. It took the New England Coalition and the independent-minded citizens and elected officials of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts to finally stand up to the nuclear industry and say "No!" This meeting is our last chance to meet the NRC face to face and let them know we won't accept the risks of an uprate, or tolerate the NRC's deceptions and manipulations.



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VOTE

continued from pg 1

down to the wire." Byron (who didn't want his last name used), a young man in his 20s, said he was voting for the first time. "I'm a citizen and I have a right to choose who I want for president. I'm a Democrat, so this election really matters to me."

James, another young man who lives on Avenue A, reflected on the national election. "Yeah, I voted. And yeah, I think it matters. But I wish, for just this day, I lived where my vote would really count - you

about the turnout, and hope that the interest in voting continues. I'm hoping we get 75% from our precinct."

Jean Hebden, Precinct 5 poll warden, was also delighted with the turnout. "In the past we could count on certain people from certain streets. This year, every street is voting." The number far surpassed what she considered her high expectations. "I had hoped for 50%. By four o'clock we'd already done better than that and I had to get more ballots from the town clerk." And by 6:00 p.m. she had to request even more ballots.

Hebden also said there had been few problems. "We had two people cast provisional ballots. We couldn't find their names on the list, so their ballots were put in a special envelope. A number of 'inactive voters' became 'active voters' when they were allowed to cast their ballots after filling out affidavits of residency. One young woman was, however, sent mistakenly to Precinct 6. But that was only because a poll worker apparently misunderstood the street name she gave. She returned to Precinct 5 a while later and happily voted. The only real issue, according to Hebden, was that several voters questioned the use of pencils for marking ballots. One voter told her she'd heard that only pens should be used



Donald LaPierre helps Nora Ryan cast her ballot

since ballot marks could be erased. Hebden agreed that the woman's objection was valid, but pointed out that none of the pencils had erasers.

By day's end Precinct 5 could count a highly respectable turnout. Out of 709 registered voters, 464 - nearly two thirds of those eligible to vote - cast ballots in downtown Turners.

Regardless of the outcome nationally this election marked a major victory for Montague voters. And while Pruitt didn't quite get the 75% she'd hoped for in Precinct 5, the strong turnout certainly marks the importance of this historic race.

Around town, turnout was even heavier, topping out just shy of 82%. "My predictions were higher," said clerk John Zywna. "I thought we'd do 83 or 84 percent, just on a premonition, but this is certainly respectable. For the volume we handled, we were out of here at a decent hour, by midnight. I attribute that to the poll workers and the very capable assistant town clerk, Debra Bourbeau," Zywna said.

Precinct 1, Montague Center, fell short of their self-imposed goal of 100% voter turnout, but still led the pack in precinct turnout with an 87.6% showing. Lorraine York-Edberg was the 926th Montague Center

voter to place her paper ballot in the antique hand-crack ballot box, as the hands of the clock in the Congregational Church steeple approached 8:00 p.m. Voters in Montague Center wore "I voted" stickers on their foreheads and lapels during the day, urging others in the village to follow suit. As the polls closed there, a whoop went up from elated poll

workers, some of whom sported red, white and blue pork pie hats during the long day of balloting.

Earlier, at the joint Precinct 3 and 4 polling station in the auditorium of Hillcrest School, principal Chris Jutres staffed a PTO bake sale, showing gaps in the ranks of cookies and brownies as the after work rush descended at 5 p.m. "It's been packed all

day," Jutres said. "The custodian said people were lined up before the door was even open at 7 a.m."

By closing, these two precincts, which had run neck and neck all day in turnout, nearly tied, with 81.10% showing up to vote in Precinct 3 and 81.23% in Precinct 4. Down in Montague City, Precinct 6's turnout barely edged out these results, peaking at 81.25%.

Waiting on the wall out front for his wife and daughter to finish voting, Ron Hyson of Precinct 3 said, "I was going back and forth all day," trying to decide whom to vote for. Of Bush, Hyson said, "He's done a decent job. It's a hard job, running the country. But wasn't it JFK who said, 'Somebody's got to do it'?" (Hyson was referring to the former Massachusetts senator; the present senator with that moniker would presumably have been only too glad to have that quote ascribed to him today.)

Hyson described a mixture of issues that helped sway his decision. "A little bit the economy, a little bit the war, and Medicaid.

see VOTE pg. 7



Lou Corbier, Sr. heads into the Precinct 5 polling station, where his son Lou Jr. was the first cast ballot Tuesday morning.

know, somewhere like Ohio or Florida. We all know Kerry's gonna win here." Patricia Pruitt, a member of the Montague selectboard and a Precinct 5 voter, said she felt that the record numbers casting ballots reflected that "people have really gotten the idea that their votes do count. I'm really excited

know, somewhere like Ohio or Florida. We all know Kerry's gonna win here." Patricia Pruitt, a member of the Montague selectboard and a Precinct 5 voter, said she felt that the record numbers casting ballots reflected that "people have really gotten the idea that their votes do count. I'm really excited



Ron Hyson: "I didn't make up my mind until the last minute. Bush has done a decent job, but the prescription coverage, it isn't worth a hill of beans."



Lorraine York-Edberg waited until the last minute to be the 926th voter in Precinct 1. "The war in Iraq has troubled me."



Georgette Lambert with Britney in arms receives the 638th ballot in Precinct 4 from Elaine Gavin and Gloria Burke.

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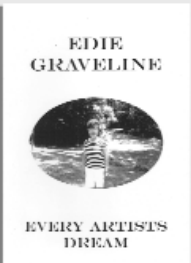


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VOTE

continued from pg 6

The prescription drug coverage isn't worth a hill of beans," he said. "For somebody like me that's middle income, you're too rich to be poor, too poor to be rich; you get the brunt of it." He voted to retire the incumbent.

Over in Precinct 2, 551 voters had turned in ballots by quarter to six, and a steady line of voters filled the community room of the Highland Apartments, while pollworkers Jeanne Mathey and Alice Fowler ticked off the names of voters on the rolls. When James Senn and his wife stopped at their table, Mathey paused for a while trying to find their names. "Oh, here it is. I was looking for you on Dry Hill Road," she said. She found the Senns listed on Wendell Road instead.



PHOTO: ANN VADEBONCOEUR
Jean Campbell of Montague City signs out voters next to the antique hand-crank ballot box.

"Wendell Road, Dry Hill Road, Cider Mill Road, it's been called all three over the years," James Senn replied.

Next in line, Philip Carme, from Green Pond Road said the war in Iraq was the main thing motivating his vote on Tuesday. "The National Guard is being



DETMOLD PHOTOS
Philip Carme: "The economy is down the tubes."



DETMOLD PHOTO
Paula Barnes waits for the 512th voter in front of the Thurston Munson mural at the Wendell Town Hall

used to fight a war we shouldn't have gotten into anyway. I feel it's just 'revenge mode' for President Bush. Plus, the economy is down the tubes. That's got me upset."

Over in Erving, where Kerry outpolled Bush a little less than 2 to 1, (499 to 263) clerk Leslie Brown said turnout had been strong all day. "We usually have lulls, but there's been no downtime." By 6:00 p.m. 680 of 963 registered voters had shown up at the polls, which had been moved downstairs to the basement of the Erving Center town hall. By closing time, another 100 voters had come through



Keith Bailey backed Bush

the line, topping off a 79% turnout.

One of those voters was Keith Bailey, a mechanic at Estey's Garage in Orange. He struck an ambivalent note when describing his choice of presidential candidates. "I'm not impressed with either one of

them. Kerry flip flops a lot. But with Bush, we're in the war, and I don't fully understand what the whole conflict is about anymore. I understood what it was about when it started out. As presented, it was a good cause, which is why we all stood behind him. But now, what is it?"



Don Pugh: "The war is an absolute disaster."

Still, Bailey said, "I look for consistency in what they stand for. And morality is a very big thing with me." And though he said he felt he was in the minority locally, the sentiments that tipped his vote to Bush were similar to what a majority of voters nationwide told exit pollers. "I voted for Bush," Bailey said. "I fear what will happen if we change presidents in the midst of all this conflict."

Up in Wendell, turnout peaked at 83%, tying Gill's percentage. Gill went for Kerry by a better than 2 to 1 margin, (618 to 262), while in Wendell the margin for Kerry was better than 6 to 1, (429 to 69), his sec-

ond best showing in the county (after Shutesbury, nearly 7 to 1 for Kerry).

Town clerk Annie Hartjens said, "We are having a wonderful day," with a lot of young, first-time voters, and few problems. Librarian Rosie Heidkamp scolded Hartjens for wearing a red dress while monitoring the polling, worried it might convey a subliminal endorsement for the "Red State" candidate. "But," Hartjens protested, "I look wonderful in red."

Pollworker Paula Barnes, working the hand-crank ballot box, stood framed by the Thurston Munson mural cur-

taining the town hall stage. "This is the biggest turnout I've ever seen," Barnes said, as she cranked the 498th ballot through. "I'll be so glad when it's over tomorrow."

But, like many of those casting ballots locally, Don Pugh left the Wendell town hall feeling grim about the outcome. "I'm here to vote out the Republicans," said Pugh, a fisheries biologist at the Conte Fish Lab. "Because the war is an absolute disaster. We were lied to."

David Detmold, Laena Santos, and Joe Parzych contributed to this story.

Gill Turnout



PARZYCH PHOTOS
Above: (left to right) Sheila Heffernon, Richard Mueller, and Bill Hattendorf, all self-confessed rabid Democrats gather to discuss, what else? Politics.

Below: Chief Hastings (far left) stands by as voters storm the polls. Any time more than six people congregate in Gill, it is a mob. Hastings reported he has not had to quell any riots. But it was still early. Helen Chappell, observer, keeps a close eye on processing the voters.



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SHADY GLEN

continued from pg 1

"Where I work, people usually call in sick on their last day," said Steven Carey.

But while he may have sold the business, John isn't through working at the Shady Glen.

"I'm going to stay as long as they want me to," he said, speaking of the Zantouliadis.

"I'll be here as long as they are comfortable having me around. I feel as though I have an obligation to my employees. I feel as though I have an obligation to my customers. I want them to keep coming and I'll do everything I can to make them happy." That has been John Carey's credo since December 2nd, 1963, when he took over the Shady Glen from his sister, Frances Humphrey.

Fran Togneri, former Turners Falls fire chief, was the first to see the potential of the location at 1st and Avenue A, back in the early 1950s when he owned and operated the local Tastee Freez there. "Sam Couture built it for the Tastee Freez," Togneri recalled. "Before that it was just a big hole, like the one on the other side of the alley (next to the building where the 2nd Street Sports Bar is now)." Sam came along and filled it in, and the question became how to stabilize the banks in back." Togneri said the Welcomes had their house directly behind the Tastee Freez, and behind that was the extensive First Street Block, tenement housing originally built for local mill hands.

To stabilize the steep banks, Couture had originally planned to plant a variety of ivy, until Peter Yarmac from Gill offered to put down blacktop around the sides and back of the lot. "He said, 'If I get the blacktop job, I'll guarantee those banks remain stable,'" Togneri remembered, "And I guess he was good for his word." Fifty years later Yarmac's blacktop job has held up pretty well.

With the help of his wife, Longina, Togneri ran the soft serve ice cream stand for three or four years, starting in 1952. "It was a good location. We had the highest volume of sales of any Tastee Freez in Western Massachusetts, except for the store in Agawam," Togneri recalled. "And they only beat our sales because they were in a shopping mall and used to get a lot of bulk orders."

Togneri said the Tastee Freeze had a smaller footprint



George and Elizabeth Zantouliadis, new owners of the Shady Glen

than the present diner. "When you sit at the counter in the Shady Glen, you're looking at the cinder block walls of my old ice cream stand." He said there was no cellar, in those days, and no heat except for little gas burners, so he used to close his stand for the winter. But before he sold the place to Turners Falls' Richard and Shirley Broderick, around 1956, he had begun experimenting with selling sandwiches and grinders, heating them up in a Stewart's infrared machine.

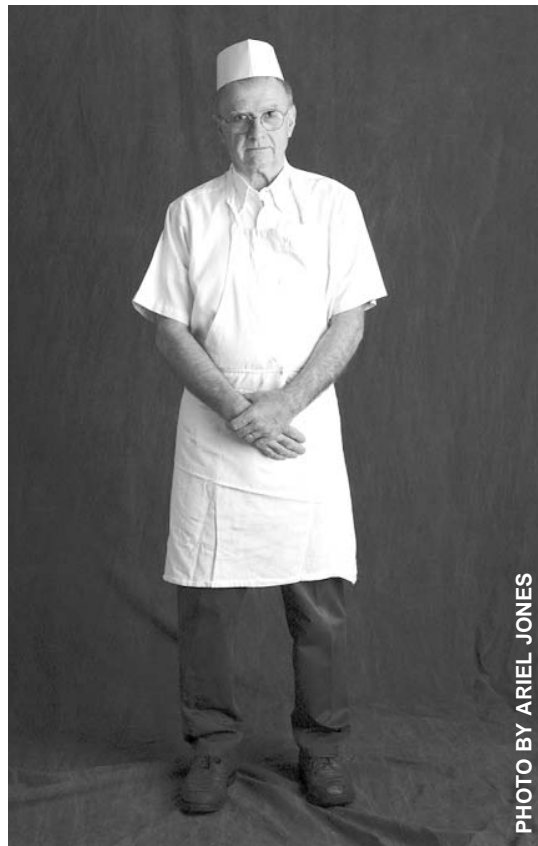
"I'd sell out every week," Togneri remembered. "I could definitely see the potential there for a year-round restaurant."

It was Richard and Shirley Broderick who realized that potential, when they left the Casu Diner further down Avenue A to take over Togneri's soft serve ice cream stand. They expanded it, adding booth space, counter service, and a traditional diner feel. They called the place Richard's Drive-in, and featured pinball machines in one corner and a jukebox with speakers at every table. Couture excavated a cellar, allowing for the installation of a furnace and storage space, so the restaurant could stay open year round.

In June of 1963, Humphrey, who had been working at the Greenfield A&W stand, took over the drive-in from the Brodericks with Jean Rau, who

worked at the Gables in South Deerfield. Carey came along that winter to work with them, and soon took over the business, which his sister had renamed the Shady Glen.

"At that time," recalled Carey, "there were four places to eat dinner in Turners, and three of them, the Avenue A Restaurant, the Athens, and the Shady Glen stayed open until



John Carey

after midnight. There was also Ellie's Lunch on 3rd Street." (The Casu Diner, one of the last 15 dining cars produced by the Worcester Lunch Car Company, had already packed up and moved north to Londonderry, VT.)

In January of 1960, Carey had come out of the Air Force after a three and a half year stint, with 18 months served in Morocco, and gone to work as a frozen foods and produce manager for the First National supermarket chain in their

Holyoke store. "I wanted to own my own business," he said. "Wages were very low in those days, there was no such thing as overtime. I was working very hard for First National, but they were going downhill. My sister told me she needed help." Carey took a room at the Grand Trunk hotel for \$4 a week, put on an apron at the Shady Glen, and never looked back.

In those days, the towns of Turners Falls and Greenfield were "loaded with independent businessmen. So many men came out of the service and went into business for themselves." Still, "There were very few job openings listed in the 60s." Carey recalled, "I wanted a wife and a family. I wanted to have a place where my kids could work."

In 1965, Linda Stevens asked John if he needed another waitress, and he was happy to tell her, "I do." A few months later, in February of 1966, he repeated those two words at their wedding. They bought a trailer home, and became one of the earliest occupants of the airport trailer park, before finally settling in their Chester Street home. In time, they had five children, all of whom worked at the Glen at one time or another. Now, the Careys are awaiting the December arrival of their eighth grandchild.

"I never wanted my wife to work," Carey said. "My father used to help out here when I first started. But the day after Linda came home from the hospital with our first child, my father went into the hospital with a heart attack and never recovered." He said Linda came back to work at the Glen soon afterwards, "and I've never been able to replace her." (Those who have grown up, or grown older, sampling Linda's delicious "homemade" desserts, can only breathe a sigh of thanks for that.) Linda's mother helped out the growing family with childcare through the years.

"I'm embarrassed to say how much I worked. It's wrong to work that much," said Carey, helping himself to another cup of coffee. "I worked hard every year thinking next year would be easier." But the workload never seemed to lighten over four decades, and Carey seldom turned the lights out after cleaning and closing the Glen each night before 3:00 in the morning. Invariably, he was back at work the next day by noon. Restaurant work, "It's like a cat

chasing its tail," Carey said.

Times changed, and the Glen changed with them. The teenagers who used to flock to the Glen's take-out window for malteds, and inside to the pinball machines and jukeboxes after Robastelli's Pizza and Grinders shut down on Route 2 near Barton Cove, were one of the mainstays of Carey's business in the early years. That changed when he took the pinball machines out, and gradually cut back on the late night hours. "Too much noise and hanging out." More changes came when Carey followed the lead of restaurants like the Country Living in Erving and the Main Street Café in Northfield to ban smoking.

"I read an article in a restaurant magazine saying 75% of your customers are non-smokers. People flocked in here who we hadn't seen in years," once the ashtrays left the tables, more than a decade ago. "Nobody knows what we went through before we banned smoking in here. We used to have to paint the ceiling every year, wash down the woodwork. I'd wring out the water from the towels after cleaning up each night and it would smell like nicotine juice."

A few years later, in a move to create more space at the crowded booths and counters, Carey took the jukebox stations out as well. "We replaced the paneling one year, so we removed the jukeboxes on a Friday, and we were supposed to reinstall them the following Monday. By the time I looked at the booths with all that nice new space on Sunday night, I called them and said, 'Don't bring them back.'" Soon, the main jukebox by the waitress station followed, making room for an ever-growing line of customers, often pushing right out the door, waiting for tables to open up. But when piped-in music from ceiling speakers replaced the old three plays for fifty cent jukeboxes filled with Bing Crosby and Elvis Presley hits at Christmastime, another facet of Shady Glen nostalgia vanished too.

Although Carey talks about the lean times he lived through in the early days, in the last many years the Glen never seemed to lack for business. "We benefited when the competition closed," not just in Turners but when the Corner Cupboard and Howard

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SHADY GLEN

from previous page

Johnson's closed in Greenfield as well. Though the Shady Glen used to thrive on spillover from shopping crowds in a much busier downtown Greenfield, and from shoppers at the Rockdale Store, later Railroad Salvage, when these shoppers eventually headed south to the malls in the 70s, the Glen managed not only to hang on but to thrive.

"We serve the same customers, sometimes twice a day," said Carey. I know people by their first names. I have a lot of local customers and I'm grateful for it."

His business didn't suffer much when the mills shut down. "The mill workers were family men. They'd bring their lunch to work and go home to eat dinner with their families." But, Carey said, "There were elderly men who lived on the Avenue, in the Moltenbrey, the American House, the Turners Falls Inn. They'd be in for breakfast at 10:00 a.m., and they'd be back for supper at 4:00. That was some of my business. I was here every day for them."

Every day, for many years, meant seven days a week for John Carey, including Thanksgiving and Christmas. And for his hard-working crew, including Nancy Koch and Penny Bernier, who have worked with him, opening the Glen for more than 30 years. Finally, five years ago when Linda's father passed away, the Careys decided to close Sundays to give the staff a break. But still, Sunday afternoons would find John Carey cleaning, scrubbing the grill hood, as he was the day before he sold the place.

We join with all the other customers in wishing the Shady Glen's new owners well, and the Careys a well-earned rest, and a chance to play with their grandchildren.



NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Responsive Classroom Wins Award

BY KENDRA OLSEN

The Massachusetts Association of School Committees announced last week that the Responsive Classroom - Northeast Foundation for Children (NEFC) of 39 Montague City Road, Greenfield has received an Outstanding School Partner Award. The Gill-Montague Regional School Committee nominated NEFC for the award in recognition of the organization's important contribution to improving the school climate in the Gill-Montague elementary schools.

NEFC, a local nonprofit that provides publications, support and professional development for the Responsive Classroom approach, has donated more than \$20,000 of support services for consultation, planning and professional development to the GMRSD.

According to a memo from Superintendent Sue Gee, "Integrating academic and social skills teaching throughout the school day, Responsive Classroom implementation in Gill-Montague will assist the district in dealing with increased social needs during challenging economic times. Classroom strategies," she continued, "help teachers build respectful and productive environments for learning and create meaningful consequences for classroom misbehavior."

Thirty-five teachers in the district have been trained in the Responsive Classroom approach and are working to incorporate the methods into their teaching and classroom management. Sheffield Elementary is serving as a model school, although teachers in all of the district's elementary schools are using aspects of the methods. Chip Wood, principal

of Sheffield and a co-founder of NEFC, donated his professional consulting and training services in teaching the course offered to the teachers last summer.

"The middle school mediation program dovetails beautifully with this program," commented Gee. "We're developing a long-range partnership between NEFC and the district," she added.

The MASC award, which "recognizes a corporate or non-profit entity who, through their contribution to the public schools of an individual community, region or at large, have demonstrated support for public education," was announced at the MASC-MASS Conference (October 27th - 29th) and will be presented locally sometime in January.

In other school committee news:

- The elementary school study group reconvened on October 20th and presented their findings to the school committee at their meeting on Tuesday, October 26th. Montague representative Tony Guglielmi, who compiled the statistical results of the survey, commented, "It was clear that there are five things that have surfaced [as important to Gill-Montague residents]." Guglielmi listed class size, teacher effectiveness, academics, discipline, and art/music as the main areas that residents cite needing improvement in the district. Gee and the principals are preparing a working paper that explains the ways the district is working to address the concerns. The paper will be sent to the local media in an effort to communicate with

town residents. In an effort to gather more information and get a higher rate of response, the study group is preparing a shorter one-page, five to six question survey that will be distributed to staff and parents at each elementary school and will be collected at teacher/parent conferences on November 18th and 19th. The next meeting of the study group will be on November 30th.

- Lauren Tela and Ali Urban, student liaisons from the student advisory committee, reported that the commemoration of TFHS went "very well." The newly renovated school is "a place of more positive energy," commented Montague representative Richard Colton. "The students feel that they are now in a place of up-to-date learning," added Gee.

- Joyce Phillips, school committee chair, said all of the schools will have some kind of activity to explore the process, and importance, of voting and to bring attention to the national election. Gill and Montague Center held mock elections, as did TFHS. Students from Sheffield took a field trip to

Hillcrest to observe the actual voting process. Students at GFMS have been registering to vote, and they held a mock election on Tuesday in which only those who have registered will be able to vote.

- GMRSD is still looking for a new Montague representative to the school committee. "It's very rewarding to be a part of it," said Phillips. "Days like last Sunday [the TFHS Commemoration] really remind you of that." Interested residents can contact Gee or Phillips through the superintendent's office.

- GMRSD is part of a "first-in-the-state" regional technology education partnership project, CRISTAL (Cooperative Regional Information Storage for Teaching and Learning) that will convert all student data into the same format to make it more manageable, accessible, and useful. A recent grant of \$200,000 has been received from the state department of education to fund the project for two years.

- The replays of the GMRSD meetings will now be shown on both Channel 15 and 17.



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FCRHFC continued from pg 1

denied the plan because it failed to provide sewer hookups which, although more costly, were feasible and thus, according to planning board member Jackie Boyden, "required." Boyden said that Mitzcovitz requested and was given an extension to revise his plan, but his revised plan also did not include sewer hookups and was therefore denied again at the planning board's September meeting.

Jim Cerrone, building inspector and public relations director for the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP), met with the board to update them on changes made since the program merged with Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) in July. He also asked the board for feedback. Reviewing a three-page handout he provided board members, Cerrone explained that the merger resulted from concerns over the program's supervision and status as a legal entity. The staff has been expanded and all of them have full telephone and email access, said Cerrone, who previously was a part-time employee but now works full-time. The program also now has a website: www.fccip.org.

As part of his presentation, which will be made to other town selectboards, Cerrone discussed the program's assessment formula and actual cost, as well as the permit process. Board chair Andy Tessier provided feedback that was critical of the way the program had handled inspections at the elementary school and town hall. Tessier said the additional expenses incurred by the town on both building projects due to items not caught by building inspectors were "not appreciated. You guys are supposed to be the experts," he added. In response, Cerrone refused to make excuses, but did note that given the program's staffing at

the time, their workload was considered excessive.

When asked by administrator Sharp whether he would characterize the town's zoning laws as "weak" compared with other towns in the region, Cerrone concurred. Cerrone was very upbeat about the program's newly expanded capacity, and offered to meet with the board to work on improving zoning regulations, many of which, according to Sharp, are "skeletons needing some flesh."

The board also interviewed a promising candidate for the part-time accountant position. If financial arrangements can be agreed upon, the candidate could start sometime in November.

Karen Canedy visited the board to complain of traffic on Strachan Street. She said people in the neighborhood are speeding through a stop sign. "It's crazy down there," she said. Canedy had previously spoken to police chief Chris Blair, who installed a radar speed detector, but according to Canedy that has not solved the problem. The board did not comply with her request to have speed limit signs installed. "I don't want to put up more road signs in town, especially when it won't do any good," Tessier said. Instead, the board requested that Canedy provide chief Blair with information on the offending individuals or vehicles so he could talk to them personally. After more discussion, Canedy eventually agreed. "I grew up in that neighborhood, lived there all my life," Canedy said. "But there was never a problem before. Someone's cat got hit recently. I'm afraid next time it's going to be a child."

The board was also visited by James Hawkins and his brother Butch, who were seeking a license to operate an auto repair business at 38 French King Highway, near the bowling alley. Erving Equipment, a tractor and farm equipment business located at that address, has

several unused repair bays that they have agreed to rent to the Hawkins. The brothers intend to do only "light repair work and oil changes - no engine stuff or anything complicated like that," said James, who has experience in the repair field. The board agreed to grant a business license, with a limitation on the maximum number of vehicles to be parked at any one time.

In other news the board considered many routine items, sev-

approve a \$250 longevity benefit for Chief Blair, it was noted that a special town meeting is required to grant the funds - with a nine-tenth's majority vote - since it applies current funds to a prior year. Blair's fifth anniversary on the force was in December of 2003, and the standard bonus was never paid to him in 2004.

Tom Sharp asked the board if it wished to ratify the \$35,830 contract the board of assessors recently voted to award to Mainstream Associates for the Northfield Mountain Project valuation job. The board declined. Northfield Mountain's current valuation is around half a billion dollars, and the approximately five million dollars it pays in taxes each year funds the lion's share of the town budget.

After Debra Roussel declined to continue representing Erving on the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD), the board has decided to advertise for a representative in the "Around Town" local newsletter. The volunteer position deals exclusively with recycling. The town has a separate contract with a garbage hauler.

Sharp reported that the vacant house at 15 East Prospect Street has been boarded up and locked by the police, after the board of health determined that the town has the authority to make the building safe; however, it is not entirely secured. Norma Charbonneau and Barbara Bumpus of 13 East Prospect Street had addressed the board on October 25th to report that someone is entering the house and that there are rodents present. The board explained to them at that time that the town and the Route 2 Task Force had contacted Mass Highway months ago to suggest they "take" the building in order to improve safe access to Route 2. The board has asked the Route 2 Task Force to revisit this suggestion at its November

4th meeting.

The board of health has been brought in to deal with concerns at 15 Prospect Heights Lane. Tessier reported last week that he had been contacted about unsanitary kennel conditions and people living in a trailer parked in the driveway at that address.

The board received a schedule to assist them in evaluating the portion of FY '06 health insurance premiums for town employees to be paid by the town. Treasurer Margaret Sullivan had joined the board last week and told them the premiums may increase by 18% for FY '06. Last year the board decreased the town's share of the health insurance premium from 90% to 88% - still very high compared with most towns.

The boy scout building, an old brick building opposite the library in Erving side which was given to the town and used for small meetings, has a leaky roof that is threatening the furnace. According to Sharp, the building has major issues that will ultimately require a major rehab or demolition. Mold and damage to the furnace are the immediate issues the board must deal with.

Regarding the building inspections at the town hall and elementary school, both sites require additional bracing in the rafters. The board said it is working on it.

Pete Sanders, a highway laborer, completed his six-month probationary period. His salary was raised 43 cents to \$15.53, effective November 15th.

Judith Kosa of Forest Street sent a letter to the board over concerns about adequate emergency vehicle access to her driveway. The board will have the fire and police chiefs look into the matter.

The board approved a water commitment (bill) for the several "corporations" in town that received backflow prevention inspections costing \$40 per test.

Speeding on Strachan Street

"I grew up in that neighborhood, lived there all my life. There was never a problem before. Someone's cat got hit recently. I'm afraid next time it's going to be a child."

-Karen Canedy

eral of which were discussed at the previous weekly meeting.

At the board's instruction, Paul Schroeder, manager of energy services for the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, has locked in oil contracts for the town. He had been waiting for oil prices to drop. According to Sharp, the town will use an estimated 62,000 gallons of oil this year, including 38,000 gallons of #2 heating oil, up from #36,800 gallons of #2 oil used last year. Because the price of #2 oil has gone up dramatically, from 95 cents a gallon one year ago to about \$1.75 now, a special town meeting will be needed to approve an extra \$50,000 to cover the increased costs.

The board approved a request to promote auxiliary officer Shaun Coughlin to part-time reserve police officer. The decision came after Tessier discussed the matter with Chief Blair.

Chief Blair has spoken with Wendi Mackin of North Street concerning a complaint made about her dogs. The matter is considered resolved.

Concerning the board's decision the previous week to

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RIVER

continued from pg 1

spokesman, Kurt Harris. Rainfall, spring runoff, and the pumping and release of water at the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage reservoir, and the release of water through gates at the Vernon, VT dam, as well as six gates at the Turners Falls dam and at Cabot Station, all affect the river level. The six gates are controlled by computer operators sitting in a computer room atop Northfield Mountain.

High tech does not end there. Maxymillian Technologies is not a bunch of yahoos

indiscriminately ripping and tearing up the landscape with bulldozers. According to their website, Maxymillian Technologies has successfully completed hundreds of site remediation projects. Their excavators are equipped with a Global Positioning System to assure that the project is exactly within area limits. The GPS provides precise location of the excavator bucket to keep the project on line and grade.

The bucket has a smooth blade rather than bucket teeth to insure clean cuts and assure the site is not over-excavated or under-excavated. Archived GPS data is stored for future use. The new Caterpillar excavator, on this job, is plumbed with hoses and fittings to connect to every attachment known to man.

The excavator operator needs to keep the machine level as he descends the banking. He con-

tinually digs sand out from beneath the excavator. It is a miracle he has not yet tipped over. Perhaps he can call Onstar with his GPS system if he tumbles into the river.

Once the Maxymillian crew has cut a road down to the toe of the slope, they will rip-rap the bank with six to eight inch diameter trap rock, according to

As part of their licensing agreement, Northeast Utilities has completed nine or ten of these erosion prevention bio-engineered sites, at the rate of one or two sites a year, which does not seem to be keeping up with the rate of erosion along the river, according to local environmentalists.

The reason rip-rap was specified on the Pine Meadow job is that it actually improves the ecosystem, according to Harris. Studies have shown an increase of dragonflies at bio-engineered sites using rip-rap.

Dragonflies are often called 'sewing needles,' and are sometimes cause for alarm because of the ancient myth that they will sew your eyes closed. Needless to say, no self-respecting dragonfly would be caught dead messing around with needlework like that. They are only a danger to mosquitoes, their favorite gourmet food, (for which I have no recipe.)

"The riverbank has been falling away at a rate of three feet a year for the last 12 or 14 years," Skalski said. "We haven't complained because we knew the utility company knew about it and had us on their list. It's their land, anyway, and it hasn't reached our property."

Skalski is not particularly impressed at the prospect of an enhanced environment being created for dragonflies, but he is pleased to see efforts to stabilize the riverbank, and is happy with the firewood, from clearing, that Maxymillian Technologies has donated to him.



PARZYCH PHOTO

The steep slope goes 65 feet down to the deep blue waters of the Connecticut River. Given the value of riverfront land downstream in Gill, better save every square inch.

Harris. A geo-textile and a biodegradable mat, resembling cargo netting, made of cocoanut fiber (the stuff they use to make doormats) will be placed to stabilize the bank. Twenty foot long Coir logs, twelve to sixteen inches in diameter, also made from cocoanut fiber, will be anchored to the banks with stainless steel air craft cables attached to duck-bill anchors sunk into the river bank. Duck-bill anchors resemble sheet rock anchors that spring open after inserting through the drywall, except that these anchors are a couple of feet wide when open, are not spring loaded, and would not work at all well on drywall.

In spring, Maxymillian will plant a variety of vegetation ranging from willow cuttings and native wetland species to specialized grasses that produce a strong root system.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Thursday 10-28

10:21 a.m. Vandalism reported at a Burnham Street address. A car was hit by a paintball. Report taken.

6:06 p.m. Motor vehicle accident reported in front of the Exxon on 3rd Street.

[Redacted], was arrested and charged with operating under the influence of liquor and failure to use care starting, stopping, turning, or backing.

8:46 p.m. Accident with property damage reported at the Carwash on Avenue A. A vacuum was damaged and looked like a motor vehicle could have hit it.

11:32 p.m. Officer assisted someone who had fallen at a Masonic Avenue residence.

Friday 10-29

9:57 a.m. Accident involving 2 cars and a pedestrian reported in front of the Turners Falls Post Office on Ave A. No injuries. Report taken.

9:17 p.m. Report of an assault at a Turner Street, Lake Pleasant address. A child kicked an adult. No charges were filed.

Saturday 10-30

12:18 a.m. Loud noise reported coming from Yesterday's on 3rd Street. Officer spoke to parties. Peace restored.

4:39 p.m. Minor motor vehicle accident reported on Montague City Road. No injuries. Report taken.

Sunday 10-31

12:16 a.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a 3rd Street address. [Redacted] was arrested on a default warrant and also charged with domestic

assault and battery and malicious destruction of property over \$250.

2:24 p.m. An assault was reported at a Broadway, Lake Pleasant address. A male subject was summonsed.

10:08 p.m. A traffic hazard was reported on Bridge Street in Millers Falls. Smashed pumpkins and trash cans were in the road. A resident removed them.

Monday 11-1

4:40 p.m. Report of a motor vehicle being operated erratically on the Gill-Turners Falls Bridge. Motor vehicle was heading into Gill. Gill Police notified.

Tuesday 11-2

12:45 p.m. Report of a motor vehicle leaking gasoline at Cumberland Farms on Montague City Road. Fire Department notified.

From Saturday, October 30th through November 2nd, more than 15 calls have come into the Montague Police reporting vandalism. The majority of these calls have been for slashed tires and have happened in the area of Canal and Second Street in downtown Turners. According to acting police chief Gary Billings, this periodically happens. He emphasized that the last time this happened the person responsible was caught. Billings added that the public can help by reporting suspicious activity. He said, "When people park in a parking lot, they usually get out of the vehicle soon after parking. If someone sits in a dark lot for a while, they could be up to no good." Billings added, "This is the kind of thing where we have to catch someone in the act."

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OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

How About a date with a Lighthouse?

BY FLORE

Have you ever dreamed of living in a lighthouse? Being surrounded by the waves' seas songs? Living again followed by, or being followed by, tidal rhythms?

Have you ever wanted to get your eyes accustomed again to stretching yonder to the horizon and framing that picture with the swaying seagulls above in the skies? Most of us have.

In fact, given the chance, we would live where we could let the seagulls' wild saga plant their tales naturally in our minds. What better place than a lighthouse?

Have you ever wondered if there existed a school for lighthouse keepers, where one could be trained? Did you know, because of its treacherous coast, New England possesses 70% of the lighthouses in the country? For the record, in olden days, three out of five sailors were doomed to die, before lighthouses were constructed. Now, since most of the existing lighthouses are all mechanized, the keepers have mostly been stranded ashore. But not all.

Behold, here is your

chance!

At about three hours from Montague, heading southwest, to Newport, RI, you can finally materialize that dream. Like in other parts of the

country, in order to save these precious tall buildings, devoted people got together to create a lighthouse preservation society. The Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation is a non-profit organization set up to welcome overnight guests,

schools, and educational tours to the lighthouse first lit in 1870, built on the existing bastion of 18th century Fort

abandoned, and the lighthouse lost its last Coast Guard keeper in 1971, when the more prominent beacons on the Newport Bridge were lit. The building fell victim to

vandalism before it was bought by the Society and lovingly restored. In 1993, after years of labor, the beacon was lit again.

To ensure seclusion, visitors can only reach the island by a small local boat. It was high time for our car to take a

rest in the harbor of Goat Island, where unusual vessels and schooners were docking, at which we looked with awe.

Four your date at the lighthouse, be sure you call the Foundation well in advance to reserve a night or two. Remember the lighthouse, during the day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. also becomes a live museum. So, after your restful island slumbers, you must leave your comfortable bedroom well before 10 a.m.

You can also inquire about being a keeper there for a week. It's time you took off on a romantic trip, especially if you are one of those, like me, hooked on lighthouses! The beacons have relighted their spell....

Further inquiries may be made at: www.roseisland.org. Two videos worth looking at, containing precious historical information: "The Lights of Cape Cod and the Islands," by Franco Sacchi, an independent director/producer; and "The Lighthouses in New England," Guardians of the Coast Site Productions. Both are available on interlibrary loan from your local library.



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NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Jaws of Life need Teeth

BY DAVID DETMOLD

Fire chief Gene Beaubien told the selectboard to "get out their check book," on November 1st, as he presented an estimate for repair to the 'Jaws of Life.' "There's a big crack on one of the steel blades of the cutters," of the hydraulic emergency equipment used to extricate victims from motor vehicle accidents. Cost of blade replacement? "\$4100 new," said Beaubien, but he mentioned a refurbished pair with a lifetime warrantee for \$3250. That figure seemed to sit better with the board. The original cutters, not on warrantee, were condemned during a recent inspection, along with two sets of 16-foot quarter-inch hose so old the safety inspector "won't even test them now." Those hoses need to be replaced at a cost of \$969.

Maddern, who has some experience dealing with high-pressure hose, suggested Beaubien contact local suppliers like Cowan's to see if he could get a better price. After a quick consult via cell phone, Beaubien reported the hose would need to test to a maximum of 32,000 pounds per square inch, and he doubted local suppliers would be willing to guarantee their product to that specification. Maddern agreed.

Beaubien said his department had recently been called upon to use the 'Jaws of Life' at a two-vehicle accident in Erving, and at an accident on the French King Bridge. Selectboard mem-

bers asked administrative assistant Deb Roussel to determine the balance of funds left in what is known as the "Mount Hermon account," a \$10,000 annual contribution from the tax exempt school towards the town's public safety departments. "This is something that should come out of NMH," said Banash. The board told Beaubien to spend the money from his own budget, and they would seek to reimburse him.

The remaining members of the board of assessors met with the selectboard to see about filling the vacancy left by the recent resignation of assessors' chair Gary Stevens. "This is not something you can snap your fingers and find someone to fill," noted Maddern, himself a former assessor. The board asked the assessors to bring in a recommendation for an appointee in two weeks, if possible, but wondered about the advisability of appointing someone before the tax rate is set for the current year.

The board deliberated at length whether to back a request from Tim Storrow regarding an application to the state's Agricultural Restriction Program. Storrow asked the board to endorse an application from himself and two other landowners, by sending a supporting letter to the state affirming that Gill is a community that supports agriculture, according to a point system Storrow previously outlined with the board. The three parcels currently up for

consideration for protection include the Worthington Farm on Bascom Road, for which the town will contribute \$5,000 in matching funds previously allocated to support APR purchases, along with two parcels on River Road which owners Dick French and Storrow plan to offer at bargain sale prices to the Commonwealth in lieu of town matching funds.

"We were all worried about these parcels, Maddern said. "I'm not against this. The thing that gets me, we've been putting a lot of energy into (agricultural protection). I'd like to see the same energy going to support industrial (development)."

The board agreed to support the application. Later in the agenda, the board also agreed to support a proposal by Roussel to hold a community "charette," (an information gathering session) to get input from the public about how the town would like the board to proceed with the 12-acres of recently acquired Mariamante land on Main Road.

After the fire chief left the meeting, the board lit a candle in a brownie provided by Roussel to celebrate board member Leland Stevens' birthday. In a vocal style reminiscent of the great top 10-hit makers Northern Lights, Maddern serenaded Stevens with a cracked-up version of Happy Birthday that left the entire board speechless. Stevens blew out the candle before the fire chief returned.

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'86 Chevy Van, needs work/parts, \$300/offer- '98 Lumina LS, 135k, good shape, \$750, needs trans. Call 367-9132 evenings or e-mail stew@library.umass.edu

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Montague Photos of Sardinian Murals

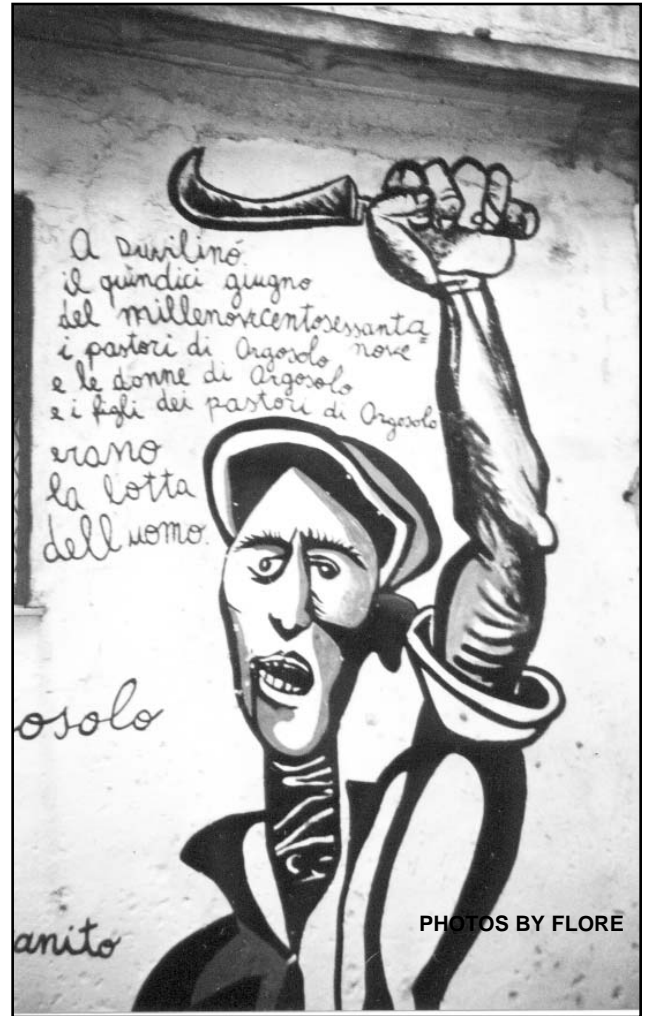
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November 15th - 19th



Imagine a Mediterranean island forgotten by time. It's called Sardinia. Imagine a town hidden high in one of the island's isolated mountains. It's called Orgosollo. It's been there since at least 1300 BC. There aren't more than a thousand homes in Orgosollo, but the facades of more than five hundred are emblazoned with murals. The murals highlight the history of the town and its people. They also express the inhabitants' views of the world they live in today. They think the Italian government is corrupt; they fear their traditional ways are being eroded by the developers of vacation resorts, and they're weary of the new kind of colonialism being imposed on them from the United States. There's even an American military base not two hours from where the Orgosolli raise sheep, tend vineyards, and dream of murals yet to come.

"Silent Screams from Sardinia," a photograph collection of the murals at Orgosollo, by Richard Andersen and Flore, will be on daily display at the University of Massachusetts Student Center Art Gallery from November 15th through the 19th.



PHOTOS BY FLORE

Religious Services

Baptist
Faith Baptist Church, 331 Silver Street, Greenfield, 774-6438
Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.,
Wednesday Adult Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth Bible Club at 6:45 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Turners Falls, 10 Prospect, Turners, 863-9083
Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Christian Science
First Church of Christ Scientist, 110 Federal St., Greenfield, 773-9765
Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons)
25 Bank Row, Greenfield, 772-

8514 Sunday at 10 a.m.
Congregational
Gill Congregational Church, Main Rd., 863-8613 Sunday at 10 a.m.
First Congregational Church, 19 Bridge St., Millers Falls, 659-3430 Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Bible study Wed. at 7 p.m.

Episcopal
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Seventh and Prospect St., Turners, 863-4602
Sunday at 9 a.m.

Friends (Quakers)
Mount Toby Monthly Meeting of Friends, Rte. 63, Leverett, 548-9188
Sunday at 10 a.m.

Jewish
Temple Israel, 27 Pierce St., Greenfield, 773-5884
Friday at 6 p.m. (first weekend of

the month) and Saturday at 9:30 a.m.; schedule does vary, it is advisable to call in advance

Lutheran
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 23 Long Ave., Greenfield, 773-5242
Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Nondenominational
Grace Church, 41 K St., Turners, 863-2771
Sunday at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

National Spiritual Alliance
2 Montague Ave., Lake Pleasant, 367-0138 Sunday at 1 p.m.

Unity in the Pioneer Valley Church
401 Chapman Street, Guiding Star Grange, 625-2960; Sunday at 10 a.m.

Roman Catholic
Our Lady of Czestochowa, 84 K St., Turners, 863-4748

Saturday at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.; Sunday at 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Monday at 8 a.m.; and Tuesday-Friday at 5:30 p.m. (Confession one half hour prior to mass)

St. Anne's, J St., Turners, 863-4678
Sunday at 8 a.m. and daily at 7 a.m. through February
St. John's, 5 Church St., Millers Falls, 659-3435
Saturday at 4:15 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

St. Mary's of the Assumption, 80 Seventh St., Turners, 863-2585
Saturday at 4 p.m. and weekdays at 7 a.m. through October

Salvation Army
72 Chapman St., Greenfield, 773-3154 Sunday at 11 a.m.

Unitarian Universalist
All Souls, 399 Main St.,

Greenfield, 773-5018 Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

First Parish Unitarian, Main St., Northfield, 498-5566
Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

United Church of Christ
Evangelical Congregational Church (UCC), 11 Church St., Erving (978) 544-8658

First Congregational Church (UCC), 4 North St., Montague Ctr., 367-9467 Sunday at 10 a.m.

First Congregational Church of Turners Falls (UCC), 148 L St., Turners, 863-9844 Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Contact the Reporter to add your service.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



CALENDAR

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOV. 5TH & 6TH

Mudpie Potters Community Clay Center sponsors its 10th annual exhibit and sale of members' pottery, sculpture and artwork, in Barnes Gallery, Leverett Crafts & Arts. A "Gala Preview Party" will be held Friday, from 7 to 9 p.m. with music by Mother Turtle and dancing; a silent auction of gorgeous artworks, goods and services from 7 to 8:30 p.m. \$5 at the door enters you into a drawing for a beautiful clay vessel. Food, drink, and great company all evening! **Creative dress** appreciated. **AND** on Saturday, Firsts & Seconds Sale at Mudpie Potters Community Clay Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Other Leverett Crafts & Arts artists will host open studios. Hot cider served all day, the pies come out at 2:30 p.m.!

Barnes Gallery, Leverett Crafts & Arts, 13 Montague Road, Leverett.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOV. 5TH & 6TH AND FRIDAY, NOV. 12TH

The Country Players present *Crazy in Love: PG-14*, an evening of one-act comedies at The Shea Theater, Ave. A, Turners Falls at 8 p.m. Advanced reservations call (413) 863-2281. Tix avail. at Shea Box Office or World Eye Bookstore, Main St. Greenfield. \$10 general, \$8 seniors and students up to Grade 12.

SATURDAY, NOV. 6TH

The Jeffrey Amherst Bookshop invites you to a reading and signing of a new book by Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno, *e.e. cummings A Biography*, 1 p.m., 55 S. Pleasant St., Amherst. (413) 253-3381.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, NOV. 6TH & 7TH

Northfield Arts 6th Annual Open Studio and Gallery Tour. Meet 16 Northfield artists exhibiting and working on paintings, illustrations, weavings, sculpture, ceramics and printmaking in their studios on Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.. Maps for the tour are available that day in Northfield at Mim's Market, the IGA Food Mart and Mockingbird Antiques. More info. at www.northfieldarts.com or (413) 498-2227.

SUNDAY, NOV. 7

Museum of Industrial Heritage Open House. View collection of memorabilia and tools made by area manufacturers. 77 Petty Plain Rd. Greenfield.

Bowl Fun-Raiser. \$5.00 for two hours of bowling. 5-7 p.m. or 7-9 p.m. French King Entertainment Center. Supports the Turners Falls High School Band.

FRIDAY, NOV. 12TH

Second Friday Contra Dance with David Kaynor & Greenfield Dance Band at the Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 p.m. to midnight. 413-367-9380

SATURDAY, NOV. 13TH

The 7th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair, sponsored by the Orange Elementary PTO at Fisher Hill School, Dexter Street, Orange. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Baked Stuffed Chicken Dinner featuring 6 games of Bingo 5:15 pm Fr. Casey Hall, St. Anne's Church 6th St. Turners Falls MA Adults \$9.00, Children \$4.00 Call 863-2585 for tickets.

Western Mass High School

Cross Country Championships includes 45 teams from Division I and II. All races are run on a 3.1 mile course with great spectator viewing at Northfield Mountain Recreation Area, Route 63 in Northfield. Start times: 11:00 a.m., 11:40 a.m., 12:20 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Second Saturday Contra Dance with Tophill Music at the Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 to 11:30 p.m. 413-773-1671.

Erving Elementary Craft Fair. Over 30 crafters with over 100 items. Erving Elementary School 28 Northfield Rd. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Fete Noel holiday fair at the Montague Center First Congregational Church, beginning 9:00 a.m., featuring homemade candy/food, crafts, mittens, raffles and gift items. Morning coffee with homemade danish, Lunch features corn chowder, sandwiches. Proceeds to benefit local and world wide missions. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

ONGOING THRU DEC. 5TH BRICK HOUSE SEEKS ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE

The Brick House is seeking artists and craftspeople who would like to participate in the First Annual "Firsts and Seconds on Third Street" Under \$25 Arts and Crafts Sale on December 4th and 5th. All sales are on consignment, with The Brick House taking a 30% commission. The sale will go from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale is targeted to the thrifty local shopper who still wants quality items. Work such as pottery mugs, small photos or or simple jewelry is very appropriate. Artists who are interested in participating in the sale should contact Michael or Karen at The Brick House (863-9576) to receive an application form.

Art exhibits and sales at Mudpie Potters Community Clay Center. Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 5th from 10 am. to 4 p.m. and by appointment during the week. Barnes Gallery, Leverett Crafts & Arts, 13 Montague Road, Leverett. Call (413) 548-9070 or (413) 548-3939 for more information.

UPCOMING TUESDAY, NOV. 16TH

"Planning for the Future of the Farm" is the title of a farming program by the Highland Communities Initiative focusing on preparing and planning for the future of the farm beyond one's lifetime. This half-day workshop will also offer plenty of opportunities for farmers to share their experiences. The workshop will take place at the Shelburne Grange Hall and is \$10 per person, which includes lunch. Please register in advance by calling (413) 268-8219 or emailing jchristensen@ttor.org. More information is available at www.highlandcommunities.org.

THURSDAY, NOV. 18TH

Join author Robert Thorson for **Stone by Stone: The Magnificent History in New England's Stone Walls** Learn how geologic and human history intersect in 240,000 miles of New England stone walls, at Northfield Mountain Recreation Area, Route 63 in Northfield. Suitable for ages 12 and older. 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. 800-859-2960

FRIDAY, NOV. 19TH

Third Friday Contra Dance with Tomczak Productions, Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman St., Greenfield. 8:00 p.m. to midnight. 802-387-9380.

SATURDAY, NOV. 20TH

Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse presents a live performance by blues/rock artist John Sheldon and Friends. At the historic Wendell Town Hall on the common. Open mic at 7:15, John Sheldon and

Friends at 8 p.m. Proceeds to help benefit the Hitchcock Center for the Environment. For more info: www.wendellfullmoon.org. Call (978) 544-0240 to sign up for open mic.

Third Saturday Contra Dance with Big Bandemonium at Guiding Star Grange Hall, 401 Chapman S., Greenfield. 8:00 to 11:30 p.m. 413-774-2830.

FRIDAY, NOV. 26TH

You may need a... **FULL MOON TURKEY TROT** Walk off some of your turkey feast - hike through gorgeous upland forest and farmlands and reach the top of Crag Mountain. Total hike is over 3 miles. Sponsored by Northfield Mountain Recreation Area. 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. Directions: 800-859-2960.

SUNDAY, NOV. 28TH Tuba Christmas

An outdoor concert held on Bridge Street in Shelburne Falls. Dozens of tubas, sousaphones, and euphonium. 2:30 p.m. 413-863-2850.

upcoming ...



Area legend John Sheldon and Friends will perform at the Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse on Nov. 20th. see details below

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SHOWTIMES FOR
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1. RAY PG13
DAILY 6:00 9:00
MAT/SAT/SUN 12:00 3:00
2. INCREDIBLES PG in DTS sound
DAILY 6:00 9:00
MAT/SAT/SUN 12:00 3:00
3. SHARK TALE PG
DAILY 6:00 9:00
MAT/SAT/SUN 12:00 3:00
4. THE GRUDGE PG13
DAILY 6:15 9:15
MAT/SAT/SUN 12:15 3:15
5. TEAM AMERICA R
DAILY 6:15 9:15
MAT/SAT/SUN 12:15 3:15
6. SAW R in DTS sound
DAILY 6:30 9:30
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BY KAREN WILKINSON

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The Dogs of Montague

BY DAVID DETMOLD

MONTAGUE - Sally Prasz, Montague glass maker and dogowner, has enjoyed walking her beagle-lab mix "Miss Lucy Morgan" in the Montague conservation area off North Street for years. On these daily jaunts, in addition to finding wild flowers, birds, fox, and deer she particularly enjoyed meeting other dogs and their owners. She got the



idea to document the dogs who frequent the conservation land by encouraging their owners to put together a do-it-yourself photographic catalogue, leaving a disposable instamatic camera by the bridge where people enter the conservation land, instructing dog-walkers to take the opportunity to photograph their pets in the wild. The project proved to be popular. Prasz wound up leaving five cameras by the bridge, by the end of the month they were all filled with dog photos.

Prasz said, "I have wanted to do this project for years. I had no idea how many people would respond. The Montague Conservation Area is such a wonderful place to walk. Where else can you get so close to nature and a

diverse group of people with dogs?"

Prasz said she and another dog lover, Ruth West, plan to put the dog photos - including seasonal group shots of as many owners and their dogs as she can get assembled on the bridge at one time without tangling up their leashes - into a calendar and perhaps a poster to sell to benefit the Montague

Grange. Meanwhile you can see many of the dog photos on the montaguema.net corkboard.

Speaking of the corkboard, the publication of the dog photos led to some spirited discussion from other people in town who frequent the conservation area. Here is what Dori McCormack had to say. "On the subject of dogs, or rather on the humans responsible for them, here is my annual plea.

Please take their poop with you. It is not OK to leave it in the conservation land. As these pictures show, there are a lot of dogs [enjoying] that land and it adds up and it's gross.

Seconding that opinion, Mark Lattanzi wrote, "I have been repulsed so many times walking down 'Dog [Poop] Alley' from the end of North

Street to the wooden bridge. The stench is sometimes overpowering... some of you dog people are ruining the land for the rest of us."

There is already a movement building in Turners Falls to institute a pooper scooper bylaw. Could there be support in Montague Center for such an initiative?

And, on the subject of the town's leash law, there was this post from Susan Secco.

"Thanks for posting the link to Sally's dog photos. I recognized several of the dogs, as many of them walk right by my house on the way to the hayfield. I am very fond of dogs in general, but I'd like to remind dog owners that there is a leash law in Montague. A few weeks ago an unleashed dog ran into my backyard and killed one of my chickens. It was an upsetting event for both me and the dog owner. So, please, enjoy the beauty that Montague Center has to offer with your dogs, but keep them on a leash, at least around our houses."

In response to these posts, Prasz has set up two small



garbage cans, with plastic bags for dog-owners' convenience, in the conservation area. If anyone would like to offer their help in maintaining these amenities for those who walk their dogs there, and for those who do not wish to step in the reminders of those who walk their dogs there, call Prasz at 367-9367.

To view Prasz's dog photos, go to: <http://www.westking.org/dogs>



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