



BACK ON THE RIVER
a Way of Life Recedes
Page 10



HEIRLOOMS REIGN
at Dummerston Apple Orchard
Page 11

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 6 - NO. 6

also serving Gill, Erving and Wendell

50¢

REPORTER@MONTAGUEMA.NET

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

NOVEMBER 8, 2007

MONTAGUE GETS A NEW POLICE STATION!



Julia Bowden-Smith, left, and Jean Hebden, second from left, bring in the early returns from Precinct 5 on Tuesday, showing the police station vote passing 2-1 downtown. That margin held townwide.

Also pictured (left to right) the Union News' Big Dave Vallette, assistant clerk Mandy Hampp, and town clerk Deb Bourbeau

DETMOLD PHOTO

BY CHRIS

SAWYER-LAUCANNO

RIVERSIDE - Chief Raymond Zukowski, hosting an election night party for supporters and friends at the Schuetzen Verein,

did not stray far from the phone during the hour after the polls closed Tuesday night. Positioned next to a large white board, he eagerly awaited each call from the town clerk's

office, where building committee member Jay DiPucchio was positioned with pen and clipboard to take down totals. Since the vote was a simple "Yes" or "No," totals were expected

early, so by 7:35 p.m. Zukowski grew impatient and made the first call himself.

"Anything in?" Not yet, Chief.

Five minutes later, just to

razz him, DiPucchio called back. "Is this line still working?" he asked. It was.

DiPucchio called back around 7:46, a few moments

see **POLICE** pg 12

VOLUNTEERS PLANT NATIVE SPECIES AT NEW WENDELL LIBRARY



HEINEMANN PHOTO

Stephen Broll, (l-r) Dvora Cohen, and Mara Bright plant Native species at the "Secret Garden" behind the new library.

JOSH HEINEMANN WENDELL - It was 40° and threatening rain on Saturday, November 3rd, as more than a dozen volunteers planted shrubs, trees, and wildflowers around the new Wendell library building. One volunteer said, "It was so chilly you had to keep working

to stay warm." Librarian Rosie Heidkamp had organized preparation of the planting areas earlier in the week, also with the help of volunteers. Joe Wilder of Morse Village Road dug trenches for lines of shrubs and holes

see **LIBRARY** pg 8

Commendation Letters from Montague Chief of Police Ray Zukowski

Dispatcher David Fortier

I wish to commend you on your performance the morning of October 10th, 2007 in regards to potentially saving a young man's life. Receiving a call from a Turners Falls resident reporting her friend in Connecticut had called her saying he was going to commit suicide, your experience and knowledge led you to conduct a methodical Internet search for phone numbers and associated addresses.

This information led you to contact the Montville, CT police department with the possible suicide threat, and the information you obtained. The Montville police responded to the subject's residence, and found that he was missing along with household medications. The Montville police utilized their K-9, and the missing subject was found out in a wooded area near his home.

Medical services were summoned for the subject, who had overdosed and was unresponsive. He was transported to a local medical facility where he was treated and then referred to the appropriate mental health agency.

see **FORTIER** pg 12

Sergeant Chris Bonnett, Officer Michael Sevene

I wish to commend you for your response and subsequent actions on 4th Street in Turners Falls in the early morning hours of October 26th, 2007. Being faced with a call of reported gunshots, gunshots you both heard, in a populated area, is extremely dangerous and challenging. As the numerous 911 calls came in, you immediately entered the 'hot zone,' concerned for the safety of the citizens.

Citizen involvement enabled you to go directly to the source of the gunshots. Your immediate actions at that point, when confronted by a potentially mentally disturbed subject carrying a loaded handgun, showed great restraint. With Sergeant Bonnett's lead disarming the subject, and the two of you working in unison to apprehend and secure the subject, this potentially life-threatening situation was averted. Once the subject was in custody, coordinating his mental health evaluation and treatment further shows your commitment and compas-

see **SEVENE** pg 12

Greenfield Man Charged in Bike Path Sex Assault

DAVID DETMOLD MONTAGUE CITY - Christopher A. Farr, 20, of 19 Prentice Avenue in Greenfield was picked up at his place of work on Sunday, November 4th at 11:22 a.m., by Greenfield police acting on a probable cause warrant from the Montague police department for a sexual assault alleged to have occurred on the canalside bike path, near Depot Street, on Saturday, November 3rd, between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m. Farr was charged with rape of a child under 16 with force, indecent assault and battery on a person 14 and older, and

see **ASSAULT** pg 12

PET OF THE WEEK

Tricks for Snacks



Hunter

My name is Hunter, and I'm a friendly, beautiful, mellow ten-year-old female yellow lab mix in need of a good home. I love treats, and I will sit and do all my tricks for you if you have a snack for me! Kids eight and older, cats OK, dogs OK. For more information on adopting Hunter, please contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at 413-548-9898 or via email at: leverett@dpvhs.org.

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Local Subscription Rates:
\$20 for 6 months

CARNEGIE LIBRARY NEWS

Mother Goose on the Loose

BY LINDA HICKMAN
TURNERS FALLS - Mother Goose on the Loose will be held monthly on Saturday mornings at the Carnegie Library at 10:30 a.m., starting November 10th. The program is an interactive mix of live music, rhymes, stories, puppets, and other visuals. The sessions are designed for babies through preschoolers and are performed by Children's Librarian Linda Hickman and

musician Michael Nix. Linda will also be performing the programs solo on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. weekly at the Carnegie Library.

The programs are supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. For more information, call the Carnegie Library, 863-3214.

Preschool Pumpkins



TURNERS FALLS - Ruth O'Mara, the new children's programming assistant, read about pumpkins to Henry and Isaac Harmon of Turners Falls, and other children at the Hallowe'en day Preschool Story Hour at the Carnegie Library

Gill Notes

GILL TAX RATE
The Gill board of assessors would like to update the residents of Gill on the status of setting the fiscal year 2008 tax rate. We are waiting for our property valuation numbers to be certified by the state. Residents should realize these decisions are not being made on the town level; we have done all we can to expedite the process. We are aware of the frustration being felt by town residents waiting to see the new values. We will make them public as soon as the state completes its certification process. At that time a notice will appear inviting you to see the new values, and we will begin the process of setting our tax rate.
Thank you for your patience and please call the office of the assessors if you have any questions. The office is open

Monday through Thursday from 9:30 to 12:30; (413) 863-0138.

VETERANS DAY
Town offices in Gill will be closed Monday, November 13th, in observance of Veterans Day. Trash pickup not be affected and will remain on Friday as usual.

POLE HEARING
Western Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. are requesting permission to locate a line of poles, wires, cables, and fixtures along and across West Gill Road in Gill to provide a back-up circuit to the Riverside section of town, as well as Route 2, for better reliability. The town will hold a public hearing on the matter during the selectboard meeting on November 13th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Gill town hall.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES November 12th - 16th

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, 12th
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics
Tuesday, 13th
9:30 a.m. T'ai Chi

Wednesday, 14th
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday, 15th
1:00 p.m. Pitch
Friday, 16th
10 a.m. Senior Aerobics
11 a.m. Easy Aerobics

A suggested donation of \$1.00 per exercise is appreciated.

ERVING Senior Center, 18 Pleasant St., Ervingside (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 shop-

FACES & PLACES



DETMOLD PHOTO
Hallowe'en got an early start at the Rendezvous, where Rocket Queer dance night did the bump with townies watching the Sox as they pulled off a squeaker in Game II of the World Series. When Papelbon put the last Rockie away, young, pierced and tattooed hipster queers slapped high fives with a stalwart of the Elks club, who happened to be dressed in drag. Here, Mrs. Helen Lupinsky, left, of Teaneck, N.J., makes the scene, with her sailor friend Zachary DuBois. Rocket Queer returns to the Voo on Nov. 24th.

CORRECTION

In last week's article titled "Empowering Businesses on the World Wide Web," a website was listed incorrectly for the Tire Warehouse. Their correct URL is: www.TireWarehouseGreenfield.com

Veterans Day & Memorial Dedication

All are invited to Montague's dedication ceremony for the new Veterans Memorial on Sunday, Nov. 11th from 10 to 11 a.m. on Avenue A in Turners Falls. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Great Falls Discovery Center.

Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

Grade 6: Austin Hurley
Grade 7: Dakota Smith-Porter
Grade 8: Kiara Sampson, Alicia Hathaway

NEXT WEEK!

The hilarious Paul D'Angelo
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ping, or medical necessity by calling Dana Moore at 978-544-3898.

Monday, 12th
9:30 a.m. Exercise
9:45 a.m. Library
12 Noon Pitch
Tuesday, 13th
9 a.m. Aerobics
12:30 p.m. Painting
Wednesday, 14th
9:00 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Weight Loss Group
12 Noon Bingo
Thursday, 15th
9 a.m. Aerobics
10:15 a.m. Pool
12:30 p.m. Shopping

WENDELL Senior Center, located in the town offices on Wendell Depot Rd. Call Kathy Swaim at 978-544-2020 for info, schedule of events or to coordinate transportation.

THE SHADY GLEN

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Saturday: Yankee Pot Roast and Hawaiian Ham
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Bozo the Clown, Scarecrow and 'Big Papi' Wow the Senior Center

BY BRIDGET SWEET

TURNERS FALLS - The Gill-Montague Senior Center held their annual Hallowe'en party at lunch last Wednesday. Bunny Caldwell, senior center director, dressed as a witch, left her bubbling cauldron in the basement and came upstairs to greet everyone.

After lunch, edible body part candy was passed around with coffee and doughnuts, while attendees cracked jokes. Caldwell opened the floor with, "What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire?" Frostbite. Another popular one-liner was, "Where are we going, and what are we doing in this handbasket?"

Patricia Pruitt of the Montague selectboard, and Don Clegg of MCTV, surprised each other by dressing up in black robes and powdered wigs. They



BUNNY CALDWELL PHOTO

The Gill-Montague Senior Center celebrated Halloween in style. Back row: Jean Chase, Mary Ciechomski, Jean Thurber, Mildred Stone, Claire Allis. Front row: Jim Greenleaf, Beverly Demars.

joined your humble correspondent as honorary judges for the event. (Clegg wore a sign on his back that read, "Bribes accepted and encouraged.")

The judges decided on the

winners during the course of lunch, and announced them following the meal. The winners were, Chris Richer, meal site manager, for *Best Poker Dealer*; Carol LaPointe, assis-

tant cook, for *Best Impression of Minnie Pearl*; Jean Chase as a witch for *Hardest Working Witch*; Mary Ciechomski as David Ortiz for *Most Popular Contestant*; Jean Thurber as a Sightseer for *Prettiest Contestant*; Mildred Stone as a Scarecrow for *Most Charming Contestant*; Claire Allis as a witch for *Funniest Witch*; Jim Greenleaf as Bozo-the-Clown for *Funniest Costume*; and Beverly Demars as Child in Pajamas for *Most Comfortable Costume*.

Applause was accorded to Caldwell for all her hard work. "It was fun to do," said Caldwell, who refrained from turning the judges into toads for not choosing her as the Hardest Working Witch.

Greenleaf claimed "temporary insanity" for dressing as Bozo-the-Clown. His oversized

glasses failed to conceal his joy at winning the coveted *Funniest Costume* award. Thurber thought a tourist outfit would make a good costume, as she likes to travel. Chase and Stone said their daughters helped them with their costumes. Ciechomski chose to come as David Ortiz for her costume since the Boston Red Sox recently won the World Series, in case you didn't know. She said she and her "children in California and Florida are Red Sox fans since the 1940s."

After the party, the judges retired to their chambers to split up their bribes, while the seniors played Bingo.

The annual senior center Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 24th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please contact the senior center at 413-863-9357 for more information.

Fundraiser to Benefit AIDS Programs in South Africa

BY DAWN WOOLSEY

MONTAGUE CENTER - SpiritWalkers, a non-profit, grassroots peace and social justice ministry based in the Pioneer Valley, promotes universal healing and transformation by creating spiritual solutions to global

concerns. This year, SpiritWalkers has a goal to raise ten thousand dollars to support HIV/AIDS and children's programs in Cape Town, South Africa and Gege, Swaziland. Their second annual fundraising event will be held Sunday,

November 11th, at the Grange Hall in Montague Center, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All are invited to come dressed in African garb, enjoy a potluck meal, a silent auction and a culturally rich evening of information sharing and a slideshow pre-

sentation by co-founders Tim Bullock and Myrna 'Arnai' Munchus-Bullock, and others.

Funds from the auction will be used to support orphaned and vulnerable children through the renovations of Bethel Primary School and KaJantjies Children's

Home at Gege, a small rural community in southwest Swaziland. A portion of the funds will also be used to aid women in Cape Town, helping them to access their power to affect change and healing in their lives

see AIDS pg 5

Last Chance!

Wendell residents have one more week to subscribe to the *Montague Reporter* for home delivery at the discounted rate of \$15 for 26 issues, and to have their names entered to win seven great prizes from local businesses. *First Prize: \$50 at the Diemand Egg Farm, Second Prize: \$40 at the Copper Angel; three Third Prizes: \$20 at the Deja Brew Pub.* Subscriptions should be mailed to the *Montague Reporter*, 58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376, and be postmarked by November 15th to be entered in the drawing, which will take place on Tuesday, November 20th. Use the subscription blank on page 4, and deduct \$5 from the subscription price, for

one more week.

Winners will be announced in the November 21st issue (we will publish on Wednesday of Thanksgiving week). Thanks to all the new Wendell subscribers, and to the anonymous Wendell residents who thought up and funded the contest. It's already been a great success.

Gift Subscriptions

Starting the week after Thanksgiving, the discounted subscription price will be available again - for the entire month of December - for readers who might like to purchase gift subscriptions to the *Montague Reporter* for friends or family for the holidays.

LET'S CELEBRATE!

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Open the Skate Park

So, let's see if we've got this straight. Ten years ago, dozens of Montague teenagers get together with the support of the town and build a skate park on 2nd Street. Working with the building inspector, with donations from dozens of area businesses (including Couture Brothers, Hallmark School of Photography, Hassay Savage, Heat-Fab, Hillside Plastics, the Holbek Group, Ink & Paint, Lightlife Foods, New England Extrusion, Pioneer Aviation, Rugg Lumber, Warner Brothers, Yankee Environmental Systems, and many others) social clubs and organizations (including the Montague Elks and the Turners Falls Fireman's Relief Association), the teens put together a facility that allowed them to exercise creatively and socialize on their own turf. For the first few years, their swoops and leaps and graceful mid-air turns were a joyful sight to see for drivers descending Unity Street and passersby in Unity Park.

But the plywood ramps wore out, and in June of 2003, the town's parks and recreation commission agreed with skate park organizers to padlock the gate until repairs could be made. Despite numerous attempts by a succession of teen organizers at the Brick House community resource center, concerts organized by the teens themselves that raised thousands of dollars for

park repairs, more donations from local artists and businesses, capped by an anonymous \$5,000 gift that paid for a brand new chain link fence, the skate park has remained locked every since. That's stupid.

In recent months, with teens hanging out on the main street and using the smooth new sidewalk curb cuts as launching pads for their boards, criticism of their activity, (and non-activity) has mounted. Now we are being asked to remove benches in the hope they will just move along. Move along where, exactly?

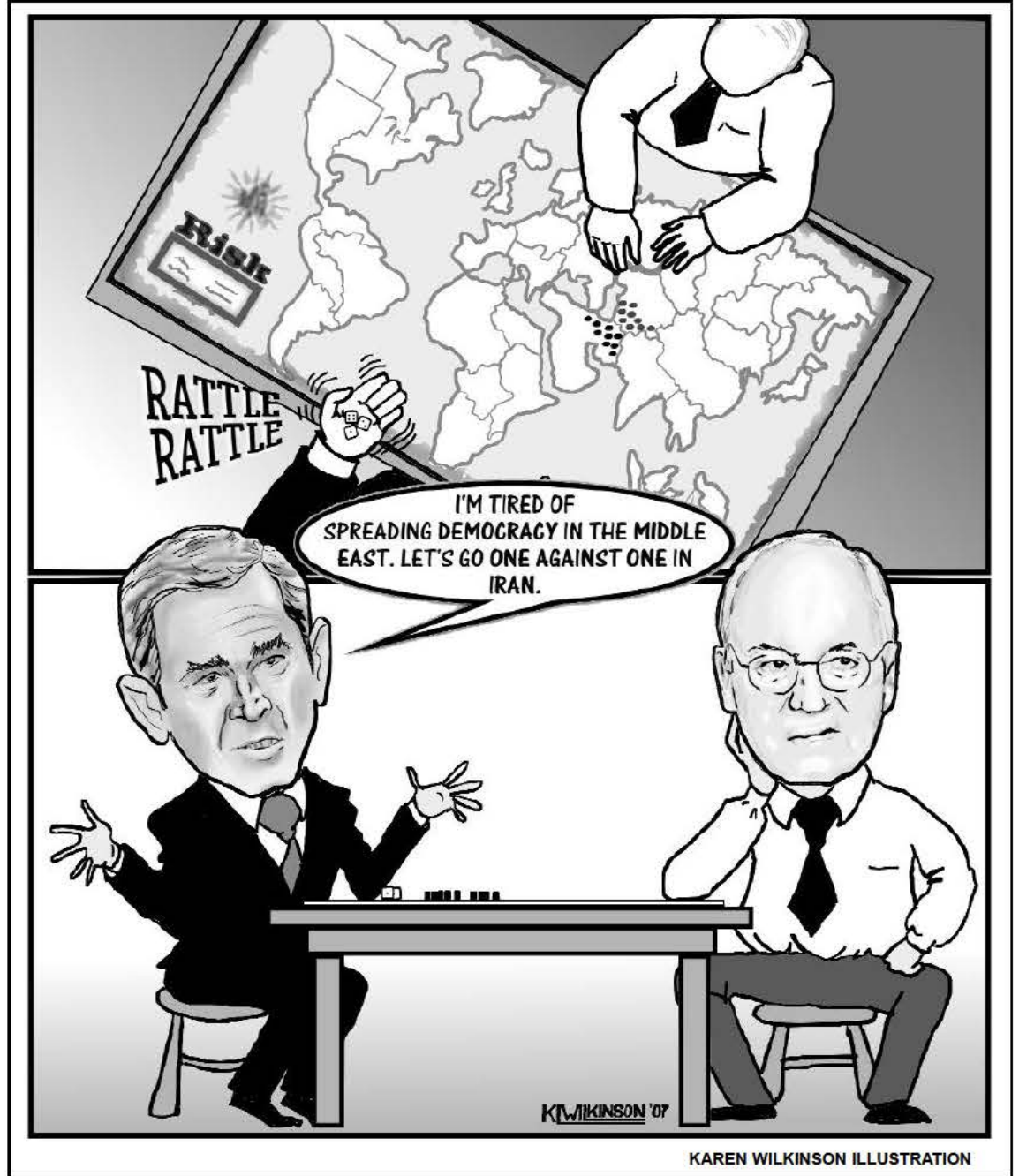
In the summer, they swim at their own risk, and all too often wind up injured, or dead. The rest of the year, (if it were not for the efforts of the Brick House and its teen center staff), they would be left entirely to their own devices.

The town has just voted \$5.6 million to build a new police station. Are we really incapable of finding the few dollars it would take to tighten the last few screws, attach the last few transition plates on the ramps, and secure a few more back plates at the skate park with needed bolts? Besides these incidentals, there is only the matter of repairing a length of fence torn down by some impatient miscreants standing in the way of reopening the skate park before the snow flies.

The landlord has been more than accomodating, but the town is the responsible party here. Or should we say, the irresponsible party?

Millions for police, but nothing for teens? They are accused of creating a public nuisance, but there is next to nothing for them to do and next to no place for them to go in town. Tens of thousands of dollars in donations at the skate park are being wasted as the ten-year lease runs out. What's wrong with this picture?

Once again, it is the Brick House stepping in to plug the gap, instead of the town. The Brick House has organized one last work day for this Sunday, at the skate park on 2nd Street at noon. Be there. Let's get the skate park open again!



KAREN WILKINSON ILLUSTRATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Serving the Cause of Peace

I came across the words of Pope Pius XII regarding peace in the world recently and I would like to share them with everyone:

"To serve the cause of peace is to serve justice. To serve the cause of peace is to serve the interests of the people, especially the lowly and dispossessed. To serve the cause of peace is to face the future with serene and

unruffled countenance. To serve the cause of peace is to hasten the day when all nations without exception shall lay aside their rivalries and feuds, and embrace one another as brothers. To serve the cause of peace is to serve civilization."

These are the words of a holy and saintly man, and it seems to be a very reasonable and intelligent way to go. Something to

think about!



-Rev. Charles Jan Di Mascola
Pastor, Our Lady of Czestochowa Church
Turners Falls

Help Us Help the Homeless

During this time of heightened awareness of the abundant gifts of nature and human generosity, we would like to call your attention to those among us who are among the least fortunate - the homeless.

Many threads of cause come together in each and every case of those who find themselves

without a safe, secure place to pursue their lives. In recent times, we have seen more than one of these situations have truly tragic consequences, right here in our own 'back yards.'

Please take more than a moment, in this traditional time of thanks, to reach out to the many agencies and services that attempt to assist these folks and their needs.

- Jennifer Bennett
Franklin County Interfaith Council
www.interfaithcounciloffranklincounty.org
Turners Falls

All Welcome at Senior Center Bazaar

The Gill-Montague Senior Center will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar and Raffle on Saturday, November 24th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets are available at the Senior Center, 62 5th Street, in Turners Falls, or from the many seniors who find the Senior Center a place of relaxation and happiness. It is through the proceeds from the Christmas Bazaar and Raffle

that we can purchase items that make it pleasant to attend events at the Center.

At the Bazaar, one can purchase homemade baked food, crafts, and other items for one's own use or for holiday gifts. A can auction will be held. Various green plants will be for sale, along with paperback books at three for 50 cents, hardcovers for 50 cents each.

As well, nice Christmas and greeting cards will be available in a packet of five - all different - for 25 cents. Doughnuts and coffee will be sold.

We do not forget those seniors who cannot attend the Center, as we will contribute \$300 to the Meals on Wheels Program.

- Allan Adie
Gill

American Dead in Iraq and Afghanistan as of 11/07/07

US FORCES	
Casualties in Iraq as of this date	3,857
Afghanistan	459
Wounded in Action	38,234

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

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58 4th Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Under the Influence, 6th Offense

Thursday 11-1

1:22 p.m. Report of a loud noise disturbance at a 4th Street address. Caller states that downstairs neighbors are drumming. Ongoing problem. Advised to speak to landlord as a civil matter.

Friday 11-2

4:18 p.m. While on patrol, officer came upon three kids vandalizing a fence with a marker near the church on L Street. Officer made them clean it up.

5:40 p.m. Report of a larceny from a 4th Street address. A bike was taken from a porch. Report taken.

Saturday 11-3

7:50 a.m. Report of a motor vehicle theft from a 4th Street address. Reporting party called later to report car had been returned, but it was unknown who took it.

10:05 p.m. Walk-in to station reported sex offenses had occurred on the bike path.

[REDACTED], was arrested and charged with assault and battery, indecent assault and battery on a person 14 or over, and rape of a child with force (under 16).

Sunday 11-4

11:20 a.m. Report of a larceny at an X Street address. Several items missing. Under investigation.

12:45 p.m. Report of a domestic disturbance at a Montague City Road address. Verbal argument between husband and wife. Husband left for a while to cool off.

Monday 11-5

8:36 a.m. Report of graffiti on Sheffield School building.

10:43 a.m. Report of a larceny at a 4th Street address. Money orders stolen. Under investigation.

Tuesday 11-6

11:02 p.m. General disturbance at a Turners Falls Road address.

[REDACTED] was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, operating with a revoked license (subsequent offense), operating under the influence of liquor (6th offense), unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, operating to endanger, marked lanes violation, failure to signal, speeding, vandalizing property, possession of open container of alcohol in motor vehicle, and failure to use care in starting, stopping, turning, or backing.

AIDS from pg 3

through dance, music and storytelling workshops, directed by Myrna Munchus-Bullock.

After traveling to Africa, where he witnessed the plight of the children of the HIV/AIDS crisis, Timothy Bullock was inspired to take on this project. He said, "We try to meet some of the needs of students whose families are going through the HIV crisis. Not only the adults contract this disease; the mothers, the fathers, the children and the extended family suffer as well. One of the things my wife and I are trying to do is get people in this area to address the needs of education, nutrition... all the things that help a child to grow up and feel safe. It is the aftermath of this epidemic we are addressing. The schools depend on these resources. Most of the schools are private, and take on the responsibility of the missing parents."

Pioneer Valley cultural worker Ingrid Askew, an



Ras Jahn Bullock

international activist who lives part time in Cape Town will be a guest speaker. Montague reggae star Ras Jahn Bullock, whose artwork is currently exhibiting at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC, will be performing.

The theme of the fundraiser is *Being of Service: a Community Sharing for SpiritWalkers*. Silent auction coordinator Elaine Kenseth said, "This is a great theme for the evening, because SpiritWalkers offers such a concrete and personal way for their supporters to be of service through their gifts, and if they are up for the trip, through joining Tim and Myrna on one of their in-service visits." The silent auction will include donations of services, artwork, artifacts and other items. To make a donation, please contact Elaine Kenseth at 413-253-7609 or edkenseth@aol.com

Doors open at 3:30 p.m., followed by music, potluck dinner, speakers program, performance and slideshow, capped off with a concert with Ras Jahn. Check it out.

Wendell Land Preserved

Local artist Kate Neilson recently realized a dream when she donated a conservation restriction on 48 acres of her property near the center of Wendell. "All life has inherent value, and I am very glad to help ensure that in one little corner of Massachusetts the flora and fauna, including the foxes and deer, the beech and hemlock, which I have lived among for the last 22 years will have a chance to live their own lives in relative peace." Preparing to move to New York, she has donated the conservation restriction, which prevents future development on the land, to Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust.

The property abuts the Wendell Wildlife Management Area, and is near other land conserved by Mount Grace, as well as the Wendell State Forest. The land is on a ridge, draining south

into the Sawmill River and north into the Millers River. Protecting the land has the added benefit of helping protect water quality downstream. Currently the land is managed under Chapter 61 as a working forest. The conservation restriction will allow for ongoing sustainable forestry management aimed at making the woods a richer habitat for native species.

Neilson hopes the popularity of conservation restrictions continues to grow. "I have been lucky to have lived so long in a town rich in natural beauty, in no small part thanks to those who have gone before me in protecting their lands. Individual landowners have enormous power to positively affect the future of Massachusetts by setting up their own conservation restrictions, and I hope more people choose to work with Mount Grace, or other land trusts, to protect their land."

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Montague Business Association Draws a Crowd

BY DAVID DETMOLD

TURNERS FALLS - At least 40 business owners from across Montague crowded into Patty Cake, Patty Cake on 4th Street for the first official meeting of the recently revived Montague Business Association on Friday, November 2nd. It was standing room only and coffee refills all around for the 8 a.m. gathering, which brought landscapers, electricians, and real estate agents together with web designers, morticians, chefs and bakers, and even a dentist on route to his first appointment of the morning.

The meeting began with a welcome from Patty McClelland, Patty Cake's owner, who reviewed her history in business at that location, where she opened Blue Sky Café in 2005, closed after a year and a half, and reopened as Patty Cake, Patty Cake, a bakery

and café, earlier this year.

The crowd left after a productive hour of rapid discussion, during which a slate of seven steering committee members was elected, with a three month time frame to draft preliminary bylaws, propose an organizational structure, and nominate officers for the association. Those members are: Linda Ackerman, Ingrid Bredenburg, Denise DiPaolo, Todd Howe, Dan Laroche, Michael Muller, and Deb Wilcox. The association agreed to meet again at Patty Cake, Patty Cake at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 6th. All Montague business owners invited.



CLARE MELINSKY ILLUSTRATION

Veterans Mediation Project Launched

ORANGE - In time for this Veterans Day, Quabbin Mediation has launched the Veterans Mediation Project. Volunteer mediators who are veterans and veteran family members offer mediation services to those who have served on active duty, National Guard and Reserves, and their families. They mediate cases that are self-referred, referred by attorneys, police, schools, social service agencies, and the courts. Nearly every kind of conflict can be mediated including disputes involving parents and their children, neighbors, small claims, business landlord-tenant, relationship and divorce, family, and workplace.

The Veterans Mediation Project is based on the concept that veterans and their families are more likely seek help in resolving their conflicts from fellow veterans who understand their life experience. This group of volunteers, trained to help in cases appropriate for mediation, is an invaluable resource for our communities. Mediation is a powerful tool for all veterans and their families to help them find their own fair and durable solutions to conflicts that might otherwise escalate out of control.

Quabbin Mediation, a non-profit community-based organization with offices in Orange and Northampton, MA, provides supervision and case coordination for Veterans Mediation Project cases. To refer a case to mediation or to inquire about mediation, contact case manager John Hallock at Quabbin Mediation, at 978-544-6142, or call toll free: (888) 924-2600. Further information about Quabbin Mediation's services is available on our web page Quabbinmediation.org.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GILL POLICE LOG

Riverside Assault and Battery

Wednesday 10-31

9:15 p.m. Officer requested to Montague police station to meet a subject who was assaulted in Gill.

9:53 p.m. Arrested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] charged with assault and battery (domestic), intimidation of a witness, and possession of marijuana subsequent offense.

Thursday 11-1

6:50 a.m. Report of suspicious motor vehicle in the area of Boyle Road and North Cross Road. Subject located. All OK.

3:00 p.m. Charged [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] with operating a motor vehicle while unlicensed, unregistered motor vehicle, and uninsured motor vehicle.

4:50 p.m. Arrested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, second offense, open container of alcohol in a vehicle, and speeding.

7:50 p.m. Arrested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] charged with assault and battery (domestic).

Friday 11-2

7:15 p.m. Report of subject not paying for camp site fee at Barton Cove. Subject located; will handle situation with ranger.

7:44 p.m. Assisted Bernardston police with motor vehicle roll-over accident.

Saturday 11-3

12:15 p.m. Assisted with report of possible fire on Main Road. Unable to locate.

6:35 p.m. Assisted Northfield fire and police with missing hunter search.

Sunday 11-4

3:33 p.m. Report of person riding an ATV in roadway with child, neither wearing helmets, on South Cross Road.

6:16 p.m. Report of possible breaking and entering on Ben Hale Road. Under investigation.

7:27 p.m. Two vehicle accident on French King Highway, minor injuries. Tire came loose from vehicle, striking a passing car.

Monday 11-5

5:33 p.m. Responded to a hunter who had fallen from tree stand in woods, off of West Gill Road. BHA, Gill fire/EMS and Bernardston fire also responded.

6:25 p.m. Assisted with landing zone for LifeStar helicopter at intersection of West Gill and Main Road.

MCTV Schedule

Channel 17: Nov. 9th - Nov. 15th

Friday, November 9

8:00 am Carlos W. Anderson: "A House Divided"
9:00 am Montague Select Board (11/5/07)
10:00 am Power Canal Cleanup 2007
11:00 am Montague Update: David Detmold
11:30 am Montague Update: Ted Graveline
6:30 pm NASA Destination Tomorrow: Program 2
7:00 pm GMRSD Meeting (10/23/07)
10:00 pm Montague Update: Josh Goldman
11:00 pm Independent Voices #39

Saturday, November 10

8:00 am NASA Destination Tomorrow: Program 2
8:30 am GMRSD Meeting (10/23/07)
11:30 am Montague Update: Josh Goldman
12:00 pm Independent Voices #39
6:30 pm The Well Being: "Treating The Constitution with Acupuncture"
7:30 pm GED Connection #25: Chemistry
8:00 pm Dan Seidens Show
9:00 pm Chronicles of Czestochowa: All Souls Day
10:00 pm Peskeomskut Park Dedication

Sunday, November 11

8:00 am The Well Being: "Treating The Constitution with Acupuncture"
9:00 am GED Connection #25: Chemistry
9:30 am Dan Seidens Show
10:30 am Chronicles of Czestochowa: All Souls Day
11:30 am Peskeomskut Park Dedication
6:30 pm Discovery Center: Woodpeckers
7:30 pm On The Ridge: Wives of Hunters
8:30 pm Carlos W. Anderson: "So What"
9:30 pm Discovery Center: Tales of the Connecticut Valley Dinosaurs

Monday, November 12

8:00 am Discovery Center: Woodpeckers
9:00 am On The Ridge: Wives of Hunters
10:00 am Carlos W. Anderson: "So What"
11:00 am Discovery Center: Tales of the Connecticut Valley Dinosaurs
6:00 pm Montague Update: Andrew Varnon
7:00 pm Montague Select Board: (Live)

8:30 pm Physician Focus: Becoming A Smarter Patient
9:00 pm Road to Recovery: "Investing In Treatment"
10:00 pm The Spirit of Lake Pleasant

Tuesday, November 13

8:00 am Montague Update: Andrew Varnon
9:00 am Physician Focus: Becoming A Smarter Patient
9:30 am Road to Recovery: "Investing In Treatment"
10:30 am The Spirit of Lake Pleasant
6:00 pm The GED Connection #25: Chemistry
6:30 pm Independent Voices #39
7:00 pm GMRSD (Live)
10:00 pm Naturalist Laurie Sanders

Wednesday, November 14

8:00 am GED Connection #25: Chemistry
8:30 am Independent Voices #39
9:00 am Naturalist Laurie Sanders
6:00 pm NASA Destination Tomorrow: Program 2
6:30 pm GED Connection #26: Physics
7:00 pm Taft Mountain Toppers
9:00 pm Chronicles of Czestochowa: All Souls Day
10:00 pm The Well Being: "Treating The Constitution with Acupuncture"
11:00 pm Montague Update: Josh Goldman

Thursday, November 15

8:00 am NASA Destination Tomorrow: Program 2
8:30 am GED Connection #26: Physics
9:00 am Taft Mountain Toppers
11:00 am Chronicles of Czestochowa: All Souls Day
12:00 pm The Well Being: "Treating The Constitution with Acupuncture"
1:00 pm Montague Update: Josh Goldman
6:00 pm Carlos W. Anderson: "So What"
7:00 pm Montague Select Board: (11/12/07)
8:00 pm Montague Update: David Detmold
9:00 pm Common Man Concerts: Jeff Brewer
10:00 pm The Spirit of Lake Pleasant

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Bench on the Move?

BY DAVID DETMOLD - TURNERS FALLS - Richard Mascavage, owner of Pipione's Sport Shop at 101 Avenue A, sent a brief letter to the selectboard on November 30th, requesting "that the bench located in front of Pipione's Sport Shop be removed, due to the substantial increase in loitering." Mascavage's letter concluded, "This increase in loitering has become a deterrent for my clientele to shop at my business, resulting in a loss of revenue."

"It's beginning to sound like Greenfield," remarked board chair Pat Allen, as the topic came up.

Mascavage did not appear at the board meeting on Monday, November 5th, where his letter was discussed, but building inspector David Jensen, who recently purchased the VFW building next door at 109 Avenue A with his son Enoch, attended. He came to discuss the bench, which is actually located in front of his building.

"There's been a number of people," hanging out on the sidewalk in front of the VFW in recent months, Jensen said. "That has its plusses and minuses. He [Mascavage] feels it's disrupting his business." Jensen added, "Most of the people are centered around the coffeeshop," referring to the Avenue A Café, next to the VFW at 111 Avenue A, where business owner Evelyn Daly has requested the bench in question be relocated.

"My view," said Jensen, "there's a lot of kids hanging out on the planter rim, playing guitar, and mingling. I would hate to lose the bench where it is," he said, but if it moves a few yards west toward the coffeeshop, "It's a wash." He added, "The weather is starting to impact attendance."

Jensen said another factor to consider is that Daly would like to eventually put a hot dog wagon in front of her café, to add

yet another element to the streetscape there. Jensen wondered, "Is there enough room?"

The board asked him to return to their next meeting, on Tuesday, November 13th, at 7 p.m., with a diagram of the sidewalk of that section of Avenue A. The board will determine the fate of the bench then.

The bench in front of the VFW is one of 11½ benches remaining at various locations on Avenue A, out of the 25 originally provided for by Montague town meeting when the Avenue A streetscape improvement project was approved and funded in 1983. It appears that not all of the original 25 benches were actually installed. Of those that were, a number have since fallen victim to vandalism, wear and tear, and intentional removal.

In 1996, during a period when drug dealing in broad daylight was prevalent on the Avenue, Todd Shute, then manager of Subway, acting without the town's permission, removed the bench from in front of his store, which at the time was located at 112 Avenue A. Arnie Houle, of Arnie's Wholesale, acting without the town's permission, unbolted a bench from in front of his store at 102 Avenue A, and left it unsecured further down the sidewalk. The highway



DETMOLD PHOTO

Richard Mascavage, owner of Pipione's, has asked the Montague selectboard to remove this bench because of loitering near his sporting goods store. But Evelyn Daly, owner of the Avenue A Cafe, has said it would be fine with her if the bench was moved in front of her store.

department eventually bolted it into place in its new location.

Subsequent to that, after former Equi's owner Kathy Brown complained at a selectboard meeting about kids eating ice cream on the bench in front of her store at 125 Avenue A, that bench was hit by a car and removed. A bench in front of what is now Doggie Dips and Clips at 62 Avenue A was vandalized; half of it was removed and never replaced.

In 1996, more than 50 downtown residents attended a selectboard meeting to oppose a plan by then chief of police Patrick O'Bryan to remove all the benches on Avenue A as a means of controlling loitering and illegal activity.

At a special town meeting of December 5th, 2001, \$3000 was appropriated to repair and replace benches on the Avenue. With this money, three new benches were purchased. One was placed in front of Equi's; one was placed in front of town hall; and one was placed in Peskeomskut Park.

Of the benches remaining on Avenue A, the one in front of Dolan & Dolan's office has a

broken slat, as does the bench in front of 118 Avenue A. The full-sized bench remaining in front of the Dips and Clips store has a broken slat; the one in front of Chinatown has a slat missing, and the one near Arnie's has a slat loose.

After Monday's selectboard meeting, a number of young people gathered in front of the VFW and seated on the bench there at about 8 p.m. said they had not been aware of the bench discussion scheduled for that evening. A nearby business owner, Seth Licata, of Seth & Eva's consignment shop at 115 Avenue A, walked by and said he would support moving the bench closer to his store.

In other news, the board appointed four representatives to an oversight committee to hire a consultant and guide the process of drafting a five-year budget plan for the town of Montague and the Gill-Montague schools. The appointees are: board member Patricia Pruitt, town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, former finance committee chair Mike Naughton,

and finance committee member Marge Levenson. From the schools, appointees to the committee are superintendent Ken Rocke, committee chair Mary Kociela, finance sub-committee chair Valeria Smith, and committee member Ted Castro-Santos. Town alternate is Lynn Reynolds; school alternate is Lynn Bassett.

The board agreed to request a civil service list to replace a fulltime police officer position left vacant when Ryan Doherty moved to the Erving force. They heard letters of commendation from chief Ray Zukowski on recent heroic actions by sergeant Chris Bonnett and patrolman Michael Sevene and dispatcher David Fortier (see page 1).

Regarding the response of these officers and dispatcher Fortier to potentially life threatening situations, Pruitt said, "We've all heard about other incidents that did not turn out so well. We were very fortunate."

Board member Al Ross called the department's response "remarkable," to which Zukowski replied, "Whenever a life is saved, that's remarkable to me, as a chief."

The board agreed to ask the finance committee to transfer \$14,000 from reserves to fund transportation for a Montague student taking agricultural classes at Smith Vocational School, as required by state law. Abbondanzio said the cost of the student's tuition will also be Montague's to pay. "The other shoe hasn't dropped yet," he said.

Before heading into an executive session for discussion of real estate with former Strathmore Mill owner Jerry Jones, Pruitt said the board will soon take up the matter of town hall employees joining the state Group Insurance Commission health plan for fiscal year 2010, before next year's budget making begins in earnest.

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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Musical Office Chairs

BY JOSH HEINEMANN

WENDELL - In the ongoing round of musical office chairs, Charles Smith of the conservation commission met with the selectboard on Hallowe'en to talk about the conservation commission's needs if they were to move from the town hall to the town office building, to make room for the Good Neighbors food pantry to move to the town hall. He joined the selectboard and town coordinator Nancy Aldrich to look at both the meeting room and the planning board and board of health office, to see how the conservation commission's files, books and maps could fit in the new building.

Selectboard member Christine Heard suggested it would be good to keep the meeting room open. Since the conservation commission meets Wednesdays, and both the planning board and board of health meet on Tuesdays, the selectboard and Smith agreed it would make more sense to move the conservation

commission into the committee room.

Selectboard chair Ted Lewis said the conservation commission should be located in the office building anyway, since that is the building's purpose.

Kaymarion Raymond was in attendance to talk about Good Neighbors' needs in the prospective reshuffling. In order to use the town hall effectively, she had a rough sketch of plans for the town hall kitchen and office space, showing where refrigerators and freezers would go, where electric outlets would be needed, and where shelving could be built. Raymond said members of Good Neighbors would be available to help with the move. Food distribution for the non-profit, volunteer-run food pantry takes place on Sundays, from about noon to 3:00 p.m., including set up and cleanup. The only probable conflict for use of the town hall would be with the annual Holiday Craft Fair.

Raymond said distribution

out of the former senior center was "a drag," involving many trips up and down stairs, and that Good Neighbors would really have liked to use a room in the new town office building, as originally planned. Lewis agreed, saying, "We lost too much when we cut this [building] down," to save on construction costs.

Selectboard member Dan Keller said the planning board had already signed off on the plans, and that the board of health should also see them.

Heard said it seemed like the town hall would be the best option available now for Good Neighbors, although perhaps not ideal. Town accountant Janet Swem can decide if the alterations to the town hall can be made with available building funds.

Keller said the plans should go to the building committee for a vote.

Josefski Appointed

Asa DeRoode resigned as the town's emergency management director, and recommended

appointing Dawn Josefski of West Street as his replacement. The selectboard signed an appointment slip for Josefski, who is assistant director of emergency medical services at Franklin Medical Center. Fire chief Everett Ricketts has been covering the post in the meantime. With Homeland Security regs, the position has become more time consuming.

Mushroom Coordinator?

The selectboard declined to name Lisa Winter as town Mushroom Coordinator to avoid liability if someone is poisoned. Keller wondered about the job description.

An envelope disappeared with one of the sealed bids for replacing the town hall and police station roofs. Fortunately, board members knew which contractor's bid had gone missing, and called asking him to submit his bid again, so that a contractor can soon be chosen for the jobs.

Lewis said, "We should also see how quickly they can do it." Huntley Associates, the

engineering company that designed the town water supply system, submitted a final bill from Whitney Trucking, the builder, for \$20,800 in change orders.

Aldrich showed the selectboard the dedication plaques that had arrived for the office building, and for the yoke that hangs in the main hall.

With the recent passing of Marion Herrick - who was the honorary owner of the golden cane as Wendell's oldest citizen - the selectboard on October 31st decided to pass ownership of the cane to Artel Bourbeau, of Farley Road. The cane itself resides in the town office building.

Surplus Property Auction Held

BY JOSH HEINEMANN

WENDELL - Selectboard chair Ted Lewis was auctioneer for the Saturday, November 3rd auction of town surplus equipment. Although his style was less aggressive than that of more practiced auctioneers, he earned the town over \$1,500 in an hour of sometimes spirited bidding - "One dollar... two... three... three fifty" - among a dozen buyers on a morning so cold that one bidder left when the coffee in his cup was gone and the cup no longer warmed his fingers.

The dumping trailer did not sell for its minimum bid of \$1,000. Road boss Dan Bacigalupo bought the estimated 15 cords of tree length firewood with the only bid, \$500. The deal of the day was seven flashlights, several of them large D cell Mag lights, at least one of which worked, bought by Andy Hamilton for \$30. There were many wood working supplies, clamps, a table saw and radial arm saw, and a portable workbench, from properties taken for back taxes.

WENDELL from pg 1

for several trees with his backhoe. Jonathan von Ranson, who lives next to the former library building on Lockes Village Road, tilled the soil for the planting beds. Whitney Trucking provided a large mound of rich, black, composted leaf mulch.

Some of the plants and shrubs were bought from Stewarts Nursery in Turners Falls, using funds from the building project landscaping budget. Heidkamp said Stewarts gave the town a generous discount.

The New England Wildflower Society (NEWFS) donated numerous wildflower shrubs and perennial

wildflower plants. At the end of the fall season, NEWFS' Nasami Farm in Whately had many potted plants that were unlikely to survive the winter unless they were transplanted. Tristram Seidler, staff ecologist for NEWFS and a Wendell resident, contacted Heidkamp and made the connection between the society and the Wendell library landscaping project. According to Seidler, one of the Wildflower Society's purposes is to encourage landscaping with native plant species, a natural fit for Wendell.

On Saturday, landscape committee member Christine Heard supervised planting shrubs and trees along the

sides of the building and the north side of the basketball court - lilac, shadbush, daphne, mountain andromeda, and others. Jerry Barilla of Jennison Road planted a redbud tree dug from his property to provide shade to a south-facing window.

Dvora Cohen and Stephen Broll of Locke Village Road supervised a team of volunteers planting wildflower shrubs and perennial wildflowers in the "Secret Garden," on the strip of land between the south side of the basketball court and the property boundary. Cohen said she had imagined this garden even before she knew any plants would be available. When the designated plants

were in the ground, short walkways in the "Secret Garden" passed by beds of native species such as Carolina lupine, golden star, climbing prairie rose, wild aster, bee balm, coneflower, and many others.

Seidler commented that it might take up to two spring seasons for the plants to show their full potential. However, under the cold gray November sky, with dry leaves on the plants and no flowers visible, the promise of many blooming springs was laid out, mulched, and soon watered.

The volunteer planting effort ended about 2 p.m., when the rain finally started.



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NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Riverfront Land Supported for Permanent Conservation

BY NICHOLE CLAYTON - River Street resident David Brule, of Erving, came to the selectboard meeting on Monday, November 5th, seeking the board's support for his effort to place seven acres of his family's riverside property under a permanent conservation restriction. Brule hopes to protect the acreage in the bend of the Millers River west of Renovator's Supply from ever being developed.

Alain Peteroy of the Franklin Land Trust attended the meeting with Brule. The land trust is stewarding the conservation process for the Brules, and will hold the conservation restriction

conjointly with them. The land trust will maintain the conservation restrictions on the land even if the property changes ownership in the future.

The selectboard congratulated Brule on his choice to conserve this important piece of riverfront property, and signed a letter in support of a permanent conservation restriction for the land.

Brule said, "I believe this is a necessary step for my family's peace of mind. We want to protect the wide variety of wildlife that call this land home. I also want to invite other landowners with similar parcels

of property to join in and preserve them."

The board met briefly with the finance committee to begin work on the FY '09 budget. They went over some preliminary numbers, and spoke of a strategy to keep the town's budget workable and fair for all departments. Stay tuned, as the next fiscal year approaches.

The big news for kids in the area may be that the Erving Library has received grant money to fund a program called Wild Reads. This program will include a one-time date (to be announced) with a skydiver who will jump out of a plane and land in Veterans Park,

across the street from the public library in Erving. Kids will be invited to come and watch this fun event, and then join the skydiver at the library for a discussion about skydiving and parachutes.

Board member Linda Downs-Bembury called it, "a fun and interesting event."

The board will hold a public hearing on November 26th, at 6:30 p.m. in preparation for the town's '08 Community Development Block Grant application.

Alan Singer from the Franklin County Community Development Center spoke to the board about the low-interest

loans his organization has available for business start-ups and expansions. He stated the CDC is now looking for new businesses that need loan assistance. Singer said his program has over \$200,000 to loan out at this time, and they are looking for interested applicants. For more information, contact him at the FCCDC, at 413-774-7204 x105.

The board wished chair Andy Tessier a very happy birthday, before heading into executive session. With the Veterans Day holiday approaching, the next meeting of the board will take place on Monday, November 19th.

NMH Alum Donates \$1 Million to Alma Mater

MOUNT HERMON - A Northfield Mount Hermon alumna from the class of 1973 has contributed an unrestricted gift of \$1 million to her alma mater. The school will use the gift to help support students, faculty, and academic programs. Head of School Thomas Sturtevant announced the news during the school's recent convocation weekend.

"An anonymous gift of this magnitude signals how deeply graduates love Northfield Mount Hermon," said Sturtevant. "Not wishing to draw attention to herself, this alumna was motivated solely by a desire to make a difference through a leadership gift that will allow us to invest in key strategic priorities. Support from alumni sustains and

strengthens NMH, and this donor's gift is just the latest example of graduates wanting to give back to a school they believe gave them so much."

In January 2004 the Northfield Mount Hermon Board of Trustees voted to consolidate the two-campus school to one, and to adjust the size of the student body in order to strengthen its

distinctive academic offerings and create a closer community. Since then the school's highly successful fundraising efforts have helped build the endowment, school programs, student scholarship funds, faculty chair appointments, and facilities. In the last three years the school's endowment has grown 36 percent to \$167.5 million.

GMEF Offers Tribute Gifts

TURNERS FALLS - A new 'Tribute Gift' to the Gill-Montague Education Fund could be just right for the person who has everything this holiday season.

By making a tax-deductible donation to the GMEF, a non-profit organization established in 1996 by the parents and citizens of the towns of Gill and Montague to support district schools, donors recognize special events and honors. The GMEF will send a note of appreciation, including your personal tribute message, to the honoree.

To make a gift in honor of someone, send donations to GMEF, PO Box 383, Turners Falls, MA 01376, attention Sandra Miner. Include the name of the person you are acknowledging, your message and the address to which the note of appreciation should be sent.



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WEST ALONG THE RIVER

Back on the River

**TURNERS FALLS
THE NARROWS**

BY DAVID BRULE - *It's Sunday afternoon. The old wooden rowboat, chained to an alder bush in a nook above the Narrows has been waiting alone all week. First in, the dog. Impossible to make her wait, she loves a boat ride. She takes up her spot in the little bow seat; we have to squeeze past her. She leans a little to let us past, but not much, scrunching down to hold her claim. Next is sister, then my father, who will do the rowing for the time being. The chain with its familiar rattle drops into the bottom of the boat. The oars set in the oarlocks. With one shove from me, the boat glides effortlessly from the shore, free of the bushes, pivots gracefully away downstream, and we're on the river again. It's 1957; it's Sunday. With every pull my father gives on the oars, the boat leaps ahead briefly. The rings left on the water by the dripping oars mark our progress through the Narrows, until they fade...*

And now 50 years later, I'm in my own boat, alone. The new kayak's sleek hull glides on the glassy surface of the Connecticut like a glistening otter. Back on the river, after a long absence and years spent on the shore, the same unique, river smell of sand, mud and water stir distant primal memories imprinted decades, or even generations ago. The old river still flows through these parts on the

way to the sea, as it has for 20,000 years. The water this late autumn day is still dark and warm, although the air is cool enough to give rise to small wreaths of fog in the early morning air. I'm skimming over the sunken, hidden canyon of the Narrows, where 90 years ago log drives choked the river. Now it's still and empty, no voices or shouts, just the fading patter of ducks on the water as they lift up in front of the boat.

We entered the secret lagoon of the Bear's Den that Sunday in '57, when Barton Cove looked different than it does today. The woods in those days closed around the pool, leaving just a small passage large enough for the rowboat to slip through without grazing the soft mud inches below. *The boat comes to rest near the shallow cave on the shore, and out jumps my father to have a look. Sister and I push the boat back out onto the surface of the enclosed pond to poke around and practice rowing. Before long, my father's stretched out on the bank to catch a quiet Sunday snooze, while we turn in figure eights in the boat like the whirligig beetles speeding away from us on*



PHOTO BY DAVID BRULE

Arthur Brule in his boat at the Narrows in the fall of 1957.

the surface.

Looking back to those days I can't help but wonder what was going through his mind on those Sundays spent in the hidden lagoon. Just little more than ten years back from the War. And to find himself back in familiar surroundings on the river on a Sunday afternoon with his two kids and a snug warm house up on the Hill just beyond, overlooking the river, my mother expecting us all back shortly. Having survived hundreds of bombing runs in the Pacific, dozens of kamikaze attacks on his carrier, the Ticonderoga, explosions, violence and death, three years on the sea and thousands of feet up in the air in one

that matter, far from the job he came back to at William's Garage.

Nowadays, there are still some of us who go down to the river in this river town, or who still look up when the ancient calling of passing geese drifts down from the sky. When you pause and think of it, this river has run through our lives all this time. Some of us know this; others barely see it. Our town is almost surrounded by it, water on three sides.

We wouldn't be here if not for the river. This site drew the Native peoples here more than 12,000 years ago, long before the first white settlers appeared. Then, even after, the Great Falls

of those flying rattle-traps, coming in to the carrier on a wing and a prayer. All that mayhem and fury, and just now catching forty winks on the quiet river bank, his hat over his eyes, legs straight out and hands folded, asleep and far from the War, and for

drew generations upon generations of immigrants to farm and work in water-powered factories. For some of us now, this river runs through our veins. It's a constant, a place to come back to, a thread running through our lives.

There's kind of a river sub-culture around here, but it seems to be fading. Years ago, on any given morning, you'd see two or three cars parked at the foot of Ferry Road. Old guys, sitting and smoking and looking at the water. Yet even now, if the mood strikes you right, you could go down to the shore just on the edge of town, and take a closer look at this long river that comes down through the North Woods, a ribbon through New England, to wrap itself around our town.

It brings a whiff of tall trees, deep snows, history, and the tundra beyond its source. Some of us know this; some of us are not conscious of its presence. Some who do come down to the water love to race over the surface, thrilled with noise and speed, and the need to get somewhere fast. Some fight over it and its banks, use it, appropriate it for selfish reasons, foul and abuse it for corporate profit. And others, like myself, just like to paddle, fish, or poke around on a quiet sunny morning or blue dusk, to find some peace, rest and renewal, like my old man asleep on the shore that Sunday years ago back on the river, just after the War.

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OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

A Trip Back in Time to Scott Farm



*Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT
- a real life Garden of Eden*

FLORE PHOTO

BY FLORE

DUMMERSTON, VT - This time, let me take you to a real life Garden of Eden.

The place? In the neighboring state of Vermont.

Hardly an hour's drive from our village greens.

Located over the undulating hills of a place called Dummerston, past Brattleboro. After several ups and downs, the Scott Farm Apple Orchard will emerge with its weathered face. What makes this place, so very

special, besides its historic past? The research program going on there, producing 70 heirloom varieties of apples, whose forebears date back to the 17th century!

If you have the incredible chance of meeting orchard manager Ezekiel Goodband, he will explain the power this land has on him, too...

Though the farmland sits on 600 acres, 40 for the moment are under his active, vigilant care.

He has grafted, since he

began managing the farm in March of 2000, 5000 trees, using the ancient method of pruning, which consists of cutting scions of a new tree, carefully inserting them in the clefts of the supporting old tree.

You will discover the oldest 'Yankee' apple, known as "the Roxbury Russett," dating back to 1635! Among the many heirloom specialties, a French variety from the 16th century: "Ananas Reinette," possesses an exquisite aroma of pineapple

mixed with citrus.

My favorite? By far, "The Lady (or Roman) Apple" smallest and oldest known, that blushing women in the Renaissance inserted between their *decollete* (bosom), discretely pulling the apples out to refresh their breath!

Dream names will float in your head, when tasting "Esopus Spitzenburg" a favorite apple of Monsieur Thomas Jefferson. Or will you try tasting the "Rhode Island Greening," grown around the Tavern Inn by Greening?

At Scott Farm, the apples are ecologically grown, using low spray.

The orchard's buildings have strong foundations on that well-trod ground.

Operated first as a dairy farm, it was owned and run by the Scott family, back in the 1700s.

Caretaken then by several generations of the Holbrook family, including most recently Fred Holbrook, an apple *connoisseur* and specialist, who created an orchard mainly of the tasty MacIntosh. Having no heir and being single, in 1995, he donated the farm to the Landmark Trust, a British non-

profit foundation, whose aims are to restore and preserve historic buildings. Holbrook stipulated that the farm continue to be used for agricultural purposes.

Know, apple pickers, these salubrious fruits are still in season, up there, yes even in mid-November, as each variety has a different program. You can still fill your winter storage up to the brim: it's Empire apple picking time even now!

To further tempt you to such an exciting trip?

Know you'll be also walking in the footsteps of Rudyard Kipling.

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On the Wing in Barton Cove and Elsewhere

BY FRAN HEMOND

MONTAGUE CENTER - Five lively little black coots have been entertaining walkers along the river at Unity Park of late. They have been enjoying the good grasses that abound in the area off the parking lot by the bike trail entry, their white bills and sharp dives, their shape and smaller size marking them from the mallards who frequent the riverbanks.

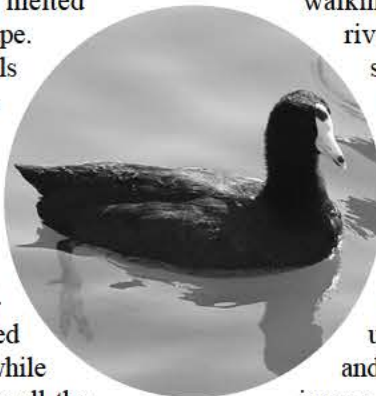
They shared the scene one day with what appeared to be a young mallard drake, who obviously considered himself a future leader. He had come from across the river alone, his lovely V trail interrupted by a shallow swam around. He found himself a fine spot near the shore, and quacked loudly for company.

His potential friends were all busy, and he melted into the riverscape.

Here, the gulls and cormorants find the floating dam barrier a fine spot to perch. That day, one cormorant, spread-eagled, occupied a center float, while gulls perched on all the others helped warn boaters of the impending waterfall.

The cormorants often fly in a swooping V and land on barriers downstream, sometimes after a couple of tries. Or one can be seen swimming like a snake, sticking its black head out of the water. And of course the eagles may fly by at any time.

Unity Park offers a fabulous walking site by the river. And the swans add a touch of elegance.



Back at Cold Brook Farm, the bird feeder is again in rather regular use. The titmice and chickadees, the juncos and occasional cardinal find the swinging flat feeder their favorite. A junco with a completely white tail is a newcomer this year. He seems to have less self-assurance than his mates. Perhaps it's difficult to be different.

A noisy passel of blue jays came through one day, and a flock of sparrows who did not

wait to be identified.

Every year seems to bring new scenes. Unity Park offers one good place to look for them. A back yard bird feeder offers another.

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POLICE from pg 1

after Precinct 5 warden Jean Hebden brought the first good news for supporters of a new police station. Downtown residents had spoken, and put aside any fears that moving the station up the Hill would leave them in the lurch.

"Precinct 5 is in," DiPucchio told the chief. "Yes votes: 111; No votes: 48." Zukowski said simply, "Thank you."

But then, even in the corridor of town hall, the cheers from the crowd across the river could be heard loud and clear coming across the telephone line as the chief wrote the first tally on the board.

A few minutes later, at 7:48 p.m. Precinct 6, Montague City and the Patch reported: 172 Yes to 93 No, and the outcome was no longer in any doubt. The voters of Montague had spoken, and they said by a two to one margin it was time to retire the old police station in the basement of town hall and build a modern, \$5.6 million facility next to the fire station on Turnpike Road.

The mood of the crowd - mostly off-duty officers and firefighters, building committee members and their families - had been lively, optimistic and exuberant all evening, but there was a fair amount of nail biting. Earlier, amid the din of conversation and clanking beer bottles, Turners Falls fire captain John Zellman leaned across the bar and said to officer Dan Miner who was ably passing out beer, "You know, we never consid-

ered what we'd do if the voters turned this down."

"They aren't going to," said Miner.

"OK, good," said Zellman, as he tipped his bottle back.

Back at town hall, DiPucchio waited for the last four precincts to show, and expressed his visible relief. "Given the case that was made, and the need for a new building, I would have liked to have seen a landslide. But 2 to 1 builds a long-needed facility."

And two to one is what he got.

By 8:00 p.m., the Hill precincts, 3 and 4, reported, and the results bore out the early tallies. In 3, 301 said Yes to the police station debt exclusion article, while 104 said No. In 4, where the new station will actually be located, there were 233 Yes votes to 130 Nos.

By now the crowd at the Schuetzen Verein was beginning to explode. Walter Kostanski, a member of the committee, who said he had made nearly 200 phone calls to voters prior to the election, was beaming. "We won this one," he said. "Montague is finally going to have a new police station."

A few minutes later, the final results came in: Precinct 1 (Montague Center), chalked up the narrowest margin of the evening, voting 198 (58%) to 144 (42%); in Precinct 2 (Millers Falls and Lake Pleasant) 178 voters said Yes while 88 said No.

The crowd spontaneously erupted into a boisterous chant: "HooRay for RayMond,

HooRay for RayMond."

Zukowski was clearly moved, and for a moment speechless. "I want to thank everyone who worked so hard. It's two-to-one, ladies and gentlemen."

Dan Miner passed bottles of champagne to the chief, who quickly uncorked the Korbel. "I salute my committee for all they did to make this happen. Their hard work paid off. The best is yet to come. We're going to start building a new police station. I really thank all who supported us."

He then lifted his glass and looked across the river: "To Montague!"

The crowd roared back, "To Montague! To Montague!"

By a vote of 1193 Yes to 607 No, the citizens of Montague had approved spending \$5.6 million dollars to build a 12,000-square-foot modern police facility next to the Turners Falls fire station on Turnpike Road. The central location will give police officers fast access to all five villages. Zukowski has pledged to keep an active presence in downtown Turners Falls.

The building committee now plans to add new members who are familiar with the construction phase of project implementation, while pursuing a Community Development Block Grant proposal for next year to defray \$700,000 of the project's total cost. The town has already received \$200,000 in state grant funds for the project, and "green technology" grants will also be sought to

help pay for the new building's geo-thermal heating and cooling component, as well as photovoltaic panels for the roof.

The committee hopes the new station will allow the police department to achieve some efficiency in a shared dispatch function with the Turners Fire Department, and improved holding facilities and interview rooms will allow police officers who have had to bring detainees to nearby towns for lock-up or interrogation to remain in town and on the beat.

"This chief has been really up front about what the expectations are, and what we're going to do to maintain a presence downtown," said DiPucchio. "Right now, we've got cruisers on the Avenue, but there's no one walking the beat. My sense of this chief is he'd love to put someone downtown walking the beat again."

Despite a morning of cold rain, voter turnout was 32.76, according to assistant town clerk Mandy Hampp. One voter made the trip to the polls to cast a blank ballot.

"It's a great deal for all of Montague," said Zukowski. "The whole community is going to benefit from this building."

When asked why he thought voters this time had so overwhelmingly approved the station, Zukowski credited the committee's open process. "The community was kept well informed at each step. Nothing was hidden. And I think the community recognized the need, which is why they supported us."

FORTIER from pg 1

This call shows the dedication you have to this community, and to others who may be in crisis. Your persistence and professionalism saved a life. Your actions are to be commended.

SEVENE from pg 1

sion to the citizens of Montague.

The subsequent search of the subject's apartment found several other loaded firearms and knives in easy reach. Your timely response may have averted an escalation of the situation.

Your combined actions that morning are a true credit to this agency and the citizens of Montague whom you serve. I commend you both on a job well done.

**ASSAULT** from pg 1

assault and battery.

Sergeant Chip Dodge said the 15-year-old female victim walked into the Montague police station with her mother and a 17-year-old female friend on Saturday at 10:05 p.m. to report that Farr had assaulted her on the bike path. Dodge said, "The 17-year-old and the 15-year-old had a scheduled meeting with the 17-year-old's friend, Christopher Farr, from Greenfield," who arrived over the General Pierce Bridge from Greenfield by bicycle to find the young women at the Depot Street end of the bike path. The young women had traveled the length of the bike path on foot to meet him, Dodge said.

"The meet-up started taking a bad turn," Dodge continued. "He was making sexual comments to the girls. At one point, he proceeded to sexually assault the 15-year-old."

Dodge said the 17-year-old intervened, separating Farr from the victim, at which point Farr rode off on his bike. The 15-year-old then used her cell phone to call her mother, who came and picked the young women up.

On Monday, Farr pled not guilty to all charges in Greenfield District Court. He was held on \$10,000 bond.

Dodge said, "I want the residents of Montague to know the bike path is a safe place. This wasn't a situation where someone jumped out of the bushes. This was basically a scheduled meeting that went bad. We do patrol the bike path as often as we can. With the amount of foot traffic there, people should feel safe."



THANK YOU!



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JESSICA HARMON ILLUSTRATION
BY FRED CICETTI
LEONIA, NJ - Q. *I'm a 76-year-old woman, and I have to take a long nap every day because I'm up at night frequently to urinate. I know a lot of my contemporaries have the same problem. I'm curious to know how widespread this is.*

First, don't presume that the nightly bathroom trips are insignificant. See a doctor to determine the cause. There are solutions to your problem but they depend upon a diagnosis.

You're suffering from a very common problem called 'nocturia,' the need to urinate at night. Some people with severe nocturia get up as many as six times a night to go to the bathroom. The International Continence Society defines nocturia as two or more voids at night.

Nocturia is more common among seniors than younger people. In a survey taken by the National Sleep Foundation, about two thirds of the adults (55 to 84 years old) polled reported an urge to go to the bathroom at least several nights a week.

There are a variety of reasons for nocturia in older people.

First, we produce less of a hormone that helps us retain fluid. Because of this decreased

capacity, seniors produce more urine at night. Second, the bladder - a muscular sac - loses its capacity to hold urine. Third, we have more health problems that can affect the bladder.

Both men and women get nocturia.

Many men suffer from nocturia because of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), also known as enlarged prostate. The prostate is a walnut-size organ that surrounds the tube (urethra) that carries urine from the bladder and out of your body.

BPH is common in men 50 and older. An enlarged prostate may squeeze the urethra, making it hard to urinate. It may cause dribbling after you urinate or a frequent urge to urinate, especially at night.

In women, pelvic organ dis-

placement, menopause and childbirth can cause nocturia.

The pelvic floor is a network of muscles, ligaments and other tissues that hold up the pelvic organs: the vagina, rectum, uterus and bladder. When this hammock-like network weakens, the organs can slip out of place and create disorders.

A woman reaches menopause when a year has passed since her last period. Menopause, like many of the changes in a woman's body through her lifetime, is caused by changes in hormone levels. Menopause can make it difficult to hold urine.

There are other medical conditions that cause nocturia. These include infection, tumors, heart disease, high blood pressure, liver failure, diabetes and

sleep apnea.

Sleep apnea is much more common in older adults and men. Apnea is Greek for "without breath." People with sleep apnea stop breathing for as long as 30 seconds at a time. These interruptions can happen hundreds of times a night. The breathing cessations may wake you.

There are people who over-produce urine at night. This is called "nocturnal polyuria." It can cause nocturia, too.

Other causes of nocturia that are not medical conditions are drinking caffeine, alcohol or too much liquid close to bedtime. In addition, diuretic medications can contribute to the problem.

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

WASTE NOT: Recycling Computers

BY AMY DONOVAN
GREENFIELD - You may have read Emily Monosson's recent two-part series on recycled electronics, or 'e-waste' (*MR V #44 - #45*). After reading her excellent account of how US electronics are being sent overseas for 'recycling' by unprotected workers in unregulated facilities, you may be left wondering what to do with your old computers, monitors, and accessories.

Fear Not, and Waste Not, dear readers! There are two local options for responsible e-waste recycling. These are not 100% domestic options, as the US lacks facilities to handle some of these materials, but they are the best local outlets for responsible recycling.

The first is a no-brainer: bring your old computer equipment to the customer service desk at a Staples store in Greenfield, Hadley, or Brattleboro. Staples recently became one of the first national retailers to pioneer an

environmentally responsible comprehensive recycling program. All Staples stores will recycle your old computers, monitors, laptops, desktop printers, fax machines or 'all-in-ones.' All brands are accepted, regardless of whether or not the equipment was purchased at Staples. A recycling fee of \$10 per piece of large equipment is charged to cover handling, transport, product disassembly and recycling. Smaller computer peripherals such as keyboards, mice, and speakers are accepted at no charge. (From www.staples.com)

This e-waste is then recycled by Amandi Services, which "de-manufactures," or breaks down, the equipment into its raw materials such as plastics, metals, printed circuit boards and Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs).

Clark Everhart of Amandi Services, Inc. responded to my recycling questions. "Amandi takes great pride in the fact that we de-manufacture all e-waste in

North America. Actually 99% of what we collect is de-manufactured in the US. The other 1% goes to a third party shredder: MaSeR Technologies in Barrie, Ontario, Canada (for more on this company, see www.asiawestfunds.com/news-14oct2005.html). The resulting (sorted and baled) commodities (plastics, metals, and glass) are then shipped globally for the manufacture of new products. Amandi's approach is not the lowest cost option, but is, in our opinion, the most environmentally sound. That is why Staples, along with other environmentally conscious major retailers, use Amandi for their recycling needs."

The second responsible recycling option is available to residents within the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, which is comprised of the following towns: Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leyden,

Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Sunderland, Warwick, Wendell, Whately. During the annual "Clean Sweep" Bulky Waste Collection Day, residents of any district town may bring e-waste to one of three collection sites.

This year, Clean Sweep collection day was held October 13th in the towns of Northfield, Whately, and Buckland. District residents (including the editor of the *Montague Reporter*) paid \$5 to recycle a computer or printer, or \$10 to recycle a TV or computer monitor. (Recycling monitors and TVs is the law in Massachusetts.)

A tractor-trailer was filled with the e-waste from the three sites and sent to Waste Management's Recycle America facility in Springfield. There, workers de-manufacture electronics and CRTs

in a manner similar to Amandi's process described above. All components are recycled domestically, with two exceptions: the actual CRT glass, which is sent directly to manufacturers in Asia for reuse in new CRTs, and the plastic casings, which are also sent overseas to manufacturers for use in new products.

So the next time you find yourself with a pile of unwanted e-waste, save it for our annual "Clean Sweep" collection held each fall, or bring it to Staples for recycling.

Amy Donovan is program director for the Franklin County Waste Management District. For more information, go to: www.franklincountywastedistrict.org, or call: (413) 772-2438



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

More Peddlers

BY JOSEPH A. PARZYCH GILL - The Raleigh man wasn't the only peddler who came around. A man driving a truck marked Dry Goods used to come bursting out of the woods on the little used dirt road, and tear by the house at a high rate of speed. Only a few foolhardy people braved the road beyond our house and then only in the summer when it was passable, but barely, making his whirlwind appearance all the more surprising.

"Why does he go by so fast?" I asked my older sister Gladys.

"He does that to raise a lot of

dust to get back at Ma for not buying any dry goods from him when he stopped one day."

"What are dry goods, anyway?"

"They're dried up old stale bread and rolls and bakery stuff."

It wasn't until years later that I found out he sold clothing.

A couple of Greeks also came around selling groceries, fruit and vegetables. Business was good, but they were always arguing. Soon they broke up, and each had their own truck. They continued to cover the same area, each trying to undersell the other.

"Just tell me what he charges

and I'll sell for less," one of them once said. From then on, customers only had to say the other guy's item was cheaper and they sold it for less, and less. Prices went down, down, down, until they both put themselves out of business.

One day some swarthy men came around selling rolls of linoleum. When my father said he didn't have any money, the peddler asked, "You have wedding rings, watches, jewelry? I buy. Geef you good price."

Pa brought out his gold watch and two wedding rings linked by a safety pin. Ma said she'd rather not sell the rings, so Pa asked the peddler to tell him what he would give for the watch. It was the last vestige of his days of prosperity.

The peddler took the watch and looked it over, briefly.

"Four dollars," he announced.

"No, I've had it for a long time and can't sell it for that; it's worth a lot more. That's a good watch; it has a jeweled movement."

"I don't care about the insides," the peddler said, smashing the face of the watch on the post of the baby crib. Glass, cogs, and wheels flew over the floor. "I'm just interested in the case."

Pa opened his mouth but no sound came out. He looked like someone had hit him in the stomach. The peddler opened his money bag and handed Pa

four dollars. Pa looked at the glass and cogs on the floor, shook his head in dismay and accepted the money. He looked sick.

One day, nature proved as tricky as the peddler. After a summer storm, we kids all went down to the brook to swim while the water was high. Louis was just a toddler. My sisters sat him on a wooden Kraft cheese box in the shallows and took turns watching him. The water was the color of coffee because of the storm, but we didn't mind. We had fun swimming and cavorted like dolphins. Soon, someone yelled in alarm, "Where's Louis?"

There was no sign of him. The Kraft cheese box was floating down the muddy stream. We frantically felt for him in the water. He was nowhere to be found. We searched more desperately. We dared not run home to tell Ma. She couldn't telephone anyone for help, anyway; we had no phone. We lived too far away to use a neighbor's telephone. Besides, there was no one to call. Our town had no police force or fire department. All we could do was to keep searching - keep feeling with our hands, searching - feeling nothing but the bottom of the brook. We were scared. The girls began crying. After what seemed an eternity, someone found him. He was limp and lifeless.

We didn't know anything about resuscitation or CPR. The

girls laid him on the bank of the brook, face down, and began pressing on his back. Muddy water spouted out of his mouth - more pressing, more spouting. After a while he began to cry and cough up more water. We never told Ma, and definitely not Pa.

Louis was tougher than we thought, and did not seem the worse for his near drowning.

During dry spells, the brook would diminish to a trickle. We tried building a dam of dirt and sod, but the rising water soon cut a path through the top, or washed the dam out at the bottom.

Pa saw our futile efforts and brought down some 2 x 4 studs and wide boards. He drove the posts into the brook bed and nailed the boards across them. The rising water, now two or three feet deep, spilled over the top of the boards. We were a little taken back, but grateful for his kindness and wisdom. We splashed and frolicked in the deeper water the rest of the day, keeping a sharp eye on Louis.

Next morning, the water was back to a small stream. The dam had washed out underneath the boards. We tried filling the washout with dirt and sod, but the current swept it away. Pa saw that his dam had failed but he said nothing. He took the dam apart and lugged the lumber home. He looked sad, and I felt sorry for him.

- To be Continued

www.turnersfallsriverculture.org

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VENDORS WANTED for Wendell Holiday Fair, Dec. 1 & 2. For info contact: Marianne at 978-544-8981 or msundell65@hotmail.com.

CARTOONISTS Wanted for discussion group. Amateur or pro. Call 659-5339 or email klwilkinson@comcast.net.

WANTED: Metal ice cube trays with center divider. Call 413-863-8386.

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED: Since 1964, Dare Family Services has provided foster care for abused and neglected children who are not able to live with their biological families. We are looking for foster parents in Franklin County for our So. Deerfield Office. Please join us in enhancing the lives of children in need. Dare offers training, ongoing support and a daily \$50 tax-exempt stipend. For more details, call Krista Harrington at 413-684-2222 or 800-244-DARE. Also ask about our \$300 referral bonus!

Walk the Aquifer Nov. 10th

MONTAGUE CENTER - After all this talk about the aquifer, wouldn't you like to see where it is? On Saturday, November 10th from 1-3 p.m., you can do just that. Starting at the parking area on Plains Road off Turners Falls Road, join us for an easy walk to explore the Montague Plains and learn about the biology

and hydrology of the aquifer. Then we'll cross onto Hatchery Road to explore the startlingly beautiful Bitzer Fish Hatchery, whose springs first caught Nestle's corporate eye.

For information, call 413-367-2281. This event is sponsored by the Montague Alliance to Protect Our Water.

13th Annual Erving Elementary PTA Craft Fair

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH
Great Falls Coffeeshouse 2nd Friday Series. The Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center present an evening with the spirited rabble known as Skin-N-Bonz, a junkyard brass band that features funky horns, wacky percussion and gritty grooves of Dixieland and other swinging music. 7 p.m. Suggested sliding scale donation of \$6 - \$12 (kids free), proceeds to benefit the work of the Discovery Center & the musicians.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Ian Thomas**, Folk Blues, 9 - 11 p.m.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Rescue Lola** - Rock & roll covers. Come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH & 10TH
Northampton Independent Film Festival, Northampton Center For The Arts and various locations in Northampton. Complete listing-www.niff.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH
Locally Grown Harvest Dinner and Film Screening on two ongoing struggles for just access to land, Montague Grange, Montague Center, 6 p.m. Contributions of any size welcome, struggle info www.takebacktheland.net. Event info gillgarden@riseup.net, 863-9197.

Fete Noel at Montague Congregational Church, Montague Center. Holiday fair featuring raffles, crafts, homemade foods, morning coffee & lunch. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Richard Chase Group**, Folk/Rock, 9 - 11 p.m.

Rt. 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: **Turn It Loose** - Rock & roll covers. Come to dance! 9:30 p.m.

At *The Rendezvous*: Drew Hickum & Rust Knuckle Raptor, 9 p.m., \$4.

Expanding your heirloom squash repertoire, followed by a squash tasting, 11 - 1 p.m. at Laughing Dog Farm, Gill. For directions email dbotkin@valinet.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH
Veterans Day Ceremony, the Trustees of the Town of Montague Soldiers Memorial invite the public to attend the dedication ceremony of the new memorials held at the War Memorial on Avenue A, Turners Falls. The ceremony commences at 10:15 a.m. with a procession led by bagpiper Eric Goodchild from in front of the Carnegie Library to the Memorial. The Trustees plan a beautiful ceremony honoring our veterans with music, and speeches by local veterans.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Steve Crow, Peter Kim & Don McAuley**, Warped Americana 9 - 11 p.m.

At *The Rendezvous*, 78 Third Street, Turners Falls: **Karaoke!** 8 p.m. to midnight, free.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH
Live jazz at Ristorante DiPaolo, Turners Falls, **Joe Belmont**, solo guitar. 6 - 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH
Athol Bird and Nature Club and Millers River Environmental Center. Accessible Birding with Joe Superchi. Open to birders of all abilities. Accessible van takes birders to local sites. Meet at 7a.m. at the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol. For wheelchair access (978) 248-9491

Where is Away? A Travel Diary of Franklin County Trash with Amy Donovan, followed by a Dessert Potluck. 7 to 8:30 p.m. For ages 12



Derrik Jordan playing electric violin at Echo Lake Coffee House on Saturday, November 15th.

Admission \$12/\$10 seniors. 7:30 p.m. (413) 548-9394.

and older. Free, pre-register 800-859-2960.

Voices of Men One-man play uses humor and celebrity male voice impressions to educate about violence against women. 7 p.m. Greenfield High School. Suggested donation \$2-\$10,

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH
Tracks in Time: The Story of Dinosaurs in Turners Falls, 7 p.m., Great Falls Discovery Center. Stories of an ancient Jurassic New England 200 million years ago that was home to these amazing reptiles and the story of today as we seek to protect and conserve a local fossil heritage that is unique in Western Massachusetts. Free. 863-3221.

Athol Bird and Nature Club Annual Dinner Meeting, 6 p.m. After dinner speaker Paul Roberts talks about Winter Hawks. Dinner reservations required. Call Bob Coyle (978) 249-6083.

Reel World documentary film: *Walking The Line*, Southern Arizona's violent past is reawakened as private citizens forming vigilante groups attempt to intercept (suspected) immigrants. Humanitarian organizations intervene to prevent migrants' deaths. 7 p.m. Held at the Arms Library, Shelburne Falls.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH
North Quabbin Garden Club Holiday

greens workshop, making a centerpiece. Pre-register by Nov. 8th, \$5 materials fee. Meet at Millers River Environmental Center, 7 p.m., Athol.

Deja Brew, Wendell: **Dave Robinson & Tommy Filault** 8 - 10 pm.

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

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 Book Shop,

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 and open to the public.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

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

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH
Scandinavian dance at the 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 suggested. Contact Gideon at (413) 253-0525 or visit www.guidingstar-grange.org

ONGOING
Hallmark Museum of Contemporary Photography, Turners Falls on display: Michael Yamashita's *Great Wall of China & The Silk Road*. On display through December 16th.

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6. **AMERICAN GANGSTER** R
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<p>THROUGH DECEMBER 15TH View the Junior Duck Stamp artwork from Massachusetts students grades K - 12. The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program (JDS) is a dynamic arts curriculum that teaches wetlands and waterfowl conservation to students in kindergarten through high school. The program incorporates scientific and wildlife management principles into a visual arts curriculum with participants completing a JDS design as their visual "term papers".</p> <p>FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH Discovering Seeds: explore designed for families with young children. Using hand lenses observe seeds from various plants, read seed stories. 10 to 11 a.m.</p>	<p>SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH Birding Basics: tour the grounds and exhibits to learn some key features of birds and how to identify them. Binoculars, field guides, and helpful hints handouts will be provided. Meet at Great Falls Discovery Center. Free. Accessible facilities. 9 to 10 a.m.</p> <p>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 supports available for easier access. 10 am - noon Free. Pre-registration preferred. (413)545-5758.</p>
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Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls (413) 863-3221 www.greatfallsma.org

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PHOTOS BY SHAWN WOOLSEY

Highlights of the Rag Shag Parade in Turners on Wednesday, October 31st



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Daquan Cripps



Brooke W'belan and her Mom



Korey Martineau



Trinity Thomas



Haleigh Mills



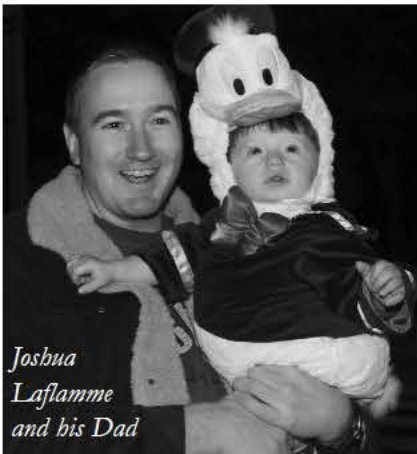
Raszjel Alicea



Jilemab Cooke



Makeena Thomas



Joshua Laflamme and his Dad



Kateri Laflamme



Troy Kuklewicz

Apologies for any names misspelled. It was dark, and the kids were in a hurry!

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