

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

Where Does It Go? A Trip to the MRF

By NINA ROSSI

SPRINGFIELD - Are you curious about the secret after-life of Things? I got to track down some of Franklin County's plastic, glass, and paper on November 15, America Recycles Day, when the famous "MRF" in Springfield opened its doors for a group tour.

Our group of about a dozen people gathered on a bitterly cold day to find out what happens at the Materials Recycling Facility. This is where all the stuff goes after Franklin County residents diligently separate it at home and either drive it to the local transfer station or put it out on the curb to be collected. The tour was coordinated by Amy Donovan of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD) and Kim Noyes of Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center.



Excited field-trip geeks gawk at bales of different plastics.

The place was built in 1989, and it is owned by the state of Massachusetts and operated by Waste Management, which in turn is overseen by a very active board. We were told that the MRF has hosted

over 18,000 visitors on these kinds of tours over the last 25 years.

A lot of sorting goes on, and then most of what transpires in this big building is just taking the air see MRF page A6

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

New Chief Contract Inked: **Cidery Floats Bridge Scheme**

By JEFF SINGLETON

At its December 3 meeting, the Montague selectboard officially hired Chris Williams to be the town's permanent chief. The action followed a non-public executive session during which the board finalized negotiations with Williams and voted to approve his contract.

Selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz said the new contract with Williams contains only "minor wording changes" from previous police chief contracts. He said that the contract includes clearer provisions about "details," where police officers are paid for directing traffic at road construction projects. Previously, he said, the detail policy had been "kind of an unwritten thing, and we wanted to make it more official so there's a limit, and some criteria."

Kuklewicz said the new contract also clears up "ambiguity" concerning the personal use of the chief's patrol vehicle.

The approved contract runs for three years, from December 3, 2018 through December 2, 2021.

Williams has been acting chief since former acting chief Christopher Bonnett was placed on leave following his arrest on assault charges in late June 2018. The charges against Bonnett were recently dropped, and he has been returned to his former position as lieutenant as of Wednesday, November 28, according to town administrator Steve Ellis.

Williams was awarded the highest score on the chief "assessment center" process held in October, according to the rankings received by the town from the state Civil Service Commission.

According to Kuklewicz the board will schedule an official swearing-in ceremony at its

see MONTAGUE page A7

Chief Williams: In His Own Words



INTERVIEW



After 23 years on the roster, Williams has been appointed permanent police chief.

Burnham from '89 to I think '92. In '92, I was full-time Amherst College police. Left in September 1995, started here full-time on September 25, 1995.

MR: You were a reserve officer here in Montague. Was there some overlap with A.C.?

CW: Yes, I was at A.C. and a reserve officer here. I also did some dispatch. Once I got out of the [police] academy, I worked as a patrol officer here. Then I became acting sergeant, then sergeant, around November 2000. Then I went to Curry College and got my Bachelor's degree. Then, in November of 2007, I became a staff sergeant.

MR: Can you tell me the distinc-

Longtime writer, reporter, and photographer Joseph A. Parzych of Gill has been experiencing health challenges. Even though he's not currently writing, he still feels very much a part of these towns, and is thinking of his readers. We also know many of you have been asking after Joe, and so we



encourage you to send get-well cards, holiday greetings, and all other correspondence to him at: Joe Parzych, c/o the Montague Reporter, 177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376. Laura Rodley, his teacher from the As You Write It! class at the Gill-Montague Senior Center, will deliver them every Friday.

Wendell Favorites Open **Orange Lunch** Joint



BY JEFF SINGLETON

MONTAGUE - On Monday, longtime Montague police officer Chris Williams signed a contract to become the town's permanent police chief. We spoke with him Wednesday morning about the job. (Our conversation has been edited for clarity.)

Montague Reporter: Hi Chris, and congratulations on your ap-

DISPATCHES

pointment. Maybe a little bio stuff to start out?

Chris Williams: Bio, yes: Born and raised in Montague Center my parents still live there, on South and Main.

Turners Falls High School, graduated in 1985, and then the United States Marine Corps from October '85 to October '89. Greenfield Community College, then working as a security guard at Stoneleigh-

tions between sergeant, staff sergeant, and lieutenant?

CW: Yes. We have the chief of police. Right under the chief is Lieutenant Bonnett. He's non-union, and pretty much 99% administrative. He's an instructor and he's a backup to me, really, if I'm not here. If there's a major incident, he's there with me. I'm still trying to figure out what he has on his plate, because as staff sergeant I didn't see a lot

see WILLIAMS page A4

On the Stage, and In the Streets

Wendell resident Anna Gyorgy continues her November-December reporting from Germany for the Traprock Center for Peace Coal" on a homemade sign yester-& Justice – and the Montague Reporter.

By ANNA GYORGY

COLOGNE - Seeing "Kale not day made me feel right at home. (It rhymes in German, too.)

Tens of thousands of climate activists descended on Cologne, Germany last Saturday.

This was at one of two German climate "double demos" on Saturday, December 1, two days before the opening of the COP24 international climate change conference in Katowize, Poland, itself a longtime center of coal production.

Why did over 36,000 people take to the streets of Berlin and Cologne on a cool, windy day?

To demand a quick and "socially responsible" exit from coal, and a clean energy future to benefit all. More specifically, by:

• implementing the Paris Agreement: tightening climate goals and supporting poor countries and those most affected by climate change;

 shutting down half of Germany's coal-powered capacity quickly enough to meet the government's climate goals for 2020;

• adopting a timetable for rapid phase-out of coal, to meet Paris see **DISPATCHES** page A5

Owner Kathleen Leonard (right) and cook Deva Skydancer (left) at Kathleen's Café, their new venture in Orange.

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

ORANGE – Kathleen's Café opened this fall in the Orange Innovation Center, and it already has an enthusiastic following. On a visit to the Café this week to check it out, I could see that owner Kathleen Leonard and her trusted fellow cook Deva Skydancer were busy preparing and serving a variety of offerings to a consistent flow of customers.

Tucked into a cozy space on the second floor here at 131 West Main Street and with a well-organized kitchen just behind the counter, the Café serves some long-time favorites familiar to customers of the Wendell Country Store, where both Kathleen and Deva have worked preparing food for several years.

Kathleen said the menu, which sandwiches, includes wraps, smoothies, and daily specials made

with local, healthy ingredients, evolves as they see what their customers like.

People who stopped by to pick up orders had only good things to say about the food, which is all homemade, much of it prepared fresh to order on the premises using organic ingredients whenever possible.

The meatballs for their grinders are homemade, and the Mac & Cheese is very popular, the same as what they make for the country store. Their chocolate chip cookies, which frequently sell out at the Country Store, are now available at the Café as well. There is also a good selection of gluten-free items and homemade soups.

In my visit to the Café this week, I had a taco salad, which I'd seen someone else order and which looked very inviting. It was delicious: a

see CAFÉ page A8

The Montague Reporter "The Voice of the Villages"

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Anyone's Game

Scientists think the planet is warming due to our use of carbon-based fuels. Economists will tell you that energy is keeping the global economy pumping.

And we regular humans are trapped, immobile, in the web of the market: every thing is separate, each has a price and an owner, and so every action we take is an exchange, numbers shifting on a ledger.

These are the conditions that spawned the idea of a "true cost of carbon." We've been burning too much fuel because its impact has been *undervalued*, the argument goes, so the real social and environmental costs must be *calculated* and then *imposed* to set the world in balance.

It's easier said than done. And it's ironically unclear whether those who advocate carbon taxes understand the true human impact of their policies.

The cost of oil has been rising, and in France, where working people in the suburbs and rural areas have already been squirming under heavy fuel taxes and tolls, gas prices are up to about \$7 a gallon.

The French government was planning to hike the fuel tax further on January 1: another 30 cents per gallon for diesel, which runs half of all French cars. It was doing this in the name of ecological transition. And it proved to be the last straw.

The French, as we know, have a legacy of insurrection. Numbering in the hundreds of thousands, organizing in their towns and workplaces and over social media, they protested. Wearing the flourescent jackets French drivers are required They burned barricades, cars, and buildings, and fought running battles with police, who responded with batons, tear gas, and over 400 arrests.

And three days later, the planned fuel tax hike was canceled.

The rest of the world now looks at France, aghast and/or curious, trying to place the *gilets jaunes* (yellow vests) movement in political context.

Emmanuel Macron, son of a doctor and professor, a prep school boy, ex-socialist, and investment banker, rode to the French presidency last year as the chiseled-jaw centrist who could defeat the extreme right. But he has never been popular, and after this month, he's looking less like the first of a generation of strong, clever moderates and more like the last of a particular failed breed of technocrat.

What is it that he faces: an organic working-class movement against austerity, a vanguard that might grow to demand a broader *égalité*? Or a spasming old order, angry about the erosion of its meager privileges and likely to lash out at environmentalists and foreigners in the name of nostalgic *fraternité*?

US publications on both the left and right hail the movement, for opposite reasons. (*Jacobin*: "there are signs that this situation could evolve into a real converging of the peripheral France, the France of the cities and the *banlieues*, and the rest of the French activist left"; *Infowars*: "It's more of a wider revolt against globalism, full stop.")

Leaderless, waving the national flag, the yellow vests were joined in the cities, according to Lichfield,



Alan Cadran poses with an accordion he is repairing in his workshop at Replay in Turners Falls. The Turners native says that the Cadrans were among the first families to come to town to work in the mills.



Restaurateur Became Defensive

While looking for the hours of a Turners Falls restaurant on Facebook, I stumbled across a review of the restaurant in which the patron stated that this restaurant is racist. This African American customer went on to recount a story about not being waited on for over an hour.

As a mediator, I know that every story has at least two sides. As a white person, I understand that it is the privilege of white people to discount such charges and fail to act because we know that we don't have the whole story.

Being uncomfortable to leave this possible injustice alone, I decided to make contact with the restaurant owner to see what she was thinking in not replying publicly to this allegation. On the second try, the owner agreed to meet with me, and explained that the customer was mistaken, and that there was no racist behavior involved.

While having empathy for the

owner's desire to ignore and deny this charge, I also believed that it would be easy enough for the owner to apologize for any misunderstanding, and make a simple statement of inclusivity.

I was wrong. The owner became increasingly angry and defensive, and has now removed the review page of the restaurant on Facebook and blocked my access to the messaging function.

I've decided to pass this story on to a broader local readership because I am troubled by the damage done to our community when people in our town in public establishments do not want to take a stand against racism.

I'm aware of the efforts being made to cross the red/blue divide in such a way as to increase understanding by acting with empathy. I respect those efforts. They are deep and slow.

While I don't believe that call-

Thanks To Student Marchers

ing out this owner will change her mind, I *do* believe that it is necessary to stand with this customer who believes there was a racist event. Turners Falls, where I have lived and worked for more than 20 years, needs to be bold in proclaiming our value for all human beings and our desire to be inclusive.

I apologize to the owners of other Turners Falls restaurants who are not accused of racism. I decided not to name the place where this incident occurred because I don't want to further antagonize the owner. She feels that I am promoting hate.

Would it be too much to ask that all local restaurants and bars remind the general public that Turners Falls is a town that welcomes *all* people, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation?

to carry in their vehicles, they blockaded roadways throughout the country on November 17, and brought France grinding to a halt.

Again and again they came together, increasingly bold and angry, until last Saturday they converged in the cities, including a mass rally at the Arc de Triomphe. In Paris, Marseille, Toulouse, Dijon, and elsewhere it boiled over into a night of sustained rioting: different, and more widespread, than the immigrant youth unrest that roiled the poor suburbs in 2005; possibly the most violent uprising in fifty years.

"The great majority of the rioters were, by my reckoning, men and some women in their 30s and 40s from suffering rural towns in northern or western France and the hardscrabble outer suburbs of greater Paris," writes journalist John Lichfield. "They came dressed and armed for combat." by a smaller number of "politicallydriven thugs of the extreme left and right." While this alliance of rural proles with both anarchist and fascist militants – themselves mortal enemies – may be seen as a giant, comical nail in the technocratic center's coffin, it also points to an emerging political great game.

If market-based solutions to climate change prove untenable to the world's working class majority, they may increasingly join with those political movements that oppose the market's rule.

This will put them at a crossroads: to join with those who want a global society of equals, solving problems together; or with those who'd prefer to restore a hierarchy of nations, betting that theirs won't be fed first into the shredder.

In France, at least, the coin is still spinning in mid-air. We should all be watching where it lands. I'm writing in response to Izzy Vachula-Curtis' recent series chronicling her and Turners Falls High School/Great Falls Middle School's involvement in "Monte's March for The Food Bank IX." I am the aforementioned Monte.

I was so inspired by Izzy and her fellow students' commitment to doing something to address the pervasive nature of food insecurity in our schools and in our community. With an assist from her mom and teacher, Jessica Vachula-Curtis, as well as teacher Jen Luciano, I was delighted to hear that the schools combined raised \$w 2,800 for the Food Bank of Western Mass.

That money will translate into 8,400 meals for the 1 in 8 of our neighbors who don't know where

their next meal is coming from. (And yes, I cheated and used a calculator for that. I was never good at math when I was Izzy's age, and I'm still not good at it now.)

But I feel even more encouraged that the nearly three dozen students from the schools were on the 8mile stretch of our 43-mile journey that included a visit to Lucio Perez, a member of our community who is originally from Guatemala, who has been living in sanctuary at First Congregational Church in Amherst for over a year.

We met in the church's community room, which doubles as their Not Bread Alone soup kitchen; and where, in 1961, the church welcomed the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was there to raise money and awareness for his Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

I hope the students and the other marchers were able to connect the dots between food insecurity and racism, food insecurity and vulnerable immigrant populations, and food insecurity and our neighborhoods here in Turners.

My only regret, apart from dragging you through the freezing rain for 8 miles, was that I didn't get to spend more time connecting with all of you. You inspire me. You make me feel proud. And it was an honor to march with you all. I hope to see you on the march next year.

> Monte Belmonte Turners Falls

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Compiled by MIKE JACKSON

The Greater Quabbin Food Alliance meets twice a year to connect, network, and work together on issues impacting local farmers, health, food access, and economic development in Franklin and Worcester counties.

Their winter gathering will be held this Friday, December 7, from 8:30 a.m. through lunch at the Orange Innovation Center in Orange. There will be coffee, lightning talks, working groups, and a market for attendees to sell local food and farm products.

Register at www.quabbinfoodalliance.wordpress.com/events/ or call Kat at (978) 248-2053 x. 29. Suggested donation is \$10 and includes snacks and lunch.

Mike Naughton has many talents, and while most Montague residents know him as a faithful member of the town finance committee, his attention to detail follows right along with origami!

Mike has graciously agreed to share his origami craft with the community this Saturday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Greenfield Savings Bank branch in Turners Falls. Join him in a paper-folding art experience, with light refreshments provided courtesy of the bank.

The Friends of the New Salem Public Library are hosting a major fundraiser for their library, a Wine & Chocolate Gala & Silent Auction, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 8 at the Abboud residence on the historic New Salem Common.

Join them for wine tastings with chocolate and cheese pairings by a licensed chocolatier, and the culmination of a silent auction of items from local artists and businesses.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the library or by emailing NSfriendsoflibrary@gmail.com. You must be 21 or older to attend.

The Wendell Community Chorus will present their Annual Winter Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. this Saturday, December 8 at the Wendell Town Hall in Wendell Center.

The chorus, directed by Morning Star Chenven, will be singing holiday songs from diverse traditions as well as original work, songs of Matisyahu, Michael Franti, Bernice Johnson Reagon, and Copper Wimmin. Donations are suggested.

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, the Great Falls Apple Corps is hosting "For the Love of Plants - an Open Mic Fundraiser" at the Rendezvous in Turners Falls. There is no fee to attend or participate, but they'll be collecting donations to go towards plants, programming, and building community in Turners.

Anyone can perform a song, poem, joke, story, or any other kind of performance, as long as it is plant-related. There will be a mixed drink special made with GFAC-foraged autumn olives, and a raffle with some sweet prizes. Contact greatfallsapplecorps@gmail.com with any questions.

Local history buff Ed Gregory will give a Virtual Tour Inside Sunday, December 9 at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A. in Turners Falls.

Ed will present a slide show inside the old mill, closed in 1994. See what natural forces can do to a once-thriving paper company.

Looky Here, the new non-profit gallery, workshop space, and "creative reuse center" at 28 Chapman Street in Greenfield, has been really ramping up its activities. From 7 to 8 p.m. next Thursday, December 13 they will host a **clothing swap**.

On Saturday the 15th, from noon to 5 p.m., the space will host a "handmade holiday workshop" called Mrs. Claus' Grand Takeover, where attendees can learn how to make "wrapping paper, gift bags, holiday cards, pom-poms, gods' eyes, snowflakes and more" and/or drink cocoa and/or watch a movie.

Looky Here has also been hosting concerts, chess nights, lectures, life drawing sessions, microtonal music theory classes, and more, and has lots of art supplies to borrow and zines to read. They're running a three-monthlong mega-raffle, and door donations at each event will be awarded with raffle tickets. Find them on Facebook to keep posted on the scene there.

Next Friday, December 14, is the It's A Wonderful Night in Turners Falls night in Turners Falls. There'll be holiday activities for all ages throughout downtown, including live music, restaurant specials, and gifts. See turnersfallsriverculture.org for full details.

Kids can make winter bird feeders at the Discovery Center from

Strathmore Paper Mill at 1 p.m. 3 to 6 p.m. There will be a youth art show and craft fair at the Brick House from 4 to 8 p.m., and you can get your photo taken against a holiday green screen there, too. From 5 to 9 p.m. a pop up shop will open at the Family Center at 78 Avenue A.

> Santa will materialize in Spinner Park at 6:30 p.m. to review wishes and other notes left in the Magic Mailbox there, amidst music and hot chocolate. Eggtooth Productions will throw a holiday spectacular at the Shea that night, and, of course, the shops will be open late.

> On Saturday December 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Kaz (197 Avenue A) will host a holiday craft and vendor fair. Bring a non-perishable food item and get a free raffle ticket; all proceeds will go to the Greenfield Food Bank.

> The fair will include coffee and a bake sale and vendors offering quilted items, wooden items, and other holiday craft items. Contact Dawn at (413) 824-2031 for information.

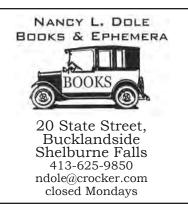
> We're still looking for delivery drivers in Gill, or even people who can just cover their own neighborhood, and for advice about whether to continue this column following the passing of its columnist.

> In happier news, we're halfway through our capital campaign drive, and just reached the 80-contributor mark! Thanks to all the donors who are helping ensure a future for this publication. If you have misplaced your return envelope, please get in touch: we have more.

> > Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.



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My gregarious friend Don Clegg the best solution was impressive

25 Millers Falls Road Turners Falls, MA 01376

was special, a unique individual whose booming laughter often preceded the jokes he loved to tell. "You're going to get a kick out of this," he'd say, already laughing. He had occasional dark moods, too, when overwhelmed by the many tasks he'd overbooked himself to perform all around town, but they never lasted long.

He and I worked together at the newspaper for the past several years where we often bickered like family members over details and methods, of which, as it usually turned out, he had a much better handle. He called me "Auntie."

Don's father, he told me, was surprised when Don was accepted at Boston College. He had managed to get very good grades without a great deal of effort during high school, while having fun with his friends, and working part-time.

I wasn't surprised, because it became evident, once one knew Don, that he possessed an amazing memory for the most esoteric facts, and a remarkable brain. His ability to analyze a problem and come up with

Don had deep cravings for love and friendship, and for recognition, which he nurtured and earned. He was never so happy as when he had done a job particularly well, and earned the respect of others.

But perhaps what I will always remember best about Don was his kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness. "I try," he would tell me as we traveled about town delivering papers, "to do at least one random act of kindness a day."

This didn't surprise me either. He always made it a point to say "thank you." He'd call with thanks after one's participation in a fund raiser, or speaking at a meeting, or being early to a job, the little things for which one doesn't really expect a thanks, the things we just take for granted, and he did it consistently, never missing an opportunity to express his gratitude.

I valued your friendship, Don Clegg, and I will always remember and miss you. Rest in peace.

> "Auntie" Lyn Clark **Turners Falls**

This Magic Mailbox at Spinner Park (Avenue A and 4th Streets, Turners Falls) is now accepting notes and wishes for Santa! Santa will pick up his mail during the annual holiday event, It's A Wonderful Night in Turners Falls, next Friday, December 14, at 6:30 p.m.

More Memories

I remember meeting him when I first took photos for former editor David Detmold, while I was still taking photos for the Greenfield town crier. He was at the old office, and he had a great smile and was also a nice person to talk to.

He knew his community, and he

was a hard worker. He helped me put out an event I wanted to put in the paper, which was a photography show at the Greenfield library. He will be missed.

> Joe R. Parzych Gill and Greenfield

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Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

Week ending Nov. 30:

Grade 6 Zan Sykes

Grade 7 Hannah Graves

Grade 8 David Damkoehler

> **Related Arts** Shelby Scott

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Eat In or Take Out! BURRITOS, BOWLS, SOFT TACOS, QUESADILLAS Now Serving BBC, Steel Rail **WILLIAMS** from page A1 of what he did.

Below him is the staff sergeant, and it's probably going to change, but when I did it, it was around 50-50, administrative and patrol. Supervisor on the shift, in charge of the sergeants. Administrative duties include registering the sex offenders, pistol permits, scheduling.

Then the sergeants are basically shift supervisors, but some have administrative duties. Firearms and defensive tactics training, for example.

MR: How many officers, total? **CW:** We are supposed to have 17. When [former chief] Chip [Dodge] comes off the books in February, we can replace him physically. But the 17 includes the school resource officers. Years ago, we had the 17 without the school resource officers.

MR: So how many officers on a shift?

CW: Generally we have two officers plus a detective on most of the weekday shifts, but only two officers on the weekend.

MR: What about the community policing officer walking a beat in downtown Turners Falls? There has been a lot of discussion about that.

CW: When Chip created the lieutenant [position], that took an officer out of the union, and the rotation. We kind of lost a body there.

During the summer, [Franklin County Tech resource officer] Mike Sevene does a lot of the community policing in Turners. So both he and [Turners Falls High School resource officer] Danny Miner will take that role in the summer.

When it is nicer out, when I became acting chief, I had the guys get out and walk around to be more approachable. We know it's very important to downtown to have someone down there on a regular basis.

And you know downtown's awesome right now. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night you have to fight for a parking spot with all the restaurants and things going on at the Shea Theater.

MR: Well that brings me to a question about some of the changes you have seen in Montague over the years, and how that affects policing.

CW: Well, I think with the loss of blue-collar jobs around town, it's become more, I guess I would say, white collar here. Plus all the good rampant. But I think with the education and more services out there it's gone down.

MR: Now Montague is back on the District Attorney's Anti-crime Task Force. How does that work?

CW: We were always part-time, so we would have to do one to two days per week. If it were full time, it would be three days a week that one of our officers would work for the task force.

MR: What is the policy on high speed chases?

CW: We get a list of options from the Mass Chiefs. If one of the options fails, we go to the next option.

We don't encourage high-speed chases for misdemeanors: failure to stop, red lights, stuff like that. If it's a felony, a serious crime has been committed, then the chase is on. Then we get everybody involved: town wide, county wide, state police if needed.

It's funny, I can't remember the last high-speed chase. When I first started, I had five, probably, within a year, and three of them led to crashes. The other two got away.

But now, even with computers in our cars and guys running plates, people know that, so they are less likely to drive with a suspended license or registration. And the OUIs [operating under the influence] are way down. If we get an OUI, it's usually because people have crashed.

The night before Thanksgiving used to be huge, so busy. But people are more responsible now. They have more to lose.

MR: Does having five different villages in town impact your police work?

CW: No, not at all. We obviously spend more time in Turners, because it has the highest population, but I feel like all the villages are represented well by the police department as far as services are concerned.

MR: What about racial profiling? It's a controversial issue – does the department discuss this at all? Is there a policy?

CW: I don't know if we have a policy on racial profiling. I know when Chip was chief, the state had us on the citation books for a year: if we wrote a warning or a ticket, you had to mark off a certain box for what kind of race. We had to do that for a year, and then they changed the tickets.

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Erving Departments Submit Wish Lists for Next Year – and 2045

By KATIE NOLAN

Erving's selectboard, finance committee, and capital planning committee met jointly on Monday to consider the town's capital improvement plan, with timeframes of FY'20 and five and 25 years into the future.

Capital planning committee chair Benjamin Fellows read out the list of FY'20 capital expenditures requested by department heads, and announced the committee's recommendations.

The **senior center** requested \$6,000 for manicure/pedicure equipment, \$3,400 for fitness equipment, and \$1,500 for stone mulch to replace wood chip mulch.

The committee recommended going forward with the mani/pedi equipment, to be used by a thirdparty vendor, but said the other requests did not meet planning committee requirements and should be included as part of the senior center's annual budget.

The **highway department** requested \$8,000 for a new enclosed trailer, \$130,000 for paving River, Warner and Strachan Streets, and \$35,000 for clearing and preparing a site for a new dry storage building.

The committee recommended going forward with all three requests. The paving would be funded entirely by state Chapter 90 funds. According to Fellows, highway foreman Glenn McCrory had initially requested \$400,000 for prepping and constructing the 50by-100-foot dry storage building, but the committee suggested splitting the project into two phases and coming back later in the budget process, if sufficient town funds were available.

The **water department** requested \$45,000 for a 2019 Ford Super Duty F250, with funds coming from the water enterprise fund. The committee recommended going forward with this request.

The wastewater department

In addition, one of the underground conduits installed at the park was found to be smaller than required by code, and the electricians consulted for estimates thought they might encounter other unexpected problems that would increase the cost of the project.

Erving Elementary School requested \$13,000 for a kitchen floor mixer for the cafeteria, \$5,500 for a flat top grill, \$20,000 for classroom furniture, \$73,000 for technology replacement and upgrades, and \$29,500 for replacement of a boiler.

The kitchen equipment was recommended, with the stipulation that the school have a review of the current kitchen and a design plan completed by a third party. The classroom furniture and technology requests were also recommended.

The committee recommended the boiler replacement be put off until 2024, with the understanding that, if it fails before then, it would be replaced on an emergency basis.

Any capital improvements not funded by enterprise funds or state sources, such as Chapter 90, will be funded from a capital improvement stabilization fund. The selectboard intends to ask voters at annual town meetings to appropriate an amount equal to the five-year average for recommended capital expenditures and transfer it to the fund.

The current fiscal year plan and the five-year plan will be presented at the annual town meeting, and the 25-year plan will be available on the town website.

Looking at the capital plan spreadsheets, selectboard chair and capital committee member Scott Bastarache commented, "I hate this formatting."

Capital planning committee secretary and finance committee member Debra Smith said that she had been working on improving the format of the spreadsheets, the output of a program obtained from the state Department of Revenue, and would continue until the they were user-friendly. The committee approved going forward with two draft articles for the January special town meeting: a request for \$25,000 for replacing the police station generator, and a request to use some of the funds originally voted to re-side town hall for a feasibility and design study for renovations to the same building's interior and exterior.



WE HEAT FRANKLIN COUNTY

- System 2000 (Energy Kinetics)
- Thermo Pride
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- Other Major Brands
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work that the new business owners in downtown have done to draw people here. And the Bookmill attracts a lot of people.

The town seems much more connected to the Five Colleges.

MR: Have the changes affected policing, the level of crime and arrests?

CW: We're in the last month of the year, and it's between 340 and 350 arrests. It seems like it comes down every year.

When I first started, I'd have 190 to 210 arrests a year myself, and for the whole department, between 1,000 and 1,200. So it's come way down.

A lot of the arrests were vehicle stops, but a lot of it was drug-related too. They had that task force, they closed the downtown once and hit two houses simultaneously. But crime has come way down.

MR: Despite the opioid epidemic? **CW:** Yes. Well, let me think. For the last six months we haven't had that many overdoses, but for the three years before that, it was pretty I think here, and in Franklin County, racial profiling isn't an issue.

MR: I know there's a pretty big divide between how African-Americans and white people look at that. **CW:** Oh yeah, but I really think it's a non-issue here right now.

MR: What about the new public safety complex? Well, it's not so new right now, but how has it been going?

CW: Good. When we first moved here, people on Montague Street would voice their opinions, because that was the main way we would get downtown. It took a little getting used to. But thank god it's as wide as it is!

MR: So moving forward, how do you address the issue of the reputation of the department?

CW: I've always led by example, and I think I set a pretty good one. And I just preach to everyone here, while on and off duty: don't do anything stupid. Everybody has a camera nowadays. requested \$35,000 for a well pump house and generator, and \$25,000 for a generator for the police station.

The committee recommended going forward with the requests, but felt the police station generator should not be included under the wastewater department. Also, a draft article for the January special town meeting is expected to address replacing the generator.

The recreation commission requested \$5,000 for a volleyball court at Zilinski Field, \$30,000 for playground mulch and Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant walkways at the Zilinski Field playground, \$15,000 for electrical work for the Riverfront Park bandstand, and \$4,000 for the brick walkway at Riverfront Park.

The committee recommended going forward with all except the brick walkway, which they said should be included in the annual budget.

Committee members expressed concern that the estimate for the Riverfront Park electrical work would not be not sufficient, once prevailing wage was factored in.

Other Business

The board accepted the low bid of \$68,602 from Nation Water Main Cleaning Company, with an office in Canton, for the wastewater department's double-barrel siphon evaluation project. The only other bid, from Ted Berry Company of Livermore, Maine was for \$102,200.

The board decided to propose that Soltage pay \$13,000 annually as the property tax for the infrastructure at its solar installation on Northfield Road. The real estate tax for the land where the panels are located would be the responsibility of the landowner.

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NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Concern About Another Dam's Stewardship

By JOSH HEINEMANN

Two representatives from Massachusetts Audubon with two separate purposes met the Wendell selectboard at its November 28 meeting.

Land conservation specialist, Kate Buttolph, came to discuss the situation and condition of Bowens Pond and the dam that keeps it a pond. Stephen Hutchinson, regional director for central and western Massachusetts, talked about camperships and Swift River school programs, and said little if anything during the Bowens Pond discussion.

Abutters to the pond, Elizabeth Jakob and Adam Porter, both biology professors at the University of Massachusetts, and neighbor Michael Idoine came to the meeting and did speak.

The pond's problem is the dam, which the Massachusetts office of dam safety calls in "fair condition but low risk." It is still a liability for whoever owns the property. Selectboard chair Dan Keller said that to the office of dam safety, "fair condition" is not a bad rating. The fact that there is little development downstream also makes its condition less of a concern.

Buttolph said that the family that owns the property would convey it to Mass Audubon, without the house. They do not want responsibility for the dam, and do not want to divide the property so the dam can be dealt with separately. Mass Audubon does not want responsibility for the dam either, but would have it removed, as is being done with dams around the region.

Bowens Pond is the site of the Wendell fire department's most central dry hydrant, and the only dry hydrant that has room for a fire engine to park completely off the road and pump water. Water spills during most pumping operations, and when it freezes on the ground at Bowens Pond, it is not in a travel lane.

Idoine came with copies of the Bowens Pond section of the 1989 "Places of the Heart" survey, and emphasized that Wendell people value the pond as it is.

ending effort to cut back this plant, which he said now grows along roadsides and around the perimeter of nearly every pond.

Wendell's conservation commission has interest in what happens to the pond. Mass Audubon is not opposed to keeping the dam in place, but does not want to maintain it. The owners do not want to subdivide the property to allow for work on the dam.

When the office of dam safety told Wendell that its Fiske Pond dam needed work, the town saved money by hiring retired engineer Dave Leonard. He developed a plan to shore up the stone dam, which was leaning downstream, with a large reinforcing slope of large stones. Wendell resident Geoff Richardson supplied the stones and put them in place with his equipment.

Jakob said she and Porter would be willing "to put a dam through college," to pay for restoring and maintaining it, and preserve the pond as it is.

"What can the town do?" Keller asked. Because the dam and pond are privately owned, the town's options are limited. He suggested contacting Leonard and attempting to meet with the property owners.

Camperships

Being a non-profit organization, Mass Audubon pays no property tax for the considerable amount of land it owns in Wendell. Some years ago, the Wendell selectboard invited them to a meeting to discuss the possibility that they give Wendell some compensation. They did not offer cash, but instead offered a nearly free week for a Wendell young teen to stay at their Wildwood Camp on Hubbard Pond in southern New Hampshire, along with environmental education at Swift River School.

That campership has continued, and the camper has been chosen each year through an essay contest on the subject "the importance of nature." It has been judged by the selectboard and the conservation commission.

Hutchinson said that this year

DISPATCHES from page A1

agreement and national climate goals; • stopping all plans for new coal-fired power plants, open pit mining and their expansion; and

• supporting workers in affected coal regions in a process of social-ecological change.

The event organizers included 11 major environmental, religious and activist organizations, supported by almost 40 others, including left and green parties. Three others were related youth groups, carrying an especially urgent message.

"Our generation should have the last word on this, not the Coal Commission," said one student representative. She criticized this commission for delays in planning the future of coal in Germany, and for excluding youth - all commission members but one being over 50 years old. "We will be here in 50 years, and facing the results," she said. "Act today, not tomorrow!"

Berlin being an active capital city, several other demonstrations were happening at the same time, so an estimated 16,000 people showing up for climate action was considered good. Meanwhile, at least 20,000 rallied in Cologne, next to the dramatically low Rhine River, within view of the historic Cologne Cathedral.

After a summer of high temperatures and no rain, the dangerously low levels of the iconic river have economic as well as ecological effects. Coal, gasoline, and all kinds of freight are regularly transported on this river highway. But now gas must be trucked to waiting stations to assure a steady supply of fuel, which of course creates more pollution.

Just days before these demonstrations and the UN climate summit, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) announced that global warming continued this year, with 2018 the fourth-hottest year on record, just behind 2015, 2016 and 2017. "The 20 warmest... have been in the past 22 years," they added.

"The report shows that the global average temperature for the first ten months of the year was nearly 1°C... based on five independently maintained global temperature data sets."

For those wanting plenty of disturbing but important data on temperature increases and how excess heat is absorbed - for instance, that "more than 90% of the heat trapped by greenhouse gases goes into the oceans" - download the WMO's "Provisional Statement on the State of the Climate in 2018."

"We are not on track to meet climate change targets and rein in temperature increases," WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas concluded. "It is worth repeating once again," he added, "that we are the first generation to fully understand climate change, and the last generation to be able to do something about it."

A Social "Tipping Point"?

In Germany, as well as California and hopefully the US and world as a whole, the reality that climate disruption is upon us and can only get worse seems to have reached a tipping point of its own this past summer. Demonstrators mentioned several times that the demand for major and rapid action on climate has now reached what is called here "the middle of society."

hleausstieg jetzy

Flags from the movement to save the Hambacher Forest from deforestation for coal mining were flown at Saturday's rallies in Germany on the eve of the COP24.

In other words, it is not just those fringe types anymore, the ones committing civil disobedience for years now, trying in ever greater numbers to shut down - at least symbolically – the enormous excavators ripping into exposed layers of coal. Or those camping out in makeshift treehouses to save the remaining acres of the historic Hambacher Forest, north of Cologne, threatened by clear-cutting to get at the rich brown coal below.

These nonviolent direct actions against coal development started small, but have grown in recent years. The pictures and message of thousands of young people streaming onsite to stop open pit mining, if even for a few hours, began to reach into every German living room. (Short videos of these actions, with English translations, are online at www.ende-gelaende.org/en/.)

Hambi Stays!

In mid-September 2018, the unnecessarily aggressive police eviction of tree sitters in the Hambacher Forest, and the arrest of many, brought sympathy and support for the forest and ecosystem defenders. And grief: during the eviction action, a student reporter filming the event fell to his death. Although an "accident," it would not have happened without the rough police actions.

The climate activists' dedication, and a positive court decision on October 5 in favor of a Friends of the Earth court case stopping the forest clearing for now, brought a huge wave of support. A rally planned for October 6 to protect the Hambacher Forest ("Hambi Stays!") swelled to 50,000 participants. Regular Sunday "forest walks" continue to attract large numbers, drawn to the dramatic struggle for trees over coal.

And so, the slogan "Hambi Stays!" was heard echoing across the Cologne and Berlin demonstrations, and green flags from that movement waved in the wind. I plan to unpack mine at our next Wendell Energy Committee meeting, on Thursday evening, December 20.

It represents a challenge to all of us to engage in climate activism as strongly as we can - as individuals, but especially as communities.

first National Grid will require \$3.9 million for an additional upgrade at from \$2,600 to \$8,900 between the hours, and he did, but he said that in

He said that revenue increased Then he was asked to hold regular

Porter made a distinction between the Bowens Pond dam and other dams on larger rivers that are obstacles to migrating fish. He said that removing the dam would restore Osgood Brook and leave the remaining cold stream open to movement of cold water species, but it would do more. The dam has been there close to a century, and the pond has become a climax community: a very stable, slowly evolving working ecosystem used by many kinds of creatures, beavers, otters, moose, and other animals that come to drink, herons and other birds that hunt for fish.

The pond and the habitat around it, he said, make a corridor between Whetstone Wood and the state forest around Wickett and Ruggles Ponds.

Jakob gave board members a list of species they have seen using the pond. The list did not include insects or plants.

If the pond were drained, the newly exposed ground would be an invitation to invasive species, especially glossy buckthorn, they argued. Porter described his nevertwo camperships would be given. Cooperation with classroom teachers will continue the environmental education program.

Selectboard member Christine Heard said she still volunteers at the school, and that all of five of this vear's recipients of Wendell's Dollars for Wendell Scholars scholarships are interested in conservation. "Mason [Phelps] would be proud," she said. (Phelps dedicated his life to acquiring land and then donating it to Mass Audubon.)

Back to the Drawing Board

The community solar project that the Wendell energy committee sponsored and took through a long, arduous permitting process was effectively killed by National Grid months before construction would have started. The utility plans to connect to a much larger solar farm across the Millers River in Orange, and this larger farm would use up all the excess capacity of the Wendell Depot substation.

Wendell's community solar farm is welcome to connect as well, but

the substation. The community solar farm would generate 0.35% of the electricity that the Orange farm is expected to generate.

This change leaves Wendell with no use for the property it owns at 97 Wendell Depot Road, where the community solar project was intended to be built. Keller suggested creating a request for proposals (RFP) for the "historic and beautiful house," which still is in decent condition, though its location near high-voltage transmission lines detracts from its value as a home.

Heard suggested inviting the planning board, the highway commission, the con com, and the board of health to a meeting in January.

WRATS and Roads

Highway commissioner and building inspector Phil Delorey came to the meeting in both capacities.

The highway commission oversees the WRATS, and as highway commissioner Delorey asked for more hours for WRATS employees so they can keep up with administration and training.

first quarter of 2017 to the same three months in 2018.

The WRATS is earning only about one third of the \$70,000 it costs to run annually. There now is a system that allows people who want to avoid using the WRATS plastic bags to pay an equitable amount for trash they dump from measured containers.

For the road crew, Delorey proposed changing job descriptions and pay rates so that the inexperienced part-time worker who cannot yet operate heavy trucks and equipment would be paid less than the workers who can operate anything in the garage. He asked for an assistant supervisor position, with an appropriate pay raise. The fin com has to know about those proposals.

The front-end loader that has appeared in town is a demo. Delorey said he has been told it should not be stored in the salt shed, and should have its own separate shed. His comment was, "You know who gets to build it."

Some years ago he gave up holding regular hours at the office building because no one was coming.

recent years no one has come, and he has been wasting time. He said he is available 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. by telephone or internet.

Other Business

Road supervisor Rich Wilder submitted a disclosure form so that he may hire his son legally, as needed for highway equipment welding. Younger Rich Wilder is an experienced professional welder. Board members allowed the hiring.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich planned to attend an all-day OSHA training in Athol on November 29. She was not excited. Fin com and broadband committee member Al McIntire suggested that she bring chocolate-covered espresso beans.

Milton Bergmann, who has mowed town lawns with a riding mower towing a bank of ordinary push mowers, and charged the town very little, is planning to move. He hopes to get one more year of mowing for the town. Heard said that Kevin Baleno may be interested in future mowing.

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ROSSI PHOTO

MRF from page A1

out. Containers are about their emptiness: the space they hold for the things you want or need. Getting rid of the space and smooshing the right stuff together takes a pretty big building, and surprisingly few people - there are only 15 folks working there.

We got to see (but unfortunately not take pictures of) the initial step in this process, a huge space where trucks tip their loads at the foot of various conveyor belts.

We gathered with awe in front of the observation windows and strained to hear our tour guide, Nancy, talk over the roar of materials as a team of workers unloaded and sorted by them. Items rose upwards on belts to various levels and past platforms where the workers flung them about in a very practiced and automatic way into larger bins and holding areas.

The MRF pays communities \$6 a ton for the loads of paper and loads of bottles and cans that it receives. Trucks are weighed as they come in.

The MRF is one of very few places that pays communities for what they send. Some Franklin County towns pay haulers to take materials there, and some, like

Greenfield, haul it themselves. The Solid Waste District helps with regional hauling contracts for services in member towns.

Dual Stream

The materials destined for the MRF are collected as "dual stream" recycling: that is, paper and cardboard have already been sorted out from the cans and bottles. Some commercial haulers in Franklin County pick up single-stream mixed recycling, but it doesn't end up at the MRF.

Larger cities and towns tend to be single stream, pointed out Amy Donovan, because it takes up more space to be a dual stream recycler, and urban spaces don't have the room for it. Springfield, even though it is home to the MRF, sends its single stream recyclables to a facility in Avon, MA. Many schools in Franklin County are single-stream recyclers.

The dual stream process results in a more desirable baled product with fewer contaminants, which is easier to sell to manufacturers who recycle from plastic, glass, metal or paper waste, according to our guide.

We heard one story about a how paper from the MRF was recycled



The entrance to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MRF), where Franklin County sends its recyclable plastic, paper and glass.

by Newark Mills in Fitchburg, which supplies materials for the Harry Potter hardcovers. Newark Mills eventually had to stop contracting paper from municipal recyclers because the prevalence of single-stream sources meant the quality was not good enough. Although the MRF, with its better-quality paper bales, does sell to Newark Mills still, it is not by contract anymore.

Sorting Things Out

But, back to the sorting room: bottles are separated from plastics early in the sorting process, by their weight; cans are separated by a magnetic moving belt; aluminum is "blasted" with an Eddy current that pops them off the line. You can check out the action in an online video at springfieldmrf.org.

Plastics, gable tops, are hand picked. Gable tops are those milk and juice cartons that we are told to put in with the bottles and cans, even though our instinct is to categorize them as paper or cardboard. These products are made from layers designed to come apart in their hydro-pulping process into aluminum, plastic, and paper pulp. The plastic and aluminum pulp can be recycled into a plastic lumber mixture. The paper pulp is high quality, since it has no inks. It is apparently best to rinse them and leave the little plastic cap on: do not even flatten saw a huge mound of what looked

a resin identification system, not a guarantee of the product's ability to be recycled. Manufacturers are starting to add the How2Recycle coding system to their packaging, which contains instructions on where and how to recycle products and packaging."

And then there's those rigid plastics, like jugs over 2.5 gallons, lawn furniture, Little Tykes playhouses, etc etc. Some communities in the county still collect these at their transfer stations, and the FCSWMD runs bulky and hazardous waste collection days twice a year when folks can recycle those items.

China used to be the destination for those loads, but due to poor quality of the bales they were getting, they have closed their doors to it. The other bales processed by the MRF go to recycling manufacturers, mostly on the east coast.

When we left the viewing platform, we went outside to see the baler and the storage sheds for these multi-colored plastic cubes. I was allowed at last to take some pictures. Someone commented, as we watched the a machine poop out cubes of deflated and compressed jugs, "Look at us - geeks on a field trip, excited about a baler!"

Ground Cover

Around the end of a building we

landfill, which takes in a lot of trash from Franklin County.

This sand is an affordable alternative to using valuable soil and earth for the mandated six-inch daily ground cover. Most of the glass at the MRF is used in this way, but some gets sent elsewhere to be melted and reused.

I asked why window glass, dishes, and other rogue glass items are not allowed in with the bottles, and was told that they have higher melting temperatures and would gum up the works at places that melted and reused glass. These items should be wrapped in paper and put in the trash.

Some other things on the "no" list for putting out with your recyclables are plastic bags, wraps, hoses, light strings, polystyrene, plastic cups, black plastic, blister packages, and baby food pouches.

A constantly shifting landscape of municipal waste contracts for trash disposal is necessary to shuffle our junk to various places in and out of state. The Chicopee landfill will reach capacity and close in the near future. A Covanta waste-to-energy incinerator in Springfield already runs at capacity on municipal waste, and produces enough energy to power 5,000 homes.

Lessons from Helga

Back inside the office, we got a lesson from "Helga the Hen" on how to use up less plastic and paper in our daily lives.

Helga was a large rubber hen holding examples of reusable household products: cloth napkins, mesh produce and reusable grocery bags, stainless steel water bottle, cloth to wrap up food items from store, reusable towels for hands, cloth diapers.

Helga recommends bringing your own tableware to a party and leftover containers to a restaurant; using natural materials like cloth, wood, and metal makes it easier to recycle. Textiles can be donated, and find their way into the recycling stream only after the good-enough-to-wear clothing has been picked out.

Compost your food waste and biodegradable paper; many town transfer stations now accept compostables, and some services in the area will pick up from the homeowner.

Someone asked about those plastic election campaign signs: recyclable? Alas, no.

Carpets? Apparently not, though many carpets are already made from

Holiday Recycling Guidelines... from the FCSWMD!

FRANKLIN COUNTY - During the holiday season, the average American family increases household trash volume by over 25% (US EPA). A large portion of this trash could be avoided, reused, recycled or composted.

Reducing holiday waste can help your household save money on "Pay As You Throw" town trash stickers or bags, save money for your town, reduce trips for trash trucks, and reduce your carbon footprint.

Yes, please **do** recycle these:

• Gift wrap and tissue paper. (No foil, metallic inks, or glitter.) Tape is OK.

• Paper gift bags and shopping bags.

• Greeting cards (except those



Tip: Keep a recycle bin or paper bag handy near any gift wrapping or unwrapping that may occur.

days, click on "What's Recyclable at the MRF?")

with foil, glitter, or batteries).

• Envelopes. (Plastic windows are OK.)

• Catalogs and calendars.

• Corrugated cardboard and paperboard.

No, please **do not** recycle:

• Ribbons, bows, or tinsel. (Reuse or trash.)

• Holiday light strings. (Acceptable in scrap metal recycling.)

• Christmas tree netting.

• Bubble wrap, packing peanuts, or polystyrene (Styrofoam). (Clean packing materials are accepted for reuse at the Greenfield UPS Store.)

• Plastic bags. (Clean, dry plastic bags marked #2 or #4 are accepted in retail store programs.)

• Plastic "blister pack" packaging (i.e. from toys and electronics). • Photographs.

To learn more about recycling in our region, please visit springfieldmrf.org. (For a downloadable guide to Recycling on the Holi-

Composting is easy, and can greatly decrease waste from holiday meal prep and serving. The municipal compost programs at the transfer stations in Bernardston, Greenfield, Leverett, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Wendell and Whately accept all types of food waste, including meat, bones, and cheese, as well as paper waste. such as Chinet paper plates, paper napkins and paper towels.

The Solid Waste District sells discounted "Earth Machine" compost bins and "Sure Close" compost pails. See www.franklincountywastedistrict.org/compostbinsales.html.

For more information, contact the Franklin County Solid Waste District at (413) 772-2438 or info@franklincountywastedistrict.org, or see www.franklincountywastedistrict.org.

MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD). The District is an equal opportunity provider.

them, we are told.

There are lots of helpful recycling guides and readymade signs that can be downloaded on the springfieldmrf.org website. Donovan also writes a column, "Ask the Recycling Maven," in the Greenfield Recorder's quarterly Going Green publication. One of the questions she answers in the latest issue is "What about recycling the ice cream and other frozen food containers?" (Answer: Unlike the gable top cartons, they have been sprayed with plastic coatings that contaminate regular recycled paper pulp, so they are not recyclable.)

MRF workers sort plastic into a few categories off the conveyor belt: the #2 HDPE plastic like milk, water, cider jugs, and #1 which is water and juice bottles. Plastic lumber can be made from #2 and #4, and the #1 can be turned into fleece. Plastics #3 through #7 sometimes have trouble being marketed.

Donovan commented that "The 'chasing arrows' recycling symbol on plastic products is confusing to consumers. The numbers 1 to 7 are

like coarse sand: ground glass. Glass, of course, does not get baled. This was destined to be "alternative daily cover" for the Chicopee



An example of the new kind of labeling some manufacturers are using on recyclable materials.

plastic bottles.

A Better Way?

I asked Donovan if she could imagine a better system for accomplishing all this.

She replied, "I can't imagine a better way to sort and bale 100 tons of recyclables a day. Our local dual-stream facility is simple, yet evolves as needed. The Springfield MRF has had a history of being able to sell our recyclables to end markets on the east coast. In recent years, the national recycling industry has increasingly relied on foreign end markets, when perhaps we should have been bolstering our own local paper mills and domestic end markets.

"What I would change is packaging and product design. Manufacturers can design their packaging and products to be recycled, composted, or reused.

"Another thing I would change," Donovan said, "is our disposable society, which generates tons

of expensive and hard-tomanage waste."



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MONTAGUE from page A1

meeting on December 10, during which the new chief's badge will be pinned on Williams. "Does he have to wait until that meeting to put it on?" asked board member Michael Nelson.

"It's just sort of a ceremony," responded Kuklewicz. "He should wear whatever the proper badge is."

Wild Proposition

Curt Sherrer, owner of Wild Child Cidery, came before the selectboard to request that the disused bridge across the canal in Turners Falls on Power Street be donated by the town to a vet-to-be created private non-profit company. He said a non-profit could fix the closed bridge more cheaply and quicker than the town.

Wild Child occupies the building across the bridge, formerly owned by the Regional Housing Authority.

Sherrer said there is currently no working footbridge that connects his business to downtown Turners Falls. He also said that his business does not have access to the town sewer, being served only by a septic system that limits the building to 22 occupants. Wild Child is planning to feature a bar and music room in the cidery, but "that's not going to happen until we get sewage," he told the board.

bridge to a non-profit he would help create. The organization would fund a reconstruction of the bridge for pedestrians and to allow a sewer line across the canal. He told the board that he saw "a lot of potential in the bridge," not only for pedestrian and sewer access, but also as a tourist destination, like the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls.

The board hesitated to vote to transfer ownership of a town-owned bridge, which may require a significant investment to pass state inspection, to a non-existent private non-profit.

Ellis also noted that proper access to the sewer system will require the construction of a pump station on the island side of the canal. The town has proposed funding for such a project under a recent state bond bill, but those funds are contingent on a larger investment in the so-called "canal district."

Kuklewicz called Sherrer's proposal an "intriguing idea," but said he would like to see "more development" of what the private nonprofit would look like, and learn more about the current status of the bridge. "I understand your concept, but I think it needs a bit more research," he said, suggesting "more thought and discussion" with Ellis and town planner Walter Ramsey "after the first of the year."

Sherrer responded that he was "more than Sherrer proposed that the town sell the happy to do some more development on this, if

you can give me a road map." The selectboard did not take a vote on the issue.

Other Business

The board discussed a lengthy list of "priorities" for Ellis, which had been suggested in a recent evaluation of the town administrator. These ranged from resolving the status of the former Southworth and Strathmore paper mills to creating a five-year plan for town buildings to developing a "common evaluation" for town employees. The board decided not to request that Ellis provide a report on these priorities, but rather revisit them in six months.

Andy Vega of Lake Pleasant was appointed by the board to the town tree committee. Lake Pleasant had been currently the only Montague village without representation on the committee. Vega, who was accompanied at the front table by tree committee member David Detmold, said he has a doctorate in plant medicine from the University of Florida.

"I've got to admit when you started on your education, I didn't expect a PhD," said selectboard member Michael Nelson.

"Those don't just grow on trees," agreed Ellis.

The board approved a \$5,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which Ellis said will be used to "improve naviga-

tion, signage, access to parking, et cetera" in the Turners Falls Cultural District. The board also approved an agreement with Franklin Regional Council of Governments to update the town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The update is funded by a \$7,500 state grant.

The board voted to approve an experimental "pilot" increase in the number of round trips on Route 23 of the regional bus system. Route 23 runs from the JWO transit center in Greenfield through Turners Falls, Millers Falls, and Montague Center to Sunderland, where it connects to the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority's Route 31 to Amherst. The additional trips are provisionally scheduled to leave the transit center at 10:45 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. The pilot, which begins in January, will last for six months, but could be extended depending on funding.

There was a lengthy discussion of the selectboard's schedule during the upcoming holiday season. The board decided to hold a meeting with an earlier starting time on December 17, with the following meeting scheduled for January 7.

At the end of the meeting the board entered into another executive session to discuss potential litigation involving the building recently vacated by the Southworth Company.

The next selectboard meeting will be on Monday, December 10.



ILOOKING BACK: **10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK**

Here's the way it was December 4, 2008: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Commissioner Chester Sets GMRSD Budget

After two failed budgets at town meetings in Gill and Montague, and two failed attempts to get their '09 budget passed by special district meetings of both member towns, the GMRSD's budget-making process has moved East to Malden.

"Because the district did not adopt a budget by December 1, the Commissioner will now set the budget for the remainder of the school year and assume fiscal control of the district as spelled out in the regional school district regulation," said Department of Elementary and Secondary Education spokesman Jonathan Consadine.

Consadine added, "This is not at all a state takeover. We're not placing anyone in the district. But the state certainly has a role in all major spending decisions for the remainder of the fiscal year.'

tee reorganized and met for the first time in several years on Tuesday night, December 2. Seven people were in attendance: Greg Garrison, Frank Abbondanzio, Les Cromack, Chris Boutwell, Tom Bergeron, Patricia Pruitt, and Jan Ameen.

The committee discussed the prospects of reviving the Request for Proposals (RFP) process to attract bids for developing the town owned 17-acre Department of Environmental Protection approved landfill site off Turnpike Road. Some members talked about the possibility of expanding the range of possible end uses for the land to include things such as an industrial park, or a site for alternative energy production.

Students Voice Anger, Confusion Over "Chop" Suspension

The recent decision by the superintendent and Turners Falls High School administration to suspend for now the traditional "Chop" gesture – and its accompanying music - in all school functions has sparked

Many students said that the "the Chop" has become a part of their identity.

Senior Samuel Colton insisted, "To lose 'the Chop' is to lose part of our culture, and our culture is what defines us. To lose our culture is to lose ourselves."

"I think it's ridiculous that they are offended that we go out and play our hardest in their honor," said senior Thomas Fields, apparently referring to Native Americans.

Some students have even had a recent change of heart on the issue. "I used to be against it," senior Christian Drew commented while passing in between classes, "but I changed my mind when the school's administration was oppressing the students by forcing us not to do it."

A New Look at **The Brick House**

The Brick House is a very busy place these days. The multi-faceted social service center always has something going on.

While the teen center on the

LEGAL NOTICE Montague WPCF Sewer Department

Advertising Sealed Bids For:

25-30 tons/wk (estimated) of wastewater sludge cake for hauling and disposal, per Montague WPCF sewer Department's Specifications.

Will be received by the Superintendent of Montague WPCF at the Montague WPCF Treatment Facility, 34 Greenfield Road, Montague, MA 01351 up to December 14, 2018 at 2 p.m., at which time they will be publicly opened and read in the first floor meeting room in the Town Hall building located at 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01351.

To receive a copy of the invitation bids, contact Robert McDonald via email at robertm@montague-ma.gov or Montague Town Clerk Debra Bourbeau at townclerk@montague-ma.gov.

MEETING NOTICE FY 2019 CDBG PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING **TOWN OF MONTAGUE**

The Town of Montague will hold a public informational meeting on **December 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Montague Town Hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA in order to solicit public response to the activities that the town should apply for in the FY 2019 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Department of Housing and Community Development

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the application process and activities that the town should apply for. Representatives from the Town, Social Service Agencies, and the Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) will be present at the hearing to discuss potential activities. Any other activities that the town should consider for the FY 2019 CDBG application will be discussed.

Eligible Activities include Housing assistance, Public facilities, Infrastructure, Public Social Services, and Planning Projects. All projects must meet the national objective to benefit low/moderate income people or eliminate slum/blight.

The Town of Montague will contract with the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) to administer the FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program.

The Town of Montague encourages residents to attend the meeting where any person or organization wishing to be heard will be afforded the opportunity.

The Town of Montague is an equal opportunity provider. Town of Montague Selectboard

The Commissioner, Mitchell Chester, would remain in control of the GMRSD's finances until June 30, or until the districts and the town agree on a budget for FY'10, "whichever comes later."

Consadine said this is only the second time the state education department has assumed financial control of a regional school district. The first time was last December, when Southern Berkshire district failed to reach an agreement on a budget.

Landfill Committee Reforms

The Montague landfill commit-

controversy throughout the town as well as within the student body.

The school committee is expected to take up the issue at its next meeting, a plan that has only added to the fervor of the response among students.

Some students, like senior Amber Henry, voiced sorrow about 'the Chop' being absent from games and events. "I miss the tradition of 'the Chop.' Our school has been doing it for a long time, but now it is gone my senior year," she said.

Sophomore Kelsey Waldron quickly added, "Turners isn't the same without 'the Chop.'"

ground floor at the rear of the building is crowded with young people working on computers, jamming on a variety off musical instruments, or hanging out, the front of the building is going through major renovation, timed for completion for the weekend Arts and Icicles Open Studio and Downtown Walking Tour this Saturday and Sunday.

"We are so excited about the open studio walk to the Brick House where people can see the new facade and storefront," said Karen Stinchfield, who is serving in her fifth year as outreach coordinator at the community resource center.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666!



CAFÉ from page A1

A8

tasty mixture of beans, rice, salsa, and shredded cheese with guacamole and sour cream, on a bed of fresh spinach, with taco chips on the side.

The portions are good, and the prices very reasonable. There is coffee and tea on the counter, and a cooler with healthy drinks. A few small tables are set up for people who want to sit, and the convenience of take-out is offered to people coming through or working in the building.

The space is quiet, which Kathleen said she appreciates, and has a warm friendly atmosphere. Customers stopped to chat while they waited for their orders.

Owner Kathleen Leonard grew up in Keene, NH and lived in Greenfield with her three children for 20 years. She used to work as head cook at the Greenfield High School when her children were in school. After her children graduated, she wanted a change, so she



A lunch customer at the register with Kathleen Leonard.

took a job at Franklin Trust Federal Credit Union in Greenfield, then she remarried and moved to Wendell, where she and her husband built a house.

When Patti Scutari offered her a job cooking at the Deja Brew, she was happy for the opportunity, remaining there until Scutari made the decision to cut back on food being served at the pub.

Kathleen chose to take a leap of faith. Of this new venture, she says, "It has long been my dream to have my own place."

Deva Skydancer has lived in Wendell for many years. She is a gifted craftsperson, making beautiful wind chimes out of old silverware that make a gentle musical sound, hanging on the porch when a breeze blows. She worked at the Deja Brew as a server and a cook alongside Kathleen. They both have worked at the Wendell Country Store preparing food for lunch, offering those popular chocolate chip cookies and mac & cheese.

Now they are off on an adventure, hoping to build something for the future. A short drive from Wendell, in the heart of Orange, they hope people who have enjoyed their cooking in the past will stop by, see what's new on the menu and show their support.

Kathleen's Café is currently open Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Check out "Kathleen's Café" on Facebook for menu choices and up-to-date information on days and hours open. Call (413) 772-9332 for advance orders.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE! (12 WEEK MINIMUM.) CALL 863-8666.







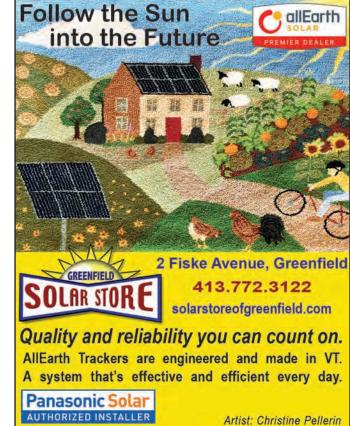


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OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

DECEMBER 6, 2018



West Along the River WINTER QUARTERS

Hit Parade: The Magic of A Bygone Era

Above: Edite Cunha of Fourth Street in Turners Falls shared this photo of the alleyway behind her house.

By DAVID BRULE

ERVINGSIDE – Now are the days that approach the last act of the calendar year. November has shuttered its gray dreary house. Good riddance, too many deaths, departed friends and family.

We're already racing headlong into the mystical month of December, with visions of an ermine blanket over this barren landscape to please the Living, and cover the Dead.

Out of doors, Mother Nature and Mother Earth are slipping into quiet repose. There's comfort in the sight of the woodpile now stacked near the back door, reassuring a bulwark against the coming cold. Oak, maple, hickory are ready to release stored warmth that will emanate from the Glenwood C or the open-mouthed fireplace.

Out here, I can report it's been a good autumn for wooly bears. I uncovered a dozen of these striped caterpillars tucked away in the split firewood as I moved the stack closer to the back door.

Off came the right-hand work

ings and goings. They know us, and never yet have felt the need to sting. They are docile and used to us. We have a symbiotic relationship: they have kept the flower gardens free of predatory pests for many summers now, and we have respected their home under the lid of the wood box.

I'm not sure if these exact individuals will survive the winter or maybe just their queen will. Be that as it may, these two are snug in their shelter for now.

I scurried out just before the last snowstorm to plant the last of the bulbs. Every year I put in a new ring of Siberian scilla. Their lovely pale blue flowers will welcome in the spring in April, but for now they're tucked into the earth, under a plug of dirt and grass.

The black bears have not been back to the neighborhood since early fall. Could it be that they're snug up in a den on the mountain somewhere and having bear dreams of summer days spent eating blackberries, blueberries and yummy apple drops?

One of our long-ago Huron an-

By JOE KWIECINSKI

TURNERS FALLS – Drew Paton is a magician.

Not the kind who practices sleight of hand or pulling rabbits out of his cool hat. Not even the type who waves a magic wand to make objects disappear. No, his brand of magic is much more subtle and refined. And his prestidigitation is closer to that of a master illusionist - one who can create a bit of a spell with his voice, his guitar, and his stage presence.

You see, Drew Paton (pronounced PAY-ton) can conjure up memories in the minds of an audience through an almost 2-hour act, featuring old favorites that take his viewers and listeners to a different era.

Paton will once again bring forth his 1930s and 1940s Hit Parade on Friday, December 7 at the Rendezvous, 78 Third Street, from 7 to 9 p.m. His appearance this week is triply meaningful on a personal level. The gig marks Paton's eighth anniversary at the cabaret, and his seventh as the entertainment on the first Friday of the month. And, of course, this Friday is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

"I perform the Great American songbook," says Drew, "and the war years were a time of dancing, big ballrooms, national anxiety, and patriotism. My father was a career soldier, serving in the Air Force for 32 years, including World War II and the Korean conflict. My dad was transferred every 3 or 4 years. When I was a little kid, I didn't know if I would wake up in a gondola in Venice or on a slope in the Alps." It's not surprising that Paton's primary occupation in his life has been as a balladeer. "We sang as a family in church and at home," said Drew. "One of the first songs I fell in love with was 'Far Away Places,' which my mother sang for me while my dad was away in the two wars."



Crooner Drew Paton's monthly Rendezvous residency reaches its seven-year anniversary this Friday.

glove to carefully pick up each little burnt-orange and black fuzz ball. Each was tightly wrapped upon itself, and I swear each felt warm in the palm of my hand. They weren't telling any secrets about the coming winter, count as I may the little rings of their wooly coats. I moved them from one snug winter quarter to another, putting them deep into the next year's wood stack, all ready for the winter of 2019-2020.

The other day, I lifted the lid of the front porch wood box where I keep the Irish peat bricks for the fireplace for use on special occasions, when I particularly need to inhale the incense of Old Ireland. Two black mud dauber wasps were still clinging to the upside- down gray combed cells of their paper summer nest.

Generations of these wasps have been living in the wood box for at least thirty years, right next to the front door. We humans in the house time our entries and exits to match their flight patterns of comcestors, Kateri Annennotak, was a daughter of the Bear Clan. So if we must, Awasoos, Mother Bear, will be accorded a welcome here. Let's hope that if she comes, she won't destroy too much of the fence getting into the yard!

A rare sight this fall was a ball of twisted and entwined garter snakes, five individuals in all, draped in the sun in the chokeberries. That many-headed knot of serpents watched us, but we kept our distance so as to not disturb them. All creatures have a zone around them, and if respected they will not flee. They were all brilliant and shiny in their new skins. They left the old ones rubbed off in the woodpile for me to find. What prehistoric ritual were they performing before heading underground for the winter? I'm sure they're denned up and slumbering together now, well below the frost line, dreaming their winter snake dreams deep down there.

see WEST ALONG page B8



Evening grosbeak (Coccothraustes vespertinus).

In his show, the Orange resident has paid tribute to

singing stylists such as Margaret Whiting, who popularized "Far Away Places," Billie Holiday who gave the world "I Wished on the Moon," and Ella Fitzgerald

see MAGIC page B4

When the Enfire Town is the Client

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS - Last week, the Gill-Montague school committee ratified the emblem selected by students to be the new logo of the Turners Falls High School. For many decades the school teams' nickname was the Indians, but the committee voted in February 2017 to end its use, a decision a majority of the town's voters later said they disagreed with.

Last May, a community taskforce polled the public and recommended the new name be the Turners Falls Thunder. It's difficult to illustrate thunder, but a number of artists volunteered potential logos.

The winning logo and the second-place choice were both designed by Montague resident Amy Schmidt Bowse. Two other district parents also submitted a non-thunder-related "emblem" design that was approved by the committee for formal use. We caught up with Ms. Bowse this week to ask her about the new logo, and what it's like to work as a graphic designer.

MR: What made you decide to submit logos to the district?

ASB: It was an easy project to get excited about. I love living in Montague, and I love the challenge

of designing logos – of trying to capture an emotion or meaning in an image - it's like a fun puzzle to me. And I'm a sucker for contests.

MR: Do you have other connections with the schools?

ASB: My daughter attends Turners Falls High School part-time as a 9th grader.

MR: Is design your day job?

ASB: It is! I studied graphic design at Carnegie Mellon, and I've been a graphic designer for over 20 years, and I love it. Most of my design work is for a consulting firm in Boston, but I especially enjoy the local projects I get to do.

My work has been seen around town - a couple years of the Great Falls Farmers Market poster, the new Greenfield Parks signage, the New England Green River Marathon promotional materials, to name a few. It's always exciting to see the work out in the real world.

see ENTIRE TOWN page B2



Designer Amy Schmidt Bowse works out of her Montague home office.

Pets of Week

Esther here, and right next to me is my best friend Amelia. We are practically joined at the hip! We're also very similar. For example we both love it when the humans make us forts out of cardboard boxes.

We are social creatures and we need to stay together. We need a spacious habitat equipped with hiding and napping spots, things to climb on, safe wood to chew, and toys.

Our diet should consist of grass hay available at all times, with a small amount of timothy pellets.

Check Dakin's cage requirements and adoption fees for your new pet at www.dakinhumane.org/ adoption-process.html. Interested in adopting? Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or info@dpvhs.org.

ENTIRE TOWN from page B1

MR: What was your process around the design? Did you study sports logos first, or did you already have a handle on how they work?

ASB: I have some familiarity with sports logos, but I always start with research, even if I think I know what I'm doing.

From there I do a lot of sketching by hand, and then I take some of those ideas that I like to the computer and start rendering them digitally, where I can see the ones that are working better than others.

It's also important to make sure the logo can work as a simple black and white logo, not just a glitzy full-color treatment. If it can't work as just one color, then it's not an effective solution, and it will be scrapped.

I went through a lot of ideas – my family is really good at letting me know which ones they think are stinkers. Thunder is a hard idea to work with because it's really a sound, not an image, so it was a fun challenge to try and turn a sound into an engaging image.

MR: What computer programs do you use for design? Do you just use a regular mouse?

ASB: I use Adobe products primarily InDesign, Illustrator and Photoshop. I use a regular mouse now: I had a stylus pen, but it stopped working, and I've procrastinated replacing it. But Christmas is coming, so if my family is reading this...

MR: For any students who may be considering a career in design, what are the best and worst things about the job, in your experience?

ASB: The best thing to me is making clients happy. Good design makes them look good and they are usually really excited about that.

That's been the hardest part of this Thunder project - because ultimately there are still people who are very unhappy, so in a way it doesn't feel like a good outcome personally, because as a designer my goal is to

> the parents and citizens of Gill and Montague. Its goals are to provide programs and resources for the schools that will enrich the educational opportunities available to students, and to encourage advocacy

tion in Our Schools."

nando," "Mamma Mia," and many more at this high-energy concert filled with lush harmonies, elaborate costumes, and iconic choreography. Advance tickets are \$25, and are available now on the GMEF website, www.thegmef.org.

for public education. The organization went dormant for a few years when state and federal funding was adequate. In 2004, the GMEF board of directors were inspired to bring enrichment to their communities and their students by hosting an Annual Fundraising Gala. The Gala makes a "full circle" – beginning with financial backing for the Gala; enriching our communities with quality entertainment, and concluding with the awarding of grants for students throughout the district, "Supporting Excellence & Innova-

MR: Which of your submissions was your favorite?

ASB: I liked the bridge logo with the word "thunder" in the falls, because it had a significance to the area, and I really got the thunder sound of the falls from looking at it. I sort of thought it wasn't as strong an option for a team logo though, because, well, it's a bridge, which isn't real dynamic, but I liked the meaning behind it.

The cloud was my second favorite from a meaning standpoint, but I thought it made a better team logo. I tried to merge the two, but that was too many things going on.

MR: How do you imagine the character you created?

ASB: I see the cloud as strong, resilient, spirited, and kind. I see it embodying the values of Turners Falls - dignity, strength,

honor, and pride - and I hope others do, too.

GMEF a Champion for Student Enrichment

make the client happy. But when

the entire town is the client, I guess

to start with a blank piece of paper

and end up with something tangible.

My kids think it's a super boring job

- "picking typefaces and colors and

just moving things around all day"

- but to me it's really exciting and

be managing difficult clients. There

is a ton of interpersonal skills need-

ed in this job - listening, asking

questions, working in a group, man-

aging strong and differing opinions

- that's a whole other piece to this

job that you need to be really good

I don't mind it because I love

what I do, but I certainly wouldn't

complain if all of a sudden some cli-

ents weren't quite so grumpy about

the fact that I can't make the ink dry

at in order to be a good designer.

The worst part would probably

rewarding.

any faster.

Also, I think it's just plain fun

that's a pretty unrealistic goal.

By JOYCE PHILLIPS

TURNERS FALLS – "Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they

"ESTER & AMELIA" **Senior Center Activities**

DECEMBER 10 THROUGH 14

GILL and MONTAGUE

The Gill Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11 a.m. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted.

Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs, call 863-9357. Messages can be left on machine when the center is not open. **M**, **W**, **F**: 10:10 a.m. Aerobics; 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise T, W, Th: 12 p.m. Lunch Monday 12/10 8 to 9:15 a.m. Foot Clinic (by appt) 1 p.m. Knitting Circle Tuesday 12/11 10:15 a.m. NO Chair Yoga 1 p.m. Cookies & Carols with Steve and Tom Wednesday 12/12 9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach 9 to 11 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic 11:30 a.m. Friends' Meeting 12:30 p.m. Bingo Thursday 12/13 9 a.m. Tai Chi NO Chair Yoga or Mat Yoga 1 p.m. Cards & Games & Pitch Friday 12/14

through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 2 days in advance. Call (413) 423-3649 for meal information and reservations.

For information, call Paula Betters, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity.

Call to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out about the next blood pressure clinic. Monday 12/10 8:45 a.m. Stretch & Sculpt 9:30 a.m. COA meets

10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance 11:30 a.m. Breakfast Brunch Tuesday 12/11 8:45 a.m. S.W.A.P. Exercise





1 p.m. Writers' Group

WENDELL

Wendell Senior Center is at 2 Lockes Village Road. Call Nancy Spittle, (978) 544-6760, for hours and upcoming programs. Call the Center for a ride.

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday

10 a.m. Stretching & Balance 11:30 a.m. Holiday Lunch 1 p.m. The Magic of the Holidays Entertainment Wednesday 12/12 8:45 a.m. Line Dancing 10 a.m. Chair Yoga 11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch 12:15 p.m. Bingo & Snacks Thursday 12/13 8:45 a.m. Aerobics 10 a.m. Healthy Bones 11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch Friday 12/14 9 a.m. Quilting Workshop 9:15 a.m. Flex & Stretch 9:30 a.m. Bowling Fun 10:15 a.m. M3 Exercise Games

LEVERETT

For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or coa@leverett.ma.us.

Wednesday 10 a.m. Flexibility & Balance Chair Yoga at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free).

Friday 12 p.m. Senior Lunch. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

can possibly be. " – Rita Pierson

There are serious challenges facing public education today: inadequate funding, high-stakes testing, charter schools, and more. Nevertheless, our students deserve a quality education, and our teachers require the tools to provide learning.

At one time, the "enrichments" were part of the day-to-day learning environment. They were included in the school budgets, but no longer!

The Gill-Montague Education Fund (GMEF) has found a solution to enrich students' education and boost staff morale. An Annual Gala - a collaborative effort, with Underwriters, Corporate Sponsors, and Major Advertisers helping to defray the costs of the Gala. General Adverting, Tier-giving, and Ticket Sales continue to sustain the group's enrichment grants.

Since 2005, we have awarded nearly \$119,500 in grants; bringing enrichment to the Arts, Academics, or Athletics for every Gill-Montague student.

The GMEF is a non-profit organization established in 1996 by

Come experience the glitter and glamour of the '70s with "Dancing Dream, ABBA Tribute Band" performing at the 2019 Annual Gala on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Of all the treasures Sweden has heaped upon the world - from Volvos and tiny, fish-shaped candies to Björn Borg - no gift has touched more people more profoundly than the music of ABBA. Now, Dancing Dream brings the brilliance of the pop sensation to the Turners Falls High School Theater.

Expect to hear hits like "Dancing Queen," "Take a Chance," "Fer-

Visit our website to learn more about the GMEF, discover the depth and variety of our Student Enrichment Grants and Enrichment Scholarships, and watch the Dancing Dream video!

The Gill-Montague Education Fund is the "champion" of Gill-Montague student enrichment. We are a volunteer board of dedicated members who never give up, and who understand the power of connection. As we continue to build students for tomorrow; we cannot forget that students are someone today!

We want our students to have opportunities that will not only help them become the best they can possibly be, but also make learning fun and exciting now!

Joyce A. Phillips served on the Gill-Montague regional school committee for 22 years. She is beginning her 15th year on the Gill-Montague Education Fund's board of directors, and as the executive producer of their Annual Gala.

"My aspiration is to bring educational opportunities to our young people," she writes.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666!



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MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

TURNERS FALLS – The Beaver Moon Gathering 2018 video is now available on our website! The event, co-sponsored by the Nolumbeka Project, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the New England Peace Pagoda, brought to light connections between two contemporary struggles: the land dispossession of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe by the federal government, and the resolution to change the Massachusetts state flag and seal.

In his talk documented in the video, "Stolen Identities: The Mashpee Wampanoag, Defined out of Inheritance," Hartman Deetz situates these matters historically, describing the theft of Wampanoag children, language, and land in a series of events over the past 400 years.

According to Deetz, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe owns about 1% of their original land. Have you ever heard the myth that Native Americans simply had no conception of land ownership before white settlers came and divided land into property? Deetz breaks that myth down, explaining how the Wampanoag had shared land-use agreements and land transactions that pre-existed white settlement. These transactions were later translated into deeds to protect their legitimacy in the eyes of colonial government.

In 1790, Deetz tells us, a law was enacted that only the US federal government could make land transactions with tribes. These laws were not enforced, however, as the land continued to be chipped away. In the late 19th century, the Massachusetts state government directly broke this law and went against the will of the people when it made Mashpee a town, and made tribe members citizens of Massachusetts.

In recent months, the federal government has tried to take land away from the Mashpee Wampanoag. It's roughly 300 acres, which Deetz describes as the size of a large shopping mall or sports stadium. The federal government's rationale, according to Deetz, is that the Mashpee Wampanoag do not meet the definition of Native written into law in the 1930s, due to insufficient land ownership - thanks to the illegal actions of the state government in the late 19th century.

Deetz highlights the violence of this progression of events, among other egregious acts which have affected the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe - including the separation of children from families, children's native language being taken away in boarding schools, and the selling of children into slavery overseas.

With a more hopeful tone, Deetz describes how it is through resistance and "sticking together" that the Mashpee Wampanoag are still here, and he brings up efforts to keep the Mashpee Wampanoag reservation intact, including the Mashpee Reservation Reformation Act.

For more about how Deetz connects this narrative with the resolution to replace the Massachusetts state flag and seal, keep an eye out for the news from Montague Community TV in the next two weeks, when we wrap up this feature. In the meantime, hungry minds can watch the video at montaguetv. org/p/76/Latest-Videos!

Something going on you think others would like to see? If you get in touch, we can show you how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment.

Contact us at (413) 863-9200, infomontaguetv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 Second Street between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We'd love to work with you!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG Wait: Alarms Sounding Due To "Heavy Smoke" In **Cutlery Block Doesn't Summon Fire Department** Until Neighbor Complains Half An Hour Later?

Sunday, 11/25

roof; he laughed and said "huh?" He was not on the roof at all. No issues.

2:06 p.m. Caller from sanders. Unable to locate.

Monday, 11/26

that occurred this past shouldn't be an issue. p.m. Advised of options. from someone claiming to be from Shriners. Advised of options.

11:31 a.m. 911 misdial 11:03 a.m. Single-vehioffice confirmed accidental dial by a student.

1:24 p.m. Shelburne Control received a 911 call tics. Male advises it was vised. Report taken. an accidental dial. Officer 2:11 p.m. Report from confirmed misdial.

Tuesday, 11/27

that an unknown type Officer located two subof alarm has been going

off for about 30 minutes 11:39 a.m. 911 caller somewhere in the area thought her husband may of the Cutlery Building. have fallen off the roof. Officers found that burnt While caller was on the food was the source of the phone, the husband came alarm. No flames or fire; walking into the house. just heavy smoke. Apart-She asked if he fell off the ment aired out by TFFD. 7:42 a.m. Reports of icy road conditions in Millers Falls. DPW expediting

trol officer; negative con-

from Franklin County cle accident on Mormon Technical School. Main Hollow Road. No apparent airbag deployment or injuries. Officer requesting DPW sand Mormon Hollow Road and Davis from a male unloading a Road; advises both roads trailer at Hillside Plas- are hazardous. DPW ad-

Third Street of male going door to door claiming 2:33 a.m. Caller states to be with Eversource. jects and advised them of solicitation requirements. Info given to Shelburne Control and Greenfield in case subjects are encountered in the county after being moved along from Turners Falls.

Wednesday, 11/28

10:32 a.m. Report of

shots in area of Millers Falls Road. Caller advises she saw a hunter in the distance, possibly on her property. Advised caller to contact Environmental Police dispatch.

10:53 a.m. School resource officer received a report of a male in the woods near Ja'Duke looking through a bag. Subject was not dressed like a hunter and had no visible hunting gear. Officer spoke with one subject who was smoking a cigarette in the area; advised he came outside a few minutes ago on his break. No one located in woods so far.

9:34 p.m. Caller states that she saw a red car pull up into Sunrise Terrace, dump some garbage into a dumpster, then leave. Unable to locate.

Friday, 11/30

1:26 a.m. Caller reports witnessing a drug deal at the corner of Third and L Streets approximately ten minutes ago. One male gave what appeared to be a bundle of heroin to another male. Both subjects have since left the area, unknown direction of travel, did not appear to be with a vehicle. Officer advises he observed [attached male] walking in the area earlier tonight; possibly involved; matches description. Officer spoke with [attached male] at the ATM at FL Roberts. Subject admitted to using a few days ago but advised he has not used today and is not selling drugs. Subject advised. 5:47 a.m. Caller reports

that he struck a deer this morning in the area of Scotty's Convenience Store. Caller continued

vised they found the dog on Route 63 near the railroad bridge. Owner called; provided owner with kennel contact info. 1:26 p.m. Caller complaining about male panhandling; advising earlier he was asking people for money between Food City and Aubuchon Hardware, then went in front of Freedom Credit Union, and is now making his way back toward Food City. Delay due to follow up.

3:39 p.m. 911 call received from Our Lady of Peace Church. Female voice heard in background; sounded far away, like the call may have been generated from an elevator emergency phone. Female stated she did not have an emergency and then did not respond further. On call back, received automated message stating the line is an emergency phone but did not specify where it was located. Officer checked elevator; no one inside; advised mass in progress and no one appears to be in need of any assistance.

4:18 p.m. Caller reports that someone cut the lock to the gate by the dog park/old bridge abutment and drove a vehicle beyond the gate, causing ruts in the grass. Responding officer advises lock does not appear to have been cut but is broken; requests call to FirstLight to advise. Ruts do not appear to have been caused by anyone doing donuts but by a vehicle that drove on the soft ground, possibly a FirstLight vehicle. Photos taken.

4:47 p.m. Shelburne Control received 911 call from Oakman Street, language barrier present. Called and spoke with 911 caller, who advised she initially called because her child was sick but decided to transport child to BFMC herself. Caller advised at the time of the call she was pulling into the BFMC parking lot.

EVENT REVIEW The Third Festival of Trees

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

DEERFIELD - The third annual Franklin County Festival of Trees started on November 30, and will end on December 15. The event consists of raffling off many differently decorated Christmas trees at Yankee Candle, sponsored by local businesses. The Franklin County Rotary Club and the Greenfield Kiwanis has hosted and sponsored the festival since it began in 2016. To gather info about the festival, I decided to go to the kick-off gala they had for it at Yankee Candle the day before it was to start. There were a number of beautiful trees there to see, for them to raffle off. One was all white with blue ornaments on it. Another was white with purple on it. Another basically had the Nightmare before Christmas movie as a theme, while another was inspired by the animated movie Cars. There was a tree that had a magic theme to it, including Harry Potter. One tree had a color scheme that you connect to the Boston Bruins, and another used Beanies Babies as ornaments. These trees were sponsored by businesses around Franklin County. There were a couple of "lottery trees," trees with scratch tickets on them, for people to have. Two other non-Christmas trees, in my opinion, were two palm trees and something dressed as Santa.

Bear Country radio station. One tree, sponsored by the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter, had ornaments that had to do with dogs. An individual

Crescent Street states that 9:02 a.m. School resource there are two loose dogs officer requesting assisin the neighborhood, one tance with an angry oposblack lab and one tan lab. sum at the entrance to They appear unfriendly. FCTS. Called animal con-

tact. Officer responding. 9:44 a.m. Report of hit- SRO advising opossum and-run accident in front is far enough away from of Between the Uprights the building now that it

Friday between 7 and 9 9:55 a.m. Single vehicle slid sideways off Turn-10:35 a.m. Caller request- pike Road and struck a ing to have on record that small brick wall on private she received a scam call property. No smoke/fluids; operator reported soreness but declined medical attention. Report taken.

Places other than just businesses also sponsored trees, such as Greenfield Community College, Franklin County Sheriff's Office, the Greenfield High School Key Club (a.k.a. Kiwanis), and the named Ann Hamer sponsored one, too.

Some trees were all white, but others had multiple colored lights along with multiple colored ornaments. I really liked a white tree that had only light blue ornaments for decorations. A green tree with blue and white ornaments was also to my liking, as to how it was decorated.

I also spotted what you may call another tree with dogs as a theme. You could get a big stuffed dog to go with the tree if you won it.

Additional businesses and organizations who are sponsoring trees are Mesa Verde, Pine Hill Orchards, the United Arc, Greenfield Cooperative Bank, Brick House Community Center, Montague Catholic Social Ministries, and of course Yankee Candle Village.

Pam Reipold, a Franklin County Rotary member at the Gala, told me "a lot of these businesses have been doing this since the first year," including Greenfield Savings Bank, Alber Hearing Services, and Travel Kuz.

Pam mentioned that last year, the event raised "about \$20,000."

I also learned from April Healey, president of the club, in 2016, "We raffled off all of our trees. There were 74." It was the same number next year. This year's is 70, according to April, and they will raffle off all of them, like they did in the last two years. It seems like they have created a festival with a lot of success to its name!

barking dog on Grove Street. ACO responding; advises dog has since been brought inside. There is a roofing crew working down the street; ACO advises dog may have been barking because of noise

from the construction. 10:52 a.m. Caller from Industrial Boulevard requesting assistance with an opossum that is acting strangely and hanging around their entrance. ACO responded; advised the animal did not appear to be ill; was young and likely looking for food or shelter. Animal relocated to a more suitable habitat. 2:41 p.m. Walk-in reporting a wreath stolen off of a statue at St. Ann's Cemetery; just wishes to have this on record. Officer advised.

Thursday, 11/29

on to work. Report taken

[Requested records were not provided for 6 a.m. Friday through 6 a.m. Saturday7

Saturday, 12/1

9:13 a.m. Caller from Baystate Franklin Medical Center requesting courtesy transport to Turners Falls for patient from Spoke 5 who was discharged and expressed to staff that she plans to walk home to Turners. Patient is currently standing outside in shorts and a t-shirt. Caller advises patient also has a prescription that needs to be picked up at Rite Aid. Referred to Greenfield PD. 1:06 p.m. Caller advises a Yorkshire Terrier was just brought into 10 a.m. Report of gun- their facility. Subject ad-

Sunday, 12/2

5:01 a.m. 911 hangup call from Old Stage Road. On call back, male advised of trouble with his phone line. Officer advised and en route. Before terminating call, male stated he was returning to bed. Advised male that an officer was dispatched to his location to ensure his condition. Officer advising that male did not answer the door, but no sign of forced entry or any other reason for concern. Clear.

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MAGIC from page B1

whose "I've Got a Crush on You," a George Gershwin tune, became an enormous hit. Other giants of the music world who have received the Paton touch are Benny Goodman, Doris Day, Glen Miller, and the beloved Louis Armstrong. "Yeah man, that Satchmo was really something!" comments Drew.

A key ingredient in Paton's performance is the use of a screen, upon which are projected still pictures from the 1930s and 1940s. The images fade in and out every 9 to 10 seconds, lending even further dramatic effect to his musical presentation. Drew has put together 350 images on a steady loop that consists of old advertisements from Life magazine along with photographs of movie stars of the era such as Rita Hayworth, famous bandleaders, early television luminaries, and old cars.

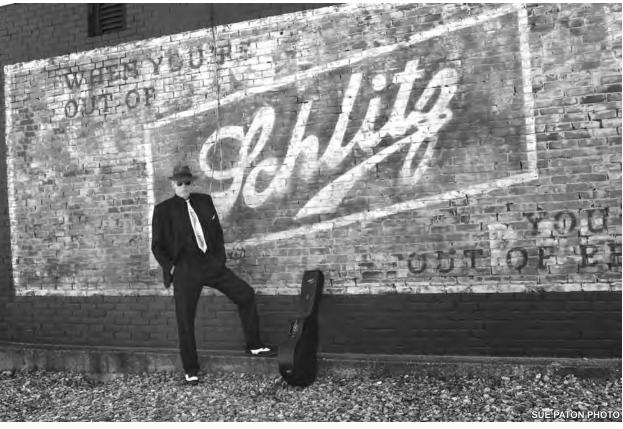
"I spent the early stage of my career," Drew says, "during the '70s and '80s, concentrating on popular songs. Man, I've spent half of my adult life on the road, doin' what I love. I basically played on the Cape in the summers, Boston and Cambridge in the winters."

Paton had an extended gig at Provincetown, playing six nights a week for four summers at Napi's, probably the best restaurant in town.

"Provincetown's a beautiful place and was always a gorgeous spot," he says. "The area had great vibes. People helped each other back in those days. Playing on the Cape was a chance to perform for the tourists what they wanted. The music of artists like James Taylor, along with old folk songs, were in vogue. Around Columbus Day, the people would leave Provincetown, kind of marking the official end of summertime."

Drew enjoyed winters, too, playing pubs such as the Plough and Stars, Matt Talbot's, The Black Rose, and Doyle's in Jamaica Plain. Back in those days, Paton had a 1957 Bel-Air Chevy – just right for a cool cat. In fact, he bought two of those cars in a row. The first was pink and the second one was black.

Drew moved to Athol in 1982. After a self-imposed hiatus from performing, friends of Paton encouraged him to get back into entertainment. "I remembered what my grandmother had told me when I was around 12 years old," explains Drew. "She stressed that the ability to sing and play an instrument was a gift from God, and that it would be lost if it went unused. Well, I knew I didn't want to play AM Top 40. So, I decided to play material that had a



Drew Paton sings romantic songs "because you could understand the words, and they always told a story."

meaning for me. I've always loved very romantic songs because you could understand the words, and they always told a story."

But Drew wanted to be sure his musical transition was a gig that could fly, taking his new act to nursing homes from Leominster to Longmeadow. "Man," he says, "what a thrill it was when residents starting lifting their heads, getting a light in their eyes. They really loved it.

"I said to myself, this is really something! It was the power of music. man."

After this December performance, Drew notes he will be taking a break in 2019 during the winter weather for a few months, but he will be back.

The talented performer is very grateful for his niche at the Rendezvous. "The management and staff have always been great," Paton says, "and the kind patrons who keep coming out to see the show are wonderful."

TFHS Sports: Fall 2018 Season Recap

By MATT ROBINSON

The fall high school sports season officially ended this week when Saint John beat Catholic Memorial for Massachusetts' D-1 football state championship belt on December 1.

None of the Turners Falls teams made it that far, but that's OK - it was a wonderful exciting journey nonetheless.

Field Hockey

The Turners Falls field hockey team finished the regular 2018 season with a record of 11–6–1 before being knocked out of the playoffs by Frontier. All but one of their players will return to the field next year.

And how can I mention Turners Falls Field Hockey without mentioning Turners' lone graduating senior, Cassidhe Wozniak? This season alone, Cassie scored 32 goals and gave 11 assists. And in her high school career, Wozniak hit 102 balls into the net with 19 assists for a school-record 121 total points.



Sophomore Amber Taylor (right) scored 8 goals and made 14 assists this season.

assists. Her fellow defensive player, sophomore Jade Tyler, also scored four goals this year, and has accumulated eight goals and three assists.

aces and 11 kills.

The juniors on the team included Hailey Bogusz, Isabell Farrick, Maddie McCassie, Dabney Rollins, and Lindsay Whiteman. Most of them had no points in previous seasons. Bogusz had 85 assists, 29 aces, 12 kills, and 9 digs, Rollins had 63 kills, 3 blocks, and served 19 aces. Whiteman had 12 digs, 8 aces, and a kill. Farrick had 5 kills, and McCassie came in off the bench. Sophomores players include veteran Taylor Murphy, who had 75 kills (118 career), 47 aces (59), 5 blocked shots, and 12 digs (19); Mercedes Morales, who had 52 assists, 21 aces, 14 kills, and 5 digs; and Kenzie Martel, with 7 digs.

Anthony Barilone scored 3 goals and made 3 assists (9 and 6 career); Tony Barilone 3 and 3 as well; Jared Yielmentti-Perusse 3 goals and 2 assists (5 and 5 career); Jake Burnett 1 goal and 3 assists; Eddie Oyalle 3 goals and an assist; a goal and an assist each from Will Turn and Eugene Bufford; a goal each from Josh Brunelle, Jake Labelle, Will Rosenberg, and Jake Shearer; and an assist each from Garrett Cole and Dylan Lau.

In net, Grayson Funk made 98 saves for a career total of 457, Labelle made 12, and Matt Regnier made three (7 career).

Golf

The Turners Falls golf team finished with a record of 7-8 but the big news for them was that they fielded a full team.

Their best course scores this year were as follows: Joey Mosca 42; Brady Bodska 43; Aidan Bailey 44; Brian Poirier 44: Alex Sulda 45: Tyler Noyes 46; Joe Kochan 60; and Matt Marchefka 69.

ing touchdowns and 4 rushing TDs. Turners' highest-producing running back, Wyatt Keith, scored 18 touchdowns this year and gained 1,413 yards on the ground. He also made two receptions for 30 yards.

Other players who produced this year include Reilan Castine, who scored 6 points, and Andy Craver, who in his career scored 42 points, caught 25 passes for 546 yards, and ran for 47. John Fritz caught two passes for 42 yards and scored a 2-PAT.

Tyler Lavin rushed for 37 yards and made two catches for 81 yards and a touchdown, but his real scoring power was in his foot. As the extra point kicker, Lavin amassed an additional 19 points.

John Torres, who missed part of the season to injury, still managed to gain 39 yards to give him 674 career rushing yards. Jake Wallace made nine receptions this year for 101 yards. Jaden Whiting made 18 catches for 287 yards, giving him a lifetime total of 654. He also scored a touchdown, which gives him 38 total points. Speaking of football, I went to the state finals at Gillette on Saturday. After spending four hours outside Thanksgiving week, I decided to go for just one day. I got there during the Stoneham game, and then watched Springfield Central win the D-3 state title. After the Springfield game, Catholic Memorial went against Saint John, the two biggest-and-best schools in the state. When I lived in Norwood, I covered Xavarian High School ice hockey, so I know CM. Back then Matt Hasselbeck was Xaverian's QB. I'm not sure how many future Doug Fluties, Todd Collins, or Ryan Benjamins were on the field, but statistics show that a few of this year's crop of Bay State football players will make the NFL.

But of course Wozniak didn't do it all by herself.

Throughout the year, the Powertown defense broke up plays, intercepted passes, and fed the ball to the offense. These are the invisible stats that aren't kept by scorekeepers. The one defensive stat that's tracked in field hockey is saves, and goalkeeper Haleigh Greene made 139 this year for a career total of 359.

On the offensive side of the field, players earn a point for each goal and assist, but keep in mind, as you read the stats, the unsung defensive players who don't rack up as many points.

The second-highest point-getter for Turners was sophomore Amber Taylor, who came back from injury to finish with 22 points off 8 goals scored and 14 assists, for a career total of 31 points from 14 goals and 17 assists.

Junior defenseman Alyson Murphy finished the season with four goals and an assist, giving her 15 alltime points from 10 goals and five

For most of the other girls on the team, 2018 was the first time they scored points, so their career stats match their season stats: sophomore Brynn Tela scored two goals with six assists; freshman Paige Sulda added three goals and two assists, Cecelia Wood got a goal and two assists, Kate Boulanger scored three goals, Taryn Thayer scored a goal and an assist, Kaylin Voudren had two goals, Lindsay Davenport two assists, and Olivia Whittier one assist.

Girls Volleyball

The very young Turners Falls volleyball team went 16-4 this year and won the Northern Conference with a 10-0 conference record. In the postseason, they advanced to the second round of the playoffs.

The individual statistics in volleyball include service aces, kills, assists, blocks, and digs. Because volleyball is another team sport, the stats can again be a little misleading.

This year, there were only two seniors on the team, Sarah Waldron and Hannah Welles. Waldron excelled at aces (9), kills (12) and digs (7). Firstyear starter Welles finished with 10

Soccer

Unlike Turners Falls field hockey and volleyball, the Franklin Tech soccer team was loaded with seniors and most of those seniors attend Turners Falls High. The team went 18-3, won the Tri-County conference with a record of 10-0, and qualified for the D-2 playoffs.

Standouts included Jovanni Ruggiano with 24 goals and 6 assists (50 and 14 career); Ruben Galvez with 8 and 14 (17 and 18 career); and Ryan Campbell with 11 and 7 (20 and 10 career).

Football

It was another bittersweet year for the Turners Falls football team. With the inclusion of the Pioneer students, they won the Inter County North Title but were knocked off early in the playoffs.

Again, with any team sport, certain positions get the short shrift in regards to statistics; most notably, the line. So as you peruse the stats, keep in mind that you can't run the ball or throw a pass without upfront support.

And in support of the guys who don't get the press, I'm going to mention them first: Dom Carme, Jacob Comiskey, Drew Denny, Jake Dodge, Cam Dresser, Brendan Driscoll, Liam Driscoll, Ryan Duclos, Elijah Forcier, Brian Killay, Anthony Peterson, Jack Putala, and Jacob Wilson.

Behind the line, quarterback Kyle Dodge threw for 675 yards this season, for a career total of 1,633. His resume also includes 16 pass-

Though, as you know, the scouts at the games look beyond the statistics, and recruit players who don't always make the headlines.

Next week: Winter is here.

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Greenfield Community

Outdoor

Each coloring book comes wrapped in ribbon, with a unique letterpress cover.

By HANNAH BROOKMAN

TURNERS FALLS – Reporter Readers may know Nina Rossi from her weekly illustrations of people at work in Turners Falls, or from her shop downtown, Nina's Nook, or from her performance group "Exploded View," or they've seen her play bass in the local band She Said, or her work on display at the Shelburne Arts Cooperative.

Nina is a prolific artist working in all sorts of materials ranging from metal, wax, resin, and clay to wood and fabric. Prior to illustrating the townsfolk for this paper, Nina contributed weekly cartoons, some satirizing local news or events and others simply goofy and whimsical, though always engaged in the Turners community.

Her most recent project, inspired by her weekly publishings, is the "Psychedelic Turners Falls: Pages to Color with a Twist." Wrapped with ribbon and covered with a trippy letter-pressed page, Nina Rossi's new coloring book now invites the audience to join in her joyous gestures of our village landscape by filling in the blanks.

Color the Shady Glen purple, but make the alligators green. Paint on Kafka in the Creemee, but stay

downtown establishments.

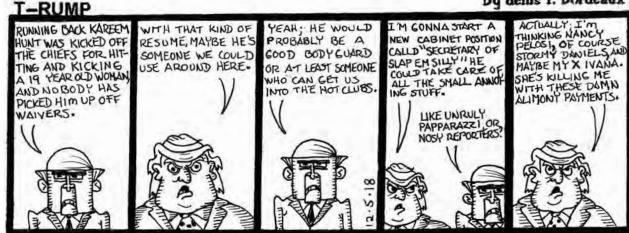
"It's one of my many odes to Turners Falls," says Nina, who's used the subject and content of the town in much of her work over the past 31 years she has resided here.

While only eight drawings made it into this edition of "Psychedelic Turners Falls," Nina is planning on making more and more. She hopes to make custom editions for schools, bands, families, doctors' offices, restaurants, and any other business interested in engaging their clientele in local art with a twist!

"Psychedelic Turners Falls: Pages to Color with a Twist" costs \$20, and will be available to purchase from Loot and Nina's Nook (Turners Falls), Looky Here (Greenfield), and the Shelburne Arts Coop. Copies will also be given to the two lucky winners of the Holiday Open Door Promo, which is going on now! "Psychedelic Turners Falls" will delight both the residents and admirers of this quirky town, and is a great way to share our hometown pride.

If you are interested in a book or contacting Nina Rossi with a coloring commission, you can reach her at nalerossi@gmail.com or (413) 834-880, or stop by her shop Thursin the lines! The "twists" in these days and Fridays noon to 6 p.m., Saturdays noon to 5 p.m., and Sundays 1 to 4 p.m.

by denis f. bordeaux





FREE Info Sessions

Learn about Greenfield Community College's Outdoor Leadership Program (OLP)

drawings are as charming as they sound, and they lovingly adorn the familiar façades of eight different



Rossi's take on the Shady Glen Diner. "Alligators want grilled cheese with a patriotic flair, and Koffee is King here," the caption on the page reads.

Join us for these free and fun 90 minute informational presentations:

December 17 (Monday) 4:30-6pm January 23 (Wednesday) 4:30-6pm

All OLP Info Sessions meet in the OLP classroom at GCC, room N102

- Meet Outdoor Leadership Program Coordinator, Bob Tremblay.
- Visit the OLP classroom and the indoor climbing wall.
- Learn how to tie the safest knot in all of rock climbing!
- Ask questions and get answers!

OLP has been training students to become working outdoor professionals since 1980. Our graduates are highly sought after throughout the outdoor recreation and adventure education fields in Massachusetts, New England, and across the United States. Our graduates can be found working in such dynamic outdoor industries as:

Climbing Gyms	Wilderness Guides	Outdoor Equipment Retail
Camps	Ski Areas	Rafting Companies
Challenge Courses	Outing Clubs	State and National Parks
Colleges & Universities	Wilderness Therapy	Cycle Touring
Kayak Guides	Tour Guides	and much more!



For More Information contact: Bob Tremblay at 413-775-1126 or email at TremblayB@gcc.mass.edu RSVP encouraged but not required! Visit our website at: http://www.gcc.mass.edu/olp

Follow us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/outdoorleadershipprogram

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– Lisa McLoughlin, editor

Brain Injury and Football

By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

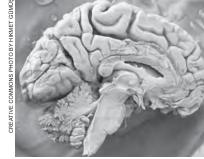
SAN FRANCISCO – Former National Football League (NFL) player Chris Borland left his successful career early because of his concerns with traumatic brain injuries and concussions. According to an interview in the Winter 2018 issue of *Catalyst*, he had a concussion early in his career, around the time that some major stories were coming out about his colleagues' difficulties with brain injuries. These include players Junior Seau, Dave Duerson, and Ray Easterling.

Mr. Borland left the 49ers in March 2015, in part because his position on the team as a linebacker put him at a high risk of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE). Concussions are very common in football, and they are bad for brains.

During a concussion brain chemistry can be affected, and neurons can be damaged. With enough concussions – and the required number of concussions is unknown, possibly different for each person – CTE can develop. CTE is a degenerative brain disease thought to be caused by tau proteins being shaken loose and then clotting up within the brain. It can only be diagnosed after death. However, its symptoms include depression, aggression, and confusion.

From Football to Science Advocacy

After his early retirement, Mr. Borland took part in some scientific studies including a brain single-photon emission computerized tomography (SPECT) scan in which a radioactive substance is used to image the



A dissected human brain.

paign even after they knew about the links between smoking and cancer, and finally had to admit it.

What is really compelling and different about this story is the dramatic self-advocacy of the NFL players. Mike Webster, a former Pittsburgh Steeler, committed suicide and donated his brain to science in 2002. This allowed Dr. Bennet Omalu to first detect CTE and identify it as a problem for football players.

Other players followed: In 2005 and 2006 Dr. Omalu studied the brains of late Pittsburgh Steelers players Terry Long and Andre Waters, finding CTE in the brains of both these men who had also committed suicide.

In 2012 the NFL was brought to court, and kept denying the link between concussions and CTE. It took until 2016 for them to admit correlation.

Setting Limits

I was very impressed by Mr. Borland's analysis of the tragedy of CTE within the game of football. He said in his *Catalyst* interview, "I think the NFL has done a really good job of privatizing the profits and socializing the costs [of CTE] and a lot of that is passed on to the communities where

Sound and the Brain

By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

SWITZERLAND – Dr. Luc Arnal at the University of Geneva is a neuroscientist who studies the effects of sound on the brain. He found that a baby's screaming is more annoying and noticeable than other sounds, because it activates not just the auditory brain but also the fear-inducing center of the brain, the amygdala.

Alarms, such as those on ambulances, also have this quality, which is due to "roughness," defined as how fast a sound changes in loudness, according to a 2015 Cell Press article in *Science News*.

As screaming babies know, sound can be used to manipulate people's behavior. According to a brief announcement in the September 2017 issue of *Prism* magazine, Jake Harper, an American artist, using Arnal's research and an audio software called Kyma, designed a siren that drew people to a mobile HIV clinic in Malawi, Africa. The siren was designed to stimulate the emotion-processing parts of the brain, but not to incite fear. On the day the siren was used 160 people, four times the usual number, visited the van for tests.

Apparently our reaction to sound is widespread and understudied. *Scientific American* reported that in 2012, psychologist Dr. Annett Schirmer found that rhythmic sound unites crowds of people not just in their physical actions like clapping along or marching, but also in the activity of their brainwaves. Crowds subjected to rhythmic noise could be said to be thinking alike, or at least in a synchronized fashion, and Dr. Schirmer posits that this could help them interact more efficiently and harmoniously.



"Music Brain," Creative Commons art by Wikimedia user Wuhuiru55.

things. Retailers like Abercrombie & Fitch purposely play loud music to chase away older consumers who are not their target market, and to overstimulate younger customers into buying more through impulsive spending, according to a 2010 *Psychology Today* article titled "It's so loud, I can't hear my budget!" by Emily Anthes.

If you'd like to hear some new sounds – with no pressure to buy things – try the British Library's archives, a vast database of 90,000 sounds available free online at *sounds.bl.uk*. These are a wonderful array of animal noises, soundscapes, performances, accents, oral history, music and more.

On the UK sound map, you can click on a location to hear what it sounds like there. I clicked on a Scottish island location and got "Vatersay Sea Cave," which immediately made me want to go on a SCUBA vacation, although I'm sure it's rather cold there (dry suit diving is the norm in Scotland). Anyway, the archives are great to see who you might feel in sync with.

Others would like to use sound to make you buy

December 2018 Moon CalendarFriday,
December 7Saturday,
December 22New MoonSaturday,
December 15Saturday,
First QuarterSaturday,
December 29
Last Quarter

The Winter Solstice occurs on Friday, December 21.

functioning of organs in 3D. This test allows researchers to see blood flowing to the brain in real time.

He also participated in the DE-TECT study at Boston University, which tracks participants long-term. When I looked up this study, they were calling it the LEGEND study, and were actively recruiting participants affected by multiple head traumas. USA Today reports that 2017 had the highest number of NFL concussions ever at 281, a number that includes pre-season and regular season practices as well as the games themselves.

CNN maintained an informational page on concussions in the NFL. Their timeline of "fast facts" seems to point to self-interest on the part of the NFL in first denying there was any link between concussions and later brain issues such as dementia and depression, then coming to the realization that the science was overwhelmingly against this self-serving assessment.

It reminded me of reading about how the tobacco industry first denied that cigarettes are a health hazard, embarked on a disinformation cam-

these people live.

"But I don't think you can look to the NFL to make changes. They say they're changing the culture. That sounds profound, that sounds meaningful. But [...] we need more public pressure and more science brought to bear if we want to see more done to protect players."

Mr. Borland notes that the NFL is promoting "safe tackling," but he's skeptical about this practice, and is very concerned to see young children playing a sport that research shows can affect their brains after only one season of play. He suggests no one play tackle football until high school.

Thanks to a collective bargaining agreement with the NFL, as of 2011 there are limits on how many times professionals can be hit in a season. There are no such protections for children and amateur players.

For a more complete picture of CTE and its effects on players and the people they love, Mr. Borland suggests the documentary film *Requiem for a Running Back*. You could also watch Will Smith star as Dr. Omalu in the 2015 movie *Concussion*.



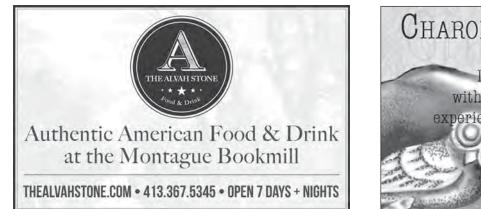
^{роем} The Spirit in Science

She is everything you see you hear you taste you smell you touch and She is your instinct telling you which way to move. She is the element that screws up all the categories the one who refuses to be defined. She is the puzzle that always seems to have at least one missing piece the thing you cannot solve so easily. She is what you strive to understand and yet with all your dissection and deductive reasoning you are in awe of Her because She remains a Mystery. She is what you call Spirit The ghost in the machine connecting all your reductionist theorizing into one complete being. She grounds the mind into the body Heaven into Earth. She is why we chose Science as a way of knowing Inspiring us to keep searching keep learning keep growing Slowly turning Postulation into wisdom.

- Arianna Alexsandra Collins

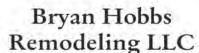
Above: Statue of Isis by Auguste Puttemans (1866–1927). The statue was given to Herbert Hoover by the people of Belgium in 1922 and is located at the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site in West Branch, Iowa. (Creative Commons photo by Wikimedia user Ammodramus.)

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EVENTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

Millers Falls Library: Music and Movement. For children and caregivers, with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson. 10 a.m.

Hubie's Tavern, Turners Falls: Open Mic Night. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Mark Nomad, with "Harmonica" Steve Retchin, playing "100 Years of Blues" concert. \$. 7 p.m.

Gill Tavern, Gill: Trivia Night. Come with a team or by yourself, \$5 to play. Winning team receives \$25 gift certificate to the tavern, and all proceeds go towards a monthly good cause. 8:30 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: Chronophobia 5000, Lucy, New Parents, and Owen Manure. \$. 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

GCC Main Lobby, Greenfield: GCC Chorus Informal Holiday Concert. Fun informal holiday concert with the school chorus. 12 p.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: First Friday Mystery Activity. Children 8+ and teens are invited to join us for a mystery activity: crafts, science experiments, tech-tools, etc.! 3:30 p.m.

Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: Holiday Pop Up at the Pushkin. Popup of local crafters. Repeats Sat., Sun. 4 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Drew Paton's Hit Parade. Hits from 1940s. See feature this section. 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Welcome Yule: A Midwinter Celebration. Family favorite holiday show for all ages. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne: Julie and Julia. Pothole Pictures presents this story of two cooks, centering on Julia Child's contribution to cooking. Preceded by piano rags by Dick Moulding at 7 p.m. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Simon White, Hilary Chase. 9 p.m.

Hubie's Tavern, Turners Falls: Acoustic Country. With Heath Lewis. 9 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Shokazoba. Funk, jazz, reggae *fusion.* \$. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Hal-

work of many LCA studio artists and crafters. 10 a.m. Repeats Sunday, 10 a.m.

Town of Northfield: Northfield's Special Day. Free horse-drawn hayrides, musical performances, crafts and local shopping, theater, caroling, Santa by the Fire, reindeer food, hot chocolate, gingerbread decorating, Celtic dancing, a bonfire and more. 10 a.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: Gingerbread House Party. Make a gingerbread house; for children of all ages and their caregivers. 10:30 a.m.

A Christmas Carol Radio Play. Silverthorne's 1932-style radio adaptation of Dickens Holiday Classic with six actors voicing 33 characters accompanied by live sound effects. 7 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne: Julie and Julia. Pothole Pictures presents this story of two cooks, centering on Julia Child's contribution to cooking. Preceded by Irish music by Michael & Al at 7 p.m. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Welcome Yule: A Midwinter Celebration. Family favorite for

closed in 1994. See what natural forces can do to a once-thriving paper company. 1 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: A Christmas Carol Radio Play. Silverthorne's 1932-style radio adaptation of Dickens' Holiday Classic with six actors voicing 33 characters accompanied by live sound effects. 2 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Welcome Yule: A Midwinter Celebration. Holiday favorite for all ages. \$. 2 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Quebecois Music Session. 3 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Light the Night Chanukah Celebration. Celebrate the annual Jewish holiday of celebrating resistance and religious freedom. \$. 4 p.m.

Brattleboro Music Center, Brattleboro VT: Glen Velez and Dunham Shoe Factory. Velez is the legendary founding father of the modern frame drum movement. \$. 4 p.m.

Old Deerfield Inn, Deerfield: A Christmas Carol Radio Play. Silverthorne's 1932-style radio adaptation of Dickens Holiday Classic with six actors voicing 33 characters accompanied by live sound effects. \$. 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: TNT Karaoke. 9 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

Root Cellar, Greenfield: Ryley Walker, Sunburned Hand of the Man, Mute Duo. \$. 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Scotty K's Open Mic. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Comedy with Jon Ross. In the Wheelhouse. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: Story Time. Stories, projects, snacks for young children and their caregivers. 10:15 a.m.

Leverett Library: Tales and Tunes Story Hour. Ages 0 to 5 and caregivers. 10:30 a.m.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: Homeschool Science. Hands-on STEM learning. Call to register. No class December 26. 1 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Hip

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Drop-In Teen Center

Mon, Tues, Fri: 2:30 to 6 p.m.

Weds, Thurs:



Sprouting from a small farm in rural Massachusetts, the Green Sisters have had a deep love of music from birth. They've been playing venues in

Massachusetts and New Hampshire regularly for three years and have garnered quite the following. It's hard not to smile when treated with their tight

harmonies and high energy tunes; they bounce their jovial banter around the stage as only siblings can! Performing at the December 15 Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse, their concert will benefit the Community Network for Children a Grant funded program to support families and educators with young children in Erving,

Leverett, New Salem, Shutesbury and Wendell. Open mic at 7:30, concert at 8 p.m., refreshments. Donation.

Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: Holiday Pop Up at the Pushkin. Popup featuring local crafters. 11 a.m. Looky Here, Greenfield: Shrinnirs, Willie Lane, Allysen Callery, and J. Burkett. \$. 6 p.m.

Montague Common Hall: Open Mic #28. Featured performer is the local ensemble Exploded View, presenting their piece DeadLines, which incorporates sound, poetry, and art. Followed by open mic. Donation. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Wendell Town Hall, Wendell: Winter Holiday Concert. The Wendell Community Chorus presents their Annual Winter Holiday Concert, with featured local artists. Songs of diverse Holiday Traditions and songs of: all ages. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: Hackede-Piccotto, Eric Hubel, and The Liminals. \$. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Apple Corps Fundraiser. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Deep C Divers. Funky pop reggae. 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

Leverett Crafts & Arts, Leverett. LCA Holiday Sale. 10 a.m.

McCusker's Market, Shelburne Falls: Celtic Sessions. Musicians, all levels welcome. 10:30 a.m.

Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: Holiday Pop Up at the Pushkin. Holiday shop with local crafters. 11 a.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center,







1ª1.15 1Xp1

las Cowboys. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

Leverett Crafts & Arts Center: LCA Holiday Sale. Featuring the

EXHIBITS

Artspace, Greenfield: Projected Impressions. Artwork by Greenfield Community College students. Through December 18.

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Brattleboro, VT: Five new exhibits include a six-decade survey of the work of abstract artist Emily Mason, photographs by Michael Poster of people in recovery from addiction, and artwork by Orly Cogan, Robert Perkins, and Elizabeth Turk. Most exhibits through January and February.

DVAA Gallery, Northfield: Season of Light Holiday show with fine art and craft by member artists. Through December 23.

Flourish, Turners Falls: Luminous Explorations. Paintings by Jody Payne and Tracey Physicc Brockett. November 15 through December 16.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Junior Duck Stamps. Top Massachusetts youth entries for the 2018 Junior Duck Stamp competition. Through December 22.

Greenfield Gallery, Greenfield: Paul Hoffman. Bold narrative paintings. Reception December

Copper Wimmin, Michael Franti, Matisyahu, Bernice Johnson Reagon. Donation. \$. 7 p.m. Centennial House, Northfield:

Turners Falls: Virtual Tour Inside Strathmore Paper Mill. History buff Ed Gregory presents a slide show tour inside the old mill,

7, 5 p.m. Through January.

Herrick Gallery, Wendell Library: Throne. Paintings by Anan Zorba, influenced by the bright, geometric pop art of the 1950s. Works are available by silent auction, with a drawing to be held December 21. Through December.

Leverett Crafts & Arts Center, Leverett: Oh Beautiful Glass! An eclectic and exciting glass art show with pieces from over 22 artists. Through November.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: No Rules, small sculpture by Mary Hakkinen, from November 23 through December 24.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: One Size Fits All. Banners and altered cabinet cards by Amy Johnquest. November 2 through December 31. Also on view, Amanda Quinby's Leaves to Landscapes, abstracts in precious metal leaf.

Sawmill River Gallery, Montague Center: Pushing the Boundaries. Recent works by Sawmill member artists. Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: Winter's Tale. Members' exhibit. Through January.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: Winter's Tale. Members' exhibit. Through January.

Hop Dance Night with Crazefaze. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Salsa Wednesday. With McCoy and DJ Roger Jr. \$. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

Millers Falls Library: Music and Movement. For children and caregivers, with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson. 10 a.m.

Brattleboro Museum, Brattleboro VT: Addiction Panel at BMAC. Panel discussion on the state of addiction and recovery in the greater Brattleboro area, with area experts and officials. 7 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: Rose and the Bros. \$. 8 p.m.

Hubie's Tavern, Turners Falls: Karaoke Night, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

Root Cellar, Greenfield: Kath Bloom and Aisha Burns. \$. 6 p.m. Zebu!, Bong Wish, and Taxidermists. \$. 8:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Gibson Brothers, bluegrass. \$. 7 p.m.



www.brickhousecommunity.org 413-863-9576



7 p.m. FRI 12/7 **Drew Paton's 1940s Hit Parade**

FRI 12/7 9:30 p.m. Hallas Cowboys

SAT 12/8 8 p.m. **Apple Corps** Fundraiser



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WEST ALONG from page B1

For some of our northern winged friends, this part of New England is vacationland.

A swirl of evening grosbeaks descended upon the backyard feeders the other day. Enjoying the twenty-degree temperatures and all the high-protein sunflower seeds spread out for the asking, their bright yellow and black patterned plumage added a dash of color, however briefly.

These northern birds, on winter vacation, are highly social, gregarious, garrulous, chatting, and seeming to thrive on the cold weather. They remind me of some of my French Canadian relatives, enjoying the party and always in a good mood!

This is the first flock we've had here in at least 15 years. Time was when these grosbeaks swarmed every feeder in the Millers Falls village, their ringing calls were part of the winter landscape. It's been a long time since they've felt an urge to come this far south, and they have brought a cheery flair to the yard.

Chipmunk is denned up somewhere, sleeping on his pile of sunflower seeds, pirated from our feeder shelf. He'll likely turn up at some point during a February warm spell. But for the time being, I can picture him curled up in a warm ball, nose tucked into tail, like the dog taking a December nap on the couch.

As for me, our sun room has become my own winter quarters.

With the family off to France for the winter, I've abandoned the upper summer bedroom for this, my spot near the fire and the dog. Here, south-facing windows are lined with potted plants like the papyrus, Norfolk Island pine and red cyclamen, and there lingers a touch of summer green. My December bed is pulled up by the hearth fire. Snug in my own quarters for the winter, I can watch the shadows of flames dance and flicker along the walls, keeping me and the dog in good warm company.

While outside, Orion is rising, the moon and the Seven Stars are keeping a winter's night watch over all the sleeping creatures, including me!

Holiday Youth Art Show & Craft Fair

TURNERS FALLS – Support Brick House Teen Program participants at their Holiday Art Show! The Show will taking place from 4 to 8 p.m. next Friday, December 14 at the Brick House during Turners Falls' annual "It's a Wonderful Night" event. The talented youth will have art on exhibit, as well as art, crafts, and gifts available to purchase.

This event is free to attend, family-friendly, and open to the public. There will be light refreshments, holiday music, and an interactive kids' craft table. See the result of all the hard work the youth have been putting in to create original art and gifts to share with their community!

The Brick House is located at 24 Third Street. Besides youth programs and the regular drop-in teen center, open from 2:30 to 6 p.m. on weekdays, the community center provides affordable space for meetings, concerts, movie screenings, and movement and dance practice. See brickhousecommunity.org for more information.

Painting a Bold Narrative

By TRISH CRAPO

GREENFIELD - In his new collection of paintings on view at the Greenfield Gallery through mid-January, Paul Hoffman is returning to one of his strengths drawing. Hoffman's landscapes are boldly colored, intricate depictions that mix the familiar with the otherworldly.



"Forest Pool," painting by Paul Hoffman, part of his current show at the Greenfield Gallery.

Hoffman's densely detailed surfaces call to mind Persian rugs or illuminated manuscripts, but the seemingly decorative quality of his work is oddly charged with a sense of hidden narrative, creating worlds that assert their claim to mystery.

Hoffman brings thirty years of illustration to his technique, which PaulHoffman2018. makes strong use of line and re-

wood panel, and describes many of the images as "drawn paintings." He says his distinctive, warm palette results from an accumulation of thin yellow oxide glazes that he applies as he works. The glazes are what give Hoffman's works their luminous quality, creating depth within the highly patterned scenes.

After decades of working within the limitations of black-and-white scratchboard illustration, Hoffman loves the back-and-forth tension where painting and drawing meet. He tries to learn something from each work in order to move forward. He says one of the things he's learned is a kind of patience. "You make a mistake and it hardly fazes you, because you start to look immediately for a solution," he says.

Did mistakes used to faze him? "Oh, yes. When I was an illustrator, I had to worry, 'Will I meet my deadline?' This is a completely different mindset."

One he thoroughly enjoys.

The Hoffman exhibit will be on view at The Greenfield Gallery through mid-January. There will be an artist reception on Friday, December 7 from 5 to 8 p.m.

The Greenfield Gallery is at 231 Main Street in Greenfield. Hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, noon to 8 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit Hoffman's website at bit.ly/



peating pattern. The Greenfield artist works mostly in acrylic paint on Gallery's publicist.

Trish Crapo is the Greenfield

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