

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 17 – NO. 15

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

FEBRUARY 7, 2019

Move To Split Power Projects Questioned

By JEFF SINGLETON

TURNERS FALLS – The lengthy process to give Montague’s biggest taxpayer a new federal operating license has hit a new snag. The town selectboard, at its most recent meeting on February 4, approved a statement opposing a request by FirstLight Hydro Generating Company to create a new corporation and negotiate a separate license for its operations in Turners Falls.

The protest is being filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which is overseeing a multi-year process to relicense both the Turners Falls Project and the company’s Northfield Mountain pump station. The latter facility pumps water from the Connecticut River to a reservoir on top of the mountain, and releases it back down to the river to generate electricity during periods of peak demand.

FirstLight’s 2016 relicensing application sought a single license for both projects, but a request to FERC



FirstLight officials say a planned separation of the Turners Falls dam, canal, and Cabot Station from the Northfield Mountain project is unrelated to relicensing.

filed last December 20 requested that separate licenses be issued for the two projects, which it will now own through two separate limited liability corporations (LLCs).

The request took stakeholders in the relicensing process “completely by surprise,” said Andrea Donlon

from the Connecticut River Conservancy. “We’ve been in settlement negotiations with FirstLight for two years, and they said they were treating this as one project,” she said “There was no courtesy heads up or anything!”

see **PROJECTS** page A7

GILL SELECTBOARD

Better News About School Water, Sewer

By GEORGE BRACE

At their February 4 meeting, the Gill selectboard received some respite from the flood of bad water news it has dealt with in recent months. The board heard positive reports on both the Gill Elementary School well, and the forecast for future Riverside sewer rates. They also heard a recap of a Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) meeting on the subject of the county’s emergency communications system.

Administrative assistant Ray Purington reported that the water emergency declaration at the elementary school has been lifted by state Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP.) He said two batches of water tests have come back perfectly clean, and the UV system is online and functioning correctly; from MassDEP’s perspective, the water is now safe for hand-washing, cooking, and drinking.

Purington said the school has been using it for hand-washing, and he thinks for cooking, but is hesitant on drinking from the fountains – for good reason, he believed. Due to the age of the fountain fixtures, and their having been out of service for so long, it has been suggested that the school replace the two hallway fountains with hydration stations, and remove water bubblers

see **GILL** page A7

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Airport Plan Revives Runway Expansion

By JEFF SINGLETON

At Monday’s Montague selectboard meeting, Bryan Camden reviewed the current status of the Turners Falls airport, which he manages. Montague’s airport, one of 22 municipally owned airports in the state, is partly financed by town taxpayers, governed by its own “commission,” and funded by an appropriation at the annual town meeting.

When the airport budget goes before town meeting, the virtues of a publicly-owned airport are often questioned. Airport supporters often point to the broader economic benefits of a local airport, which is part of the town industrial park, and to the fact that Bill Cosby used to land there. More recently, these arguments have given way to the pledge that the airport is working to become “self-sufficient” – that is, financed without property tax revenue.

The current year’s airport budget, passed at last May’s annual town meeting, was \$51,039. \$36,096 of that was financed by airport user fees, while the public funded the remaining \$14,943. The taxpayer share was approximately \$1,600 lower than the previous fiscal year.

According to a memo presented by Camden, next year’s budget will increase by approximately \$2,000,

see **AIRPORT** page A5

The Week in Turners Falls Sports

By MATT ROBINSON

This week the Turners Falls boys varsity basketball team went 3 and 0, putting them one game away from a playoff bid. The Turners swim teams surpassed their best, the Tech School hosted a 12-school dual, the Turners Falls Girls kept trying, and the Franklin Tech Girls went cold in the second half.

Also this week, the New England Patriots won the Super Bowl, and area fans flipped the Karma Coin.

In my attempt to get into shape to watch March Madness, I went to several different basketball games this week (plus a day-long wrestling dual). MIAA sponsors these events, and they have a set of rules meant to encourage student athletes: basically, they don’t want a kid to be embarrassed by the actions of a parent. At Friday afternoon’s TF/Smith middle school game, one of the visiting fans crossed the line – literally.

On the flip side of the Karma Coin was a classy game played at Franklin Tech. The Franklin JV Lady Eagles and the Gateway Gators played clean. There were absolutely no fouls in the first half, and only two in the entire game.

At the end of the game, with the Lady Gators struggling to break 4 points, Tech patiently swung the ball around the horn, winding down the shot clock. As time was running out, one of the Gators hit a shot to give them 6 points and the whole gym applauded in support.

By the way, the Tech girls waited until they were in the locker room before loudly celebrating the win.

In wrestling, karma swarms. At the Franklin Tech “duel”

see **SPORTS** page A5



Turners’ Lindsay Whiteman steps in for a layup as Pioneer’s Page Loughman defends. Pioneer prevailed 54-38.

Gill, Montague Officials Call For More Data On Pioneer Regionalization

By MIKE JACKSON

Officials from the Gill and Montague selectboards, finance committees, and school committee met again Tuesday night with their counterparts from the four-town Pioneer Valley school district, and agreed to keep discussing the possible benefits of combining all six towns into a single district. For the most part, they were not as eager as the Pioneer reps to take the first official step in the cumbersome process the state requires of towns planning to regionalize.

“Because of the fact that it seems a bit more urgent for your towns,” Gill-Montague school committee chair Jane Oakes told them, “because of the financial issues [at Pioneer] – that’s the reason we need [more] financial information before we have a plan, in my opinion.”

The so-called “civic leaders” gathered for what has now become a regular conclave at the Gill-Montague senior center heard a presentation from Steve Hemman, director of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools, on the nuts and bolts of regionalization.

Either the selectboards and school committees, or the town meetings, in each town must direct their moderator to appoint three members to a special planning committee, Hemman said. That 18-member com-

mittee would then spend at least 18 months weighing the potential financial impacts and designing a new district, which must be approved by the state before going to each town for a final vote.

The selectboards of Leyden and Warwick have already voted to get the ball rolling, and members of the Honest Education and Retaining Trust (HEART) group present on Tuesday said they expected the rest of Pioneer – Bernardston, Northfield, and its school committee – would likely follow suit.

“Is the money even going to work?” Gill-Montague business manager Joanne Blier asked. “If we regionalize with Pioneer, it could take five years before we see another penny in Chapter 70 [state aid]. That could be a problem.”

“It sounds to me as if both districts have problems – of different sizes,” said Montague finance committee member Mike Naughton. “What seems less clear to me at this point is the extent to which regionalization of any kind will actually solve those problems.”

Gill-Montague superintendent Michael Sullivan said that “the element of competition” for school choice meant that, even if immediate savings are not realized from a merger, a district with a larger high

see **PIONEER** page A7

SCENE REPORT

Forest Protection Debated At Groundhog Gathering



The annual potluck is convened by the Wendell energy committee.

By DAVID DETMOLD

WENDELL – Wendell tree warden Corine Baker told several dozen people gathered in the town hall for the annual Wendell Groundhog Day Potluck that times are tough for the trees of Massachusetts.

Local concern around climate change and forest protection is converging on a particular 80-acre stand of mixed hardwoods in Wendell State Forest known as Brook Road Forest, where the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation is planning to selectively cut trees on third of an acre plots – soon.

The red oaks and white oaks there, just east of the forest ranger’s office, are beginning to mature. That part of the forest is about 100 to 130 years old. Oaks can live 350 to 400 years. The carbon storage capacity of maturing trees increases with annual growth.

According to Wendell selectboard chair Dan Keller, DCR has

agreed not to take down the maturing oaks, just lower-growing species and younger trees.

Nevertheless, Wendell Forest Alliance activists like Jim Thornley are planning to block the tree cutting operations in the Brook Road Forest through nonviolent civil disobedience. Whenever the logging trucks arrive, Thornley said he and other forest protectors will put their bodies in the way.

But tree warden Baker got the potluck crowd thinking bigger than just one 80-acre stand of mixed hardwoods.

Baker said the impacts of climate change, coupled with predation by infestations of tree killing insects and fungal infections, has led DCR to plan a widespread mercy felling of diseased and dying trees throughout south central Massachusetts in coming months.

“Diseases are killing serious amounts of trees,” Baker said.

see **GROUNDHOG** page A4

The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

Editorial Group

Mike Jackson, *Managing Editor*
Nina Rossi, *Features Editor*
Chris Sawyer-Lauçanno, *Poetry Page*
Victoria Maillo, *Spanish Page*
Beverly Ketch, *Children's Page*
Lisa McLoughlin, *Science Page*
Gloria Kegeles, *Editorial Assistant*

Production Group

Lyn Clark, *Interim Distribution Manager*
Charlotte Kohlmann, *Layout Assistant*
Christopher Carmody, *Layout Assistant*

Technical Administration

About Face Computing

Founded by

Arthur Evans
Harry Brandt
David Detmold
August 2002

Ready To Rumble

The new movie projector and screen at the town-owned Shea Theater in Turners Falls will be put to good use again on Friday, February 22, for a screening of the recent documentary *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World*.

The film, which won the World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award for Masterful Storytelling at Sundance, highlights the contributions of First Nations people – ranging from Charlie Patton to Link Wray to Buffy Sainte-Marie and Jimi Hendrix – to the development of rock ‘n’ roll.

The event is free, but organizers will pass the hat, and there’s more. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and there’ll be a free dinner of homemade Puer-to Rican food. Then there will be live music – drumming by two groups, Bomba de Aqui and the Urban Thunder Drummers – and the movie starts at 7 p.m. Afterwards, there’s a panel discussion on legislative efforts to change the Massachusetts state flag, and an afterparty with local rock band The Feldons.

This ambitious event, “presented” by the Shea and co-sponsored by the Nolumbeka Project, Greenfields Market, and a host of local businesses, is a split benefit for a Pittsfield organization and the campaign to change the state flag.

A bill to change the flag was introduced every year for the last 34 years by Boston representative Byron Rushing, but generally ignored by his colleagues. That’s changing now, and this year might be the beginning of the end for the seal drawn by Edmund Garrett in 1898, which features an imagined Indian, holding a single arrow pointing downward to signify his pacification, with an arm holding a sword hovering over his head.

Our new state senator Jo Comerford was one of the lead sponsors of the bill, which has gathered a host of co-sponsors, including First and Second Franklin reps Natalie Blais and Susannah Whipps. SD.1495 would create a 20-member commission to revise the seal, including five tribal descendants appointed by the Commission on Indian Affairs.

The statewide campaign was sparked, in part, by resolutions passed last spring at town meetings in Gill, Wendell, New Salem, and Orange – which came out of the controversy over the elimination of the longtime Indians mascot at Turners Falls High School.

If you haven’t already guessed, popping up behind many of these efforts – and one of the main organizers of the benefit at the Shea – is Turners Falls activist David Det-

mold, who co-founded this paper and served as its editor until 2012. (He still moonlights occasionally as a reporter, and has a story on page A1 of this edition.)

Back in 2016-17 we heard from many Montague residents angry about David’s involvement in the effort to change the Turners mascot, and confused about his role at the *Reporter*. Our own take at that time was that the controversy over the use of Native symbols by majority-white school districts would better be resolved at the state level.

(From our December 8, 2016 lead editorial: “‘Why Turners Falls? Why now?’” asked Lew Collins at the first informational forum last month, and Lew had a point. This policy shouldn’t have to be determined one school district at a time. And certainly not by shrinking districts in working-class towns, which have every right to worry about preserving unity and pride.... If all the remaining schools are required to change, none would feel unfairly singled out.”)

Now that, too, is on the table, with HD.3645 / SD.936, “An Act Prohibiting the Use of Native American Mascots by Public Schools in the Commonwealth.”

“The bill to ban the use of mascots in public schools – and there are still 38 – would shift the onus of this difficult issue to state legislators,” Detmold argues, “who are certainly responsive to their constituents, but are also responsible to the constitution of the state of Massachusetts, which does not permit this kind of ongoing, continuous civil rights violation of a population that is educated in our schools.”

“We want to have a party here in Montague, and invite everybody to come,” he added. “We hope the Mohawk Ramblers will show up in particular, because this is a movie that celebrates the Native American roots of rock ‘n’ roll.... We want everyone to come and have fun, and we will pass the hat.”

Besides raising material funds for the flag campaign, which has a website at *changethemassflag.com*, half will go to to Manos Unidas Multicultural Educational Cooperative, an organization in Pittsfield that has nurtured a slew of worthy projects in that city, focusing on the Latinx community and other “under-heard” residents of color.

“The wall of the mountains between us is no obstacle!” laughs Manos Unidas co-founder Anaelisa Jacobsen of the group’s involvement. Its projects include Hopeseed, which develops leaders of emerging coops, including a kitchen called

NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION

Benny Rubin was born 80 years ago in the house next door to his business on Millers Falls Road. Started by his grandfather in the horse-and-buggy days, Rubin's Automotive was once part of a cluster of family businesses that included a scrapyard, a body shop, and a furniture business. "Take a break!" says Benny, laughing.

Letters to

the Editors

Dealing With Disruptions

I read, with great interest, last week’s well-written article on the grant-funded Future of Flavor Fellowship (January 31, page A1: *Outlaws Here to Stay? Rethinking Our Stories About Invasive Plants*).

Adapting to rapid ecological change, and thinking critically about invasive species’ roles in our food systems, is crucial. The term “outlaw” is certainly more comfortable to ears of a certain demographic than “invasive,” but perhaps a more accurate term would be “colonizer.”

First Nations communities have been formally studying and adapting to dramatic and rapid ecological change on this continent for at least 40,000 years, if one believes science in addition to their histories. The late Pleistocene and early Holocene were far from stable, with hundreds of feet of sea level rise, transition from tundra and lush grasslands to temperate forest in the East and desertification in the West, and loss of life and habitat due to repeated catastrophic

flooding of massive glacial lakes.

The past 500 years have seen massive ecological disruption and species loss wrought by the rapid de-and re-forestation and monocrop agriculture that accompanied invading outlaw white European settlers and the species we brought.

As a result, these sovereign indigenous nations have historically been at the forefront of studying the damage, and opportunities, that rapid environmental change presents to food sovereignty and security: Those interested in learning more can check out the efforts of the Chugachmiut (see *tinyurl.com/y8m9xv3o*), the local Wabanaki Confederacy (see *tinyurl.com/y74rwkgn*), and the I-Collective (*icollectiveinc.org*), or read Patricia Klindienst’s book *The Earth Knows My Name*, which highlights local immigrant food systems.

Indigenous communities have a broad and deep knowledge base of dealing with change. The salient point made by many of these com-

munities is that surviving climate change will require their leadership. After all, it’s they who have been at the literal frontlines, defending themselves against its effects, for several decades. Many white communities, so far, are only beginning to be affected now and in minor ways.

The efforts of the FoF Fellowship and their funders (CISA and the Lydia B. Stokes Foundation) are in no doubt well-intentioned.

But as white folks who “don’t have the benefit of generations of physical connection with a relatively stable [sic] environment...,” it might be a better use of our time and grant funding to reach out to those who do – instead of disingenuously altering our language to downplay the threat to those communities’ survival, and paternalistically implying that we somehow know better than them, or that their solutions aren’t worth considering, because...?

Joe Kopera

Montague

Gustitos Boricuas, whose members Mariam Orenge and Katiria Pimentel will cook and serve the event’s dinner. Jacobsen guesses the menu will include *arroz con gandules*, marinated pork, salad, and flan.

Other initiatives include a popular arts initiative, a shared makerspace, and therapeutic art and healing work with women coming out of trauma. The group crossed paths with Detmold as he toured the state publicizing the flag campaign.

“We see how symbols can be coopted, and people can be disempowered and not feel like they’re at the center of decision-making,” Jacobsen said. “The flag campaign sounds like it’s really about letting Native Americans decide how they would like themselves to appear.”

Published weekly on Thursdays.

*Every other week in July and August.
No paper fourth week of November,
or the Thursday closest to 12/25.*

PHONE: (413) 863-8666

Please note new email addresses:
editor@montaguereporter.org
features@montaguereporter.org
ads@montaguereporter.org
bills@montaguereporter.org
circulation@montaguereporter.org
events@montaguereporter.org
poetry@montaguereporter.org
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org

Send address changes to:
The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is **MONDAY at NOON.**

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

Annual Subscription Rate:

\$30 for walking subscriptions;
\$40 for driving route subscriptions;
\$60 for mailed subscriptions.

Call us or contact
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org
with any questions.

**WE WELCOME
YOUR LETTERS!**

(ORIGINAL CONTENT ONLY, PLEASE)

Montague Reporter

177 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

editor@montaguereporter.org

Sign Me Up!

\$20

{

8 months (31 issues) for our walking routes
6 months (23 issues) for our driving routes
4 months (15 issues) for mailed subscriptions

}

The Montague Reporter

177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
Email (optional): _____



Compiled by CHRIS PELLERIN

My editor told me that an astute, sharp-eyed reader noticed the intentional “mistake” I put in last week’s column (wink, wink) to see if anyone reads it carefully! The reader noted that February 2, not 1, was Groundhog Day.

It’s a good thing, too, because if Punxsutawney Phil had come out on February 1 instead, he might have seen his shadow, and then we would not be experiencing this **wonderful spring-like weather**. Right?

The Great Falls Discovery Center’s Kidleidoscope program on Friday, February 8 will feature a story, craft, and games based on the theme of **Rabbits**. The program is geared toward tykes three to six years old and their caregivers, and meets in the Great Hall from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

In honor of **National Umbrella Day** on Sunday, February 10, Greenfield Savings Bank will be giving away a handsomely designed, stylish GSB umbrella to a lucky winner. Drop by the Turners Falls branch on Friday, February 8 or Saturday, February 9 to enter your name and phone number. The drawing will be held on Monday, February 11.

On Saturday, February 9, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. the Turners branch of Greenfield Savings Bank will also be hosting another **Bingo event** in the

Community Room. Call 863-4316 now to reserve your place. Tracey Bellville will be the guest caller. The bank will provide the cards, gag prizes, and light refreshments.

It’s been two years since **Great Falls Books Through Bars** started sending books to people in prison. As word gets around, we have been getting a steadily increasing number of letters every month. Volunteers are welcome to join us on the second Saturday of each month to read letters and match book requests from prisoners with donated books.

The group will meet on Saturday, February 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. at La Mariposa, 113 Avenue A, Turners Falls. If you have any brown paper bags or paperback books in any genre, the organization can always use them. Novels by bestselling authors and Westerns are particularly popular.

The Great Falls Discovery Center will have a special Investigation Station: “Who Do You Love? **Valentines for Wildlife**” on February 10, 13, and 14. Stop by the Welcome Desk to make Valentines to give to the ones you love, keep for yourself, or give to your favorite wildlife biologist in honor of your favorite animal. Learn about your favorite animal’s habitat and how to protect it.

The Friends of the New Salem Public Library are pleased to an-

nounce that the 2019 season of “**Reading Aloud for Grownups**” is set to begin on Wednesday, February 13 (the snow date is February 20) with veteran readers Dee Waterman and Richard Trousdell.

Both have extensive theatrical backgrounds and are sure to entertain the audience with their literary selections and presentations. Richard Trousdell is professor emeritus in acting and directing from the University of Massachusetts, and Dee Waterman is a real estate agent from Amherst who has been active in community theater for years. Last season, they read together from two plays, much to the delight of a packed house.

The program begins at 7 p.m. at the New Salem Public Library at 23 South Main Street in New Salem. The Friends will provide wine, cheese, coffee, tea and special desserts during the program. There is no charge to attend, but the Friends are very grateful for any donations.

Two more programs are also scheduled for the 12th season of “Reading Aloud for Grownups,” so be sure to mark your calendars now! They will be March 13 (snow date March 20) with Christopher Turner and Sally Howe, and April 10 (snow date April 17) with Lisa Finestone and Sue Dunbar. Call the New Salem Library with any questions at (978) 544-6334.

As part of their monthly gathering theme “Who is Our Neighbor?” The Interfaith Council of Franklin County will be meeting on Wednesday, February 13 at the Great Falls Discovery Center.

The program will focus on **our non-human neighbors**, and will explore who are the species we live amongst, what are their challenges and needs, and how we can proac-

tively affect their well-being. The gathering begins with a potluck supper at 5:30 p.m., followed by the free program at 6:15.

Sheep and Shawl, a yarn shop at 265 Greenfield Road, Deerfield is celebrating “FIBERary” during the month of February by offering special events to raise awareness of **local fiber farmers**, their products, and fiber artists. Visit with folks demonstrating the crafts of spinning, rigid heddle weaving, and knitting on Sunday afternoons.

A free panel presentation, “Local Cloth,” will take place on Sunday, February 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. Lisa Bertoldi, Katie Cavacco, Michelle Parrish and Nur Tiven of the Western Massachusetts Fibershed Affiliate Group, two shepherds – Ryan Richards from Brooks Bend Farm in Montague and Jill Horton-Lyons from Winterberry Farm in Colrain – and weaver Peggy Hart of Bedfellows Blankets will talk about what goes into creating woolen yardage made with local materials and local labor.

Fibershed is an international movement that develops regenerative regional textile systems that connect fiber producers and consumers, and strengthens local economies. Call (413) 397-3680 to reserve your seat.

Also on Sunday, February 17 from 1 to 4 p.m., students from Deerfield Academy will be offering a **free photography workshop for kids** ages eight to 12 at Artspace, 15 Mill Street, Greenfield. All equipment will be provided. Register on the website www.artspacegreenfield.com to reserve a spot, or call (413) 772-6811.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

GUEST EDITORIAL

The Endless Policing of Eligibility

By JOANNAH WHITNEY

GREENFIELD – I became disabled in 2010, as a result of symptoms of multiple sclerosis. For most of my professional life I worked in the public sector, a part of the US workforce which is not eligible for Social Security. Once I was no longer able to work, I had to deplete my financial resources, until I was poor enough to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

To be eligible for this program, you need to be sufficiently disabled, and you cannot have more than \$2,000 in financial resources. Although SSI is administered through the Social Security Administration (SSA), it is actually a welfare program, and is intended to be “a resource of last resort.”

The program was originally set up in the mid-1970s, when the financial limit was \$1,500 for an individual. Although the financial resource limit was not linked to inflation, the dollar amount was increased a few times in the 1980s. In 1989, it was set at \$2,000. Ironically, the financial limit has not been adjusted in the 30 years since the ADA was enacted.

On January 11, I received a letter from the SSA notifying me that I needed to attend a case review in their Holyoke office on January 22 to determine whether I am still eligible for SSI. In their letter on the bottom of page 1, I was told, “When you talk with us, please try to have all of the items shown below from August 1, 2016 to the present.” I turned to page 2 to see what they wanted me to bring and it said, “We must see the original documents.”

I promptly called the number provided, and left a voicemail asking what information they wanted me to bring. They did not return my call.

Fortunately, my disability does not include cognitive impairment, and I’m well-educated, so I was able to pull together any financial records from August 2016 that seemed relevant. I thought that would at least show a good faith attempt to comply. I also called the number they gave and left a

message pointing out that the letter didn’t specify what information they wanted me to bring.

January 22 was an extremely cold day, following a substantial weekend snowstorm. Between the cold temperatures and the snow that had not been fully cleared, it took me longer to get to Holyoke. I was approximately 15 minutes late.

When I got to the SSA building, snow blocked the sidewalk from the parking lot with handicap parking. I pulled into a parking space and called to let my caseworker know I was having trouble finding an accessible place to park because of the snow.

I’m not familiar with the system of one-way streets in Holyoke, and did not want to park too far from the Social Security building. While there was on-street parking, I would have had to set my wheelchair in the line of traffic in order to get out of my car. Also, thanks to poorly shoveled sidewalks, the curb cuts were piled with snow, and I would not have been able to get my wheelchair out of the street onto the sidewalk.

I called and left another voicemail for the person I was supposed to meet. I described the problem, and asked that he call me so that we could reschedule. I drove back to Greenfield very worried about what the consequences of the missed appointment would be.

On the next Saturday, I received a letter dated January 22, the day of my missed appointment, admonishing me for not keeping the appointment. I was told that I need to meet with them by February 8 and, “If you do not respond to this request, your SSI payments will stop.” On Monday, I called their office again and left a voicemail message. Again, no one has returned my call.

I reached out to our state senator, Jo Comerford, asking for help figuring out who I could speak to about this problem. She put me in contact with two aides for US Sen. Warren and Rep. McGovern. I am waiting to hear from them.

Meanwhile, I still have not heard from the caseworker at the SSA. It is possible that he will

just treat this situation as a failure to comply and try to close my eligibility for SSI, which I will need to try to fight.

It also points out the hardship placed on people in Franklin County who need to interact with the SSA. There used to be an SSA office in Greenfield, but now the closest one is in Holyoke. What happens to people in Franklin County who do not, or cannot, drive when they get called in for review?

This endless policing of eligibility harasses people with disabilities, and creates an impression in the general public that people with disabilities are a suspect group. The suspicion and animus it generates create real problems in the lives of people with disability.

My experience has been bad enough, but it could be worse. If I had a more suspect form of disability, if I were also a person of color, if I weren’t proficient in English, or if I had any number of other characteristics that were also targets of discrimination, I would face even greater challenges.

All that said, I’m in pretty deep trouble today because Holyoke sidewalks and curb cuts were all wheelchair-inaccessible on January 22. This is not the only problem on the list of things I need to solve, but a problem with the SSA can cause significant damage.

I would not be having this problem if there still was a Social Security office in Greenfield, or if the financial resource limit had been linked to inflation, or were not so harshly policed. I would also not be having this problem if I lived in a community where people with disabilities had real employment opportunities, where more businesses were handicap-inclusive, and where my skills and abilities mattered more than the wheelchair I use to get around.

Joannah Whitney is a poet who lives in Greenfield. She runs a writing workshop at the Greenfield Public Library, and is an advocate for inclusive public spaces and community values.

LIVE IN

EST. 1754

MONTAGUE?

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

Montague Center
Congregational Church

4 North Street

Pancake
Breakfast

profits to support
Deacons Fund

Saturday, February 9

8:30 to 11 a.m.

Buttermilk Pancakes
w/Real Maple Syrup,
Sausage Links or
Ham Slices, Coffee,
Tea, Milk, and Juice

Adults \$5 – Children \$3
Reservations: 367-2652
Additional Drawings
will be Available

GREENFIELD
FARMERS COOPERATIVE EXCHANGE

Locally Owned Since 1918

269 High Street - Greenfield
(413) 773-9639

Local
Farmer-Owned

Products for the home,
farm, pets, yard & garden

If you
Feed it - Seed it - Weed it
We GOT it!

www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com

Great Falls Middle
School Students
of the Week

Week ending Jan. 18:

Grade 6
Caleb Thomas

Grade 7
Taylor Green

Grade 8
Shealyn Garvin

Related Arts
Juel Caraballo and
Gary Smith

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

Available Space
FOR RENT

900 Sq. Ft. COMMERCIAL STORE FRONT
plus basement storage space

Located on AVENUE A
in DOWNTOWN TURNERS FALLS!

Call: 413-559-7345

REAL PICKLES

Locally grown vegetables
Fermented & raw
100% organic

A worker co-op in Greenfield, MA
www.realpickles.com | (413) 774-2600

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

413-883-7323

Easy in-town location
Secure 24-hour access

OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors
and Artists encouraged to inquire

VARIETY OF
SIZES
THE BEST
PRICES

RECYCLE

BOTTLES & CANS
Week of February 11
in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

**Riverside
Laundromat**
131 West Main St. Orange
Behind OIC

**&
Village
Laundromat**
63 French King Hwy
Greenfield

Tired of quarters?
\$1 coins & quarters accepted

**Big 40 & 60
Pound Washers!**

WENDELL COUNTRY STORE

"It's just a stone's throw from reality."
Groceries - Videos - Home Baked Goods
Beer - Wine - Liquor
MON - SAT 7-9, SUNDAY 8-8
978-544-8646
Lockes Village Rd.
1/2 mile south of Wendell Center

**WE HEAT
FRANKLIN
COUNTY**

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

MACKIN FUEL
TRUCKING
SAND & GRAVEL

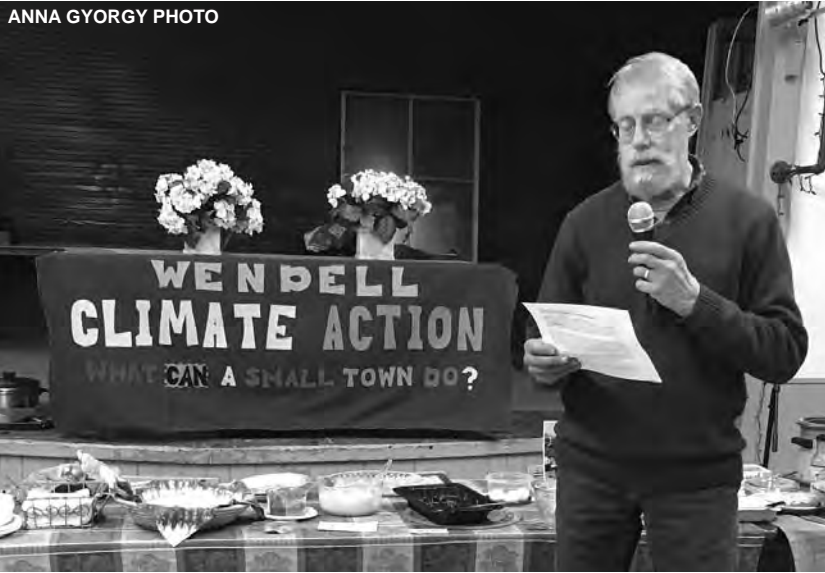
(413) 773-3622

PZ
**Partridge-Zschau
Insurance Agency**

**Standing Between
You and Loss**

Since 1891

25 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376
tel: 413-863-4331
fax: 413-863-9426
www.pzinc.com



Jonathan von Ranson addresses the potluck crowd.

GROUNDHOG from page A1

She continued, “Wendell is blessed. We are in this incredible spot.” Wendell has seen no major outbreaks of tree-killing diseases, no infestations of insects like the Asian Longhorned Beetle or the Emerald Ash Borer that spread silvicultural plagues on forest lands. The air is pure and clean on Bear Mountain.

Still, Baker cautioned, “We can never project what climate change will do to us.”

Baker said she would like to plant 50 trees around town, choosing from species that may be more resistant to the effects of climate change, such as birch, hackberry, black gum, locusts, pin oak, and poplars.

She told the crowd, “We have money to plant trees,” on private land.

On the other hand, Thornley said, “The most effective, least expensive approach to combating climate change is to leave the forest alone.”

He spoke of forest protectors in Wendell “walking next to” the trees living under imminent chain saw threat in Brook Road Forest. He spoke of being in solidarity even with the underground fungal networks that connect the oak forest, allowing trees to share information among themselves and react more quickly to threats.

“We are tree protectors,” said Thornley. “We are forest protectors. We are climate protectors.”

For more information on the Wendell Forest Alliance, Thornley can be reached at (978) 737-7957. Wendellites who would like the town to plant a tree on their property may write to the Wendell Town Offices, attention: Tree Warden Corine Baker, to make a request.

In other potluck news: A meeting is scheduled with representatives of National Grid and the Wendell selectboard on February 20 at the town office building at 7 o’clock. National Grid has expressed interest in leasing or purchasing the lot where the community solar project had been planned at 97 Wendell Depot Road. National Grid pulled the plug on the community solar project, claiming an overcapacity of solar electricity on the grid, shortly after allowing the Arsenault solar project to interconnect.

Don Stone said Greg Garrison of Northeast Solar had gone to the mat to help Wendell’s community solar project get permitted. It was the first community solar project to reach such an advanced stage of planning in Massachusetts, and could have served as an example for other communities to keep solar power local. Don estimated Northeast Solar has invested upwards of \$30,000 in the course of planning for the community solar project.

But Stone hasn’t given up all hope. “This project has risen from the ashes several times already,”

he said.

Still, commenting after the meeting, former energy committee member Jonathan von Ranson said, “I’m afraid a solar farm is thermally regressive on a dangerously warming planet.”

“We want to make Wendell more pollinator friendly,” said Katie Nolan, town moderator, looking flash in a plush pink sweatshirt with bees. Maybe “Mow High” would be a good slogan for this campaign in Wendell?

One of the closest places to buy groceries for Wendellites is the food coop in Orange. Orange once supported a food coop called Our Daily Bread, which lasted for about a decade from its founding in 1972 or ‘73, closing its doors in the early ‘80s. But a new food coop emerged in Orange in 2009, first as a flexible CSA for local farm produce, then as a storefront run by volunteers, then as an expanded store with some paid staff in 2014, in a new location: 12 North Main. The coop is called Quabbin Harvest – a beautiful name! Check out Nalini’s Kitchen at Quabbin Harvest – for great international cuisine prepared fresh twice weekly by Guyanese chef Nalini Goordial.

Plans were made to re-institute a group buying club in Wendell to shop regularly in bulk at Quabbin Harvest, to support a resilient coop, reduce individual shopping trips and improve access to nutritious local foods.

Elsewhere in the Roundup, Nina Keller said she would be stepping down from the board of health this year, but would be willing to advise an *ad hoc* committee if folks would get together to regulate or ban glyphosate spraying under utility lines, and elsewhere in town.

After the crowd departed for home, Anna Gyorgy, who helps to organize the annual potluck, said, “The goal of this Groundhog Day event was to bring together people interested in how we can continue coordinating in the face of the dramatic climate changes that are upon us.”

She added, “The work is far more than a small volunteer energy committee can address. I was happy the group decided to hold quarterly open discussions on climate, energy and ‘What can a Small Town do?’ Plus, the kale salad was fabulous!”

Solomon Sarr, age 4, the youngest potluck attendee, offered a comment for the energy committee to consider. Wearing an awesome red and black jacket his brother Aliou had handed down, Solomon confided: “I’d like to see a moose in the woods in back of my house!”

Solomon lives in Mormon Hollow.

We hope you get your wish, Souley. We’d like to see a moose walking through the woods of Wendell too!



NOTES FROM THE WENDELL TOWN CLERK

Annual Town Election

This year’s Town election will be held on Monday, May 6. Nomination papers are available now at the Town Clerk’s Office. New candidates and candidates for re-election must both sign nomination papers.

The list of offices on the 2019 ballot include: Selectboard, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Road Commission, Cemetery Commissioner, School Committee, and Town Constable all have one position open for a 3-year term. Planning Board has 1 position open for a 5-year term. Li-

brary Trustee has two positions open for a 3-year term, while Tree Warden and Town Moderator each have one position for a 1-year term.

The last day to obtain nomination papers for all open positions is Thursday, March 14, and the last day to submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification is Monday, March 18. For more information on the nomination process or on vacant, elected and appointed positions, call the Town Clerk at (978) 544-3395 x2.

Town Census

You should already have received your 2019 Annual Street Listing Form, also known as the Town Census. Please update the information on the form for every individual in your household including children of all ages. Please correct any mistakes and add your new mailing address if it has changed recently.

If someone in your household has moved out of town and you know their new address, please write that information on the front or back of the form. Don’t forget to have the Head of Household sign and date the form before returning it to the Town Clerk, PO Box 41,

Wendell, MA 01379.

You can save a stamp by dropping off the signed form at the Town Clerk’s office/mailbox. Office hours are 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Friday, and Saturday mornings, and Wednesday evenings 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Please help us make the Town Census as complete and accurate as possible. If you did not receive a form, please call the Town Clerk at (978) 544-3395 x2, leave your name and contact information (including your mailing address), and we will mail you a blank form to complete. You can also complete this task quickly and easily in person at the Town Clerk Office.

Wendell Dogs

It is time to renew your dog or kennel license. Licenses and tags are available between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and noon on Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. In bad weather, please call first to make sure the office is open.

The fee is \$4 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$8 for an intact dog. Every dog must have a valid rabies vaccination certificate presented to the Town Clerk at the time of licensing. If we have your certificate on

record from last year, and it is still valid, you do not need to bring in the paperwork again this year. Dog owners age 70 and up, and owners with a service dog do not pay a fee, but must still license their dogs.

If you need the dog license and tags mailed to you, please provide a double stamped self-addressed envelope with your written request. All dogs must be licensed by March 31 to avoid a late fee. If you take on a new dog after March 31, please license the dog as soon as possible.

Wendell selectboard chair Dan Keller, on DCR’s plan for selective cutting at Brook Road Forest:

“I think the process with the Department of Conservation has been excellent. They have been incredibly responsive. They spent a lot of time out here with the selectboard and put on a big public presentation, where Commissioner Leo Roy and three members of his staff gave a presentation and spent hours answering detailed questions from the public.

“The program they’ve detailed for this piece of land is perfectly good. They are leaving all the big oak trees and cutting some smaller and younger trees, creating a few open spaces for wildlife. But this is definitely not a clear cut.

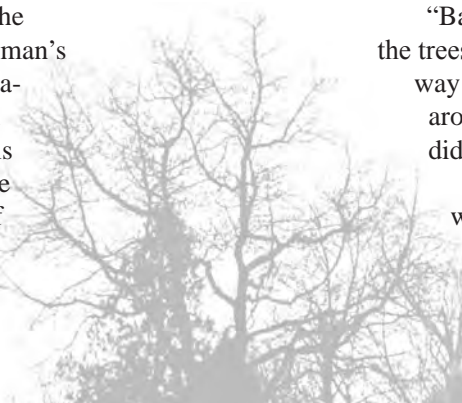
“It is my feeling as expressed by Commissioner Roy that they are environmentalists at DCR. They are very aware of the climate challenges, and they believe what they’re doing will advance carbon sequestration. The large trees are still there. They are the ones that do the most. The next generation of oaks – the medium and smaller trees – are being encouraged by the cutting.

“I am disappointed that our delegation – Rep. Susannah Whipps and Sen. Jo Comerford are supporting a moratorium on cutting trees on state forest land. I think they are doing that without a full consideration of science.”

Jim Thornley, Wendell Forest Alliance member, rebuttal to Dan Keller:

“Because of the belief system of man’s dominion over nature, we’ve been brought up in this society to believe we are the top of the food chain. We’re the only ones with consciousness.

“Basically – I think the trees were here first, way before man was around. The forests did just beautifully. Way better than when we’ve tried to manage them. Maybe the forest knows best what it needs.”



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

French King
Restaurant & Motel

OPEN BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY 7 A.M.

Renaissance Excavating, Inc.

**COMPLETE
SITE WORK**

Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam
Main Road, Gill
Douglas Edson 413.863.4462
renexc@gmail.com cell 413.834.2201

Fred Holmgren
Piano Tuning & Repair

**Stay
tuned!**

(978)544-5494
fredholmgren@gmail.com

AIRPORT from page A1

but non-tax revenues are projected to increase by over \$10,000. This would cut the tax payment to around \$7,000.

Camden did not discuss the revenue projections in detail with the selectboard. The memo mentions a proposed cell tower, which would eventually generate over \$22,000 in “non-aviation revenue,” and a solar array which could cover 100% of the facility’s electric costs, estimated at “\$7,200 to \$7,500.”

Camden also discussed a second solar array to be placed behind the Franklin County Technical School, which could generate up to \$57,200 in annual revenue. Both solar proposals are delayed, in the words of Camden’s memo, “due to the [state solar] credit program problems,” but “we expect both projects will be operational next spring.”

After the meeting Camden told this newspaper that the projected \$10,000 revenue increase for the next fiscal year did not rely on the solar projects or cell tower.

The effort to make the airport self-sufficient is a key part of the facility’s “Master Plan,” which remains in draft form until March. Camden’s memo called the plan “the foundation for the future for the airport,” although he told the board that “If you’re not a diehard aviation fan, there’s a lot of information in there that tends to be dry,”

Camden also noted that the Master Plan revives the proposal for a 1,000-foot runway extension, to “target corporate air traffic lost to other airports.” The proposal, last introduced in 2006, encountered opposition at that time from local residents who believed that it would increase noise from planes, and from Native American tribal leaders who believed the expansion would endanger an ancient ceremonial site.

The plan also calls for the airport to consider acquiring facilities on the edge of the airport currently owned by a private company called Pioneer Aviation Corporation. Pioneer currently provides fuel and airplane maintenance for the airport, and runs a flight training school.

Another potential project is the construction of an up-to-date weather station. “Right now we still have a sock to measure wind speed, and that’s about it,” Camden told the *Reporter*.

Camden requested that the board sign off on two grants received by the town for the airport: an \$18,700 grant to fund vegetation removal, and a \$39,704 grant to help finance a new pickup truck. Town administrator Steve Ellis asked what would happen if the airport was not able to find the approximately \$8,000 local share of the cost of the truck. “If we can not come up with the 20% local share, then we simply notify the state – May 1 is the deadline – that

we are not going to be accepting the grant,” replied Camden.

The board approved both assurances.

Digestive Uncertainty

Bob McDonald, director of the town’s Water Pollution Control Facility, gave the board updates on the solar project to supply electricity to the facility, and a proposed regional anaerobic digester.

The city of Greenfield has proposed to construct a digester to process sludge from several towns in the region. The project would potentially be regionally financed and managed. Montague, which has been forced to ship more “solids” out of town since the so-called “Montague process” for reducing sludge was discontinued, has been in discussions with Greenfield over the proposed collaboration.

Recently the town significantly reduced its sludge disposal costs as the result of reducing water content and an unexpectedly low bid from a Boston-based company, Veolia North America.

McDonald said that he and Ellis had met with Greenfield officials and informed them of the town’s reduction in disposal costs. “I said I’m not sure where we sit, as far as being part of the regional digester,” he said. “We’re going to be a part of it, one way or another; it’s just going to be how much we’re going

to be a part of it.”

“We’ve got a good contract with Veolia now, but we have to be strategic about it,” said selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz. “Today [the digester] may not make sense, but what’s going to happen two, three, four, five years from now as more and more facilities stop accepting the waste?”

Noting a potential expanded composting program, McDonald replied that “I am making sure I keep all the options open at this point.”

As far as the solar array is concerned, McDonald said the engineering firm hired to create the design was beginning its work, but he was unsure of the status of the state’s new incentive program, called SMART. He said all of the incentive, or “blocks,” for western Massachusetts have been filled, so he needs to calculate debt payments for the array without the incentives “to see if I am still going to save money... I talked to State Rep. Natalie Blais about it last week.”

Other Business

The selectboard approved a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission protesting the request of FirstLight Hydro Company’s request to change is corporate status during the federal relicensing process for the company’s hydro projects. (*See article, page A1.*)

Police chief Chris Williams came

before the board to request approval of the resignation of full-time dispatcher Justin Lawrence, who will now be working on a “per diem” basis, and his replacement by Elizabeth Phillips. The board approved both requests.

Bruce Hunter of the Franklin County Regional Housing and Re-development Authority requested and received approval of the disbursement of an additional \$9,900 to the engineering firm Tighe & Bond for their ongoing design project of the Strathmore Mill demolition.

Ellis disclosed to the board the “appearance of a conflict of interest” as a result of his spouse’s employment by the Gill-Montague regional school district. Diane Ellis serves as director of student services for the schools. “I do not have in any way control over the specific budget that Diane Ellis administers,” he said. “I just wanted people to be aware of this in a formal way.” He will file the disclosure with the town clerk.

For the second week in a row, the board read and approved the warrant for the Tuesday, February 19 special town meeting.

The board delayed a discussion of “town hall signage,” which was on the agenda, because the member most interested in signage, Mike Nelson, was not in attendance.

The next scheduled selectboard meeting will be on Monday, February 11 at 7 p.m.



SPORTS from page A1

this Saturday, everybody sat with everybody. Players, fans and gym bags mixed together in the bleachers until a match ended, and then they all switched places as other teams came into the bleachers. There were so many side conversations by so many different groups of people that there was no room for discord.

Coaching, ref-ing, and playing is exciting enough without us fans adding to the drama.

Title Town

Patriots 13 – Rams 3
Red Sox 4 – Dodgers 1

The *New York Times* had a cute headline on Monday: “Dull first half. No offense.” The Patriots had two good drives to open the game, but came up empty. The rest of the game was like 1917 France with both Defenses dug in.

At the end, Tom Brady and his little brother Julian Edelman pulled it out. It was the second straight world championship for a New England team against an LA team.

Hopefully, UMass will play a California team in the Hockey finals. (Joking.)

Boys Basketball

TFHS 64 – Mohawk 44
TFHS 67 – Smith Academy 56
TFHS 71 – Belchertown 67

The Turners Falls boys’ basketball team has been trying to make the playoffs, and with very few games left, the Boys in Blue needed to put together a string of victories just to stay in contention. This week, they won the games they needed to, and currently sit at 9–8 with three games left.

On Wednesday, January 31, they hosted the Mohawk Warriors. The big news in this game was the pre-game JV matchup. The boys finally put one together and won a game. Congrats!

The first quarter of the varsity game was a contest between buckets and fouls. Turners hit shots, but also committed fouls. By the end of the first period, Mohawk was in the bo-

nus. Because of Powertown’ accurate shooting and tendency to foul, the game was knotted at 19 after one.

In the second quarter, Turners instituted some wonderful passes and pulled ahead by 3 points, 30-27. And in the third, they took control. They sunk 26 points to go ahead 56-38 after three. The fourth was a defensive game, as both teams emptied their benches, and Turners held on to win by 20, 64-44.

Chace Novak was a monster outside the 3-point arc. He hit five 3-pointers, two foul shots, and sunk three inside the arc for 23 points. Ryan Campbell also shot pretty accurately. He sunk four foul shots as well as five 2-pointers for 14. Anthony Peterson scored 9 points off four buckets and a freebee. Ryan Kucenski (6), Jaden Whiting, Jeremy Russell, and Kyle Dodge (4) also helped out for Blue.

The next night, against the Smith Purple Falcons, the Blue shooters cooled down. All those shots that had landed against Mohawk were bouncing harmlessly off the rim, and Smith shot out to a 12-zip lead. In the second quarter, Powertown warmed up and pulled within 3 points, 20-17. Blue pulled away in the second half, and took the game 63-51.

Turners made it three in a row in Belchertown on Tuesday, February 5, defeating the Orioles 71-67. The teams traded quarters in the first half, with Powertown winning the first quarter 22-13 and the Birds taking the second 20-13. The third was a 19-19 split, so going into the fourth, it was a tight 2-point game with Blue ahead 54-52. Turners pulled it out in the fourth, outlasting Belchertown 17-15 to give Turners the lead, the win, and a winning record.

Turners has three more games left to play. They host Mahar and Hopkins before traveling to Northfield to take on Pioneer.

Wrestling

On Saturday, February 2, Franklin Tech hosted the Duals II. Twelve schools, from as far away as Wrentham and Vermont, competed on four

mats. The schools were a mixture of regional, technical, and city schools, with Tech, Frontier, Athol, and Mohawk representing Franklin County.

Franklin Tech went 4-1, beating Shepherd Hill 42-19, Mount Everett 39-16, Mt. Greylock 53-12, and Leominster 54-6, and losing against King Philip 56-21. Will Rosenberg, Josh Brunelle, Colin Pettis, Kyle Brunelle, Noah Fuess, Tim Fritz, Brody Wood, Ayden Stacy, Walker Picard and Cameron Tuttle had good nights for the Franks.

There was one interesting moment when the 285+-lbs big boys bulled into the audience. Most of the spectators can lift pretty heavy weights, but with 600 pounds tumbling toward them, they wisely moved.

Franklin Tech unrolls the mats again this weekend as they host the Western Mass Finals on Saturday, February 9.

Swimming

On February 4, athletes from the Turners Falls swim team competed at the Fast Chance Meet at Westside High pool.

Three Powertown swimmers swam faster than they ever had before. Olivia Whittier shaved 1.3 seconds off her personal best in the 100 Freestyle, finishing the race in 1:03.34. She also smashed her record of 28.57 in the 50 Freestyle with an amazing time of 26.89. With that finish, Whittier punched her ticket for the Western/Central Mass finals.

Joining her next Saturday will be teammate Jade Tyler. Tyler didn’t need to hurry in her races; she had already qualified for W/C. Nonetheless, she broke two personal records: she completed the 200 Freestyle in 2:12.42, surpassing her PR of 2:15.71, and the 500 Freestyle in 5:57.17 (6:08.37 PR).

In the boys lanes, Nik Martin completed the 200 IM in 2:39.75. Cameron Bradley competed in two events. He swam the 100 Freestyle in 56.73, and in the 200 Freestyle, he destroyed his best time of 2:07.13, completing the laps in 2:03.78.

Bradley will join Tyler and Whit-

tier at the Western/Central Mass finals this Saturday, February 9.

Girls Basketball

Gateway Regional 26 – FCTS 12
Southwick 53 – TFHS 35
Pioneer 54 – TFHS 38

On Monday February 4, the Franklin Tech Lady Eagles lost to the Gateway Gators, 26-12. At the half, it was anybody’s game, knotted at 10. But that was it for the Franks. In the second half, every shot except one bounced out of the hoop. Jordan Herbert (6), Jocelyn Crowningshield (4), and Germanaia Cruz (2) accounted for Tech’s points.

On Friday February 1, in their attempt to get a win, the Turners Falls Thunder Women came out shooting against the Lady Rams of Southwick. They kept pace in the opening period and went into the second stanza trailing by one point, 15-14. But in the second, they scored less than the Patriots would in their second quarter. And at the buzzer, the Rams were ahead 25-16. The Blue Ladies never recovered as the Rams outscored them 28-19 in the second half to take the game 53-35.

Eight different Powertown players scored, with Dabney Rollins (8), Lily Spera (7) and Hailey Bogosz (6) leading the pack, and Karissa Fleming (4), Lucy Spera and Sarah Waldron (3), Vanessa Moreno and Aly Murphy (2) also putting up points.

Then on Tuesday, February 5, the Black Panthers of Pioneer visited. The first half was pretty even, and it was a 4-point game with a minute to go in the first half, 26-22. But the Cats pulled away in the third, leading 39-24 before finishing the quarter at 45-29. The fourth quarter was even at 9 apiece, and Pioneer took the game 54-38.

Rollins again led Powertown in points, putting up 20, 6 via the charity stripe. Six other ladies put up points for Blue: Bogosz (5), Lindsay Whiteman, Waldron, and Murphy (3), and Lily Spera and Moreno (2).

Next week:
Cheering and wrestling.



Nina's Nook

Uniquities,
Frivolities,
Un-necessariums
~ Creative items ~
bringing joy to life

Open 12 to 5 p.m.
Thursdays through Saturdays
125A Avenue A Turners Falls
413.834.8800

www.ninasnook.com

NANCY L. DOLE
BOOKS & EPHEMERA

20 State Street,
Bucklandside
Shelburne Falls
413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com
closed Mondays and Fridays

Mesa Verde

Eat In or Take Out!

BURRITOS,
BOWLS,
SOFT TACOS,
QUESADILLAS

Now Serving
BBC Steel Rail

(413) 772-2531
10 Fiske Ave - downtown Greenfield
Hours: Mon - Sat 11:30 am - 9 pm

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

Dudek Tax Service

10 Masonic Ave
Turners Falls
MA 01376

Frank J. Dudek

413.863.5394 - Office
413.775.3327 - Cell
frankd_74@yahoo.com

Edward J. Terault
(413) 223-5494
www.REILCLEAN.com

• Complete Custodial Services •
• Bonded and Insured •

“We Don’t Cut Corners, We Clean Them!”

Cleaning Franklin & Hampshire Counties since 1972

ED L

Dealer in used
Home Furnishings

SMALL FURNITURE • COLLECTIBLES • DECORATIVES

374 Deerfield Street • Greenfield

featuring: Lamps Mirrors Chairs Baskets
Cookery Figurines End Tables

I Make
Lamps Lite!

Open 7 Days a Week

GOOD USED USABLES

NatureCulture: The Science Page

WARREN ONDRA'S PHOTO

The Science Page is Powered by the Solar Store of Greenfield.



Contributions to NatureCulture are welcome. What are you interested in? Would you like to write about birds, weather, science of any kind? We need your input. Send articles for consideration to: science@montaguereporter.org. Thank you!
— Lisa McLoughlin, editor

BOOK REVIEW

Dean Cycon, *Javatrekker: Dispatches from the World of Fair Trade Coffee* (Chelsea Green Publishing, 2007)

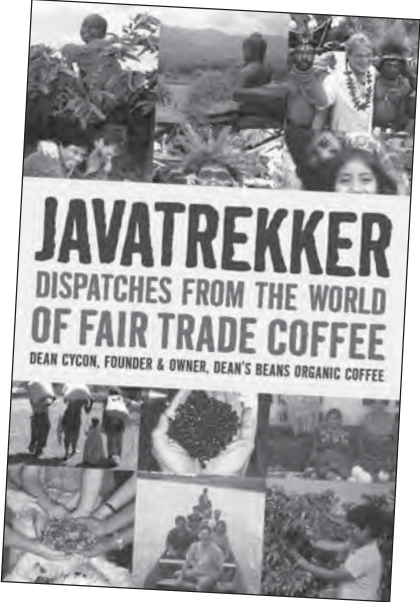
By LISA McLOUGHLIN

ORANGE – This non-fiction book by and about Dean’s Beans founder Dean Cycon tells some of the adventures he’s had while reforming the world of global coffee trade. Written in the first person, his good humor and good work combine to show us the inside of the global coffee market, and why fair-trade matters. Not only informative, but funny and inspiring, this book is well worth your time.

“Fair Trade” is supposed to mean that the growers of the coffee get a much fairer price for their product. That is, they are paid in a transparent way that attempts to insure that what they get covers their costs, and more. Without fair trade, the middleman had control over pricing, and all too often there were bribes, ethics violations in environmental and human rights, and too-low prices along with low quality. Many fair trading partners are cooperatives, which helps eliminate some of the chain of supply, leaving more for cooperative farmers, who take on some of their own processing and marketing.

Cycon, without tooting his own horn, seems to do a lot of good wherever he goes. For example, he teaches cooperatives how to grade their coffee into batches of the same quality so that it can be sold for the price it deserves on the market. He discovers small growers and helps them hold onto their land in parts of the world where that can be difficult, due to war or pressure to sell to large factory farms. He strongly supports sustainable farming, and has learned from farmers directly what they do to perpetuate traditional techniques that work in their particular corner of the earth.

What Cycon does for his business is rare. Most coffee companies rely on outside certification companies, whose techniques are not always transparent or effective.



Larger coffee companies have varying degrees of oversight of farms to back up their claims of fair-trade.

According to *Latte Illusion*, a January 19, 2017 article by Marcus Stern from *weather.com*, the fair-trade industry standard is “the square root” rule, which means if you work with 100 coffee farms, you inspect the square root of the total of them (10 of the 100). There is no statistical significance to this number, though: it’s just what most of them do, and anyone numerate would know that this means a smaller percentage of farms are investigated the larger the number of farms worked with.

According to Stern, some companies do even less: Nestle does half the square root every three years, and Mayorga Organic LLC, coffee sold at Costco, engages in no third-party verification at all.

This is a systemic problem. Because no government oversight agency exists, each company sets up its own standards and inspection processes.

Before I read *Javatrekker*, I had doubts about how any business could be a net positive to the world. How could an organization whose goal is profit make the world a better place? But the fair trade movement

was born out of concern for those at the bottom of a long supply chain. Again, from Stern’s article: “In the early 1980s, a Dutch missionary, Frans van der Hoff, returned from the Mexican state of Oaxaca with a plea to Europeans to pay significantly more for their coffee so indigenous Mexican coffee producers could achieve a more dignified standard of living. ‘I’m fed up with churches praying for the poor,’ said van der Hoff, who with economist Nico Roozen founded the fair trade movement.”

Still, the need for individual oversight continues. Coffee beans pass through many hands during their long journey from grower to consumer: buyers, processors, shippers, exporters, importers.

Profit need not exclude other motives. Cycon, with the hands-on approach demonstrated in *Javatrekker*, has figured out how to change the world and share the wealth.

This is an inspiring book that delineates some of the complexities of the sourcing of the products we use every day. It has certainly made me a fan of the organic, kosher, fair-trade Dean’s Beans, and its roasting facility in nearby Orange gets bonus points for being a local business. This book has helped me think about other products I could find that are fair-trade and environmentally safe. Write in with your favorite products or businesses that follow earth-friendly practices!

Puffins Have Fluorescent Beaks!



A puffin (*fratercula arctica*) at Látrabjarg, Iceland.

By LISA McLOUGHLIN

NOTTINGHAM – Atlantic puffins, although they kind of look like penguins, aren’t. Unlike penguins, they can fly, and like penguins, they swim. Puffins live two-thirds of the year at sea, and go to arctic shores to nest during April through August. Most of us recognize puffins by their beaks, which are colorful during mating season when they’re near shore.

CBC News reports that Jamie Dunning, a scientist at the University of Nottingham in the UK, was “having a ‘troubling’ time in the lab” and shone a UV light on a puffin carcass. Apparently, Dunning already suspected the puffins’ beaks might be fluorescent, because a bird in the same family, the crested auklet, has them.

Puffins, like other birds, can see UV light because they have four

cones in their eye structure as opposed to our three, although in an interview with *Newsweek*, Dunning emphasized that the light wouldn’t look like it does to us. The scientist ties the UV coloring to sexual selection, a customary explanation for brighter-colored males in many species, especially those whose colors brighten during mating season as the colors on puffins’ beaks do.

Dunning has yet to test out this theory, because he’s not yet sure if this phenomenon exists in live puffins. So, he made large opaque cardboard sunglasses that sit on the puffins’ beaks to allow people who are catching and studying them to safely shine a UV light on their beaks.

If puffins are anything like my cat when it comes to wearing things, they will only have a split second to test the theory, but that may be enough.

WEBSITE REVIEW

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (*pnas.org*)

By LISA McLOUGHLIN

NORTHFIELD – I found this site because I was following a link for an article by Javier Alonso-Mora, et al., called “On-demand high-capacity ride-sharing via dynamic trip-vehicle assignment” (January 3, 2017). The article basically says you could serve 98% of the car transportation needs of New York City with only 15% of the current fleet of taxis by using a smarter algorithm to deploy vehicles with higher capacity. This would allow people to share rides for part of the way, and efficiently distributes the cars available.

But there was much more than this one article on the website, which covers the physical, social,

and biological sciences. Besides its own articles in each of these topics, which are separated into sub-topics for easy browsing, the site also offers links to other resources under the “about” tab; links to classic landmark research papers that “have stood the test of time;” teaching resources; and a section called “Frontmatter,” which has a more general discussion of science than the research-based articles in the rest of the journal.

This website was fun to explore, with plenty of ideas for topics to write articles on for future NatureCulture pages. If you want to write an article for this science page, please feel free to submit one to Science@montaguereporter.org!

February 2019 Moon Calendar

Monday, February 4

New Moon

Tuesday, February 12

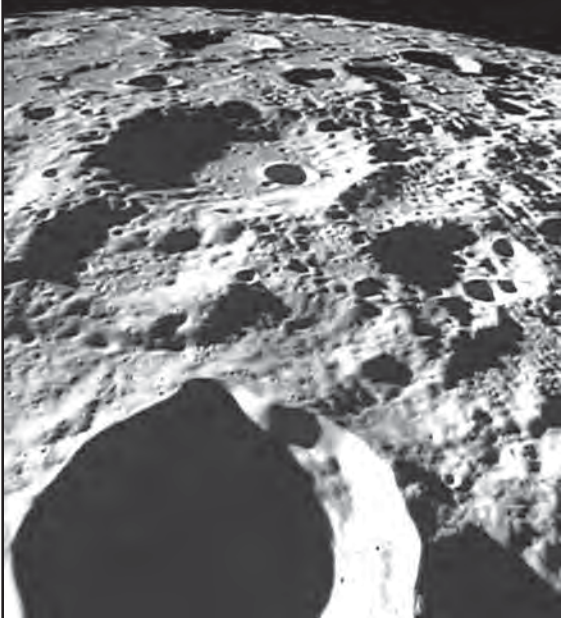
First Quarter

Tuesday, February 19

Full Moon

Tuesday, February 26

Last Quarter



The far side of the moon, imaged by MoonKAM.

NASA/CALTECH-JPL IMAGE

Fancy Dinosaurs: Furred and Feathered?

By LISA McLOUGHLIN

NANJING – Last year, paleontologist Zixiao Yang of Nanjing University in China found fur and feather structures on two pterosaur fossil specimens that are about 165 million years old. This finding is part of a trend.

Scientists used to think that only dinosaurs that were ancestors of birds, those in the theropod family (which includes *Tyrannosaurus rex*), had feathers. Lasers are being used to show details of soft tissue that are left etched in fossil rocks, and slowly, other branches of dinosaurs have been shown to have feathers and fur, leading some to speculate that the movie *Jurassic Park* needs an update.

The uses of these decorations are unknown, but they were possibly for temperature control, to shed water, or for aerodynamic reasons. There are over 30 types of feathered dinosaurs, and some scientists even posit that *all* dinos may have been feathered.

This does not mean they flew or even perched; some of the feathered ones don’t have the kind of toes needed to grasp branches, and they often have the wrong kind of feathers or a different number of feather layers than flying birds have.

Fossils, along with new technology to read them, still have a lot to tell us about evolution!



Restoration of *Deinocheirus mirificus*, based on the skeletal diagram and description in Lee, et al. (2014).

Creative commons image by Funk-Monk.

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

Brian R. San Soucie
LOCKSMITH - CRL
certified - bonded - insured

Trusted for over 25 years, installing all types of locks & entry devices for business & homes

- Dead BOLTS
- Household Lock Sets
- Master Keys & Re-keys
- Safe Combinations Changed

863-2471
28 Montague St
Turners Falls, MA

Open every day, 10 to 6

BOOK MILL
440 Greenfield Rd.
Montague, MA 01351

413-367-9206 www.montaguebookmill.com

Books you don't need in a place you can't find.

Rau's Auto
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

PROJECTS from page A1

According to the statement passed by the selectboard, “FirstLight Hydro did not solicit input from the town of Montague or, to our knowledge, any other stakeholders in the Integrated Licensing Process.” The statement complained that the “expedited” public comment period of 30 days, which coincided with the federal shutdown, did not allow the town “to be... informed about the impacts of this application on local interests.” The town requested that the public comment period be extended for another 60 days.

Montague also requested “intervenor status” in the FERC process, which would allow the town to appeal a federal decision in the courts.

The town’s statement focused on the failure of FirstLight to consult with stakeholders, which includes state and local officials, as well as environmental and recreational groups. But there has also been speculation that the new corporate structure and request for separate licenses are intended to protect the company’s more lucrative Northfield Mountain project.

According to a letter to FERC from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments,

“It appears that FirstLight is creating a multi-layer, limited liability structure to avoid or limit the amount that can be paid for Protection, Mitigation, and Enhancement

(PME) measures that will likely be required under the new FERC license. We would be curious to know how all these layers shield the revenue generated by the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage project... As we know the value of Northfield Mountain as a revenue stream is orders of magnitude more than [the Turners Falls project].”

In response to an inquiry from this newspaper, FirstLight Power Resources vice president and general counsel Marc Silver, who signed the company’s recent request to FERC, said that the corporate reorganization “was not at all related to the relicensing process. I can’t say that enough.” Silver said that the new corporate structure reflected the different core functions of the Northfield project, which is storage, and the Turners Falls Project, a traditional hydro generating facility.

According to Karen Tonelli, director of assessing for the town of Montague, FirstLight is the largest taxpayer in town, with property along the Connecticut River valued at \$115,828,638 in FY’19. This generated \$3,033,552 in tax revenue for the town this year. In addition, taxes the company pays on “personal property” valued at \$19,410,080 produced another \$256,795 in revenue for the town in the same year.

Tonelli said she did not expect the change in corporate structure or relicensing to impact tax rev-

enue. “Based on how the appraisers we’ve had work,” said Tonelli, “I don’t see how at this point how [the relicensing process] would reduce FirstLight’s valuations.”

According to town planner Walter Ramsey, Montague has been advocating for better access to the river, better access across the Turners Falls power canal to the proposed “canal district” – FirstLight owns three bridges over the canal – and “acceptable flow” in the Connecticut River, which currently remains virtually dry between the dam and Cabot Station for long periods.

A whitewater rafting company called Crab Apple Whitewater has entered into a purchase and sale agreement with the town for the former Cumberland Farms building adjacent to the Discovery Center, pending the outcome of the relicensing process. If FERC requires FirstLight to leave more water in the river as a stipulation of its new license, the company hopes to introduce recreational rafting on the stretch of river below the dam.



PIONEER from page A1

school may simply be more viable in the long run.

“For this to be worthwhile,” he said, “you need to have a robust program of high school offerings that are going to not just keep our kids, but maybe draw in kids... We would see financial relief from that, too.”

“It feels as though expectations of substantial savings haven’t been borne out in most of the research,” Montague town administrator Steve Ellis weighed in. “But, they may allow for better programming at similar costs.”

Montague finance committee member Jen Audley suggested that there might be “places where our districts can collaborate that will give students and families things that they want,” such as shared AP courses, co-op sports teams, and music and theater programs.

“The 200-student high school just doesn’t have enough students, and schools don’t have enough resources, to be able to produce really vibrant programming,” she said. “They’re not mutually exclusive, these two paths,” said Tupper Brown of the Gill finance committee.

Gill school committee rep Timmie Smith said she felt Pioneer was “a little bit ahead of” Gill-Montague on the issue, and that she looked forward to discussing it more within the district. “Give us a little time to catch up,” she said.

Sullivan said that some money was still left in the state “efficiency and regionalization” grant that had funded the consultants’ research,

that choice. Beaubien said he keeps hearing that the state is saying various things, but “all I want is a radio system that works.”

Redmond said the new system would, at minimum, require new radios, but would use radio towers already in place.

“I have no faith,” said Crochier, “to spend \$5 to fix the system that we have, because I have never, in years, heard a positive thing” about it.

Snedeker said the “big question marks” on the state’s 800 system were the cost and how long it would take to implement. He said the meeting ended with FRCOG planning to go to the state Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the legislature to get more information, and intending to set up another meeting when those questions would hopefully be answered.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Turners Falls Hydro, LLC (Turners Falls Hydro) is the current licensee of the **Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project** (FERC Project No. 2622) located on the Turners Falls Power Canal and Connecticut River in Turners Falls, Massachusetts. On February 5, 2019 Turners Falls Hydro filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) a Final Application for Subsequent License for a Minor Water Power Project 5 Megawatts or Less for its Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project. The contents of the application consists of the following develop pursuant to applicable Commission regulations: an Initial Statement; Verification Statement; Exhibit A – Project Description; Exhibit E – Environmental Report; Exhibit F – Project Drawings and Supporting Design Report; Exhibit G – Project Boundary; and Exhibit H – Plans and Ability to Operate the Project.

A copy of the application is available for public inspection and reproduction at www.eaglecreekre.com/turners-falls-relicensing and the Montague Public Library, Carnegie Library Branch, 201 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376 during their normal business hours. If any resource agency, tribe, or other persons believe additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merits, such a request must contain the information pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.32(b)(7) and be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the filing date of the final license application, or Friday, April 5, 2019 with a copy of the request served to Turners Falls Hydro. The exact name and address of Turners Falls Hydro is: Turners Falls Hydro, LLC, 116 N. State Street, P.O. Box 167, Neshkoro, WI 54960.

Questions regarding this notice may be addressed to Turners Falls Hydro at: Michael Scarzello (Michael.Scarzello@eaglecreekre.com or 973-998-8400). The Commission will publish subsequent notices soliciting public participation if the application is found acceptable for filing.

GILL from page A1

from classroom sinks. The board approved the purchase of the stations, and Purington said the district should coordinate their installation.

Board member Randy Crochier reopened a discussion on working with the school district to establish standard operating procedures for the new treatment system. Purington said he had spoken with the well’s operator, Bob Flagg, who seemed willing to develop operations and emergency plans.

Crochier said he would like to see fast action on that, and went on to say the town needs to work with the district on who will be trained to operate the system, and who would fill in when the operator is unavailable. He said he thought someone in the building daily should be able to do the readings, and know what to look for, but should also know when to call in an operator.

Bob McDonald, superintendent of Montague’s Water Pollution Control Facility, was on hand to give the board an update and provide a forecast for the next fiscal year. The Montague facility processes wastewater from Gill’s Riverside district, and suffered setbacks in 2017 and 2018 which resulted in sewer rates rising by 71 percent last fall.

McDonald began by apologizing for the large increase, and reporting that FY’20 is “looking really healthy.” He said that after meeting with Montague’s town accountant, going through the budgets, and some changes at the facility, he was only expecting a 1% to 2% increase in rates next year. He was quick to add, “don’t quote me,” because numbers were still being crunched, but reiterated that things were looking good.

McDonald said the small increase represented money intended to begin rebuilding an enterprise fund for future capital projects.

McDonald recapped the problems encountered at the facility last year, including the loss of revenue from the closing of the Southworth paper plant, and the double hit of lost

revenue and increased costs resulting from the shutdown of the town’s experimental treatment process. He noted that the age of the facility, built in 1962 and added to in 1980, was a factor in its financial challenges.

He went on to describe a number of measures that he believed would help rein in the facility’s two largest costs: power usage and sludge removal. McDonald said a MassDEP grant-funded solar array will help with power costs, and he is awaiting state approval on a composting project that would reduce sludge removal costs. Greenfield is moving forward on a proposal to build a regional anaerobic digester, which could further reduce sludge hauling costs.

Board member John Ward asked McDonald a number of questions about the the solar array and composting projects, and a discussion on particular features of each took place. “I think we’re making some really good choices,” McDonald said in closing, “and we’re getting everything under control.”

Emergency Communications

Chief of police Chris Redmond, fire chief Gene Beaubien, and selectboard chair Greg Snedeker provided a recap of a countywide meeting held the previous week by FRCOG concerning Franklin County’s emergency communication system.

FRCOG describes the current system as “failing,” and “not meeting the communication needs of those who protect us.” Snedeker said the two options being looked at to address the problem are rebuilding the current system, and joining the state’s 800 system.

The cost of rebuilding the current system is estimated at \$5 to \$10 million, but it would need to be replaced again in 15 years. The cost would most likely need to be borne by the 26 towns in Franklin County, and Snedeker said some towns have already said they can’t afford it, or might choose not to take part.

Snedeker expressed disappointment that the state had not yet provided figures for joining the 800 system, though it is pushing for

Bringing Peace to Tired Muscles
Do you need a tune-up?

Let me help

Gretchen Wetherby LMT

Massage Offices in Shelburne Falls and Millers Falls
www.gretchenwetherby.massagetherapy.com

gretchenwlm@gmail.com 413-824-7063

Bryan Hobbs Remodeling LLC

Blown Cellulose Insulation • Spray Foam Insulation
Airsealing • Energy Audits • Replacement Doors & Windows

Email: bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com
Now Accepting Credit Cards

Office: (413)775-9006
Lic # 083982
Reg # 139564

Bryan G. Hobbs
PO Box 1535
Greenfield, MA 01302

Origami is for anyone, anywhere, anytime!

Join us at: **OrigamiUSA.org**
Email: **admin@origamiusa.org**
Tel: **212.769.5635**

• Find a local community origami group
• Fold from diagrams in our publications
• Shop for origami paper and books
• And much more!

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Leverett Elementary Budget to Grow 2.2%

By ROB SKELTON

Two-thirds of the Leverett selectboard met with the fin com and school committee Tuesday night to hash out next year's school budget. Selectwoman Julie Shively was absent.

A previously agreed-upon target of 1.9% increase was deemed not practicable and a 2.2% increase was arrived at, with no dissent from fin com. Resident Steve Weiss, attending his second meeting as a budget hawk, noted that the \$20,000 requested and raised for the schools last year was specifically a "one-time" panacea. He asked about the 1.9% "guidance" which the school committee had agreed to try to meet, and noted that he himself had received no fundraising communi-ques from the committee.

Members of the committee made it clear that "a school can't run on donations," and "we need a solid operating budget year after year."

The warm winter has helped contain some heating costs, which is good news. In not-so-good news, the five Leverett students attending the Chinese immersion charter school cost the town \$100,000.

Bruce Turner, business manager for Union 28, which oversees Leverett elementary school, said most of the budget is "state-driven"; while the numbers might see some adjustments, he said, a lot of the

information in the budget is state-required. He and superintendent Jennifer Haggerty were on hand to answer questions and make recommendations.

The budget for the regional middle and high schools was also perused, with selectboard chair Peter d'Errico questioning a \$5 million expense for a new track facility. He asked for a cost breakdown, and perhaps some pushback on the architect.

"It rubs me the wrong way," he said, when such big-ticket projects are pushed "in PowerPoint presentations by some guy from Boston who's never even played sports."

The other big-ticket capital expenditure is a partial roof replacement at the middle school, which leaks and is 25 years old. The addition of solar panels may require further infrastructural investment, the cost of which is an unknown at this time.

Bad Wells

A proposal to build a new municipal water facility in East Leverett, taken off the table by d'Errico at the previous meeting, refuses to die. Due to a plume of contaminated leachate emanating from the former landfill, a handful of houses near the Amherst town line use imported water at Leverett's expense.

A plan to extend the Amherst water line is in the works, but with no

guarantees; an alternative plan to use eminent domain to take the houses has not gained traction. A third option, the "Jim Field Phenomenon," proposes the town's purchase of the former Adams estate at the bottom of Shutesbury Road, currently on the market, which contains an artesian well with legendary output, according to lore.

Skip Fournier, brought out of retirement to guide the water process, recommends that the town hire hydrogeologist David Foss at \$1,500 since "we have no real local expertise." No members of the select and financial boards objected to this expense, which will provide useful data and an alternative should the Amherst project fall through.

D'Errico mentioned that, because neighboring Shutesbury has two or three poisoned wells from improper salt or sand storage, which it hopes to mitigate, it's probable that the state DEP will require hydrogeological research which might benefit Leverett in the long run.

Left unmentioned was selling water to Shutesbury, which could happen if Leverett constructs a municipal water plant.

Other Business

Ray Bradley of Dudleyville Road opened the meeting by noting his road was impassable, which just wasn't right for the 30 taxpaying households in his neighborhood.

In loving memory of this young man, Gabriel Lee Mason, born February 5, 1984.



He left us all March 25, 2008 but will remain in our hearts forever.

Roundabout Books
a bookstore for book people

Wed - Sun: 12 to 5 pm
26 Kenwood St. Greenfield
(413) 773-0820
roundaboutbookstore.com

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

SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CO. INC.
SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

Complete Masonry Supply
Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more.

298 Avenue A., Turners Falls 413-863-4322
and at our new location 529 S. Main St, Brattleboro or 802-579-1800
www.shanahansupply.com

Enjoy the Comfort of Insurance Protection

Competitive rates and discounts for all of your insurance needs!

159 Avenue A Turners Falls MA 413.863.4373 ahrist.com

Serving Home Grown Farm-inspired Food & Drink

44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
Ph 413 774 3150 | hopeandolive.com

About-Face Computer Solutions

Turn your computer troubles around!

(413) 863-5447
151 Avenue A, Turners Falls
WE FIX COMPUTERS!
www.about-facecomputers.com

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CO-OP
144 MAIN STREET GREENFIELD, MA 01301 (413) 773-5567
3 STATE STREET SHELburnE FALLS, MA 01370 (413) 625-2548

A BEAUTIFUL Smile Starts With Healthy Teeth

GEETU SHOKEEN, DMD

Montague Dental Arts General Dentistry
300 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376 • 413-863-2288

Peter Waters Painting Services

Interior/Exterior Custom Residential Fully Insured

Office: 978-544-6534
Cell: 413-461-5172
Wendell, MA
peterjwaters88@gmail.com

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

magpiepizza.com
21 Bank Row, Gld. 413-475-3570

woodfired pizzeria

BLUE DRAGON APOTHECARY

CUSTOM CRAFTED HERBAL PRODUCTS
TRADITIONAL MEDICINES & HOLISTIC HEALTH
OFFERING BODYWORK AND CONSULTATIONS

RETAIL HOURS: TUE-FRI 10-6; SAT 10-4
413-773-3730, INFO@BLUEDRAGONAPOTHECARY.COM
158 MAIN ST, SUITE 10 GREENFIELD, MA 01301
BLUEDRAGONAPOTHECARY.COM

Totally **FREE** Checking **ADVANTAGE #7**

Up to **\$25 Buy Back** of your unused checks and debit card from your old bank when you open a GSB checking account.

View ALL the advantages of GSB Checking on our website.

(413) 774-3191 • (413) 584-4441
greenfieldsavings.com

*All items over \$10.00 may be subject to 1099 reporting.
Member FDIC/Member DIF • Equal Housing Lender

DIEMAND FARM

Take the Chill Off!
Homestyle meals available to heat & eat year-round

Come see what's cooking in our farm store!
126 Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell, MA 01379
www.thediemandfarm.com

HOME PROS
413-221-3837 WWW.BOBSHOMEPROS.COM

25 Years Experience in Commercial and Residential Building & Remodeling

Follow the Sun into the Future

GREENFIELD SOLAR STORE
2 Fiske Avenue, Greenfield
413.772.3122
solarstoreofgreenfield.com

Quality and reliability you can count on.
AllEarth Trackers are engineered and made in VT.
A system that's effective and efficient every day.

Artist: Christine Pellerin



Above: Sunset over the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge on Sunday evening.

Settling In At Everyday Farm



George the cat, held by Hannah Sol, meets a gosling held by Joe Connelly.

By **TRISH CRAPO**

GILL – On a crisp day back in November, I stood on a hillside overlooking Main Road in Gill with Joe Connelly and Hannah Sol, who’d just completed their first year of farming as Everyday Farm. There was a nip in the air as we watched a hundred or so heritage breed chickens happily pecking the compost pile, toured the greenhouse where baby greens exuded a healthy vibe,

patted the bellies of two recently acquired American Guinea hogs, and then made our way along the top of the hillside to where next spring’s strawberry plants were tucked in for the winter with straw.

It’s only fair to say right up front that Joe is my nephew. He very nicely credits “many Sunday dinners eating healthy food Tom grew” as playing a role in his choice to farm. (My husband, Tom Ashley, runs Dancing Bear Farm in Leyden.) But I think

it’s also fair to say that a handful of grueling days at our place doing one task over and over, like planting or hoeing garlic, did not make a favorable impression on him as a teenager. It took a glimpse of the larger picture to jump-start Everyday Farm.

“I guess it kind of started in the garden,” Joe says. “We had a small garden together and we got five chickens and that felt pretty good.” “Then we thought about the fact that my parents have a lot of land that was my family farm a while ago,” Hannah says. “We just had the desire to grow healthy food for us and for other people.”

Since the spring of 2017, Joe and Hannah have been working land that used to be part of Captain Kidd Island Farm, a large dairy started in 1964 by Hannah’s great-grandparents, Maurice and Nettie Cole. Named for an island in the Connecticut River, the farm comprised much of the land you can see from the current farm. Hannah’s grandparents took over and the farm remained a working dairy into the mid-1970s.

Joe and Hannah are young – he’s 22; she’s 19 – but they apply themselves to the labor-intensive work of farming with maturity and resolve. Asked if there had ever been a time when they just thought, “Forget it, this is too hard,” Hannah laughed and answered, “Not yet.”

Being their own bosses, working together outside, and supplying themselves with healthy food grown

see **EVERYDAY FARM** B6

THE AUTHORS’ CORNER: JARRETT KROSOCZKA

By **IZZY VACHULA-CURTIS**

TURNERS FALLS – When my Mom first suggested I read the book *Hey, Kiddo* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka, I didn’t want to read it because usually books like that make me sad. I don’t mind bad things that happen in fantasy books, like a murder mystery or something supernatural. But when I read a realistic book where bad things happen, it makes me sad, because I know that a lot of kids in my school have had similar experiences to Jarrett.

When I heard that there was an event at the Shea Theater where people were going to be reading as characters in *Hey, Kiddo*, I thought that would be a good way to experience the book. Unfortunately I ended up getting a bad cold and had to miss the event! My mom, Jessica Vachula-Curtis, went without me, and she really loved it.

When I asked her what she thought about the event, she said, “Listening to the book read aloud was such a cool experience. Jeanne Birdsall, who played Jarrett’s grandma, Shirley, was amazing and hilarious! Also, the music soundtrack playing in the background was perfect, and really captured the time period.”

Nina Rossi already wrote a detailed description of *Hey, Kiddo* in last week’s edition of the *Montague*



A reading of *Hey, Kiddo* at The Shea Theater.

Reporter, so I am just going to review some parts of the book and include my interview with Jarrett Krosoczka.

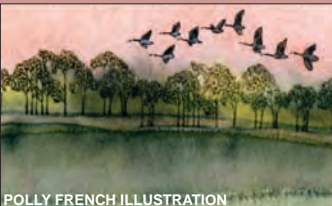
There were some parts that were really upsetting where people would get mad at one another, like when Jarrett’s grandmother, Shirley, called her daughter Leslie horrible names after she found out she was pregnant. I also thought the part where Shirley had put her wedding

ring on the side of the sink, and Leslie knocked over Shirley, stole the ring, and ran off was really horrible and sad.

Although the book was sad, there were some funny parts, too! I enjoyed the part that took place in Jarrett’s gym class. His gym teacher got mad at Jarrett for wearing purple sweatpants to gym – Jarrett described them as “maroon” – instead of the usual blue and gray sweatpants. Then the gym teacher made them play dodgeball, and Jarrett is not someone who likes sports at all. Jarrett’s gym teacher reminded me of Coach Mellor, who is the main character’s gym teacher in *The Goldbergs*, one of my favorite TV shows.

Another funny part was in third grade, when Jarrett

see **AUTHORS’** page B2



WEST ALONG THE RIVER GEORGE WASHINGTON AND THE INDIANS

By **DAVID BRULE**

PESKEOMPSKUT – One frigid and snowy Sunday afternoon a few weeks ago, author and historian Colin Calloway, down from Dartmouth College, shared his thoughts with us about George and the Indians.

This topic is timely, given the upcoming annual ritual of Washington’s holiday when we observe the occasion with Washington’s birthday car sales, department store white sales, perhaps time off from work, no mail delivery and no school.

Calloway’s research is timely also in the context of growing public awareness of Native American resurgence and revolt against broken treaties, land grabs, expropriation of water resources, and capitalist-driven environmental ruin.

To say that our nation’s history of injustice and calculated genocide of the First Americans began with George would be erroneous, since we New Englanders know all too well the histories of English-driven scorched earth massacres in the 1600s like the Pequot War, and the slaughter of native non-combatants at Peskeompskut.

However, the Father of Our Country was, by the 1750s, following in the footsteps of his English predecessors in finding ways to confront and eliminate those Indian nations that stood in the way of his grand design of acquiring land, and forging a nation of and for white Europeans.

The author notes that nothing was more central at the time of the founding of white America than the relationship between the first president and the first Americans. Historians have generally ignored the topic of George and the Indians.

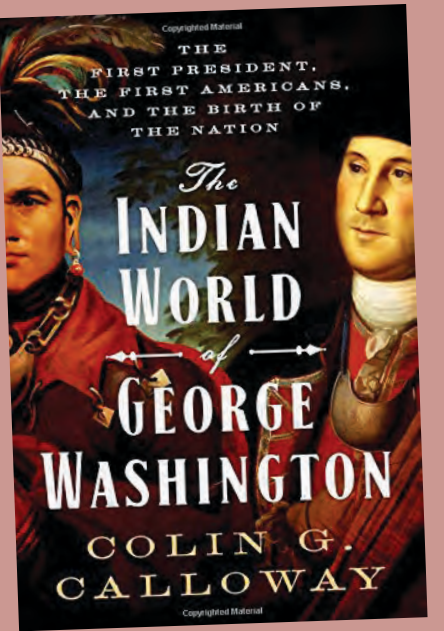
At the very least, Washington’s conduct toward the indigenous nations that controlled most of the continent could be termed multi-faceted and even hypocritical, given that he resorted not only to warfare and swindle, but also to diplomacy and dinner parties, at which Indian leaders were honored guests. Indeed, the *New York Times Book* reviewer criticized Calloway for his ambiguous feelings in his judgment of Washington.

This historian admits that he has an admiration for our first president, but sets out to document the largely ignored extent to which those powerful Indian nations shaped Washington and the ways in which this American Nation was founded.

George knew and recognized the power of those Indian nations. By 1763, a coalition of Ohio Valley tribes had fought the British North American forces to a standstill, sending Commander General Lord Jeffrey Amherst back home to England in defeat, and setting the table for the American Revolution ten years later.

For in fact, the British Crown drew a line of demarcation along the Appalachians, which the American colonials were forbidden to cross. (Calloway wryly mentioned that the Brits wanted to build a wall, but didn’t have the funds...) In addition, the colonials were obligated to fund the garrisons of Redcoats through increased taxation, which added to the already high levels of resentment of British control.

In spite of British interdictions, Washington was busy accumulating lands in Indian country through trickery, swindle, or occasional legitimate transactions. By the time of his death in 1799, he possessed close to 60,000 acres of Indian lands.



Calloway observes that early on Washington recognized the power and dominance of indigenous nations over the continent west of the Appalachians. He was interacting with an America that was primarily an indigenous continent, crisscrossed by lines of kinship and alliances among multiple nations.

The English colonies were confined to a strip of coastline, whereas just on the other side of the Appalachians lay a vast Indian territory that had existed for 10,000 years at least. It is by no stretch of the imagination to say that the major European powers of the time – the French, Spanish, and English – faced an equally impressive indigenous New World power, the combined see **WEST ALONG** page B3

Pet of the Week

“The Time of My Life” in the Great Hall

Theo has been missing since Saturday, January 26. He must have somehow heard about his appointment to be fixed, and found a new temporary home.

He lives near Avenue A and Fifth Street in downtown Turners

Falls, and was last spotted in the Fourth Street alley.

If you have seen him or heard someone recently took in a handsome, grey and white, mustachioed stray, please contact Julia at (413) 522-1319. Thank you!



HAVE YOU SEEN THEO?

Senior Center Activities

FEBRUARY 11 THROUGH 15

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 2/11

8 a.m. Foot Clinic (by appt.)

1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Tuesday 2/12

10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga

1 p.m. Senior Lifesaver Program

Wednesday 2/13

9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach

12:30 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 2/14

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10:15 a.m. NO Chair Yoga

1 p.m. Cards & Games

4 p.m. NO Mat Yoga

Friday 2/15

12 p.m. Breakfast for Lunch

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 through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregated 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 2/11

8:45 a.m. Step & Sculpt

9:30 a.m. COA Meeting

10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance

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

Free Mobile App

with Mobile Check Deposit!

GREENFIELD Cooperative Bank

NORTHAMPTON Cooperative Bank

Avenue A, Turners Falls | 413-512-5012

BestLocalBank.com

MEMBER FDIC MEMBER SIF

THE PEOPLES PINT

OPEN DAILY LUNCH and DINNER

24 Federal St., Greenfield

773-0333 / thepeoplespint.com

The Pint Says: TURN THE KEY!

When you idle your car's engine for more than 10-20 seconds, you're wasting fuel.

Save on Gas - Save our Climate

SPIRITS, BREWS & FINE WINES

53C S. Main St. South Deerfield, MA

295 Amherst Rd. Sunderland, MA

New Location Now Open:

6 Main Road, in Gill

(formerly Jan's Package Store)

Come check us out!

Deerfield: (413) 665-2456

Sunderland: (413) 665-5030

Gill: (413) 863-5730

THE SPIRIT SHOPPE

B. RUBIN & SONS INC.

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS

Shocks • Tires • Batteries • Starters

Struts • Tune-ups • Brakes • Oil Change

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236

10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES

MASS INSPECTION STATION: NO. 13051

“Home Town Auto Care - The Way It Used To Be”

JP TIRE & AUTO

Complete Quality Auto Care

147 2nd St.

Turners Falls, MA 01376

413 -863 - 5423

Foreign - Domestic - Tires - Diagnostics

Aftermarket Accessories - Installation

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL

DOORS & OPENERS

Devine Overhead Doors

Gerry Devine

106 West Street

Hadley, MA. 01035

Hampshire: 586-3161

Franklin: 773-9497

WEST ALONG from page B1

Indian nations that controlled the lands from the eastern mountain range to the Pacific.

Calloway describes Indian America as “a mosaic of tribal homelands and hunting territories, where individual nations guarding their own interests created a complicated landscape of multiple foreign policies, competing agendas and shifting strategies.”

By the time Washington became the Father of Our Country, he was personally familiar with many of these nations. He had ventured into Indian country as a soldier, a surveyor, land speculator, a guest, and eventually came to realize that the future of the United States was going to have to be forged at the expense of the Indians.

In fact, the bulk of his federal budget was spent in wars against the Indians. His policies divested the Indians of millions of acres. He managed that acquisition of Indian lands through war, trickery, diplomacy, and personal savvy about Indian ways.

We may not expect to envision the iconic Washington smoking, dining, and drinking with various Indian leaders in his home in Philadelphia, or in Indian villages where he had spent days at a time.

He had met, or entertained more than 130 Native leaders including Joseph Brant, Red Jacket, Cornplanter, Little Turtle, and many more. Calloway lists the names of those leaders, filling four pages of his book.

Washington himself was given an Indian name, Conotocarious, meaning “Town Destroyer” or “Devourer of Villages.” There is little room to wonder why he was given that name. Compare his Indian name

with “Father of Our Country,” and that summarizes the cultural and historical dichotomy of the myth and the reality of this man.

Whether deliberately or inadvertently, Washington helped establish a fundamental basis of our nation: “fighting, fearing, hating Indians helped forge a common identity among white people... dispossessing Indians helped forge a common bond among white Americans.”

That seems to be a legacy and a curse that has endured. You have but to follow the Trail of Broken Treaties from Plymouth to Standing Rock, and now Mashpee.

Calloway spends almost 500 pages exploring these contradictions in Washington’s experiences and policies that we have inherited. In his own words, he doesn’t seek to debunk Washington as embodying the republican virtues with which we are familiar. On the other hand, Calloway states that his dealings with Indian peoples do him little credit.

In one of his conclusions, Calloway offers his assessment of his motivation for researching and delivering his book:

“Ignoring or excluding Native America from Washington’s life, like excluding it from the early history of the nation, contributes to the erasure of Indians from America’s past and America’s memory. It also diminishes our understanding of Washington and his world. Restoring Indian people and Indian lands to the story of Washington goes a long way toward restoring them to their proper place in America’s story.”

The Indian World of George Washington, by *Colin G. Calloway*, Oxford University Press, 2018. *Author’s talk sponsored by Historic Deerfield.*



Turners Falls Fire District Nomination Papers Available

Nomination papers for the Annual Turners Falls Fire District Election are now available to all district residents from the District Office, located at 226 Millers Falls Road, until Friday, March 1. Papers must be returned no later than Tuesday, March 5.

The District Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All potential candidates need to obtain 30 signatures from registered voters of the Turners Falls Fire District.

Offices are as follows: Prudential Committee, for a three-year term; Water Commissioner, for a three-year term.

The annual election will be held on Tuesday, April 23. The polls will open noon to 7 p.m. District residents wishing to register to vote may do so at the Town Clerk’s office located in Town Hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

For more information, call the District Office at 863-4542.

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week at MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

Montague Community TV posts local policy meetings, including selectboard meetings and finance committee meetings, found on our Latest Videos page (montaguetv.org/p/76/Latest-Videos).

You can also find these on Channel 17 – just check the TV schedule (montaguetv.org/p/55/TV-Schedule/)!

On January 30, the Montague selectboard, finance committee, and Gill-Montague regional school committee had a joint meeting – all you have to do is tune in to learn more.

Looking for ways to get involved in your community? This Saturday,

February 9 is the Montague Common Open Mic at 34 Main Street in Montague. The event runs from 7 to 10 p.m. Sign up by 7:30 to guarantee a spot for yourself – all types of performance are welcome! The event kicks off with a feature by New Leaf (www.newleafirishband.com).

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

Caller Concerned Vacant Building Might Not Be Vacant During Negative Temperatures

Sunday 1/27

9:45 a.m. Report of run-off that has iced over creating a hazard on Wendell Road. Officer checked area and confirmed same. DPW advised.

1:36 p.m. Report of bag next to vehicle that may contain drugs. Item recovered.

2:41 p.m. Report of erratic operation, marked lane violations, and driving on wrong side of the road at times; dark colored Honda Odyssey, last seen on Montague City Road passing Turnpike Road heading toward Walnut Street. Area search negative.

4:07 p.m. Caller requesting that Water Department respond to a vacant property on Millers Falls Road where water is actively flooding the basement. On-call personnel responding. Water Department has shut off water; the bank that owns the property will have someone coming by in the morning to pump out the water.

4:31 p.m. Caller from Farren Care Center states that there was an intruder in the building. He was located smoking marijuana in one of the bathrooms. He was escorted off the property without incident. Described as a taller male, thin build, and wearing a lot of scarves. Caller advised to call right away if he returns.

Monday, 1/28

7:49 a.m. Disabled tractor-trailer unit blocking traffic at Industrial Boulevard and Millers Falls Road. Rear tires were locked up but are working again, and the unit is on its way.

Tuesday, 1/29

4:47 p.m. Caller advising of large trash bag in the middle of Hillside Road that is full of construction debris. Officer advising that bag has broken open and that the contents are now all over the road. Officer will be calling the DPW directly and will advise of more info. Officer secured DPW’s response and is clear after checking for nails or other sharp objects and finding none.

Wednesday, 1/30

2:35 a.m. Officer checking on vehicle on Industrial Boulevard. Male on break from Hillside Plastics.

6:42 a.m. Request for lockout assist on Park Villa Drive. Services rendered; units clear.

7:33 a.m. Caller states that there is a car off the road on Turners Falls Road. No injuries or damage; just waiting on a tow truck. Vehicle is off the road, away from traffic. Report taken.

10:05 a.m. Open 911 line from Rite Aid with someone heard in background; no voice contact made.

11:03 a.m. Assisted motorist with keys locked in running vehicle on Bridge Street.

12:26 p.m. Caller from G Street believes that there may be people staying in a vacant house near her. Investigated.

5:27 p.m. Officer conducting a motor vehicle stop at Montague City Road and N Street. Officer advising that motorist was advised to turn her lights on.

8:31 p.m. Officer out with two suspicious vehicles on Migratory Way; advising that vehicles and their operators have been moved along. One vehicle owner stated that they were testing a vehicle after having some work done on it. Units clear.

8:38 p.m. Caller advising that a lamp post has fallen in the Discovery Center parking lot. Caller did not see any sparking, arcing, or flame at this time. Officer advises that this lamp post has been on the ground for several days. DPW is aware and will be repairing the post at a later date.

8:54 p.m. Caller advising of a tree that is both leaning on power lines and blocking traffic on Dry Hill Road. Caller stated no sparking, arcing, or flame can be seen at this time. Officer advised and en route. Eversource advised and dispatching a work crew. Officer advises a limb has broken the power line and is hanging to one side; tree is only on the wires and not in the road. MCFD dispatched via Shelburne Control for assistance with traffic. Second caller advising of a tree down at the intersection of Dry Hill Road and Hanna Brook Lane. Officer advising that the road is closed well below

that location. Officer advising that Eversource is on scene; they will remove the tree to the side of the road, and DPW can remove it tomorrow. DPW advised. Officer advising that Eversource has removed the tree from the road and are repairing the power line at this time. Officer clear.

[Dispatch log from Thursday 1/31 missing from the records provided upon request.]

Friday, 2/1

11:09 a.m. Caller requesting to have on record that she received a spam email from someone posing as the US Postal Service. Advised caller that this would be on record and referred caller to contact USPS.

1:41 p.m. Report of male who has been in the restroom in the Carnegie Library for over ten minutes. Caller is concerned that the subject may be using drugs. Caller called back advising that subject left on foot, unknown direction of travel. Officer checked area; negative contact. Officer spoke with library staff and advised them of options.

9:55 p.m. Caller from Chestnut Street advising of small black Lab-looking dog wandering free in the area. Caller stated that animal had a collar on but that she could not get close enough to get any info off the tags. Caller stated that dog ran behind a house and is now running between Chestnut and Maple streets. Animal control officer advised; states that he knows of a dog matching that description who lives in the area, should the animal be found and apprehended.

10:52 p.m. Shelburne Control advising of erratic operation in area of Federal Street and Ripley

Road. Vehicle was heading north. Marked lanes violation. Officer advised. Unable to locate vehicle.

Saturday, 2/2

1:45 a.m. Disabled vehicle at Turners Falls and Turnpike roads; appears to have a flat tire. Owner waiting with vehicle for a friend to come and assist with tire. Officer clear.

6:50 a.m. Caller reporting that Citizens called him direct for an alarm activation at Turners Falls High School. Upon arrival, alarm was sounding. Caller walked through building, which is secure; requesting an officer to the school due to a vehicle that is parked unattended in the school lot. Officer advises building and vehicle secure; no one around.

4:36 p.m. Alarm company reporting fire alarm sounding at Between the Uprights; first floor smoke detector. Second caller reporting that he can smell smoke from inside the bar. TFFD and MPD responding. Investigated.

5:44 p.m. Caller from Country Club Lane believes he heard gunshots coming from a neighbor’s home. Neighbors are not home at this time. Area checked; nothing found.

5:48 p.m. Caller states that there is a large patch of ice on the hill across both lanes causing dangerous driving conditions on both Turnpike Road and Walnut Street. DPW notified.

5:52 p.m. Caller from East Chestnut Hill Road states that there are three pickup trucks parked near her driveway; they are revving their engines and yelling. All quiet upon arrival. The other trucks have left the area.

7:59 p.m. Greenfield PD received a 911 hangup call from Farren Care Center. Upon callback, they spoke to a female who advised it must have been a pocket dial. Confirmed misdial.

MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM !!!
R SENG ORCHID
MY HTAI AIIVSIN MC
NHMAUP UCRNN TN BMCI
FISOMBI DGRA DGI BMND
SELECTMEN HIGNTRA CEU.
- GISIA ZISSIC

CRACK THE CODE? SEND YOUR ANSWER TO: INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

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

RIVERSIDE RADIATOR
General Auto Repair
RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS
and HEAVY EQUIPMENT
Foreign and Domestic

Propane Filling Station

Route 2, Gill
863-4049 1-800-439-4049
85 Monday - Thursday

CHARON ART

VISIONARY TATTOO

Inspired, holistic tattoos
with a focus on personal energy,
experience and spontaneous creation.

www.CharonArt.com
413.676.9146
107 Avenue A, Great Falls

Doug's Auto Body
Doug Smith - Owner

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785
Fax: (413) 863-0120
FREE ESTIMATES

39 Center Road
Gill, MA 01354
FREE LOANER CARS
REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was February 5, 2009: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Aging Equipment, Multiple Storms, Plowing Problems

A combination of bad weather and aging equipment has put the highway department in a jam and left the roads of Montague in tough shape following the last winter storm.

"We've been called out 41 times already this season for sanding and plowing," said highway boss Tom Bergeron. "We were only called out 57 times all last season. And in all of January, there've only been two days when the temperature got above 32 degrees."

The highway department has been fielding a lot of complaints this week about the condition of town roads, potholed and wash-boarded with ridges of solid ice that make travel treacherous.

Bergeron reported to the selectboard on February 2 – Groundhog Day – that this winter's plowing issues show no signs of letting up soon, and a lot of the problem is due to breakdowns of the department's aging equipment.

Take the last storm for example. On January 28, Bergeron said, "The storm started about four in the morning. We had light snow through most of the morning. We sanded our main roads as usual and started plowing about 11 or 12 o'clock. The snow got heavier as the day went on," and freezing rain began to fall on top of the snow. "We continued plowing into the night." As dark came down, first one plow truck, then a second, were knocked out of commission with broken springs while plowing in Montague Center.

Bergeron said this probably happened when the drivers turned too tight while making repeated passes to clear intersections, causing the plow blade to come into sudden contact with the curb, or by hitting a pothole or hidden obstruction, breaking the leaf springs.

Another Day, Another Budget Gap

"We're in a Depression, never mind a recession," declared Gill selectboard member Lee Stevens on Monday, as the Gill board began to grapple with yet another yawning deficit in the current fiscal year operating budget.

It was barely a month ago, when Gill voters narrowly approved passage of a \$35,000 override to fund town departments on January 6, that the town finally had a balanced budget and was able to set a tax rate for FY'09. Last week, with the stroke of a pen, Governor Deval Patrick tipped over the apple cart again, slashing \$26,000 in state aid to the town, more than halfway through the budget year.

"We fought so hard to save everything, and then the governor took it away," griped board chair Nancy Griswold. "We've been cutting and cutting since the very first day. We're still cutting. And the schools respond with a 2.7% increase!"

"There's no place to cut," said selectboard member Ann Banash.

GMRSB Budget Process Moves Forward

With the preliminary FY'10 school budget for the Gill-Montague Regional School District now pegged at a 2.7% increase above last year, the process for establishing an actual budget number continues.

most of the band's songs. He said he has been doing that for "about 15 years" in all.

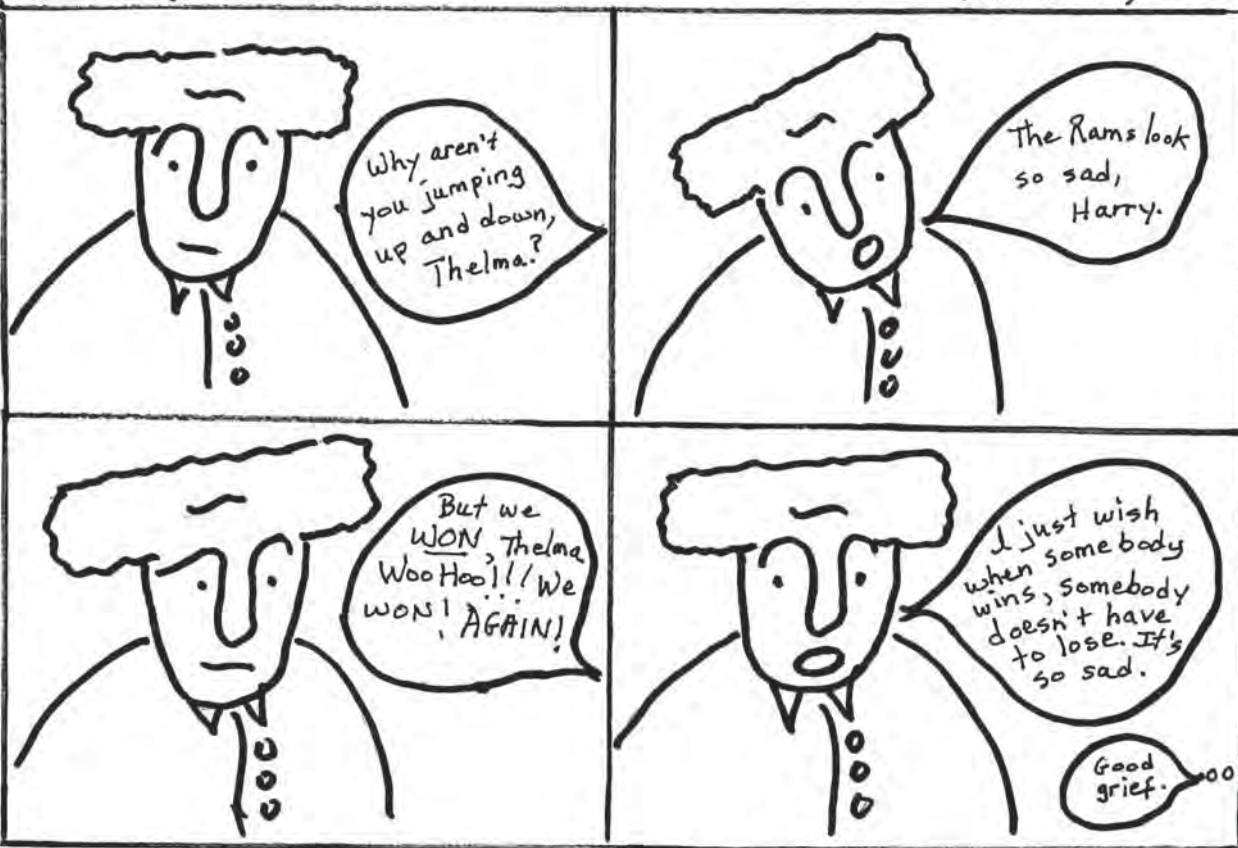
The other current members, Matt Silberstein and Matt Jugenheimer, have been around for about 8 years. They have been with Rub Wrongways Records for about the same time as they have been a band.

Getting back to the Pre Fest, it was "the first time the band had been in Greenfield for some time." They are based primarily out of Northampton, and "mostly play around the Northampton area, and around the western Mass area." Their one steady gig that they play is at the Luthier's Co-op in Easthampton every three months.

They performed at the Green River Festival a few years back.

OVER THE HILL

Ann O. Nymous



T-RUMP

by denis f. bordeaux



Arena Civic Theatre presents *Love Letters*

GREENFIELD – The Arena Civic Theatre is excited to announce a special Valentine's Day production of *Love Letters* by A. R. Gurney on Saturday, February 16.

Through the reading of thank-you notes, postcards, Christmas cards, and other correspondence, *Love Letters* tells the bittersweet story of a pair of childhood friends who remain connected over time and distance. As they share with each other their hopes, dreams, and many life changes, there is humor, jealousy, frustration, and, of course, romance.

ACT's presentation of this well-loved 1989 play features two local couples in the roles of Melissa and Andrew: Dee Herrera and Dominic Baird in the 2 p.m. performance, and Sue and Marvin Shedd at 6 p.m. It is directed and produced by Jennifer Goselin and Maggie Duprey.

Performances will take place on February 16 at 2 and 6 p.m. at the Church of Saints James and Andrew in Greenfield. All tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door, or reserved in advance by calling or texting (413) 233-4368. Light refreshments will be available for purchase.



Arena Civic theater actors Sue and Marvin Shedd rehearse for Love Letters.

Arena Civic Theatre is a non-profit organization committed to producing quality community theater; they will celebrate their 50th Anniversary in 2020.

MUSIC REVIEW

The Salvation Alley String Band

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

GREENFIELD – I saw the Salvation Alley String Band this summer at an event called the Pre Fest, a prelude to the Green River Festival that goes on each summer at Greenfield Community College. This band, according to their website (www.salvationalleystringband.com), puts together "elements of Western Swing, Bakersfield, and Outlaw Country spanning from 1940s – 1970s" in their music, which was probably why they were a good opening act for George Jones at one time!

I talked to a member named Ryan Quinn, and learned the band has been "around about 10 years." Ryan sings, plays guitar, and writes

Ryan also mentioned they also have played the Cultural Chaos festival in Easthampton. "We definitely hope to play Greenfield in the future," he added. "I have no problem with playing the Pre Fest again."

As for the names of the albums they have done, he said their "first album was called *The Pioneer Valley Rose and Other Favorites*," and the second one is called *The Space Wanderer*.

The website characterizes Ryan's songwriting as "matching lush

& tender melodies with post apocalyptic and at times self deprecating lyrics." The description certainly doesn't make it sound like their music is boring! The website also tells me that they have just finished a third album, named *Enjoy This While It Lasts*. On the albums, you will probably be hearing drums by one of the Matts, and bass of some kind by the other one.

I also learned they are just at home in a dive bar as they are in one of the locations of the festivals

I mentioned. Their guitar playing is what their music focuses on the most. It is all right.

There is good-sounding guitar playing on *Enjoy This While It Lasts*, and there is the same kind of quality of that with songs on their other two albums. I particularly like it on *The Space Wanderer*, with this one song that you can hear on their official website. In general, I think all three albums are good showings of their music.

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

COUTURE BROS.
Since 1910
Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor
Commercial • Residential • Industrial
"SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR OVER 100 YEARS"
www.couturebros.com
400 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

EDWARDS TREE SERVICE
Matthew Edwards
Certified Arborist
Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture
Residential / Commercial / Municipal
60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping
Fully Insured With Workers Comp. • Insurance and Liability
WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM
Wendell, MA
Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties
413-325-7823 or 978-544-7452

Pipione's
SPORT SHOP
• **Fishing supplies; Live bait**
• **Fishing & Hunting Licenses**
• **Paintball & CO₂ Refills**
• **Guns & Ammo**
Open 7 am 7 days a week
101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246

Renaissance Builders
Quality. Craftsmanship. Original Thought.
www.renbuild.net
863-8316

Cell: (413) 834-4444
bedson1@comcast.net
Home Fax: (413) 863-0218
Maniatty Real Estate
92 Federal Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald
Realtor, Broker, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR
Ma. License #009535800
www.ManiattyRealty.com

DOLAN & DOLAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS
01376
413-863-3133
PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EVENTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Kids’ Music Series* with *Under the Tree Music Company*. A five-week music series for young children combining music, laughter, song and movement. Adults and infants under 1 year are free; small fee per child or \$20 for five weeks per kid. 10:30 a.m.

New Salem Library: *Valuing Lives Film*. Join us for *Valuing Lives*, a documentary about Wolfe Wolfensberger, a professor and change agent who triggered the paradigm shift in the 1970s popularizing and expanding the principle of normalization for persons with developmental disabilities. Discussion after the film. 7 p.m.

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

Looky Here, Greenfield: *The Big Draw*. Figure drawing session. \$ donation. 7 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Exit Hound, The Feldons, Thee Sonomatics*. Power rock trio followed by rock quintet. \$. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Falltown String Band*. 8 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.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Uncle Hal’s Crabgrass Band*. 6:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Brother Brothers, Eavesdrop. Americana*. \$. 7 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Chris Devine, Michael Nix*. Great Falls Coffeehouse series brings you Devine and Nix with high energy, entertaining music for violin, guitar, mandolin. Refreshments available. Suggested donations to support educational programming at the Center, \$6 to \$12. Museum and museum store open during intermission. 7 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Nite Owl*. Legendary DJ IPL from Boston with a Soulelujah! dance party. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Talking Cloth Presentation*. An encore presentation in the Great Hall features a talk about the history and cultural context of kanga

cloth from East Africa, currently on display in the Hall. This is also a kid friendly opportunity to try on kangas, and participate by imagining and drawing your own kanga design. Design a border and center, and then think about what message you might want to convey. Do you have a mantra or favorite proverb?. 11 a.m.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Montague Common Hall Open Mic #31*. Featured artist *New Leaf*, an Irish music trio. Open mic afterwards in a beautiful space and friendly environment. Donation. 7:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Comedy with Anita Wise, Jon Ross, Tony Sykowski*. Stand up come-

Karaoke. 9 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scot-ty K’s Open Mic*. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

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



“Dog Parade,” a painting by Nina Rossi, part of the *In the Vicinity* exhibit at Nina’s Nook that showcases images of life in Turners Falls, including some of the illustrations that have appeared in the Montague Reporter. Now through March 9.

dy. \$. 8 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Mini-beast, Bunnies, Picniclunch*. \$. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Roots All Stars*. Roots / Reggae with an unbelievable all star lineup! Featuring: *Dave Boatwright, Boo Pearson, Andrew Moon, Noah Telly, Rob Moss* and special guest *Simon White*. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Deepseize*. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

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

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

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Unnamed Band, Arkm Foam, Henry Fraser, NANA Visitor*. “Best Band”; improvised noise; bass solos; dance music. \$. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT*

STEM learning. Call to register.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Meditation Group*. Self led meditation group. Bring a cushion to sit on. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Hip Hop Dance Night* with *Crazefaze*. 7 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

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

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Kid’s Music Series with Under the Tree Music Company*. A five week music series for young children combining music, laughter, song and movement. Adults and infants under 1 year are free; small fee per child or \$20 for five weeks per kid. 10:30 a.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Heartbreak Ball*. With *DJ George Myers*. Valentines drink specials. Part of three-day *Heartbreak* event with Looky Here. \$. 8 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Element Brewing Co, Millers Falls: *Brule’s Irish Band*. 6 p.m.

Arms Library Shelburne Falls: *Open Prose and Poetry Reading*. Arrive early to sign up for 5 or 10 minute slots. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Sugar Ray and the Bluetones*. With opening act *Wildcat O’Halaran Band*. *Bluetones* are a five piece Chicago style blues band. \$. 7 p.m.

Guiding Star Grange, Greenfield: *Contra Dance*. Cammy Kaynor calls with *Tracy Scott Lucky, Al MacIntire*, and the *Back Row Band*. All are welcome, with or without a partner. No experience necessary. \$. 8 p.m.

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

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Heartbreak Karaoke*. Part of a 3-day series of events between the Root Cellar and Looky Here named *The Heartbreak Cafe*. Take your heartbreak out to dance, sing karaoke, and down some Valentine’s Day drink specials. \$. 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

St James and Andrew Church, Greenfield: *Love Letters*. Arena Civic Theater presents this play based on a correspondence between two dear friends. \$. 2 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Curtis Rich Revue, Uncle Hal’s Crabgrass Band*. Rock, pop, blues, bluegrass and country. \$. 7 p.m.

Shea Theater Lobby, Turners Falls: *Erotica Neurotica Pop Up*. Pop-Up erotic art show with *Edite Cunha, Nina Rossi*, and other regional artists. Jewelry, underthings, art, cards, more. Explicit art and craft. Open before, during and after the adults-only “Phallic Valentines” show at the theater. 6 p.m.

St. James and Andrew Church, Greenfield: *Love Letters II*. Second performance. Arena Civic Theater presents this play based on a correspondence between two dear friends. \$. 6 p.m.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Montague Square Dance*. Bob Livingstone calling, with *Phil Watson House Band*. No experience necessary. Sliding scale fee \$. 7 p.m.



THE LADY KILLIGREW:

*Awesome Beer
Amazing Food*



*Amazing, Awesome
Employees!*

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



The Brick House

24 3rd Street, Turners Falls

Drop-In Teen Center

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

Weds, Thurs:
2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

www.brickhousecommunity.org
413-863-9576



THURS 2/7 8 pm
Falltown String Band

FRI 2/8 6:30 pm
Uncle Hal’s Crabgrass Band

FRI 2/8 9:30 pm
The Nite Owl
(soul night feat. DJ IPL)

SAT 2/9 9:30 pm
Deepseize

78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS, MA
RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM
TEL:413-863-2866

EXHIBITS

Artspace Gallery, Greenfield: *Annual Teen Art Exhibit*. Through February 15.

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Brattleboro, VT: Five new exhibits include a six-decade survey of the work of abstract artist *Emily Mason*, *Open Call NXNE*, and art-work by *Orly Cogan*, and *Elizabeth Turk*. Open Call *NXNE* features 13 juried New England and New York artists.

DVAA Gallery, Northfield: Member’s exhibit in February: *Farms*.

Geissler Gallery, Stoneleigh Burnham School, Greenfield. *Deal With It*, Prints and artists books by *Esther S. White*. Through February 14.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *East African Textiles: Talking Kanga Cloth*. Through February 15. Talk by curators N. S. Koenings and Peggy Hart on February 9, 11 a.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *The Time of My Life: Vintage Views of Western Massachusetts*. En-

larged postcard scenes take visitors on an imaginary road trip, with stops at Mount Tom, Mount Holyoke Summit House, Sugarloaf, Turners Falls, Greenfield, Shelburne Falls, and the Mohawk Trail. Sit down and relax with reproduction postal souvenir albums, a hands-on stereoscope, and a Viewmaster with other area scenes. Sponsored by Memorial Hall Museum. February 16 through April 21. Opening Reception, February 16, 1 p.m.

Greenfield Gallery, Greenfield: *Marjorie Morgan’s The Long View*. Dream landscapes. Through March 15. Opening Receptions: Friday, February 22, 6 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Rodney Madison and Friends*. Paintings and mixed media.

Herrick Gallery, Wendell Library: *Phyllis Lawrence*: Textile arts and hooked rugs. Through February.

Leverett Crafts & Arts Center, Leverett: *Resident Artists’ Show*. Informal exhibit of work from artists who have studios at the Center. Through February.

Leverett Library: *Jackie Pueschel: Adventures Around the World*, a collection of paintings featuring landscapes

from the Grand Canyon, China, Canada, and French Polynesia. Through February.

Nina’s Nook, Turners Falls: *In the Vicinity*, featuring *Nina Rossi*’s mixed media works depicting Turners Falls, including new textiles printed with streetscape paintings. Through March 9.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Women of Power*. Fabric Figures by *Belinda Lyons Zucker*. February 8 through April 28. Reception March 9, 3 p.m. Workshop on doll making with the artist on February 10, 2 pm. \$40. Contact the gallery to register.

Sawmill River Gallery, Montague Center: Members’ Show of recent works by gallery artists.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Seeing Red*, a member’s show with a red theme, on view through February.

Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton: *Plastic Entanglements: Ecology, Aesthetics, Materials*. The story of plastic in sixty works by thirty contemporary artists exploring our entangled love affair with this miraculous and mal- evolent material. Through July.

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

TNT Productions
DJ & Karaoke specialists



413-522-6035
www.tntprodj.net





413-256-6217

*fine instruments
bought and sold
repaired and restored*

Fretted Instrument Workshop

49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

**HUGE
WASHERS!**

**HOT
DRYERS!**

Open 365 Days
6 A.M. - 10 P.M.

SUZEE'S THIRD STREET
LAUNDRY

TURNERS FALLS

FREE
WIFI



EVERYDAY FARM from B1

with no chemical inputs, are positives that outweigh the difficulties, they say. In addition to growing a diverse selection of veggies for their CSA, they grow heirloom varieties of corn that they dry and grind to make cornbread and tortillas, tend a small orchard and berry plantings, and raise chickens for eggs and meat. Those American Guinea hogs, though lavished with attention, are destined for pig roasts or the freezer.

As they look back on their first season, of course there are things they'd like to do differently. Joe would like to have "more precise crop planning, and just better crop planning in general."

Above their kitchen table, a large grid of papers listing crop varieties with seeding dates worked backward from harvest dates takes up most of the wall, proof that they've applied themselves to this goal.

Hannah wants to work on creating more no-till beds. "You just add more compost on top and don't till it again ever," she says. Tilling isn't good on steeper land like theirs, she explains. "It's also just not good for your soil structure."

This is one of the ways the couple is taking their cues from the land, rather than applying a set of expectations over it. Another is that, in a nod to the farm's history, Hannah and Joe hope to bring grazing animals back to the land but will probably choose goats or sheep over cows, because of the hilly pastures.

The first season they farmed in Gill, Hannah and Joe grew mostly for themselves and family. They

live in an apartment on the ground floor of the house Hannah has lived in since she was about nine; Hannah's parents and younger brother live upstairs. Any excess was sold to local restaurants or Greenfields Market.

Last spring, they launched their community-supported agriculture (CSA) program, offering full and half shares to thirteen customers. This spring, they're offering thirty shares.

Distribution will be farmers market style at the farm on Saturdays; they won't be offering a pick-up at the Turners Falls market as they did last year. This model will allow customers more choice over what goes in their boxes, and provide opportunities to connect more with the farm. Full shares are \$550 (pick up weekly); half shares, \$300 (pick up every other week) for 20 weeks, June to October. Offerings will include all the seasonal crops you might expect, such as greens, tomatoes, carrots, and sweet corn, plus some "new and exciting veggies and varieties" now and then.

Hannah and Joe also plan to offer U-pick berries and herbs to members this year. Longer term, they hope to add meat and eggs to their CSA shares. This year, eggs and sourdough bread baked in a wood-fired oven by Hannah's mom, Jen Simms, will be for sale as add-ons. People who aren't CSA members are also welcome to drop by the farm on Saturdays to purchase eggs or bread.

Hannah says the change in distribution came about because



PHOTO COURTESY EVERYDAY FARM

The terraced garden beds at Everyday Farm are dug into the hillside of land that's been in Hannah Sol's family for four generations.

members who chose farm pick-up last year tended to stay around to see the chickens and ducks, fruit trees, berries, beehives, and other things happening at the farm.

"People really wanted to come to the farm and see how it was growing and ask questions, which I

was surprised by," she says. "They want to be involved."

"We had a member come and bring her kids and help us harvest and process garlic," Joe says.

He smiles as he recalls, "The little boy was saying, 'I want to be a farmer.' His mom said he'd been

saying it all day."

Everyday Farm is at 469 Main Road in Gill. You may email the farm at everydayfarmgill@gmail.com; the website is everydayfarmgill.com. The farm is also on Instagram at [@everydayfarmgill](https://www.instagram.com/everydayfarmgill).



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

LOCAL, NATURAL, ORGANIC
PRODUCE BAKERY GROCERY CRAFTS

RED FIRE NORTH
Food That Sustains • The People & the Planet

OPEN DAILY 10-6
413.367.3071

485 FEDERAL ST
ROUTE 63 MONTAGUE

FIND US ON FACEBOOK! WWW.REDFIRENORTH.COM

TURN'S
LAWN CARE

Landscape Design & Maintenance
Accepting New Plow Customers
Within 7 Miles of Montague Center
522-2563
www.TurnLawnCare.com

Ariens Snowblowers \$649 & up

Backed by 50+ years of service & parts experience.
You can't get that at a big box store!

SIRUM
EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.
FARM • TURF • INDUSTRIAL
413-367-2481
MONTAGUE, MASSACHUSETTS

Pick up & Delivery Available!

sirumequipment.com

Rte 63, Montague 413-367-2481

The Gill Tavern

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

www.thegilltavern.com Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM
326 Main Road Gill, MA 413-863-9006

Jeffrey Collura, D.M.D.
Cosmetic Dentistry

7 Burnham Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone (413) 774-6553
TurnersFallsDental.com

Office Hours By Appointment

CEREC : SINGLE-VISIT DENTISTRY

Dennis L. Booska
Dennis L. Booska, Jr.

Phone & Fax
413-863-3690

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls **Tile**
Lino
Carpet

Member
The Flooring Network.

IN GOOD COMPANY
A SKILLED ELDER COMPANION SERVICE

Offering focused attention, engaging activities, outings, and respite for caregivers.

sitalang@ingoodcompanynow.com
www.ingoodcompanynow.com
413-834-7569

Sita Lang
Hospice trained
CPR certified

Turners Falls Pizza House

Family Owned & Operated
Serving Turners Falls area for 40 Years
Dave Argy, Family & Staff

PIZZA, GRINDERS, DINNERS, SALADS, BURGERS

www.turnersfallspizza.com
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls ♦ (413) 863-8000

Cathy Roberts
cathy@cohnandcompany.com
413-522-3023

Recognized as one of the ten best agents in Massachusetts for client satisfaction for two years

Your trusted advisor, friend & neighbor

GREAT FALLS HARVEST
fresh • local • creative

Rich flavors from around the world with a local state of mind.

Thursdays - Fridays 5 to 9 PM
Saturdays 11 AM to 9 PM
Sundays 11 AM to 8 PM

Brunch Saturday & Sunday
11 AM to 3 PM

413-863-0023
50 Third Street
Downtown Turners Falls

TURN IT UP!

MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309

Geri Johnson, Realtor
ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES
413-863-9736 • Gerijohnson@Realtor.com

Gerijohnson & Associates REALTORS

66 French King Hwy., Gill WWW.GJAR.COM
GERI JOHNSON, CRS 30 years of experience.

HEART & SOLAR
WORKER OWNED SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINCE 2002

PV SQUARED
HEART & SOLAR

311 WELLS STREET, SUITE B
GREENFIELD, MA 01301
413-772-8788
PVSQUARED.COOP
MA ELEC. LIC. A13764 MA HIC 140077

Certified Corporation