

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 17 – NO. 42

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

Wendell Residents Pack Hearing In Opposition to 10-Acre Solar Array

By JOSH HEINEMANN

On Monday evening, the Wendell planning board hearing about a ten-acre solar project lasted over two hours, most of it taken up by statements by Wendell residents opposed to the proposal. Not one

of the close to 70 Wendell residents who spoke was in favor of this project, although most said they did support solar electricity generation on a smaller scale and in an appropriate location.

Andrew Vardakis, representative from the California-based company

Sunpin Solar Development, LLC opened the discussion by outlining changes the company had made, with the help of Tighe and Bond, in response to an earlier session of this hearing addressing storm water runoff, access and screening.

The property at the southeast corner of New Salem and Morse Village roads, owned by Eleanor Wetherby, is 24 acres, of which 10 acres would be cleared and fenced in to contain the solar panels, and 13 acres will include a 100-foot buffer. The panel area would be cleared and the stumps ground, with the chips left in place. Outside the panel area, stumps would be left. Three containment basins would catch runoff, and grading would be done only for access roads and the catch basins.

Dan Leahy, the first Wendell resident to speak, said industrial solar development is “completely inappropriate for what I believe we hold dear in Wendell.” He said he

see **SOLAR** page A5



Nearly 70 residents came out Monday night to express their opposition to a proposed solar development on a woodlot near the village center.

Six-Town Study Proceeds, Without Pioneer School Committee's Approval

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – Tuesday night saw the latest meetup of the “civic leaders” of Gill and Montague to discuss the future of local public education. The group’s focus has swung toward creating a planning board to study the possibility of a six-town region with Northfield, Leyden, Bernardston, and Warwick.

Leyden municipal assistant Michele Giarusso was the only envoy from those towns, which are currently joined together as the Pioneer Valley regional district. The Pioneer school committee, Giarusso said, is uninterested in supporting the study, and has so far declined to put the topic on their agenda. The selectboards and town meetings of all four towns have made an end run around the committee, voting directly to support the study process.

“The school committee is not in favor of this – it’s loud and clear,” Giarusso told the assembled Montague and Gill officials. “I think the school committee is afraid

see **STUDY** page A5

ANALYSIS Green Energy at Home? Read The Fine Print!

By JEFF SINGLETON and MIKE JACKSON

MONTAGUE – Local readers may have recently received offers in the mail to change the company that supplies their electricity from their current supplier, such as Eversource, to a company called CleanChoice Energy, which offers “100% renewable energy.”

CleanChoice says that their electricity, produced primarily by wind power, “costs more than polluting energy,” but will “not produce carbon dioxide or contribute to air pollution.” One flyer lists the benefits of clean energy as reducing air pollution, reducing “toxic waste,” and promoting a “better future.”

We reviewed promotional material from CleanChoice that two members of the *Montague Reporter* staff – managing editor Mike Jackson and features editor Nina Rossi – recently received in the mail. Jackson’s mailer was multicolored and reassuring. “It couldn’t be easier to choose clean energy,” he was told.

see **GREEN** page A2

The Week in Turners Falls Sports

By MATT ROBINSON

This week was a very good week for Turners Falls sports.

In the second full week of the 2019 fall season, the volleyball team went 2-and-0 to take sole possession of the league lead, the field hockey team blanked their opponents, the cheer squad roused the crowd, the golf team got a week’s rest and the Mohawk co-op football team made their debut.

Field Hockey

TFHS 2 – Mahar 0

TFHS 3 – Holyoke 0

Turners Falls is a defensive field hockey team. They can keep the puck out of the goal. This week, while their defense held tight, their offense went on the attack. As a result, Blue scored 5 goals in two games while holding their opponents to zilch.

On Thursday, September 12, Powertown defeated the Mahar Senators 2-0. This was Turners’ sec-

ond home game of the young season, and the crowd seemed more comfortable and much louder.

The first half of Thursday’s game was a shutout for both teams, but most of the play was in the Mahar

side. In the second half, Blue finally found the goal. At 23:56, Kaylin Voudren fed the ball to Olivia Whittier who shot it in. Then, with 9:35 left in the game, Voudren slapped

see **TFHS SPORTS** page A7



Turners’ Brynn Tela fires the ball into the goal as the Thunder rolls past Holyoke High School with a 3-0 win. Kendra Campbell earned an assist on the play.

Downtown Update: Opening, Closing, Moving, Merging...



Stenhouse Vintage and Handmade is combining with sister shop Flourish With Grit at the Stenhouse location on Avenue A. They will re-open as “Two Birds” this Saturday, September 21.

By NINA ROSSI

TURNERS FALLS – Anyone familiar with the retail timeline of former Northeast mill towns like Turners Falls will realize that some things will always remain, while auxiliary retail fluxes with the fashions of the day. Though locations and names may have changed over the past few decades, Turners Falls has faithfully maintained at least one of the following: a pizza joint, a hardware store, a social club, diner, a thrift store, a theater, a bar, a package store, and a gas station.

That list leaves out a lot that one might desire, either for convenience’s sake or just for the heck of it – our neighbors across the river have been battling over a version of that issue for several decades in their “big box store” controversy – but here we are, 2019, and Turners Falls is undergoing several changes in its retail life right now.

New businesses are being born, ventures are combining, shops are moving, expanding, or shrinking, and there are several rumors surrounding a few prime locations that still defy investigation.

Nevertheless, I’ve poked my stick into the gyre to come up with these updates.

The most obvious change that meets the eye these days is that the Flourish With Grit shop on the corner of Avenue A and Third Street has closed, as has the Stenhouse Vintage & Handmade store two doors down. Fans of both need not fear: they may soon rummage at a new, combined version of the two businesses, as owners Alison Williams and Erin Wilensky debut a joint venture called **Two Birds** this Saturday, September 21.

Expect the same tasteful combination of vintage and handmade goods as you enjoyed at the separate shops. This configuration yields a slightly smaller footprint for each, but buys them much more time and flexibility for their creative output.

Williams said the plan came up in June, when the pair realized, “We were both trying to do it all, and so we thought, ‘Why don’t we do this together?’” The two have decided on a two-week rotation that allows each five days on and

see **DOWNTOWN** page A4

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Trombley Back in the Mix At Wastewater Plant

By JEFF SINGLETON

Bob Trombley is back at the Montague Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF). Trombley, who served as the plant’s superintendent from 1993 to 2016, was hired by the Montague selectboard at its September 16 meeting to the temporary position of “Consulting Superintendent.” He will assist operator Kevin Boissonnault, who was elevated to “Interim Superintendent” at the same meeting, until the town hires a new WPCF chief.

Former superintendent Bob McDonald resigned two weeks ago to accept a job running a sewer treatment plant in Templeton.

There is a certain irony in the plan for Trombley to jump back into the plant to fill the void left by McDonald’s quick exit. When he left the plant in June 2016, the town had not begun the search process to hire a new superintendent. Trombley’s original plan had been to remain superintendent until the end of 2016, giving the selectboard time to hire a replacement, but he and his staff became embroiled in a conflict with town officials over a reorganization plan the staff had proposed.

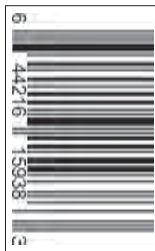
When the selectboard rejected their proposal without a public meeting, arguing that it would require negotiated changes in union contracts, Trombley decided to retire six months sooner, requiring the town to hire an interim superintendent.

None of that history was mentioned at this week’s selectboard meeting. “We have a really good management team in place for the short term,” said town administrator Steve Ellis. “Bob Trombley brings a lot of knowledge, experience, and expertise, and he and Kevin will be a terrific team.”

In an interview with this newspaper, Trombley did not comment on the earlier controversy either. He said he had returned to the plant to “bridge the gap” until the town hired another superintendent. “Right now I’m just trying to get up to speed on the issues,” he said.

The issues include a project to reduce excess infiltration and inflow into the Millers Falls section of the sewer system before the winter; a review of all permits with industrial users mandated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency; and the need to redirect a state grant,

see **MONTAGUE** page A6



Guess What Else We've Got:

Editorial.....A2
Illustration.....A2
Local Briefs.....A3
Gill Selectboard Notes.....A4
Erving Selectboard Notes.....A5
Leverett Selectboard Notes.....A6
Ten Years Ago.....A7
Valley View.....B1

Gamelan Festival.....B1
Sex Matters.....B2
Montague Police Log.....B3
Monty/Musik/Mountain.....B4
Comic Strips.....B4
Children's Page.....B6
A&E Calendar.....B7
Great Falls Apple Column.....B8

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

Striking Poses

In the course of a year, a wave of “climate strikes” initiated by European schoolchildren has grown into a nascent worldwide social movement. Student walkout actions in May claimed hundreds of thousands of participants in centers like Australia, France, Germany, and Italy, and this Friday, September 20 has been set for an “intergenerational” strike event.

What makes a protest action a strike?

“[I]t will only be a success on the scale we need if lots of people who aren’t the regular suspects join in,” Bill McKibben writes in *The Guardian* this week. “Many people, of course, can’t do without a day’s pay, or work for bosses who who would fire them if they missed work. So it really matters that those of us with the freedom to rally do so.”

A strike is a *strike* when it is a withdrawal of participation. A strike’s impact is the consequence of that withdrawal; its leverage is the threat the strike will spread, or attract enough support to last, or at

GREEN from page A1

Rossi’s flyer reflected a different marketing strategy. “Important Notice Action Requested,” the heading reads, printed in capital white letters against a large band of black. The flyer has the look and feel of a disconnection warning. There is also no immediate mention of CleanChoice Energy, but rather the utility Eversource is listed on the top of the bill as the “Utility Company.”

“At first I thought it was an official notice from Eversource that they were offering renewable energy,” says Rossi. “I could wipe my conscience clean by signing up for this.”

These marketing techniques are, to a great degree, the product of what is called “deregulation” of the utility industry. The goal was to bring competition into an industry formerly dominated by regional monopolies. Though many companies retained regional monopolies over distribution – some, like Eversource (formerly WMECo), grew larger – the production of electric power became competitive.

To comply with 1997 state legislation, the electric companies had to divest themselves of generation facilities – mostly coal, gas, and nuclear power plants at the time – allowing consumers to choose the company that generated their power, although Eversource also offered its own supplier as the default choice for the consumer.

Twenty years later, consumers can take advantage of the market to

deliberately purchase electricity at a premium from “third-party” suppliers such as CleanChoice, which focus on renewable sources in their portfolios.

Mostly Wind

The company’s flyers reviewed by the *Reporter* offer an energy supply generated 99% by wind and 1% by solar. A table compares this with the overall “fuel mix” in the New England electric grid, which it says is currently 49% natural gas, 30% nuclear, and only 16% renewable.

Customers may wonder how much they would actually be supporting the development of renewable wind and solar power by signing up with CleanChoice. To understand this, we must first look at how switching suppliers actually works.

Your actual electricity would still be coming from the regional power grid – separate sets of wires do not connect homes to renewable or non-renewable generators.

“Once your form is received,” the flyers explain, “every kilowatt of electricity in [your] home will be replenished on to the grid by wind and solar farms in your area.”

CleanChoice, in other words, serves as a broker. Your electricity bill, which comes from your distributor, partly covers money owed the supplier. CleanChoice takes the money you pay for your power usage and then purchases an equivalent amount of a product called REC’s, or “renewable energy certificates,” is-

sued by wind and solar generators.

Each REC represents one megawatt-hour of electricity generated and sent into the electric grid. They are issued to power suppliers, and sold and traded on a market. Your cost will probably be higher than the value of the REC’s, which is how the broker makes money.

“For customers in your region,” the copy reads, “CleanChoice Energy procures renewable energy certificates from the following states: MA, NY, NH, CT, ME, RI, PA and VT.”

As it turns out, however, not all REC’s in this “region” are created equal. The Green Energy Consumers Alliance, for example, advises environmentally-minded customers to only purchase “Class 1 REC’s” from New England states.

“In places like Texas or Pennsylvania,” the Alliance explained in a 2015 blog post, “huge renewable energy projects can be built for less. It’s an economy of scale; 100 wind turbines in a project are cheaper per turbine than a project with 1 or 2. Because of the low cost to build the project and other renewable incentives, revenue from REC’s are not necessary for project feasibility in these places.”

In other words, purchasing your power from CleanChoice will incentivize more power from renewable sources into the grid. But it is unclear whether the REC’s the company is buying are subsidizing wind farms in places like Gloucester, or the Al-

legheny Mountains.

Attempts to reach a representative of CleanChoice for clarification as to where the company purchases REC’s were unsuccessful as of press time.

Bait and Switch?

The other question – and perhaps, for many consumers, the larger one – is just how much switching would cost.

CleanChoice offers a price – 12.30 cents per kilowatt-hour – and compares it with that of the “standard generation service” at 11.70 cents per kWh.

But then, in rather crowded fine print, the offer states that this “introductory price” will only last for three months, and then be replaced by a variable rate influenced by a range of factors: “your variable rate may be higher than your utility rate or other supplier rates.”

A 2018 article in *Crain’s Chicago Business* by senior utilities reporter Steve Daniels offers one example of what might happen to a consumer opting into this premium product. Daniels writes that his own parents had signed up with CleanChoice at 8.7 cents per kWh a year earlier, and that “in the month following the introductory period the price spiked.... the price kept going up – 10.6 cents, then 11.1, then 13.4 and finally 14.8. That last price, in effect for four months in late 2017 and early 2018, was more than double ComEd’s price at the time.”

A 2019 study commissioned by

CORRECTIONS:

Beth Jakob alerted us to “two small errors” in last week’s Wendell selectboard coverage (September 12, 2019, *Upkeep, Bees’ Needs Weighed At Wendell Veterans’ Memorial*).

First, we referred to her and Adam Porter as “downstream abutters of Bowen’s Pond.” They are upstream.

Second, we were apparently mistaken in writing that the state Office of Dam Safety told the owners of the dam supporting that pond that the dam must be repaired or removed.

“The last dam inspection revealed things that should be done at some point,” Beth clarifies, “but I don’t think it gave a timeline.”

We apologize to our readers for these errors! Let the record hereby stand corrected.



Montague selectboard members Mike Nelson and Chris Boutwell, state senator Jo Comerford, and town administrator Steve Ellis join Ja'Duke owners Kimberly Wilkams and Nick Waynelovich, Sr. as they officially cut the ribbon at the performing arts center's brand-new 500-seat theater last Friday evening.

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): _____



LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by **CHRIS PELLERIN**

There is a community meeting tonight (Thursday, September 19) at 6 p.m. at the Covenant Church, 19 Bridge Street to gather residents’ input on the **redevelopment of Millers Falls**.

The Montague Planning Department’s “Millers on the Move” campaign will document the community’s priorities for future development. Residents and business owners from Millers Falls and Erving are welcome to attend.

I wanted to let you know about a pop-up clothing giveaway event in Greenfield on Friday, September 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Leyden Woods housing development. The Cummington-based non-profit It Takes A Village is taking its show on the road to distribute **free maternity, infant, and children’s clothing and equipment**.

There are no income or residency requirements to take home items. They also will be accepting donations of clean children’s clothing as well as disposable and cloth diapers.

Bingo is back on Saturday, September 21 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Greenfield Savings Bank, 282 Avenue A, Turners Falls. Debbie Fritz is the guest caller. GSB will provide cards, gag prizes and some light refreshments. Seating will be on a first

call, first reserve basis. Place your call *now* to (413) 863-4316. Due to limited space, no one will be admitted without a reservation!

A reminder that **Celebrate Shutesbury** will take place on the Shutesbury Town Common from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 21, and the **Gill Harvest Festival** is Sunday, September 22 from 12 to 3 p.m. on the Gill Town Common.

The Great Falls Apple Corps presents their last **Pickle in the Park** of the season on Sunday, September 22 at 1 p.m. Come out to Unity Park and make a batch of lacto-fermented pickles with vegetables donated from local farms. All you need is some salt, and a little elbow grease!

The Montague Cultural Council provided a grant to ensure there are supplies on hand for all participants. Picklers of all ages and experience welcome! Please direct any questions to greatfallsapplecorps@gmail.com.

Looking ahead...

Montague Parks and Recreation is hosting a **Scarecrow Stuffing Party** on Saturday, September 28 from 12 to 2 p.m. at Unity Park (rain date September 29). The fee is \$5 per scarecrow, or \$3 if you bring your own clothes. They are

also accepting donations of long-sleeved shirts and long pants at the Rec office.

Over 120,000 Massachusetts residents are living with dementia, and numbers will be growing as our communities age. Unfortunately, lack of information, fear and isolation often impact people affected and their caregivers in our communities. A Dementia Friendly community is one that is safe, respectful and inclusive of those affected, in the same way that we include fellow citizens of different ages and abilities.

An interactive workshop, “**Becoming a Dementia Friend**,” will present basic information about dementia, what its effects are and how it differs from normal aging, some skills to help communication with those with dementia, and some ways to become more comfortable with including folks with dementia in our social life. We can affirm that it is possible to have a good quality of life with dementia, and that people with dementia are a valuable part of our communities.

Presented on Tuesday, October 1 at 6:30 at Wendell Senior Center.

The League of Women Voters of Franklin County (LWVFC) is hosting its third annual **Civics Trivia Night** on Friday, October 4, 2019 at the Greenfield Elks Lodge, 3-5 Church Street in Greenfield. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the trivia game starting at 7:30. Questions will feature a variety of civics-related topics, from political movies to current affairs, and more.

This year’s Quizmasters are state Senator Jo Comerford and Dr. Yves Salomon-Fernández, president of Greenfield Community College.

There will be cash prizes, complimentary snacks, and the evening will close with a gift basket raffle. The Trivia Night will raise money for the League to continue conducting forums on various policy issues and informational events, help create a fund to subsidize membership dues for the less advantaged, and eventually a scholarship fund for local high school students.

Admission is \$10 per person, with teams of up to eight people allowed. A cash bar will be available. The LWVFC is a non-partisan grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues. For more information you can visit them online: lwvma-franklincounty.org.

The 5th Annual **Great River Challenge Off-Road Triathlon** (GRC) is a non-traditional race, consisting of paddle, run and bike legs. Held on the Northfield Mountain trails and scenic riverside access, this event supports health and wellness and the signature programs of the Northfield Kiwanis Foundation for area children and families.

Growing each year, the GRC attracts racers and their supporters to the beautiful Upper Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts. Short and long course options entice and challenge novice to elite athletes of all ages, participating individually or as a team. To register and learn more, visit www.GreatRiverChallenge.com. The race starts Saturday, October 5 at 9:30 a.m.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

LIVE IN

EST. 1754

MONTAGUE?

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

Formerly Jay K's – bigger & better!

Connecticut River

Liquor & Wine

Open Mon-Thurs 10am-10pm
Fri & Sat 10am - 11pm • Sun Noon-8pm

123Avenue A • Turners Falls
863-5066

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

NANCY L. DOLE
BOOKS & EPHEMERA

BOOKS

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

GUEST EDITORIAL

The People Behind the Problems – And the People Behind the Solutions

By **ANNA GYORGY**

WENDELL – September 20 to 27 will see a wave of popular movement around the world, speaking out for the climate, demanding action.

The student school strikes on Fridays, “**Fridays for Future**,” initiated by then 15-year-old Swedish student Greta Thunberg, have spread far and wide. This Friday, September 20, and during the UN climate summit in NYC, actions will take place in NYC, Boston, and some 150 countries around the world. (See globalclimatestrike.net) It’s happening in western Mass too, with **rallies in Greenfield** (on the Town Common, Friday, from 5 to 7 p.m.) and Northampton that all can join. (Check out traprock.org/calendar for more information.)

There’s still more: those going to the annual **North Quabbin Garlic & Arts festival** in Orange on Saturday, September 28, can meet members of the youth mobilizing Sunrise Movement, and Extinction Rebellion MA. Both groups have grown dramatically through their recent well-planned direct actions for climate action.

Available in the “Portal to the Future” area behind the festival’s main stage, at 2 p.m. they will give one of the Renewable Energy & Local-Living Talks there. (For speakers and other details, see www.northquabbinenergy.org)

The current climate crisis has not been caused by a few individuals, but some have done more to create the problem, and block solutions, while others have sought solutions – by blocking fossil fuel pipelines, for example.

In late August, two figures were remembered in obituaries, local and national. How differently they each lived and led, and impacted the world recently left behind.

With his brother Charles, Deerfield Academy alumnus **David Koch** shared ownership of the sprawling Koch Industries. Based in fossil fuel extraction and transport, the privately owned conglomerate ranges from building materials to synthetic (oil-based) fabrics. Their goals: maximum expansion, with minimum taxation and regulation.

David famously softened the company’s sharp right-wing image through multimillion-dollar donations, including to his private school *alma mater*.

After David ran for Vice President on the 1972 Libertarian Party ticket, winning just 1% of the vote, “The brothers realized,” as journalist Jane Mayer wrote in her 2016 book *Dark Money*, “that their brand of politics didn’t sell at the ballot box.”

Mayer’s in-depth study of the 30-year, Koch-led process of moving political power in this country to the right through setting up front

groups and making anonymous donations to political races has not received the attention or praise it deserves.

She describes how the brothers founded and funded a complex network of extremist academic institutions, think tanks, and “activist” organizations, and raised funds to influence political races, especially on local and state levels.

On the other side of the spectrum, there is peace activist **Frances Crowe**. Small in physical stature, she was great in her effect and outreach, far beyond her home town of Northampton.

The Kochs’ weapon of choice was the manipulation of wealth and planning for political and personal gain. Frances’s was building with others for social and economic justice, peace, safe energy, and democracy.

The Koch brothers’ 30-year campaign to block and reverse understanding and action on climate change helped steer the Republican Party to complete denial of science, and support for an expanded fossil-based economy, affecting the health of millions – and ultimately the future of the planet.

Frances’ legacy, so different, lies with her many friends, colleagues, and seven-decade history of activism, in our valley and beyond. It is one of “walking the talk.” Her well-known political activism for

peace, safe energy, and environmental and economic justice, was practiced at home. She shopped locally, avoided air and car travel, and paid informal “taxes” to local institutions and schools rather than the federal war machine.

This September’s global outpouring demands action on climate change. Perhaps a good project for Deerfield Academy students would be to dig behind the plaques on buildings donated by David Koch, to understand and reveal the impact of the brothers’ work.

Recent online articles and broadcasts offer a start. Fresh Air and Democracy Now! have featured interviews with Christopher Leonard on his new book *Kochland: The Secret History of Koch Industries and Corporate Power in America*.

In another interview on the Real News Network, climate scientist Michael Mann describes the Koch brothers’ influence on climate denial: “The various cabinet members of the Trump administration are a veritable who’s who of Koch Industries and Koch brothers-affiliated lobbyists... Our policies on climate, on energy, and a host of other matters, have essentially been outsourced to the Koch brothers.”

Through their intricate network of so-called “citizen” and legislative organizations, and ability to donate and organize mega-spending from other billionaires, the Koch

brothers blocked action on climate change for the past three decades, the crucial timeframe for preventing disastrous weather, CO₂ and temperature increases, ice melting, and uncontrolled fires.

The major anti-government political shift to the right also affects far more than the physical climate, increasing already-existing social, racial, sexual and economic divides.

Instead of honoring David Koch for his generous “philanthropy,” it would be more fitting to challenge his institutional donations, as is being done now with those from Jeffrey Epstein, the “opiate lords” in the Sackler family, and others. Such actions seem similar to removing early 20th-century statues honoring Civil War defenders of slavery, symbols of oppression.

Frances and friends need no statues or plaques honoring their contributions. The actions of people around the globe this September, and beyond, are in her tradition, and will be part of her political legacy.

Anna Gyorgy is a member of the board of directors of the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice.

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

The Local Yoga Joint

FIRST-TIME STUDENTS: BUY ONE YOGA CLASS, GET ONE FREE
WWW.LOCALYOGAJOINT.COM 1-888-YOGA-420
42 CANAL ROAD, TURNERS FALLS

we're neighbors!

**BUCKINGHAM
RABBITS VINTAGE**
VINTAGE + SECONDHAND
CLOTHING FOR ALL!
FORTY TWO CANAL
TURNERS FALLS MA
THURS-SUN 12-6

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

VARIETY OF
SIZES
THE BEST
PRICES

OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA
Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors
and Artists encouraged to inquire

RECYCLE

BOTTLES & CANS
Week of September 23
in Montague

more info? call: 863-2054

**Riverside
Laundromat**
131 West Main St. Orange
Behind OIC
New Paved Lot
&
**Village
Laundromat**
63 French King Hwy
Greenfield
Ozone Sanitizes Every Wash
\$1 coins & quarters onsite
Big 40 & 60
Pound Washers!

PZ
**Partridge-Zschau
Insurance**
With a Future
as Great as Our Past
Since 1891
25 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376
tel: 413-863-4331
www.pzinc.com

**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

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

DOWNTOWN from A1

nine days off. Wilensky also sells items at her mother and stepfather's store in New York and does upholstery and furniture building when she has the time, and Williams, who has moved her studio to Greenfield, creates repurposed fashions and leads workshops.

Two Birds will be in the former Stenhouse space at 106 Avenue A. Next door at #110, a new business quietly opened this summer called **Textür Blow Out Bar**. I've definitely had blowouts of one kind or another, most inconveniently on the highway, but never this kind, which involves "gently blow-drying your hair with a soft round brush after a sumptuous wash to achieve a smooth and sleek look, style and feel – no curling or flat irons used!" according to their website.

The salon is open by appointment, and serves as a satellite location for a Greenfield salon under the same owner, Carleigh Dlugosz. Both places also offer spray tanning, and you can get special event and wedding up-dos and makeovers, as well as a "Speed Glam" 30-minute quickie, at the Turners Falls shop by appointment only: texturblowdrybar.com.

Brown paper is still up at the soon-to-be **Upper Bend Cafe and Bruncheon** next to Textür, with an October opening planned. (See our August 8 edition.)

And the rumor mill is churning through configurations of the much-missed **Five Eyed Fox** on Third Street, as well as possibilities for the hot corner spot where Flourish recently was, but this writer has not been able to confirm anything on either of those locations in time for this article.

Skipping across the Avenue, we've all been hearing for a long time about a future **Great Falls Market** buildout from restaurateurs Chris Menegoni and Bridgette Chaffee at the Great Falls Harvest; perhaps for long enough that eyes are rolling a bit at the mere mention of it. But I am very happy to say that I saw with my own two eyes the brick-and-mortar renovations inside the space this week, and it's pretty exciting. The couple are planning grab-and-go cold and hot foods, breakfast and lunch items from the deli case, and some bulk food items. There will be seating at a bar and tables, and coffee and kombucha among other delights.



Alison Williams of Flourish (pictured) and Erin Wilensky of Stenhouse have combined their vintage and handmade businesses to reopen this Saturday as "Two Birds" at the former Stenhouse location on Avenue A.

When I spoke with Menegoni he said they are going to test out the market during the Great Falls Festival on October 19. In general, he says, "If it doesn't lose money, if it creates a few jobs, we are happy. Our goal has never been about profit."

There are currently two yoga businesses in Turners Falls, and there will soon be a third, this one offering hot yoga. Up-and-coming entrepreneur Mishel Ixchel, who also writes the *Life + Times of an Indie Mama* column in this paper, says she is opening her **Fire and Embers** studio at 141 Second Street sometime in late October or early November.

While Ixchel acknowledges that hot yoga doesn't appeal to everybody, those who do like it are *really* into it. "The heated room allows for a certain openness, and people can access postures they aren't usually able to," she explains.

Nova Motorcycles owns the Second Street property, and is renovating the space before Ixchel can finish her own buildout – or build-in, rather, since Ixchel describes creating what will essentially be a room within a room, a moist hot box made with heated panels where thirty or so folks can stretch and sweat. Get updates at fireandembers.com.

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Gill To Ask Lawyers About Hydro Split

By GEORGE BRACE

At its September 16 meeting, the Gill selectboard discussed a notice that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) had received a request to "rehear" its approval of FirstLight Power's application to transfer its licenses for the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project and Turners Falls Project to two new subsidiaries.

The request was made by environmental journalist Karl Meyer, who, along with the town of Gill and nine other parties, had been granted official status as an intervenor in the proceedings.

Town administrator Ray Purington recapped a response he'd received from FERC to questions he'd sent on the rehearing request and other concerns. He was told there was not really a timeline for FERC to respond to Meyer's request, but the town can file comments on it, or any other matter, at any time.

In regards to the concern that the split might allow one of the subsidiaries to avoid financial obligations if it was less profitable than the other, Purington said the FERC representative did not want to be drawn into specific hypothetical issues.

Purington also reported that he has found a lawyer specializing in FERC proceedings, but has not met with him yet, and that he would be contacting other stakeholders to see if there was interest or willingness to explore legal questions jointly.

Citing the expense of an attorney, Purington said he thought it would be best to "find out as much as we can before the meter starts to tick... and then knowingly decide when, or if, we want the meter to tick."

Selectboard member Randy Crochier reiterated a thought from previous meetings that he wasn't sure about things yet, but reflected that sometimes the cost of doing nothing can be larger than the cost of hiring an attorney.

Chair John Ward commented that a section of the river affected by FirstLight's activities runs through Greenfield, but he never hears Greenfield connected to the issue. "It needs to be out more in the mainstream conversation," he said.

"I think part of the reason it's not," board member Greg Snedeker replied, "is that it's still a big question mark as to what any of this means."

At the end of the discussion, Purington added that there will be further opportunity for discussion when FirstLight files its relicensing application for the entire project.

Fire Department

Fire chief Gene Beaubien appeared before the board to report that the department received an Emergency Readiness Preparedness Grant of \$2,700. He requested that \$700 be applied to the Code Red emergency notification system, and \$2000 to the purchase of three scene lights for the department.

His requests were approved.

The chief also reported on a new emergency radio system being rolled out by the state. Beaubien said each of the four communication methods he currently uses have problems, and he believes the new system will be a vast improvement. It involves a choice of radio suppliers, and the board decided to hear more from police chief Christopher Redmond on the subject before making any decisions.

Snedeker said he wanted to publicly thank the Franklin Regional Council of Governments for their work in advocating for the system. Previous to their efforts, Franklin County had not been included in the program.

Purington reported that the used tanker truck the town recently purchased for the fire department is scheduled to be shipped next week.

Other Business

Purington reported that John Miner accepted the position of highway superintendent, but wanted to talk further about compensation for extra hours worked in the wintertime.

The board will post a help-wanted ad for the truck driver/laborer vacancy now in the department. Crochier suggested including the title "mechanic/operator" in the ad to attract more applicants.

The board felt there was not necessarily a need for a third mechanic/operator, but that it was desirable to have cross-trained

(Say, you know what would go really well with a yoga session at one of these three studios? An oil change on your car! Sadly, we have no downtown garage doing that right now. Hello universe, please send some wrenches by this bend of the river...)

We also heard some updates from veteran businesses, both further south along Avenue A: **About Face Computer Solutions** and the **Couture Bros.** paint store.

About Face, at #151, is in the process of moving into space across the Avenue at #176, in the Greenfield Cooperative Bank building. There, co-owner Brian Faldas told me, they will concentrate more on their repair services rather than trying to sell equipment; it will be a smaller space and without the frontage their current store has. (Sidewalk strollers will certainly miss the humorous window displays the store has maintained since they opened in 2011.)

Their move should be complete by early October, and their hours will be slightly different at the new location: check for updates at about-face-computers.com. The future of the #151 space is unknown; I was not able to inquire with Norm Emond Jr., owner of the building and the business next door, the Gun Rack.

Couture Bros., a long-standing paint, wallpaper, and art supply store at 187 Avenue A, has been open by appointment only for the last few years. The owner, commercial and residential painting contractor Chris Couture, stopped by the *MR* offices Monday to update his business card to reflect a discovery he made recently. An old photo he found puts the family business's founding date back another ten years, Couture reports, to the year 1900.

Couture says he'd love to find a tenant for the retail space at #187, a unique spot with its own off-street parking, as long as it wasn't an eating or drinking establishment, since he has residential tenants upstairs that he doesn't want to disturb. Prospective tenants of a quiet nature, and those seeking a deal on odd lots of interior Min-Wax stain, can contact Couture at 863-4346.

With all these updates, this fall looks like a time of a lot of change in the businesses of downtown Turners Falls. We'll try to keep readers informed!



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

REAL PICKLES
Locally grown vegetables
Fermented & raw
100% organic
A worker co-op in Greenfield, MA
www.realpickles.com | (413) 774-2600

INFO@RENBUILD.NET
413-863-8316
**RENAISSANCE
BUILDERS**
WWW.RENBUILD.NET • PO BOX 272, TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

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

SOLAR from page A1

considered this the first of many potential solar developments in town, and drew parallels to development that changed the character of Cape Cod.

Leahy concluded with a 1984 quotation of John Hanson Mitchell in *Sanctuary Magazine*: “This is the way the wild world dies. Not by cataclysm, by glacier, or flood, or storm and fire, but by bits and pieces, with the simple shuffling of papers, an acre here, a hayfield there” – “a woodlot here,” Leahy added – “until no one remembers what it once was like.”

His speech, like many of the others that would follow, was met with applause.

Laurel Facey, a member of the committee that wrote the town’s 2010 open space plan, said that though she would welcome appropriate solar development, she saw this project as destroying a forest – a young one, but still a vital one with intact soil life, and connection to an older forest. Facey called the proposal an exchange of a natural creation for a short-term gain of 20 years of solar generation, and said protecting the forest is the best way to avoid the fragmentation of a wildlife corridor through town.

Evan Marshall, land information system specialist for Massachusetts Audubon, said the required cutting would invite invasive species, and increase the wind load on trees that remain on the leeward side of the clearing. Mass Audubon abuts the property on one side, and other sides are undeveloped as well. He also said the fencing would disrupt a wildlife corridor.

Amelia Sawyer, an abutter, spoke as an historian herself, and as a scientist reading from a page written by her husband, Garrett. She drew a parallel between the proposal and the railroad barons of the nineteenth century who got extraordinarily rich while they left their workers poor, and the landscape fragmented and forever changed. Railroads contributed to the near-extinction of bison, and the devastation of America’s original inhabitants.

Sawyer also said the \$17,500 that the town would receive as payments in lieu of taxes amount to half of one percent of the town’s roughly \$2 million budget, while making the town less attractive, contributing to population loss, and minimally reducing the state’s overall CO₂ emissions in the state. Using the figures of overall Massachusetts CO₂ emissions, and the CO₂ estimated to be saved by generating electricity at a solar facility in Wendell, Sawyer said it was the equivalent of reducing the 19-mile distance to Amherst by 18 inches. The production and installation of panels, she said, would negate CO₂ savings for the first three years of the project’s operation.

Sawyer pointed to the hazard to firefighters, who would face high voltages while attempting to extinguish a blaze, and argued the town would need to provide more training and equipment. She compared building this project as a way to fight climate change to fighting a house fire with an eyedropper, rather than calling a fire department, calling instead for action from state and national governments.

Shannon Leelyn, attorney for the Sawyers and a Wendell resident herself, questioned what would happen in the case of shoddy construction or non-compliance with planning board requirements. She mentioned other out-of-state companies whose shoddy construction allowed panels to fall over. “We don’t have to take the first bid,” she said, “and if [Sunpin] take[s] action, we will deal with it.”

Ben Schwartz, calling himself an optimist, said he has a long-term agreement with Holyoke Gas and Electric using fluid power systems to generate more electricity on ¾ acre in a process that is scalable and replicable.

Former board of health member Sharon Gensler spoke of the heartache she felt when that board approved a demolition debris dump, and then lost control of the scale and oversight of the facility when it grew far beyond its original description.

Seal LaMadeline cited a town bylaw that allows a special permit only if there is no adverse impact on the town. She said state guidelines discourage tree cutting, and expressed a concern that the project would open the town to larger and more prominent solar projects.

Selectboard member Laurie DiDonato said the state is now reviewing its incentives and disincentives for siting solar development. The disincentive for putting solar arrays in forested land, she said, is being increased fivefold.

Close to the evening’s end, Jim Martin, a lawyer for the developers, said, “You don’t have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind blows in this room.” Martin cited MGL Chapter 40A, which prohibits “arbitrary” or “capricious” denial of a special permit, but pointed out that it was a Wendell resident, and not he nor Vardakis, who had mentioned suing the town or the planning board.

Planning board member Richard Asmann said the zoning bylaws’ purpose was to provide for the health and safety of the town, and to promote appropriate use of the land, and said he felt this project did neither.

Leelyn said the town has two solar development overlay districts, one not far from this proposal.

The planning board scheduled a site visit, after which they will re-open the hearing on Monday, September 30.



NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Plan Requires Another Fifty Feet Of Sidewalk

By KATIE NOLAN

The Erving selectboard and finance committee met jointly Monday night to discuss a draft special town meeting warrant and guidelines and goals for the fiscal year 2021 budget.

At the time of the meeting, the draft STM warrant included only two items: several bills from fiscal year 2019, and appropriation of funds for roadway and sidewalk improvements on River, Warner and Strachan streets.

The fin com members easily recommended paying the prior year’s bills. However, the roadwork appropriation was put off for September 23, when more information would be available.

During a site walk on River, Warner, and Strachan streets with residents and staff from engineering firm Weston & Sampson last week, selectboard members became aware of a 100-foot length of Strachan Street where no sidewalk had been planned. Weston & Sampson’s on-the-spot ballpark estimate of the cost to add a sidewalk in this area was \$50,000.

According to selectboard chair Jacob Smith, the cost of the entire project, with the added sidewalk, is approximately \$700,000, of which the town must appropriate approximately \$225,000.

However, Smith said the board wanted Weston & Sampson to “firm up the number.”

The board and fin com will also decide at the September 23 meeting whether to schedule the STM for October 15 or October 21.

Office Space

The board and fin com discussed funding for a solution to the problem of the office space at the highway garage, which is closer to the electrical panels than is allowed by OSHA.

Water and wastewater chief Peter Sanders and highway foreman Glen McCrory have temporarily moved out of the office: Sanders to town hall, and McCrory to the senior and community center.

Administrative coordinator Bryan Smith outlined three potential long-term solutions: a “minimal addition” to the highway garage; a “maximum” addition to the highway garage; or adding office space to the proposed dry storage building at the highway department. Bryan Smith said he expected to have cost estimates for the three options by the next selectboard meeting.

“I’d like to consider the actual project in the fiscal year 2021 budget,” said Jacob Smith.

Selectboard member William Bembury observed that it would likely be one to two years before an addition or new building was completed, and suggested renting an office trailer for Sanders and McCrory until a permanent solution is found.

The board asked Bryan Smith to get an estimate for the trailer rental.

FY’21 Budget Guidance

The board and fin com reviewed the draft fiscal year 2021 capital improvement and operating budget request forms, and the instructions provided to department heads.

For the capital budget, fin com member Debra Smith said she would like department heads to review the requests they have made for the next five years. The town’s capital plan extends 25 years, but departments’ needs or priorities may change from year to year.

Debra Smith also asked that the worksheet indicate whether each capital expense is “mandatory” – that it must be purchased by a specific date – or “flexible,” meaning it could be shifted from one year to another.

Bryan Smith said he had been trying to “synthesize” the various departmental five-year plans to make them understandable by residents. The board and fin com will consider these and other changes at the September 23 meeting.

For the operating budget, Debra Smith recommended that the instructions provide more information to department heads about staff raises.

Bryan Smith replied that he hoped a graded compensation schedule would be completed before the FY’21 budget, and that raises would be based on the schedule and not on committee requests. He said he was meeting with the compensation study consultant this week.

As far as the goals for FY’21, Debra Smith suggested, “Level funding.”

“Level funding is always a good goal,” fin com chair Ben Fellows agreed.

Jacob Smith said he preferred “level service,” and then expanded that to “maintaining the services we provide to our residents, without increasing our budget.”

Bryan Smith said he would revise the worksheets and guidelines as requested, and present them to the board and fin com next week. The town’s FY’21 budget schedule indicates that the forms will be sent out to department heads on September 26.

STUDY from page A1

to lose the Pioneer Valley Regional School District, and they do not want to see a larger regional school. From my point of view, there isn’t a lot of fiscal accountability there.”

The meeting opened with positive news about Gill-Montague’s own budget, presented by superintendent Michael Sullivan and business manager Joanne Blier. The state, Blier explained, is incrementally adjusting how it awards Chapter 70 education funds, which this year meant a 5.6% increase for Gill-Montague, as compared with recent average of 0.6% annual growth.

In tangible terms, this means about \$351,000 more coming to the district than was expected, though some will end up as cash reserves because the figure was announced after the budget was finalized. About \$275,000 of the bump was the result of the state targeting more per-pupil aid to “economically disadvantaged” students, of which Gill-Montague has a high proportion.

Gill selectboard member Greg Snedeker said that in addition to this low-income factor, local rep-

resentatives to Beacon Hill are also urging the state to increase aid in low-enrollment districts and rural districts, and offer payment in lieu of taxes to towns with a lot of land under protection.

Changes to the underlying Chapter 70 formula, Snedeker said, “we kind of all agree may not happen until we have an economic downturn.”

Most of the meeting was spent discussing the creation of a six-town committee to study what Montague finance committee chair Jen Audley termed “extraregionalization.”

According to statute, the moderators of each town are to appoint three members, including one school committee member. Since already-regionalized towns have never re-regionalized in Massachusetts, this brings up questions of jurisdiction.

Gill-Montague school committee chair Jane Oakes reported that “no one jumped at the chance” yet to be Gill’s or Montague’s school committee member on the study group. She also wondered who her counterparts on the Pioneer Valley committee would answer to.

“I’m representing the town,

but I’m also representing the larger school committee,” Oakes explained. ‘If the school committee in Pioneer doesn’t indicate that they are interested, I would think it would make it difficult for those school committee members to be representing the whole committee.”

“The statute is silent on whether they are, in fact, to represent the school committee,” town administrator Steve Ellis observed, “or simply people who would be more deeply informed because they are connected to the school committee.”

Gill town administrator Ray Purington asked how long a term each member should be appointed for.

Fred Bowman, who in the 1970s served on the planning committee that created the Franklin County Technical School, warned that it could be a four- to five-year process.

Giarusso said that Leyden already had five volunteers, and that Bernardston and Northfield were also engaged, but that Warwick had been focused on making its Community School into a charter school.

She brandished a “178-page” report, the final statement of the

HEART (Honest Education and Retaining Trust) committee, an education study group appointed by the Pioneer towns’ selectboards which disbanded recently.

“The four towns had made it loud and clear that they want to look at this planning committee,” Giarusso said. “People from the HEART committee are very excited to see this planning committee get started.”

“If I was to argue for any timeline,” Montague selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz said, “it would be ‘when do we start?’”

“If I can get appointed,” Snedeker volunteered, “I’m willing to gather the information, contact the moderators, find out who they’ve appointed, put together a meeting, and at least get the ball rolling.”

Sullivan said the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has earmarked “a half a million dollars... to support regionalization efforts this year,” and would issue a request for proposals soon.

The group agreed that it would be a good idea to seek funding to hire a consultant who could shepherd the 18-member planning board

through the study.

The civic leaders discussed meeting less frequently, in order to open up meeting time and space for the new planning board.

Audley said she saw the regionalization study as a “town-led” process, rather than the responsibility of the school districts, but Tupper Brown, a member of the Gill finance committee, argued that “creating a new school district, putting together two existing districts, is really a matter of designing an educational program – it’s a question that needs to be managed, in the end... by people who are educators.”

“It’s unfortunate that the members of the Pioneer district see this as a threat, apparently,” Kuklewicz said. “Gill-Montague’s not doing so bad right now.... That’s not always going to be that way, and we’ve suffered through tough times.”

“I would far rather drive our own destiny than be told what to do,” Kuklewicz added later. “And if our districts continue to flounder, and go into a downward spiral, sooner or later somebody is going to tell us what to do.”



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

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

ED L

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

Dealer in used
Home Furnishings

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
DOORS & OPENERS

Devine Overhead Doors

Gerry Devine

106 West Street
Hadley, MA. 01035

Hampshire: 586-3161
Franklin: 773-9497

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Cutting-Edge Filtration Tech Considered for Teawaddle Water Woes

By JERRI HIGGINS

Teawaddle Hill Road residents expressed consternation at Tuesday night’s Leverett selectboard meeting over slow progress in addressing the contamination of groundwater by a town-owned former landfill, as the introduction of a new technology threw into question how much longer the process will take.

Virginia Goodale, who joined several other Teawaddle Hill residents including Stephen Nagy and Patricia Duffy, told the board the group “wants to keep in touch. We want to make sure we’re meeting on a regular basis to see what updates there are, what progress has been made, and what’s going on.”

“The reason we haven’t been talking to you on a regular basis,” board member Tom Hankinson replied, “is because an opportunity came up that we’re looking at more closely. We didn’t want to go forward until we had a better idea about it.”

“There’s a company in Amherst that’s developed this water purifying system,” board member Julie Shively interjected. “He had installed in various places around the world, actually. He has not done it in a municipal setting yet, and he’s eager to do so. He’s [also] a Leverett native.”

The company, Aclarity, is a start-up at UMass-Amherst. Its website describes the purification process as a “patent-pending electrochemical technology [that] removes pathogens, metals, and other impurities from water,” using an “electrochemical advanced oxidation process (EAOP).”

“The plan at this point is to get water from the wells, and set up a test site at the safety complex to bring the water there,” Shively continued. “We’ll have our water-testing company bring it there so it’s all done correctly, and to run it through a system several times, get the data on it, and see if it gets purified. And that would be a rapid solution.”

“Has it been used to remove toxins like [volatile organic compounds], and stuff like that?” Goodale asked.

“Yes,” Shively answered. The testing won’t cost residents, she said, adding that she had learned about the new technology through an article she had recently read.

“This technology has been used in the past to remove for more contaminated process fluids,” Hankinson offered. “The notion of using this tech as a polishing step – taking a tiny amount of contaminant and blasting it apart – really hasn’t been explored.... What we don’t know is whether or not it’s going to be sufficiently active in Leverett water, or with Leverett water chemistry,” he said. “The only thing we can do is to test it.”

Questions surrounded the volume that can pass through a filter, its long-term effectiveness and associated replacement costs, and potential unintended consequences.

Resident Skip Fournier added that the filtration process “can be fairly complicated.... You can’t say ‘my water is clean,’ you can only say ‘it’s clean for what I tested for –

what I know about.’ This isn’t to throw cold water, but is just to remind us of the complexity.”

“It’s conceivable that the system could take something that’s fairly harmless, and through the oxidation, change it chemically to something that’s actually more problematic,” he added.

Nagy questioned whether the new option changes what had already been decided on at town meeting, and said he wanted assurance that the board is still moving forward with environmental consultants Wilcox and Barton. Hankinson stated they are.

“Town meeting put three options on the table and it seems like you’re introducing a fourth option that no one has even been made aware of,” Nagy said.

“We’re making you aware of it right now,” Hankinson responded.

Goodale said she feels like the residents haven’t been able to express their concerns, and is happy for whatever new technology could address the contamination, but wonders if it would have to go back to a town vote.

Hankinson said the town has an interest in proceeding with Wilcox and Barton, but the board can’t deliberate without having chair Peter d’Errico, currently on vacation, present. “We’ve been doing what we can independently: we’ve been working very hard talking to DEP, and talking to Aclarity,” he said. “And we’ve made as much progress as we can in the last two weeks.”

Library Trustees

Lisa Werner presented the library trustees’ report on whether the library’s geothermal heating system should be repaired or replaced. “The current situation is a couple of cold spots in the winter that need to be addressed,” she said. The trustees recommend a supplemental electric heater system along with the compressors.

“What we’re proposing is that we do the maintenance on the two compressors, and that we install this \$20,000 supplemental heating system,” Werner said, suggesting the town could use library state-aid funds to pay for the heaters. “We’re asking the town to pay the \$7,000 because it’s part of regular maintenance.”

The committee would like to use a bequest given to the library “to start a collection in the person’s name, or possibly have book plates,” but feels that using the funds for a heating system would send the “wrong message to donors,” Werner said.

Shively asked about installing solar panels with some of the bequest money, and Werner said that could be acceptable, but they hadn’t gotten that far.

“Solar appeals to us, too, Werner added, “but our priority is to get this straightened out so that as we enter the winter months this won’t be a problem.”

Talk also centered on using \$6,000 of the bequest toward a compressor in order to complete the work before winter, and hoping

MONTAGUE from page A1

originally intended for a solar array, to upgrades in the plant itself.

Trombley said he would also be serving on the search committee for a new WPCF Superintendent.

The board appointed Tina Tyler to an additional four hours per week at the plant to train Tina Sulda, who will be working part-time as an administrative assistant.

Finally the board voted to charge Ellis with beginning the process to hire a new permanent superintendent. This would involve the creation of what Ellis called a “review panel” to develop hiring criteria, interview applicants, and advise Ellis on the best candidate. The panel will consist primarily of town employees, although Ellis also mentioned an unnamed “vendor who has worked with the plant for many years,” who lives in Montague.

Guarded Optimism

Ellis updated the board on the efforts of developer Tom Cusano to purchase and develop the former Southworth paper mill on Canal Road (see *The Montague Reporter*, September 17). Ellis said Cusano had negotiated a purchase and sale under the name Milton Hilton – “I’m not sure what the significance of that is” – probably with a bank that is now in control of the property.

According to Ellis, Cusano intends to return the building “to commercial and industrial use, in its entirety.”

Ellis said his expectation, if the sale goes through, is that the town and Turners Falls Fire District “will be made whole” in terms of back taxes owed. “We hope for positive developments there,” said Ellis. “History has taught us to be cautious and guarded with our optimism, but he has shown that he can develop a mill before up in Rochester, New Hampshire. He

seems serious and credible.”

Settlement Details

Ellis reviewed a recent settlement negotiated with the FirstLight power company, the largest taxpayer in Montague. Ellis said he did not want to discuss the rationale for the town’s “negotiating position,” but review the details of the settlement itself, “since we weren’t able to provide details before.”

The company had challenged assessments on its two largest pieces of property, two hydroelectric plants in Turners Falls, as well as the value of its “personal property.” For fiscal years 2014, 2015, and 2016, the first assessment that was challenged, Montague valued the properties at \$114 million. In 2017 the assessment, done by a qualified “independent appraiser” hired by the town, jumped to over \$135 million, which the power company also challenged.

Ellis noted that companies are required to pay taxes on estimated valuations, and if negotiations or a ruling by the state tax board result in a lower figure, towns must then not only return the differential, but also pay an 8% annual interest on it. Thus, abatements stretching back to FY’14 might have resulted in a significantly higher burden on the town’s finances. The town had covered this risk by annually allocating significant revenue into an account called the “assessors’ overlay.”

FirstLight has now agreed to withdraw its challenge to the 2014 through 2016 assessment. For FY’17 and the following two years, the town negotiated an assessment that was lowered from \$135 million to \$125 million. The company also agreed not to subject the 2017 to 2019 abatements to the 8% interest rate. The \$125 million figure will also apply to the next two fiscal years, provided it is approved by the Montague town meeting.

“It’s not a perfect deal,” said El-

lis. “We would have preferred to stay at \$135 million, but we never would have settled.” He estimated that the agreement could lead to an excess on the overlay account “in the range of \$1 million,” which the assessors would “release” so it could be appropriated by town meeting.

Ellis was asked about the criticism of the settlement by selectboard chair John Ward of Gill, which is still at loggerheads with FirstLight over its own assessment of the company’s property.

“I love Gill,” he said. “I lived in Gill before I moved to Montague. We look to great cooperation with them in all things.”

The board did not take a vote on the settlement, but it did vote to issue and endorse 17 articles which will be posted on the warrant for the special town meeting on October 2. Article 16 empowers the selectboard to extend the 2017-2019 agreement with FirstLight through the next two fiscal years.

Other Business

Ellis reviewed a potential grant application to the state Office of Disabilities, from which Montague has received grant funds in the recent past. He proposed that the new grant focus on “improving access” to town buildings including the Montague Center Library, the Millers Falls Library, the building at the airport, the public safety complex, and the parks and recreation office.

The board voted to proceed with the grant application.

Ellis announced that applications for the regional school planning committee were still being received, and that there would be a presentation by the state Office of Disabilities at the public safety complex from 1 to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25.

The next selectboard meeting will be on September 23 at 7 p.m.



town meeting would put it back into the library’s state aid account.

“It’s a risk you take,” Hankinson said. “As long as it passes the town meeting, I don’t see why we couldn’t do that.”

The library also has nearly ten-year-old computers in need of upgrades and replacement to keep the catalog system running.

School Committee

School committee chair Bethany Seeger and member Kip Fonsh met with the selectboard, and expressed hopes to have a member meet with the board monthly.

Seeger said that Rhonda Cohen, the new elementary school principal, is doing well, and has had to hire six people due to unanticipated departures for several reasons.

“The FY’19 budget finished well,” Seeger said. “The budget had some extra reimbursement through the circuit breaker funding, which came out to \$12,000, with an anticipated amount of \$5,000.”

“We had some losses in the food service, and we generally do,” she added. “It was higher this year because there was a maternity leave, so we had another temporary person working, but it worked out, thankfully.”

School choice money also came in higher than budgeted for. Seeger explained that \$5,000 is generally budgeted per student, but more money will come in for students with special needs. “You can’t budget that, because you just don’t know,” Seeger said. “So, we’re not changing

any budgeting for this year.”

Seeger said the school finished the spring with 136 students, of which 19 were school choice students, and started the fall with 142, of which 22 choiced in.

A planned Harvest Festival will postpone a prior planned October 5 spaghetti supper to a later date.

“How much interest is shown for the Harvest Festival? Hankinson asked. “Are people signing up for that?”

“Each grade does a booth, so that’s a guaranteed thing. We usually do food or some art project,” Seeger said. “With Margot [Lacey]’s leaving, I’m realizing a lot of the institutional knowledge that left because I think that she did a lot of organizing. So some parents are stepping up, and I don’t know who else is. There’s some knowledge lost there, unfortunately.”

A vendor form is on the Leverett town website. Seeger suggested any money in the town budget for the festival should go toward paying a custodian for the event.

Town Hall Chimney

Emergency planning board member John Kuczek discussed issues with the chimney at town hall.

“We have an old town meeting article from last year to repoint it, and for repairs,” said town administrator Marjorie McGinnis, “and we discovered instead that there was a lot more complications.”

“The liner... doesn’t come all the way down, causing the spalling that you see outside,” Kuczek de-

scribed. “That’s caused by the gases being discharged by the unlined chimney, causing the lime in the mortar to corrode.”

A stainless steel “Slinky” chimney liner will be installed and the chimney will be capped. Kuczek says it won’t improve the brick condition, but it mitigates further erosion.

The \$2,600 earmarked for the project at a special town meeting does not cover the repairs. “We’d be out \$2,500 hundred,” McGinnis continued. She said using town hall expense account to pay for the project risks over-expending that account.

Kuczek pointed out it was nevertheless the most cost-effective plan to make the repairs this year, and the board agreed to complete the project.

Other Business

Linda Hillenbrand and Brian Blinn, Dudleyville Road residents, with fire chief John Ingram present, met with the board to discuss concerns regarding health and safety issues with a house abutting their property that they’ve been trying to have addressed for several years.

“The owner was a hoarder, and sometimes there’s a smell coming out of the house – in the summer – and nobody seems to be able to get in the house,” Hillenbrand said. No action was taken.

Two best practices the state Community Compact project will recommend to towns are for all first responders to carry Narcan, and the adoption of “Complete Streets,” a state project to redesign all roadways for more walk- and bike-ability.

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



Bringing Peace to Tired Muscles
For All Your Summer Activities


Let me help
Gretchen Wetherby LMT

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

gretchenwlmt@gmail.com 413-824-7063

French King

Restaurant & Motel



OPEN BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY 7 A.M.



OrigamiUSA

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!

TFHS SPORTS from page A1

in an unassisted goal to give Powertown a 2-0 lead. Turners had a few more chances in the last 9 minutes, but had to settle for the 2-0 shutout.

On Monday, Turners hosted the Holyoke Purple Knights.

Holyoke field hockey has been the premier team in the area, but this is not their year. Like Turners, Purple has become a defensive squad. But in this game, Powertown brought the offense. Blue kept the Knights off balance and kept the puck in the purple end. Turners ended with an amazing 19 shots on goal while holding Holyoke to only two. Throughout the game, Holyoke simply couldn't clear the ball. Every time they tried to pass it, one of the Blue Ladies tried to break it up. If they succeeded in getting it past the second girl, another Turners player would race toward the ball.

As a result, the ball pretty much stayed in the Purple end for most of the game. Although Turners kept shooting, Holyoke kept knocking the ball away. But with a minute left in the first half, defenseman Jade Tyler came up with the ball in the circle and put Blue up 1-0.

The second half was more of the same: Turners kept the pressure on, and Holyoke kept bouncing it away. But in the end, the irresistible force beat the immovable object, as both Lindsay Davenport and Brynn Tela scored goals with some assistance from Kendra Campbell, and Turners took the contest 3-0 to give them a 3-2 record overall, and a 3-1 record in the league.

Volleyball
TFHS 3 – Mahar 1
TFHS 3 – Belchertown 1

The Turners Volleyball team won two matches this week to give them a 6-1 record. Five of those wins have come against league rivals.

Turners traveled to Orange on Friday, September 13, to face the Mahar Lady Senators. Mahar was undefeated coming into Friday's matchup, and shared the league lead with Turners.

The first match was close with Mahar finally getting the last two points to win 25-23. The second and third matches were just as tight but Turners pulled out 25-22 wins in both matches. Mahar deflated in the last match, and Blue won easily, 25-15.

Then on Monday, the Blue Ladies came home to take on the Belchertown Orioles in a non-league matchup. The first match was pretty one-sided, with Powertown winning 25-9, but in the second match the Birds came alive. They bounced out to a 12-5 lead and never looked back. Turners made some inroads but found themselves out of position time and time again and Belchertown pulled out the win 25-21.

The Orioles retained their momentum in the third match, scoring the first three points and shooting out to a 9-3 lead. But Turners went on a run and tied it at 10. From there, Powertown poured it on, eventually taking the rubber match 25-16. The last match was a mix of long volleys, digs, and kills, and Turners held on to win it 25-23.

On Wednesday September 18, Turners travels down to Chicopee to take on the Pacers.

Football
Mohawk Co-op 15 – FCTS 12

On Friday the Thirteenth, the Mohawk Co-op Warriors hosted the Franklin Tech Eagles in the inaugural game of the 2019 football season.

It took me 40 minutes to get there. I almost didn't go, because there is no Turners Falls football team, at least not this year. But since I've watched kids on both sides play for years, I decided to go. I also didn't have a favorite in this game. Depending on the year, I usually rank Mohawk on par with Athol, Mahar, Pioneer, and Frontier on my favorite teams list; Tech has always been a solid #2.

The pregame was like Old Home Days. The True Blue Faithful came out in droves and mingled together and caught up with each other as they waited for the game to begin. And then the cheer squad began their routines. It was a little surreal hearing them cheering for Mohawk, but later in the game, they did the "Nuth'n But a Powertown" cheer. (They also did the "Blue and White" cheer, which is interesting because the Warriors' colors are blue and gold!)

The Tech Eagles decimated the Warriors last year, but Turners also defeated Tech. Take out the Pioneer kids and mix in the Mohawks, and you have a very compelling

game. It was like watching a ping-pong match, with Mohawk finally pulling it out 15-12.

The Warriors went up 7-0 when QB Shawn Davenport cracked into the zone from two yards out and Cullen Brown kicked the PAT. Tech came back when their QB Owen Bashaw hit Donte Rosewarne, who sprinted into end zone.

The 2-PAT was denied and Mohawk held on to the 1 point lead, 7-6. With seconds left in the half, Bashaw found Colby Mailloux, and Mailloux bulled into the end zone to give the Techies the lead. The 2-PAT again failed, and the halftime score was 12-7.

In the third, the Coops got two points back when Liam Driscoll forced a safety, and going into the fourth, Franklin held a 12-9 lead.

Halfway through the final quarter, Tech's drive was stalled, and they faced fourth and long. Leading by a mere three points and down to their last play, they had three clear options: punt the ball, which would give Mohawk pretty good field position; throw it deep, where an interception would be as good as a punt; or try to get the first down and keep the drive alive.

They picked the third option, and it turned out to be the game changer. The ball was picked off by Deven Buchanan who ran it back all the way to the 35. From there, Mohawk used the clock, and with 2:16 left in regulation, Evan Shippee scored and Mohawk bounced back on top 15-12. Mohawk went for 2 but were denied, so with 2 minutes left, it was now Tech who were down by 3.

The Franks drove down the field, but in the waning seconds of the game, Mohawk's secondary made some big plays, and held on to win 15-12.

On Thursday, September 19, Franklin Tech hosts Chicopee, and on Friday the 20th, Mohawk welcomes the Smith Vikings.

Most of Mohawk's home games will be played up on the mountain, but on Friday, October 4, the True Blue Faithful will be able to see the team play at Turners Falls High School. There will be no Greenfield game this year for the Mohawk Co-ops, but Tech plays Green on Friday, November 11.

Next week: The golf team gets back on course.



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Turners' Paige Sulda powers past a Holyoke defender as the Thunder rolls to a 3-0 win under the lights at TFHS.

Town of Gill Highway Department

TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER
or MECHANIC/OPERATOR

The Town of Gill is seeking a full-time Truck Driver/Laborer or Mechanic/Operator. Performs manual labor, operates and maintains equipment for maintenance and construction of town roads and other infrastructure, plows snow, performs sewer and tree work. Valid Class B CDL license required. Must have 2B or 2C hoisting license or be able to obtain one within six months of hire. Overtime hours required, including evening and overnight.

Pay is \$17.94 to \$24.61 per hour depending on qualifications and experience. Must pass a town-provided physical & drug test prior to hiring and is subject to random drug tests during employment. Must reside in close proximity to town.

Applications for employment available at Town Hall, 325 Main Road, Gill, Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or online at gillmass.org/highway. Send submissions to: Town of Gill, Attn: Highway Dep't., 325 Main Rd., Gill, MA 01354 by September 30, 2019 at 2 p.m.

Call Highway Sup't. John Miner at (413) 863-2324 with any questions.

Gill is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was September 17, 2009: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Biomass Plant Opponents Back Dual Strategy

Supporters and members of the Concerned Citizens of Franklin County marched nearly 100 strong in the parade to the Franklin County Fairgrounds on September 10, saluting the beginning of the Fair and voicing their opposition to a 47-megawatt biomass power plant planned for the I-91 Industrial Park in Greenfield.

The proposed wood chip burning plant, a project of Pioneer Renewable Energy of Cambridge, recently obtained special permits from the Greenfield zoning board of appeals, and is now seeking the final approvals it requires from the state to move forward with construction.

These include a permit from the state Department of Environmental Protection related to air quality issues, and permits for the reuse of treated water from the sewage treatment facility and for connection to the local sewer system.

The CCFC has retained an attorney to represent a group of abutters in their appeal of the zoning board's special permits. The abutters hold that the board exceeded its authority when it granted the permits.

In a related development, Williamstown lawyer Margaret Sheehan of the environmental advocacy group EcoLaw has filed a series of petitions to include voter referenda on the November 2010 state ballot to amend Massachusetts laws related to the environment, which could impact the proposed biomass plant.

These would prohibit the commercial harvesting of wood on lands owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and limit the state's definition of "alternative" or "renewable" energy to technologies that emit fewer than "250 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt-hour."

Search Committee Formed For Airport Manager

With heavy construction equipment lined up alongside the path of the runway – in the midst of a \$5 million reconstruction project – the Turners Falls airport commission met at the airport office on September 14 to begin the process of finding a new manager for the municipal airport.

Former manager Mike Sweetney resigned on September 4 after serving as part-time manager since 2003. Commissioners Rod Herzig, David Brule, and Brian Carroll formed the new manager search subcommittee.

With no official operations occurring at the airfield due to three months of runway reconstruction, the committee agreed they could effectively pitch in to cover the needed day-to-day operations until a new manager is hired.

Gill Rejects Prop 2 1/2 Override

At the special town meeting Monday night, the town of Gill rejected a request to place a 2 1/2% override vote on the town ballot at next year's statewide special election, called for January 19 to fill the seat left empty by the late Senator Edward Kennedy.

In a vote of 17 in favor, 24 against, the article sought to raise and appropriate \$30,000 specifically to shore up the town's depleted stabilization fund, in anticipation of an even tougher budget year coming up when the calendar turns to 2010.

In the discussion preceding the vote, finance committee chair Tupper Brown said adding money to the stabilization fund – which holds \$101,724 at present – was a "prudent action to take."

Those who spoke against the measure felt the extra taxes would put an undue burden on residents already struggling in difficult times.

Town meeting also rejected an article to give town employees a 1% cost of living increase, at a cost to the town of \$5,700.

Many town residents wanted to support the measure, but some saw a conflict between the request to raise more money for stabilization and the request to pay more to employees. It was also pointed out that teachers in the Gill-Montague district were not getting any raise, having signed a contract for a 0% increase for FY'10.

The vote on the cost of living increase was very close, with the moderator finally taking the count himself. The final vote was 24 to 23 against passage.

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

Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor

Commercial • Residential • Industrial

“SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR 120 YEARS”

www.couturebros.com

400 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

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

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

Now Open!

253 FARMACY

"gorgeous, well stocked, no lines, soooooo friendly... I'll be back!"

"the prices are great and the selection is outstanding"

"I've shopped at a lot of different dispensaries in the area and this is by far my favorite"

Full Menu Online
253FARMACY.COM

253 MILLERS FALLS RD
TURNERS FALLS
MON-SAT: 9-8 / SUN: 10-5



Deli-Style Cannabis Marketplace

GREAT VARIETY | NO LINES | HELPFUL STAFF | EASY PARKING

Please Consume Responsibly. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug. For use only by adults 21 years of age or older. Keep out of the reach of children. Transporting cannabis outside of Massachusetts is illegal.

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



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


TURN'S LAWN CARE

Landscape Design & Maintenance

For Owners Seeking Recurring Service
Now Scheduling Spring Clean-Ups

413.522.2563

www.TurnLawnCare.com



Traprock Center for Peace and Justice

Working for peace, social and environmental justice locally, nationally and internationally, we value and support local media.

See programs and events calendar at www.traprock.org

For brief emails on local peace and justice events and actions, write to justicia@traprock.org



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



FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CO-OP

144 MAIN STREET GREENFIELD, MA 01301 (413) 773-8567

3 STATE STREET SHELburnE FALLS, MA 01370 (413) 625-2548



MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309



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](http://bluedragonapothecary.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

Roundabout Books

a bookstore for book people

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

Dennis L. Booska
Dennis L. Booska, Jr.

Phone & Fax
413-863-3690

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member The Flooring Network.

Tile Lino Carpet

DIEMAND FARM

We cater all your special events!

See our catering menu:
thediemandfarm.com/catering



Savings & protection for your WHOLE FAMILY!

Competitive rates & discounts for all of your insurance needs!
159 Avenue A | Turners Falls MA | 413.863.4373 | ahrist.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

Serving Home Grown Farm-inspired Food & Drink

H & O

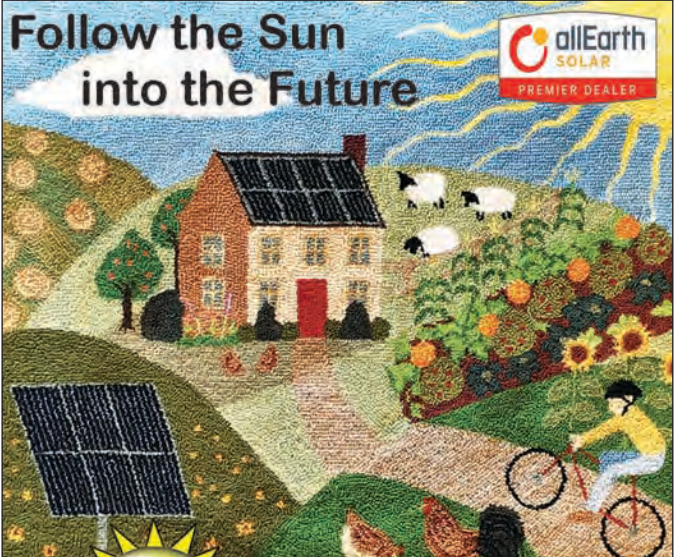
44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
Ph 413 774 3150 | hopeandolive.com

Peter Waters Painting Services

Interior/Exterior
Custom Residential
Fully Insured

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

Follow the Sun into the Future



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

Local, residential and small commercial Solar PV Installers for 14+ years in Franklin, Hampshire and Hamden counties.

Panasonic Solar AUTHORIZED INSTALLER

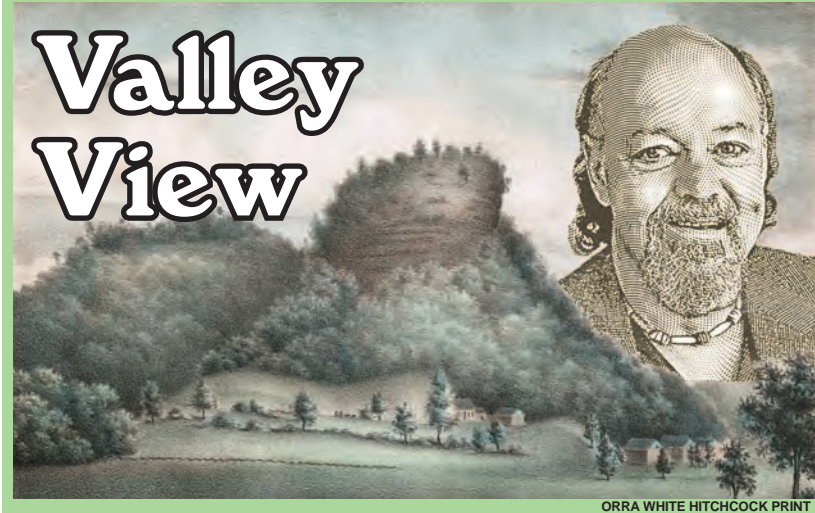
Call for free site assessment.
Artist: Christine Pellerin



FEATURES@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

SEPTEMBER 19, 2019



By GARY SANDERSON

GREENFIELD – How about a couple of new twists to a centuries-old tale – one bringing in natural history, another introducing a largely forgotten waterfall that vanished in the name of progress and interstate highways?

Our discussion today is centered around the fabled “Falls Fight” of May 19, 1676, a surprise attack that turned King Philip’s War in favor of colonials coming down the homestretch. On that fateful day, Connecticut Valley militia led from Hatfield by Boston Capt. William Turner descended upon a sleeping, pre-dawn fishing village of Indians camped at Peskeomskut Falls between Gill and Turners Falls, slaughtering mostly non-combatant old men and women. Then, the retreating soldiers had the tables turned on them by vengeful, counterattacking Indians racing in pursuit from adjacent riverside encampments.

The fleeing soldiers’ retreat took them over the hill that is now north of Route 2 and west of Main Road before crossing Fall River at Factory Hollow. From that point on, the battle appears to have degenerated into a helter-skelter dash for survival along two wetland corridors. The retreat path is now under the microscope of

Connecticut archaeologist Kevin McBride and his metal-detecting battlefield-reconstruction sleuths, combing the ground for associated musket balls.

Once across Fall River to their awaiting horses, the soldiers had a choice: follow scout Experience Hinsdale south toward Deerfield through the dense tangles of White Ash Swamp, or follow Capt. Turner, Lt. Samuel Holyoke, and probably guide Benjamin Wait back down the same path they had arrived on, crossing Green River near its confluence with Mill Brook.

Those who followed Hinsdale were quickly dispatched by Indians. The others carried on, had a fighting chance.

The four-mile trek through heavy wetland cover to the Green River ford followed White Ash Swamp’s northern perimeter to Cherry Rum Brook, which merged with larger Mill Brook a half-mile from Green River. About 200 yards east of Green River, at the top of what would become a small Greenfield industrial village known as Nash’s Mills, stood a bedrock waterfall cascading down exposed red sandstone to the Green River.

According to Terrain Navigator Pro measurements, the elevation drop from the west edge of the see **VALLEY VIEW** page B5



Nash’s Mills, circa 1895: Water flows over the dam toward the Green River at the Warner Manufacturing Company off Leyden Road. Notice the natural falls of red sandstone bedrock, with which all Franklin County residents are familiar. (Photograph by C.N. Kelley, restored by Chris Clawson.)

Above: Late-summer wildflowers – and a helper – outside the Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls.

Bang A Gong: Gamelan Tones To Fill Vermont’s Newest Art Church

By ISABEL KOYAMA

BRATTLEBORO, VT – This coming Saturday, September 28, an old Victorian church on Main Street in Brattleboro will reverberate with a mixture of gamelan tones and electronic noise music as local and international musicians experiment together.

“It’s going to be a special event,” says Jamie Mohr, creative director of the nonprofit organization Epsilon Spires, which now calls the historic 113-year old Gothic church its home. Gong Brattleboro, one of the first events of the season for Epsilon Spires since the organization’s grand opening earlier this month, features experimental takes on the gamelan, a traditional Indonesian percussion ensemble.

Lyndon Cordero (“Cordey”) Lopez, a musician based in Los Angeles, is the producer of the gamelan festival. Lopez spent a fully-funded year studying the instrument in Bali after finishing his Masters in



The gamelan festival is a highlight of the venue’s first month of events.

Music Technology at CalArts.

“I fell deeply in love with Indonesia,” says Lopez, thinking back on the experience. During his time there, Lopez traveled around Bali studying gamelan in small vil-

lage settings, connecting with Indonesian people and seeking out gamelan teachers all over the island.

Next Saturday Lopez will bring see **GAMELAN** page B2

ArtBeat by Trish Crapo

Robert Seydel: Unpacking the Portrait

AMHERST – The portraits are small, barely postcard-sized, and bear the uneven marks of Polaroid transfers around their edges. Faces, some of them immediately recognizable, such as Emily Dickinson’s or Anne Frank’s, some anonymous yet iconic of a certain era, others utterly unknown, float up through layers of other images. It might be another face that’s layered over, or it might be another creature, such as a fish, or an inanimate object, such as the violin whose form merges with the face of Sigmund Freud to create the intimations of an altogether new being. Or perhaps that last is a portrait of a metaphor, or of the unconscious.

These montaged images were made by collagist, photographer, and former Hampshire College professor Robert Seydel, and are on view now through November 8 in the Hampshire College Art Gallery in the basement of the college’s Harold Johnson Library building.

The title of the exhibit, “A Short History of Portraiture,” riffs on the title of Walter Benjamin’s “A Short History of Photography,” an essay first published in 1931 that explored not photography’s chronological or technological history, but its impacts on human society and psychology. Similarly, Seydel’s “short history” is really more of an unpacking or a questioning of portraiture.

Leaning to peer closer at each image, I had a sense of staring into a small wavering pool of shifting images, compounded at times by my own reflection cast on the glass within the frame. What was foreground and what was background? Was one image “winning,” in the sense of being the portrait’s primary subject? Or was the portrait really one of tension? Rather than being portraits in any way I’m used to thinking about them, the images seemed a questioning of whether we can ever really know what or who a person is, and, if we could, what kind of image could capture it?

One of Seydel’s former students, Nathan Rubinfeld, will be giving a talk entitled, “Collagist as Collector: Voyeurism from Cornell to Seydel,” in the gallery on Thursday, September 19 at 5 p.m., followed by a question-and-answer period and refreshments. I spoke with Rubinfeld by phone from his home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he works as an administrator for a high school for the arts.

see **ARTBEAT** page B5



Seydel combined this image of Sigmund Freud with a violin to create a unique kind of collage.

Pet of the Week



“SALEM”

Are you looking for the cutest cat that’s out there? Well, look no further than Mr. Salem.

This handsome dude has been with us for four months, and will be available to go home on September 18. The one thing that has stayed the same about him is his adorable chipmunk cheeks!

This dude is awesome, he gets along with most cats - he has proven to be a wonderful uncle cat to some tiny spirits in our care and

does seem to prefer cats that he can boss around. He would do best in a home with older kids who aren’t super clingy. He’s an independent boy who also likes a good head scratch. He likes to play with toys that you pull so he can have the thrill of the chase and tackle!

If he sounds purrfect to you, ask about how you can take him home! Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at info@dpvhs.org.

Senior Center Activities

SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH 27

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;
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise
T, W, Th: 12 p.m. Lunch

Monday 9/23
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Tuesday 9/24
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Fire Safety with Kyle Cogswell

Wednesday 9/25
12:30 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 9/26
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Cards & Games
4 p.m. Gentle Yoga

Friday 9/27
1 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregate meals. Lunch is at 12 p.m., with reservations required two 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 9/23
8:45 a.m. Step & Sculpt
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance
11:30 a.m. Breakfast Brunch

Tuesday 9/24
8:45 a.m. S.W.A.P. Exercise
10 a.m. Stretch & Balance
11 a.m. M 3 Class
12 p.m. Soup & Sandwich

Wednesday 9/25
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12 p.m. Homemade Lunch
12:30 p.m. Bingo
6 p.m. Pitch

Thursday 9/26
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
9 to 11 a.m. SHINE
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Muscles
12 p.m. Congregate Lunch

Friday 9/27
9 a.m. Quilting Workshop
9:15 a.m. Walking for Fitness
9:30 a.m. Bowling Fun
12 p.m. Lunch

LEVERETT

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

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

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

WENDELL

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

GAMELAN from page B1

his local and international music connections together for an evening of live experimentation. “[Experimental music] is a way of saying ‘we’re going to do something different,’” Lopez says. “Our goal is not to be in a car commercial.”

Lopez says his vision for this first annual event is to do something that hasn’t been done before, at least not in the way he has envisioned. Fusing gamelan, electronics, and synthesizing, Lopez hopes to involve the audience in an interactive workshop and performance.

“Gamelan in the village was not institutional,” Lopez reflects on his time in Bali. In that spirit, the gamelan festival at Epsilon Spires will be open to the public at no cost

(though there is a suggested donation at the door). At the repurposed Baptist Church, the community of Brattleboro and beyond are invited to come together.

“Hopefully it will make people who don’t know much about gamelan more interested,” says Lopez.

The variable epsilon is used in physics to denote strain – or, as Mohr puts it, “pushing the envelope,” which is what Epsilon Spires’ programming aims to do. Epsilon Spires, also known as the Home of Cosmic Frisson, is a non-profit that “builds connections between art, natural sciences and sustainability” through “interactive installations that play with sound, light and sensory perception,” as

Sex Matters

a sex-positive health column

by **STEPHANIE BAIRD**

Welcome to the new monthly Sex-Positive Health Education column! The idea for this column evolved over the summer as I honed in on my love of disseminating sex-positive information, and discovered that the editors at the *Montague Reporter* were receptive to this idea. Putting accurate and empowering information about sex and intimacy into the hands of the readers of the *Montague Reporter* would be a great way to satisfy part of my urge to educate the public.

Perhaps my own experience receiving basically zero sex education in Texas public schools was part of my inspiration. To share a bit about my own sexual education, after basically being instructed to “just ignore sex,” I hungrily took all the sexuality-related classes offered in college and graduate school – a whopping total of four, which is actually fairly high.

It was a class in human sexuality circa 1993 that I can thank for igniting an interest in sex-positive education. The teacher was a dynamic bisexual cis-female feminist maverick professor, at Texas A&M University, a known conservative school. From there, I voraciously read sex-positive writers such as Susie Bright, Helen Kaplan, Gina Ogden, Dr. Betty Dodson, plus feminist erotica, books written by sex workers, and histories of sexuality, etc.

Upon entering my profession as a psychotherapist, I initially worked with incarcerated sex offenders – men *and* women – for a couple years. (Yes, I had a few nightmares from this work.) For my own sanity I switched to working with trauma survivors, eventually training in EMDR and becoming an EMDR consultant for other clinicians.

As a psychotherapist for twenty years, it has been gratifying and affirming to witness the active healing process of so many hurt individuals, through EMDR and sex-positive psycho-education. I attended a wonderfully informative sex therapy consultation group through Northampton Sex Therapy Associates from 2016 to 2019, prioritizing again that early interest in sexual health.

Coincidentally, when offered the training to become an OWL (Our Whole Lives) sexuality education facilitator in 2018 through my congregation at the Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence

(USNF), I jumped at this lifelong chance to proactively prevent sexual trauma by inoculating youth with as much factual, educational, and sex-positive information as the curriculum could provide.

These convergences have re-ignited my desire to reach more folks with helpful, sex-positive information.

While this will *not* be a column solely based on the OWL model of sex education, I will be occasionally drawing from some concepts and guidelines within that curriculum. OWL grew from the research of the Sexuality Education Task Force in the early 1990s, and through the work of many educators and UU and United Church of Christ congregations who saw a lack of evidence and fact-based sexuality education for youth, developing curriculum for the lifespan.

The OWL Program Values make excellent guidelines for any sex education column, so I will share a couple of them here, rather re-inventing my own wheel, straight from the textbooks:

Sexual Health: “Knowledge about human sexuality is helpful, not harmful. Every person has the right to accurate information.” Healthy relationships are consensual, non-exploitative, mutually pleasurable, safe (low or no risk of STIs, emotional pain, or unintended pregnancy), developmentally appropriate, based on mutual expectations, and caring and respectful. Any type of sexual intercourse is only one of the many valid ways of expressing sexual feelings with a partner.

Justice and Inclusivity: “People of all ages, sexual identities, races, ethnicities, genders, income levels, abilities, and sexual orientations must have equal value and rights. All of the following are natural in the range of human sexual experience: being romantically and sexually attracted to more than one gender (bisexual), the same gender (homosexual), another gender (heterosexual), or to those with a more fluid understanding of their own and others’ gender (pansexual), and experiencing no sexual attraction (asexual).”

And these are the *OWL Assumptions*: “All persons are sexual. Sexuality is a good part of the human experience and includes much more than sexual behavior. Humans are sexual from before birth until death. People

stated on their website.

“Frisson is the chill up your spine when you hear a certain tone,” Mohr explains as she outlines how her organization came into being. “It’s not for sale,” she continues plainly, highlighting the difference between typical art exhibition spaces and Epsilon Spires.

Mohr arrived at her position with Epsilon Spires by way of an adventurous journey. Having attended the School for International Training in Vermont, she did her thesis work in Iceland and went on to study climate change at the University of Oslo in Norway. She then returned to the United States and got another Master’s in Documentary Studies from the New School in New York. “I had

see **GAMELAN** page B3

engage in healthy sexual behavior for a variety of reasons including to express caring and love, experience intimacy and connection with another, share pleasure, bring new life into the world, and have fun and relax. Sexuality in our society is damaged by violence, exploitation, alienation, dishonesty, abuse of power, and the treatment of persons as objects. It is healthier for young teens to postpone forms of intercourse.”

For those wishing to dive deeper into these ideas, USNF is offering OWL for high schoolers (grades 10 through 12), beginning this October. Anyone in the region can sign up, and we still have a couple of seats left.

Coming in March 2020, I’ll co-facilitate Older Adult OWL (for ages 50 and over) on monthly Friday afternoons. You can email dre@uunorthampton.org to enroll. Every day, as our population ages and as longevity continues to increase (doubling in average life expectancy from a century ago), we learn more about older adult sexuality and sexual health, with researchers finding that many older adults remain sexually active their entire lives. I hope to feature pertinent elements about aging bodies in this column.

Some topics to be covered in the coming months may include: our sexual “brakes and accelerators,” our personal “sexual styles,” gender, consent, hormones and aging, trauma and sex, open relationships, and mismatched sexual interest within couples.

You are welcome to email me topics that you would like for me to cover in future columns. While this will not be a question-and-answer advice column, if many people write in requesting information on a specific topic, then I will endeavor to center a column around that requested topic.

My ultimate agenda: I would be ecstatic for every human to have access to pleasure-positive, supportive, and accurate sexual health information, thereby eliminating the need for trauma psychotherapists and sex educators like myself.

Then I could happily go live my other dreams: traveling by bicycle, and making chocolate macaroons and tortes.

Stephanie Baird is a certified OWL facilitator and an EMDR psychotherapist and consultant who encourages her clients towards thriving sexual health. She welcomes feedback and suggestions at sexmatters@montaguereporter.org.

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

BestLocalBank.com

FREE Online Banking with Bill Pay, Transfers, Account Opening, Debit Card Controls & More!

FREE Mobile Banking APP with Mobile Check Deposit, Alerts, Freeze/Unfreeze & More!

GREENFIELD Cooperative Bank

NORTHAMPTON Cooperative Bank

A Division of Greenfield Cooperative Bank

Avenue A, Turners Falls | 413-512-5012

MEMBER FDIC MEMBER SIF

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

GAMELAN from page B2
a background as an artist,” she says.

Mohr has been a curator, and was also part of an experimental band for several years. After studying in New York, she decided to circle back to Vermont in search of affordable rent and space for a garden. Once here, she accepted an unusual job as a feral sheep herder, which brought her into the orbit of Bob Johnson, the owner of said sheep – as well as of the former Baptist Church in Brattleboro.

Johnson, a physicist who worked on the Hubble Telescope and works with light waves and optical perception, decided to purchase the old church a few years ago. Designed in High Victorian style, the church had been threatening to cave in on itself when Johnson took it upon himself to repurpose the space.

“He’s a visionary,” Mohr says. With a background in energy efficiency, Johnson has taken to purchasing historic buildings and making them more energy efficient through decreasing their fossil fuel output. “We’re merging historic preservation with energy efficiency,” Mohr says.

During a long shared car ride up to Nova Scotia, Johnson identified Mohr as someone who could use the newly-purchased space in a creative and innovative way.

Epsilon Spires hopes that observers will participate in the interdisciplinary art installations: as Mohr puts it, it’s just as much about the subjective experience of the person perceiving the art as it is about the art itself. This year, the venue will host hands-on workshops and interactive sculptural installations that nudge participants to think about their subjective sensory experience.

Seven artists or groups are billed on Gong Brattleboro’s lineup. Lopez will perform with Hirotaka Inuzuka and Matthew Clough-Hunter, members of the Los Angeles-based group Gamelan Merdu Kumala. Mark Cetelia and

Zach Hazen will join the stage from Providence, and members of a transnational recording project “Insitu Recordings” will show a music video of Balinese artists and follow the screening with live performances.

Turners Falls resident Neil Young, who goes by the performing name Brompton Treb, will perform as well. A noise musician and Indonesian music enthusiast, Young has learned about Indonesian artist collectives and artist-run spaces through his network of friends and fellow touring artists.

A longtime staff member at Hampshire College, Young remembers when Smith College acquired a Javanese gamelan set back in the 1990s, which in turn gave rise to a community Gamelan Orchestra which still exists today at Smith. Through the years, Young has remained in touch with local gamelan scenes and orchestras, and has become deeply interested in contemporary Indonesian forms of sonic expression. “This is something I’ve been following, and am really excited about,” Young discusses, citing a variety of contemporary Indonesian music groups.

Young played drums from 2002 to 2013 for a local band called Fat Worm of Error; the noise music he performs as Brompton Treb considers pitches without scales and rhythms without meter. At the Epsilon Spires event next week, he’ll be improvising with digital synthesizers.

In what promises to be an evening of exchange and unusual sonic stimulation, Young hopes to contribute to the event in his own way: “I’m bringing the noise,” he says.

Epsilon Spires is located at 190 Main Street, Brattleboro. Gong Brattleboro takes place from 5 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, September 28. It is free and open to the public (suggested donation \$10 to \$25). RSVP at www.epsilonspires.org.



REFLECTIONS

Different Kinds of Justice

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

GREENFIELD – I have written critiques of the actors who played Superman, the Flash, and Supergirl in TV and movies. I came up with the idea to do this again by looking over the portrayals of the Justice League, the Legion, and Justice Society of America.

I actually know of quite a few different portrayals that I can talk about. I have seen these superhero groups from the comics on a couple of TV shows I like to watch.

Smallville had the Justice League be the characters of Cyborg, Aquaman, their version of the Flash, and Green Arrow, played by Justin Harley. I know this was their version of the Justice League, because the episode these characters appeared in was called “Justice.” Each one of these individuals also had their own episode where they were introduced as part of the show’s universe. Those introductions were what set up those characters basically becoming the Justice League on *Smallville*.

The Justice Society of America on *Smallville* was Dr. Fate, Stargirl, and Hawkman, played by Michael Shank. This episode was basically a two-hour movie that the show did,

and was called “Absolute Justice.” Stargirl in this show was a young girl dressed like an American flag.

What I remember most about the Legion in *Smallville* was Brainiac 5, played by James Masters, who wore a Legion Flight Ring that he got when he joined this group. This guy was a recurring character in *Smallville* for a while, and was part of the Legion, which included their version of Saturn Girl, Lighting Lad, and Cosmic Boy when he came back for an episode during the last season.

I believe the recurring thing also set him up to later come back that way. I remember Masters’ portrayal of the character much better than these other Legion characters. I guess his performance was more memorable than theirs. It also could have helped that I saw him as part of another show for quite a while, so I am just more familiar with his acting.

The *Supergirl* TV series’ version of the Legion was Brainiac 5, played by Jessie Rath, Mon-El, and Saturn Girl. Mon-El was on *Supergirl* by himself for a while, then came back for another season, having formed this group. We mainly see the other two characters with him as being part of the Legion.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Bat Threat; Pill Theft; Cars Revving; Phone Scams; Dog Had Head Out Window And is Looking Around

Sunday, 9/8

1:09 p.m. Alarm company reporting alarm sounding at Franklin County Technical School. Alarm set off by volleyball coach.

1:14 p.m. Caller reporting dog in car at Food City. Windows in car are down; dog is not in distress at all. Dog has head out window and is looking around.

1:17 p.m. Caller from Third Street states that he has found a few bags of heroin on the street near his home. Items retrieved.

2:22 p.m. Caller from Park Street states that the neighbors are attempting to cut down branches from a tree on the tree belt and there are power lines nearby. Area checked. No one around that appears to be trying to cut anything down.

4:13 p.m. Caller from Federal Street reporting that the neighbor has been running the demo cars all day long, revving them up. Caller states that they have been working on the cars in the driveway, not the garage, and it has stopped now. Referred to an officer.

5:33 p.m. Caller from Family Dollar reporting that two girls stole some earrings from the store about 20 to 30 minutes ago and they have it on tape. Caller stated they spoke with Food City and parties stole something from there as well. Officer advises mom is coming to pick up one girl; other girl’s mother just arrived.

11:31 p.m. Caller reporting a breaking and entering at Southworth in the area of the tunnel; doesn’t want to enter the area alone in case anyone is in there. Units clear; no issues there.

Monday, 9/9

11:15 a.m. Caller requesting to speak with an officer re: a suspicious note she found in the wooded area adjacent to her friend’s residence while visiting that friend. Officer advises area in question is the sand banks between Park and High streets. Note appeared to be aged. Area search turned up drug and alcohol items. Caller requesting extra presence/patrols in mornings and afternoons when kids are

going to and coming home from school.

1:52 p.m. Disabled vehicle on Millers Falls Road. Vehicle is leaking antifreeze; caller advises pretty good sized puddle. TFFD advised.

3:15 p.m. Caller from Third Street reporting that a man with a bat is threatening someone. Caller states there are around ten people around. Gill officer on scene. Units clear; verbal altercation.

8:08 p.m. Report of suspicious vehicle with lights on parked on Industrial Drive near the airport. No one with vehicle. Officer advises that vehicle is off road, secured, and not a hazard. Officer called Lightlife Foods to confirm that vehicle owner works there; left message for owner to call MPD.

Tuesday, 9/10

9:20 a.m. A 30-year-old Montague Center man was arrested on a default warrant and a straight warrant.

10:16 a.m. Report of glass in road in front of caller’s residence on Turners Falls Road. DPW advised.

6:32 p.m. Caller from Sunderland reporting that there was a fight between her son and another kid from Montague, who is now harassing her son. Officer spoke with caller; advised of options.

8:05 p.m. Caller reporting that they are behind a vehicle that is crossing the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge and they believe the operator to be intoxicated. Vehicle is now in a handicapped parking spot on Second Street. Officer advises that vehicle does have a placard in the rear view mirror. Units spoke with registered owner, who was on his couch, and advised him of the complaints; he is in for the night.

9:52 p.m. 911 call transferred from Greenfield PD reporting that a vehicle has been parked at the airport since last night. GPD will try to contact registered owner. Owner called and stated that vehicle will be towed in two or three days; they will contact their friend tomorrow and see when it will be towed.

10:12 p.m. Caller reporting

three suspicious vehicles in the field at West and East Chestnut Hill roads; vehicles pulled up about 45 minutes ago. Two vehicles have left. Officer checking on one vehicle with two occupants. They are parked on their friend’s property. Parties moved along. Officer advises he did seize a small amount of marijuana; no signs of impairment. Confiscated drug placed in evidence to be destroyed.

Wednesday, 9/11

1:40 a.m. Caller reporting large semi trailer parked in travel lane near the bike path on Greenfield Road. Caller had to go into other lane to avoid. Trailer is parked on blind corner. Officer advises that there is an operator at the wastewater treatment plant with a Bobcat switching out trailers from the side. Trailer will be moved shortly.

6:44 a.m. Caller from Turnpike Road reporting that his and his wife’s vehicles were both entered and items (loose change, cash, and cigarettes) were stolen from them. Both vehicles were unlocked. Report taken.

8:21 a.m. School resource officer checked on vehicle on Industrial Boulevard that people have reported to him as suspicious. Per previous calls, owner works at Lightlife Foods and is in the process of arranging for it to be towed.

10:30 a.m. Caller from Sunrise Terrace reports that her vehicle was broken into overnight. Medication bottle was taken but found on porch of nearby apartment with pills still inside. Only items unaccounted for were two quarters in center console. Advised of options.

11:16 a.m. First of five reports of Social Security scam phone calls.

1:11 p.m. Party into station to report suspicious package on sidewalk in front of Cumberland Farms near the gas pumps. Approximately one cubic foot or slightly larger white box; appears to be sealed; unattended. TFFD and PD responding. No package located upon arrival. TFFD located bag of insulation

on side of road which is likely the item in question; believed to have fallen out of a vehicle.

1:17 p.m. Party into station reports observing a male on Dell Street remove what appeared to be a long gun from a vehicle and prop it up against the vehicle. Area search negative.

5:16 p.m. Anonymous complaint regarding loud music on Fifth Street. Officer advises no loud music.

5:21 p.m. Caller reporting that they were on the Turners side of the General Pierce Bridge and when the lights turned green, cars were still coming across the bridge. Caller also stated that they believe the light only stayed green for about 30 seconds. Responding officer sat through six rotations of the light cycling, 38 seconds to get across the bridge with a pause each time in the rotation. Traffic is flowing properly and nothing appears to be wrong with the lights. Checked with GPD, who have not received any complaints on their side.

8:42 p.m. Officer conducting vehicle stop on Turners Falls Road. Operator only has a Mexican ID; no license. Waiting for licensed operator to arrive. Citation issued.

11:01 p.m. Caller from Avenue A reporting that at this time every night, there is a man who comes around screaming and shouting outside the building. Officer advises he did locate a male party who wanted to let MPD know that there were some kids screaming in the street earlier.

Thursday, 9/12

4:18 p.m. Multiple calls reporting two-car accident at Avenue A and Seventh Street. PD, FD, and AMR responding. Operator and passenger transported to hospital.

4:49 p.m. 911 caller from H Street reporting that a male with a beard was walking through her backyard while her kids were out there playing. They came running in to tell her. When she went outside, he was gone. A white car then pulled up and the occupants said that they were looking for [redacted]. Area search negative. Advised of options should this happen again.

[Calls from 6 a.m. Friday 9/13 to 6 a.m. Saturday 9/14 were not included in the log provided to us.]

Saturday, 9/14

10:31 a.m. Shelburne Control advising that they received a call about a cow in the road near Senn Excavating. Area checked; nothing found.

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
855-Monday (e) Thursday

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

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

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

Week of September 13 – 20

By MIKE SMITH

This past Friday the 13th, MCTV was lucky enough to record The Great Falls Discovery Center Coffee House, a free event that takes place every second and fourth Fridays of each month.

This week Paula Bradley and Rafe Wolman performed old folk classics. Paula sang and switched between banjo and guitar, while Rafe impressed everyone with his violin skills. Check out the video for yourself as it becomes available on montaguetelevision.org.

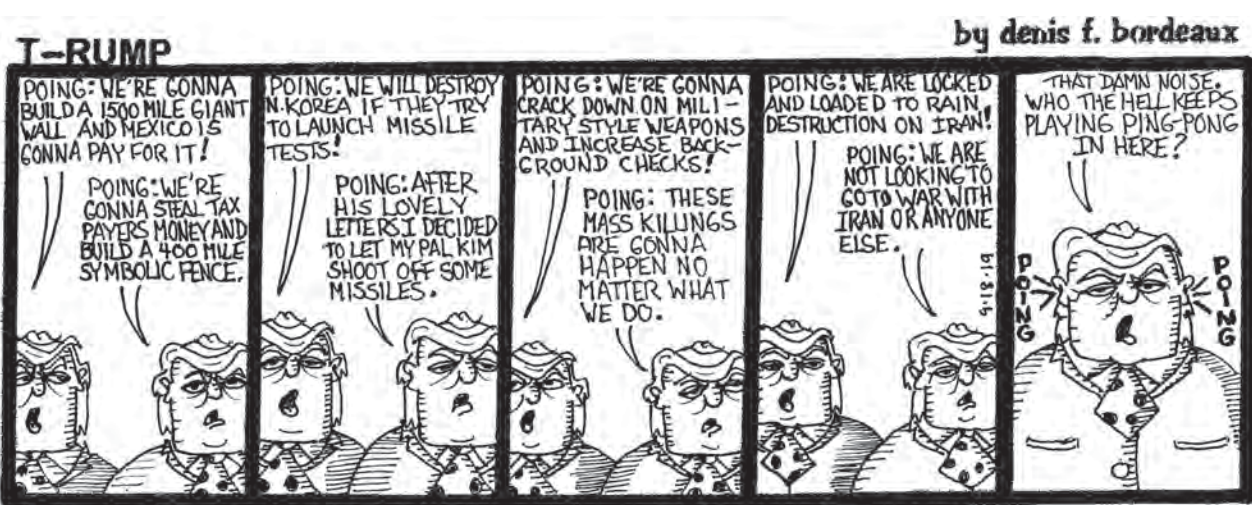
The Discovery Center also hosted a presentation by Cliff Schexnayder, who recently published a book titled Builders of the Hoosac Tunnel. His presentation was called “Alvah Crocker: From the Rugged Hand of Poverty to Visionary Leader.” Cliff talks about how Crocker rose from being a lowly mill worker to a man of amazing success. This fascinating story will be available

soon on montaguetelevision.org.

Also coming soon: James Gildrea, author of *A Journey Home*, gave a presentation this past Saturday the 14th at Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls. James offers an interesting new look at what sparked the American Revolution. While researching information for a separate project, James discovered accounts of a devastating earthquake, which he believes set into motion events that he can trace all the way to the Boston Tea Party. See for yourself on montaguetelevision.org.

MCTV is hosting a 120 Second Film Festival! Check out our website for details and to sign up! 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, info@montaguetelevision.org, or stop by 34 Second Street between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We’d love to work with you!



MONTV / MUSIK / MOUNTAIN

Number X: Viewer Duo

Interviewed by J. BURKETT with TROY CURRY

TURNERS FALLS – Viewer Duo are a newer band from around these parts who really have a unique sound and approach: one that is familiar/similar to other stuff (think the ‘60s and beyond...) but is really its own thing: cosmic, yet earthly... with electric guitar, poetry, songs, and improv.

Viewer Duo is Shannon and Beverly Ketch, and sometimes with guests. See them ASAP at local venues like Abandon Dream and Looky Here.

sic community and its inspiration to you?

SK: There are so many inspiring artists around here. It wouldn’t be fair to start naming them, but I hope people keep looking into them, because it’s rich.

Sometimes I wonder about Turners Falls. There are some really amazing shows lately that are not well attended. I think the scene I dig might be ebbing some.

I like the Brick House and our place (Abandon Dream) for in-town shows, and Looky Here has had a few really great shows, including visual stuff.

not sit down and write lyrics when there’s no music playing. To understand how the vowels will sound, I think people should sing right while they write.

and more cheesy synth records like *Cow Goes Moog*, and even the Emerald Web tapes, which aren’t cheesy at all.

I like some New Age music as well... Gurdjieff and beyond.

effect on me. I think it’s the most beautiful ballad of all time, and it doesn’t even have a tune.

I wrote my first ballad recently! Sometimes, since I don’t play instruments, I worry that people won’t know that I write songs, not just lyrics to other people’s tunes. I just create the tune while I sing the lyrics *a cappella*. For my ballad Wednesday Knudsen helped me, so she did play a creative role in the song, but I had made up the song *a cappella*.

And I make up my own tunes that are a counterpoint to other people’s tunes, too.

MMM: *OK! So... Where did the name come from?*

BK: The name Viewer came to me as a word that represents opening your eyes and seeing past your nose. That’s a theme that I think about: how the visual world is a way of getting out past fixated thinking. Literally looking up and seeing any visual sight is a means to stop certain unhealthy emotional patterns.

MMM: *How do your songs come together?*

BK: I usually think of something I want to pay tribute to when I write a song. Someone I love, something about life that I find therapeutic.

Another way songs come to be is that Shannon is playing a musical riff he’s created and I pull out my notebook and just try to see if one of the poems work, or if part of the lines fit into this song he’s creating. That’s what happened with the song “Jinxing Ninnies.” He had created a beautiful musical recording that could stand on its own with no lyrics, but he wanted me to put a lyric to it and I was happy to do it, and I actually combined two completely different poems. So in a way it’s the most unintentional of all of the songs I’ve helped create.

MMM: *Are there any big influences on your sound? Certain records...?*

SK: Syd Barret and Sandy Bull’s guitar tones are some of my favorites. I also like garage rock guitar sounds. My guitar sounds are my best attempt at being able to play music, and I don’t look at myself as a guitar rock dude, but I look forward to playing it.

I like songwriters like Michael Chapman who are literary/lyrically inclined. Kevin Ayers and Bridget St. John also come to mind. Rounders, Hurley, and Fugs kind of stuff too. Some psych pop like Fallen Angels and Kaleidoscope have been deeper listens over the years. There are a lot of different things I like and feel influenced by.

Also I really like stuff like Wendy Carlos’s *Beauty In The Beast*,

MMM: *Beverly, how long have you been doing poetry? Are there any favorite poets or poems that affect your music?*

BK: My experiences in doing poetry started when I was a little kid. I wrote poems and one about my dad my sister really liked and kept. It was about how great my dad was and how hard he worked.

But it wasn’t until I read “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” that I realized what kind of poetry really blew my mind. It’s funny, people always ask about musical influences, and I honestly don’t feel like I have anything interesting to say about that, but I definitely feel like I was influenced by “Prufrock.” I’m still blown away by those lines.

Later the poem “The Faithless Wife” by Lorca also had a strong

MMM: *Do either of you have a background in theater arts?*

SK: I was involved in and studied multimedia and performance art in the ‘80s in Iowa City. I was involved in Fluxus performances while studying there.

BK: I don’t have a background in theater, other than Sunday school Christmas plays. But I’m about to play Titania in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*!



Beverly (left) and Shannon Ketch (right) make up Viewer Duo.

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



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

Lic #36550-EL

ELECTRICIAN

CHRIS M. STRAKOSE

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

ALL ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS AND REPAIRS

EMERGENCY SERVICE

9 SWAMP ROAD

MONTAGUE, MA 01351

EMAIL: CSTRAKOSE.ELEC@GMAIL.COM

FULLY INSURED **FREE CONSULTATION**



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

VALLEY VIEW from page B1
Silver Street-Conway Road intersection to the mouth of Mill Brook is approximately 60 feet. The straight-line distance from top to bottom is 590 feet, the meandering brook’s length 780 feet.

Tradition has it that Indians wounded Capt. Turner crossing Green River, and that he died on the west bank, just downstream from what is now the Green River Swimming and Recreation Area. A Turner Monument now stands along Nash’s Mill Road, not far away.

Though early 20th century Greenfield historian Lucy Cutler Kellogg claims there was an island at the site of Turner’s death, there seems to be little corroborating evidence; however, such details can be lost over time. Perhaps deed research would confirm such an island, which is always a possibility where two streams with strong currents collide to create a swirling, depositional eddy. There is indeed a sizeable island just upstream from Mill Brook’s outflow into Green River on 1961 Interstate Route 91 construction maps.

But islands at the site are insignificant compared to the presence of falls, which would have produced the cover sound of a loud spring roar during Turner’s retreat.

McBride and company have confirmed the retreat route identified by many historians, recovering musket balls along both banks of the meandering, at times steep Cherry Rum-Mill Brook corridor. Though the team is still in the process of sorting it all out, the evidence seems to place the colonials following the south bank as the Indians picked away at them from elevated ambush sites along the opposite bank.

Steep ravines and sharp turns presented several advantageous locations for surprise attacks throughout the wetland terrain. The Indians had a significant advantage. They knew the land. The colonials did not.

The vexing question for posterity is: What did the landscape between Peskeomskut and the Green River look like in 1676? That is, before the brook was dammed above the waterfalls to create Nash’s Mills Pond – and before Interstate 91 construction removed the bedrock falls and tunneled Mill Brook under 91 and Nash’s Mills Road, where today it exits two arched concrete tunnels and flows down a walled ramp to the Green River floodplain?

More precisely, what were the fleeing soldiers facing as they raced down that final half-mile from the Cherry Rum-Mill Brook confluence to the Green River?

I could find no reference to the Mill Brook falls in George Sheldon’s *History of Deerfield* (1895), which is curious when you consider it was cited four years earlier in the *Greenfield Gazette*’s “Centennial Edition.” The falls are again referenced in Francis M. Thompson’s *History of Greenfield* (1904), which makes sense: Thompson intimately knew the falls and dam supplying waterpower at Nash’s Mills. He himself owned a chisel manufactory there, which burned in 1871.

Thompson wrote that Mill Brook was “improved for mills” at a site “located at the considerable falls near its entrance into the Green River at Nash’s Mills.” He also says Jonathan Catlin “at a very early date” had a mill there. That means, “before 1755, when he deeded half interest to Daniel Nash for a mill and mill yard.” Eleven years later (1766), Catlin deeded the other half-interest to another

millers, Aaron Denio Jr.” Published descriptions of the falls are vague at best. Thompson basically parrots the “Centennial Edition” account, which states, “The height of the fall, excellent chance for flowage and secure rock foundation for a dam made the water privilege there of much value.” What height, he does not say.

A circa 1895 photo looking up at Warner Manufacturing Co. from Nash’s Mills Road provides visible evidence. The black and white shot – rescued at auction in a Greenfield photo album dated 1899 – displays the southwest corner of the three-story, clapboard factory building, with a dam flowing onto a natural stone waterfall along the south side. The water flows about 10 feet over the dam, falling upon a long stretch of roiling falls cascading over bedrock toward the Green River. What cannot be seen is Nash’s Mills Pond behind the dam, or the iron-railed Leyden Road bridge crossing the narrow ravine at the head of the falls.

A factor that speaks to the site’s early industrial value is the 1719 Deerfield road laid from the west end of Green River Village (Main Street in Greenfield) to Country Farms (the fertile northern Greenfield flood plain east of the Green River, extending south on both sides of Leyden Road from the pumping station to the base of a serpentine upper terrace traversed by Country Club Road).

Following the path of today’s Conway Street and Leyden Road, that old road crossed Mill Brook a short distance north of the Silver Street outflow, where the landscape was dramatically altered during Interstate 91 construction in 1963-64. The bedrock waterfall was blasted and removed to hollow out the I-91 corridor now spanned by a long overpass connecting Conway Street and Leyden Road.

The year 1719 was very early for roadbuilding through what was to become Greenfield, strongly suggesting that it had been an existing indigenous footpath to the falls and beyond. In Native American culture, waterfalls were often sites of high spirit, celebrated as portals to the underworld, as well as important

ARTBEAT from page B1

“It’s an interesting range of images to me, that I still find a little perplexing,” Rubinfeld said of the exhibit. Rubinfeld says he felt shocked at first, looking at the images, saying, “A lot of the imagery is much more blatantly sexual and/or violent in some ways,” than much of Seydel’s other work.

Rubinfeld said the body of work on display expresses Seydel’s interest in “the construction and creation of identity.”

“I very much think about it as a way of investigating the self and more broadly one’s performance of self as perceived by others,” he said.

“There are some images,” he pointed out, “where the gender kind of breaks down with the combination of faces.”

An example of this would be “John F. Kennedy as Cleopatra,” which combines John F. Kennedy’s face with Elizabeth Taylor’s in a studio publicity shot in her role as Cleopatra. In effect, Seydel has accomplished the godlike feat of creating a new human, who looks back at the viewer with disarming urgency.

Other pairings – such as poet Oscar Wilde and performer David Bowie – may have been chosen because the individuals were well-known for exploring and playing with gender identity, Rubinfeld said. He referenced gender theorist Judith Butler’s ideas about the performativity of gender, and the ways in which gender is socially constructed.

Other factors at work in one’s construction or performance of identity might include race, history or the current point in time, Rubinfeld said. “A lot of the images have a very specific historical or temporal reference,” he said. “And the meaning of those images on their own is seen as having been disrupted and disturbed when they’re combined with other images that often seem very oppositional.”

“The layering brings attention to how a lot of those images are made,” he continued. “A lot of the images that Robert used, and the resulting compositions, force

fishing places. Petroglyphs and pictographs are often found around falls where migrating fish were seasonally harvested. Spring salmon may have accumulated in the settling pool at the base of Mill Brook falls annually, and the same can be said of Eastern brook trout running upriver for their annual fall spawning.

Tributary paths likely intersected the marshy main path from Peskeomskut to Green River. This terrain that today sits north of Silver Street and south of Barton Road was known in the early-historic period as Trap Plain, a bountiful hunting and trapping ground. As recently as the final quarter of the 19th century, Cherry Rum Brook was still referred to on maps as “Trap Plain Brook.”

By the time of King Philip’s War, 40 years after the founding of Springfield, beavers had been overharvested to extirpation in southern New England by Indian trappers supplying the Pynchon fur-trading dynasty. That doesn’t mean signs of old beaver colonies were not prevalent. The remains of old beaver ponds must have left dense marshland and wet, fertile soil along brooks that had been dammed.

So, Turner and his men were likely negotiating swampy, jungle-like habitat through the Cherry Rum/Mill Brook corridor. Plus, once they got near the Mill Brook falls, their ability to detect sounds around them would have been greatly diminished if not totally erased.

you to think about how you see and how many different ways there are of seeing.”

Rubinfeld said that as a student at Hampshire (from 2009 to 2012), he was drawn to Seydel because of, “The absolute playfulness of his personality and his totally open curiosity about things.”

Seydel was a voracious reader, schooled in many disciplines including art, history, philosophy, poetry, photography, alchemy and the occult. “His bookshelves were three or four books deep and his syllabi were twenty pages long and were this kind of encyclopedic collage themselves,” Rubinfeld said.

While you are in the gallery, you can spend some time in the Robert Seydel Reading Room, which offers a very small sampling of books from Seydel’s eclectic library in a simulated living room setting. Upstairs, on the second floor of the library, is a larger reading room offering many more volumes, again, housed in an inventive environment.

Take the time to look at Seydel’s “Book of Ruth,” a collection of collages and writings published posthumously by Siglio Press after Seydel’s sudden death by heart attack in 2011. In the book, Seydel layers real life and fiction, creating two characters based on his aunt Ruth and uncle Sol, who lived together for most of their adult lives in a small apartment in Queens, not far from the home of collagist Joseph Cornell. Seydel has his aunt meet Cornell and fall in love with him, and this unrequited love is one of the main subjects of the book. But to put it so narratively is to misrepresent the character of “Book of Ruth,” which is an exciting hybrid creation hard to explain with words alone.

At the Hampshire College Art Gallery, 893 West Street, Amherst. Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 to 5 p.m. Closed Saturdays. For more information, visit hampshire.edu/gallery, email gallery@hampshire.edu, or call (413) 559-6901.



Another shot of the Warner Manufacturing building, this one taken from the south shore of Nash’s Mills Pond, situated where Conway Street, Leyden Road, and Silver Street today connect. Just north of the Silver Street intersection, a long bridge today spans I-91 overlooking Nashs Mills Road and the Greenfield Swimming and Recreation Area to the west. (Photograph by C.N. Kelley, restored by Chris Clawson.)



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

Rau's Auto

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

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

RENAISSANCE PAINTING

SINCE 1970
LICENSED, INSURED
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, ALL PHASES
POWER WASHING

BRIAN MCCUE, PRESIDENT
240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA 01351
PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896 • RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM

The Children's Page

YONERDOD ILLUSTRATION




A MIDSUMMER-NIGHT'S DREAM.

ACT II
SCENE I

A wood near Athens.

OVER HILL,
OVER DALE,
THOROUGH BUSH, THOROUGH BRIER,
OVER PARK, OVER PALE,
THOROUGH FLOOD,
THOROUGH FIRE,
I DO WANDER EVERY WHERE,
SWIFTER THAN
THE MOON'S SPHERE;
AND I SERVE THE FAIRY QUEEN,
TO DEW HER ORBS UPON THE GREEN,
THE COWSLIPS TALL
HER PENSIONERS BE;
IN THEIR GOLD
COATS SPOTS
YOU SEE;
THOSE BE RUBIES,
FAIRY FAVOURS,
IN THOSE FRECKLES LIVE THEIR SAVOURS.
I MUST GO SEEK SOME DEWDROPS HERE,
AND HANG A PEARL IN EVERY COWSLIP'S EAR.
FAREWELL, THOU LOB OF SPIRITS; I'LL BE GONE.
OUR QUEEN AND ALL HER ELVES COME HERE ANON



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

DOLAN & DOLAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS
01376
413-863-3133

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

Summer hours: Mon-Wed 10-6, Thurs-Sun, 10-8

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.

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

863-2471
28 Montague St
Turners Falls, MA

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

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: *James Fernando, John Lentz & Bill Winslow, Steve Arnold*. Resonator Series by Hawks & Reed. \$. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Revolutionists*. Silverthorne Theater presents this brutal comedic quartet about four very real women who lived boldly in France during the Reign of Terror. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half Shaved Jazz*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

FAB Fashion, Turners Falls: *Fashion Passion Meet and Greet*. Mingle with designers and models from the Fashion Passion project. 6 p.m.

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

Memorial Hall, Shelburne: *Play, Ropes*. Three brothers kill time in an airport on their way to their estranged father's final tightrope walk. Footlights at the Falls production. \$. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Revolutionists*. (See Thursday's description.) \$. 7:30 p.m.

Guiding Star Grange, Greenfield: *Contra Dance*. Liz Nelson calls, with *David Kaynor, Susan Conger*, and the *Back Row Band*. \$. 8 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Films by Artists: How to Turn a Bicycle into a Record Player*. Film program curated by *Josh Guilford* and *Andrew Ritchey*. \$. 8 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *August, Osage County*. ACT presents this play about the dark side of a Midwestern family. \$. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Lez Zeppelin, She Said*. All-female Led Zeppelin tribute, with opening band *She Said* performing originals. \$. 8 p.m.

North Village Smokehouse, Millers Falls: *TNT Karaoke*. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Fashion Passion Show*. Multi-designer fashion show with international flair comes to Turners Falls. Check out the runway at this second configuration of FAB Fashion

designer *Richie Richardson's* collaboration. \$. 6 p.m.

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro, VT: *Alloy Orchestra presents Man With a Movie Camera*. Alloy Orchestra performs a dynamic live soundtrack to Soviet director Dziga Vertov's 1929 surrealist masterpiece. \$. 7 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne: *Ropes*. (See Friday's description.) \$. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Revolutionists*. (See Thursday's description.) \$. 7:30 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague Center: *Diane Cluck, Corey Laitman*. \$. 7:30 p.m.



This rehearsal scene at the Shea Theater shows the epic set built for this week's Arena Civic Theater presentation of August: Osage County. The play deals with the dysfunctional Weston family, and features sensitive subject matter including suicide, drug use, and incest. There will be only three performances: Friday and Saturday, September 20 and 21 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, September 22 at 2 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Fiery Hope*. Amandla Chorus. \$. 7:30 p.m.

St. James Church, Greenfield: *Dance Spree*. Freestyle boogie: no shoes, no alcohol, no rules. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Friends Meetinghouse, Leverett: *Roy Zimmerman*. Satirical songs that bring hope through laughter to fuel resistance in the age of Trump. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *August, Osage County*. (See Friday's description.) \$. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Af-terglo*. Rock and Roll. \$. 8 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Brittany, Karlson Puppet Show, Melissa Weikart, Lovelights*. Magical night of experimental puppetry, skits, and song. \$. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Hallas Cowboys*. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *August, Osage County*. (See Friday's description.) \$. 2 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *ReVamp Fashion Show*. Recycled materials create new fashion statements in the hands of inventive local designers. Fun frolics on the runway, curated by *Rachel Teumin*. \$. 3 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Spontaneous Combustion 12*, open improvisation night featuring sets by *Gabby Fluke-Mogul &*

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Petit Poucet, Nazi Coffins, Idol Brain, Shane Kerr*. \$. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Swim, Olana Flynn, Josie Bettman, Old Pam, DJ Meginsky*. \$. 8 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Sundog, Greef, Hollow Deck, Bringers of the Dawn*. \$. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Revolutionists*. (See September 19 description.) \$. 7:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Masala Jazz*. 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Artspace, Greenfield: *Jam Session*. *Kevin Dee* leads monthly session, all ages and skill levels welcome. Suggested donation. \$. 12 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Revolutionists*. (See September 19 description.) \$. 7:30 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Exit Through the Gift Shop*. Pothole Pictures season kicks off with this award-winning documentary about graffiti artist *Banksy*. Live music before the show. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Fred Eaglesmith*. \$. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: The legendary *Talib Kweli*, with *Maspyke* and *Jackson Whalan*. \$. 8:30 p.m.

North Village Smokehouse, Millers Falls: *TNT Karaoke*. 9:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Bluegrass and Beyond*. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Traditional Music Open Session*. Contra, Irish, old-time, etc. Open jam session. 3 p.m.

St. James Church, Greenfield: *Freedom & Struggle Song Swap*. Singalong and potluck. Donation. \$. 5 p.m.

Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: *Rosemary Caine, Chris Devine, Michael Nix*. Resonate Series by Hawks & Reed. \$. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: The Revolutionists. (See September 19 description.) \$. 7:30 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

CALLS FOR ART

Nina's Nook in Turners Falls invites artists to submit erotic art for Triple SSS 2020: Sensual, Sexual, Smut. Submit up to three jpegs to eroticart2020@gmail.com by January 15 for the February show. A \$10 participation fee is asked at drop off to help with expenses relating to the reception.

Artspace in Greenfield welcomes artists and art instructors with ideas for exhibits and programming at the center. If you have an idea for a class, a musical project, a gallery exhibit, or what have you, please contact the office at (413) 772-6811 or email info@artspace-greenfield.com.

Where do you live? Where are you from? Who gets to make the map, and what gets left out? Exploded View announces a call for art on the theme of "You Are Here." Open to all media; send three jpegs along with descriptions and dimensions of the work and name, address, phone number to explodedview-ma@gmail.com by December 15 to be juried into the show, scheduled at the *Great Falls Discovery Center* during *January and February 2020*.

Vendors wanted for the next Saturday PopUp market on October 5 at Hawks & Reed, Greenfield. Rent a space for selling your work, service, or what have you. Contact Sarah Robertson with your ideas, at marketing@hawk-sandreed.com.

EXHIBITS

Artspace Gallery, Greenfield: *Watercolors* by *Ruth Oland-Stuckey*. Her style takes inspiration from the Japanese watercolor masters depicting landscapes, fruits, branches, and other elements from nature. Through September 20.

Barnes Gallery, Leverett Crafts & Arts Center: *Susan Valentine Open Studio and Exhibit*. September 5 through 29.

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center: New exhibits for the summer include beach scenes, activist photography by *Dona McAdams*, immersive installations, steel sculpture, and more.

Through September 23. New exhibits to open October 4 include works by: *Fafnir Adamites, Doug Trump, Maria Elena Gonzalez, Gordon Meinhard, and Thelma Appel*.

DVAA Gallery, Northfield: *Fabrications II*. Textile creations, both wearable and fine art. Through November 2. Reception with the Farley String Band this Sunday, September 22 at 1 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Speaking for the Trees*. Paintings by *Cindi Oldham*. What if, in addition to sustaining us, trees were sentient? What if they had communities and wept for each other? What if they nursed and cared for their

young? Would that change everything? Through September.

Greenfield Gallery: *Linda Leighton: From the Gardens*. Photographer's thoughtful meditations on a garden theme. Through September 22, followed by *Western Massachusetts Illustrators Guild Group Exhibit*, September 17 through October 25, showing narrative illustration by 15 artists.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: Paintings and sculpture by *Annaleah Gregoire*. Gregoire draws inspiration from examining issues such as the encroachment of technology on the natural world and incorporates techniques such as ceramics, bronze casting, laser

cutting, and 3D printing.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Mapping the Body*. Multimedia installation by *Nancy Lautenbach* featuring her Pod series, inspired by the female form in collage, drawings, and sculpture. Through October 26.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Karen Iglehart: Entering Abstraction through Color*, oil paintings; *Carson Converse: Modern Art Quilts*; and *Dawn Siebel: The Endangered*.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Local Color*. Art inspired by the landscape of western Mass by member artists. Through September.

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



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

GREAT FALLS APPLE COLUMN



Purslane, a common garden weed, is a powerhouse of nutrients and antioxidants.

By RACHEL LABRIE

TURNERS FALLS – Greetings to the *Montague Reporter* community! The Great Falls Apple Corps welcomes with open arms our favorite season – Autumn.

Apples are already being picked and shared with the community, and we have been busy planning for a fun fall season. The cooler mornings bring with them a tinge of change in the leaves, and the promise of cozy sweaters and hot cider.

But before we get deep into the fall season, we will cherish the last bits of summer that hang on in the gardens – cherry tomatoes, cabbage, the bright colors of cosmos and zinnias, and the deep purple of the morning glories. Make sure to take a walk down by the river and check out the Unity Park Community Garden before the season is over!

Edible Spotlight:

Purslane, *Portulaca Oleracea*

The Great Falls Apple Corps loves our wild edibles, especially when it's a delicious and nutritious garden weed. Purslane is my all-time favorite edible weed and is the perfect snack on a hot summer day. Purslane looks like a succulent, growing close to the ground, with thick red stems and alternate smooth, paddle shaped leaves that form a mat. It loves heat and tolerates dry sandy soil, showing up mostly at the end of June and July when the sun is hot. It

has little yellow flowers late July through September.

It can be found, like most edible weeds, in disturbed soils close to humans – sidewalk cracks, vacant lots, edges of lawns and roads. It is also often found in the garden, creeping amongst your vegetables, looking scrumptious. Both the leaves and stems are edible, but the leaves are tastiest. Purslane is native of India, Africa, and Persia, where it has been used for thousands of years. It has been considered a succulent garden herb by Europeans for centuries.

Purslane is *mucilaginous*, meaning it has a viscous or gelatinous consistency. This mucilage is the richest source of omega-3 fatty acids studied to date. A powerhouse of nutrients, purslane is an excellent example of “food as medicine.” It is rich in vitamins A, C, E, and B, and the minerals iron, calcium, magnesium, potassium, lithium, phosphorus, zinc, manganese, copper and selenium.

It is also higher in antioxidants than cranberries, and has more glutathione than spinach. Glutathione is an antioxidant found in our body that also aids in detoxification.

While highly nutritious, purslane is at home in the kitchen. It has a zesty, lemony flavor and can be put fresh in salads or in the place of lettuce or other leafy greens. I love to put the leaves in my potato and egg salad. Purslane is also delicious pickled, or added in with cucumber pickles. It can be lightly sautéed or braised, and is often used to thicken soups or stews. My favorite way is to eat it fresh on a hot summer day in the gardens.

So get outside, go visit the gardens, and eat some purslane before the summer is gone for good!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 25: T-Shirt Fundraiser for the Unity Park Community Garden at the Great Falls Farmers Market at Peskeomskut Park, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. We will be selling Unity Park Community Garden T-shirts to help fundraise money for the community garden. Come out to the market and say hello!

Sunday, September 22: Our last Pickle in the Park of the season! Come out and make a batch of lacto-fermented pickles with vegetables donated from local farms. Thanks again to the Montague Cultural Council for a grant that enabled us to have supplies on hand for all participants. Picklers of all ages welcome at the Unity Park Shade Tent next to the playground. 1 p.m.

Sunday, October 27: Fall Clean Up at the Unity Park Community Garden at 10 a.m.

We will also have an applesauce making party sometime in October, exact time and day TBA. Check our Facebook and Instagram for updates, or email greatfalls-applecorps@gmail.com.

MAKE ART. We offer courses for adults and children in drawing, painting, clay, mixed media and more taught by experienced and patient teachers. Featuring new gallery exhibits every month by local artists.

LEARN AN INSTRUMENT. Private music lessons are available for people of all skill levels on guitar, piano, drums, violin, cello, flute, trumpet and more. Plus, Noontime Open Jam Sessions every 4th Friday.

SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS. Founded in 1973, Artspace is a nonprofit teaching center fostering a community of creative people sharing skills and advocating for the importance of the arts in education.

FALL 2019 COURSES:

CLAY VILLAGE (Ages 6-10) Using clay and found objects, children learn basic ceramic techniques while building their own mini play set. **Oct 10 – Nov 21; Thursdays 4-5:30 p.m.**

CARTOONING FOR KIDS (Ages 6-10) From sketching monsters to crafting cardboard superhero masks, kids will learn the fundamentals of storytelling and illustration. **Oct 9 – Nov 20; Wednesdays 4-5:30 p.m.**

COMIC BOOKS, GRAPHIC NOVELS and DRAWINGS (Teens) Illustration, storyboarding, student collaboration and expert advice on how to get published and build a portfolio. **Sept 18 – Nov 6; Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

TILE MAKING In a playful environment for early and advanced ceramic artists, learn raised relief carving, slip inlay, sgraffito and glazing techniques while making tiles. **Oct 10– Nov 21; Thursdays 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

VISUAL STORYTELLING FOR ADULTS A course for those with a project in mind, learn about illustration techniques, publishing and portfolios. **Oct 9 – Nov 20; Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.**

PASTEL STUDIO #2 A continuation of Pastel Studio #1 with Becky Clark, instruction and critique with fellow artists. **Sept 12 – Dec 19; Thursdays 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

PAINTING AUTUMN IN WATERCOLOR A weekend-long course on watercolors at the peak of the fall foliage season. **Oct 19 & 20; 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

To register, visit ArtspaceGreenfield.com, call (413)-772-6811 or email info@artspacegreenfield.com

Artspace Community Arts Center
15 Mill St. Greenfield 01301

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

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

**SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION
SUPPLY Co. INC.**

"Rock solid service with level advice"

Complete Masonry Supply

Offering a complete line of pavers,
wall stone, retaining wall block and more. **Idéal**

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

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

Time for Fall Service!

Servicing all makes of leaf blowers and snow throwers!

Pick up &
Delivery
Available!

sirumequipment.com

Rte 63, Montague 413-367-2481

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

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

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

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

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

"WE HAD A **WONDERFUL** AND **INFORMATIVE** EXPERIENCE, START TO FINISH. SO HAPPY WE CONTRACTED **PV SQUARED** TO SEE IF **SOLAR** WAS A VIABLE OPTION FOR US. THANK YOU!"

413-772-8788
PVSQUARED.COOP
GREENFIELD, MA
MA ELEC. LIC. A13764 MA HIC 140077