

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 18 – NO. 14

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

FEBRUARY 6, 2020

## Solar Developer Walks Away from Wendell

By MIKE JACKSON  
and ISABEL KOYAMA

A controversial solar array the California-based Sunpin Solar Development, Inc. proposed to build on a wooded lot on the corner of Morse Village and New Salem roads is no longer on the table. Sunpin notified the town late last week that its applications pending before the planning board and conservation commission were no longer active.

“We have withdrawn the project, and are walking away from it,” project manager Sam Dionne confirmed to the *Reporter*. “We’d like to dedicate our time toward better-suited sites.”

“That certainly was the feeling they should have gotten from every meeting they came to,” said planning board chair Nan Riebschlaeger, reached for comment on Wednesday. “The people weren’t too happy about the idea.”

Last September, over 70 residents packed a public hearing to express their opposition to the planned 10-acre array, citing its potential environmental impact, including the clearing of trees on the privately owned lot.

“You don’t have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind blows in this room,” a lawyer for the developer joked, before reminding the town that its special permit

see SOLAR page A7

### GILL SELECTBOARD

## Gill Might Prefer Loose Cows To Uptight Loose Cow Bylaws



JACKSON PHOTO

*An effort to streamline regulations across multiple towns raised hackles in Gill.*

By MIKE JACKSON

“What has prompted the initiation of this?” Ray Steele, chair of Gill’s agricultural commission, asked on Monday. “Is it that big a problem? Loose animals?”

Kyle Dragon, the new regional animal control officer Gill shares with Northfield, Colrain, Shelburne, Buckland, Heath, and Monroe, was at town hall Monday night to discuss a nine-page bylaw proposal he had drafted in an effort to streamline his job across all the towns he serves. “The majority of towns actually already have something in place for this,” Dragon said. “So, looking at them –

“So that’s just trying to make

Gill generic?” Steele asked.

“Yeah,” Dragon replied. “So right off hand –

“Did you just stay ‘yeah’ to that?” Steele cut in again. “Strike one!”

The proposed bylaws cover dog and kennel licensing, rabies control, dealing with loose or dangerous dogs and feral cats, and penalties for violations.

At issue for Steele, and for others at the selectboard meeting, was the page labeled “Livestock” – in particular a provision that if one person’s sheep, swine, horses, oxen, cows, or other grazing animals or fowls were to wander onto public roadways or the lands of another person, a complaint registered by the latter person

see GILL page A6

## Coop Board Lays Off Staff, Plans Member Vote to Dissolve Organization

By JEFF SINGLETON

**LEVERETT** – The Leverett Village Co-op board of directors, along with about half a dozen members at a meeting in the coop on North Leverett Road, voted on Wednesday night to call a “temporary hiatus of normal operations until a special meeting of the membership occurs.” The vote, which followed an extremely contentious meeting that lasted for nearly two hours, was a response to a passionate plea by member Sam Lovejoy for “consensus” as required by the organization’s bylaws.

The meeting began with board president Susan Lynton calling for a “motion to dissolve” the coop in order to sell its assets, pay outstanding bills and other liabilities, and perhaps sell the store to a private entity. She recounted the coop’s recent financial history, including a sharp decline in revenue and the failure to meet fundraising targets this past fall.

“There’s no money to run the store,” Lynton said. “We need \$24,000 just to pay the basics.” Later in the meeting she stated that the “basics” included past bills to cover utilities, building insurance, and

see COOP page A6

## General Pierce Bridge Project Only a “Twenty-Five-Year Fix”



NINA ROSSI PHOTO

*The bridge, which has been reduced to one-lane traffic, may be closed for four years.*

By JEFF SINGLETON

**MONTAGUE CITY** – The long-awaited public hearing on the General Pierce bridge renovation plan, which was held on Tuesday at the Shea Theater in Turners Falls, was proceeding as one might predict. A presentation of the time-frame and engineering design for the bridge had just been completed by Department of Transportation (MassDOT) officials. Virtually all the work will be done on the underside of the bridge, there will be limited repairs on the upper structure, and the bridge’s sidewalk will remain open for pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

The bidding process for the project would be completed by this summer, but work on the General Pierce will need to wait for improvements on the detour route, particularly on the corner of Route 2 and Main Road, Gill, next to the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. The General Pierce Bridge is projected to be closed in the summer of 2021 and

reopened in the spring of 2024, although these dates are provisional.

There was a brief presentation of the history of the bridge, which connects Montague City with the Cheapside neighborhood of Greenfield, and the origins of its name. Pierce, it turns out, was a rather obscure local veteran of the Spanish-American War of 1898 who retired from the military in 1912 but somehow had a bridge named after him in 1948.

The bridge received his name before he died, which the MassDOT historian called “unusual.” Pierce is buried in the Federal Street Cemetery in Greenfield, but the two historical signs commemorating him at the bridge site have disappeared. They will be replaced by the project.

Most of the “public comments” that took up most of the meeting initially focused on the disruptions caused by the project’s seemingly long timeframe. There was also significant criticism of the proposed

see PIERCE page A8

## The Week In High School Sports

By MATT ROBINSON

This week, a look at Franklin Tech’s three winter sports. Also this week, Turners Falls High School enjoyed some home cooking, and the Kansas City Chiefs won the Super Bowl. It was pretty strange not seeing the Pats in the big game this year, but one good thing came out of it: the Niners didn’t win their sixth Super Bowl.

### Franklin Tech

One of the issues with Franklin Tech is that they are a countywide team, and there’s no second bus. So if students want to do extracur-

ricular activities, or even just want to go to a game, they need to get a ride home.

This limits student participation in afterschool activities, and makes their fan base mostly family members.

Since the last time I wrote about Tech, their **boys’ basketball** team has won 8 out of 9 games. This week they trounced Pioneer Christian 54-19, and outlasted McCann Tech by 2 points, 46-44. These two wins give the Eagles an 11-5 record with two games remaining.

The Eagles are hoisted by their twin towers, Garrett Cole and Bailey Young. So

see SPORTS page A5



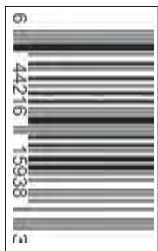
DAVID HOITT PHOTO

*Up and in: Turners Falls’ Anthony Peterson shoots over Panther defender Jayden Fox as the Thunder rolls past the Pioneer Panthers on Monday, 72-38.*

### Other Ingredients

Editorial and Letters.....	A2
Illustration.....	A2
Local Briefs.....	A3
Two Guest Editorials.....	A4
Montague Selectboard Notes.....	A5
Erving Selectboard Notes.....	A6
Leverett Selectboard Notes.....	A7
10 Years Ago This Week.....	A7

Valley View: Club.....	B1
ArtBeat: Beyond Planet Earth.....	B1
Chasing Our Tales.....	B2
Montague Police Log.....	B3
Five Comics, One Puzzle, One Bio.....	B4
Monty/Musik/Mountain.....	B5
NatureCulture Page.....	B6
Arts & Entertainment Calendar.....	B7



By SARAH ROBERTSON

**TURNERS FALLS** – After an eight-month closure, the Five Eyed Fox will reopen this month with founder and head chef Ashley Arthur at the helm, plus a new business partner, Josh Goldman.

Arthur, now the owner, manager, and head chef of the Third Street restaurant, will run the establishment’s day-to-day operations, while Goldman, who helped purchase the building and finance necessary upgrades, is the majority property owner. Goldman is founder and CEO of the fish-farming company Australis Aquaculture, which sold its Turners Falls farm in 2018 and moved to Greenfield, as well as vice president and treasurer of the Shea Theater Arts Center board of directors.

“I want to run a restaurant here because the people I’ve encountered really care about this town and all the little things about it,” Arthur said. “There’s a strange, low-burn fire here that’s building, and I’m so honored to be a part of it. It feels like home.”

According to the county registry of deeds, a new company called 37 Third Street LLC, managed by Goldman, bought the restaurant’s building last September from for-

mer owners Vernon and Janet McClish of Spencer. In December, the LLC also received a \$40,000 loan from the Franklin County Community Development Corporation.

Goldman, who was in Vietnam this week supervising Australis’s barramundi farming operations, was not available for comment.

While no official reopening date is set, Arthur said she hopes to start serving food the third week of February as part of a “soft” opening. A job listing posted last month on Craigslist sought servers, bartenders, line cooks, prep cooks, bakers and dishwashers, and Arthur said she has settled on a core team of 12 employees. As the newly-hired staff get their bearings, she said, they may start with invite-only events for friends and family. She has a menu planned for the opening, but wants to keep the dishes a secret until they are ready to be unveiled.

The Five Eyed Fox first opened in October 2014, and closed its doors last May, a decision Arthur said was due to a “combination of many factors.” Her founding partners had left the business, and she had been managing the restaurant by herself. According to Arthur, the restaurant was also not equipped to serve the

see FOX page A3



# 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**

Annie Levine, *Business Manager*  
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

## Into The Storm

Some of our readers tell us that the lack of national news in our pages is one of the reasons they enjoy the paper. Boy, will they be disappointed when we’ve grown enough to hire correspondents all across the country...

National politics are morbidly polarized, the logical end state of a two-party, winner-take-all system. On both sides, the driving force is not a love of party, but *negative partisanship* – hatred of either the Democratic or Republican party, even among independent voters, is often the primary deciding factor in choosing an alignment.

Since presidential and midyear elections occur at regular intervals in our country, unlike those places where snap elections are called whenever a ruling coalition weakens, the entire time between the intervals has by now filled up with electioneering, too.

The country is always already in the next election, in other words, and every decision in governing or legislating is made with electoral calculations in mind.

Some people hate the Republicans, and dislike the Democrats for capitulating to them; others have become convinced by a mirror-image media apparatus that the Democrats are responsible for all the evils of the world, and despise the RINOs (Republicans In Name Only) who enable them.

Meanwhile, the attempt by a tiny faction of principled careerists to stake out a central position midway between the two camps is the least rational of all. How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?

This edition comes midway between the first and second contests of the 2020 election season: the Iowa caucus and the New Hampshire primary. Two Democrats led the pack in Iowa: Bernie Sanders with the most actual votes in the initial and final alignments; Pete Buttigieg with half a percent more state delegates; both awarded 11 delegates toward the actual party nomination.

Elizabeth Warren follows in third position, and Joe Biden – long considered the front-runner, who has released fewer position papers than his peers in the hope that enough voters will assume his moderate politics and name recognition grant him special electability – in a catastrophic fourth, awarded no delegates.

The exact results have not been released as of press time, and they don’t really matter. What matters is the national pivot to New Hamp-

shire, a place ten miles from our office, and the narratives and perceptions of the candidates going into that primary on Tuesday.

If we believe the polls, Sanders has gained a comfortable lead in the state, with Biden slipping toward a third place Buttigieg and Warren have been jockeying for. (Amy Klobuchar, fifth in Iowa, polls at a distant fifth.) Sanders won the state handily four years ago, though the field was smaller.

Internally, the field of Democratic support is growing more polarized, and more contentious, as the options slowly winnow down. Should Sanders emerge from this month’s contests a frontrunner, he will face a new challenge beginning March 3 in the form of Michael Bloomberg.

Bloomberg, we noted back in November, is the planet’s ninth-richest human, a billionaire whose ballooning wealth is tied directly to the functioning of financial markets themselves, via the licensing of trading terminals.

On standby to defend Wall Street from taxation if the senator from Vermont maintains a path to the nomination, Bloomberg has been dumping massive amounts of cash into advertising – \$300 million and counting. This week he announced he would double his ad buys, which have already single-handedly driven up the cost of television advertising for other candidates.

That’s disgusting. The *Montague Reporter* endorses any candidate, of any party, or for that matter any other political strategy or movement, that stands a chance of breaking the influence of money in politics. We’ve reached an era in which control of the US state, an institution capable of annihilating the planet and its inhabitants, could end up ping-ponging between rival billionaires indefinitely.

This week the president’s approval rating hit an all-time high of 49%, which calls into question the idea that even a failed impeachment will alienate voters and isolate his supporters in Congress.

Anything can happen in the next nine months: he could cruise into a second term by a landslide, or the opposition could coalesce around a single candidate and build a movement capable of transforming the country in a new and exciting way.

What would that look like for you? What changes do you crave, from the global level all the way down to our county and towns? Think it through, because we just might be in for a shakeup.

NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION



*Walter Burnham has been the director of the Leverett Crafts & Arts center for 13 years. Last year, LCA was fortunate enough to receive funding and grants for extensive renovations to the historic building, a former box factory that has been home to the arts center since 1966.*

## Letters to the Editors

### Kudos to the Corps

One of my New Year’s resolutions is to actually let people know when I appreciate them, instead of simply thinking it and assuming that they will somehow know.

So, I’d like to express my appreciation for the Great Falls Apple Column, my very favorite part of the *Montague Reporter*. I look so forward to reading these beautifully written installments, and every month I think, “I must go to the next Great Falls Apple Corps meeting” (which hasn’t happened yet, but it will!).

I grew up in Hatfield, raised by parents spent summers growing and preserving our own produce. My mother has always loved using herbs to make beauty and health products and now, in her retirement, grows and dries flowers and herbs to use in teas, medicines, tinctures, and salves.

The Great Falls Apple Column is a joy to read, and offers useful and fascinating information. (Who knew the mysterious tree in my yard is really a Kousa Dogwood with edible berries? We’ve always jokingly referred to it as a “Crappleberry Tree” but never thought to try to eat the fruit!)

Annabel’s column in the January 30 issue really spoke to me in other ways as well... I really resonated with her feelings of helplessness in today’s current political climate and her decision to focus on where she can make a difference, leading to the creation of the Great Falls Apple Corps.

Thank you so much for the meaningful work you are doing, Annabel and Great Falls Apple Corps!

**Jessica Vachula-Curtis**  
Turners Falls

## Wendell: Correction/Clarification

Wendell board of assessors member Anna Seeger let us know that several aspects of last week’s Wendell selectboard notes (page A4, *Rising Property Values*, *Future Police Chief*) were off base.

The board of assessors is in a multi-year process of revaluating Wendell’s properties.

A summary of Seeger’s report at the meeting bled ambiguously into one of the general conversation – something we’ll try to avoid in the future. But she also doesn’t remember hearing anyone *else* say that houses put on the market at \$200,000 are selling for \$300,000.

Since discussion of assessment and taxation is inevitably technical, we asked Seeger to clarify her report for our readers, and correct any other details we got wrong. She was kind enough to oblige. We refer our readers to her letter, and apologize for our mistakes!

**Mike Jackson**  
Managing Editor

Thank you to the *Montague Reporter* for covering our local meetings. I appreciate the effort and hard work that goes into keeping residents informed.

Speaking as an individual, and not for the Board of Assessors, I would like to correct the record and clarify a few points discussed at the last Wendell selectboard meeting on January 22.

1. As a matter of clarification, in a classification hearing the assessors are required to recommend a single or split tax rate and report the excess levy capacity. At the hearing, Board of Assessors chair Chris Wings recommended a single tax rate and reported an excess levy capacity of \$257,893. The Select Board voted to accept a single tax rate.

The assessors also shared a *probable* tax rate of \$23.62, based on the total valuation of town property and the total town budget. At the time of the classification hearing, the tax rate had not been certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

2. In the meeting I stated that in the last couple of years we have seen a general trend of homes selling for higher than their assessed value.

Please note that I did *not* give any examples of specific numbers, nor suggest that sellers received more than the asking price.

3. The total new growth cited in the article includes both *real* and personal property and totals just over \$4 million. Real property is land and anything permanently affixed to it.

4. Others in the room discussed how the lack of wired internet may have kept home prices low, and the potential impact on future sales once broadband is connected. I did not make this statement or generalization.

Readers should feel free to contact the Assessors’ office with any questions.

**Anna Seeger**  
Wendell

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

**PHONE: (413) 863-8666**  
Please note new email addresses:  
editor@montaguereporter.org  
features@montaguereporter.org  
ads@montaguereporter.org  
bills@montaguereporter.org  
circulation@montaguereporter.org  
events@montaguereporter.org  
poetry@montaguereporter.org  
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org

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

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

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

**Annual Subscription Rate:**  
\$30 for walking subscriptions;  
\$40 for driving route subscriptions;  
\$60 for mailed subscriptions.  
Call us or contact  
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org  
with any questions.

**WE WELCOME  
YOUR LETTERS!**  
*(ORIGINAL CONTENT ONLY, PLEASE)*

**Montague Reporter**  
177 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

editor@  
montaguereporter.org

### Sign Me Up!

**\$20** { 8 months (31 issues) for our walking routes  
6 months (23 issues) for our driving routes  
4 months (15 issues) for mailed subscriptions

**The Montague Reporter**  
177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_





Compiled by NINA ROSSI

Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls will ring out with the sounds of music this Saturday morning, February 8. Elementary and middle school students from Montague and Greenfield are showing their chops in a **concert put on by the Musica Franklin program**, an intensive afterschool program for Franklin County students.

There will be violins and voices in the community room between 10:45 and 11:30 a.m., uniting in classical and traditional music from around the world. Come support the accomplishments of these 15 to 20 young musicians. Light refreshments provided by the bank.

Also this Saturday, February 8 is the monthly volunteer day at La Mariposa (115 Avenue A Turners Falls) for the **Great Falls Books Through Bars** project. They are working through a backlog of letters from incarcerated people seeking books to read, and are extending their hours from 1 to 6 p.m. Stay as long as you like and help to package books to send to incarcerated people all over the country.

Got books to donate? Drop ‘em off! Books frequently asked for include reference books like dictionaries, thesauruses and almanacs; thrillers, law books, westerns, street lit, mysteries, occult, aliens, tattoos, manga/graphic novels, and Dungeons & Dragons. No experience

is necessary to help out, and all are welcome. You may also donate funds to help pay for shipping and packing, or donate supplies for the same.

Books Through Bars is also hosting a letter-writing initiative to support inmates currently experiencing intensified state violence and neglect at Mississippi State Penitentiary, and is involved with a project to provide backpacks full of basic supplies to recently released inmates, who often find themselves suddenly on the street without any resources. Donations of backpacks, gift cards, toiletries, food, water, prepackaged dry goods, and no-prep foods are needed. Find out more at [gfbooksthroughbars@riseup.net](mailto:gfbooksthroughbars@riseup.net).

The Montague Common Hall open mic has rolled around again on the calendar! This Saturday, February 8, the **featured performer is Louise Mosrie**, who has had a long career as a singer-songwriter in the bluegrass, country, and folk traditions. She grew up in Tennessee and spent time touring in the south, Texas, and the eastern seaboard, and has won many awards for her creative output.

Mosrie will share her latest songs with a half-hour set between 8:15 and 8:45, with open mic guests performing before and after. Sign up to perform at 7 p.m. Donations are appreciated; food is provided by Red Fire Farm; bring your own bottle.

There’s too many great things

happening at once! The Art Garden in Shelburne Falls has a fabulous **Winter Hoopla** this Saturday evening as well. It’s a free community festival of light and art in the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum’s rail yard.

You can help create the installation that day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or contribute clear glass jars for candles. Call (413) 625-2782 if you want to be involved. In the event of bad weather, the Hoopla will happen Sunday, February 9.

We received an email about Gray Davidson Carroll, an 18-year-old from Montague who is participating in the 2020 Boston Marathon for the first time on behalf of Make-A-Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island. States the email, “a member of the Student Senate at Greenfield Community College and volunteer for youth activism group Youth Rise Together, Gray has a passion for service and youth causes. Gray is eager to support a cause that they have witnessed bring hope to the lives of children with critical illness through the granting of a wish...”

This Sunday, February 9 from 5:30 to 9 p.m., Gray is hosting a **Make-A-Wish fundraiser at the Lady Killigrew Café** at the Montague Book Mill. The public is invited to come and enjoy a fun-filled evening with complimentary food, a silent auction, and raffle with great prizes, including gift certificates to local eateries, massage sessions, and tattoo sessions. Proceeds will go directly to Make-A-Wish to help grant wishes for children with critical illnesses.

Can’t be there? To donate online, visit [massri.wish.org/news-and-events/news/fy20-news/team-make-a-wish](https://massri.wish.org/news-and-events/news/fy20-news/team-make-a-wish).

Turners Falls native **Naia Kete returns** next week in two Musica Franklin-sponsored performances. Now living in LA, Kete is a singer-songwriter and a social justice advocate. She is the lead singer and bass player of pop/reggae band Say-Real. The press release from Musica Franklin’s Rachele Ackerman states that Kete’s “commitment to emotional health and spiritual development is a signature of her work.”

Kete will perform at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11 at Leyden Woods Apartments in Greenfield, and at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, February 13 at Sheffield Elementary in Turners Falls. Both concerts are free and open to the public, and will be followed by a community meal.

Check out the **inspiring Teen Art Show** in Greenfield at ArtSpace Community Arts Center before it ends on February 14. Twelve schools are represented in this outstanding show of young talent. Stop by from 12 to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday this coming week; or noon to 3 p.m. on Friday. Lots of art and music classes and workshops happen there that you might want to know about as well.

The LAVA Center in Greenfield, which opened last weekend, is holding a **fundraiser for Silverthorne Theater Company** at 7:30 p.m. on February 14 and 15, and at 2 p.m. on February 16. The show is called *Love Letters*, written by A.R. Gurney and directed by David Rowland. Three different couples (one pair per night) read letters exchanged over a lifetime that “reveal the true meaning of love.” The event includes a wine tasting. Find

out more and make a reservation at [silverthornetheater.org](http://silverthornetheater.org).

Do you have young children at home, or grands that are waiting for you to take them somewhere this winter? The Discovery Center in Turners Falls might be a good choice. It’s free, and there’s a lot to explore between the permanent dioramas in the museum and the art exhibits in the Great Hall.

Attend **Kidleidoscope Story Hour**, programs for young children, at 10:30 on Friday mornings. February’s stories and activities will focus on **Bear, Porcupines, Rabbits, and Coyotes**, in that order. Aimed for ages 3 to 6 with an adult, with friends and siblings also welcome.

There is also a **preschool yoga session** available afterwards at 11:30 a.m., taught by Jackie Howard. Preschool yoga includes instruction in mindful games, movement, breathing practices, and stories. Caregivers stay during the class and are encouraged to join the fun.

**Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse** presents a special “home-grown show” on Saturday, February 15 with performers from their own committee: Paul Richmond, Richard Chase, Shelley Hines, Carrie Ferguson, Karen Traub, the Wendell Swamp Sisters with Garrett Sawyer, and Moonlazers, an elementary school group of new talent.

The Coffeehouse will donate all proceeds to benefit the Wendell State Forest Alliance, with a suggestion donation of \$6 to \$15. Starts at 7:30 p.m. For more information see [wendellfullmoon.org](http://wendellfullmoon.org).

Downtown Turners Falls will be buzzing on Saturday, February 15 as well, with several shops offering special promotions and other events. **Mystic Pinball** is having a promotion, and **Buckingham Rabbits Vintage** is hosting a grand opening of their new space on the corner of Avenue A and Third Street. The **LOOT** store is having a “spin-the-sale” day with fantastic bargains on their amazing collection of industrial antiques and handmade crafts.

My own gallery, **Nina’s Nook**, reopens with the 6th *Triple SSS: Sensual, Sexual, Smut* erotic art exhibit, and will host an artists’ reception with popup vendors at the Shea Theater lobby between 5 and 7 p.m.

The Shea hosts a wonderful **\$5 Cinemastorm double feature** that same evening at 8 p.m.: *Labyrinth* and *The Neverending Story*. The day is still evolving, with other businesses possibly participating, so keep an eye on the Turners Falls RiverCulture listings.

While waiting for some snow for more seasonal outdoor activities, you could check out some indoor programming at the Northfield Mountain and Recreation Center. This coming Tuesday, February 11 at 5:30 p.m., there is a presentation by Kim Noyes on the vast **biodiversity of Costa Rica**, captured by Noyes during a recent visit. Return for **Rocking with Fossils and Minerals** on Saturday, February 15 at 1 p.m. Presented by the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club of Springfield, you may enjoy the opportunity to touch and get a close-up view of rocks and fossils of the Connecticut River valley, and learn about minerals used in everyday life. All ages are welcome.

Send your local briefs to [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org)

LIVE IN

EST. 1754

MONTAGUE?

[www.MontagueMA.net](http://www.MontagueMA.net)  
local gossip, news & business listings

NANCY L. DOLE

BOOKS & EPHEMERA

20 State Street,  
Bucklandside  
Shelburne Falls  
413-625-9850  
[ndole@crocker.com](mailto:ndole@crocker.com)  
closed Mondays; Fridays by chance

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!

Nina's Nook

Uniquities,  
Frivolities,  
Un-necessariums

Closed during January  
except by appointment  
(or chance)  
413.834.8800

125A Avenue A Turners Falls  
[www.ninasnook.com](http://www.ninasnook.com)

Great Falls Middle  
School Students  
of the Week

Week ending Jan. 31:

Grade 6  
Nathaniel Trinque

Grade 7  
Marilyn Abarua  
Corona

Grade 8  
Shelby Scott

Related Arts  
Elsee Galvez

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

BKONFONQEQWIYSS.IPY  
HMZGESCGQVQFHJW.MMO  
FONTLVPEAXQAHO.SHC  
LJKEVOBFBFNAPGR.RED  
SECRETBROADCAST.NET  
a weekly secret message podcast

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

CopyCat

YOU THINK IT. WE INK IT!

Digital Print - Offset Print - Banners - Design  
Personalized Calendar & Cards for Holidays  
and Much More!

Mention "MB19" to get 10% off! (Valid until 1/31/2020)

413.774.3500  
[greenfield@copycatprintshop.com](mailto:greenfield@copycatprintshop.com)



## RECYCLE

## BOTTLES &amp; CANS

Week of February 10  
in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

Formerly Jay K's – bigger & better!

## Connecticut River Liquor & Wine



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

123 Avenue A • Turners Falls  
863-5066



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

## GUEST EDITORIAL

By GREGORY BALSEWICZ

**TURNERS FALLS** – Many thanks to the Discovery Center for hosting Walter Ramsey of the Montague Planning and Conservation Department along with Suzanne LoManto of RiverCulture.

Their presentation, *Where Do We Grow from Here?*, was a review of the 2013 Downtown Turners Falls Livability Plan. Various aspects and recommendations from that report were looked at and discussed in depth. Walter brought us up to date on the project with a Power-Point presentation highlighting the accomplishments that have been brought forth. Hopefully that presentation will be posted online as the data it contains should be accessible to all citizens of Turners Falls.

It was heartening to see a very engaged citizenry and the questions and comments they had for the improved quality of life that our infrastructure provides for us. “Good bones,” as it was called – this gem of an old mill town that somehow survived, in spite of itself.

After a brief lunch break, there was a panel discussion “Where Do We Grow from Here?” Moderated by Walter Ramsey, the four panelists – Gina Govoni of the Franklin County Housing Regional Authority, Lisa Davol from the Shea Theater board, Peter Chilton of Nova Motorcycles, and the Montague Reporter’s editor

# Where Do We Grow Now?



ED GREGORY PHOTO

Mike Jackson – spoke of their concerns and hopes for the village.

Affordability was a theme that was returned to again and again. Peter Chilton spoke as a business owner trying to reconcile the costs of development and maintenance, and how that affects affordability. Turners Falls may be blessed with “good bones,” but we should not forget that most of those bones were built over a century ago, and the aging process is (unfortunately) one of disintegration.

Lisa Davol’s vision of growth in the cultural sector as an economic engine was spot on. The Shea Theater’s diverse programming along with that of RiverCulture is a true asset for everyone to enjoy. As editor of the Montague Reporter, Mike Jackson brought interesting insights to the proceedings, as did Gina Govoni of the county Housing Authority.

MCTV was filming the proceedings. I highly recommend visiting their website [montaguetv.org](http://montaguetv.org), to

view the event.

After the panel discussion there were three break-out sessions that one could attend depending on their personal interests. Suzanne LoManto facilitated the session “Conceptualizing a Public Art Strategy for Turners Falls,” Walter Ramsey led the discussion on “Transforming the Canal District,” and planning board member Matt Lord led “Visioning the Southern Corridor of Avenue A” for those who attended his session.

I attended the session facilitated by Walter, who seems very keen on getting some action happening in the Canal District. One of the biggest problems faced here is the raising of capital to renovate the derelict former Strathmore property. Frequent walkers on the bike path will certainly concur on the difficulties that await any developer who dares walk in where angels fear to tread.

Constrained by a limited access road, any movement of machinery and goods for the renovation pro-

cess will be faced with exorbitant costs – whether reclaiming the buildings or tearing them down and carting away the rubble. The old Griswold Cotton Mill, a.k.a. Railroad Salvage, was alluded to several times as a possible site for (re)development as mixed income/senior housing.

As a fan of this post-apocalyptic vision of collapsed civilization, I would be sad to see it bulldozed.

Also mentioned for development was the old Indeck site, which is the area across the bridge down from the Discovery Center. Possible plans are for a green space and/or an interpretive center that honors the Native American heritage of the area. However, the steep incline down to the river brings the possibility of erosion which could be compounded by the several subterranean caverns that once channeled water to the mill turbines. Rewilding makes sense for the ecological well-being of this unique river access, beloved by fisherfolk and birders alike.

After this presentation I felt gratitude towards our town officials; to those who view problems as challenges, to those who gladly share their future visions, while never losing sight of the human equation that will be most affected by their decisions. Thank you all.

*Gregory Balsewicz lives in downtown Turners Falls.*

## GUEST EDITORIAL

By PETE WACKERNAGEL

**TURNERS FALLS** – You may have heard that 5G wireless technology is a major topic of discussion. The extent to which it is being hyped, and its many controversies, have made it a fascinating and unavoidable media commodity.

Advocates portray 5G as a leap into a techno-utopian future of smart homes, like those envisioned by midcentury influencers like sci-fi writer Ray Bradbury, or Walt Disney in Disneyland’s “Monsanto House of the Future.” For those concerned with geopolitics, 5G is necessary in our empire’s economic competition with China. From another point of view, 5G is the instigator of a chaotic world ruled by hackers where there is no weather forecast. A fourth group, concerned with public health, posits wi-fi and mobile technology as a source of miasmic energy that causes everyone’s most reasonable fear: cancer.

New ideas and technologies usually result in effects unforeseen at the time of their introduction. The exhibition promoting plastics at the Dupont Pavilion at the 1939 World’s Fair (“The World of Tomorrow”) did not mention the possibility of microplastic pollution. At the same fair, the futuristic highway city proposed by Norman Bel Geddes in GM’s Futurama exhibit did not dwell on the harm it would incur on city dwellers during its construction. Nor did it consider the issues that would arise from tearing apart the urban fabric, and separating cities from defining natural features like rivers and lakes. In many of these situations, new technologies result in private profits and public problems.

The introduction of new technology has rarely been influenced by democratic processes. Despite popular opposition, technologies such as genetic engineering, nuclear energy, automobiles, and chemical weapons were introduced and persist because they are valued by the market. They are morally justified by the myth of progress, a narrative that emerged in the 19th century. Part of this myth is a suggestion of unstoppable inertia, and the smugness of inevitability: progress says that people, and popular movements, must stand aside.

But people continue to oppose technologies they see as damaging to the public. One Saturday last month, local residents gathered on Greenfield Common to protest the implementation of



*Opponents of 5G took to the Greenfield common.*

5G. The event was Franklin County’s contribution to the Global 5G Protest Day, organized by a non-profit called Stop 5G International. The group’s web page listed 265 separate rallies taking place worldwide.

Charlemont resident Jonathan Mirin is a playwright, wellness advocate, and wireless prophet who helped organize Saturday’s rally. He became interested in wireless activism because his wife is electro-sensitive, a condition in which sufferers believe that electromagnetic fields cause symptoms including headaches, fatigue, dizziness, digestive issues, or burning or tingling skin.

“To have something that surrounds you, and you depend on – to find out that it’s harming you – it’s sort of a loss of innocence,” Mirin says. He believes that ubiquitous wireless signals are a cause of a much larger health crisis. “From a holistic health point of view, they are one of the reasons people are so sick these days,” he explains.

Mirin is a co-founder of Hilltown Health, a non-profit organization that focuses on the health implications of 5G and other wireless technology. Hilltown Health’s mission, according to Mirin, is “to leverage safe technology to help create healthy, sustainable communities.” The organization is also committed to preserving the hilltowns’ qualities of place.

Mirin sees 5G’s all-encompassing coverage as an existential threat to Nature. Mirin explains that part of Hilltown Health’s ethos involves “recognizing that rural areas are special in that they are still relatively healthy places to live. Nature still exists and is accessible. There’s a balance between human development and Nature. There’s not a lot of economic clout here, but what we do have is worth fighting for.”

In addition to organizing last Saturday’s rally, Mirin has been encouraging local planning boards to update the town bylaws that regulate wireless infrastructure. These bylaws were written to regulate large cell towers, not the thousands of telephone pole-mounted “small cells” that 5G networks will require in every town.

“An important part for towns around here is identifying small cells as under the purview of this bylaw,” says Mirin. “If your bylaw is outdated, the bylaw can be deemed inapplicable.” According to Mirin, Shelburne’s recently updated bylaw sets a minimum distance of 1,500 feet between cells, and establishes a 3,000 foot buffer around schools.

One goal of the anti-5G movement is more regulation of wireless technology based on research into the health effects of 5G radiofrequency (RF) exposure. A major step toward this goal will occur next month when Children’s Health Defense, the organization most known for its anti-vaccine activism and formerly known as the World Mercury Project, submits a lawsuit attempting to force the Federal Communication Commission to review its standards for RF exposure.

Living in contemporaneity involves a lack of control over one’s own life and the resources that one relies upon. Like the main character in Kafka’s *The Trial*, caught in an unsettling bureaucratic process managed by a secret authority, we find our food, water, healthcare, and wireless services produced by distant, unapproachable systems.

This relationship – that of a dependent consumer and a powerful, faceless, undying entity – can produce feelings of despair, helplessness, and paranoia. Requiring a more democratic process in the introduction of new technologies would help alleviate these feelings of vulnerability, and could lead to a more engaged, politically active public.

*Pete Wackernagel lives in Turners Falls.*

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](http://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](mailto: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**



SPORTS from page A1

far this season, Cole has scored 272 points, while Young has put up 260.

The Tech **girls’ basketball** team is 13–3 with four games left to play in the regular season. They’re currently in the midst of a three-game winning streak, with wins against Gateway (50-15), St. Mary (54-20), and Pioneer Christian (44-15).

The Eagles are led by three top scorers, with Jocelyn Crowning-shield leading the pack at 207, followed by Isabelle Duga (144) and Jordan Hurlbert (123). Other high-flying Eagles include Desiree Doane with 91 points and Gemaia Cruz with 86.

Last Saturday, 19 **wrestling** clubs from as far away as Vermont battled it out in the high school version of Wrestlemania. There was no parking in the front of the Tech school on Saturday, and latecomers were forced to park near the football and baseball fields.

When I arrived, I took my seat on the stairs along with other fans and participants. When a horde of sky-blue uniforms got up, I and some others took our seats. This was a phenomenon that played out throughout the arena for most of the day: a gang in Gray would stand, and another group of wrestlers and supporters take their seats.

At any given time, any four people sitting in a row might be from four different schools, which led to a sense of camaraderie and communal respect. Everyone who had to negotiate this musical chairs exercise was polite, and others stood graciously as they passed.

As always, the food was fabulous and filling. They served the kind of food that replenishes calories: stews, hot mac and cheese, chili, grilled meats, and my favorite, the fluffernutter.

Tech competed against four teams on Saturday. Against Duggan, Josh Brunelle (132) and Kyle Brunelle (145) each got wins. Against Smith Voc, both Brunelles won again. Against Sabis, Will Rosenberg won the 106 weight category, Peter Saladino won the 126, and the Brunelles swept. And Saladino, the Brunelles, and Brody Williams (195) all won against Mount Greylock.

**Turners Falls Boys’ Basketball**  
*TFHS 61 – Mohawk 34*  
*TFHS 55 – Athol 45*  
*TFHS 72 – Pioneer 38*

After losing a one-point game against Frontier, Powertown has won three at home. On Wednesday, they defeated Mohawk, on Thursday they beat Athol, and on Monday the Third, they crushed Pioneer.

Turners doesn’t have just one dominant player on their team. In any given game, any of their players could lead the team in scoring. This makes scouting Powertown near impossible.

Against Mohawk, the Blue D held the Warriors to just 5 points in the first quarter. After an even second, Powertown outscored Mohawk 14-7 in the third to lead 47-24 going into the fourth. From there, Blue Thunder cruised to a 61-34 win.

Marcus Sanders was the shooting star in this one, scoring 18 points. Brendon Driscoll and Anthony Peterson also hit double figures with 11 each, Chace Novak netted 9, Jaden Whiting got 8, and John Fritz added 4.

The Athol Red Raiders came to town the following night, and Powertown overcame a slow first period to beat Big Red 55-45. Athol are not the cellar dwellers they used to

be; in fact, they’re currently riding a two-game winning streak, so I didn’t feel bad for them in this one.

The Raiders came out of the gates hard, taking a 8-0 lead. But within the first 30 seconds of the second quarter, Powertown had tied it up at 10, and quickly went up 12-10. They held onto the lead, going into the half at 25-22.

In the third, Athol again came out strong, and again scored 8 unanswered points. But the offensive stalled, and Powertown went on their own run to reverse the margin at 35-30. Red was able to pull within 6 in the fourth, but Powertown finished strong, winning by 10.

In this game, only five TF players made the scoreboard. Novak led Blue against the Raiders with 18, followed by Peterson (15), Driscoll (10), Sanders (8), and John Fritz (4).

Then on Monday the Pioneer Panthers came to town, and Powertown defeated them 72-38.

The result of this game was never in doubt. Turners led by 11 after a quarter, and went into halftime with a 34-18 lead. They poured it on in the third to lead 47-28, and then cruised to the 34-point victory.

Novak and Sanders each scored 21 against the Pioneers, with Whiting (15) and Peterson (10) not far behind. Liam Driscoll (4) and Brendon Driscoll (1) rounded out the scoring for Blue.

These three wins improve their record to 8–9 with two games to play. The Boys Thunder need to win both those games to make the post-season. This Thursday they celebrate Senior Night against Belchertown, and on Monday, they travel to Hadley to take on Hopkins.

**Turners Falls Girls’ Basketball**  
*TFHS 40 – McCann Tech 29*  
*Putnam 45 – TFHS 27*

After losing a heartbreaker against Smith Academy, the Turners girls’ team went 1 and 1.

The McCann Green Hornets came to town on Friday and lost 45-27. Powertown held a 2-point lead after a quarter and expanded it to 23-16 at the half. McCann chipped away in the third, but the Blue D came alive in the fourth, holding the Hornets to just one point for the 40-29 win.

Eighth-grader Taylor Greene hit for 16 points, followed by a bevy of her teammates: Karrisa Fleming and Kendra Campbell each scored 6, Lindsay Whiteman and Morgan Dobias 4, and Hailey Bogusz and Steph Peterson each added 2.

Then on Tuesday the Putnam Beavers came to town. In the JV game, the only question was, “Would Turners hit 50 points?” They didn’t, but they won convincingly, 47-15.

The varsity game was another story. Turners had lost by a single point in their previous matchup, and the Beavers were not going to let it get that close this time around. With their three tall girls out of the lineup, Peterson had to fight on the inside for rebounds. This led to Putnam getting several second and third chances, whereas for Turners, it was either sink the first one or get back on D.

The first quarter was even enough with Turners leading 6-4 at the buzzer. Unfortunately for Blue, Putnam hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer and stole the lead. In the second quarter, the score was 16-14 but again in the last seconds of the period, Putnam scored and took an 18-14 lead into the break.

Putnam is a loud team. When Turners had the ball, their bench would chant, “Defense. Defense,” stamping and clapping. Not to

be outdone, the Turners students’ bleachers repeated that chant when the Beavers had the ball.

But in the third quarter, this support didn’t help Lady Thunder. Greene hit a three to make it a 1-point game but then the Beavers answered with eight straight. Turners was able to reduce the margin to 6, but Putnam scored the last 4 points of the quarter to take a 30-20 lead going into the final period. Putnam poured it on in the fourth and took the game by 14 points.

Greene again led Blue with 14 points. Steph Peterson scored 5, while Eliza Johnson, Whiteman, Morgan Dobias, and Fleming each contributing 2 points.

Lady Blue takes on the Ware Indians on Senior Night this Friday, and on Tuesday they head to Orange to take on the Mahar Senators.

*Next week: Will they or won’t they make the playoffs?*



NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

# Global Music Festival Returns This Summer – As Does the Soap Box Derby

By JEFF SINGLETON

At its Monday night meeting the Montague selectboard approved a permit for the second annual “Barbès in the Woods” music festival this summer on the property of Kathy Lynch and Dean Garvin in Montague Center. The festival will take place on August 8 so – unlike last year – it will not coincide with the village’s traditional Old Home Days event.

In early January the selectboard held a lengthy discussion with local residents, and approved the date of this year’s event but did not issue a formal permit Although virtually all Montague Center residents supported a music festival this year, several requested that it end at 10 p.m., an hour earlier than requested. Concerns were also raised about the total number of attendees allowed by the permit.

At Monday’s meeting Cassandra Holden and Kyle Homestead of event organizer Laudable Productions said that it would be unusual for a summer music festival to end before 11 p.m. They requested a permit with an upper limit of 3,000 attendees, though they estimated that last year’s festival drew a total of 1,200. Lynch told the board that the total number of attendees would not necessarily reflect the number present at any given time.

The permit approved by the board contained the requested closing time and attendee limit.

Barbès in the Woods takes its name from a small but popular Brooklyn bar, Barbès, in turn named after a section of Paris, France with a large North African population. The bar and festival feature a diverse range which in the 1980s was labeled “world music.” That term has fallen out of favor, Holden told the *Reporter*, and she prefers to call it “music from everywhere.”

According to Holden, Laudable Productions – formerly of Easthampton, now headquartered in Florence – organizes smaller music festivals in the region that “have a community mission.” She said the music line-up for this year’s Barbès event will be announced in March.

Based on comments at the January

meeting, last year’s event appears to have won over skeptical local residents who had initially doubted the village could accommodate such a festival. Concerns were raised about congestion in Montague Center, particularly on Center Street.

At Monday’s meeting police chief Chris Williams told the board that there would be no festival parking on that street between the town common to the Sawmill River, though there will be parking at 59 Center Street, the property of planning board member Matt Lord, who attended Monday’s meeting.

**Going Downhill Again!**

In a related development, the board approved a permit request from the parks and recreation department for a return of the Montague Soap Box Derby on September 19, 2020. Parks and rec director Jon Dobosz introduced Peter Chilton of Nova Motorcycles as the “race director” who will be in charge of organizing the event, which ran for four years from 2010 to 2013.

Chilton said town administrator Steve Ellis has “reached out” to Nova and several other companies, including the cannabis company 253 Farmacy, to organize and sponsor the event. “We sort of thought it fit with what we do,” Chilton said.

While at the front table, Dobosz requested permits to show movies in Peskeompskut Park on June 26, July 17, and August 14 2020. The board approved the requests.

**Other Business**

The selectboard held a formal hearing on Montague’s application for the 2020 federal community development block grant. The town is requesting funds for four social service programs, the design for a new playground at Hillcrest Elementary School, the rehabilitation of three affordable housing units, and half a block of the Avenue A streetscape project.

The streetscape portion of the grant originally included funds to raise the height of planters in front of the Shea Theater and Colle Opera House, but the selectboard balked at the cost. A new design reduces the height of planters and slices

one of them in half, saving nearly \$150,000, which has been re-allocated to housing rehabilitation.

Audience member John Reynolds asked the board who would be responsible for maintenance and repairs to the “poured in place” rubber surface of the playground. Dobosz said that such surfaces had become standard for handicapped access to playgrounds – essentially replacing mulch – but he did not address the question of responsibility for maintenance.

Ellis told the *Reporter* that the regional school district takes care of “smaller” maintenance of town buildings, like Hillcrest and Sheffield elementary schools, but requests funds from the town for larger repair projects. The Great Falls Middle/Turners Falls High School building is owned by the school district.

The board discussed a new job description for the town’s police lieutenant, a position currently held by Christopher Bonnett. The new description actually creates two jobs – one for lieutenant, and the other for “IT administrator.”

Chief Williams explained that Bonnett has been in charge of IT work for the department, but the position needed to be clarified and separated from the lieutenant position. The board approved the new descriptions, appointed Bonnett to both, and increased his total number of weekly hours to 40. Funding for the new IT position is dependent on approval by the March 5 special town meeting.

Williams also requested that the board appoint James Deery to the position of acting staff sergeant, pending the return of Lee Laster from “injured on duty” status. Williams did not state when he thought Laster would be able to return to work. The board approved the request.

The board also appointed Timothy Little as lead operator at the water pollution control facility.

Ellis announced that the bidding process for the new Unity Park field-house roof would begin this week. The town hopes to start the work in early March and complete it before summer camps start in late June.

The next selectboard meeting will be held on February 10.

## Gill-Montague Regional School District

will hold its **FY2021 Budget Hearing**

on February 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

at Turners Falls High School, Room 228.

The hearing will include information on how the district proposes to spend funds provided under the Student Opportunities Act.

## The Montague Congregational Church

# Community Breakfast

Saturday, February 15 8 to 10 A.M.

Menu: Breakfast sandwich (egg, cheese, bacon, English muffin), home fried potatoes, juice, coffee or tea.

4 North Street, Montague \$8 for all you can eat!

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

**Fred Holmgren**  
**Piano Tuning & Repair**

**Stay tuned!**  
**(978)544-5494**  
**fredholmgren@gmail.com**

Call (413) 774-4331 x5

**LEGAL SOLUTIONS IN PLAIN ENGLISH**  
**AT CURTISS, CAREY, GATES & GOODRIDGE, LLP**

BUSINESS LAW, LIQUOR LICENSES, SPECIAL PERMITS,  
ZONING & LAND USE, CIVIL LITIGATION. (AND MORE.)

**KRISTI A. BODIN, ESQ.**

377 Main St., Ste. 3 • PO Box 509 • Greenfield, MA 01302  
Tel (413) 774-4331 x5 • Cell (413) 695-9848  
bodin@ccgglaw.com • [www.kabesq.com](http://www.kabesq.com)

**BUCKINGHAM**  
**RABBITS VINTAGE**  
VINTAGE & SECONDHAND  
CLOTHING, SHOES, ETC  
**42 CANAL** **TH-SA 12-6**  
**TURNERS FALLS** **SUN 12-5**



NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Town Moves Toward New Pay Scale

By KATIE NOLAN

On Monday, the Erving select-board and finance committee continued to discuss the draft compensation study prepared by the Collins Center at UMass-Boston. At least ten residents, many of them town employees, attended the meeting.

The study proposes a return to a graded system for town employees, with eight grades and 15 steps within each grade. Employees would advance one step after each year of completed employment, with the steps based on skills. The Center provided a recommended pay rate for each step, and recommended that employees initially be placed on the step of the grade that provides for a pay increase.

Fin com chair Ben Fellows recommended accepting the classifications, and the fin com voted to accept the study. Asked by police sergeant Robert Holst what exactly their committee was accepting, fin com member Debra Smith said “the procedure,” while Daniel Hammock said, “the study as presented,” and Arthur Johnson said, “the whole package.”

Selectboard chair Jacob Smith said that the board will develop an implementation plan, including a pay schedule, based on the study data.

Holst commented that without a cost of living adjustment (COLA), “if you approve implementation of

this study tonight, we’re locking ourselves into a 15-year contract.”

Administrative coordinator Bryan Smith said that a 2% COLA is built into the step system, and Jacob Smith said that compensation for the grades and steps would be re-evaluated periodically. “We’re not quite there, but we’re very close,” he said regarding the schedule to accompany the grades and steps.

“This is all of us working together,” said selectboard member William Bembury. “We want to give people a fair wage for the work they’re doing. It can be tweaked for individuals.”

Jacob Smith added that the pay schedule would be set “with heavy input from departments.”

The selectboard plans to revisit the study and its implementation at its next meeting, scheduled for 6 p.m. on Monday, February 10 at Erving Elementary School. A consultant from the Collins Center will attend.

Water and Sewer

According to a memo prepared by Bryan Smith, Leo Parent has asked the selectboard to establish a committee to explore options for expanding the public water and sewer system in areas of town that are not currently served.

In the memo, Smith said that Parent represents a group of Erving residents who want the committee to assess demand, and identify potential challenges as well as opportunities.

Board members asked Bryan Smith and selectboard member and chief water and wastewater operator Peter Sanders to work with Parent and others to develop a scope and charge for the committee. Once an acceptable scope is approved, the board will decide whether to establish a committee, and what resources to make available to it.

Other Business

The contract with USA Waste & Recycling for hauling and disposing of Erving’s trash ends June 30. Bryan Smith said that Franklin County Solid Waste director Jan Ameen is drafting documents for soliciting bids from haulers. Bids will be accepted until February 21.

Town clerk Richard Newton recommended raising fees for dog licensing from \$6 for an intact dog and \$3 for a spayed or neutered dog to \$15 for an intact dog and \$10 for a spayed or neutered dog. He said that the town clerk association had surveyed towns across the state and found fees ranging from \$10 to \$20.

Newton also recommended increasing the fee for a certified copy of vital records from \$5 to \$10.

The board said they would consider his recommendations and respond at a later time. If the fees are increased, they would be effective January 1, 2021.

Town clerk fees go into the town’s general fund, and not directly to the town clerk’s office.

consider other options. Jono Neiger complained of a lack of “transparency” by the board’s leadership about the financial condition of the organization and the proposal to dissolve.

“It’s been known since last August,” said d’Errico. “It’s been in the newspaper.”

Julio Mendez said he had not been elected to the board in January to dissolve the organization. “Not all the membership has been informed of this particular vote,” he said.

New board member Jeff Lacy presented a number of options for paying off the organization’s debt in the coming months. Lynton said these options could be considered after the board voted to begin the dissolution. She also said the coop would not immediately close its doors after such a vote, because volunteers would need to sell the orga-

during which time, she argued, the organization had suffered a “net loss” of \$78,000.

This analysis was challenged by Paul Rosenberg, who managed the coop during that period and argued that the organization had adapted to the “new normal” of declining revenue.

“He’s interrupting,” said coop member (and selectboard chair) Peter d’Errico, after which another board member complained that d’Errico was making “patronizing comments.”

Shively then said she was considering resigning from the board because she was “tired of people who work hard for the organization being publicly castigated on social media.”

A number of board and audience members complained that they had not been informed of the potential vote to dissolve, and wanted to

COOP from page A1

sales and meals taxes.

Lynton then announced that earlier in the day, she had laid off the entire staff of the coop, a decision which appeared to come as a surprise to most board members and others at the meeting. In justifying this decision she said the coop no longer had sufficient funds to cover wages, and that the move would allow employees to apply for unemployment compensation.

Lynton’s suggestion of a motion to dissolve the coop, which appeared without specific wording on the meeting agenda, was supported by Julie Shively, a Leverett selectboard member and founder of the coop with her late husband Dan Bennett. Shively, who was voted back onto the board last month, presented data on the organization’s finances between 2009 and 2017,

GILL from page A1

might lead 12 hours later to the former person being deemed in violation of the law and fined.

“We’re still neighborly. We still talk to each other,” said Steele. “This might also just be building a bureaucracy.”

“If it’s something Gill doesn’t want, then we’ll just take it out for Gill,” Dragon said at one point, but the topic had already wandered out the open gate and onto the roadway of public discussion.

Selectboard members expressed sympathy for Dragon, who had arrived in black boots and a Franklin County Sheriff’s Office windbreaker, and for the idea that he would want to streamline the bylaws of the towns in his program. In most cases, the proposals simply granted him the authority locally to enforce regulations that match the state’s.

“It just feels like it’s counter to our Right To Farm bylaws,” selectboard member Randy Crochier said, explaining why he had called in the ag commission.

“We’re a great town as far as looking out for each other,” said member Greg Snedeker.

“If we don’t have a problem,” Steele asked,

“what have we written a law for?”

“To my knowledge, there’s no issues,” Dragon conceded, adding that he would defer to police chief Chris Redmond.

Town administrator Ray Purington said that he could remember, “probably in the 5-to 8- to 9-year range,” a time at which the police department was responding to 911 calls for cows in the road. “That was during a time period when we didn’t have an animal control officer,” he said.

“What is the benefit to the town to implement something like this?” asked Snedeker.

Dragon said that if an agricultural commission is unable to rectify a problem, it would currently be referred to the district court as a violation of Massachusetts General Law Ch. 266, §118 (“Domestic animals: trespass on land”). A town bylaw would give the animal control officer enforcement authority.

“We don’t have the water for it, but let’s get the pipes in, in case we need the hydrants,” Steele summarized. “We don’t have the problem here yet – why are we going out looking for it?”

“Let’s just plan on removing the livestock

[section],” Dragon offered. But Crochier, saying he would like the police chief and the rest of the ag commission to weigh in on the matter, did not allow him to retreat.

“I think I speak for an awful lot of people on the commission that I’d rather read something on a hard copy than on a computer,” said Steele. Members were expected to receive copies this Wednesday, and discuss the proposal more fully during the first week of March. The bylaws will ultimately go before town meeting in the spring for approval.

Other Business

Repairs to the fire department’s Engine #2 came in around \$10,000 above what was expected, and the department is projecting a \$5,745 deficit. “I need some money,” fire chief Gene Beaubien told the board, who instructed him to spend out of other budget lines and return with his request as a posted agenda item.

The board unanimously approved the purchase of the old Engine #3 at auction by Scott Pigeon of Light Chester, Vermont for \$2,700. “I’m sorry to see it go,” Beaubien said.

“You could have bid on it!” Crochier replied.

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL TOWN CLERK

Dog Licensing

Dog licenses are available *now* at the Town Clerk Office. All dogs 6 months and older must be licensed and tagged every year. Proof of rabies vaccination and the appropriate fee is required. The fee for a neutered or spayed dog is \$4 and for an unaltered dog is \$8.

The deadline to obtain a license is the last day of March, after which a late fee will be added to the license fee. If you adopt a new dog sometime after the deadline, make sure you get them licensed as soon as possible. Call (978) 544-3395 x2 with any questions.

Presidential Primary

The Presidential Primary Election is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3. February 12 is the deadline to register to vote and to change party enrollment as needed.

If you are registered as a Democrat, Republican, Green-Rainbow, or Libertarian, you must vote your party’s ballot. If you are registered Unenrolled, you may select any one of the four ballots without changing your party affiliation.

Absentee ballots for the primary election are available *now* in the Town Clerk’s Office. You may vote Absentee if you will be out of town on Election Day, have a religious

belief that prohibits you from being at the polls, or have a disability that prevents you from going to the polls. The deadline to obtain an absentee voter application for any election is noon the day prior to the election date. Applications can be found online or at the Town Clerk’s Office.

On March 3, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Early voting for the primary will be available during regular office hours on Monday, February 24 through Friday, February 28.

For more information, call the Town Clerk at (978) 544-3395 x 2.

Annual Town Election

The annual town election is scheduled for Monday, May 4. Nomination papers for the Annual Town Election are available *now* at the Town Clerk’s Office. The last day to obtain nomination papers is Saturday, March 14 and the last day to submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification is Monday, March 16.

The Selectboard has one position for a 3-year term and one position to fill a vacancy for a 2-year term. The Board of Assessors, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Board of Health, and Road Commissioner each have one position open for a 3-year term.

Library Trustees have two positions for a 3-year term. School Committee has two positions open

for a 3-year term plus one position to fill a vacancy for a 1-year term. The Planning Board has one position for a 5-year term and Moderator and Tree Warden each have one position for a 1-year term.

Both new nominees and candidates for reelection must sign and submit nomination papers on or before March 16 to be listed on the ballot. Monday, April 13 is the last day new voters can register to vote in the town election.

The Town Clerk Office is open from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. for voter registration. On Election Day, polls will be open from noon to 8 p.m.

If you have questions, please call or email the Town Clerk at [wendelltownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:wendelltownclerk@gmail.com).

nization’s assets to pay off its debt.

This led to a debate over exactly what the “motion to dissolve” meant, and whether it conformed to the organization’s bylaws, or to state laws governing the dissolution of corporate entities. Neiger moved to call a membership meeting to decide the issue on February 19, after a two-week “hiatus.”

Shively pointed out that a mem-

bership vote requires 30 days under the bylaws, but Lovejoy argued that such restrictions did not apply in emergency situations if no one challenged the process.

In the end the motion to dissolve never came before the meeting. After a unanimous vote to confirm the hiatus motion, the board went into an executive session to discuss “board elections.”



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

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL  
DOORS & OPENERS

*Devine Overhead Doors*

Gerry Devine

106 West Street Hampshire: 586-3161  
Hadley, MA. 01035 Franklin: 773-9497

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

French King  
Restaurant & Motel

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



SOLAR from page A1

application before the planning committee could not be rejected for such an “arbitrary” reason.

The sense that Wendell’s existing solar bylaws did not properly address the siting of such “large-scale” projects led the planning board to propose in October a year-long moratorium on new applications for such arrays while the town revises its bylaws. At a special town meeting on October 30, residents unanimously voted to enact a moratorium through December 31, 2020.

Sunpin’s initial application, however, was not affected by the measure, and the company went before Wendell’s conservation commission in mid-December with a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for the site. The commission was tasked with reviewing the project to make sure it complied with town and state

wetland regulations.

Whether or not the project would have been approved by the con com is unknown. Members Adam Kohl and Ward Smith told the *Reporter* in December that they had flagged a previously unidentified “isolated wetland” within 100 feet of the site, as well as a possible perennial stream 200 feet away. The project’s proximity to such wetlands might have been grounds for the commission to require the company to file a Notice of Intent to review the plan, and seek a special permit.

The con com’s decision was then delayed by turnover of its members. With two-thirds of the commission sworn in after Sunpin’s first request, the state advised that the company would have to re-submit its RDA.

That hearing was expected to happen on Tuesday night, but it was removed from the agenda following the company’s announcement.

Meeting at the Wendell town offices, the con com members acknowledged that Sunpin had withdrawn its application and said they did not expect the company to reapply.

The commission, joined by a representative of the state Department of Environmental Protection, then moved on to discuss other items, including wetland regulation bylaws in general, vernal pools, an appropriation request for FY’21, and an enormous pile of dirt reportedly impinging on a protected wetland on Wendell Depot Road, in violation of fill-dumping regulations.

If Sunpin should change their mind about Wendell, they will have to wait until at least 2021 to start the process again. “Now that they’ve withdrawn their application, they don’t have an active application,” Riebschlaeger said. “I don’t believe that they can reapply until we have a new bylaw.”



NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

# State Reps Pay Leverett a Visit

By JERRI HIGGINS

Massachusetts state senator Jo Comerford, representing Franklin, Hampshire, and Worcester counties, and First Franklin representative Natalie Blais spoke to the Leverett selectboard Tuesday night. They discussed state funding for education and transportation, and their efforts not just to get more money to local towns, but to help the legislature understand the very different needs and challenges faced by rural and urban communities.

Selectboard chair Peter d’Errico sought affirmation from Comerford regarding the statewide cap set by Proposition 2½ which limits the tax rate to 2.5% of a property’s assessed value. Leverett’s rate is approaching that cap, and struggles to meet growing education costs.

“There was a proposed solution about a year ago to get rid of the cap,” said d’Errico, “but that is not a solution, because underneath the cap is poverty. We have residents who are in tax arrears already, so I want to be clear we’re not interested in taking the cap off.”

Comerford confirmed that removing the cap is not her aim. “You’re talking about combined effort yields,” she said. “The [school funding] algorithm is driven by a number of things. The largest drivers are median household income and property... That means that our towns up here pay a disproportionately higher percentage that the state says we can and should pay.”

Comerford said that the Massachusetts legislature can and should be looking at “the terrible position” Leverett and a number of other towns in her district are put in. “We’re not growing in the same way. We don’t have a lot of business income.”

“We’re getting punished in these increases, because we don’t have underperforming schools, but we’re reaching that \$25 cap,” said board member Julie Shively. “It’s only a matter of time before we do have underperforming schools!”

Both Comerford and Blais said they believe that while the state Chapter 70 formula remains unchanged, there are other means to pursue to help with funding gaps, such as the circuit breaker tax credit, charter school mitigation funds, and special education funding.

Comerford said the state has been “willfully refusing to look at” two key drivers of special education costs. The state had previously assumed 15% of students need special education, and despite the legislators’ efforts, that threshold only rose to 16% when the Student Opportunities Act passed last fall.

“It’s outrageous, it’s pejorative, it’s insulting,” Comerford said of rumors that schools pad their special education budgets. “All they have to do is look at the 24 communities in the Franklin, Hampshire, Worcester district – all of which have thresholds over 16%, and all of which are paying out of pocket for their students – to know that their town isn’t padding special education,” said Comerford.

The state also only reimburses 25% of costs for students on individual education plans, “which we hear anecdotally is very low compared to what our schools are actually living with,” said Comerford.

Blais spoke to “right-sized” issues for western Massachusetts projects. Blais, who serves on the transportation committee in the House, noted that monies currently being allocated don’t meet the needs of western Massachusetts. She discussed her efforts to put money into MassDOT’s Small Bridge Program, and into the Chapter 90 program which offers reimbursement on capital improvement projects including highway construction.

“Thankfully FRTA and FRCOG are both moving forward with some innovative programs,” Blais said, “but what I’ve been arguing for is a dedicated source of money that will look at public transportation, and how we can provide that in an innovative way that really works for rural communities.”

Under a new regional contract for recycling, Leverett anticipates a \$6,000 annual increase in costs. Comerford said state officials don’t understand what that means to a community of Leverett’s size.

“Undersecretary [Patrick] Woodcock is going to come out here to do a recycling tour,” Comerford said, “because he has to understand that the state has failed us.”

Both Comerford and Blais said the best response often comes after state officials actually visit and see for themselves what is needed in western Massachusetts.

**School Budget**

School committee member Bethany Seeger presented the selectboard with items the Leverett Elementary School has been working on as it moves toward completion of its FY’21 budget by March 17.

“This is an overall 2% budget that we’ll be submitting to the town, for a total of a \$38,411 increase,” Seeger said. “What I do want to point out is us taking out the special article from [FY’20] of \$33,126, and our budget increase, which is \$5,285.”

“The key issue is that the budget is 80 to 85% people,” said principal Rhonda Cohen. “There isn’t anything to cut.”

Cohen expressed the school’s opposition to using its revolving accounts to offset spending shortfalls. She said that any money in those accounts could be needed at any time, such as if a new student comes into the school, or if there is an increased demand for special education or for English language learners, which does happen.

“We have to fund [those things],” she said, “so it’s not wise, big picture, going after those revolving accounts.”

Showcasing the Early Childhood Education revolving account as an example, Cohen said that the account might suddenly be needed to spend \$60,000 for a new full-time teacher and 1.5 full-time paraprofessionals, “so that’s \$100,000 for that program that would be needed immediately.”

Noting that funding those programs is required by law, Cohen emphasized that money in that account might look available, but because student needs can shift during the school year, it isn’t fiscally responsible to use that funding to offset other school expenses.

D’Errico spoke to the school committee about the upcoming cybersecurity testing that every employee with a town or school email will be tasked with.

“I want to make sure you’re all aware of it, and on board with it,” d’Errico said, and emphasized: “If someone complains, we hope you’ll let them know that this is significant, and it has to be done.”

Leverett has offered to extend its public firewall to the Union 28 schools, which suffered a hacking attack last year.

69 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Turners Falls

Abundant Splendor

Community Acupuncture & Herbal Medicine

Drop In Special \$10

February 11 5 – 8 p.m.

Every 2nd Tuesday of the Month

Dan Sachs and Kathy Schermerhorn – Acupuncture

Bonnie Bloom – Herbal Medicine

[www.AbundantSplendorHealingCenter.com](http://www.AbundantSplendorHealingCenter.com) (413) 768-9016

LEGAL NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF WENDELL

Notice is hereby given that the Wendell Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, March 2, 2020** at 7:30 p.m. at the Wendell Town Offices to review a proposed Bylaw change adding a **Marijuana Moratorium** to last until January 31, 2021 during which time no applications will be accepted for both medical and recreational marijuana growing, processing, or selling. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process that addresses the potential impacts of marijuana installations in Wendell on health, safety, and welfare of Wendell’s citizenry, to determine how the Town shall reasonably regulate marijuana installations and, finally, to create a marijuana bylaw. The full text is available at the Wendell Town Offices during regular hours and on the town website at [www.wendellmass.us](http://www.wendellmass.us).

LOOKING BACK:

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here’s the way it was February 4, 2010: News from the Montague Reporter’s archive.

State, Town Cooperate On Long-Term Plans

The finance committees of Gill and Montague, along with the selectboards of those two towns and now the school committee of the Gill-Montague Regional School district, have all agreed to work in concert to “bring the state to the table” to develop a plan for sustainability in education and financing for the district schools.

On Wednesday, they nearly succeeded, with two state legislators – on speaker phone – joining local officials and representatives of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education at a crowded three-hour meeting at the Montague town hall. Representative Steve Kulik (D-Worthington) and senator Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst), in between legislative meetings in Boston, kept up with the conversation in Montague until first one, and then the other, had to break away to attend committee meetings.

Soon the line went dead – with a loud busy signal – causing the room to break into uneasy laughter, before the serious business of addressing a badly out of balance budget resumed.

The legislators’ aides were present at Wednesday’s meeting in Montague, however, and Rosenberg vowed he and Kulik would participate in the ongoing discussions. All parties agreed to work together cooperatively to come up with a long term plan for addressing the structural gap in the G-M budget, which the school committee has estimated as being more than \$800,000 out of balance.

School committee member Jeff Singleton pointed out there is more on the line than just fiscal stability for the district. “The constant financial problem is eroding the educa-

tional goals of the district,” he said. “And you do reach a point where people begin to lose faith in public education. We have seen five district meetings in a row where school budgets have been voted down.”

Leverett Board Clashes Over School Costs

On January 27 the Leverett selectboard, finance committee, and school committee gathered for a math tutorial on the FY’11 elementary school budget.

This was the second meeting in as many months when the boards tried to agree on the numbers that will make up the revenues and expenses to run the town’s elementary school and pay for central office administration in Union #28.

Finance committee member Doug DaRif zeroed in on an anomaly in the increase in base rate pay for some classroom teachers in one of the budget sheets, which seemed to show teachers’ salaries rising from \$57,644 in the current fiscal year to \$60,264 in the coming fiscal year, far more than the expected cost of living increase.

Union 28 business manager Charles Paulin said the FY’10 base rate for teachers reflected their base pay before the contract had been signed, and thus was not an accurate reflection of what those teachers were actually getting paid this year. This admission caused temperatures to rise quickly in the town hall meeting room.

“Once you find a mistake, you don’t trust any of the other statistics,” inveighed finance committee chair Don Gibavic. “Then you might as well throw all these papers out the window.”

“This is unbelievable,” said selectboard member Peter d’Errico. But a few minutes later, it was d’Errico who was corrected by school committee member Farshid Hajir for fuzzy math on per-student spending.

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

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

Origami is for anyone, anywhere, anytime!

Join us at: [OrigamiUSA.org](http://OrigamiUSA.org)

Email: [admin@origamiusa.org](mailto: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!



PIERCE from page A1

plan’s failure to paint the upper portion of the bridge, called a “stupid ugly green” by Montague City resident Brian Costa. Former selectboard member Sam Lovejoy urged MassDOT to take the color of the bridge seriously, citing a controversy over the color of the Sunderland-Deerfield Bridge some years ago.

Selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz, noting several years of traffic congestion during repairs on the Turners Falls-Gill bridge, called for better maintenance of state bridge projects, so that “40 or 50 years from now our children and grandchildren are not back here.”

And Montague’s state representative, Natalie Blais, urged the officials to “expedite” the project, perhaps by allowing more work in the winter months. Richard Masse of MassDOT’s District 2 office responded that the state may consider more winter construction and a longer work week, and added MassDOT would consider an “incentive” for the contractor to finish the work ahead of schedule.

But when Blais asked about the \$17.4 million cost, Masse responded, almost in passing: “This is sort of an intermediate solution. Ultimately, the General Pierce Bridge needs a full replacement... this is sort of a 25-year fix.” He went on to estimate that a full replacement would be “approaching the neighborhood of \$60 million.”

The notion of a 25-year fix was apparently news to nearly everyone at the meeting, including, this Reporter was later told, Kuklewicz and Montague town administrator Steve Ellis. It did not sit well with the audience, and changed the tenor of the discussion.

“To wait this long for a quick fix seems like a pallid response,” said finance committee member John Hanold.


Brian Costa, who had previously complained about the color of the bridge, returned to the mic: “We’re just throwing away money by putting a band aid on this thing. Why not put up a good bridge?”

Nick Orsini who also lives in Montague City near the bridge, echoed these comments: “I’m wondering why we are spending one third of the projected budget you estimated to put on a Band-Aid for maybe 25 years, rather than erecting a new bridge and fixing the problem for 50 or 100 years.”

Kuklewicz also returned, to say that he understood the job was a rehab project, and “as much as we’d like a new bridge, we probably won’t get that.” But he argued that “\$60 million [for a new bridge] in 2020 money is probably \$180 million in 2050 money.... I was a bit dumbfounded that you’re not going to at least paint the bridge.”

Former building inspector David Jensen said he had gone to a “similar hearing” on the bridge about ten years ago. “The town quite actively supported the notion of a new bridge,” he said. “And I believe the MassDOT concluded, or told us, that a new bridge without closing traffic would be a cheaper alternative than repair in place... What has changed in the last 25 years from the view that a replacement bridge is the ideal solution?”

“Basically I think we make the best decision we can, based on what we expect the funding levels to be,” Masse responded. “There’s a lot of uncertainty in trying to predict funding levels.”

The meeting was attended by over 75 people. Most of those who spoke at the microphones during the lengthy public comment period identified themselves as residents of Montague or Greenfield. The full hearing can be seen by following the “Latest Videos” link from  [montaguetv.org](http://montaguetv.org).

In loving memory of  
Gabriel Lee Mason

2/5/1984 – 2008

So much has  
changed since  
we last spoke, yet  
your voice, advice,  
insight, and laugh  
remain constant.  
Happy 36th Gabe!  
We love you.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Turners Falls Fire District  
Nomination Papers Available

Nomination papers for the Annual Turners Falls Fire District Election are now available to all district residents. Papers may be obtained from the District Office located at 226 Millers Falls Road until Monday, March 9 and must be returned no later than Wednesday, March 11.

The District Office is open Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All potential candidates need to obtain 30 signatures from registered voters of the Turners Falls Fire District.

Offices are as follows:

- Moderator, for a three-year term;
- Treasurer, for a three-year term;

- District Clerk, for a three-year term;
- Prudential Committee, for a three-year term;
- Water Commissioner, for a three-year term.

The Annual Election will be held on Tuesday, April 28. The polls will be open from noon to 7 p.m. District residents wishing to register to vote may do so at the Town Clerk’s office located in Town Hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls or online at [www.RegisterToVoteMA.com](http://www.RegisterToVoteMA.com). For more information you may call the District Office at 863-4542.

As a reminder, the Annual District Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 21 in the Turners Falls High School Theater at 7 p.m.

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

Painting Contractor & Retailer Since 1900 - Our 120th Year!

**ICOUTURE BROS.**

Christian S. Couture, President

★ Commercial  
★ Residential  
★ Industrial

Tel: (413) 863-4346 Fax: (413) 863-3740  
400 Avenue A - PO Box 270 - Turners Falls, MA 01376  
[www.icouturebros.com](http://www.icouturebros.com) | HIC Lic. 100326

**About-Face**  
Computer Solutions

(413) 863-5447  
176 Avenue A Suite 2,  
Turners Falls  
**WE FIX COMPUTERS!**  
[www.about-facecomputers.com](http://www.about-facecomputers.com)

Turn your computer troubles around!

**Start the Future Today!**

- Wealth Management
- Trust Services
- Estate Settlement

**GSB**  
Wealth Management  
& Trust Services

(413) 775-8335 • [greenfieldsavings.com](http://greenfieldsavings.com)



**IN GOOD COMPANY**  
A SKILLED ELDER COMPANION SERVICE

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

[sitalang@ingoodcompanynow.com](mailto:sitalang@ingoodcompanynow.com)  
[www.ingoodcompanynow.com](http://www.ingoodcompanynow.com)  
**413-834-7569**

**Sita Lang**  
Hospice trained  
CPR certified



**ACT**  
A Custom Touch

Building Maintenance & Cleaning Service

**Tony Tucker**      **Bonded & Insured**  
(413) 863-4833      **Free Estimates**

*Enjoy the Comfort*  
of Insurance Protection

Competitive rates  
and discounts  
for all of your  
insurance needs!

**A.H. Rist**  
INSURANCE  
AGENCY, INC.

159 Avenue A  
Turners Falls MA  
**413.863.4373**  
[ahrist.com](http://ahrist.com)



**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  
Accepting New Plow Customers  
Within 7 Miles of Montague Center  
**522-2563**  
[www.TurnLawnCare.com](http://www.TurnLawnCare.com)

**FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CO-OP**

144 MAIN STREET  
GREENFIELD, MA 01301 (413) 773-9567

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



**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 2 PM

413-863-0023  
50 Third Street  
Downtown Turners Falls



**magpie**

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

[magpiepizza.com](http://magpiepizza.com)  
21 Bank Row, Gfld.  
413-475-3570

**woodfired pizzeria**



**Geri Johnson, Realtor**  
ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES  
413-863-9736 • [GeriJohnson@Realtor.com](mailto:GeriJohnson@Realtor.com)

**Geri Johnson & Associates**  
REALTORS

66 French King Hwy., Gill [WWW.GJAR.COM](http://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!”

**PV SQUARED**  
HEART & SOLAR

**413-772-8788**  
[PVSQUARED.COOP](http://PVSQUARED.COOP)  
GREENFIELD, MA  
MA ELEC. LIC. A13764 MA HIC 140077

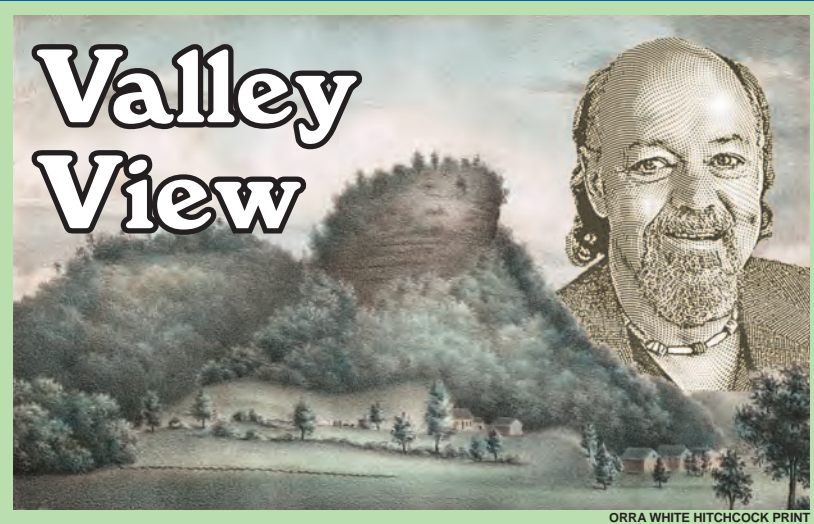






JOE KOPERA PHOTO

FEATURES@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER FEBRUARY 6, 2020



ORRA WHITE HITCHCOCK PRINT

By GARY SANDERSON

**DEERFIELD** – Scholar Marge Bruchac filled the house. Standing room only for her January 26 presentation that kicked off Historic Deerfield’s three-legged Winter Lecture Series, “Captivated: Histories and Legacies of the 1704 Raid on Deerfield.”

Who said the Happy Valley doesn’t give a hoot about our indigenous past? Deerfield Academy security officials would beg to differ. They had to bar the doors at 250-seat Garonzik Auditorium before Historic Deerfield public historian Barbara Mathews had finished introducing Dr. Bruchac’s 2 p.m. PowerPoint lecture. The topic was “Before 1704: Wampum Traditions and Landscapes of Memory.”

An upstate New York native of Abenaki descent, Bruchac has deep academic ties to the valley, and has served for many years as a Historic Deerfield consultant on Native American affairs. She earned her undergraduate degree at Smith College in 1999, then got her master’s (2003) and doctorate (2007) at UMass-Amherst. Today she’s an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania, where she coordinates the Ivy League school’s Native American and Indigenous Studies program.

Not only is she a familiar figure on the local lecture circuit, but so too are brother Joseph and his son Jesse, both Native American storytellers.

Bruchac’s Sunday-afternoon presentation touched on a little of everything from our slice of the Connecticut Valley indigenous palette. She went through it chronologically – from deep history of the Pocumtuck Range’s ancient Beaver Myth, to the European Contact Period, to post-King Philip’s War (KPW) diaspora, to the displaced valley Natives’ return to fight in wars against English colonists occupying their old homeland, accompanied by French soldiers and Indian allies from northern villages stretching all the way to the St. Lawrence Seaway.

What most caught my attention, and really got my wheels spinning, was an unexpected subject with which I was quite familiar and had written not long ago.

In discussing the meaning and

uses of wampum, Bruchac turned to use as inlay on ceremonial Indian war clubs. To illustrate this practice, she brought to the screen many examples, including a rare 17<sup>th</sup>-century club with strong local ties and mystery.

This decorated wooden club with a maple patina has a Connecticut Valley provenance dating back to KPW (1675-76), and very likely to the infamous “Falls Fight” of May 19, 1676 or its immediate aftermath. It has been said that young John King II – who lived in Northampton and eventually rose to the rank of lieutenant, but was just an 18-year-old boy at the bloody pre-dawn ambush of a sleeping Indian fishing village composed of mostly old men, women, and children – picked up the club on that Riverside/Gill site now under the federal scrutiny of the so-called Peskeomskut Battlefield Grant study.

That attack, led by Captains Turner and Holyoke, wreaked havoc and mayhem on the unsuspecting, festive Indians and turned the war in colonial favor. Bruchac didn’t seem to doubt King family tradition that the famous club was picked up at the “Falls Fight” or somewhere along one of many chaotic retreat paths back to Hatfield, a popular opinion that can probably never be proven.

A detailed footnote in noted anthropologist Edmund “Ted” Carpenter’s *Two Essays: Chief & Greed* lays out the full King family provenance of the ceremonial club. The rare relic remained in the King family for some 300 years before being “loaned” in the 1970s by Esther Diefendorf to New York City’s Museum of the American Indian (MAI), founded by wealthy, unscrupulous Edwardian collector George Gustav Heye (1874-1957).

The club was never returned to King descendants, but was instead sold out the back door after Heye’s death to a private collector with deep pockets. Today it is on prominent display at the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown, New York.

Too bad the rich, written family history that accompanied the club from Diefendorf to MAI never left the building when it was sold, and is now lost. Had the family narrative survived, we would now know where young John King found his

see **VALLEY VIEW** page B5

Above: Traffic over the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge on a recent rainy Saturday evening

ArtBeat by Trish Crapo

**Beyond Planet Earth with Anne LaPrade Seuthe**

**AMHERST** – Anne LaPrade Seuthe’s current exhibit of paintings at Augusta Savage Gallery at UMass is a bright spot in February’s wintry weather. The exhibit, “Beyond Planet Earth: Hothoused, Volunteers, and Anomalies,” which runs through February 24, consists of portraits of individual flowers rendered in what Seuthe described as “neon and fluorescent colors.”

I sat down with Seuthe in advance of the show’s opening reception on Monday, February 3. She showed me images of the paintings and talked about the genesis of the work. The first part of her show’s name, “Beyond Planet Earth,” is the overarching title of a three-part series of exhibits in which she was invited to participate, Seuthe said.

The other two artists, whose shows will appear after hers, are Marsia Shuron Harris and Ponnappa Prakkamakul. A quick look at the gallery’s website shows the work of those artists to have decidedly more “otherworldly,” even outer-space qualities. I wondered why Seuthe had chosen to focus on flowers, which seemed to me to be very much “of the Earth.”

“They come out of the ground,” I said, not meaning to challenge her, just extremely curious. “It’s almost like you’re defying the title in some way.”

Seuthe laughed softly but explained, “I guess in my mind, these flowers were going beyond planet Earth because they were in this imaginary space.”

She sees the flower paintings



Anne LaPrade Seuthe, *Pop Eyed*, acrylic on panel, 12 by 16 inches. Part of her exhibit, “Beyond Planet Earth: Hothoused, Volunteers, and Anomalies.”

as an outgrowth of work that appeared in her solo show, “starDUST to starDUST,” at APE Gallery in Northampton in 2019. The work for that show, she said, “sprang from being one of my siblings who took care of my mom over a period of time wherein she slowly lost her sight, lost her mobility, lost her faculties.”

She paused while her eyes welled with tears. “I started to wonder, ‘What’s it all about? Where do we go?’”

Seuthe said the starDUST work “looked toward the celestial,” with some paintings whose imagery, though it could be seen as galactic, actually sprang from images of heart cells. “Then, fast forward to being offered this show at Augusta Savage,” she said, “and some friends were looking at those paintings

to give feedback and said, ‘Those cells look like seeds.’ That started swimming around in my brain, and got me thinking about this sort of wacky memory.”

Seuthe grew up in Spencer, a small town in central Massachusetts, one of ten children. Her mom often loaded all the kids up and took them to the art museum in Worcester on free Saturdays and “let us roam around,” after which they’d picnic in a nearby park. At about five years old, Seuthe saw a show on abstraction and pop art. She still remembers the impact that seeing color field paintings and Andy Warhol’s Brillo boxes had on her.

“In the next room, you could go see a Rodin sculpture,” Seuthe said. The contrast opened up the world of

see **ARTBEAT** page B8



By MICHEL IXCHEL

**TURNERS FALLS** – Despite my best efforts to establish a routine for myself and my son, the truth is that we probably never really get our day-to-day into a steady

**Mama Always Comes Back**

rhythm. Since his birth, his father and I have been juggling freelance schedules, and no two weeks have ever looked alike. Neither of us has a 9-to-5 job, so our lives are constantly shifting and our schedules constantly changing.

I can’t help but wonder if this constant fluctuation is having an adverse effect on our son.

I don’t really remember growing up with a routine, either. I was raised by a single mother, and we moved around quite a bit. I once counted the number of times I moved as a child, and I believe it was five or six. I don’t know what it’s like to grow up in one home, with the same group of friends and weekly scheduled activities. On the flip side, I do

know how to flexibly go from one situation into another – how to go with the flow, so to speak.

Having spent nearly my whole life shifting and moving around, I now crave a routine more than ever. I’ve also read that having a routine is very important for children, as it gives them a feeling of security and stability.

Still, despite my best efforts, a routine continues to feel beyond our reach.

When I really stop to think about it, though, I realize that despite our chaotic schedules, and despite shuffling the child around between two homes, it’s still quite possible that we’re succeeding at creating

see **INDIE MAMA** page B3



Pet of the Week

Chasing Our Tales: A Woman Scorned  
Part One

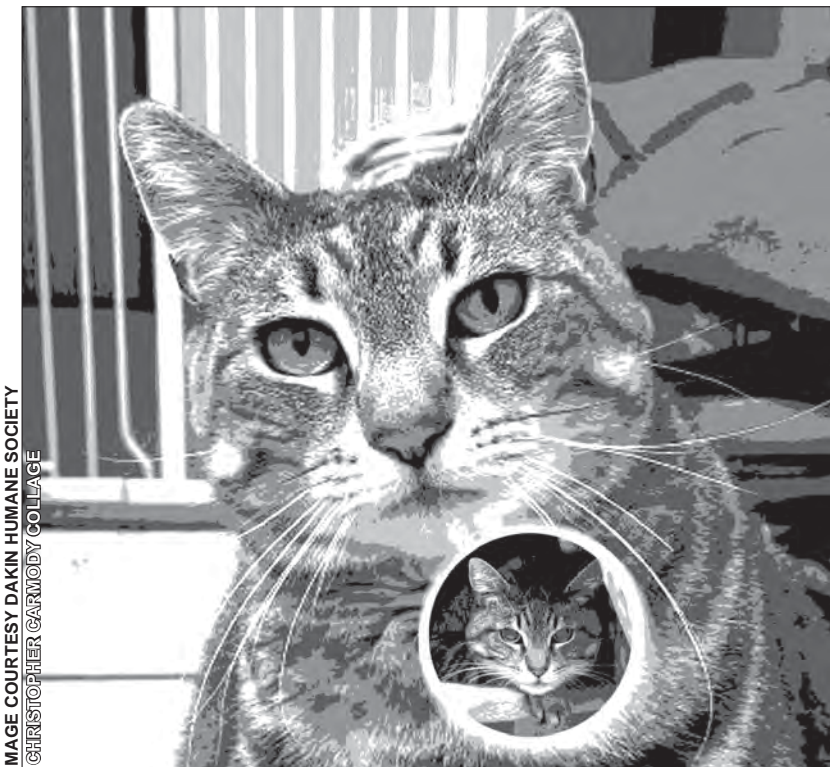


IMAGE COURTESY DAKIN HUMANE SOCIETY  
CHRISTOPHER CARMODY COLLAGE

“BRIE”

Hi, I’m Brie! I’m a sweet, sensitive cat looking for a very specific home. I have so much love to give but my sensitive nature sometimes makes it a little tricky to see how lovable I really am.

I need a quiet, adults-only home with a consistent routine. I would also like to be the only pet in the home – other animals really stress me out! Once I have acclimated to

my new home, I will enjoy playing with toys, rolling in catnip, and getting lots of pets. I will most likely hide when visitors come over, but when it’s just us, I will come hang out and ask for attention.

Please come visit me and see if I may be the cat for you! Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at [info@dpvhs.org](mailto:info@dpvhs.org).

Senior Center Activities  
FEBRUARY 10 THROUGH 14

**GILL and MONTAGUE**

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

Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs, call 863-9357. Messages can be left on machine when the center is not open.

**M, W, F:** 10 a.m. Aerobics;  
10:45 a.m. Chair Exercise  
**T, W, Th:** 12 p.m. Lunch  
**Monday 2/10**  
8 to 9:15 a.m. Foot Clinic by appt.  
12 p.m. Chowder Lunch  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle  
**Tuesday 2/11**  
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga  
**Wednesday 2/12**  
9 to 11 a.m. Veterans’ Hours  
12:30 p.m. Bingo  
**Thursday 2/13**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga  
1 p.m. Cards, Games, & Pitch  
4 p.m. Gentle Yoga  
**Friday 2/14**  
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

Bettors, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity. Call to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out about the next blood pressure clinic.

**Monday 2/10**  
8:45 a.m. Stretch & Sculpt  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance  
12 p.m. Homemade Lunch  
12:30 p.m. Card Pitch Game  
**Tuesday 2/11**  
8:45 a.m. S.W.A.P. Exercise  
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance  
11 a.m. 2nd Grade Reads to Us  
12 p.m. Homemade Lunch  
**Wednesday 2/12**  
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
8:45 a.m. Relaxing Technique  
12 p.m. Congregate Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Bingo & Snacks  
**Thursday 2/13**  
8:45 a.m. Interval Training  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones  
10 a.m. Valentines Day Lunch  
12 p.m. Congregate Lunch  
*Movie & Popcorn to follow*  
**Friday 2/14**  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting Workshop  
9:30 a.m. Fun Bowling  
12 p.m. Congregate Lunch

**LEVERETT**

For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or [coa@leverett.ma.us](mailto: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, or for a ride.

By CAROLYN CLARK

**TURNERS FALLS** – Of the 2,028 men and women who comprise the pool of our seven-times great-grandparents, we may discover a few men and women of great distinction, most others quite ordinary, and very possibly some scoundrels and ne’er-do-wells. It’s just the odds. Most were born and died without raising any eyebrows or even leaving more than a note marking their passing in some church or town hall document. Just ordinary, respectable people.

This is the story of my seven-times great-grandparents, Richard Edwards and Elizabeth Tuttle, whose dysfunctional marriage could have been set in any period of history. Elizabeth Tuttle was born in 1645 in New Haven, Connecticut, and when she married Richard Edwards, the curtain rose on the tragic drama of the Tuttles and Edwardses.

She was 22 and he was only 20, considerably younger than the age at which colonial men were expected to marry. His was a difficult childhood, with a spendthrift and litigious father, and he craved stability and community acceptance. Elizabeth’s father had done well, and came from a stable family. About her mother, also named Elizabeth, it has been said that “she had the sensitivity and excitable temperament of genius,” and it has been posited that it was through her that genius and madness were infused into the Tuttle and Edwards lines.

The trouble began immediately. Elizabeth was alleged to show signs of an “impetuous nature and lack of decorum” early on, according to her husband Richard, although there was no sign of it when she was a teenager; no record of fines for lewd behavior, such as some of her siblings were forced to pay.

Richard later claimed in court that she seduced him into marriage, knowing herself to be pregnant by another man. She did give birth after only seven months of marriage, and Joseph Preston, the man accused of impregnating Elizabeth, denied it and nothing could be proved against him. Richard, on the other hand, was not without blame, and the child could easily have been his own; the records show that he and Elizabeth were taken to court to answer to charges of premarital relations, at which time he was forced to pay a fine of £5.

Not content to assume his responsibility as father, Richard continued to deny that the child, Mary, was his, and Mary was subsequently raised by Elizabeth’s father, the responsible William Tuttle. Thus the marriage started on a sour note, with Elizabeth forced to give up her first-born.

They seemed to have settled into the marriage to some degree, as over a nine-year period they produced five children, perhaps restoring Richard’s sense of *manhood*. Then tragedy struck.

From Sybil Smith’s article “What Is It With Those Tuttles?” in *Ancestry Magazine*: “Sarah Tuttle, Elizabeth’s sister (who had scandalized the town in her youth by publicly exchanging kisses with a Dutch sailor) and Elizabeth’s brother Benjamin had a falling out, and he went to the barn, got an axe, returned to the house and struck Sarah on the head repeatedly in a ‘barbarous and bloody manner.’”

What caused this sudden and deadly rage? We need to look at Connecticut colonial law of the time – synonymous with church law – which required a young unmarried man who had not reached the Puritan standard of *manhood* to live under the governance of a mature married person until such time as he could set up his own household and marry. At 30 years old, Benjamin had not yet reached the point at which he could marry and become head of his own household. He chose to live with Sarah, her husband, and their four children in the tiny village of Stamford, although he admitted there was no love lost between them.

The murder occurred in 1676 on an evening when Sarah’s husband was away from home. Sarah, Benjamin, and her children were seated in front of the fireplace. It was a petty argument, no more than a squabble, but it ended in Sarah chiding Benjamin for rudeness. Not only was he subservient to his sister, but the cramped quarters of the early colonial home saw members living practically on top of one another with no privacy.

Benjamin denied the crime at first, blaming it on an Indian attack, but Sarah’s children, shocked witnesses to the murder, were old enough to describe it in detail, and eventually he confessed. The oldest boy testified at



Where the Tuttles originally lived in New Haven (circled, lower right). They eventually upgraded and bought the house lot of Joshua Atwater, a more prestigious location (circled in upper center). This would later become the spot of the first Yale University building. Map, “New Haven in 1641” by F.R. Honey, 1880. Digitized by the British Library.

his trial that as Benjamin struck the first blow, he cried, “I will teach you to scold!”

Benjamin was imprisoned in a jail just a couple of houses down from where Elizabeth, Richard, and their children lived in Hartford. He must have felt close to Elizabeth, as he willed to her what little property he owned. It is probable that she, as his closest family member, fed him and saw to his care, as was the practice at the time, until he was hanged the following year.

One wonders what she must have felt to have lost both sister and brother in such violent ways. At this point she had been married to Richard for nine years. Was it simply a coincidence that Elizabeth deserted Richard’s bed at just this time? It became clear that he wished himself free of her, and probably of the scandalous Tuttle family that he may have thought tainted him. It was just at this time that he appealed to the court for a divorce.

In Richard’s testimony he stated that “he found three months after marriage that she was with child by another.” He further stated that he lived with her nine years, at which point she “refused conjugal communion” with him, and deserted his bed; and that her conduct was so intolerable that by advice, he traveled abroad, hoping by his absence she would relent. On his return, for a while “she behaved herself, but soon, in answer to some question, she said she had committed folly with another man whom she named and fell into her old fits of obstinacy,” and he renounced her as a wife. She had caused him “intolerable and insupportable affliction.”

Richard quoted scripture, said she was guilty of adultery, and prayed for a release. Their son Timothy testified that she had, in fact, left his father’s bed.

There is no testimony from Elizabeth – no record that she ever appeared on her own defense in front of the judges to rebut the claims. It was almost as though she washed her hands of any involvement in the proceedings.

The divorce was denied: not once, but twice. His case against her, had it been believed, was strong, so there must have been those in the community that saw the situation from a different perspective. There is no report or testimony to suggest that Elizabeth neglected any other of her familial duties, such as the preparation of meals and care of the children, and no report that she was lewd or failed to attend church services. These offenses would have produced records of fines. It would also have been easy for a scandalized neighbor to have called Elizabeth a witch, not an uncommon practice at the time, but there was not so much as a whisper.

Ava Chamberlain, in her book *The Notorious Elizabeth Tuttle*, referring to the murder of Elizabeth’s sister, says: “It shattered the peaceful refuge of [the Tuttles’] family, stealing two loved ones from them.” She further states, “Following this tragedy, the remaining family members struggled to right their inverted world.”

Referring to yet another Tuttle sibling, Chamberlain writes, “[Elizabeth’s] younger sister Mercy began a slow descent into madness. And Elizabeth’s fragile union with Richard Edwards, which had functioned only adequately for about a decade, began to fall apart.”

Find out more about the Tuttles in Part II of A Woman Scorned. And please let us know about your own ancestors, their success and travails, be they recent or in the distant past, at [genealogy@montaguereporter.org](mailto:genealogy@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



**INDIE MAMA** from page B1

security and stability. I mean, there’s gotta be other ways to create that for a child. It is, after all, a feeling.

And if I get stuck in trying to create that feeling through the lens of routine, then of course I’m going to feel like an ultimate failure. Comparing myself to other parents, or measuring myself up against the “to do’s” of parenting, will not create what I desire. So, I’m giving myself full permission to let go of routine, and I’m gonna embrace and work with what we got.

When I think about it some more, I realize I’ve been naturally doing that already. Since he was a baby, I’ve repeated to him over and over, “Remember, mama always comes back.” This combination of words has become engraved in his heart. I take refuge in knowing that he knows to trust my word.

When I was six years old, my mom moved to Chicago for work. I

stayed behind with my grandmother. I don’t recall anyone ever explaining anything to me, and as I look back at this point in my life, I realize that it’s taken me most of my adult life to find stability and rootedness. More than once I’ve had to leave my child in the care of others, while I’m out there doing my hustle, and time and time again, I’ve lived up to my word.

We’ve only had to move once in his little life, and even though we’re growing out of our current living space, we’ve lived here long enough for him to know this as home. The time will come when we’ll need to move to a bigger space, but for the time being, I will celebrate everything I’ve accomplished to create security and safety.

But for now, I will continue to do what I’ve been doing best: trusting my instincts, and creatively nurturing an ongoing feeling of safety, comfort, and security for my little one.



SCENE REPORT

In Honor of 1917

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

**GREENFIELD** – In connection with the Greenfield Garden Cinemas playing the movie *1917* at the theater, the 104th Infantry color guard did a WWI reenactment and displayed British and German gear for people to see. *1917* is a movie about two British soldiers trying to get a very important message to a unit during World War I, so that is rather a good event to have before that movie.

I decided to go there to see for myself on January 10. I was told by one member of the color guard, named Brian Willette, that they’ve been “around since 2017. We have done the American Legion Centennial. We transitioned into American Legion Centennial in 2019.”

People who showed up that night included at least two veterans, who were there to watch *1917*, and a photographer from the *Greenfield Recorder* who wanted to photograph the display of WWI artifacts. This included various items that you would find British and German WWI soldiers had. There were also reading materials which included photos of WWI soldiers.

Some of the artifacts were very cool to see. The ones that I believe were cool were the uniforms and weapons from that war, the gas masks and the rations you also would have found with those men. The photographer from the *Recorder* was present for the reenactment they did before the movie was shown that night, too.

The group consisted of four individuals dressed in WWI uniforms. The owner of the Garden introduced them, and mentioned they were also going to do the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked that the audience join in. The owner also spoke of the history of the 104<sup>th</sup>, which was quite impressive. The four carried weapons from that war, held two flags, and marched around like the professional soldiers they appeared to be. They said the Pledge of Allegiance with the audience, and gave the owner a certificate of appreciation from the American Legion for having this whole event be held there.

I like history very much, so seeing those WWI artifacts was very enjoyable for me. I was a little surprised to find a photographer from the *Recorder* there, but I guess the *Recorder* saw the uniqueness of the event, as well as how cool it was to have it happen before *1917*. Afterward, I commented to two of the four soldiers that they did very well.

On Sunday, I went to see the movie. It is about a mission that happened during WWI, in the year 1917, which was an incredible feat to pull off: a message had to get to a company to save the lives of 1,600 British soldiers. If one of the messengers hadn’t saved the life of another earlier in the journey, and if the messenger left behind hadn’t run right into the company, then there wouldn’t have been such a miraculous accomplishment. It was more than worthy of being honored by the color guards like it was on the previous Friday.



**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG**

### Drunk Ex-Friend; Abandoned Male; Pokemon Slow; Africa Package; Farren Wanderer; Free-Smokes Seeker

**Sunday, 1/26**

10:10 a.m. TFFD requesting mutual aid to Deerfield to rescue a dog on the ice in the Connecticut River. TFFD en route.

11:49 a.m. Multiple calls reporting three-car accident on General Pierce Bridge. No apparent injuries/smoke/fluids. MPD and Greenfield PD units advised. Officer advises only two cars involved. Report taken.

8:21 p.m. Officer states that an F.L. Roberts employee is requesting a check on a motor vehicle that has been sitting at a gas pump for over an hour. Officer made contact with operator of vehicle. Timing was not as reported. No issues to be resolved at this time.

11:15 p.m. Caller states that her ex-friend is drunk and is pounding at her door, causing a scene. Involved female gone on arrival. Caller advised of options if she returns.

11:20 p.m. Anonymous caller states that a male on the corner of Rastallis and N streets is yelling “You left me here.” Caller states that male keeps going into and out of the house on the corner. Second caller, also wishing to remain anonymous, states that there is a lot of yelling and screaming coming from the house on the corner. Mom states that two males were having an argument and then left the house; neither is still there. Officers will be on lookout.

**Tuesday, 1/28**

1:46 a.m. Officer checking welfare of vehicle operator who was traveling 3 m.p.h. near Food City. Party was found to be playing Pokemon Go. Party given warning regarding this activity.

7:03 a.m. Report of two horses grazing in a front yard on Federal Street. Caller knocked on door, but no one answered. Officer advises negative contact at residence; horses are out of their pen but are now behind the residence, away from the road. Officer will attempt to get contact info for owners from neighbors.

5:14 p.m. Caller states that a “lifted Jeep” pulled out of Old Northfield Road without stopping and then operated at a fast rate of speed through town, continuing south on Route 63. Area checked; nothing found.

6:53 p.m. 911 caller from Carroll’s Market reporting that an intoxicated female in a neighboring building is causing a disturbance. Verbal argument; parties advised of options.

6:57 p.m. Caller from Canal Street states that a girl driving a Toyota was high-beaming and tailgating him. Caller got out of car and took picture of the license plate. Vehicle headed into the Patch. Officer checking area. Unable to locate in Patch; vehicle not at home address.

**Wednesday, 1/29**

2:55 p.m. Caller from Greenfield Road requesting to speak to an officer; his cats have been going on his neighbors’ property, and they are upset about it. Caller wants more information on what to do. Officer attempted to call back, but caller’s phone would not accept call.

3:04 p.m. Caller from Newton Street states that there is a yellow canoe or kayak sitting upside down in the river. PD and FD responding. FD requesting Erving PD check rest areas for any empty vehicles that may have been carrying a canoe or kayak. Shelburne Control notifying Erving PD. Officer can see kayak; appears to have been out there for a while and looks like it is split in half. No one in canoe; just a broken canoe stuck on some rocks.

6:58 p.m. Passerby and resident reporting some type of alarm coming from Avenue A building. PD and FD responding. Burnt food from an apartment triggered the alarm. Smoke ventilated. All units clear.

7:47 p.m. Shelburne Control reporting that AMR was responding to a call on East Main Street and witnessed an assault. Investigated.

7:56 p.m. Walk-in requesting that an officer give him a ride to Wendell. Courtesy transport provided.

10:44 p.m. 911 caller reporting single-car accident with possible injuries and wires down on Federal Street. PD and AMR responding. Officer advises that a pole is down with wires involved. DPW requested to shut down road; DPW advises that will be state highway. MassDOT notified and en route. Eversource also en route. Officer requesting attempt to make contact with Sunderland PD and see if they can contact family. Shelburne Control unable to contact family; will send an officer to house and attempt to make contact. Officers off at hospital. Road closed by MassDOT. Officer advises it is a telephone pole, not power. Spoke with Verizon, who stated they don’t have poles in our area anymore; however, with Eversource on scene stating it’s not theirs, Verizon will be out. Road reopened after midnight.

**Thursday, 1/30**

11:36 a.m. Walk-in party would like it on record that around 1 a.m., a tractor-trailer unit was on his road, did some damage to his lawn, and broke a large wooden yard swing while trying to back up.

4:25 p.m. Caller reporting that he is following a vehicle whose operator has a two-year-old in the driver’s seat with him. Followed vehicle from Shady Glen to Freedom Credit Union. Investigated.

10:23 p.m. Alarm company reporting multiple panel tamper signals at the Five Eyed Fox. Officers made contact with keyholder, who is coming down to check it out. Officers searched building with keyholder. Nothing found.

**Friday, 1/31**

11:58 a.m. Employee reporting that a female who has been verbally trespassed from Family Dollar is opening up the door to the store and yelling. Gone on arrival.

1:13 p.m. Family Dollar employee calling back to say that the unwanted female has returned and is harassing customers. Parties moved along and verbally trespassed by PD.

1:17 p.m. Caller states that there is a vehicle at West Mineral and Millers Falls roads with some front-end damage and a man sitting inside. Officers on scene requesting AMR and FD. Vehicle operator being transported to hospital.

1:50 p.m. Employee reporting that a recently discharged patient has gotten back inside the Farren Care Center building and is wandering the halls. Removed to hospital.

2:58 p.m. Caller states that she received a package that she did not order and now someone from Africa is calling her and saying that the package is theirs. Advised of options.

11:30 p.m. Caller from Avenue A states that it sounds like someone is beating up a female next door. Officer advises it was all verbal. A 33-year-old Belchertown man was, however, arrested on three default warrants.

**Saturday, 2/1**

10:50 a.m. Caller from Carroll’s Market reporting that a woman keeps coming into the store asking for cigarettes but doesn’t have any money. Caller states that the woman has been told not to come back but returned again today; when denied cigarettes, she started swearing at him. Officer made contact with offending party and spoke to her about her use of profanity.

11:08 a.m. Caller reporting that an injured/sick-looking porcupine has been in the same area of the Industrial Park for over an hour. Animal dispatched by officer.

12:09 p.m. Caller from Fosters Road thinks his neighbors are using their firearms illegally, shooting less than the legal distance from roads and residences. Officer spoke with neighbor, who will try to find another arrangement to appease the neighbors.

3:38 p.m. Caller reports that her neighbor has had her car running in the Fourth Street alleyway for at least 45 minutes. Ongoing problem; caller reports that car is often running for at least an hour at a time. Caller concerned of health risks with all the children around, and caller’s house is right next door. Officer advises female party is not home but he advised her partner of the complaint.

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 - 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

**PRECISION REPAIRS**

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785

Fax: (413) 863-0120

**FREE ESTIMATES**

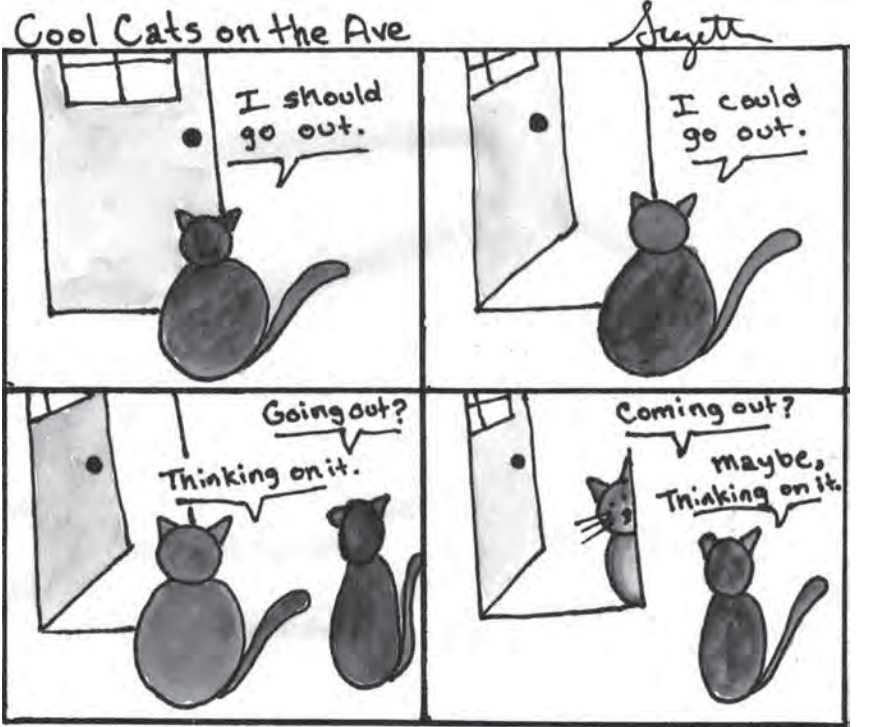
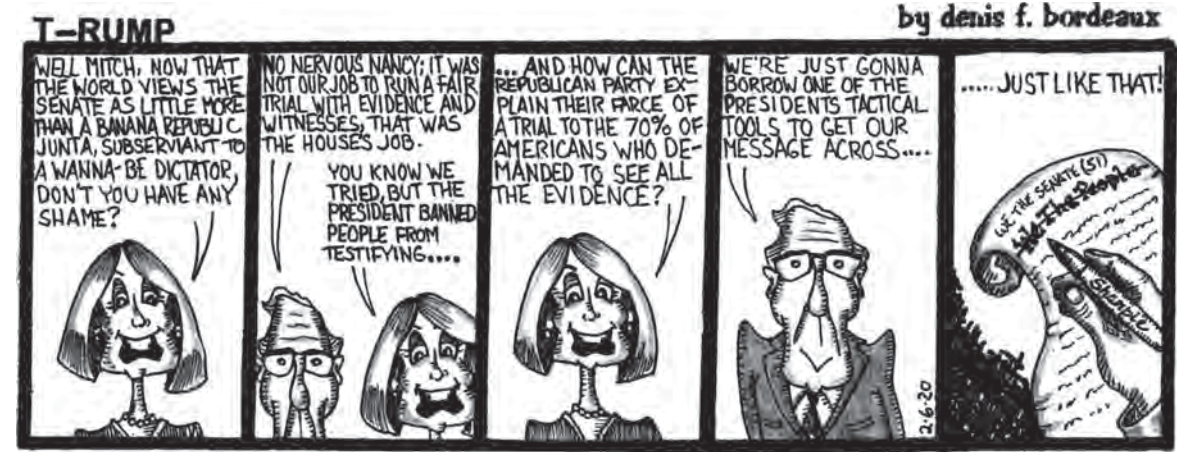
REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS

39 Center Road

Gill, MA 01354

**FREE LOANER CARS**





# Sports Bio: Mookie Betts

By JULIAN KAISER

Mookie Betts, born in Nashville, Tennessee on October 7, 1992, plays right field for the Boston Red Sox. He is 27 years old. His real name is Markus Lynn Betts. His parents gave him that name so that his initials would be MLB, which also are the initials for Major League Baseball. In 2010, he was awarded a scholarship to the University of Tennessee. In 2011 he was drafted by the Red Sox. During the first half of 2014, he played with the Portland Seadogs (AA Eastern league) and the Pawtucket Red Sox (AAA league). He then joined the Red Sox in June 2014. He recently agreed to a contract with the Red Sox for the 2020 season worth \$27 million. (Holy cow!) In 2018, he became the first player in MLB history to win the MVP, Silver Slug-



ger, Gold Glove, batting title, and the World Series in the same season, and he was the first player to hit for the cycle that season. Fun fact: Mookie is also a pro bowler, and competes in the Professional Bowlers Association! Julian Kaiser is 10 years old. He lives in Turners Falls.

## MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM !!!

OLDENS ORDHIEPG EO N BILGEOR  
PYNP XR DNTTLP NTA CHOP TLP  
WIRNV. - WRITER ONTARIO

CRACK THE CODE? SEND YOUR ANSWER TO: [INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG)

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](http://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](http://RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM)

Edward J. Terault  
(413) 223-5494  
[www.REILCLEAN.com](http://www.REILCLEAN.com)

### Reil

CLEANING SERVICES LLC

- Complete Custodial Services •
- Bonded and Insured •

**"We Don't Cut Corners, We Clean Them!"**

Cleaning Franklin & Hampshire Counties since 1972

### SAWMILL RIVER ARTS GALLERY

A collaborative of fine artists  
at the Montague Mill.

### SAWMILL RIVER ARTS GALLERY

440 Greenfield Rd., Montague, Massachusetts  
(413) 367-2885

Email: [sawmillriverarts@gmail.com](mailto:sawmillriverarts@gmail.com)  
[sawmillriverarts.com](http://sawmillriverarts.com) • [facebook.com/sawmillriverarts](https://facebook.com/sawmillriverarts)

Hours: Thursday-Sunday, noon-6 p.m.  
Monday and Wednesday, noon-4 p.m.  
(closed Tuesdays)



**VALLEY VIEW** from page B1

wartime memento. Instead, we can only speculate. The possibilities are many, some even unrelated to KPW. Truth told, short of an improbable discovery among papers in some old, dusty desk drawer, the King family tradition is probably forever lost. Sad indeed.

Which doesn't mean we can't ponder an intriguing possibility brought to my attention by local researcher Howard Clark, a founder of the non-profit Nolumbeka organization dedicated to local Native American preservation and research.

The club has for many years been classified as an Eastern Woodlands artifact, which means it's from a geographical area east of the Mississippi River, and more specifically in this case, from the territory between the Ohio Valley and the Northeast. That means its origin could have been either Eastern Algonquian or Iroquoian. Given the family tradition that it had been picked up during KPW by a Northampton soldier here in the valley and that the war was between colonial and indigenous New Englanders, it was for years assumed to have been an Eastern Algonquian relic.

Enter author Lars Krutak, who in 2014 featured the club in *Tattoo Traditions of Native North America: Ancient and Contemporary Expressions of Identity*. In the "Eastern Woodlands" chapter of his work, he identifies its many iconographic carvings as Iroquoian, Seneca, or Mohawk in style, which evokes some interesting possibilities that snugly fit Clark's theory.

Krutak isn't the only scholar to classify the club's iconography as Iroquoian. So does Carpenter (1922-2001), who knew Woodland symbols like few others. Relying on the ex-

haustive notes of iconic American art historian Carl Schuster (1904-1969), Carpenter co-authored the monumental *Materials for the Study of Social Symbolism in Ancient & Tribal Art*, a three-volume, 12-book, world-wide bible on the subject.

Although he never commits to an Iroquoian origin for the club in *Chief & Greed*, he does indeed identify one of its carved images as a turtle wearing the four-pointed Seneca star. So, he does at the very least lean toward an Iroquoian attribution.

Archaeologist/anthropologist Dr. Richard Michael Gramly knows this four-pointed star and Iroquoian iconography well, and he views Carpenter's Seneca attribution as narrow.

"That four-pointed star is not Seneca, it's Iroquoian," explained Gramly, who knew Carpenter personally, and whose Persimmon Press published the second edition of *Chief & Greed*. "The star is the symbol of the Turtle Clan and could just as likely have been Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga or Cayuga. Turtle Clan was the clan of Iroquois nobility, a prestigious clan of leaders. It started with the Leni Lenape (Delaware) Tribe. So let us not forget that there were also Eastern Algonquian Turtle Clans."

That is not to say that Gramly is challenging Krutak's conclusion that the overall nature of the club's carvings suggest an Iroquoian, not Eastern Algonquian, origin. No. Gramly trusts Krutak's opinion, which by the way conforms with Clark's suggestion that the club may have entered the Connecticut Valley with the Mohawk prince Saheda, famously murdered along with his gift-bearing peace delegation in late June of 1664 on their way from Albany to a council with the Pocumtuck Tribe.



*The club has a number of carved design elements, including this portrait of a warrior with a manitou tattoo near his mouth, that suggest an Iroquoian origin. How did it end up in present-day western Massachusetts? (Photo from Lars Krutak's Tattoo Traditions of Native North America.)*

Saheda's delegation never made it to the Pocumtuck Fort in what is now Old Deerfield. Instead, the travelers were ambushed and killed somewhere along the trail – maybe near the well-known, ancient fishing place Salmon Falls (now Shelburne Falls) – by a vengeful band of Sokoki warriors settling a score.

Months before that, Mohawks had attacked the Sokoki Fort at Hinsdale, New Hampshire, scattering Sokokis in all directions, including south for temporary refuge at the Pocumtuck Fort. Many historians believe that some of the Sokoki warriors living with Pocumtucks

knew of the incoming diplomatic Mohawk party and took the law in their own hands.

Perhaps that was how the King club arrived in the valley. Maybe Saheda was carrying it the day he was murdered, and it was taken by a Sokoki warrior who died as an elder 12 years later at the Falls Fight.

This hypothesis seems to be supported by a confusing mention in the New York Colonial Documents (NYCD). Dated July 12, 1664, less than a month after Saheda's murder, this second-hand report made an intriguing reference that could be related to the Saheda's club: New York Indians (Mahican?), including one named Cajadogo, met four "Northern savages" traveling west along the Mohawk Trail as they reach the western bank of a river named "Mill Kil" in a canoe. The New York Natives knew of Saheda's murder and inquired: "How will it be now with the Northern savages, for the Onejages have a knife and a hatchet lying upon their arms." The Northern "savages" responded that they had only followed through on orders from the English.

Could these Indians have been referring to what later became the King war club, which could easily have been referred to as a hatchet or tomahawk at the time? It's possible.

Although it is absolutely true that this hypothesis about a cryptic colonial reference could never be proven, it makes a lot of sense and, if true, would add immense historical value to the rare relic.

Too bad it wasn't scrutinized centuries ago by an Indigenous medicine man with a deep understanding of the pre-literate grammar of design. Such a wise man could have interpreted not only the precise meaning of the club's carved symbolism, but also very likely the owner's identity.

Montv

MONTV / MUSIK / MOUNTAIN



#16: Dusty Miller

Interview by J. BURKETT

**TURNERS FALLS** – Dusty Miller is the name of a music project by Andi Magenheimer. Andi grew up in Connecticut, currently lives in the UK, and over the past seven years has lived and worked between Los Angeles, New York and London.

She visited Turners Falls a few years ago to play the Mystra "Free-

stone or Ooze Fest" at the Brick House. (Check out Youtube for footage.)

Andi is a full-time painter, and graduated from the School of Visual Art in 2009 and the Royal College Of Art in 2012. Her website is at [andimagenheimer.com](http://andimagenheimer.com), though her Instagram has a more thorough archive of her art. This interview was conducted through emails over the past month.

**MMM:** When did you start with music? Do you have any major influences?

**DM:** I played trumpet for a few years as a kid, but I lost interest because I wasn't hearing it in enough music I liked, and got really interested in guitar-based music instead (what was on MTV and the radio, pretty much).

I was also digging through my parents' albums, and getting into my dad's little jazz collection. Cannonball Adderley cracked my head open a bit.

**MMM:** In what way does music differ from doing visual art?

**DM:** They speak to people in different ways, people are tuned into different inputs. Ideas come as single-use instruction pamphlets, like Ikea furniture but made out of colors of worries about bills, and thinking about the sound of a loved one's voice, or wishing you could do something that's out of your scope.

So you have to sort of pay attention to how that idea appears and follow the form, or chase it onto paper, or its final form, with whatever tools and mood you have at hand.

**MMM:** Have you played many shows overseas?

**DM:** I've only just been doing this residency at a pub once a month. I played a gallery opening a while back.

I've been pretty focused on getting the paintings up on walls in the

past couple years, so this is sort of a shift back and a balancing, I think. I'm really enjoying doing more experimentation with my guitar sounds in front of an audience.

**MMM:** How does the music scene differ over there?

**DM:** I'm not really sure. I tend to go to fewer shows here, but bigger ones, or jazz pubs/clubs, where in the States I'd be swept up into seeing a bunch of shows in a short time, often in smaller venues but with very accomplished friends and acquaintances who play solo and in groups.

**MMM:** Any thoughts about returning to the States?

**DM:** I'm trying to take on a sort of daily meditation and considered actions practice. There are no immediate plans, as I have some work teaching and exhibiting here that I'm interested in seeing through, but I am very much in touch with my friends there and elsewhere.

**MMM:** Do you listen to music when you paint?

**DM:** Often I need silence to come up with an idea for something new, but I like to have specific music if I'm dug into something. Songs and albums that are longer format and instrumental are working for me at the moment – fingerpicking guitar, which leads into desert blues, cowboy songs from around the world, then into drone and chant.

The use of repetition and harmo-

ny, using a particular key as ways of anchoring a mood, in the same way that tinting a canvas yellow ochre or brown does before painting. I think you have to sort of be able to ride the shapes and tones in a song and get a momentum from it – you don't want it to have too much control over what your hand does, or make you be too drastic or impulsive in your mark-making, but it can carry you along with its images and rhythm or flow.

I'm enjoying Sardinian traditional music at the moment, John Fahey's death chants and environments, stuff with a persistent, but light-handed groove.


**MMM:** Can you talk about your visit to West Mass a few years ago?

**DM:** I was only there for the night to play the show... It was funny that a guy at UMass-Amherst curated a collage photograph of mine into a show that opened the same weekend. It felt very simpatico with the timing of it, and passing through levels of resistance – like a couple hours of night driving – to get there and play and meet up with everyone.

All the other folk playing and watching were super welcoming and interested. Some really great sounds happening, and the footage is actually really beautiful.

I also was woken up by a nice cat and got to walk over the bridge in the sunshine the next day, so that was a bonus.

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



FEDERAL STREET BOOKS

8 Federal Street, Greenfield  
federalstreetbooks.com

Pipione's

SPORT SHOP

- Fishing supplies; Live bait
- Fishing & Hunting Licenses
- Paintball & CO<sub>2</sub> Refills
- Guns & Ammo

Open 7 am 7 days a week  
101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246






STONEDWORK

BUILD. REBUILD. MEND.

R. SKELTON, WALLER  
(413) 367-2435 . skelton.rob@gmail.com

Open every day, 10 to 6



BOOK MILL

440 Greenfield Rd.  
Montague, MA 01351

413-367-9206 www.montaguebookmill.com

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

DOLAN & DOLAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP



Bringing Peace to Tired Muscles  
Start the year right!

Let me help

Gretchen Wetherby LMT

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

gretchenwlm@gmail.com 413-824-7063



WARREN ONDRAS PHOTO

# NatureCulture:

# The Science Page

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



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

- Lisa McLoughlin, editor

# A New Species of Moth!

By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

**NORTHFIELD** – Charley Eise- man and Julia Blyth, prolific scien- tists of Northfield, have found and described a new species of moth, now named *Marmara viburnella*. It feeds on arrowwood (*Viburnum den- tatum*), initially mining the leaves but completing its development as a bark miner. This is unusual, as plant-mining insects generally spe- cialize by staying in leaves and not moving on to bark, or vice versa.

Leaf mining is a life history strat- egy that involves a larval moth, bee- tle, fly, or sawfly feeding in between the epidermal layers of a leaf, cre- ating an externally visible tunnel. Bark miners create tunnels beneath the surface of the bark on a woody plant, and stem miners do the same in herbaceous plants.

There are many thousands – maybe millions – of species that have not yet been named and de- scribed by scientists, but because people have been studying insects in the northeastern part of North America for so long, it is less com- mon to find new species of insects here. *Marmara viburnella* is one of three new species of *Marmara* to be described in the past 20 years, the other two being in Florida, and Cal- ifornia/Arizona. Before that, in the 1970s two species were described in New York and one in Oregon.

Charley and Julia found this one on the East Coast: first on Nantuck- et, later in mainland Massachusetts, and other places as far north as Quebec and as far west as Illinois. In their typically holistic fashion, their research has shown what type of plants these insects eat (*Vibun- um*) and the story of their entire life cycle. Overall, Charley and Ju- lia have found between 10 and 20 undescribed species of moths in the northeast – this out of 100 or so new species of flies, beetles, moths, and sawflies they have found overall.

*M. viburnella* starts out as an egg laid in June or early July on a prom- inent vein of the upper side of a vibur- num leaf. The larva hatches in early July and tunnels in the leaf, slashing cell walls and consuming the liquid contents just below the epidermis. This is visible as a linear leaf mine less than 1 mm wide.

Eventually the mine enters the



*Marmara viburnella, a new leaf and bark miner discovered by Northfield scientists Charley Eise- man and Julia Blyth.*

leaf midrib and proceeds down the petiole and into the stem. The lar- va then mines the bark of the plant through the remainder of the summer and fall, overwinters under the bark, and continues mining in the spring.

In late May or early June, it cuts a semicircular flap in the bark and spins a cocoon on the underside, pu- pating within the cocoon. It emerges in spring, cutting a hole in the co- coon with the sharp end of the pupa and wriggling out, shedding the pu- pal skin, and then flies away, now an adult moth, to find a mate and lay eggs of its own.

### Mining the Mines

The story of how these insects were found and described spans five years of investigation. In 2011 Char- ley was doing a survey of leaf-min- ing and gall-forming insects of Nantucket County when he found anomalous leaf mines on arrow- wood. While there was already one known leaf miner on this plant, the tunnels Charley found did not match this known insect, and he became fixated on finding out more.

In August 2012 he found them again. This time he could see where the mines went from leaves into the twigs, and he collected some twigs. One larva emerged, he sent a pho- tograph to micro-moth experts, who agreed it was “an early instar *Marmara*.” This was unexpected, as most *Marmara* species are bark miners throughout their develop-

ment; that is, they lay eggs on bark and stay there. Going from leaf to bark is unusual.

In 2013 Julia joined the hunt. It took a few years to sort out the ques- tion of where the larvae overwintered – in the bark mines, or in the roots? – and pupated – in cocoons in the leaf litter on the ground, or in bark flaps? It was hard to tell where each stage of development happened.

They could see leaf mines going down the petiole, but then they’d often disappear, or the bark mine would head toward the ground where it might be ending up in the roots, as is the case with one species that lives on ash. The larva could leave the plant altogether before spinning its cocoon, which is usual for *Marmara*. So there were a lot of possibilities.

Suspecting that the moths over- wintered in the roots and left the plant to pupate, Julia and Charley went back to Nantucket in late July 2014 and used pink flagging to mark arrowwood plants that had leaf mines. In December Julia returned, potted the plants, and moved them to an unheated shed, where she encased them in handmade mesh sleeves to capture any insects that emerged.

In time, insects showed up in the sleeves: an adult sawfly whose lar- vae eat juniper needles, and a moth whose caterpillar eats huckleberry leaves. Both juniper and huckleber- ry grow near arrowwood on Nan- tucket, so while it made sense the insects were there, neither were re-



*The bark flap where the Marmara viburnella spins a cocoon.*

lated to the bark mines.

Then in June of 2015, Charley and Julia were on a road trip, and stopped at a rest area in Illinois. They took the opportunity to explore a bit, noticed some arrowwood, and were surprised to find bark mines that end- ed in bark flaps. Most *Marmara* spe- cies pupate by leaving the plant, not under bark flaps, so they had to in- vestigate – they peeled open the bark flaps. Disappointingly, the cocoons under the flaps were empty – the pupae had already popped out, and the next generation was mining the leaves. But this adventure revitalized the search for the new species, and gave new information about the life cycle – the species creates bark flaps and emerges before late June.

In addition, this experience add- ed another mystery Charley and Julia have yet to solve: bubbles on cocoons. The cocoons were each adorned with piles of frothy bubbles. *Marmara* are known to excrete these bubbles, apparently to protect their cocoons, but the phenomenon is un- known in combination with the bark flaps. Charley hypothesizes that this species of *Marmara* may be some kind of missing link between *Mar- mara* that pupate in the leaf litter and secrete bubbles and *Marmara* that create bark flaps without bubbles.

After the discovery in Illinois, Charley and Julia were newly mo- tivated to search for bark flaps on Nantucket Island, and in 2016, after hours of searching, they managed to collect 30 fresh flaps with cocoons from five sites. The specimens were collected in vials; from these, 33 pa- rasitoid wasps and three adult moths emerged. These are the only spec- imens in existence that have been identified as *Marmara viburnella*.

Julia pinned the moths, and they are now deposited as type spec- imens at the Smithsonian. There may be other specimens sitting in a museum somewhere, but because their wing pattern is very similar to other *Marmaras*, it would be hard to distinguish this new species without an expert dissecting their abdomens and examining their genitalia. This demonstrates once again the useful- ness of a holistic life cycle approach in researching insects.

### Another Species?

But the story has an Afterword. No sooner had Charley and Julia put that species to rest by publishing a name and description of the moth and its life cycle than they found an-

other species that also mined from leaf into bark, this time in marsh elder, in 2017. After Charley no- ticed the leaf mines going into the petiole, Julia was able to pick out a number of plants with larvae in the stems, although the mines are deep enough to give very few external clues. They put a few plants in bags, but then went away on vacation.

## Glossary

- leaf epidermis*: outer skin of leaf
- instar*: larva in-between two phases of molting
- petiole*: stalk that joins a leaf to the stem
- pupa*: resting stage between larva and adult (a chrysalis is a butter- fly pupa)
- cocoon*: structure created by the larva to protect the pupa
- holotype*: a single type specimen upon which the description and name of a new species is based

When they returned, there was one sad little worn moth flapping around, and unfortunately some of the scales on its wings were rubbed off, marring the pattern. So, while a healthier specimen will need to be obtained in order to describe the spe- cies, this one was enough to know that there is yet another new species of *Marmara* on Nantucket. Its strat- egy also involves mining the leaf, then going down into the stem, but then it doesn’t make a flap in which to pupate; rather, the larva cuts itself out and makes a cocoon somewhere else, a location as yet unknown.

They are very curious about this aspect, as Charley points out that the wet shoreline on the edge of a salt marsh seems dangerous to a tiny larva or cocoon, unsecured to the plant from which it came.

So, plans are in the works to re- turn and hopefully get a few good specimens of the latest mystery moth. This will either involve dig- ging up the whole plant in the late spring before the larva exits to pu- pate, or using a black light against a sheet near the host plant to attract and catch adult moths, matching their wing pattern, genitalia, and DNA to the one they reared.

The search for new moths seems endless. In a future Science Page, Charley and Julia will explain their motivations to keep up this import- ant work.

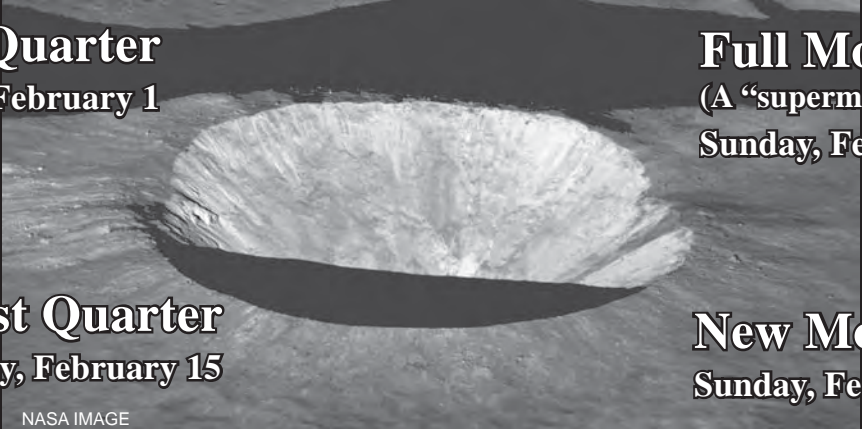
## February 2020 Moon Calendar

### First Quarter

Saturday, February 1

### Full Moon

(A “supermoon”)  
Sunday, February 9



NASA IMAGE

### Last Quarter

Saturday, February 15

### New Moon

Sunday, February 23

*Eimmart, an impact crater on Earth’s moon.*

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](mailto:renexc@gmail.com) cell 413.834.2201

Lic #36550-EL1-413-345-1687

### 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](mailto:CSTRAKOSE.ELEC@GMAIL.COM)

FULLY INSUREDFREE CONSULTATION



### Bryan Hobbs Remodeling LLC

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

Email: [bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com](mailto:bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com)  
Now Accepting Credit Cards

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



mass save PARTNER

Bryan G. Hobbs  
PO Box 1535  
Greenfield, MA 01302



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## EVENTS

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

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

Looky Here, Greenfield: *The Big Draw*. Figure drawing session with a model in monthly sessions. \$ donation. 7 p.m.

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

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Amai, Mary Jester, Blood Mobile*, and *Blundt Cake*. \$. 8:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Stone Church, Brattleboro, VT: *The Big Takeover, Wheel Out, Sector D*. Reggae. \$. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: East coast rap legends *Smif-N-Wessun*, with *LS Camp, OG Mach*, and *DJ Rec*. \$. 8 p.m.

Hutghi's At The Nook, Westfield: *Dropweapon, Feminine Aggression, Decussata*. Punk. \$. 8 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Bashful Slasher, Wendy Eisenberg*, and *Toppus Bottomus*. \$. 8:30 p.m.

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Wildcat O'Halloran Band*. 8:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Sedagive, The Provolone Brothers*. 9:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Element Brewing, Millers Falls: *Cousin B*. 3 p.m.

St. James Church, Greenfield: *Greenfield Drum & Dance*. African dance, followed by a Drum and Dance instead of the usual Dance Spree. \$. 6 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Skell Presents *Death Threat*, with *Shots Fired, Brain Vacuum, Marble Mouth*, and *Tar*. Hardcore. All ages. \$. 6:30 p.m.

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro, VT:

Ross Goldstein: *Mellotron and Organ*. Improvisational performances by composer Goldstein and Brian Dewan to celebrate the release of Goldstein's new ambient album *Timoka*. \$. 7 p.m.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Open Mic Night*, with singer-songwriter *Louise Mosrie*. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Gaslight Tinkers, Taproots*. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Stone Church, Brattleboro, VT: Yarn, with special guests *Saints & Liars*. \$. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Slap Frost Review*, feat. *Equipto, Michael Marshall, Z-Man* and more. In the Perch. \$. 8 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Futurefolk*, dance party with *DJ Quils*. Disco, funk, international, soul, hip hop. 9 p.m.

North Village Smokehouse, Millers Falls: *Jimmy Just Quit*. \$. 9 p.m.

Between the Uprights, Turners Falls: *Heath Lewis*. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Quiet Houses, Matthew Thornton*. 9:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Traditional Quebecois session*. 3 p.m.

Looky Here, Greenfield: *Mitchel Violins, Scare City, Federico Balducci*, and *Nightowl Pete*. 7 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Spontaneous Combustion 13*, featuring the *Northampton Community Music Center Improv Ensemble*, *Matt Weston/Adam Bosse* duo, and a directed open improvisation. Bring an instrument! \$. 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls:

TNT Karaoke. 9 p.m.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Shout Lulu*. 8 p.m.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Music in the Morning*. Children's music series. Live, interactive music by educator *Marcy Gregoire*, accompanied by movement specialist *Hilary Lake*. Puppets, costumes, musical instruments. 10 a.m.

LAVA Center, Greenfield: *Fierce Folds for Climate Justice*. Performance artist *JuPong Lin* will host a workshop on paperfolding as a daily contemplative or mindfulness practice. 7 p.m.

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

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Owsley's Owls*. Grateful Dead family night. 9:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Picard Marathon Viewing Party*. Watch the new Star Trek series with fellow fans. 7 p.m.

Parlor Room, Northampton: *Juliana Hatfield*. \$. 7 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Swing Caravan*. Benefit for the GCC Foundation. \$. 7 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *John Lentz Trio*. 8:30 p.m.

Sierra Grille, Northampton: *Niagara Moon, Pearl Sugar, Pyramid Thieves*. \$. 9:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Great Falls Harvest, Turners Falls: *Valentine Musical Review* featuring *Ariana Zucker, Noah*

*Tilley, Nash Atkins, Jed Blume*, and *Marcy Gregoire*. Songs of love and heartache. \$. 6 p.m.

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro, VT: Movie, *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. Opening performance by *Anomali & Ophelia* on vibraphone and electronics. \$. 7 p.m.

The Hive, Greenfield: *Wallace Field, Elliott Lee Friesen*. All ages. \$. 7:30 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Love Sick*, a Valentine's party with *DJ Gus* of Boy Harsher. 9 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *James Muschler Party*. Dubstep, hip hop, drum & bass. \$. 9 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Joe Belmont Experience*. In the Perch. \$. 7 p.m.

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

Mount Toby Concerts, Leverett: *Reggie Harris & Pat Wictor*. \$. 7:30 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Cinemastorm* movie double feature: *Labyrinth* and *The Never-ending Story*. \$5 cover, beer and wine at the bar. 8 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Ruth Garbus, Mai Devisa*, and *Hollow Deck*. Managing editor's pick. \$. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Danny Pease & the Regulators, Fire in the Field, Immortal Jellyfish*. \$. 8 p.m.

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro, VT: *Phobos: Dysfunctional Robot Orchestra*. An orchestra comprised of small robots and automatic music generation devices created by Sonoscopia, an experimental music collective based in Portugal. \$. 8 p.m.

place, and movement across boundaries, curated by Exploded View. Where do you live? Where are you from? Where do you dream? How do you find your way? Where are your borders? Do maps lie? Through February 29 in the Great Hall.

GCC South Gallery, Greenfield: *Juana Valdes*. Printmaking, photography, sculpture, ceramics, and site-specific installations, to explore issues of race, transnationalism, gender, labor, and class. Gallery talk on February 26 at noon. Through February 27.

Hampden Gallery, UMass-Amherst: *Christine Texiera: Release the Moorings*. Mixed media paintings using a pouring technique. Through February 28.

Herrick Gallery, Wendell Free Library: *Lynne Stopen: Birds Bring Peace*. Drawings of birds in graphite and colored pencil, capturing their unique characteristics. Through February.

Leverett Library: *Unlocking the Past: A Public Domain Exhibit*. A traveling exhibit from the UMass Libraries. Celebrating the 2019 release of a large number of copyrighted items from 1923 into the public domain. As part of the exhibit, Laura Quilter, copyright and information policy librarian from UMass-Amherst, will be giving a talk about copyright and art on Thursday, February 27, 6 p.m. A reception will follow the talk.

Looky Here, Greenfield: *Looky Here 2020: A Submission Based Art Show*. Works by over 30 regional artists in a variety of media: paintings, poetry, video, sculpture. Through April.

McCusker's Market, Shelburne: *Wool Works: Making Art and The Intuitive Process of Play*. Exhibit by Rachelle Royer-Llamas. Through February 28.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: Re-opening February 13 with *Triple SSS 2020: Sensual, Sexual, Smut*. Group show of erotic art from 35 artists, including sculpture, photography, poetry, prints, and more. Reception February 15 with erotic popup vendors in the Shea Theater lobby, 5 to 7 p.m.

Sawmill River Arts, Montague Center: *Small Works Exhibit and Sale*. A non-juried exhibit of small-scale community artwork. February 1 through February 29.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Sweet*, a group show celebrating the sweetness of the season. Paintings, ceramics, leather, paper cuts, jewelry, wood and ornaments by member artists. Through February 24.

Smith College Art Museum, Northampton: *Black Refractions*, highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, through April 12. Also at the museum, *A Dust Bowl of Dog Soup: Picturing the Great Depression*. Featuring 50 photographs and prints from artists including *Dorothea Lange, Arthur Rothstein, Marian Post Wolcott, Martin Lewis*, and more. These artists helped shape social policy by making the travails of rural America visible during the Depression, which stimulated enthusiasm for Roosevelt's New Deal programs. Through June.

## CALLS FOR ART

#Local Gallery, Easthampton seeks works in 2 and 3D that relate to "Mountains Majesty." All mediums are eligible, and the gallery encourages artists to "think outside the box" on this theme. Deadline: February 26. Submission fee of \$35 for up to 3 images; see details at [localgallerybyciderhouse.com](http://localgallerybyciderhouse.com) or call (413) 203-5781.

Sixth Annual May Day Fine Arts Sale at the Montague Center Library (second floor) seeks Montague artists interested in selling their work that day. Any medium, with a sale price of \$150 and under, is welcome. The event will be held May 3, in conjunction with the May Day celebrations on the Montague Center town common. Send an email of interest by March 6 to [montague.art.movement@gmail.com](mailto:montague.art.movement@gmail.com).

## AUDITIONS

Footlights at the Falls producer Jackie Walsh is looking for actors for a November production of *Dancing at Lughnasa*, an Irish classic by Brian Friel. Auditions are 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, February 8, and 7 to 9 p.m. on February 11 at the Arms Library in Shelburne Falls. For more information, please contact Walsh at [shelburnejackieb@gmail.com](mailto:shelburnejackieb@gmail.com). Production help is also needed.



### THE LADY KILLIGREW:

*Awesome Beer  
Amazing Food*



*Amazing, Awesome  
Employees!*

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

### the Rendezvous

bar with food

THURSDAY 2/6 8P  
**Falltown String Band**

SATURDAY 2/8 9:30P  
**Quiet Houses,  
Matthew Thornton**

SUNDAY 2/9  
3P **Traditional  
Quebecois Music  
Karaoke!**

MONDAY 2/10 8P  
**Shout Lulu**

WEDNESDAY 2/12 9:30P  
**Dead Night w/  
Owsley's Owls**

THURSDAY 2/13 8:30P  
**John Lentz Trio**

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

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

### TNT Productions

DJ & Karaoke specialists



413-522-6035  
[www.tntprodj.net](http://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





**ARTBEAT** from page B1  
art and its possibilities to her. All of a sudden she realized that, “Art could be almost anything.”  
Perhaps being in that frame of mind made the next encounter more powerful. While in the park having lunch, Seuthe spotted a stylized daisy spray-painted on the side of a tree, along with the words “Flower Power.”

“So as a kid, I’m thinking, ‘What’s Flower Power?’ I didn’t know what it meant in the culture of that time. The image just got put in the same image bank of the art museum.”

When she began painting the flowers for the “Beyond Planet Earth” show, Seuthe said she decided to hearken back to that

Flower Power memory by using the intentionally bright and intense colors of the 1960s pop art she’d seen as a kid.

She saw this as “a nod to that time of change, positive political change, where youth culture was getting involved and it was making a difference, it was ending the Vietnam War. I hate political art that bangs you over the head with a message, so I don’t think of my work as political, but personally, it kind of charged me up. And made me want to further push that kind of brightness and intensity. So they’re deliberately over-the-top and intense, some of them.”

Seuthe was quick to point out that she is not a gardener. “I would kill everything,” she insisted. But one of her sisters is a gardener, and it was from her that Seuthe learned the term “volunteer” for a self-sowed plant.

On the gallery’s website, Seuthe is quoted as saying, “Each painting/flower can be understood as a stand-in for a person. There are those who need a sheltered environment to protect their innate fragility (hot housed). There are those that exude inner strength and that need no special handling (the volunteers), and there are those that fit no mold (the anomalies).”

But she also saw the volunteer plants as somewhat of a metaphor for the way her paintings come into existence. “Almost all of these paint-



Anne Laprade Seuthe, PurpleX, acrylic on panel, 12 by 16 inches.

ings were some other painting that I painted over,” she said. “I often will do that.”

She painted over a series of landscape paintings to make the body of starDUST work that she created after her mom died. “And some of those, I painted over to make the paintings that are in this show, because I don’t think of them as precious objects. None of the paintings in the show are for sale; that’s not what I’m interested in.”

What she’s interested in is what starts to seem, as she described it, like a natural regenerative process of gestation, decay and rebirth, as one body of work inspires and gives life to the next.

“It’s interesting that the things that were cells in those paintings

IMAGES COURTESY OF THE ARTIST



### Fresh Cut Flowers

*Locally Grown by Teresa Foster*

**CSA Shares Available for pickup at the Great Falls Farmers Market Wed 2-6**

*Be a Local Hero*





### Dry Brook Garden

105 Old State Rd, Erving, MA  
drybrookgarden@gmail.com for pricing



Anne Laprade Seuthe, Flower Power, acrylic on panel, 24 by 18 inches.

Listen to us!



Apple, Spotify, Stitcher, etc.  
The Montague Reporter Podcast

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

## DIEMAND FARM

Join our new  
**Market Share Program**  
and save everyday!

Details at [thediemandfarm.com/csa](http://thediemandfarm.com/csa)

## 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](mailto:INFO@BLUEDRAGONAPOTHECARY.COM)  
158 MAIN ST, SUITE 10 GREENFIELD, MA 01301  
[BLUEDRAGONAPOTHECARY.COM](http://BLUEDRAGONAPOTHECARY.COM)

Dennis L. Booska  
Dennis L. Booska, Jr. Phone & Fax  
413-863-3690

## Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls Tile  
Lino  
Carpet

Member  
The Flooring Network.

## 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](http://www.turnersfallspizza.com)  
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls (413) 863-8000

## Ariens Snow Blowers \$549 & up

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



Pick up & Delivery Available!

[sirumequipment.com](http://sirumequipment.com)  
Rte 63, Montague 413-367-2481



## MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309




## SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CO. INC.

SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

### Complete Masonry Supply

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

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



Jeffrey Collura, D.M.D.  
Cosmetic Dentistry

7 Burnham Street  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
Telephone (413) 774-6553  
[TurnersFallsDental.com](http://TurnersFallsDental.com)

Office Hours By Appointment

### CEREC : SINGLE-VISIT DENTISTRY

## The Gill Tavern

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

[www.thegilltavern.com](http://www.thegilltavern.com) Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM  
326 Main Road Gill, MA 413-863-9006

## Reward Yourself

with the FREE GSB Debit Card BUZZ Points Program.



**\$10 BUZZ Points Sign-up Bonus\*\***

Earn Rewards with Every Purchase!

(413) 774-3191 • (413) 584-4441  
[greenfieldsavings.com](http://greenfieldsavings.com)

**Greenfield Savings Bank**

\*Double points earning offer (2X points) applies only to locally-owned businesses which are in the GSB-Buzz Points Database at time of purchase and is not applicable at local outlets of national or regional chain stores or businesses.  
\*\* Must open account and sign up for BUZZ Points by 01/31/20 to qualify. Member FDIC/Member DIF • Equal Housing Lender

## Serving Home Grown Farm-inspired Food & Drink




44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301  
Ph 413 774 3150 | [hopeandolive.com](http://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](mailto:peterjwaters88@gmail.com)

## Follow the Sun into the Future



**GREENFIELD SOLAR STORE** 2 Fiske Avenue, Greenfield  
[solarstoreofgreenfield.com](http://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