Emerging PFAS Concerns Complicate Regional Sludge-Composting Efforts

By SARAH ROBERTSON with MIKE JACKSON

FRANKLIN COUNTY – Limitations for the disposal of sludge generated during wastewater treatment are beginning to cause a crisis in New England, and a pollutant of growing concern could make recycling the sludge into soil and fertilizer products much more difficult.

“It’s very serious,” said Mickey Nowack, executive director of the Massachusetts Water Environment Association, a nonprofit trade group for wastewater operators. “We’re on the edge of a disposal crisis. Nobody wants the biosolids.”

The state Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is currently assessing how to regulate PFAS chemicals found in treated sewage sludge, sometimes referred to as “biosolids.” The pending regulations have already cost the Erving Industries paper mill a sludge-hauling contract with Casella Waste Systems, the region’s largest sludge composting company, and they could determine the future of a proposed regional sludge composting facility.

Casella Waste Systems, which hauls and composts municipal sludge regionally, recently ended a long-running contract to receive sludge from Erving’s POTW#2 treatment plant amid concerns about PFAS chemicals from the Erving paper mill’s operations.

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Must Move On

By CASSIE DAMKOEHLER

Dear GMRS Community,

Five years ago I was elected by the citizens of Montague to serve on the school committee for a three-year term. At that time the mood had just been changed and there was a lot of hurt and anger in the community. Although some of the newly elected had the desire to change a past decision made by the board, just or wrong, I was never able to simply make our schools better. My youngest was finishing kindergarten and I was a mostly stay-at-home mom, working part time out of the house a few days a week. I was available for daytime meetings and volunteering at the school. I quickly became enmeshed in all of the work that has to be done when you’re on a school committee.

I did not plan to run for a second term, but I found myself at the last moment that I did not feel I had done enough. I think it takes almost a full term to understand the processes and procedures of a school committie. I ran that year to run in a write-in campaign, and was elected for my second term.

I took the vice club position, but my plan was that I would just complete my term and then step away. Sadly, just as we finally had a full board, we lost Mike [Langknecht]. Mike was a mentor to me and taught me so much about the work we were doing. His sudden death still affects me, and I will miss his self getting emotional at meetings when I think about what Mike would say, or I hear in my head how Mike would respond. I have done this work without him.

There have been few moments when I was not thinking about the next move, at least everyone showing up on a regular basis. Amid all of this, we were still doing the hard work for all the amazing schools, staff, and students in Montague. I do not regret a second of this hard work.

My life has changed a lot since I was first elected over five years ago. I went back into education, entered into a Principal Program at the graduate level, and have recently accepted my own position as an Assistant Principal at the high school level. At the moment, I am also serving as active principal while my long time principal is on leave.

I am fortunate to have learned so much about budget and policy while on the school board. I am also fortunate to have worked with two highly talented superintendents, many incredible administrators, and many dedicated board members.

People will not realize the amount of time and commitment that it requires to serve on a school board. The people that sign up to do this work, especially on a voluntary basis, do it because they really do care. I have nothing but respect for all of the members that I have had the pleasure of serving with.

It is with conflicted emotions that I submit my resignation for the new school board. This time, with three children spread among two schools and a high school of my own, I do not feel I can commit the amount of time necessary to be a productive member. To hold a seat when I can seldom attend does more harm than good. I know far too well how that feels as a member who shows up on a regular basis to do the work. The committee members and this community deserve better.

Thank you to the current members for continuing to do the work that I cannot. Whether we’ve always agreed or not, we have done this work with respect and in the best interest of our students.

Please continue to do the work, and know that I recognize the sacrifices that are making for all of the children and staff in our district. It takes a small group of dedicated people to change the world, and that’s what you’re all doing in our village.

Cassie Damkoehler
didn’t want to be involved?

In reading Joe R. Parzych’s letter about Greenfield (“Trouble Across the River,” June 23), and as a one-time resident of both Greenfield and Amherst, I’m not quite sure what Mr. Parzych is advocating.

On the one hand he seems to feel that “siding with Socialism” is bad, on the other, he has a laundry list of the things on which he wants public tax dollars spent. In one sentence he thinks that Greenfield “should switch back to select board like in the old days,” and in the very next he says that Greenfield should think about the future, make progress, and move into the 21st century. In one breath he says that Greenfield is getting too big, and in the next he’s unhappy about people moving away, and thinks the city should grow bigger.

But at least he’s consistent on one point: hate for the mayor and city council... although he never has an answer. He’s got all the guns? They’ve got all the power? They’re the only ones that can’t do anything anymore? Blame the left, blame the right. – to live and serve.)

Mr. Parzych has a problem with the concept, towns can grow too big for weekly selectboard meetings to handle. Even in Montague, we’ve seen the difficulty in getting interested citizens to run for key posts such as Town Meeting members, the Planning Board or the ZBA. One would think that Mr. Parzych, who stated that he doesn’t go to town meetings or “get involved,” would be kein nicht die Stadt an die Arbeit, all given his call for the Greenfield mayor to resign for the heinous reason that she wasn’t born in Massachusetts.

Robert Traylor
Northampton

Observations

Has anyone noticed the people downtown don’t make eye contact anymore? Blame the left, blame the right. – to live and serve.)

R.F. Pelot
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Letters to the Editors

Reply: Towns Do Grow

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Turners Falls
In this community-wide yard sale,” are welcome to freely participate downtown Greenfield this Sunday, a center in Greenfield, is sponsoring antennacloudfarm.com. B1 of last week’s paper for details, tures free live performances and "percussion-forward" festival fea-
south garden lawn. The day-long, station on the Discovery Center’s
ized by Antenna Cloud Farm, orig-
in downtown Turners Falls. It also briefly discusses workers’ rights, and other miscella-
s, including July 9. There are a limited number of fun boxes, which will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 10 Federal Street in Greenfield. June’s theme is "Outdoor Explorer," an interactive hiking kit to promote family fitness. The whole family can "Make a Splash," which has water fun and swimming stuff for youth and $6 to $15 (free for children) are wel-
reminders to Immigrants and Refugees, rights, discrimination in the work
crease awareness of death with a
in Turners Falls next Monday, July 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. The organizers write that the objective is to "in-
campfire songs on the
shipping Paper Issue! We are looking for submissions for another wrapping
paper edition to be printed in November. Seven artists will be se-
largest of its kind in the state. It also briefly discusses workers’ rights, and other miscella-
ance to helping ourselves to make
a love for outside family fun, and
willing to give a shout-out to our friends at.
ments due to COVID, the
An annual bonfire on Sunday, July
11, from 5 to 7 p.m. The organizers
working Paper Issue! Call (413) 863-3214 for more information.
you the fundamentals of ukulele playing. No experience necessary. Bring your own ukulele, or borrow one of

each other’s. The nature of the residency is flexible and may
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Aging. Registration is required; for more information. Call (413) 475-1555 for more information.

The Great Falls Center for the Performing Arts in Turners Falls is presenting their annual bonfire on Sunday, July 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. The organizers write that the objective is to "in-
crease awareness of death with a
in downtown Greenfield this Sunday, July 3 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fiction, paperbacks and used book sale
work there cut it into sections for us
some nice guys who

tive programs at the Center.

during the residency, the artist will be invited to a community gathering taking place during the residency. The Center’s director, Julie Stepanek, will show you the fundamentals of ukulele playing. No experience necessary. Bring your own ukulele, or borrow one of

A Death Café, a casual group discus-
discussion of death with no agenda or themes, will be held at the Gil-Mon-
town Greenfield presents Music Walk, an all-day celebration of the arts
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The Montague Public Libraries will provide two workshops in collab-
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SLUDGE from page A1
composting facility in Montague.
I anticipate sludge handling and
disposal to be a continued problem for
many wastewater facilities all over New England. Montague’s water
pollution control facility (WPCF) in Montague’s city manager, Charles
Gill told the Reporter. “I believe we
need to be looking at other options for
disposal, such as composting or a scale-up of a composting operation.
It gives the power to all of the states to put bans or
 restrictions on abortion, nearly a third of pregnant
women who still believe America is a democracy.

Our whole-hearted support for Roe did not end with our decision with our well-being and safety in mind. It was a choice to control our own bodies and put the life of a cell of clumps of cells beyond ours. In fact, the world in which children can’t be aborted will be harsh. There will be a significant rise in poverty, given that the people who will be forced to give birth might not be in the financial situation to take care of children as well as themselves.

I am wondering why the government gets to con-
troul half of our body. Safe abor-
tion is healthcare, and it should be available to anyone who wants or needs it. No one should be made to carry a child that they don’t want. As a simple statement, although others do not agree with me.

In a follow-up letter summarizing a scaled-up composting operation. A proposal to build a sludge di-
gester in Greenfield has stalled, and an ongoing trial in Montague to see where a pilot sludge-composting project would be located.

On June 3 MassDEP officials met with Little, Montague town administrator Steve Nowack, and FCSWMD executive director Jan Ameen near the transfer station off South Street, such an option could be worth considering.

Casella has been Montague’s sludge disposal contractor “off and on for the last ten years,” according to James.

Of the 164,186 wet tons of sludge generated in Massachusetts in 2021, 46% was land-applied, 14% was sent to a landfill, and 72% to Nowack; was shipped out of state. “It is a interesting moral issue,” Nowack said. “We consider it to be such a problem we have a management integration program,” and that’s starting to happen.

Nowhere to Hide
“We really are just extremely lim-
ited in disposal capacity,” Ameen, executive director of the FCSWMD, told the Reporter. “Everything is go-
ing to continue until you have a lo-
calized, regional option.”

Casella hasn’t said the future regulation of PFAS would have the in-state disposal and re-
use facilities Synagro in Rhode Island and the reuse fa-
cilities in Vermont, or to the reuse fa-
cilities. Massachusetts simply doesn’t have the in-state facilities to do dis-
bolus generated at the Low-
fell plant last year were being incinerated, and 14% was sent to a landfill. And 72%, according to

My name is Lizzy Polatin. I am a 14-year-old white woman living in Montague, Mass. I am just a normal teenager controlling what I eat and how I live my life. The world is full of people with disabilities, some are non-binary people, trans, men or others. The term “woman” doesn’t really work in this part of the conversation, therefore, in this piece of writ-
ing, I will not be sexualized, gendered, but rather focus on people with uterine.

With a uterus by no means includes only women. This includes anyone who has a uterus but doesn’t identify as a woman, such as non-binary people, trans, men, and others. The reason is that we don’t really need to work in this part of the conversation, therefore, in this piece of writ-
ing, I will not be sexualized, gendered, but rather focus on people with uterine issues.

We first need to acknowledge that this court decision will almost forcer people of color and people in poverty, especially in states that make abortions illegal or put bans on them. Rich white people who live in affordable areas will still have access to safe abortions, given that they have the money to fly out of state to a different area. Most people do not have the same kinds of opportunities, which will make pregnant people seeking abortion turn to unsafe abortions, which could seriously harm or even kill them.

26 states are likely to ban abortion, and the majority of Black women in the United States live in these states. Data from the CDC back in 2019 says that black women are almost four times more likely to get abortions than white women.

This will also affect members of the LGBTQ+ community. Many of them are risk of replemen-
ting healthcare and assisted reproduction, which is already at risk due to Roe v. Wade significantly affects women’s and girls with disabilities.

According to the HRC’s analysis, lesbian and bisexual women are much more likely to get abortions than heterosexual women. Due to restrictions on abortion, nearly a third of pregnant transgender individuals have considered ending their pregnancy by themselves, and 1 from 10 of those same pregnant individuals have gone through with it. If you don’t feel comfortable to please check your privilege, acknowledge your

We will need to acknowledge that this could affect people of color and pregnant people in states that make abortion illegal or put bans on them.
Everybody wants a clean world – me

Sewage from Erving Center, through to operate the POTW#2 municipal Reporter the state, according to data analyzed in paper mill in the region, was the city at Erving Paper, the last operat - in Franklin County.

That handle or have handled PFAS companies and municipal landfills guise for Montague,” Nowack said try. “Of course there was no testing who added that PFAS chemicals very nicely,” explained Nowack, residual PFAS in sludge.

Serve as an industrial treatment in Turners Falls.

Handled PFAS or continue to do so in Franklin County that have either in a year.”

Maybe we will have a better idea to do with regulations,” Little said. “The way to get to lower levels is

“Right now everybody is kind of ‘looking around and waiting, waiting, waiting, and seeing where things land.” Anren added “It doesn’t make any sense to invest in a sludge-composting facility if the state, if it’s not coming, and you’re just going to end up burying that sludge anyway in a landfill somewhere.”

We’re still waiting to hear from DEP on what they’re going to do with regulations.” Little said. “Maybe we will have a better idea in a year.”

Paper Chase According to the EPA, facilities in Franklin County that either handled PFAS or continue to do so include several paper mills. Erv- ing Industries and the International Paper Company in Erving, and Southworth, formerly Paperlogic, in Turners Falls.

Fortunately for Montague’s treatment plant, which used to serve as an industrial treatment for paper sludge before the mill ceased operation in 2017, questions about PFAS has been showing non-detectable or small amounts of residual PFAS in sludge.

“Paper manufacturing produces a lot of sludge, which composes very nicely,” explained Nowack, who added that PFAS chemicals were frequently used by the indus- “Of course there was no testing for PFAS years ago,” he said. “It’s probably a blessing in dis- guise for Montague,” Nowack said. Southworth closure, “in re- gards to PFAS in their sludge.”

Various other manufacturing companies and municipal landfills also have the list of 60 facilities that handle or have handled PFAS in Franklin County.

The wastewater treatment facil- ity at Erving Paper, the last operat- ing paper mill in the region, was the third-highest producer of biosolids in the state, according to data analyzed by the Reporter, generating 15,242 wet tons of sludge last year. Erving Industries contracted with the town to operate the POTW#2 municipal plant, which also accepts sewage from Erving Center, through its subsidiary Eneco.

“Paper making is a big problem and it’s a huge problem,” operations manager Mike McAffee said. “If you wanna be a clean world – me included – but this is something that has popped up and gotten real bad in the last few years.”

McAffee explained that the Erv- ing mill only recycles excess of new paper products. “Anything that gets added to the process is PFAS-free,” he said, “but that doesn’t mean that the pa- per we recycle doesn’t have PFAS.” A 2019 MassDEP letter approving Eneco’s sludge for land appli- cation stipulated that it be tested for PFAS compounds once per year. At an August 2020 meeting of the Erving selectboard and water com- missioners, Erving Industries presi- dent Morris Housen explained that in order to meet standards for land application of the facility’s biosolids by 2021, new sludge-drying equip- ment would need to be installed at the plant. The meeting minutes stat- ed that the facility generates 45,000 tons of biosolids annually.

Borrowing for the driers was ap- proved at a special town meeting that fall, but amid concerns over whether the town or company would be re- sponsible for paying off the loan if the mill were to close, Housen up- dated the board in November 2020 with the decision that the company would pay for the driers itself.

However, according to James, concerns over PFAS contamination in paper mill sludge led Cuesta to stop producing and 2019 partnership between Erving Industries Erving Industries, United States, and 2020 and 2021.

“The difficulty for us,” he said, “was there was so much concern about discontinuing, and with the decline in farms, and the de- crease of land that is available for this type of application…. we were con- cerned the program just won’t sus- tainable…. We couldn’t provide that commitment anymore without going to a landfill, and that wasn’t some- thing we were willing to entertain.”

McAffee declined to say who Erving Industries contacts with now to dispose of its sludge, though he said it is being transported to Canada “at a huge expense.” When asked whether the paper mill still tests residual sludge for PFAS, he said, “That’s an internal question.”

Looking Upstream Maine banned land application biosolids with PFAS, and that the paper mill’s biosolids, which already include PFAS, have levels that are 200,000 parts per trillion. “The cost to dispose of this is go- ing to really hurt our users and our town, so I’m trying to be proactive,” Little said. “I want to have a backup, if we do use it in treatment to remove it, and make sure that there is some financial gain.”

Little added that other contam- inants the traditional water treat- ment process does not destroy – including heavy metals and pharma- ceuticals – may also become an issue in biosolids. A 2018 report by the EPA Inspector General con- cluded that the agency is unable to track biosolids that contain PFAS.

According to Nowack, Massachu- setts current approach to biosolids management is “very risk-averse.”

“Don’t want people to think that 104 equals cancer,” he argued. “When you look at levels in food wrappers in McDonald’s, they might have levels that have 200,000 parts per trillion…. [PFAS] in pretty ubiqui- tous in people’s lives as consumers.”

“The bottom line is, MassDEP is going to have to take a stand on biosolids,” he continued. “Towns are going to pick and process in- vents that have to be paid back with loan over 20 years, or 30 years, and they want some assurance that what they invest in is going to be allowed….”

The way to get to lower levels is not going to be legislis- tically banning these chemicals. The state’s PFAS Interagency Task Force, which state senator to Comerford said, recently released a report identifying the need to re- duce or eliminate the use of PFAS in consumer goods, and is consider- ing legislation to do so.

According to Little, 23 compa- nies in the country are still producing PFAS chemicals. “I wish they would be neutral before they legislate us,” she said. “We aren’t the pollut- ers – we’re trying to clean it up.”

James compared class-action lawsuits currently being pursued against companies like 3M and Du Pont with earlier efforts against the tobacco industry.

“If you look at why we’re a receiver of these products,” he said. “We’re trying to work with the wastewater plants to ensure they have good practices in place, to make sure they’re not re- ceiving extraordinary levels of these emerging contaminants….”

I don’t want to see these chemicals in our wastewater plants, and we want to stop distributing these products.

An Erving Industries spokesperson said that the company’s sludge is now being hauled to Canada, “at a huge expense.”

For years farms in Greenfield, Hatfield, Sunderland, Northfield, and Westfield, and a parcel of land in Orange, have been fertilized with biosolids made with Erving Paper mill residuals, according to MassDEP records reviewed by the Reporter.

Massachusetts officials are re- searching the impact of land ap- plication on groundwater before introducing new biosolids regulat- ions, Coletta said.

“We are required to test for PFAS in our sludge quarterly,” Little said in an email, “and new EPA permits throughout the state are requiring monitoring of PFAS in the raw sew- age, sludge, and the effluent that is discharged to the receiving waters.” In Massachusetts, water is cur- rently deemed safe to drink if the sum of the six most common PFAS chemicals – a class of thousands of synthetic molecules – remains re- low 20 parts per trillion (ppt).

While the federal govern- ment has not set a limit on PFAS in drinking water, it has recom- mended 70 ppt of total PFAS as a threshold of concern. Two weeks ago, however, the EPA issued a new health advisory regarding safe “lifetime exposure” levels of two PFAS chemicals in particular: The advisory for perfluorooctanic acid (PFOA) is now 404 ppt, and per- fluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) is 02 ppt – levels which are “near zero and below EPA’s ability to de- tect at this time,” according to the agency’s June 15 press release. The EPA plans to release drink- ing water regulations this fall based on those levels.

Because “the primary level is within the safe levels is low is in drinking water, I think a lot of facilities are going to be found to treat for PFAS in drink- ing water, so I’m concerned the same will happen to us.” Little said. “If we had to have removal [of PFAS from sludge], that would be devastating, infrastructural-wise and capital im- provement-wise. It’s really expen- sive to have PFAS treatment.”

While activated-carbon filters or reverse osmosis can remove PFAS from drinking water, these systems do not work on wastewater. Other possible treatment methods include separating PFAS from wa- ter through a process called foam fractionation, or a form of thermal treatment pyrolysis that leaves behind a “bio-solids” with reduced lev- els of PFAS.

Little said that Montague recently signed onto a lawsuit to potential- ly help the town recover some of the costs that may soon be associated with removing PFAS from their sludge.

“The cost of this process is going to really hurt our users and our town, so I’m trying to be proactive,” Little said. “I want to have a backup, if we do use it in treatment to remove it, and make sure that there is some financial gain.”

Little added that other contam- inants the traditional water treat- ment process does not destroy – including heavy metals and pharma- ceuticals – may also become an issue in biosolids. A 2018 report by the EPA Inspector General con- cluded that the agency is unable to track biosolids that contain PFAS.

According to Nowack, Massachu- setts current approach to biosolids management is “very risk-averse.”

“Don’t want people to think that 104 equals cancer,” he argued. “When you look at levels in food wrappers in McDonald’s, they might have levels that have 200,000 parts per trillion…. [PFAS] in pretty ubiqui- tous in people’s lives as consumers.”

“The bottom line is, MassDEP is going to have to take a stand on biosolids,” he continued. “Towns are going to pick and process in- vents that have to be paid back with loan over 20 years, or 30 years, and they want some assurance that what they invest in is going to be allowed….”

The way to get to lower levels is not going to be legisla- tively banning these chemicals. The state’s PFAS Interagency Task Force, which state senator to Comerford said, recently released a report identifying the need to re- duce or eliminate the use of PFAS in consumer goods, and is consider- ing legislation to do so.

According to Little, 23 compa- nies in the country are still producing PFAS chemicals. “I wish they would be neutral before they legislate us,” she said. “We aren’t the pollut- ers – we’re trying to clean it up.”

James compared class-action lawsuits currently being pursued against companies like 3M and Du Pont with earlier efforts against the tobacco industry.

“If you look at why we’re a receiver of these products,” he said. “We’re trying to work with the wastewater plants to ensure they have good practices in place, to make sure they’re not re- ceiving extraordinary levels of these emerging contaminants….”

I don’t want to see these chemicals in our wastewater plants, and we want to stop distributing these products.
LITERACY from page A1

bilingual books together,” says Moresco. “Young children need love and connection with their parents and, teaching together can help to strengthen that bond.”

Literacy is a process that begins on day one, Moresco explains, noting that children often begin their relationship with books by chewing on them. By nine months they are opening and closing books and looking at the images. The literacy program at MCSM helps parents understand that they can become teachers of their children— even if they themselves are not literate.

For example, Moresco says, parents can start pointing to images in the books, and saying the word for the image. They can also talk about numbers, colors, and other key elements within the books. According to Moresco, the program carefully selects books with positive messages and illustrations that allow parents to creatively “read” the text with their child.

In the interest of reinforcing the idea that reading is important and special, the program urges parents to create uninterrupted time to read with their child. Other agencies and organizations have contributed in a variety of ways to this effort. Valley Quintones donated small quilts to each family to add to the quality of that time reading together. The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts has also provided the families with books, as well as small backpacks for the toddlers to carry their “book of the month” to and from home.

As a process begins, MCSM didn’t want to lose touch with any of the participating families, as they were concerned with the language and educational gaps that would likely result. They started to extend outreach to families by going to their homes and speaking with them on their porches. MCSM staff would bring books on these visits, as well as parenting information, and craft materials for the children. The initiative began to be called “Love2Grow.”

This outreach was very successful, and at some point staff began to also provide playgroups over Zoom. In addition to a variety of learning games and art activities, they made YouTube videos of themselves reading books, and posted them on the video-conferencing site. Parents were very appreciative of these efforts.

“During the pandemic, everyone shut their doors, but MCSM staff continued reaching out to us,” says Aidi Goncalves, a young mother whose children have participated in the program for a number of years. “I’d say it was a great deal.”

According to Damaris Morales, “My children really enjoyed Liliana read books on Zoom and in person because she reads with a lot of expression.” Morales says her youngest son loves the books, and her older children are also eager to read each new book as it comes into the house.

Since many of the families do not have books in their homes, a program goal of Love2Grow has been to help families create home libraries. Toward this end, King has provided $1,000 grants to libraries in Greenfield, Orange, and Montague, as well as a peace center and school in Sierra Leone, to purchase stimulating, award-winning books for preschoolers through young teens that promote peace, justice and environmental awareness.

Hynes notes that her organization’s Children’s Book Collaborative is informed by the works of African American abolitionist Frederick Douglass: “It is easier to build strong children than repair broken men.”

In early 2022, the Traprock committee awarded MCSM’s Family Literacy program a $5,000 grant to purchase and deliver high-quality board books to eight immigrant families, every month, over the course of a year. This grant has helped Kirsten Moresco to purchase the board books they consider to be crucial for the Love2Grow Program.

It makes no sense, says Moresco, to give an expensive book to a young mother whose children have participated in the program if they have no space to put it. “It makes no sense,” says Moresco, “to give an expensive book to a young mother whose children have participated in the program if they have no space to put it.”

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While the Love2Grow program has been wildly digital during most of the pandemic, it has also continued in-person meetings, and the recollection has been one of a continued and sustained positive experience that has affected not only the lives of those children, but parents as well.

Hynes also gives great praise to King and Moresco, noting that they are both highly knowledgeable about child development, particularly with regards to brain development and literacy. Program participants are fortunate, she says, to have three skilled and dedicated professionals, providing this much-needed program. Hynes invites others who are inspired by it to also help provide resources to the program.

GMRS to page A1

having to pay a babysitter at times so she could attend in-person meetings, and suggested continuing to meet via Zoom, as the committee has now done for two years, might make membership more accessible.

“I’ve heard, in the public, that we would like to see us meeting in person,” said Jennifer Waryas of Montague. “There may be an equity issue around accessibility, being able to attend if one wanted to develop a love of nature. According to Hynes, “researchers of how young children learn have concluded that what society does for preschoolers can be so powerful that it will affect not only the lives of those children member of the future of the world as well.”

King and Moresco say that they are immensely grateful for the funding from Traprock. “Not only does it give our program validation,” says King, “but it gives us the license to do what we feel best serves this community.”

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Montague, from page A1

to the town if it wants the structure. Selectboard chairman Rich Kuklewicz, in the past a vocal critic, has advocated giving the pieces of the structure to the Franklin County Technical School for weld- ing practice. Kuklewicz sits on the school committee. The board did not take a formal vote, but member Cheryl Ellis said she pulled with Kuklewicz “100%.”

Member Matt Lord said he was “not going to fight it.”

Trash Talk

Tyler Finnegan, a representative of the waste disposal firm Republic Services, once again came before the board to report on a potential resolution in the process of uncollected trash and recycling in town. “There was a hiccup recently,” Finnegan said, “but over the past few weeks, it has gotten better...”

Ellis replied that he had “not heard any calls, so we are still responding to them.”

He went on to say that the town has “moved away from the edge of a cliff,” but that the “fisheye-to-col- lector ratio is far too high than it ever should be.”

Finnegan said that he was only reporting this to show that the board’s attempts to make complaints and invoices for uncollected service line have put on hold for as long as 4.5 months. Also, the service company has hired a general manager, “who we are very excited about.” Finnegan indicated that he would provide a telephone number for residents to call with problems, and that the company was in the process of creating an online application to communicate with Republic.

Steve Ellis told the Republic representative that “the community collects far rate higher than it should ever be.”

Ellis said he had received a 25- page letter that week from the engi- neering firm Wright-Pierce, inc. “That’s smoke-testing sewer lines,” primarily in Millers Falls but also in adjacent villages during the week.

He said the purpose of the test- ing will be to identify leaks and in- flows. The board has heard from residents pumping basement wells out of the sewer system, as well as from others who are concerned about the sewer system, which is illegal. Over the past few years, Millers Falls sewer inspections have been plant in Erving where it is treated.

of July 11.

with the assistance of the engi- ners and whether it seemed to apply to one residence or the whole street.

leaving the date of a failed pickup to concerned residents should email him at townadmin@montague-ma.gov.

something more user-friendly would be added.

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Tobin changed the name to Unnameable Books, which apparently reduced the risk of legal problems—even from the heirs of Irish existentialist novelist Samuel Beckett, whose third novel in a famous 1950s trilogy bears that name. While our readers may be more familiar with the Beckett play Waiting for Godot, Tobin admits that Beckett influenced his choice, and that the name is “kind of a joke,” which may also be true of the scrambled name of the LLC that purchased the Hubie’s building.

Partly to avoid the high costs of New York City, Tobin says, he moved up to this region “some years ago,” and started a second bookstore in downtown Amherst with the same unnameable name. That operation will essentially be moving to Turners Falls at some point, according to Tobin. The business sells a mix of new and used books, and the New York shop has become known for carrying small-press titles.

Tobin told us that he “liked the architecture” along Avenue A, and observed that “there seem to be a lot of people there interested in the arts, although they keep a low profile about it.”

Turning a former bar into a bookstore, Tobin acknowledges, will be a project requiring a significant build-out. Though he will not be serving food or drink, Tobin says he is considering keeping the bar for aesthetics, and perhaps unpredictability. Just returning from the property closing last Tuesday, he was unsure of a target date for opening, but mentioned “six months to a year.”

For his part, Sean Hubert tells this reporter that selling Hubie’s has been a “bittersweet” experience. His bar and grill were closely identified with the Turners Falls community, featuring live local music and supporting Turners Falls sports teams.

But Hubie’s has been closed for most of the pandemic— it was open with a “to-go” menu in the spring of 2020— and Hubert says he began asking himself, “Is this what I want to be locking myself into for the rest of my life?” Hubert tells us the building, which he purchased in 2015, was originally constructed in the 1901, and may have been a speakeasy during the period of Prohibition. Although he was unsure of the precise chronology, he believes the bar was called Carney’s beginning in the 1930s, DJ Baron’s in the 1980s, and Jake’s Tavern beginning in 2001.

The transformation of Hubie’s from a sports bar to a bookstore with artists leafing through Beckett novels may, to some, symbolize a broader cultural transformation.

“I hope it is a success,” Mr. Hubert says of the new role for 64-66 Avenue A. “I look forward to seeing it transformed.”

55 episodes are now available!

Look for us on Apple/iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher, Anchor, Castbox, and elsewhere...

The Montague Reporter Podcast
The author, a Welshman, started in northern Scotland. The evergreens – spruce, pine, and firs – release healthful aerosols into our lives. Carbon dioxide-absorbing, oxygen-releasing lovelies. Plus the maple syrup thing. Last year I wrote about a sci-fi book by Kim Stanley Robinson, The Ministry for the Future, a novel about an abrupt, severe climate event that is already upon us. We here in western Massachusetts are blessed to be surrounded by trees. Leafy, wind-dancing, bird-filled, autumally colorful, luscious trees have numerous medicinal properties, and the author writes of the benefits of the scent from the sun-dappled depths of our modest forest. The ash and balsam fir has adapted over centuries to the soil, water, ice, and who depended on the conditions there. Each of these regions has its own unique forest, and who institute a Ministry for the Future to attempt to address climate change. Better late than never, but the world’s fossil fuel interests are still subsidized – sound familiar?


BOOK REVIEW

Ben Rawlence, The Tree Line: The Last Forest and the Future of Life on Earth (St. Martin’s Press, 2022)

By DONNA PETERSEN

MONTAGUE – We live in western Massachusetts and with the native tribes in Canada. She was the inspiration for a character in the Pulitzer Prize-winning book by Judith Inglese, Leverett’s Past, Present, and Future.

Leverett – “Past is Present is Future” is the title of the large ceramic mural by Judith Inglese that was recently installed by the town of Leverett. The mural shows scenes of Leverett history combined with scenes from the local landscape and various characters who make up the town’s past, present, and future. Inglese proposed the mural to the town in part as its 250th anniversary celebration coming up in 2024. She got it done early, she explained, “because I’m older.” Inglese has created ceramic murals for public art installations since 1978. She initially sculpted abstract forms in wood and steel, the switch to ceramics happened due in large part to her becoming a mother and needing work that could be done in smaller pieces, and in shorter chunks of time, to fit in with domestic life.

As a resident of Leverett for many decades, Inglese said she felt like giving back to the community. After consulting with members of the Leverett Historical Society, Inglese proposed the mural to the town in part as its 250th anniversary celebration coming up in 2024. She got it done early, she explained, “because I’m older.” Inglese has created ceramic murals for public art installations since 1978. She initially sculpted abstract forms in wood and steel, the switch to ceramics happened due in large part to her becoming a mother and needing work that could be done in smaller pieces, and in shorter chunks of time, to fit in with domestic life.

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"STRAWBERRY"

Isn’t Strawberry adorable? She is one of the Leverett True Spirit Kittens. A Tiny Spirit Kitten is a feral or extremely shy kitten that had no socialization with people in their first few months of life. These kittens will vary in terms of becoming so driftless in their new homes; some may never become very social and outgoing, while others may only ever trust you and no one else. They do well in a home with oth-

er animals and, depending on the kit-
ten, may do well with children. They will go home with specific in-
suctions for a successful transition. They will go home with specific ins-
uctions for a successful transition. Animals at Dakin are available only through adoption. Adoption staff at
g@dakinhumane.org

MONTAGE

1st Saturday: Used book sale
Fiction, paperbacks, kids’ books, DVDs, CDs, au-
dobooks. Sponsored by the Friends, Carnegie Library, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Every Wednesday: Story Time Outside. Meet Meghan Doyle for stories, songs, and a Take-and-Make craft. Carnegie Library, tent, 10 a.m.

Every Thursday: Group Yoga. Guided and free play with music & activities. Drop-in for preschoolers; old kids welcome. Carnegie Library, tent, 10 a.m.

Thursday, July 7 and 14: Workshops for Immigrants and Workers (English/Span-

ish). July 7: Assistance to Im-
migrants and Refugees. July 14: Workers’ Rights. Led by Blawn Blau, local office, co-sponsored by MCSM. Location: TBA, 6 p.m.

2nd and 4th Friday: Summer STEAM Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math activities for grades 4 to 12. Dress for possibly messy activities. Carnegie Library, tent, 1 p.m.

Mondays, July 11 and 18: Creative Writing Workshop with award-winning author Lisa Blauzer. £xpected levels welcome; space limited. Call (413) 863-3214 or email librarydirector@coa.ma.gov to register.

Tuesday, July 12: Campfire Songs on the Ukulele. Join Lisa Blauzer and Blauz and try a fun, easy instrument. No experience neces-

sary, loaner instruments available. Carnegie Library, tent, 11 a.m.

Multiple days: Paws to Read. Read to therapy dogs Emily or J-Jo to improve literacy. 3rd Monday, 3rd Thursday. Call (413) 863-3211 to reserve. 15-minute spot for your child or teen. Carnegie Library, tent, 4 to 5 p.m.

3rd Tuesday: Camp iREAD. Camp iREAD needs children and teens are invited to stop by to make a camp-inspired camp craft. Carnegie Library, tent, 3 p.m.

Fridays, July 22 and 29: Let’s Tell Stories. Lillian Moss facili-
tor will lead stories, songs, and Math activities for grades 1st through 3rd. Join the firefighters, department for a different kind of storytime. Meet the firefighters, check out the truck, and hear a story about the fire truck. Carnegie Library, tent, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.,

Wednesday, July 6: Stories for Toddlers. Reads stories to the young that will engage the

younger ones. Carnegie tent, 11 a.m.

Sunday, July 3: Mike Doyle for stories, songs, and Math activities for grades 1st through 3rd. Join the firefighters, check out the truck, and hear a story about the fire truck. Carnegie Library, tent, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Saturday, July 14: Music on the Patio. Tuesdays, July 19 and 26: Live music on the patio. Join the musician and listen to music. Same Old Blues. July 19: Zaphonic. Bring a chair and join us on the patio for music and good friends. 6:30 p.m.

2nd Thursday: Environmental Awareness Group. July 14: Zen and the Art of Saving the Planet. Join Thich Nhat Hanh. Pick up a copy at the library. 3 p.m.

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July 14: Butterflies & Bees. Workshop with master gardener Lami Cochran of theucker. Carnegie Library, tent, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.,

Saturday, July 17: Gardening in Different Size Gardens: watching, watering, weeding tips with the Western Mass Master Gardener Asso-
ciation. Call (413) 253-3023 to register. 9 a.m.

Thursday, July 24: Travelin’ Shoes: a multicultural storytelling extravaganza. 2 p.m.

Saturday, July 31: “A Place Where the Heart Lives”. Mucho Gusto Family Concert.

Friday, July 1: Picnic with an Author. Laura J. Firestone shares curiosities found in the library with other authors.

Saturday, July 2: Happy Valley Comedy Show. Interactive improv, perfect for kids 5 to 13 and their families. 11:30 a.m.

NORTHFIELD

Friday, July 1: Picnic with an Author. Laura J. Firestone shares curiosities found in the library with other authors.

Saturday, July 2: Happy Valley Comedy Show. Interactive improv, perfect for kids 5 to 13 and their families. 11:30 a.m.
Saved for Posterity
(Click to Four 74 Min. In.)

By HANNAH BROOKMAN

TURNS FALLS – Jimmy Just Quit played all of the hits at the Unity Park Makers’ Market ear-
ning, which is linked to montaguetv.org and Vimeo. You can also find the most up-to-
date town meetings there, including the Gill selectboard meeting from June 22, a rare Wednesday meeting.

All community members are welcome to attend. You can watch or listen at
montaguetv.org.

MCTV is always available to assist in local video production as well as
in diversity under the sun

WEST ALONG from page B1

pastoral peace when the upcoming July Fourth hol-
iday is celebrated in town, with all the ear-splitting
fireworks and burning sugars some citizens have in store for us whether we like it or not.

Speaking of patriotism, back now to Turtle Is-
land for a new lesson.

The Indigenous creation story of Skywoman can
lead us to some different perspectives on the na-\ntional assumptions. This First Woman arrived here
when this globe was nothing but water. She fell
from the sky on her knees when she had grasped as she fell, no place to plant
her paws.

She fell to earth on her knees when she had grasped as she fell, no place to plant
her paws.

Now, when we dance to the Earth’s heartbeat of
“Four All” by Gary Snyder)

Montague Community Television News

Dishes Stolen From Cars; Shotgun Or Backfire; Valor Stolen By Pandhandler; Boa Constrictor

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Dishes Stolen From Cars; Shotgun Or Backfire; Valor Stolen By Pandhandler; Boa Constrictor

Dear LEMUR Lovers,

This past Saturday, July 3rd, Callan from
Turners Falls Road reported that a dog was barking and
Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, 7/26

2:00 p.m. Callers report-
ing a male in a white vehicle
having a disturbance in a
parking lot. The vehicle had
been stolen from the mobile
home park of the apt.

3:34 p.m. Caller from Con-
necuticut River Library and
Warren Pond Road. Officer
just stole the charity jar for
the Dakin Humane Society
off of the counter. Unable to
meet with an officer to report
the theft. The money was
seized in a parking lot.

3:53 p.m. Caller from Con-
necuticut River Library and
Warren Pond Road. Officer
just stole the charity jar for
the Dakin Humane Society
off of the counter. Unable to
meet with an officer to report
the theft. The money was
seized in a parking lot.

3:57 a.m. Caller from 20-
year-old $17 dollar boy took
off from her resi-
dence around 4:30 a.m.

3:38 p.m. Caller from Crocker Avenue reporting a parole
officer has not shown up.

3:46 p.m. Officer located the bear in a
residence at an apartment building
in the First and Second
Building. There is an empty
bottle of liquor in the home.

4:13 p.m. Callers report-
ing a male party is outside
Lebanon Street. Officer
advised. Unfounded.

4:17 p.m. Callers report-
ing a male party is outside
Lebanon Street. Officer
advised. Unfounded.

4:24 p.m. Caller report-
ing a male in a wheelchair
hearing a disturbance in an
eral vehicle. Officer advised
him of the complaint.

Tuesday, 7/26

2:10 a.m. Suspicious per-
son reported on Turtle
Island Road. Officer advises
him to call the police.

2:05 p.m. Caller from
marsh Road stated that the
building was not structur-
ally sound, but the officers
state that it is.

3:00 p.m. Callers report-
ing the building near
#include the building near
New Street may be

4:10 p.m. Caller report-
ing a male party is outside
Lebanon Street. Officer
advised. Unfounded.

4:21 p.m. Caller report-
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20-year-old $17 dollar boy took
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dance around 4:30 a.m.

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An Inskpiration by Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno

BY RICHARD ANDERSEN

MONTAGE CENTER – It takes two to tango. It also takes two to create a work of art, music, or literature: the person who applies the brush, composes the notes, and writes the words, and the person who views the painting, listens to the music, and reads the stories and poems.

Because each viewer, listener, and reader approaches every created work through a lens that has been crafted by the influences in his or her life: family, friends, leaders, books, movies, novels...each of us tends to analyze and judge the work of another’s imaginations, interpretations, or translations or school of thought. We praise those who write the words, and the person who views the painting, listens to the music, and reads the stories and poems.

We don’t give the artist, musician, or writer a chance. We judge their works too quickly. We also don’t “speak” to it, we don’t. And we frequently don’t limit our lack of appreciation to a specific individual. In a matter of seconds, we can dismiss whole generations of creative output. Worse: we find ourselves taking pride in rejecting what we may have very well misunderstood. Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno’s Learning to Use Black is an unsought invitation to suspend our inherited beliefs in what constitutes “good” and “bad” and what we ought to concern ourselves with. Van Gogh never sold a single painting, that Morzèze is a fat suit and abetted by some rather outlandish self-interest. It started with Elvis being a young man when torn towards the sound of the blues and peaking into gospel, he became a convert to that music that spoke to him spiritually as well as musically. Later, exploring Beale Street in Memphis, he fell in love with rhythm and blues that he experienced from Little Richard, Junior Parker, Junior Parker

Colrain – I really liked the film of Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno, Australian director Baz Luhrmann’s, whose films have a focus on musica and dance and Blue’s musicals. In telling Elvis’s story, Luhrmann chose a social ang, focusing on racism, commercialism, the corruption of money, the beauty of the pull of the blues and the violence of our culture, including the criminalization of the blacks and their music. Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno’s combination of images and words is as abstract as the paintings that inspired them. Each and every expression is existentially real. What we see and what we read are not just words. If we can “relate” to it, it’s good; if it doesn’t speak to us, it’s not. And we frequently don’t limit our lack of appreciation to a specific individual. Each and every expression is existentially real. What we see and what we read are not just representations of Christopher’s thoughts and emotions; they are his words and emotions. But what’s it all mean? The meaning is initially determined by Christopher. They are his images and words. It takes time for us to per - form the same, these same words and images also become ours. We too become part of the creative process Christopher started when he delivered below the surface of his consciousness and brought back what he wanted to share with us, the way he wanted to share it. The result is a genuine work of art, and a significant contribution to meaning to be human.

The one more historically accurate thing that they got was that Elvis met his wife when he went into the Army, as well as how he later hung around Beale Street, and went to a tailor shop for his clothes he always wanted to be a part of the money for them. One more historically accurate thing that they got right was that Elvis did have some controversy surrounding him, which is shown in the movie. I should point out that unlike when Travis Ledoyt performs rock ‘n’ roll today, I believe rock ‘n’ roll wasn’t viewed or okay by many people that Holloway has seen, it’s very precise and precise by how the real Elvis performed on stage. Travis Ledoyt doesn’t have Elvis’s trained vocal cords. So that said, it seems that Austin Baker captures the image that Travis Ledoyt appears to do in his shows. I said that about Travis because of the crowds he drew the two times I saw him. That, to me is the important part of playing someone, when making a film on a historical individual of any kind.

The inclusive sense of rejection creates an ejection: a way of remaining.

Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Big Mama

Greenfield – I saw the movie by Baz Luhrmann about Elvis that premiered on June 23. It featured some historical inaccuracies about Elvis – like things that never actually happened, like his being friends with B.B. King. However, they got a couple of points right – just like Travis Ledoyt does when he is performing. Ledoyt is an Elvis impersonator from Greenfield, I have seen him perform. The man wears a pink jacket, like the real-life Elvis did. He has a couple of times, and he also has worn a leather jacket and T-shirt like Elvis did. When I saw him, I saw the man crowd like crazy to his performance. It was quite a crowd. He also sings gospel music like Elvis liked to do.

The clothes they have the actor Austin Baker in the movie are the same as what I mentioned Elvis liked to wear. Just like what happened with Elvis, the actor is shown on the screen drawing vast crowds of people, going crazy for him. This ac - tually thought about Travis because of the crowds he drew the two times I saw him. That, to me is the important part of playing someone, when making a film on a historical individual of any kind.
Slipping into slumber

old voices and meanings buckled and broke through preventing what should have been relaxing muscles.

She loved that body. Swore to protect it or at least respect it.

Give it its food and it mattered not to her what the food was.

Touch? Scents? Warm breathing just above the skin seeping into the arms?

Whatever that was.

On a good day with sun there was food.

A small brief shark-like wind cut through the glow of the sun splotting into her cheeks.

Yes but go get something for your blaring glaring white Irish skin.

Even a rag could be food for this today.

She began to dream—everything that caught her skin alive was food.

Anything that washed over it visible or myth was food.

Engaging her to come back.

The world of slumber, old voices and meanings let her buckle and break.

"Mr. Subscription Marketer Guy's" steady drip of web links

and pre-fab homes on dry bluffs that nobody wanted.

"Ms. Fake It 'Til You Make It" sold real estate.

"Losers never come from big cities."

It shredded Friday night into small bites

and dropped to the floor in a pile:

it shredded Friday night into small bites

Eating away at the back of her neck

All morning she suspected too much coffee.

First day of spring a poem she hadn't (yet) written

Slipping into slumber

old voices and meanings buckled and broke through

She suspected too much coffee.

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TREELINE from page 1

...and is very respected by "the forest in the sea" because some of the effects predicted by models may be happening in the melting permafrost.

Biomes. Shrubs and trees are moving into tundra areas, negatively impacting caribou and the effects have been detected in snow, rain and animals and tundra shrub and tree ice formation beginning later and melting earlier.

Many arctic areas are dependent on ice roads and snow for transportation so is becoming unmanageable.

Less use of fossil fuel, less buying stuff. Questioning the rationale for reusing, repurposing, all that good science, or the "management science" foresters have been taught – good at managing things…

...and unearting small squares of...
HEY! DO YOU READ THIS?
The Montague Reporter is looking for volunteers to help us curate this ongoing listing. Interested parties may contact editor@montaguereporter.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30
10 Forward, Greenfield: Field and Hill, Elista. Good Morn-
ing, DJ Lucie R. $. 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 1
Main Street outdoor stage, Gala-
ery Walk, Brattleboro: Thus-
Gee. Free. 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 2
Stone Church, Brattleboro: This
Could Be It. $. 7 p.m.

Marigold Theater, Easthampton:
The Perch at Hawks & Reed, $. 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 4
Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Open mic with Just Jim. 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6
Montague Center Common:
Betsy and John. Free. 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 7
Mystery Train, Amherst: Wes
Buckley, Mia Friedman, Vox Par-
y, Zamzam Goom. Free. 4 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Bridge of Flowers, Luxor Rant-
als, Human Pontiac. 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 8
Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: Gravy Hill feat. Georgia Beat-
ly, Webb Crawford, Koni Michi, more. 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 12
10 Forward, Greenfield: Babe-
hoven, Field Guides, Sator Down. $. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13
Montague Center Common: Ken
Lively. Free. 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 14
The Drake, Amherst: Track
Machina, Trash Rabbit. $. 7 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: Mi-
chael Conner, Anisha Burns, Nat Baldwin. $. 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Mike
Gangloff, Liam Grant & Grayson McCague, Tony
Pasquarosa. Free. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 9
Pushkin Gallery, Greenfield: Gravy Hill feat. Koni Michi, Forbes
Graham, more. 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Staged reading, The Gentle Vil-
lainy of Richard III. $. 7:30 p.m.

The Drake, Amherst: Basher, Bobby Gainache, LoSar. $. 8
p.m.

1704 Meetinghouse, New Sa-
lem: Rain Arts & daisy may-
hem. $. 8 p.m.

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro: Films of Maya Deren with live
soundtrack by Rob Schwi-
mer. $. 8 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: John Sheldon. $. 8:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Ci-
via Nied. Free. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 10
10 Forward, Greenfield: Babae-
hoven, Field Guides, Sator Down. $. 7:30 p.m.

Ani DiFranco. $. 8 p.m.

Antenna Cloud Farm, Gill: Matt
Evans’ Aquatic House. $. 6 p.m.

Beltower Records, North Ad-
ams: Sheena Sliney and the
Family Stoned. Post Moves. $. 6:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Vi-
mana. Free. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 17
Look Park, Northampton: Ari
DiFranco. $. 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 26
Look Park, Northampton: Regi-
na Spektor. $. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 28
Look Park, Northampton: Ani
DiFranco. $. 7 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15
Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Bonnae Prince, Glide, Footlings, A.P.I.E. $. 8 p.m.
EVENT PREVIEW

Save Your Complaints!

By MIKE JACKSON

THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

Gregg and I chatted about the project...and very quickly grew significantly. About 40 pages, it was pretty small, but I knew most of the Midwest, Southwest, and Minnesota. It was the biggest catalog. Stores came along later, and there was a back-and-forth for about 100 years, a long rivalry. Montgomery Ward was more based in the Midwest, and...really everywhere but the Northeast...most of the Midwest, Southwest, Northwestern, and West Coast.

 McGregor spent 1941 to 1941 at the catalog's offices in St. Paul, Minnesota from, working her way up from a complaint stenographer to a complaint correspondent, and returned briefly in 1942. She piggybacked her favorite letters and out...and really every-where but the Northeast...most of the Midwest, Southwest, Northwestern, and West Coast.

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