

The Montague Reporter

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MARCH 21, 2024

Staff Strikes at Art Museum, Citing Rising Cost of Living



FINNERTY PHOTO

Unionized MASS MoCA staff voted 97% in favor of the strike earlier this month, and 95% to reject a settlement offer this week.

By HUGH FINNERTY

NORTH ADAMS – Flurries of snow drifted down around the red brick buildings of the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art on Wednesday, but the early-morning chill failed to deter dozens of workers from forming a picket line outside the museum’s gate.

Music played from a tent offering the picketers coffee and donuts while a giant inflatable rat towered over the scene. Spirits among the contingent were high, and as the snowy morning melted into sunshine employees ranging from curators to museum attendants wielded homemade signs and revealed in the supportive honking of passing motorists.

The energy of the employees of the Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA) did not betray that they were two weeks into a strike. Organizing with United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 2110, which also represents staff of the Guggenheim Museum in New York as well as the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, they had secured their first contract in November 2022.

The three-year contract saw museum management address wage concerns among other worker demands, and left the door open for further wage negotiation during its term. Facing inflation and a sharp regional rise in the cost of living, the UAW reopened wage bargaining last fall; on March 6, having

failed to reach an agreement, the workers initiated a strike.

Despite the picket lining the sidewalks in front of MASS MoCA, the non-profit museum has remained open to the public, with managerial staff filling in for the large number of absent employees.

Negotiations have continued since the 6th. Local 2110 is seeking an increase of the museum’s starting pay from \$16.25 to \$18 per hour, with a 4.5% across-the-board salary raise by the fall. MASS MoCA has countered with a \$17.25 minimum and a 3.5% raise, as well as a \$150,000 one-time payment, which the union would distribute to its 120-person membership as it sees fit.

On Tuesday night, Local 2110 membership voted to reject this offer. A press release they released Wednesday morning read: “MASS MoCA staff, who have been on strike since March 6, voted overwhelmingly to reject a new offer from the Museum which would have added bonus amounts to the Museum’s previous, pre-strike offer.”

UAW 2110 president Maida Rosenstein echoed the statement in a comment to the *Reporter*. “The \$150,000 bonus amount is not an investment in staff,” she said. “People need an increase in base wage – 58% of these workers are making \$16.25. Membership cares deeply about the museum, and is proud of

see MUSEUM page A4

ERVING SELECTBOARD

Trash Pickup, Sewer Fees Eyed Amid Deficit Talks

By KATIE NOLAN

The Erving selectboard, finance committee, and capital planning committee struggled Monday night to balance a \$13.7 million FY’25 operating budget for the town. In an initial comparison of projected revenues with requested expenditures, they calculated a \$362,000 deficit. Sources of funding were also still undecided for some projects in a \$5.9 million capital improvement budget.

The officials spent time correcting assumptions in their spreadsheets. For instance, they determined that the final repayment of money borrowed from general stabilization to build the town library would only be \$130,000, rather than \$273,000.

Fin com and capital planning member Debra Smith observed that Erving Elementary School has run a surplus of approximately \$100,000 for the past few fiscal years, and suggested the school committee reduce its request by that amount. Selectboard member Scott Bastarache countered that it is typical to provide a cushion in a budget of up to 5% for unexpected expenses, and \$100,000 is less than 5% of the school’s \$4.1 million budget request.

Selectboard chair Jacob Smith recommended “broad strokes” such as putting slightly less free cash into capital stabilization, reducing the amount set aside for future retiree health insurance, reducing the assessors’ overlay, which covers tax abatements and exemptions, from \$200,000 to \$100,000, or looking more carefully at each department’s budget.

Debra Smith asked whether programs and hires delayed in FY’24 would be re-evaluated. Jacob Smith said there was little time to do this, as the FY’25 budget must be finalized by April 2 so the board can close the annual town meeting warrant. He asked the committee members to determine what in the proposed budget is “vital to fund” and

see ERVING page A6

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

‘Impact’-Less Pot Pact Regs May Be Starting to Kick In

By JEFF SINGLETON

The Montague selectboard grappled on Monday evening with the latest chapter in the state’s implementation of the 2016 referendum legalizing the processing and sale of “recreational” marijuana.

It took several years after the referendum for the state to pass regulations for the licensing of marijuana establishments, and for the newly created Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) to begin enforcing these regulations and monitoring agreements between cannabis firms and local communities. Initially, these

mandatory “host community agreements” generally included the payment of “impact fees” to the towns, often calculated as a percentage of sales, as well as requirements for companies to fund and volunteer for local charities.

These provisions came under criticism for funding town expenditures not clearly related to the impacts of the pot industry, and for favoring larger companies at the expense of smaller and minority-owned firms. In 2022 the legislature passed “An Act Relative To Equity in the Cannabis Industry,”

see MONTAGUE page A5

New Downtown Brunch Spot Aims for a Mid-June Opening



JACKSON PHOTO

Dreamhouse owner Jill Fishman officially takes occupancy of the restaurant space on May 1, but plans are well underway.

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – The Third Street commercial space and kitchen developed and occupied until December by the Five Eyed Fox will soon reopen as a brunch restaurant named Dreamhouse. Owner Jill Fishman, who has worked for the last five years as the general manager at the Shelburne Falls bakery Baked, has signed a lease with the landlord and bought up the Fox’s equipment, and will take occupancy in May. A liquor license hearing is scheduled for Monday.

“I want it to be warm and inviting, I want it to be really fun, I want it to be safe, and I want the food to be exceptional,” Fishman,

a Hampshire graduate and Colrain resident, says of the vision for Dreamhouse. “I’ve been in restaurants since I was 14, which puts me at 25 years this year.... It’s where I feel the most myself – I love what I can create for people.”

Fishman says she plans to hire and train staff throughout May and hold a series of “soft opening” events leading up to an official opening around June 13, in time for the weekend of Franklin County Pride.

Dreamhouse will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays through Mondays, and will feature “the big, boozy brunch” but also a juice bar, a “high-end espresso program,” and a simple menu drawing on

see BRUNCH page A3

DEEPER DIVE

Solar Effort Hitting Limits of Power Grid

By JEFF SINGLETON

MONTAGUE – “You were expecting \$152,000 from this solar project. Why?” town meeting member David Jensen asked Turners Falls airport manager Bryan Camden last Thursday, during a debate at a special town meeting over a request for town funds to plug a large hole in this year’s airport budget.

Camden responded that the airport had planned to make money by leasing land to a developer to build a solar array. “At that time, when budgeting [for the year], there was no indication there would be anything to delay the project,” Camden said. “It was not until the [solar] company invested \$300,000 in a feasibility study that they realized that Eversource had a huge expense associated with the interconnect.”

At previous meetings of the finance committee and

selectboard, which had both unanimously endorsed the funding proposal, Camden had put the cost of an electrical interconnection at as much as \$16 million. That number – along with the implication that Eversource was demanding it as a precondition for an interconnection agreement – appeared on the explanation sent to town meeting members for articles on the warrant.

Town meeting members seemed perplexed, as did town officials, by what appeared to be a demand by the electric company that the developer, EDF Renewables North America, cover the cost of upgrading the entire system connecting Montague with the region’s electrical grid. Six large solar arrays – two of which are across Millers Falls Road from the airport – have been constructed recently in town, and none were required to fund a major grid upgrade.

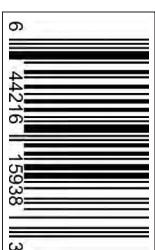
see GRID page A2

A SUNNY PROSPECT



MAGGIE SADOWAY PHOTO

One of the topological peculiarities of Turners Falls is the decision of Prospect Street to pass over Spring Street rather than intersect with it. The bridge is a good spot to peer out over the downtown and marvel.



We Just Need An Index Title And Then The Paper Is Done

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The Montague Reporter

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August 2002

Letters to the Editors

Viewpoint

Hi folks,
Just writing to say how very much I appreciate the articles in Spanish by Victoria Maillo de Aguilera. They are well-written and interesting, giving me a viewpoint on life in Western Mass. that I would never get otherwise. I hope these pieces will keep coming.

Gratefully,

Lundy Bancroft
Florence

Curiosity Stoked

We greatly appreciated Mike Jackson's story on the ever-growing Ja'Duke empire, but even after the in-depth reporting we readers are still left with the burning question:

What's the origin of the name Ja'Duke?

Jon Magee
Greenfield

Battery Input Sought

The Wendell Board of Health is seeking public input as it works to draft regulations concerning utility-scale battery energy storage systems (BESS). In response to the growing reliance on batteries to facilitate the green energy transition, and concerns expressed to the board about how this emerging technology can threaten public health, the board feels it is necessary to consider safety measures that address unique circumstances in Wendell.

"It's important for us to help reduce climate change by lessening the need for fossil fuels and increasing the use of green energy," said Board of Health chair Barbara Craddock. "While battery storage is essential to achieve that goal, the siting and operation of such facilities must be conducted thoughtfully with the health and safety of our residents in mind."

The threat of thermal runaway fires and the potential release of toxic chemicals from utility-scale BESS could harm the local drinking water supply, air quality, and the physical safety of Wendell residents. The town has no municipal water system, relies entirely on local aquifers for drinking water, and has limited emergency response capacity to handle large-scale battery fires or the release of hazardous chemicals. In a heavily forested town with many miles of dirt roads, adequate evacuation plans must also be taken into consideration, especially as climate change causes more severe weather events that may impede travel.

"As a physician I am particularly concerned about the potential human health hazards posed by large-scale lithium battery facilities," said Board of Health member James Frank.

"While my family and I are committed to personal efforts to reduce our carbon footprint in addressing the threats of climate change, we do not feel it should be done at the risk of compromising the wellbeing of residents of this small rural community."

MGL Ch. 111, S. 31 gives local boards of health the authority to enact reasonable regulations to protect public health, safety, and welfare that expand upon existing state or local statutes. The Board of Health will consider requiring annual operating permits, periodic inspections, environmental monitoring, and other conditions for utility-scale BESS.

As the Board of Health works to better understand the public health implications of BESS, it is seeking input from other town boards, state officials, environmental groups, and industry specialists. It will work with other town departments to ensure these regulations complement existing public health and safety programs and comply with state laws.

The public is invited to provide input as the Board of Health works to draft these regulations by emailing suggestions to boardofhealth@wendellmass.us. A public input session will be held during the Board's meeting **next Monday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m.** This will be a hybrid meeting held in-person and via Zoom. Those wishing to speak during the public input session should email boardofhealth@wendellmass.us.

Information on how to join the meeting can be found at www.wendellmass.us/board-of-health-meetings and is posted at the town office building at 9 Morse Village Road.

Wendell Board of Health



Leverett Elementary School principal Annie Foley Ruiz in her office with Alma, the two-year-old service dog. Ruiz says kids enjoy reading to Alma, hugging and leaning on her, and taking her on walks – "it really chills them out."

GRID from page A1

Several members wondered why Eversource had not made the same demands of these other projects. "If you're at the airport and you're facing south, and you look right across the road, there's an enormous solar array owned by the utility," said Sam Lovejoy of Precinct 1. "If you go a little bit west, there's [another] giant solar array. Now you go across the road, and they want six million. Is this a scam? It's disgusting."

The article, which used free cash to subsidize this year's airport budget, passed nearly unanimously, but the issue will emerge again at the annual town meeting in May, when members vote on the next fiscal year's budget.

The *Montague Reporter* contacted Eversource for their side of the story, and the company sent us a lengthy statement explaining the problem as they saw it.

Spokesperson Priscilla Ress wrote that Eversource had never received a formal application for a solar array at the airport, or any documentation necessary to "determine potential impacts to the local electric system and determine what, if any, upgrades are required to accommodate an interconnection."

However, Ress noted, "in some areas of our service territory, the system is reaching its limit for additional power capacity, requiring significant system upgrades to accommodate larger solar projects while ensuring the safety and reliability of the electric system for all customers."

"[Y]ou'll see there is hardly any hosting capacity on the existing circuit in Turners Falls," she wrote, referring to an attached map of the electrical grid. Over the past decade, she added, the company has "approved and interconnected thousands of distributed solar generation projects to the electric grid".

Ress also shared an Electric Sector Modernization Plan the company has recently submitted

to the state, calling it a "comprehensive roadmap to modernize the electric distribution system, help meet the commonwealth's decarbonization goals, transform the electric grid, and enhance its resiliency and strengthen reliability for customers by increasing renewable energy production."

So, while it seems the \$16 million estimate for the interconnection came from EDF Renewables, rather than from Eversource, the electric company has emphasized the inadequacies of the electrical infrastructure in Montague – and recently produced a modernization plan to invest significantly in upgrades statewide.

Eversource's proposed Electric Sector Modernization Plan comes in the context of initiatives by the state to address obstacles to the greenhouse gas emissions goals set under the 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act. These include potential reforms in the system of incentives to adopt renewables, legislation to address the siting of solar arrays and batteries, and proposals to modernize the grid to transport significantly more electricity.

The grid modernization policies appear to be further along the track than the others. In August 2022, governor Maura Healey signed "An Act promoting local energy investment and infrastructure modernization," requiring utilities to present long-term "modernization plans" to upgrade the grid and establishing a new Grid Modernization Advisory Council to help the Department of Public Utilities evaluate the proposals.

Eversource submitted its proposal on January 29, and held public input sessions earlier this month. The company's plan for Massachusetts, a formidable 600-page document, proposes to spend over \$6 billion in capital investment over the next five years.

The document does not appear to mention potential investment

in either the industrial park or the electrical system serving the town's existing solar arrays. There is a proposal to build a new substation in Whately and upgrade several others in the area over the next decade which, according to Ress, could take some pressure off the substation located at the end of the power canal in Turners Falls. The time frame for these improvements appears to be between five and eight years.

Developments in grid modernization policy were not mentioned by anyone at last week's special town meeting, and local officials we spoke with did not seem aware of the advanced status of the process, or the potential timeframe for its implementation.

Sally Pick, co-chair of the Montague energy committee, which recently completed a major research project designed to encourage solar development in town, said that "until this happened at the airport," her committee was only vaguely aware of developments at the state level. The committee plans to discuss the issue at its April 26 meeting.

In her response to the *Reporter's* inquiry, Ress said that "[e]ven though we have not received an application or the necessary documentation to evaluate the project's impact on the system, we are working with the town to explore the feasibility of getting a solar array interconnected to the grid there."

Camden also said that discussions with the electric company would continue. One solution to reduce the impact of an array at the airport, he suggested, could be to install a large battery facility there. One was proposed as a third phase of EDF Renewables' original plan for the project.

"I want to stand behind the airport, and we will get there," said selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz at the special town meeting. "I'm sad that this has happened, but we will get there if we continue to work together."



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Compiled by NINA ROSSI

State senator Jo Comerford is holding a re-election party this Friday in Greenfield, featuring special guests Senate president Karen Spilka, Northwestern district attorney David Sullivan, Tom Chang, Clare Higgins, musicians Sasha Klare-Ayvazian and Tobey Sol La-Roche, and hosts Bill Newman and Buz Eisenberg.

“Join friends and neighbors for great conversations and timely updates from Beacon Hill,” reads the invitation for this event to be held at Hawks & Reed in Greenfield this Friday, March 22 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. RSVP at jocomerford.org/community-events. Light refreshments from Cocina Lupita and beverages will be available.

Gill-Montague third-grade elementary school students were asked to envision what a new or renovated town library might look like, and their plans are now on view in the hall gallery at the Discovery Center in Turners Falls. The assignment was led by art teacher Jocelyn Castro-Santos, in collaboration with youth services librarian Angela Rovatti-Leonard.

A reception for the exhibit, called *Designing My Library*, will be held this Saturday, March 23, from 1 to 3 p.m. The artwork will be on display through the end of April.

The next film in the **Food, Farms, and Factories documentary series**, *The Mill at Montague*, screens this Sunday, March 24, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Montague Bookmill in Montague Center.

Find out what was made at the mill before it became a bookstore and café! The film is an oral-history time capsule from 1991 of the Martin Machine Company, once in operation in that location. The documentary was restored from VHS

by the Montague Historical Society. For teens and adults, with free admission.

LifePath’s Wellness Unplugged series continues with a Zoom presentation about **“Loneliness, Intergenerational Storytelling, and Other Ways to Build Social Connection”** on Monday, March 25 at 10 a.m. Dr. Gloria DiFluvio will lead a discussion on innovative strategies to foster social connections, and how storytelling can bridge divisions and close the generation gap.

Register to receive a link at lifepathma.org/events-workshops.

The Franklin County Community Development Corporation is having another “Take the Floor” event on March 28, from 6 to 8 p.m. at LaunchSpace in Orange. **Would-be entrepreneurs are invited to pitch their business ideas** in a friendly contest for access to start-up capital.

Projects must be based in Franklin County, and contestants have five minutes to deliver an elevator pitch without video, PowerPoint, or projectors. Judges and audience members will vote for their favorites, and winners go on to a final contest in June.

This is the second of three sessions, with the third happening on May 23 at GreenSpace in Greenfield. Register at tinyurl.com/shark-talk.

Peter Cottontail is coming to Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls for a photo opportunity next Friday, March 29 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The public is invited to bring cell phones or cameras for a quick pic with the famous hopster.

The annual Easter **EGGstravaganza returns to Unity Park** in Turners Falls next Saturday, March 30. The scramble starts at 1 p.m. when kids from 4 to 12 years old

run around to find some of the 5,000 candy-filled eggs strewn throughout the park.

This is a rain-or-shine event, sponsored by the Montague Elks and Greenfield Savings Bank. Kids must bring their own bags or baskets.

The Wendell Free Library is offering a workshop that teaches how to **make a Poetry Prompt Book Box** on Saturday, March 30, at 2 p.m. Jeanette Stockton will show attendees how to create a handmade book box, with drawers that hold tiny books full of prompts and ideas for writing poems and such. An example is at the front desk to preview.

Registration is required, and the workshop is geared for ages 13 and up. Call (978) 544-3559 or email wendell@cwmar.org to register.

Linda Ackerman, assistant vice president and community engagement officer at Greenfield Savings Bank, sent notice that **Saturday events will be held in the community room of the Turners Falls branch** once again.

Montague town administrator Steve Ellis will be the first featured speaker on March 30 from 1 to 2 p.m. Ellis will share his role and experience in town government, and discuss present and future opportunities for those interested in working in town government or serving on a town committee. There will be time to ask questions regarding other topics related to the town.

Ackerman also notes a new protocol to attend these sessions: the doors will be locked, so admission is by reservation only, and identification will be checked at the door at 12:45 p.m. on the day of the program before admittance. Call (888) 324-3191 to reserve a spot!

On Easter Sunday, March 31, Greenfield Garden Cinema will hold a special **65th anniversary showing of the movie Ben Hur** (1959) at 3:30 p.m. Liberty Tax Service has partnered with the theater to offer reduced admission to this classic for only \$5.

Ben Hur was the most expensive movie ever made at the time of its release, and was nominated for an unprecedented 11 Academy Awards.

That pesky packing material

you’ve been holding on to can be tossed next month – there will be **special collections for Styrofoam** on Saturday mornings in April for residents of Montague, Leverett, Northfield, and Wendell. Residents of those towns should remove any tape, labels, cardboard, or wood before bringing the stuff to their transfer station.

For more information, email info@franklincountywastedistrict.org or call (413) 772-2438. No registration is needed. Drop off is first-come, first-served, as space is limited.

The Amherst Survival Center will host its **16th Annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser** on Saturday, April 6 from 12 to 4 p.m. at the Center’s site at 138 Sunderland Road, North Amherst. Empty Bowls is a treasured event that brings the community together to fight hunger and raise funds for the Center’s programs ensuring that Hampshire and Franklin county residents have access to the food they need.

Guests select a handcrafted bowl made by a local artist and choose between a dozen soups donated by local restaurants, along with salad and freshly baked bread. The bowl is each guest’s to keep. There will be a raffle with prizes including hand-blown glass by Josh Simpson, a private wine tasting from Provisions, and more.

Tickets are \$50, and are available online at amherstsurvival.org/emptybowls or by calling the Center at (413) 549-3968 x108. Guests who don’t want a handmade bowl may also choose “soup only” tickets for adults (\$30) or children (\$10). Children 2 and under are free. Tickets can also be purchased in person on the day of the event.

The Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter is holding a **Rabies Vaccine Clinic** on Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield. The cost is \$20 and no appointment is required. You must bring proof of a previous rabies vaccine in order to get a three-year shot; dogs must be leashed and cats in a carrier. No appointment necessary!

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

BRUNCH from page A1

Fishman’s southern California roots and Jewish heritage (“there’ll be matzoh ball soup on the menu every day”).

“My wife is Brazilian,” Fishman adds, “so we’re putting a few fun Brazilian treats on the menu.” These will include *pão de queijo*, large buns made with tapioca flour, always on hand to substitute for wheat bread. Seating, as it has been at the Fox, will be at the bar, tables, and in the warm weather the patio, and the idea is for full-service rather than grab-and-go.

Another detail makes Dreamhouse’s business plan stand out.

“We will be a tipless establishment,” Fishman tells the *Reporter*. “We are going to pay all of our workers, front and back of the house, the same amount: a living wage – a real living wage that you can actually live on – and add a service charge to the check which would function like your 20% tip.”

Restaurants in other parts of the country have been experimenting with this model, some successfully, and Fishman says it has been the subject of intensive research and “vetting” by the Dreamhouse team. Their motive? “To ensure that every single employee that works for us is making enough money to live, no matter what day of the week, what season, what gender

they are, what sexual orientation they are, what race they are – they all come to work, and make enough money to live their lives.”

The model would also have most staff members working full-time, though to redirect intransigent patrons’ desires to bestow tips, a bookcase would grant employees free space to advertise their “side hustles.” As Fishman explains it: “You can buy their earrings, or their greeting cards, whatever their thing is, and that way you can support this person that you think did a really great job without disrupting the culture we’re trying to maintain.”

Monday’s all-alcohol license hearing before the Montague selectboard is not technically for a transfer from the Five Eyed Fox, but rather a re-issuance to Dreamhouse of the town’s site-specific license for 37 Third Street. Final approval must pass through the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission in Boston, and Fishman says that while the possibility of a long delay before the ABCC could force her to draw up contingency plans, “I’ve just decided that Boston will issue my license in a timely manner.”

An attempt to reach building owner Josh Goldman for comment on the new tenant was unsuccessful as of press time.

Ashley Arthur, who owned and operated the Fox in the same space from 2014 to 2023 – first

as a partner and then as sole proprietor – says she will do “everything [she] can to support” the new business.

“Jill and Adrixn taking over this space makes me feel so joyous,” Arthur writes. “I really didn’t expect to feel something so positive, and here it is in my lap. They are going to take this place and move forward making people happy in a way that I just wasn’t able to anymore. Love them.”

“I love working with her, and the work she put into that space is undeniable,” Fishman says of Arthur. “We definitely align in a lot of areas, and have the same goals or vision for what we’d like the industry to look like. When we came in to look at the space, there was an audible sigh of relief from her... I love that we get to continue this legacy of a young, queer person who just wants to make great food.”

This continuity also means that when Dreamhouse updates the signage – fellow Third Street business Hired Hand Signs will paint a new logo across the building’s upper façade “in the next couple of weeks or so,” Fishman tells us – the gold-foil lettering on the plate glass windows (*Established 2014, Queer Woman Owned*) can stay.

“Hell yeah,” Fishman says when we ask about this. “That’s a selling point, right there. She’s just going to change it from 2014 to 2024.”

Memorial Hall Theater
METROPOLITAN OPERA
 LIVE IN HD
 Saturday, March 23 • 12:55 p.m.
CHARLES GONOU
ROMÉO ET JULIETTE
 51 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls 625-2896
 Information and tickets at SFMH.org

GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL
 SCHOOL DISTRICT
**KINDERGARTEN
 OPEN HOUSE**
 For all children who will be 5 years
 old BEFORE September 1, 2024
Kindergarten Open House
 at Gill Elementary
 40 Boyle Road, Gill
 for children residing in Gill
 Tuesday, March 26, 2024
 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Kindergarten Open House
 at Hillcrest Elementary
 30 Griswold Street, Turners Falls
 for children residing in Montague
 Thursday, March 28, 2024
 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
 Please bring: Birth Certificate –
 Record of Immunization –
 2 forms of Proof of Residence
 In addition to registering at a
 Kindergarten Open House,
 families may return registration
 paperwork to the Office of
 Student Services, 35 Crocker
 Avenue, Turners Falls
 from March 25 – April 30
 For more information, please call:
 Hillcrest Elementary 863-9526
 Gill Elementary 863-3255

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by ERNIE BRILL
SUN. APRIL 7TH • 3pm

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MUSEUM from page A1

the programming they put on.... Invest in the staff and make it happen. Support is building for the strike. The ball is in MASS MoCA's court."

Official messaging from MASS MoCA disputes the union's characterization of the situation and points toward a slew of other benefits it offers employees, including retirement and health benefits and childcare offsets.

"At this post-pandemic juncture, we are building a future of financial resilience – including significant investments in our people – and cannot agree to contract terms that will diminish our ability to do so holistically," museum director Kristy Edmunds wrote as the strike began.

The museum has also stated explicitly that the lump sum "is not a bonus." Museum management sees it as a concession in the bargaining process and as a strategy to immediately alleviate costs incurred by elements outside of its control, namely the "the very real effects of inflation and cost of living needs" on workers in the unit.

Outside on the picket line, union delegate Mike Boucher offered a different perception of the lump sum. "That's just a band-aid, and that's all it's gonna be," he said. "We want sustainable income. We had a 94.5% vote to not accept it – of our group I think 110 voted, out of 120. Now they're gonna have to go back and reevaluate everything. That was a victory for us. We're willing to stay out here as long as it takes – there is no timeline. We're willing to stay out here all summer."

The strike is beginning to affect the museum's programming, with beloved '90s indie-pop group The Magnetic Fields postponing two performances scheduled for this weekend until May. On Wednesday the museum announced a move to a five-day schedule until its "shoulder season" ends May 1; a slate of concerts are then on the docket, leading up to the museum's 25th anniversary gala on May 24.

In 1999, the museum took over a sprawling 19th-century mill complex that accounts for approximately



The museum, whose stated mission includes stimulating commerce in North Adams, celebrates its 25th anniversary this spring.

one-third of North Adams's downtown business district. These buildings have been the heart of the city's economy for centuries, with the Sprague Electric Company occupying the space before MoCA, and textile mills before that. The museum's campus is now home to over 25 different businesses and provides spaces for individual artists.

The mission statement of MASS MoCA, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, includes the goal of "creating a stimulating center of creativity and commerce that brings life and economic vibrancy to its hometown." Since its opening, several other mill building renovations have turned the relics of a bygone age into success, including artist lofts at Greylock WORKS and the Eclipse Mill.

But many of the striking workers the Reporter spoke with this week said museum wages are not keeping up with the cost of living in North Adams. According to the Living Wage Calculator provided by the Massachusetts Institute of Technol-

ogy, the "living wage" for a single person with no dependents in Berkshire County is \$21.83 per hour; for two working adults with two children, it is \$29.63.

"Many of us live locally and our pay has not kept pace with the cost of living," Meg Lavee, a 25-year veteran employee and the chairperson of the union, wrote on a UAW social media post. "By raising pay to something more livable, MASS MoCA would not only be supporting its employees, but helping lift the community. MASS MoCA's rejection of our reasonable proposal has left us with no choice but to strike the institution we love."

Catherine Dunning, an education specialist, spoke to her disappointment with the museum. "They didn't just come in here and say we're another factory," she told the Reporter. "The way they got their foot in was to generate a lot of goodwill with a lot of promises to enliven the community and keep the workforce local.... I have an MFA and a BFA, with 30

years of experience. I make \$16.25 an hour, I stand next to 16-year-olds making the same salary."

Joanna Klain and Suzette Martin, artists and residents at Eclipse Mill, count themselves among those drawn to the area by the pull of the museum.

"We have a new population who have moved here specifically because North Adams has this sort of magnet for artists to revitalize this city," said Martin. "Revitalization means that the people who work at MASS MoCA have to be able to earn enough money to pay their bills – it's simple as that."

"Concerns about providing affordable housing are a serious problem in North Adams," added Klain. "MASS MoCA sort of promised economic viability, and it has done that to an extent – it has certainly been a positive force – but can MASS MoCA solve that all by itself? Of course not. But those two issues sort of come together and clash."

Box office employee Tom Zolper said he could see both sides to the story, and lamented seeing locals and a beloved non-profit locked in a dispute. "Those who benefitted from the pandemic economy are nowhere in sight," he said. "They've tucked away their profits. Now government, non-profits, and unions have to recover from the profit-taking."

Zolper watched as another car crossed the picket and entered the parking lot.

"Rent control is one solution, but we and the museum have no control," he continued. "The bigger picture is the economy really working for people. The free market is supposed to correct things, but there's a lot of inequity in our country right now, economically, and these are the sort of tensions that are resulting from that."



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MONTAGUE from page A1

which disallowed impact fees based on a percentage of sales and required that any projects funded be related to the negative impacts of marijuana sales, with the burden of proof on the towns.

The CCC was charged with developing new regulations reflecting these rules, and last month it issued "Guidance on Host Community Agreements," which included a "model host community agreement" which local governments were encouraged to use in order to speed up state approval of licenses.

At Monday's meeting the Montague board discussed whether to adopt the template proposed by the CCC. Montague has already eliminated impact fees from its agreement with one local cannabis company, 253 Farmacy on Millers Falls Road, and is in the process of modifying its agreement with another, Flower Power Growers, located in the airport industrial park. But town officials and board members expressed concern at the meeting that some provisions in these agreements were not covered in the state template, and others that were might not work locally.

Selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz noted that the state's template does not mention "odor control," which is addressed in both Montague agreements. "It was an important topic for residents and abutters," he said.

Member Matt Lord agreed, and said he wanted to review the special permits issued by the town planning board to the cannabis companies to see whether they contain provisions on that topic. The town's legal counsel, he said, has advised that these special permits are "separate from, and not altered by, the host community agreements."

On the other side of the coin, town officials have recently expressed concern that provisions in the model agreements could limit the town's ability to assess unrelated fees – for betterment of the industrial park, for example – or require the town to monitor the firms' compliance with equity laws. Montague communicated these concerns to the CCC in recent months but, according to town administrator Steve Ellis, "I can't say they did much to accommodate our, or anybody else's, input."

The situation is complicated by the fact that 253 Farmacy is currently in the process of applying for a license to sell medical marijuana, and that the only obstacle is the approval of a new host agreement with Montague for that purpose. Ellis suggested that the company might prefer using the template, which would quickly be "rubber stamped" by the CCC, and would like to see the new agreement "aligned" with its existing agreements with the town.

"We're just waiting to see what the town has to say," 253 Farmacy co-CEO Seth Rutherford told the Reporter. "There are a number of options for them to consider, and I'm sure we'll get through it."

The board did not make a final decision Monday as to whether to proceed with the template or present its own agreement, an approach which may or may not require special approval from the CCC.

March of Progress

The board approved a request by assistant town administrator Walter Ramsey to authorize a "preliminary site investigation" of the former Strathmore Mill complex

by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Ramsey explained that the town was inviting the EPA to determine whether "emergency action" needs to be taken at the town-owned mill complex, and that the same EPA program had funded the final demolition of the former Railroad Salvage building on Power Street.

The board also approved – "reluctantly" in the case of Kuklewicz – a \$2,500 reserve fund transfer to cover a gap in the current year's budget for town-owned EV charging stations. Ramsey said the deficit was the result of higher usage than anticipated, despite a recent increase in the rate the town charges for the electricity.

Amendments were approved to separate two agreements with Kearsarge Energy, which has built solar arrays on the town's former burn dump on Sandy Lane.

Selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz noted that the state's template does not mention "odor control," which is addressed in both of Montague's host agreements.

The board briefly discussed last week's special town meeting, at which all articles passed unanimously. One article moved funds Montague has received from a national opioid settlement from a stabilization account, which required town meeting's approval to spend, into a special revenue account under the selectboard's control. Ellis asked whether the board wanted to "formalize" a procedure for spending these funds.

Discussion at Monday's meeting suggested that requests for the funds would come from the board of health. Selectboard members said they did not see the need to vote on the issue, but asked that if the health board joined a "regional effort," in Lord's words, they keep the selectboard informed.

Armored Rock Heist

Linda Hickman, the town's former library director and the current president of the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center, announced that a boulder next to Unity Park, near the abutment to the former bridge across the Connecticut River, will be moved to the Discovery Center.

Hickman noted that this is one of two boulders in that vicinity that contain ancient – 200 million years old – "armored mud balls," discovered and documented by local geologist Richard Little. The boulder will be displayed at the state-owned facility, she said, with a QR code which visitors can scan to "find out more about armored mud balls."

FirstLight Power, which owns the land on which the rock now sits, has accepted the project as long as a replacement is found, and the public works department has agreed to move it. Hickman said the Friends group plans to apply for a sustainability grant from FirstLight of "up to" \$5,000 for the project, and local youth will be paid by another grant through the Brick House Community Resource Center to help prepare the site at the Discovery Center.

Coming Events

The board approved requests for

the use of public property in Montague Center for two spring events – the annual May Day celebration on May 5, and the "Good Music Makes Good Neighbors" music event on June 8. Both events will take place largely on the Montague Center common, though there will be a May Day parade to the common from the Center's post office, and music on residents' porches as well during the June event.

Both events will involve closing the section of North Street that borders the common.

A request from library director Caitlin Kelley for \$3,505 from the "community development discretionary unallocated fund," to lease a tent for children's programs on the Carnegie Library lawn from May through September, was approved. Kuklewicz pointed out that the family that owns Hilltown Tents, based in Ashfield, gives the town a 75% discount.

The board also approved a request by the Montague Community Band for the use of Peskeompskut Park for rehearsals and performances on Mondays from May 6 through July 22.

Other Business

The selectboard accepted, "with regret," the resignation of long-time town hall employee Karen Casey-Chretien, who currently serves as administrative assistant at the building department. "It has been 24 years and I have no idea where all that time went," Casey-Chretien wrote in her announcement to the board.

"She's been one of those consistent, reliable, and friendly faces who many people who interact with town departments have had a chance to enjoy for, as she said, 24 years," said Ellis.

The board also approved the resignation of two members of the RiverCulture steering committee, Tess Poe and Kathleen Lynch, and then appointed Kelley, parks and recreation director Jon Dobosz, and local artist and published author Susan Blauner to the committee.

RiverCulture director Suzanne LoManto said she felt the appointment of the two town officials "would make the RiverCulture steering committee more of a working group," which would plan shared grants, events, and purchases "for an entire year."

The board brainstormed issues to be raised at a potential April meeting with Natalie Blais, who represents Montague in the state legislature. Kuklewicz suggested discussing the level of Chapter 70 aid to the regional school district, which was significantly lower than expected, and Lord requested "a clarified and/or solidified process for unlocking funds from bond bills."

"It's a tremendous political lift to do that," said Ellis in response to Lord's suggestion.

"Natalie has been a partner every step of the way in discussing trying to obtain funding to deal with the Strathmore Mill site," he added, "and that part of the conversation is certainly deeply connected."

The board adjourned to an executive session to discuss issues related to the town's land development agreement with Power Street, LLC involving the property at 15 Power Street, commonly known as the Railroad Salvage Annex building.

The next selectboard meeting will be held Monday, March 25.



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LEVERETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Mass General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40, Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Leverett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 1st, 2024 at 7:00 P.M., via Zoom, on a Notice of Intent (NOI) by the Friends of North Leverett Sawmill.

Portions of the proposed work are within wetland Resource Areas and buffer zones. The NOI is available for public inspection at Town Hall or via email request to leverettconcom@gmail.com.

TOWN OF MONTAGUE Assistant Town Administrator

The Town of Montague, MA seeks qualified applicants for the position of **Assistant Town Administrator (ATA)**. Under the direction of the Town Administrator, the ATA provides professional management for the Town, including the planning and administration of programs and initiatives. Core activities will regularly include the development of strategic plans, grant-making, contract management, procurement, procurement and management of vendors and contractors, and administrative process management; as well as inter-departmental coordination and management of assigned special projects and departments.

Minimum credentials include a Bachelor's degree in a related field and a minimum of five years of experience working in a closely related municipal role; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

The Town seeks an exemplary candidate with a thorough knowledge of principles and practices of community and economic development, public procurement, state and federal grantmaking, project management, regulations and statutes applicable to the work of the position. Candidates with skills in human resources, finance, or project management are encouraged to apply. They will be highly collaborative in their approach to work.

Salary starts at \$91,770. Work week is Monday through Thursday, 37.5 hours/week, with frequent evening and Friday obligations. The Town of Montague is committed to a collaborative team environment and competitive benefits. A job description is available at www.montague-ma.gov. Target start date is June 17, 2024.

For priority review, please submit resume and cover letter by April 18, 2024 to: Wendy Bogusz, Montague Selectboard Executive Assistant, WendyB@montague-ma.gov

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TOWN OF LEVERETT Hearing Notice - Proposed Bylaw Changes

A public hearing will be held at Town hall on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:45 p.m. during the selectboard meeting to discuss proposed changes to the "Code of Leverett": Remote access available through the Selectboard meeting link.

New wording proposed is bolded, with wording to be removed crossed out:

Chapter 24: Community Preservation Committee

24-1. Establishment
The Town of Leverett hereby establishes a Community Preservation Committee, consisting of seven (7) voting members pursuant to MGL Chapter 44B. The composition of the committee, the appointment authority, and the term of office for the committee members shall be as follows:

- One member of the Conservation Commission as designated by the Commission for term of three years;
- One member of the Historical Commission as designated by the Commission for an initial term of one year and thereafter for a term of three years;
- One member of the Planning Board as designated by the Board for a term of three years;
- One member of the Recreation Commission as designated by the Commission for a term of three years;
- **One member to act in the capacity of, or perform like duties of, a member of a housing authority; this member is to be appointed by the Select Board for an initial term of one year and thereafter for a term of three years;**
- **One member of the Affordable Housing Trust as designated by the Trust for a term of three years;**
- Two community members at-large to be appointed for an initial term of one year and thereafter for a term of three years.

24-2. Duties
1. The Community Preservation Committee shall study the needs, possibilities, and resources of the town regarding community preservation. The Committee shall consult with existing municipal boards, including the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, the Planning Board, the Recreation Commission, and the **Housing Authority, Affordable Housing Trust**, or persons acting in those capacities or performing like duties, in conducting such studies.

A copy of the complete Code of Leverett is on file at the Town Clerk's office or at www.leverett.ma.us.

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ERVING from page A1

whether there are any ways to generate more revenue, and report back next Monday.

Town administrator Bryan Smith agreed to provide everyone with digital copies of the budget, to allow them to work on changes over the next two weeks. "Putting it in an Excel workbook would allow us to tweak the numbers," selectboard member James Loynd said.

"Everybody pick a font color!" Debra Smith quipped. "I call blue."

Fin com member Daniel Hammock argued that the board should consult townspeople before deciding to generate revenue through trash pickup or sewer fees. "If we come to a place that there's not enough money to go around," he said, "and people don't want a [tax] override.... Do they want to pay for trash to be picked up, and not on the tax rate? Do they want to pay a sewer fee?" Hammock said he preferred having these expenses covered by taxes.

Jacob Smith disagreed. "It's on us to identify what those things are, and start moving certain things to paid services, or discontinue them if we want to keep a balanced budget," he said. "We can't have them all: not have an override, continue to have everything paid for, and balance the budget."

Hammock said that out of approximately 700 voters, only 60 might come to town meeting and vote on the budget, leaving non-participants shocked to learn they must pay hundreds of dollars per year for trash disposal.

"The question then becomes how we get people to come," said Loynd, adding that residents tell him going to town meeting is "pointless, because there are other people there who are outspoken and they feel like they are talked over... Some people feel they get there and they are bullied."

Hammock said he thought people would come out to vote if "pocket-book issues" like trash removal or sewer fees were clearly explained, and that he did not think the town was at the point of discontinuing services. He recounted being at the Lithuanian Club in Athol when patrons clamored to switch the screen from a Celtics game to the Athol selectboard meeting, and said he wished Erving voters could be that engaged.

Capital planning member Peter Mallet observed that in some

towns people vote electronically, allowing all votes to be secret. Bryan Smith reported that town clerk Richard Newton had begun researching electronic voting systems for town meeting.

Hammock commented that in the past, town meeting voters could vote against each other, then walk out of the meeting and still be friends.

"We may not all agree right here – and we do it on TV – but we still get along and go have a cup of coffee and have a conversation like adults," said Jacob Smith.

"If there's coffee involved," said Loynd, "I'll talk all night."

Capital Stabilization

Jacob Smith asked the group to agree on an amount to add to capital stabilization, "because it's driving the bottom line": the entire \$747,000 in free cash, \$750,000 as a round number, or a lesser amount.

"Capital got wiped out last year," Debra Smith said. Last spring town meeting decided to change the funding source for \$400,000 in capital improvement projects, normally funded by taxes, to the town's reserve of free cash.

"By doing this, the annual capacity we build into the budget was removed," she clarified by email after Monday's meeting. She said it was important to keep capital stabilization funded to prepare for large capital projects, such as roof repair at the elementary school and bridge work.

Bastarache said that when the capital stabilization fund was established, it was with the understanding that the town would put aside enough money each year to fund necessary projects.

The capital planning committee recommended borrowing \$3.4 million to demolish the buildings at the former International Paper Mill property. This would require a debt exclusion vote to allow the town to assess taxes above its levy limit. If voters do not approve the exclusion, capital planning recommended auctioning off the property as is.

Debra Smith noted that the town might forfeit a \$600,000 state grant it received for work at the complex if preparation for its redevelopment does not proceed. "The building can't just sit there for 20 years," she said. Jacob Smith reported that the town had issued a new request for proposals from developers, with responses due April 2. A viable proposal might change the need for funding demolition.

Capital planning also approved funding the recreation and open space plan, a new plow truck, computer replacements, a feasibility study for renovating Veterans Field, fencing at POTW#1, matching funds for a senior housing grant, a wastewater pump station on Care Drive, a hazard mitigation plan, security upgrades at the police station, and extraction equipment for the fire department.

Other Business

The selectboard discussed putting out an invitation for bids for landscaping services. Bryan Smith recommended using Franklin County Technical School cooperative students or part-time seasonal employees for mowing parks and a landscaping contractor for mowing cemeteries, shrub work, mulching, tree trimming, and fertilizing. The board put off deciding on the specifications.

The board had questions for the rec commission about its request to declare some of the fencing at Veterans Field fencing as surplus. It approved two new health and safety policies: one for the use of town vehicles, and one for excavation and trenching.

The board reduced the rate the town charges at EV charging stations from \$0.50 to \$0.35 per kilowatt-hour, based on reduced electricity delivery rates and a desire to encourage greater use of the stations.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Polish Church Hosts Easter Bazaar

TURNERS FALLS – Our Lady of Czestochowa, located at 84 K Street, will hold an Easter Bazaar this Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All are welcome to attend this Polish-themed Easter Fair.

The annual event recently expanded their selection of Polish foods to include several fruit babkas, rye breads, kielbasa, poppy seed roll, Polish angel wings called *chrusciki*, Polish fruit-filled donuts called *paczki*, and *bigos*, which is hunters' stew.

Bigos, the national dish of Poland, combines several types of kielbasa, ham, veal, pork, cabbage, sauerkraut, onions, mushrooms, prunes, wine, and marjoram. It is cooked for several hours, resulting in a rich, slightly sweet combination of flavors enjoyed by Poles around the world.



St. Hyacinth Pierogi Maker Denise Hitchcock displays a tray of the pierogi that will be for sale at this Saturday's Easter Bazaar.

The St. Hyacinth Pierogi Makers have been busy for three months making and freezing their famous cheese, sauerkraut, and potato & cheese pierogi. The church is known for making what many call the "biggest and best pierogi" in the region!

Coffee, donuts, homemade muffins, and fresh coffee will be available in the morning. The 10 a.m. lunch menu features a Polish plate with kielbasa, mashed potatoes, honey nugget carrots, and beet salad. Corn chowder, hot dogs, and kielbasa dogs with sauerkraut will also be offered.

Be sure not to miss the Bake Sale featuring a wide variety of baked goods and desserts. In addition, maple syrup, honey and several raffles along with arts & crafts will be sold in the St. Teresa building.

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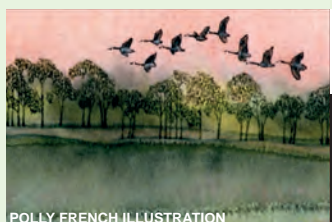


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OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

MARCH 21, 2024



WEST ALONG THE RIVER

SPRING TIME,
WAITING GAME

By DAVID BRULE

THE FLAT, ERVINGSIDE – On this mid-March morning, the backyard is slowly awakening after a fitful slumber during a non-winter. We’re already forgetting the hoped-for snows that never came on Christmas Eve; even gone from memory are the fluffy and heavy snows of past months of February. Snows like that don’t seem to happen anymore.

Those snows of yesteryear fade in the rearview mirror. Thoughts and hopes now turn towards spring.

But, given where we live in New England, we’re going to have to wait a bit. Spring holds her cards close, as if to prevent a would-be cheater from peeking at her hand. She reveals her possible full suit in slow motion, one card at a time.

For us, first came the single red-wing blackbird back on February 5, not in a huge clamor and fanfare but just quietly clucking at the feeder. By the end of the month a dozen of them had shown up, rocking in the tree-top winds as they creaked and croaked, sending out the *oak-a-lee* call which manages to pass for redwing song. Nothing like a real melody, but they are letting all know they are back from far away.

At the same time, Nature chose to have the song sparrow chime in with his piping tune, so welcome to our ears. One singing sparrow’s call rang out over the river bottomlands of birch and pine from the shoreline along the rushing river, more than a hundred yards from the house. I call that spot the song sparrow corner. The species always hangs there out year after year. They build secret shelters for their clutches of eggs that I never find until the leaves are down and the snow flies again. The snow builds up a little white pyramid revealing the past season’s nest.

We’ve got another song sparrow calling close by my observation post in the Adirondack chair

on the back porch. This sparrow, who visits the yard quietly and discreetly all winter long, can’t contain himself any longer. Like a diminutive Pavarotti, he can’t keep from singing these first warming days of March. As of this writing, he has been joined by a female companion, so indeed his operatic efforts have paid off!

Ah, but it all unfolds so slowly around here. Just yesterday the first frogs turned out to frolic and copulate in the brimming frog pond, as they have for multiples of frog generations and multiple family generations ever since great-grandfather and his bride lived here 150 years ago. Was there anyone to hear the froggy chorus before that? I’d like to think that the first Paleo human beings paused long enough to listen.

The permanent resident cardinals, feathered in flame-red and new springtime scarlet, join the sparrow chorus too. Robins are getting coyly romantic up in the bare branches of the towering maple. They have already staked out the backyard territory and will be the earliest nesters by the end of the month.

Who remembers the old pop song from the 1950s? The optimistic lines of “*red, red robin comes bob, bob, bobbin’ along...*” stick in the mind. That bird would have always signaled spring, but nowadays the robins hardly ever go anywhere south, and settle down into the yard as soon as the snow clears, never having really migrated.

They were courting two evenings ago, and now they haunt and hunt the bare back lawn. Advancing and listening with head cocked to the side, one eye onto the earth, then striking and tugging like pulling on an elastic band, up comes a hapless earthworm.

A few weeks ago, scanning the *Old Farmer’s Almanac*, I saw the indication that the March full moon would be the Worm Moon. It

see WEST ALONG page B4



LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES ILLUSTRATION

American robins, *Turdus migratorius*.

Above: Standing water near Unity Park in Turners Falls.

Gill Dairy Farm Starts Creamery

By JOE R. PARZYCH

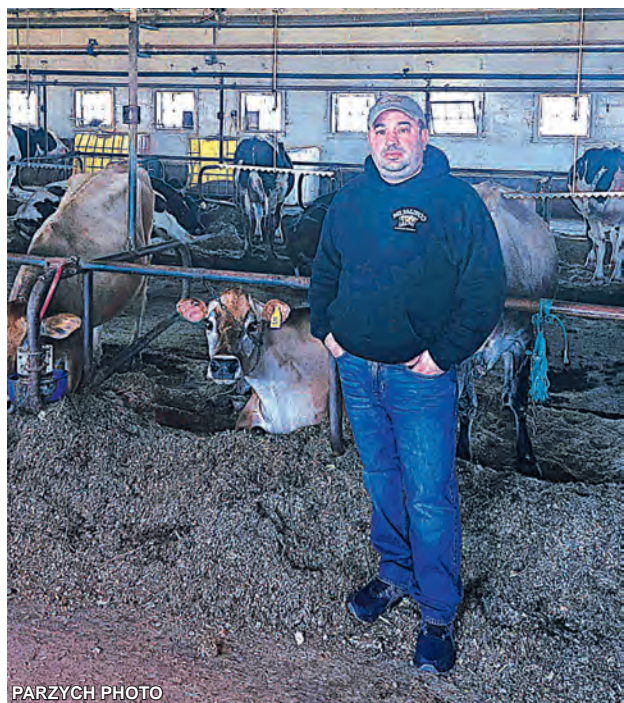
GILL – My family has had ties to Gill since 1921, when my Polish immigrant great-grandparents, the Parzych family, owned and operated a farm there with 13 kids and no electricity or running water until World War II. They lived in the same community as other historical farms, including the Zak farm, which remains operational to this day.

The Peila family have been renting this over 200-year-old farm on Lyons Hill Road since 2011, operating Sunrise Valley Farm, and now they have started Peila’s Creamery. The family enjoys farming – it’s a lot of hard work, but an excellent thing to do, and rewarding.

There is a rich history of farming families in Gill knowing each other and helping each other out, dating back to the 1700s. Besides farming, local farm kids, including my family, have enjoyed sledding on the hill at the Zak farm during winter.

Last week, on a beautiful day over the green hills of Gill, Brian Peila was happily working on the farm. The family has been involved in agriculture for a very long time, originally from nearby Bernardston. Brian lives in Gill, but they still farm in both towns. They milk 80 cows, mostly Jerseys, to produce milk for market while also farming 275 acres, using John Deere equipment to work the land. Brian said the milk market has been really good.

The family feeds their cows mostly corn silage and also grain. It’s healthier for the cows so they can produce milk. The farm gets their fertilizer from Hel-



PARZYCH PHOTO

Originally hailing from Bernardston, Brian Peila is now farming 275 acres in that town and Gill.

ena Agri-Enterprises – it’s a big franchise based out of Tennessee, but the main one Sunrise Valley Farm deals with as clients is on Elm Street in Hatfield. They help put down fertilizer for the farm and many others for the fertilized season.

The milk from Peila’s Creamery is farm fresh and locally processed, with no artificial growth hormones.

see CREAMERY page B5

BOOK REVIEW

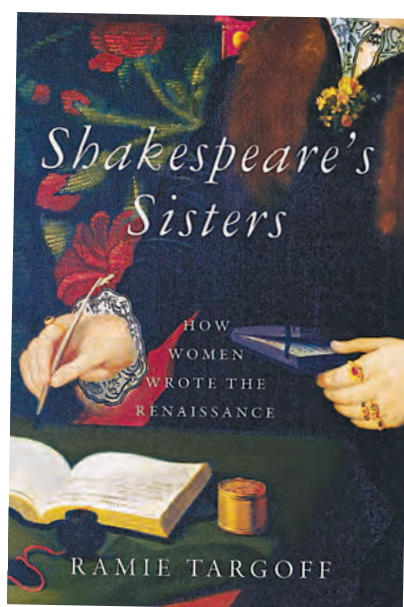
Ramie Targoff, *Shakespeare’s Sisters: How Women Wrote the Renaissance* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2024)

By CLAIRE HOPLEY

LEVERETT – Shakespeare had no sisters, but in *A Room of One’s Own* Virginia Woolf speculated that any sister he might have had would have been unable to have a writing career like his, even had she had similar gifts. She would have been “thwarted by other people... tortured and pulled asunder by her own contrary instincts.”

Explaining why women have historically written less than men, Woolf decided “a woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write.” She herself had inherited an income in 1918 – the same year British women got the vote. Of the two, she said, “money seemed infinitely more important.”

Ramie Targoff agrees that to be a girl in Shakespeare’s England was “to live a drastically reduced life.” Married women had no legal existence apart from their husbands, who had complete control of their money and, indeed, their bodies. Despite this and many other problems, she notes that some women “read voraciously” and then “took up the pen themselves” despite lack of encouragement or acclaim. Her book *Shakespeare’s Sisters* is devoted to four women writers, contemporaries of Shakespeare’s. Targoff claims that their



voices, hitherto largely unknown and unheard, show that we have only been getting half the story of the Renaissance – the male half.

Targoff amply illustrates this thesis with biographical and literary accounts of the four women whose work has claims to unusual skill and innovation. They are Mary Sidney, Anne Clifford, Elizabeth Cary, and Amelia Lanyer.

We have long had a literary peep at Mary Sidney in her brother Philip’s *The Countess of Pembroke’s Arcadia*, a romance circulated under his well-known name but dedicated to her under her married name of Countess of Pembroke. Apparently she collaborated in its writing. Subsequently she went on to write high-

ly-rated translations of the Psalms and also poetry studded with the verbal complexities typical of the metaphysical poets.

Mary Sidney illustrates Virginia Woolf’s contention that to write, women need money and space. She was born into one aristocratic family, and though poorer than most of her class married into another much richer one, becoming the mistress of Wilton, one of the largest houses in England.

Anne Clifford was similarly born into the aristocracy.

see BOOK REVIEW page B8

Pet of the Week



'LILY & IZZY'

Lily and Izzy are the cutest little pups! They love to snuggle and share a lap, they sleep together, and play together. In fact, they've been together their whole lives and we are hoping they can go to a new home together too! They are house trained to pee pads. Like many small dogs, they're nervous when they first meet people but warm up very fast. They have done well with

gentle children but have never lived with other animals.

If you have room in your heart and home for two little ladies, then Izzy and Lily want to meet you!

If you're ready to adopt, you can come in during open adoption hours Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (413) 781-4000 or visit www.dakinhumane.org.

Elder Connect

By LEE WICKS

MONTAGUE – It's been a while since I've reported on Montague Villages, the non-profit organization that some of your neighbors are forming to support people 60 and older age in place with dignity and a little help.

It all started with a meeting at the Montague Center library to determine interest, and here we are a year and a half later as members of the national Neighbors Helping Neighbors organization, with a board of directors, working committees, a website (www.montaguevillages.org), a brochure, and a timeline that will allow us to start providing services in the spring of 2025.

I have an ulterior motive in writing this. I and the other members of the board are hoping to inspire some volunteers to step forward. Though we do not expect to be up and running until next spring, it is not too early to recruit volunteers. In fact, we need to know what services our volunteers will offer before we recruit members.

Though people receiving services must be 60 or older, volunteers can be any age. Volunteers might be one of your grandchildren or grown children living nearby. I'm hoping that some of the hearty souls who sing on the common every day in all kinds of weather will step up.

Volunteers at village networks in nearby towns provide rides to appointments, grocery stores, libraries and more. They help with simple household chores, light yardwork, and technical support. They make phone checks and companionship visits, and they make referrals for tasks beyond the scope of a volunteer.

Tasks that once seemed effortless, like moving a planter or hanging a picture, can suddenly become daunting to a person who has lost some strength and balance. A short visit from a volunteer can make all the difference to the elder, and the volunteer will enjoy the satisfaction that comes from helping others. For the safety of our members, everyone interested in volunteering will be subject to a CORI check. There will also be training so that volunteers feel confident and well-prepared.

Being of service in your own community is a sustaining experience for many people, and the members of the Montague Villages Board of Directors are a good example. We've gladly given our time for meetings and research to move this organization from an idea to a reality.

I thought you might like to meet the members of the Board. Here they are, in alphabetical order.

Board Treasurer **Susan Dorais** worked in human resources in nearby towns for most of her professional life. When she retired from that, she went to work part-time for the Literacy Project as an education and career counselor until she retired in May 2023. She was elected as a town meeting member 2021 and says, "It's my way of giving back to

the community where I live."



Susan Dorais

Her decision to be involved with Montague Villages comes from a place of personal responsibility and interest in helping others, especially the elderly. "Watching my parents become isolated and unable to live on their own any longer," she says, "made me so aware of the shortcomings of places that don't have organizations that will reach out and help on the very basic level of needs."

Susan also has a great love of dogs and her most recent companion, a Cockapoo, named Kiki, keeps her entertained and active. "I continue to keep very busy filling my days with friends and walking/hiking and hope to continue to travel," she says.

Terry Eaklor was born in Lake Pleasant. Her family moved to Turners Falls, where she lived until she was nine, and then to Millers Falls, where she raised four children. She now has 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Terry was the first woman president of Greater Greenfield area Jaycees in the '80s, and worked many years as a health aide and supportive care health aide, where she helped clients and their families prepare for end-of-life issues.



Terry Eaklor

"My hope for Montague Villages is that more people get involved," she says. "I love working with the elderly, and I want to fight to help get them everything they need."

Paula Graffius is the newest member of the Board. She grew up in Lowell and moved to Turners Falls in 1987. She and her husband Danny raised three girls and two boys, all of whom went to school in Turners, with the exception of her youngest who graduated from Frontier. Now Paula and Danny enjoy six grandchildren, and are ready to welcome another in March. Her favorite saying is, "Never take your-

self too seriously."

Paula worked at Franklin Medical Center for 27 years, mainly in Patient Registration on the night shift in the emergency room. She retired in 2015 and now enjoys a number of hobbies. She's also a big animal lover, especially any kind of dog.

"I found out about Montague Villages from my friend Mary Kay Mattiace," Paula says. "I have been looking for a way to give back and become more involved in my community, and I am looking forward to the future with this endeavor."

Eileen Mariani has lived, with her husband Paul, in Montague Center for 54 years. It is where they raised their three now-adult sons, Paul, Mark, and John. Eileen established a pre-school in Montague Center with a close friend, was a member of the Montague School Committee before it joined with the town of Gill, and joined the former St. Mary's Church, now Our Lady of Peace.



Eileen Mariani

Eileen taught Preschool and Kindergarten at Erving Elementary School for 26 years, and ended her teaching career at the Greenfield Center School. For the next 12 years she was a consultant for Responsive Classroom. She was a founding member of Montague Catholic Social Ministries, which is still based in downtown Turners, and she and Paul are active members of the Cursillo Community of Western Massachusetts.

Eileen also serves on the town's Mass in Motion working group, and has reported that this statewide movement to promote opportunities for healthy eating and active living has embraced Montague Villages as an integral part of its mission. She continues to serve as a town meeting member. "Life is busy with many commitments," she says, "but also pleasure in friendships, reading, traveling, and making desserts!!"

Board President **Helen Gibson-Ugucioni** has lived in Montague for 37 years. She served on the Montague planning board, and was the leader of a Girl Scout troop in Montague from 1988 to 1993. She worked for the Holyoke Public Schools for 18 years as the K-12 Science Coordinator/Director.

"Relationships with people give me energy," Helen says. "I knew about the village movement, designed to help people age in place,

see **CONNECT** next page

Senior Center Activities MARCH 25 THROUGH 29

WENDELL

Foot care clinic is the first Wednesday of each month. Call Katie Nolan at (978) 544-2306 for information or appointments. For Senior Health Rides, please contact Nancy Spittle at (978) 544-6760.

LEVERETT

Chair Yoga classes are held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., hybrid, at the town hall and on Zoom. Foot care clinic is held monthly.

For more information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022 x 2, or coa@leverett.ma.us.

GILL and MONTAGUE

The Gill Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lunch available Tuesday through Thursday. For more information please call 863-9357.

Monday 3/25

10:15 a.m. Aerobics
10:15 a.m. Outdoor Yoga (weather permitting)
11 a.m. Chair Exercise
1 p.m. Ice Cream Social

Tuesday 3/26

9 a.m. Chair Yoga
9:30 a.m. Tuesday Knitters
10 a.m. Zumba Lite
12:30 p.m. Tech Help Drop In
3 p.m. Tai Chi

Wednesday 3/27

10:15 a.m. Aerobics
11 a.m. Chair Exercise
12 p.m. Bring Your Lunch Bingo
4:15 p.m. Mat Yoga

Thursday 3/28

1 p.m. Pitch

Friday 3/29

10:15 Aerobics
11 a.m. Chair Exercise
2 p.m. Chair Dance

ERVING

Open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 am to 3 p.m. Daily snacks and coffee. Fitness room and pool table open.

Monday 3/25

9 a.m. Interval Workout
10 a.m. Seated Dance
12 p.m. Pitch Cards

Tuesday 3/26

9 a.m. Good For U Workout
10 a.m. Line Dancing
11 a.m. Social Stringers
11:30 a.m. Coffee with Cops

Wednesday 3/27

9 a.m. Strength & Conditioning
10:15 a.m. Chair Aerobics
11:30 a.m. Bring Your Lunch Bingo

Thursday 3/28

9 a.m. Barre Fusion
10 a.m. Pilates Flow
12 p.m. Easter Brunch (registration required)

Friday 3/29

9 a.m. Quilting & Open Sew

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CONNECT from page B2 and was eager to help start a village network in Montague.”



Helen Gibson-Ugucioni

The clerk is **Lee Wicks** – that’s me. I take minutes at each meeting, which are available at www.montaguevillages.org for anyone who is interested. I’m also a writer. I have lived in Montague Center with my husband Roy Rosenblatt since 1986, and my grown daughter, her wife, and my grandchildren live in Montague, too. I’m an avid swimmer, a reader, a great fan of the library, and a life-long dog lover. My interest in Montague Villages stems from a desire to age in place near people I’ve known for more than 30 years, and to help others do the same.

In addition to the board, individuals have been helping with tasks from creating a fundraising plan to developing a volunteer handbook to issues of governance. Mary Kay Mattiace and Paula Graffius have prepared an informational packet to bring to local businesses that might support Montague Villages. Roy and Ferd Wulkan are helping with gathering insurance information and some governing statements.

Michael Helmstadter has volunteered his time to help with our website, while Jeri Moran and Beverly Von Kries are preparing documents needed for members and volunteers, and Lisa Enzer has helped with communications. Roberta Potter and the Council on Aging have lent their support, and starting in April our Board meetings will be held at the Gill-Montague Senior Center.

This outpouring of help and expertise demonstrates that the spirit of what we’re trying to achieve is already alive and well in this community. If you want to be part of it all, visit the website or call Helen Gibson-Ugucioni at (413) 367-6592 or send her an email at info@montaguevillages.org, and spread the word. We want everyone to feel included.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Illegal Fires; Fights on Fourth; Ill Wishes; Rake Attack; Complaints of Headlights, Headlamp, Banging, and Theft

Monday, 3/11

7:40 p.m. Caller states that a black pickup truck with a super cab almost hit him and was then driving on the wrong side of the road; the truck then hit a sign as it was pulling into Ja'Duke Center for the Performing Arts. Officer advises there is a truck in the parking lot but no one is with it. Unable to locate any sign that was hit.

Tuesday, 3/12

12:21 p.m. 911 caller reporting unattended brush fire affecting storage sheds on Randall Road. Transferred to Shelburne Control. Officer advises people are with the fire and have shovels, but the wind is blowing and affecting where the fire is headed. TFFD en route. People at the location state they have a burning permit from the FD. Confirmed illegal burn.

5:39 p.m. Caller from Keith Apartments states that her neighbor is out on the porch yelling and screaming and banging on the storm door. Second caller reporting same issue. Officer advises there was nothing out of the ordinary when he pulled up.

Wednesday, 3/13

3:11 a.m. Caller from Avenue A states that a female is outside the building yelling and screaming; also states she is pushing all the buzzers throughout the building. Female gone upon officer's arrival.

7:30 a.m. TFFD requesting officer respond to fire alarm call that they are at on Avenue A. Officer advising Miranda rights have been read to involved female. Summons issued.

11:22 a.m. Caller from Keith Apartments states that her neighbor is blocking her from leaving her apartment. Peace restored.

11:40 a.m. 911 caller from Willmark Avenue states that a man who is doing work at the house behind his just threatened him and his dogs. Advised of options.

12:55 p.m. Animal control officer advises he has picked up a fox behind a Turners Falls Road address.

5:48 p.m. 911 caller from Keith Apartments states that there are some kids down on the rocks gathering items looking like they might start a fire. Officers out with juveniles; they have a small fire that they are putting out now. Officer advises that the fire is out and the juveniles have been advised that they are not allowed to start fires.

9:35 p.m. 911 caller reporting car vs. deer on Turners Falls Road. Deer is still in roadway. Deer dead upon officer's arrival; moved to side of road. Message left for DPW.

Thursday, 3/14

2:19 p.m. Caller states that a female neighbor was yelling at her at the bus stop on Third Street and then tried to hit her on the back, but the caller moved out of the way. Officer advised her of her options.

3:42 p.m. Caller from Fourth Street states that around 11 a.m. she was walking on the street and a female was yelling at her. Caller states she was not able to hear what was being said, but felt threatened. States she has called the police a few times today to have an officer tell the female to leave her alone, but no cops have gone to the apartment yet, so she is calling back to have that done. Officer advises that he spoke to the involved party, who is reporting the opposite of the caller. Both parties advised of options.

5:29 p.m. Caller from Coolidge Avenue states that the male who walks his dog off leash is at it again and the dog just rushed toward her again

while she was in her yard. Requests owner be reminded of leash law. Copy of call left for ACO. Officer advises dog and male party were gone on arrival.

Friday, 3/15

12:11 a.m. 911 caller from Avenue A states she can hear what sounds to be an active domestic disturbance between individuals; can hear lots of banging along with yelling. Caller advises this has occurred before. Officer advises quiet upon arrival. Spoke with neighbors who advise there was a scuffle outside their apartment a few moments ago. Officer will check area.

12:35 a.m. Caller from Third Street reports she was awoken to stomping on the floor and yelling from involved apartment. Caller states she has had problems in the past with people who reside in the apartment. Officer addressed the complaint with involved apartment, then let the caller know the parties have been advised. Ongoing issue.

10:18 a.m. Walk-in from Meadow Road reports packages stolen from his porch.

1:46 p.m. Chief Williams advising that a truck just took down some low-hanging wires near the train bridge near Turners Falls and Swamp roads. Verizon notified, on scene. Road will need to be closed for about two hours.

2:15 p.m. 911; fire alarm inside building on Avenue A. No smoke or fire seen.

Callers believe alarm was pulled by a resident. FD requesting PD respond. Party removed to hospital.

Saturday, 3/16

12:17 a.m. Caller reports that his vehicle was hit while he was at the Rendezvous earlier tonight and there is damage to the bumper of his vehicle. Caller states there was a witness; however, he does not have their information handy. Report taken.

7:59 a.m. Caller from Turners Falls Road states that a vehicle struck their mailbox overnight, and also hit a phone pole and cracked it. Eversource notified about pole. Officers checking area for vehicle. Vehicle with what appears to be fresh damage located in nearby neighborhood. Vehicle owner admitted to

hitting the pole and mailbox. Summons issued.

1:08 p.m. Caller states that an elderly woman who lives next door to her mother at Keith Apartments just assaulted the caller with a rake. Caller denies injuries and declines medical attention. Caller advised of options and given statement form.

No answer at door of woman who had the rake. Summons issued.

5:24 p.m. Caller who wishes to remain Anonymous states she saw four or five people hanging out in the house on G Street that recently burned down; she doesn't believe anyone should be in there at this time. Officer spoke with male party, who used to live there; party has agreement with landlord to help clean up. No "condemned" signs on building. They will be working over the next couple of days.

8:43 p.m. 911 caller from Montague City Road states that someone is walking around with a flood light and disrupting the neighborhood. Officer advises an individual is walking down the road with a headlamp on.

Sunday, 3/17

10:06 p.m. 911 caller from Bridge Street states that the second-floor neighbor is banging around and being too loud; his 18-year-old daughter will be home soon, and it's inappropriate. Unsure what neighbor's name is or what apartment he's in. All quiet upon officer's arrival.

2:15 a.m. Caller reports hearing people yelling, screaming, and breaking items at building set back between the alleyway of Eleventh and Twelfth Streets. Caller advises noise has been going on for the past 20 minutes. Officer spoke with involved party, who states she and her daughter got into an argument/fight. Daughter left area prior to officers' arrival. Advised of complaint.

8 a.m. 911 caller from Millers Falls Road states there is a rabid raccoon in her yard that won't leave. Referred to an officer; also provided number to leave message for ACO.

9:23 a.m. Walk-in states he is in the process of buying a property on Mormon Hollow Road and there is a squatter there refusing to leave. Advised of options.

EXHIBITS

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rivers of Franklin County*, geology-inspired, map-based art by Joe Kopera, through April 15.

LOOT, Turners Falls: *Auto Partitas*, twelve little trios of mixed-media works inspired by automotive parts, by Nina Rossi. Through April.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *New Roots in River Banks*, an exhibit on Polish and other Eastern European immigration stories and their contributions in the Connecticut River Valley. Through April 28.

Sawmill River Arts, Montague: *Sara Casilio*, paintings on Duralar, through April.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Karie Neal*, paintings and mixed media artwork depicting animals, flowers, landscapes, and birds. Through April, with a reception Saturday, April 6 from 1 to 3 p.m.

LAVA Center, Greenfield: *My Inner Joy*, mixed-media artworks by Nese Uysal, through March.

Artspace, Greenfield: *Divinites*, mixed-media by Jules Jones referencing medieval themes and the divine feminine. April 5 through 26, with a reception on Friday, April 5 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Looky Here, Greenfield: *Between You and Me*, portraits by Maria Sparrow, through March

29. Closing reception March 29.

Fiddleheads Gallery, Northfield: *Fourth Annual Photography Show*, juried exhibit. Through April 14, with a reception this Sunday, March 24, at 2 p.m.

Gallery A3, Amherst: *Pairings*, works by Martha Braun and Rochelle Shicoff, through March.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Dare to Dream*, group show by member artists, through March.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne: *Lou Wallach: Photographs*, black-and-white images of the natural world, through April 28.

Arts Bank, Shelburne Falls: *Volcanix II*, Christin Couture's woodcuts on Pellon fabric of the Popocatepetl volcano. By chance or appointment: redtinebluefire@gmail.com.

A.P.E. Gallery, Northampton: *Physiotasmagorical: The Implicit Body*, group exhibit exploring corporeal secrets at the intersection of the clinical and the imaginary. Through March 30.

Eagle Hill Cultural Center, Hardwick: *Ohio's Appalachia: Faces & Families, 1972-1974*, photographs by Vern McClish comprising "an ode to a forgotten people." Through March.

D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield: *A Gathering: Works from Contemporary Black American Ceramic Artists*, through March 24.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Stressed-Out Neighbor; Erratic Drivers; Brush Fires; Several 911 Hangup Calls; Well-Fed Labs; Trees Down

Thursday, 2/1

9:02 a.m. Assisted citizen on telephone concerning a neighbor dispute.

12:06 p.m. Caller from Mountain Road reports seeing a large column of smoke in the woods when crossing the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge.

12:53 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with search warrant.

2:03 p.m. Caller was rear-ended at the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. They are pulling across the street to the burrito place and waiting for an officer. No personal injuries or fluid leaks.

9:42 p.m. Caller states his neighbor was just outside his house yelling, Chappell Drive.

Friday, 2/2

5:19 p.m. Disabled motor vehicle, French King Highway and Main Road. Assisting with tire change.

Saturday, 2/3

1:49 p.m. Medical emergency, West Gill Road.

Sunday, 2/4

3:14 p.m. Two-car accident, French King Highway. No injuries.

Monday, 2/5

12:31 p.m. Brush fire, Boyle Road.

Wednesday, 2/6

10:24 a.m. Caller reports a Toyota traveling eastbound on the French King Highway driving all over the road outside marked lanes.

Friday, 2/9

12:33 p.m. Report of past suspicious vehicle on NMH campus on Lamp-lighter Way.

Saturday, 2/10

8:39 p.m. Abandoned 911 cell call, Center Road. On callback spoke to a subject who stated they heard

cars revving their engines and what sounded like gunshots.

Sunday, 2/11

10:33 a.m. Assisted citizen, Chappell Drive.

10:54 a.m. Medical emergency, French King Highway.

12:01 p.m. Report of blue Nissan Infiniti with dealer plates driving erratically, eastbound from Gill Mill, on the French King Highway. The car was passing other vehicles and drove through a red light.

1:57 p.m. Report of a red or maroon Hyundai unable to maintain lanes, French King Highway. Caller advised the vehicle was traveling eastbound and got off the Highway.

4:35 p.m. Disabled vehicle, French King Highway. Vehicle ran out of gas and was moved to the rest area where the operator was able to rectify the fuel situation.

Monday, 2/12

10:03 a.m. Assisted health agent from FRCOG with inspection, Main Road.

Tuesday, 2/13

12:24 p.m. Fire alarm, Main Road.

4:07 p.m. Greenfield PD dispatch advises their units are in pursuit of a blue pickup, Greenfield Road.

5:33 p.m. 911 misdial, South Cross Road. Greenfield dispatch advising they received a 911 misdial.

Wednesday, 2/14

4:24 a.m. 911 open line call with static, Mount Hermon Road. Nothing heard on the line and call disconnected.

3:55 p.m. 911 call with static, Mount Hermon Road. On callback the line was busy.

4:11 p.m. Caller reports a low-hanging line in the area, possibly a telephone

line, Chappell Drive.

Thursday, 2/15

5 p.m. Caller advises she has a small brush fire on her property, Franklin Road. Fire is not threatening any structures.

Friday, 2/16

6:35 a.m. 911 call, Mount Hermon Station Road. Initial call had clicking on the line. On callback line was busy.

9:57 a.m. 911 open line call, Mount Hermon Road.

Saturday, 2/17

6:49 a.m. Medical emergency, Main Road.

4:23 p.m. Assisted citizen, Chappell Drive.

Sunday, 2/18

12 noon. Past suspicious activity, Franklin Road. Possibly a scam. Followed up, no status.

12:07 p.m. Two large, well-fed chocolate Labs with no collars hanging out on caller's property, West Gill Road. They are now on his porch.

2:38 p.m. Disabled vehicle, French King Highway.

Assisted with tire change. Clear.

Monday, 2/19

10:51 a.m. Disabled vehicle, River Road. DMV vehicle off River Road in the closed off section.

1:02 p.m. Assisted citizen at station on an incident involving a past employee.

Tuesday, 2/20

11:21 a.m. Walk-in report at the station involving past parking issues, Myrtle and Walnut streets.

4:22 p.m. Traffic hazard reported, Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. Metal object is sticking up in the road.

Wednesday, 2/21

12:54 p.m. Welfare check, Oak Street.

Thursday 2/22

7:54 a.m. Missing person reported, French King

Highway.

1:20 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD, Northfield Road. Motor vehicle accident with injuries.

1:39 p.m. Assisted Erving PD with request for an officer, Reynolds Street.

Friday, 2/23

5:39 a.m. Suspicious vehicle, Hoe Shop Road. Vehicle is parked and snow covered.

6:04 a.m. Disabled vehicle, French King Highway.

6:45 a.m. Assisted Northfield PD, Mount Hermon Station Road. Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

8:51 a.m. Disabled vehicle, French King Highway.

11:37 a.m. Caller reports her cat is stuck in the neighbor's garage, River-view Drive.

Saturday, 2/24

10:56 a.m. Medical emergency, Main Road.

Sunday, 2/25

6:14 p.m. 911 misdial, West Gill Road. Caller states her phone screen is broken.

Tuesday, 2/27

8:59 a.m. Notified that Center Road will be closed. Open to emergency vehicles until noon.

Wednesday, 2/28

9:09 p.m. Report of a tree down blocking the east-bound lane just east of the entrance to Barton's Cove, French King Highway.

Thursday, 2/29

12:02 a.m. Line down, Boyle Road.

12:54 a.m. Caller advises a pole and wires came down, French King Highway. She and another vehicle struck the pole. No injuries.

3:16 a.m. Caller advises that a tree is on the power lines, but they are intact, Mount Hermon Road.

Caller reports there is power in the area.

WEST ALONG from page B1

was hard to believe then, back in late February, peering out over the hard-frozen bare earth. Yet here we are with the worm mounds all across the yard, several weeks ahead of the scheduled Full Worm Moon on March 25.

The woodcock, too, knew that the worms would have worked up to the surface ahead of the full moon. Last evening, just at the witching hour of dusk, the primitive call of that wall-eyed timberdoodle echoed out along the noisy river. Certainly not much of a song, not musical at all, just a single note of a nasal peent!

This weird little woodland sandpiper signaled he was back on his ancestral territory and claiming all the lands within the sound of his voice. After building up emotional momentum, he would fly a hundred feet up into the evening air and then flutter down in a spiraling, twittering song, intended to impress the ladies.

Rural folks, versed in country things, recognize this age-old ritual as a sure sign of spring.

But I can tell you what you already know: Spring is teasing, Spring shows she can do whatever she wants. Just because she's Spring and wants you to know it. Spring doesn't care about your

longing for flowers, doesn't care about your spring fever. She'll coax out daffodils, and then blanket them with snow.

You need some springtime in your soul? So what? You can be as mad as a March hare, soar with Vivaldi's Four Seasons. You may want to frolic like the frogs, get crazy with April Love.

Spring will let that happen, with welcome rays of sunshine that warm the lazy sleeping dog's fur, and then throw the switch that sends you back indoors hugging the woodstove as she conjures up cold rain and spitting snow. Just because Spring knows she can do that, she does what she wants and we just have to take it.

Yet step by step, card by card, capricious Spring shows her hand. It'll be months yet before better weather coaxes out lilacs, woodland flowers, and fiddlers on the green in Montague Center. And Old Man Winter may well push aside flirtatious Spring and come lurching back, throwing a fit of snow and puffing mean-spirited wind before he really concedes the playing field to the next season.

We have no choice but to take it as it comes, as the breaking day opens up before us on this, another cold and frosty March morning.



TV REVIEW

AppleTV's Masters of the Air

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

GREENFIELD - Tom Hanks likes doing historical work when it comes to making TV series and movies. He did a series about the journey it took to get to the moon, and a couple of things on World War II. I am not just mentioning Band of Brothers and The Pacific. He was also in a movie about Apollo 13 and a true-life story about finding a US Army private and getting him home called Saving Private Ryan.

Since he has already covered the soldiers who fought in places like Normandy and the ones who fought the Japanese in the Pacific, it would only seem natural for him to produce Masters of the Air, a new mini-series on bomber pilots who were in World War II. It's being streamed on a service called AppleTV.

Like they did with the first episode of Band of Brothers, a kind of introduction to the main characters is given. We get to know the leaders of this bomber group that showed up in England; Major Gale "Buck" Cleven and Major John "Bucky" Egan are their names. Cleven is played by Austin Butler, who I saw in Elvis's biopic in theaters.

One thing that is different with this series is there is a narration by one of the characters in the group, who is a navigator in one of the

planes. It doesn't hurt the storytelling involved here at all. I think it works rather nicely with it.

In the first episode, we see the group training in their planes for missions, and then we see them go up on one. These guys are portrayed realistically, and not like they are superheroes. I believe Cleven is a pretty seasoned pilot, and yet after that first mission he's stunned by what has happened. He even asks a fellow pilot who had been up at least twice why didn't he say something about it. That pilot, also a seasoned pilot, replied that he didn't know what to say.

The ending statement between these men at the end of the first episode is "We got our work cut out for us." The first two episodes are online for people to see. The next one features that fellow seasoned pilot getting up in a plane again. The navigator who is doing the narrating ends up giving some useful info during another mission.

The preview they show us features the group going on an extremely dangerous mission; a priest is present. It also gives us a glimpse into Austin Butler's character. Let's just say he's a very brave man.

I'm finding Masters of the Air, like Tom Hanks's previous World War II, works to be very decent.

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PARZYCH PHOTOS

CREAMERY from page B1

They sell regular milk, maple milk made with real maple syrup, and chocolate milk, and as a matter of fact they have many other dairy products besides milk as well.

Peila's Creamery and Sunrise Valley Farm are located at 20 Lyons Hill Road in Gill. You can also find their products at Scotty's on the Hill in Turners Falls, Millstone Farm Market in Sunderland, River Valley Coop in Northampton, the Northfield Food Mart, and many other places. They are hoping to have clients in Greenfield soon such as Foster's Supermarket and Green Fields Market soon. To find out more, check out www.facebook.com/SunriseValleyFarmDairy.

The Peila family is going down to the Big E this year with a cow and a calf. They are part of 4-H, and they put on sales to raise money for good agricultural and educational causes.

When I was there the farm had a visitor who wants to be a farmer someday, Nicholas Mikolajczuk of Gill. He was looking at cows and farm tractors with his family, smiling, enjoying the day in the sun, and curious about farming.

I hope you enjoy your time up at the farm too if you check it out. Their delicious chocolate milk and maple milk are very popular, and they taste like milkshakes, trust me. You will enjoy these out-of-this-world products! People of all ages enjoy it – you can put it on your cereal, use it for cooking recipes, and more.

After the interview, I stopped by the *Montague Reporter* to surprise the editor with the delicious chocolate milk. It's good to support our local farms and businesses!



Photos, from top to bottom:

One of the calves Sunrise Valley Farm is raising on the historic Lyons Hill farm checks out our cameraman.

Half-gallons of chocolate and maple milk, specialties of the new creamery, in a fridge at the farm store.

Young Nicholas Mikolajczuk tours the Gill operation, with a special focus on its tractors.

Our reporter (left) and farmer Brian Peila.



PHOTO COURTESY JOE R. PARZYCH

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

Here's the way it was on March 20, 2014: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Millers River Bacteria are Fine

The Millers River Watershed Council (MRWC) has released its Third Annual Report on Bacterial Monitoring of the Millers and Otter Rivers, conducted in 2013. The reports from the sampling program provide a solid indication of the safety of recreational activities such as boating and swimming. The report notes that all locations always scored fine for boating and fishing, classified as "secondary contact."

"We are seeing something of a trend, which is not surprising," said Ivan Ussach, MRWC's watershed coordinator. "It's a different story from the days when just stepping in the river could be hazardous to your health."

Disaster Mitigation Funds Accessible

On March 17, the Montague selectboard adopted the town's 2014 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan helps the town to apply for funds to mitigate the impact of events such as earthquakes, wildfires, severe wind storms, and micro-bursts.

Audience member John Reynolds asked if the money could be used to mitigate a nuclear disaster caused by the Vermont Yankee power plant. DPW head Tom Bergeron stated that the Turners Falls Fire Department was handling that issue.

20 YEARS AGO

Here's the way it was on March 18, 2004: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Affordable Housing

Rental vacancies are "almost non-existent" in Erving, according to James Palma, a research manager with the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute. At the Monday selectboard meeting, Palma and fellow researcher Rebecca Loveland presented the results of an inch-thick, one-year study of Erving's affordable and elderly housing situation.

Palma told the board that elderly residents have few options

for affordable housing in Erving. Single-family housing prices are increasing, Palma said, at the same time as family sizes are shrinking and the population is aging.

Board Charges Wrong Fee

The town of Wendell has been taxing homes at the Mount Laurel trailer park as real estate, despite a 1993 change in state law requiring a residential license fee to be collected instead. Michael Gifford, president of the park's tenants' association, showed the board a copy of the law and explained the board is responsible for setting the fee.

150 YEARS AGO

Here's the way it was on March 18, 1874: News from the Turners Falls Reporter's archive.

Local Matters

Mr. Wm. Farren is visiting the scenes of his former labors. He is welcome.

A large lot of coal arrived the past week for Mr. Dibble. "Glad of it, ain't you?"

The "Gazetteer of Massachusetts" republishes our illustration of Lake Pleasant!

Burke is mad, somebody has called him a "professor of crinical abscission and craniological tripsis."

The Colle building progresses. Plastering will be begun about the first of April. They are now putting the windows in. The hall will be finished first – the floors of which are to be of Georgia pine, and will be laid double.

Rev. C. Reiss has left for Conference which meets in Brooklyn March 19. It is the unanimous wish of our citizens and especially of the members of the church, both here and in Greenfield, that Mr. Reiss

will come back to us another year. He has done a good work among his people. Today there is a large attending congregation, where, when he came, there was not one.

Our sympathies are tendered to the Rev. Mr Wyman in the affliction which has visited him in the loss of his mother.

It is now feared that the completion of the Oakman School house will be delayed for want of dried lumber. One consolation, the cellar is all ready!

Jos F Bartlett begins to realize what it is to be a town officer. In a town of 6,000 inhabitants he thinks he will only have to please 5,999 of them. He says if any more than that number want their backyards taken care of to come along – all the rest have endeavored to secure his personal services upon the streets, lanes, and roads leading to and about their homes. Private businesses of no consideration are not allowed to interfere with town duties.

Gunning seems to be the sport among our juveniles. A funeral or two and the amusement will be less popular.



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The Children's Page

YONERDOD ILLUSTRATION



THE STOWAWAY TEAPOT
CHELLA WOKE UP TO GRAY SKIES. SHE LOOKED OUT THE WINDOW JUST IN TIME TO SEE A MEAN AND GRUMPY CLOUD SEND MR. HARBINGER'S HAT SKIDDING DOWN K STREET. SHE FROWNED STERNLY AT THE CLOUD AND IT BLUSTERED AWAY.



WELL, THE SIGNS ARE POINTING TO A BAD DAY, BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE A VERY GOOD DAY.



SHE WENT TO VIOLA'S ROOM AND TOLD HER THE PLAN. FIRST SHE ASKED VIOLA TO PAINT A BACKDROP WITH A BRIGHT SUN AND A BLUE SKY AND A FIELD OF FLOWERS, WHICH VIOLA SET OUT TO DO WITH GUSTO.



SHE HERSELF GATHERED A PICNIC BASKET, A CHECKED TABLE CLOTH AND SEVERAL VERY NICE STUFFED ANIMALS, TWO STRAW HATS AND AN OLD FIDDLE. THEY MET IN THE LIVING ROOM AND HUNG UP THE BEAUTIFUL BRIGHT SKY BEHIND CHELLA'S PICNIC. THEN THEY RIGGED UP A CURTAIN.



SPOT AND FIGARO SAT WITH THE VERY ATTENTIVE STUFFED ANIMALS, AS CHELLA AND VIOLA FIDDLED, DANCED AND WROTE LINES FOR THEIR PLAY.

WE NEED SOUND EFFECTS AND A TWIST IN THE PLOT!

AS WELL AS A BIG FINISH!



I DON'T THINK WE NEED THUNDER IN OUR PLAY.



VIOLA TOOK A LITTLE WHISTLE FROM HER APRON POCKET AND BLEW LOUD AND LONG.

WEEEEEEEE
OOOOO! THAT SOUNDS LIKE A TEAPOT! LET'S PRETEND WE HEARD THAT SOUND AND LOOKED INTO THE PICNIC BASKET AND OUR TEAPOT HAD COME ALONG SO WE COULD HAVE A TEA PARTY!



CHELLA AND VIOLA ACTED OUT THE SCENE AND FINISHED WITH A ROUSING VERSION OF 'I'M A LITTLE TEAPOT', POURING CUPS OF TEA FOR THE WHOLE AUDIENCE. THE DOG AND THE CAT AGREED, "THE STOWAWAY TEAPOT" WAS A GRAND SUCCESS.



JUST THEN THE SUN APPEARED BEAMING PROUDLY AT THEM THROUGH THE WINDOW.

WORDS BY BEVERLY KETCH
PICTURES BY HANNAH BROOKMAN

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



The Reporter is looking for volunteers to help us curate this listing. Interested? Contact us at editor@montaguereporter.org!

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Menschorama's Purim Comedy Spectacular*. \$ 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Coti Pop, Orange Peel Mystic, Dutch Experts, Match, Mevius*. \$ 6:30 p.m.

Pioneer Valley Brewery, Turners Falls: *Danny and Greg*. No cover. 7 p.m.

Marigold Theater, Easthampton: *Ogre, Murder (sword), Eyre House Ruins*. \$ 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The North Bay Dead Alliance*. No cover. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

Pioneer Valley Brewery, Turners Falls: *Jen Tobey and Friends*. No cover. 7 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Scotia, Nitu, Biproduct, Bitcrushr, Space Camp, Joi Avery, Madel*. Benefit for Defend the Forest Bail Fund. \$ 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Best of the '70s*. \$ 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Myk Freedman and Jesse Olsen Bay, Myrtle Street Klezmer*. No cover. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Two Wrong Turns, Mibble, Sleep Destroyer, Kim Chin-Gibbons*. \$ 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Parlor Room, Northampton: *Sam Amidon*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Bombyx Center, Florence: *Takuya Kuroda*. \$ 7 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Webb Crawford / Max Hamel / Stella Silbert* trio, *Lean, Tara Tom*. \$ 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Mystery Train, Amherst: *Kath Bloom, Bulle, Primitive Accumulation*. \$ 5 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *Two Step Night*. No cover. 7 p.m.

Tori Town, Holyoke: *Sgraffito Kill, Minus Points, Rangus, Radical Joy*. \$ 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Tony Vacca and Fusion No-*

maads. \$ 7:30 p.m.

Shutesbury Athletic Club: *Wildcat O'Halloran*. \$ 8 p.m.

Marigold Theater, Easthampton: *Goblet, The Leafies You Gave Me, Hot Dirt, Cheap City*. \$ 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Bluegrass and Beyond*. No cover. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Rubblebucket, Hannah Mohan*. \$ 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

10 Forward, Greenfield: *DJ Mollgoth, Clockserum Dutch Experts, Spriggan*. \$ 8 p.m.

The Drake, Amherst: *Bella's Bartok*. \$ 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Rubblebucket, Hannah Mohan*. \$ 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Kassa Overall*. \$ 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Belltower Records, North Adams: *Kohoutek, Heavenly Bodies, Wendy Eisenberg, Erica Dawn Lyle*. \$ 6 p.m.

Marigold Theater, Easthampton: *Harm, Paper Bee, Alyssa Kai and Dead Girls, Grammerhorn Wren*. \$ 7 p.m.

CitySpace, Easthampton: *Qwanqwa, Habbina Habbina*. \$ 7 p.m.

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *Richard Lloyd, Wojcicki*. \$ 7 p.m.

Buoyant Heart, Brattleboro: *Blue Dish, beetsblog, Old Maybe, Membra*. \$ 7 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

Parlor Room, Northampton: *Cloudbelly*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro: *Josephine Foster, Stella Kola, Ceremonial Abyss*. \$ 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. \$ 2 p.m.

Stone Church, Brattleboro: *The Obsessed, Howling Giant, Gozu*. \$ 6 p.m.

Parlor Room, Northampton: *Cloudbelly*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

looking forward...

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *The Whiskey Treaty Roadshow* with special guest *Peter Prince*. \$ 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Beatnuts*. \$ 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Holyoke Media, Holyoke: Flywheel Arts presents *Dear Nora, Ruth Garbus Trio, bobbie*. \$ 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Epsilon Spires, Brattleboro: *Arnold Dreyblatt*. \$ 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Parlor Room, Northampton: *Lucy Wainwright Roche & Suzzzy Roche*. \$ 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Nova Arts, Keene: *The Messhetics, Marc Ribot, Prefuse 73, Wadada Leo Smith, Jim White/Marisa Anderson duo*, more. \$ 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Nova Arts, Keene: *Earth, J. Pavone String Ensemble, The Huntress and Holder of Hands, Sunburned Hand of the Man, The Leafies You Gave Me*, more. \$ 2:30 p.m.



JOEL PAXTON ILLUSTRATION

OVER THE HILL

Carolyn Clark



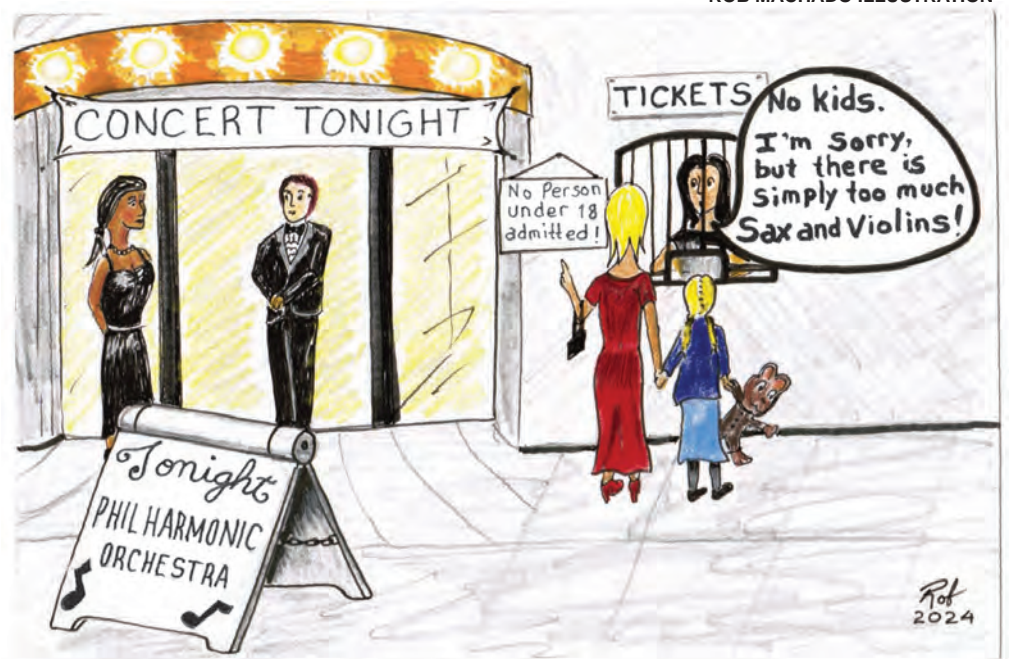
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BOOK REVIEW from page B1
 She was the only heir of her father, the Earl of Cumberland. Her first husband was Earl of Dorset, and her second was Earl of Montgomery and Pembroke. Her father died when she was 15, but willed his earldom to his brother. She spent the next 40 years fighting this, succeeding when her uncle and cousin died. She then retired to her huge northern estates and spent 26 years rebuilding their castles and manor houses.

Enormously conscious of herself and tenacious of her rights, Anne wrote an autobiography titled *The Life of Me* and kept a detailed diary, which would be published in 1923 by Vita Sackville-West, a descendent of her first husband. Virginia Woolf knew of the diary but dismissed it. Targoff differs, noting its groundbreaking length and rich quotidian detail, but she quotes little of it and writes more engagingly about Anne's lifetime determination to recover and restore her father's earldom.

Elizabeth Cary was the daughter of Sir Lawrence Tanfield, who made a fortune as a lawyer. Buoyed by this, she married Viscount Falkland. Like Anne, she was the sole heir, and she also had the advantage that her father educated her both himself and by hiring the poet Michael Drayton as her tutor. Eventually, though, her writing life and her eventual conversion to Catholicism riled her family, and she ended up poor and at times a prisoner in her own home.

Elizabeth began her writing career in her teens with translations from Latin and French. She also wrote poetry and plays, eventually publishing *The Tragedie of Mariame, The Faire Queen of Jewry* in 1613. The title page credited the author as "that learned, virtuous and truly noble Ladie, E.C."

Ever determined on her own path, she ensured that four daughters became nuns in France, and hired boatmen to ship two sons out from her estranged husband's purview to the Continent, where they too led religious lives.

Amelia Lanyer, Targoff's fourth example of women writers of Shakespeare's era, was not aristocratic. She was the daughter of an Italian family of court musicians and married into another such family. Coming from this bourgeois professional class, she shared one characteristic with the three aristocratic women featured in Targoff's book: she was intimate with the royal court.

For aristocrats who wanted

power or an income to add to the resources from their lands, frequenting the court was essential; for Amelia it was a part of her life as one of a family of royal servants – and as the long-term mistress of Henry Carey, Baron Hunsdon, the nephew of Queen Elizabeth I and her trusted Lord Chamberlain. He kept her in "pomp," and so in some ways she lived a similar life to her aristocratic peers, albeit a less secure one.

For a while she lived with Anne Clifford and her mother, possibly serving as a tutor in Italian and music to Anne. Her life with them was idyllic, and inspired her to write poetry. Her 1609 *The Description of Cooke-ham* – a paean in praise of Cookham, the house where she lived with Anne and her mother – is now recognized as the first country house poem in English, preceding Ben Jonson's *To Penshurst* (1616), which previously had this accolade.

This effort unleashed Amelia's creativity, and she followed it in 1610 by publishing a book of original poetry – the first by a woman in England – called *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*, the title also of its 1,800-line central poem, which draws attention to the male wickedness of the Crucifixion and to the compassion of the women who witnessed it, in particular Procula, Pilate's wife. It is, in essence, a defense of women's rights.

With Targoff's focus on these four women writers, readers might expect that she deals with them sequentially, writing a separate section on each one. She does not. Instead, she has biographical sections linked to significant places at particular phases of their lives. This stratagem enables her to present much detail about English life at the time – and of aristocratic and court life in particular.

Like Shakespeare, these women lived through the last years of Elizabeth I's reign and through most or all of James I's. The two eras were dramatically different, and one of the pleasures of reading this book is the way in which this is limned without over-emphasis.

Another is that though Ramie Targoff is a scholar on the faculty of Brandeis University, her book is written in a lively, accessible style, not in pretentious academic waffle. You do not have to be a scholar to read and enjoy it; it is available to all, and especially fascinating to anyone with an interest in English or feminist history.





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Montague Community Television News

School Shares *Charlie Tape*

By HANNAH BROOKMAN

TURNERS FALLS – The WINGS Program at the Conway Grammar School put on a classroom performance of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and shared it with us! That's what I'm talking about – what a treasure to keep safe and available to the community for years to come.

We have also added the Neil Young Experience, "Harvest and Rust," from their Shea Theater performance on March 2, and all things "Yea" from the Montague special town meeting at the high school on March 14. We also have the Gill and Montague select-board meetings from March 11.

All community members are welcome and encouraged to submit their videos to be aired on Channel 9, as well as featured on the MCTV Vimeo page. That means you! If you have any ideas for films, MCTV is always available to assist in local video production as well. Cameras, tripods, and lighting equipment are available for checkout, and filming and editing assistance can be provided.

And if you're looking for more ways to get involved, consider joining the MCTV Board. If you would like to stop in for a meeting, even just to check the vibe, email infomontaguestv@gmail.com for a link to the Zoom.

Contact us at (413) 863-9200 or infomontaguestv@gmail.com, follow us on Facebook, or find us on Instagram @montaguecommunitytv. Find videos and more on our website, montaguestv.org.

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