

MONTEREY NEWS

July 2019
Est. 1970 Vol. XLVIII · Number 7

Pick up at: the library (in and outside), town hall, community center, Roadside Cafe, Bracken-Brae farm stand, Swap Shop, Church foyer



Big News! But not quite yet... See the library report on page 10.

Poynter speaks of that deep and intimate grief in a deeply personal voice.
Memorial Day Poem page 17

There are many teaching and learning styles, but with a little preparation and show-and-tell, you don't have to be nervous about standing up in front of a small and friendly crowd of folks you know.
Skill Sharing workshops page 9

Summer in the Berkshires is best experienced outdoors. Mass Audubon provides excellent opportunities to do just that.
Mass Audubon Outings page 11



Bidwell Country Fair page 23

If you feel the urge to volunteer for either of these boards, please send a brief note of interest to our administrative assistant. The town thanks you.

Town Boards page 5

"Did you know they can eat a thousand ticks a day?" I looked this up and found it expressed as "up to four thousand ticks a week."

Possum in the News page 22

Were the new guardrails really necessary? Were the cars and trucks in the 1960s (when the current bridge was built) so much lighter and slower?

Changes Around Monterey page 4

Now across the canal he stood all vertical at the water's edge a wire only with an eye for my passing.

Great Blue Heron page 27

More than a quarter of the victims were children under age ten. Sparklers burn at 1,200°F or hotter, and could easily cause severe burns and injuries.

No Fireworks page 3

The Monterey Fire Department responded to a total of 124 emergency calls in the calendar year of 2018.

Fire Department 2018 Calls page 6

Barbara Tryon recently told me the story of how, as a child, she remembers, after a day of her father golfing, everyone would gather for a regular Sunday night hymn singalong.

Lake Garfield Country Club page 12

Three covenants:

- Respect one another.
- Do not harm one another.
- Do not eat one another.

Two Termites on Noah's Ark page 19

Council on Aging

Bascom Lodge Trip

On Wednesday, June 19, the council on aging sponsored a bus trip up Mount Greylock to Bascom Lodge. Leaving Monterey under gray clouds, we were blessed with mostly sunny skies both on the way and at the summit. Driving up held some beautiful, somewhat scary vistas, but once we were at the top there were lovely views on all sides. Some people even started to walk up to the top of the Veterans' War Memorial—many stairs! A good time and a delightful lunch were had by all. An extra thanks to those who drove the "overflow," the folks the bus couldn't accommodate.

July Events

Pittsfield Suns: On Sunday, July 7, we will gather at the Pittsfield Suns baseball game and picnic at Waconah Park. Our reserved area is under the tent at first base. The picnic includes hamburgers, franks, chicken, pasta salad, soft drinks, watermelon, and brownies. This is an event for the whole family. It is a theme-night game, "Halloween in July," if you want to come in costume. It is also "Readers' Night," so children attending a reading program will be given a book. \$5 per person is requested, which can be left at town hall. If you plan on attending, call Kyle at 528-9213, or email her at kyle603@verizon.net so she can know how many to expect. Please try to let us know by July 3. Gates open and the picnic starts at 4:15.

Movie Night: Tuesday, July 9, at town hall, at 7 p.m. The movie will be "The Help," set in the 1960s in Mississippi. Skeeter is a southern society girl who returns from college determined to be a writer but turns her friends' lives and the town upside down when she decides to interview the black women who have spent their lives taking care of prominent white families. Light refreshments will be served.

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Berkshire Visiting Nurse: A wellness clinic will be held on Thursday, July 11, at the town hall from 2 to 3 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

Driver Safety Class: The council on aging is hosting an AARP Driver Safety Education Course at the Monterey Community Center on Wednesday, July 17, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Scholarships are available. This course is taught by Jay Zeif, an AARP instructor. A certificate will be earned—some insurers give a discount for taking the course. To register, please call Jay Zeif, at 413-394-4427. For questions, please call Kyle Pierce, 413-528-9213.

Foot Nurse: Town hall, Thursday, July 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$25. Please call 413-528-1443 ext. 247 for an appointment.

Matter of Balance Review Class is held on Wednesdays, at 10:30 a.m., at the community center, except for Wednesday, July 17. All those who have completed the Matter of Balance class are welcome.

Other News

There are \$25 farmers market coupon books available for income-eligible seniors. They can be picked up at the Claire Teague Senior Center in Great Barrington during the month of July.

The council on aging is planning to purchase a defibrillator for the Monterey Community Center for the benefit of the community. Fire Chief Shawn Tryon has been very helpful in making the arrangements.

The council on aging has purchased "See and be Seen" vests for pedestrians and bicycle riders. We are considering the best ways to give them out, so stay tuned.

—Kyle Pierce
Chair, Council on Aging

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No Fireworks Illegal In Massachusetts

With the Fourth of July just a few days away, police chief Gareth Backhaus and fire chief Shawn Tryon remind residents that it is illegal to buy or use fireworks in the state of Massachusetts (MGL Chapter 148 §39) and the police must seize them if found. It is illegal to use, possess, or sell fireworks of any kind in Massachusetts, including Class C fireworks, which are sometimes falsely called “safe and sane fireworks.”

Class C fireworks include sparklers, party poppers, snappers, firecrackers, spinners, cherry bombs, and more. Massachusetts residents are also prohibited from purchasing fireworks elsewhere and transporting them into the state.

“Fireworks are a Fourth of July tradition for many, but we urge residents to leave firework displays to the professionals,” said Chief Tryon. “Parents, please set a good example for your kids and other children. If they see you break the law and play with fireworks, they will think it is okay to do so too, which can result in severe burns and other injuries.”

The Office of the State Fire Marshal reports that from 2007-2016, there were 826 major fire and explosion incidents involving illegal fireworks reported to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System. These incidents caused 110 civilian injuries, five fire service injuries, and an estimated loss of \$1.8 million.

In addition to injuries, the sound created by fireworks exploding can cause stress, which can be experienced by people who may be sensitive to loud noises, such as the elderly and veterans who may suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Pets can also react negatively to the sound created by fireworks.

Fifty-one percent of fireworks-related burn injuries reported by hospitals to the Office of the State Fire Marshal from 2007-2016 were to children under age eighteen. More than a quarter of the victims were children under age ten. Sparklers burn at 1,200°F or hotter, and could easily cause severe burns and injuries. If you use fireworks, children who see you will not understand the dangers of fireworks. And



children know where you keep fireworks. They also encourage the use of matches and lighters by children.

Fireworks are dangerous and they are illegal in Massachusetts for anyone without a professional license. But everyone can enjoy fireworks at shows run by professionals and supervised by local fire departments. Keep your July 4 holiday safe and fun. Stay away from illegal fireworks.

Anyone with general questions about fireworks or firework safety should contact the Monterey Fire Department at 413-528-3136.

To report fireworks in use, please call the Monterey Police Department at 413-528-3211.

— Kenn Basler
Chair, Select board

August “Monterey News” May Be Late

The August issue of the *Monterey News* might not be available until early in the second week of August. Hopefully all the early August events can be found in this issue.

Christopher J. Tryon & Associates



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Photos by Stephen Moore

You Be the Judge

Do you think these new guardrails are really necessary?

Were the cars and trucks in the 1960s (when the current bridge was built) so much lighter and slower?

Do you think anyone, or any vehicles, were ever saved by the old railing?

Changes Around Monterey

Library

The fences are down, the construction trailer removed, the piles of assorted building materials cleared away. The final grading has been done, the grass is pushing up strongly through the hay. The parking area is paved and has lines. As the final work is being done, the work trucks are parked ever so neatly between the lines in the parking lot, not all over the village. And soon we'll be able to see the changes inside.

Curtis Road Bridge

An old expression, "If it was good enough for me when I was growing up, it's good enough now," perhaps doesn't really apply to the guardrails as they were on the Curtis Road Bridge. Compare for yourself in the photos above. A nice note is that the stand-off blocks for the railing where it passes post-to-post off the bridge are made of 95% post-consumer waste plastics, with UV protection. So think about them when you recycle your milk jugs and heavy plastic items into the plastics bin at the transfer station. This is an excellent example of a product that was developed to make use of recyclable resources.

Blue Hill Road

Terry Walker, our town clerk and grant writer, last year secured a \$1 million grant from the state for rebuilding Blue Hill Road. Shawn Tyron, director of operations, wrote about the work done so far. "There are eleven locations with new catch basins and culverts. One is at a new location, installed to fix an ice problem during the winter. About two dozen trees were removed to get some sunlight and air movement to the surface for better longevity of the road surface. The tree work was a combined effort between John Field's tree service and the Monterey highway crew. The paving specifications are being finalized, and once approved, the paving will go out to bid soon. We're looking for paving probably in late August to September.

Firehouse Flag Poles

(See the photo on page 6.) The fire company recently achieved an objective to add three flag poles to spruce up the front of the building. The current flags are the US flag, the Massachusetts state flag, and, for now, a generic fire department flag. The fire company has a custom flag company replicating the Monterey town flag to put in place of the generic fire department flag as there doesn't seem to be one anywhere else in town.

—Stephen Moore

Monterey Softball Open Call

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Summer Sunday mornings

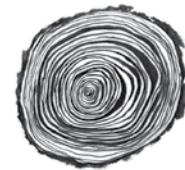
Greene Park, Monterey

Batting practice at 10

Games begin at 10:30

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In My View Monterey Boards

Two of our important town boards, conservation commission and planning board are in need of members. The volunteers that serve on these boards have helped create the reputation of fairness and knowledgeable discourse that Monterey is known for. Over the past two years it became clear that what was being asked of both these boards, but especially the conservation commission, was an understanding of state regulations that went beyond the volunteer status the town was asking for.

Conservation Commission

With this critical need for professional support in mind, the town added to the conservation commission's budget funds to hire a conservation agent. Up to this point we had the services of a conservation agent provided by the state, but he was responsible for five towns. Now we have a professional staff person who works with our volunteers to provide all the technical and legal information necessary to make informed decisions. The Massachusetts Conservation Commission Act, passed in 1957, authorized each town in Massachusetts to establish a locally appointed municipal agency to plan for natural resource protection, acquire important land and water areas, and manage these properties for conservation and passive

recreation. Permitting for any development project begins with the conservation commission.

The conservation commission is accepting letters of interest from residents to fill vacancies on the commission for a three-year term. The commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Planning Board

The planning board is also in need of a member. Similar to the conservation commission, the town asked what help our volunteer board needed and additional funds were allocated to provide clerical support.

The Monterey Planning Board is a seven-member elected board that meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7 p.m. (excluding Thanksgiving Day). The primary purpose of the planning board is to understand and implement the Monterey Zoning Bylaws, as well as suggest additions and revisions to the bylaws as needed and seek town approval for the changes. The implementation of the Monterey Zoning Bylaws is done in conjunction with the building inspector, (who enforces the bylaws) the zoning board of appeals (ZBA), the board of health, and the conservation commission. The planning board reviews "Form A" subdivisions of land (ANR/Approval Not Required) to insure that zoning minimums for acreage (two acres) and road frontage (two hundred feet) are met.

Additionally it is the planning board's job to ascertain that there is adequate access to any parcel of land created through subdividing. The planning board also has a role in the special permit application process. Although the application for a special permit is actually made to the ZBA, the planning board (along with the conservation commission and the board of health) must review each case and submit a finding either in favor or against the application. This is also the process when applying for a variance. The planning board oversees the creation of subdivisions and implements Monterey's Subdivision Control Rules and Regulations. The planning board is responsible for initiating and facilitating the process of creating a master plan for the town.

The seats on the planning board are elected, so you would be appointed to serve only until the next election. If you feel the urge to volunteer for either of these boards, please send a brief note of interest to our administrative assistant, Melissa Noe, 435 Main Rd P.O. Box 308, Monterey, MA 01245.

The town thanks you.

— Kenn Basler
Chair, Select Board

Editor's Note: In My View is an opportunity, for select board members to communicate their thoughts about town affairs—reflections, opinions, and updates on topics of their choice. The views expressed are solely those of the writer, and are not meant to reflect the views of the full select board.

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42nd Annual Steak Roast Monterey Fire Company

It's July and that means it's time for the Monterey Fire Company Steak Roast. Monterey's largest public event—the party of the summer—will take place on Saturday, July 27, in the fire company pavilion, behind the fire station, at 411 Main Road. Dinners will be served from 5 to 7 p.m.

In recent years the firefighters have cooked and served nearly eight hundred dinners to locals and summer visitors. The menu includes steak, swordfish, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked potatoes, sweet corn, salad, rolls, cake, and ice cream. A variety of wine, craft beer, and soda will be available. Roger the Jester will be on hand to amuse. Music will be provided by the Peter Poirier Band.

All proceeds go to help maintain and renovate the Monterey Fire Company, Ltd. fire station and grounds.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 the day of the roast. You can get tickets:

- from any Monterey firefighter,
- at the transfer station or in downtown Monterey (across from the general store) every Saturday and Sunday in July,
- or online at MontereyFire.Org.

Please try to buy advance tickets early—this helps us plan for the event. Looking forward to seeing everybody for what's always a great evening of food, drink, and music.

—Monterey Fire Company

Monterey Fire Department 2018 Calls

The Monterey Fire Department responded to a total of 124 emergency calls in the calendar year of 2018. Approximately 60% of these calls were for fire services and 40% were for emergency medical services.

Breakdown of total incidents:

January: 10	July: 16
February: 6	August: 14
March: 7	September: 20
April: 9	October: 9
May: 10	November: 7
June: 10	December: 6

If you have any questions, please contact me or Chief Shawn Tryon at montereyfireco@gmail.com.

—Keegan Wellauer,
Fire Fighter and EMT
Monterey Fire Department

Editor's Note: Folks ask about the distinction between the fire company and the fire department. When our town-appointed fire fighters/EMTs respond to a call for service, they are compensated as town employees in the fire department. The fire company is a separate, private entity that is responsible for the fire house, training, and support services. The town owns almost all of the equipment housed and maintained by the fire company, so that equipment is part of the Monterey Fire Department.

Peter Poirier Band Music at the Steak Roast

The fire company has hired local musician Peter Poirier (he's also on the Parks Commission and an enthusiastic supporter of the hockey rink) to play at this year's Monterey Fire Company steak roast. Peter's band plays 1950s-style electric blues. He has three July gigs listed on his website, peterpoirier.com, in addition to the steak roast on July 27. You can also listen to music off his new *Empty Arms* CD. His music can be purchased through bluebeatmusic.com, search for "Empty Arms."



Lake Garfield Working Group

The Lake Garfield Working Group (LGWG) held its monthly meeting on June 17. The first order of business was a review and coordination of the necessary research and documentation required for the proper submission of a notice of intent (NOI) to the conservation commission for their renewed approval to allow the removal of invasive eurasian milfoil via diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH). The Monterey Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing to discuss and consider approval of the project during their Wednesday, July 10 meeting, at 6 p.m., in the town hall. Pending approval, the LGWG committee also reviewed and assigned the tasks necessary to facilitate an eventual contract between the town and whichever company is chosen for the work.

In another development LGWG member Michael Germain reported on the efforts and financing by The Friends of Lake Garfield (FLG) to develop a program for monitoring cyanobacteria. In this effort, Westfield State biology major Shannon Poulin, working this summer at Camp Half Moon, has enthusiastically embraced the training and field work of monitoring the growth of this potentially toxic bacteria. Using a flourometer and microscope purchased by the FLG, as well as a precision GPS on loan from Westfield State, Shannon, with the assistance of Nadia Makuc, is routinely sampling water from Lakes Garfield and Buel for onsite evaluation, as well as freezing samples for eventual lab analysis at the end of the season. Michael reports that through the Lakes and Ponds Association of Western Massachusetts, the offer to expand this program to other lakes in the region is receiving interest.

We encourage all parties interested in our lakes to attend the next meeting of the Lake Garfield Working Group at town hall on Monday, July 15, at 7 p.m.

— Steve Snyder, Chair
Lake Garfield Working Group

Pleasant Surprises

- You're expecting a whopping big bill. It arrives, and it's far less than you'd anticipated!
- You dreaded assembling a product you ordered. It came preassembled!

Friends of Lake Garfield All Good News

Summer is here and we're all set for our annual battle with the very invasive eurasian milfoil, the weed which would like nothing better than to turn the lake into a meadow. Not going to let that happen. The town has voted \$30,000 to continue the diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH) which has successfully stemmed the spread of milfoil. The Friends of Lake Garfield and the Lake Garfield Working Group (LGWG) will join the battle. That's good news for swimmers, boaters, and fishermen, alike. You can learn more about this at our sparkling new website: friendsoflakegarfield.org.

Packed with info about Lake Garfield, the new website is full of photos, a calendar of events, lake survey results, and even accepts credit cards, making it easier to pay your FLG membership dues. (Here comes the commercial...)

The Friends of Lake Garfield are dedicated to the health, enjoyment, and welfare of Lake Garfield. It's a giant job to care for 280 acres of lake. We hire a lake scientist to monitor the health of the water several times a year. Weeds aren't the only issue. We regularly check for cyanobacteria which can be quite harmful to your health. We check for zebra mussels which can clog drainage pipes and boat

motors. We measure the water's alkalinity and acidity. We offer classes on boating and water safety. It's a ton of work. And it takes a load of money. Money well spent because Lake Garfield adds to our quality of life in Monterey (and also adds to Monterey's real estate values).

Your membership dues fuel everything we do. If your budget is tight, you can become a Friend of Lake Garfield for as little as \$35 a year. Or, if budget is not a big issue, \$100 makes you a Very Good Friend of Lake Garfield. \$200 makes you a Very, Very Good Friend. And \$300 makes you a Best Friend of Lake Garfield. If you see fit to give more than \$300, bless you. You can pay your dues right on our new website, or send your check to: Friends of Lake Garfield, PO Box 355, Monterey, MA 01245. Please include your name, telephone, and email address.

To learn lots more about what's going on at Lake Garfield, you are invited to join our annual open meeting on Saturday, July 13, at 9 a.m., at the firehouse. We'll have elections of officers and directors. The current slate, which will still be open, includes Officers Richard Jaffe, president; Laura Mensi, treasurer, and Kathy Frank, secretary. Directors include Michael Germain, Greg Carnese, Roberta Hutcher, Bill Ban, and Hy Rosen.

— Hy Rosen
Friends of Lake Garfield

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July Activities

Family Yoga: For all ages, singles welcome also: Saturday, July 27, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Outdoors if good weather/ if not: indoors. \$5 per person, age 3 and under free. Call Connie Wilson, leader, for more info at 413-528-3798.

Mahjong: Wednesday afternoons at 3:30 p.m., and on Monday nights at 7 p.m.

Bridge: We are looking for a *pro bono* teacher. Several people would like to learn how to play bridge.

Gardeners: The community garden has a small number of spaces available. Please get in touch by phone or email now (see below for contact info) if you are interested in an 8' x 16' plot for organic growing.

Ongoing activities

Darn Yarners: First and third Thursday of each month, July 4 and 18, 1 to 3 p.m. This is an informal group of fiber artists (knit, stitch, mend, spin, crochet and such) meeting to work on individual projects in a somewhat social setting. No cost. Facilitated by Wendy Jensen.

Ping Pong: Adult ping pong continues to ping back and forth between Saturdays and Thursdays. In July, join us on Thursdays, July 11 and 25, from 3:30 p.m. and on Saturdays, July 6 and 20, from 2 p.m. Please come and enjoy the thrill of play with your friends and neighbors. Free.

See our Event Calendar

Many additional activities are listed on our Event Calendar. These range from council on aging weekly events to the adult book group monthly meetings to card games, singing, and other individually presented events on many topics.

Visit us at any time through our website (ccmonterey.org), where you will find the Event Calendar, event registration, use policies and other information, and where you can donate to the center through PayPal. You can always contact Mary Makuc, event coordinator, at 413-528-3600, or email her at calendar@ccmonterey.org. We thank you for your support.



Bonnie McAllister

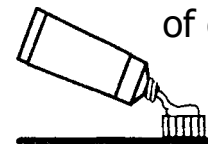
Above: Skillful neighbor, author Kevin West, shares his skills for preserving our garden and orchard produce. Below: On June 8, a mosaics workshop was held with Marilyn Orner Cromwell, on the left.



Mary Makuc

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Skillful Neighbors Community Center Programs

Last month folks were treated to three demonstrations at the Community Center in which our neighbors taught us some good household skills.

The first was a home yogurt-making lesson from Wendy Jensen, below. She set up on a long table with a Coleman stove, certain pots and jars, and a thermometer. The equipment was nothing fancy and the process easy to follow and to remember. She also brought some milk, a little store-bought yogurt, and a recipe handout. After a friendly hour of watching her work and hearing her tips for success, everyone was treated to a tasting session.



Bonner McAllester

We all loved Wendy's Homemade Maple Vanilla Yogurt and at least one person went right home and made some immediately. There were good questions, good answers, accounts of personal yogurt histories. One person used to incubate quart jars of yogurt in her down booties and was asked to mention it in this report. Wendy uses a big pot of hot water from the tap and sets the jars of hot milk with starter up to their necks for four hours. There's more than one way to yog.

The next weekend Steve Moore was on hand with diamonds and steel, teaching us all how to sharpen (or "hone") our kitchen knives. Folks brought in three knives of any sort, from their own kitchens, and we had a philosophy, physics, and vocabulary lesson. Here is some language: hone, whet, carborundum, surgical black stone, and strop. We learned about zero thickness, also Mo's scale of hardness. Besides this, we all sharpened our knives in a hands-on experience during which we were very careful about our hands.

Steve had ordered diamond sharpening stones for each of us, so we went home determined to keep a good edge and

equipped to do so. We learned that shears and knives both cut with sharp edges, but there are different angles and principles to consider. These are life lessons, and useful.



Bonner McAllester

The third of these "Skill Sharing" mornings was hosted by Kevin West, introduced by Mary Makuc as a food author, Monterey neighbor, and "an all around nice guy." Kevin lives in the former Makuc house across Route 23 from the Community Center. He usually walks over, but this time he had to drive: he had brought boxes of jars of preserves and pickles, fresh-bought fruit from the Great Barrington Farmers Market that morning, and a few copies of his splendid book, *Saving the Season*. He also brought sugar and vinegar and explained the science of dehydration for preservation. You can also use alcohol which has its own attributes as we know, but it turns out that one of these is to "volatize" the aromas in fruit preserves.

Kevin taught us how to do all this. There was a lot to learn, but he is a fellow who comes equipped with little notebooks to pass out and pre-sharpened pencils (you

can actually buy them like this!), so we were all able to write notes about how to and how not to make our own pickles and preserves.

We even learned the origins and early uses of the word "pickle" because Kevin is one of those "all around nice guys" who is interested in everything and likes to share his treasures with others.

If you have treasures and skills to share, think about spending an hour telling your friends and neighbors about them one of these weekend mornings. Get in touch with Mary Makuc at 528-3600 and get the Program Committee to schedule a show. You don't have to bring delicious examples. Kevin did, and so did Wendy. Steve brought lots to handle and consider, and set us up to learn by doing. The snacks he brought doubled as functional sharpness testers; delicious red watermelon with strong green rind. We ate the juicy red part and carefully checked our edges on the green.

There are many teaching and learning styles, but with a little preparation and show-and-tell, you don't have to be nervous about standing up in front of a small and friendly crowd of folks you know. You don't even have to bring snacks.

Attendance at these first three "Skill Sharing" sessions ranged from eight or nine to about twenty. At each session, after the first hour or so things got social and informal and then some folks moved outside to go weed their plots at the community garden. This is our town, our community center. We are so lucky.

—Bonner McAllester

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Library

Big News, But Not Quite Yet...

The update on the library at this moment is complex. Allegrone has finished 99% of the construction. They won't be on site every day: however, they will be coming back to take care of the little things. The project has been inspected and the town officials are going through paperwork to issue the Certificate of Occupancy. Once that is completed, we can be open to the public for business. We are thankful that the inspectors are doing such a diligent job in making sure the building complies with all codes and regulations and there are no life safety issues. This is more complex than a residential building. Coupled with the energy efficiency standards, a municipal building is more complex than it looks.

We will at some point be given that CO. When we open will depend on other factors as well. We are working to make it happen as fast as we can. If you come to the firehouse and we aren't there, we will be down at the new library. That's the easiest way to know we're open, and we have parking! You'll be seeing activity



there as we get ready, but it won't be until the circulation computer makes the trip down the hill that we will be open down there. Thank you for your patience.

Please see the schedule for our summer performances, bring the kids, and find us wherever we're at.

—Mark Makuc
Library Director

Editor's Note: The library's daily schedule is now being published on the back page of the issue for ease of checking it.



Water droplets

—Bonsai Cox

MONTEREY LIBRARY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Saturdays at 10:30 am

Saturday, July 6
Musician Tom Sieling

Saturday, July 13
Storyteller John Porcino

Saturday, July 20
Magician Jim Snack

Saturday, August 3
Live Animals from Leahey Farm

Saturday, August 10
Jeff Boyer as the Bubble Man

Saturday, August 17
Aliens: Escape from Earth with the Science Tellers

Programs will be held either in the Monterey Firehouse or the new Monterey Library building--check for the sandwich board!



The Monterey Library
452 Main Road Monterey, MA 01245 (413) 528-3795
www.montereymalibrary.org

Community Chorus

The Monterey Community Chorus will give a concert at Laurel Lake Assisted Living, on Sunday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m. We have been working on eight or nine songs to perform. Featured on one song, "My Peace," by Arlo Guthrie, will be Sally Pullen, who is bravely learning to sing bass for this event. The entire chorus will add some handbells to enhance our version of "Let It Be." Other songs will be: "All of me," "Hand It Over," "Don't Fence Me In," "Follow the Drinking Gourd," "Time After Time," "Bring Me Little Water Sylvie," and "Amen."

The chorus meets once a week, on Tuesdays, at 7 p.m., at the community center, and is reaching its one year anniversary. "I love the spirit of this chorus," says Oren Rosenthal, a music therapist and director who has been doing community music for over thirty years. "It is a group that loves to sing, laugh, and share in each others' lives." One of our most faithful members, Sue Protheroe, died a couple of weeks ago, and we mourn her passing and still can hear her strong voice in our minds as we sing.

Everyone is welcome to join, regardless of singing experience or quality of your voice. One of the goals of this chorus is to help people discover their voice, and find fellowship in a singing community. Suggested donation is \$5, but your presence is the most important contribution.

—Oren Rosenthal

Mass Audubon Outings Berkshires Outdoor Summers

The *Monterey News* gets regular listings of Mass Audubon programs and activities, many of which are held at their Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, not far off Route 7 in Lenox. For the month of July the listings they emailed show thirty-eight events, from North Adams down to Sheffield. Many of these events are free, or are free to Audubon members, or have a nominal charge to participate. The activities include birding, nature watching, canoeing, and guided walks. There are events for children, families with children, adults only, camps, etc.

To access the full list of events, go to MassAudubon.org, and select the Pleasant Valley sanctuary from "Select Sanctuary" drop down menu. If you select the "See Programs" button, you will find a page that lets you refine your search to suit your group, e.g. for families with children, or adults only; costs, best times, etc.

Summer in the Berkshires is best experienced outdoors. Mass Audubon provides excellent opportunities to do just that.

Heartflow Honoring the Housatonic

On Saturday, June 22, a diverse crowd of fifty people participated in Heartflow, the first of what may become an annual event honoring the Housatonic and its tributaries (the Konkapot was among the major ones mentioned in a Native American song). The event flowed like a symphony from the closed bridge at Cottage Street in Great Barrington to the W.E.B. Du Bois Rain Garden, starting with drumming, juggling, hula hoops, stilt walkers, pinwheels and streamers (compliments of BerkCirque).


Along the half-mile procession, sponsored by the Housatonic River Walk, and organized by the Berkshire Rights of Nature group, were pauses for talks, poems, songs, a kolum (corn meal artwork), cello music, a chance to draw or write items for a prayer flag, and a final ceremony with intentions and blessings later poured into the river by the organizers. A passing sprinkle of rain was a reminder of water's elemental force.



Janet Jensen


Just before the close, Michael Johnson of Monterey (above) spoke about his ongoing work with the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians (people of the waters that are never still) and their attempts to connect with their ancestral lands in the Berkshires. His six-minute video on the subject can be viewed on YouTube. Search for "The Return of the Mohicans, Michael Johnson."

— Janet Jensen



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Lake Garfield Country Club 1927 to 1941

An interesting, but short-lived period in the history of Monterey from 1927 to 1941 was that of the Lake Garfield Country Club. The Club's founding family names included Diefendorfer, Eaton, Wing, Taggart, Whitestone, Groehl, and of course, Tryon. Wallace Tryon had a hand in turning a rough landscape layout into a playable nine holes and was the only year-round member.

The club was one hundred-plus acres spanning the area down Main Road east on Route 23 and up Tyringham Road. Throughout the 1930s it was a gathering place for not only golf but dances and other social events.

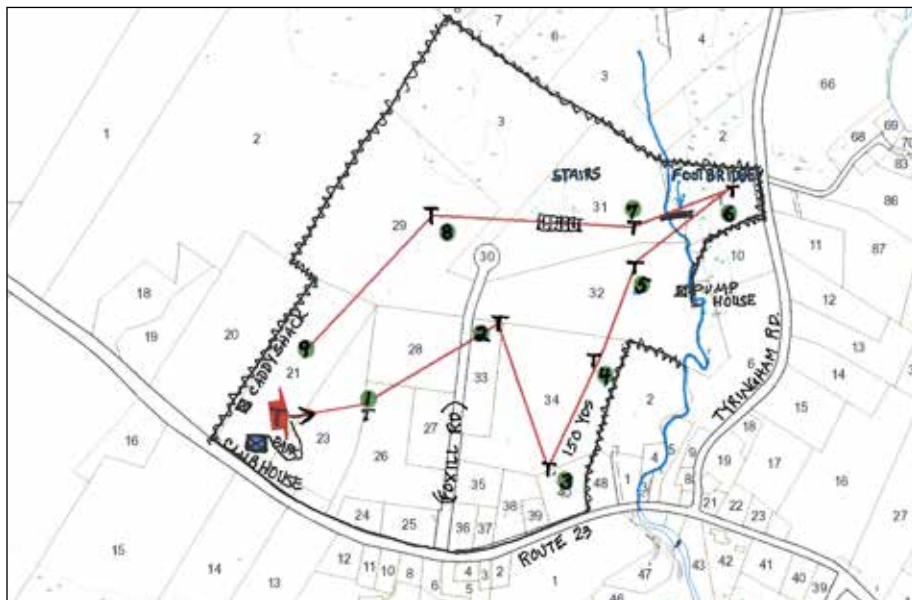
Barbara Tryon recently told me the story of how, as a child, she remembers getting in the family car and driving up from Sheffield on Sundays, and after a day of her father golfing, everyone would gather for a regular Sunday night hymn singalong. She said they would pass out little paper booklets with hymns and other songs for everyone, youth and adult alike to join in.

As a youth I can remember family friends, Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Sellow Jr., speaking of how they would get all dressed up on a Saturday and drive up from North Canaan, Connecticut to attend Saturday night dances in the clubhouse. The doctor was a regular golfer here and his wife would join him on Sundays and have tea in the clubhouse with the ladies while the men were on the course. The doctor always said it was a very challenging course.

Amy Enoe worked at the clubhouse collecting golf fees and selling drinks and snacks. Bud Moulton was the groundskeeper, Bill Everitt mowed the greens, and Dick Danaher was the golf pro. The caddy shack was the former library in the center of town that was located on the edge of the bridge near the post office.

The Map

The clubhouse was on what is now 387 Main Road, the 3rd hole was on 427 Main Road, and the 6th hole was at 35 Tyringham Road. The locations for the tees and greens is approximate, based on peoples' recollections. Please remember that at the time there was no Fox Hill Road.



Linda compiled this map by using a base map from the assessor's office, and adding in property and club details from her examination of land deeds and talking with area residents who have direct memory of the club. Foxhill Road, in the center of the map, did not exist during the period of the country club's operation.

My information about the club and course was compiled after numerous conversations with two members of the community who remembered first hand when the Lake Garfield Country Club was a thriving and vital part of life in this town.

Trips to the Southern Berkshire Registry of Deeds to confirm the property boundaries indicate an original lease-and-purchase agreement for one hundred acres from several people along the Main Road and Tyringham Road in

1927. Another deed in 1930 for the 6th hole, and a final exchange of one acre for a place to install a water pump and tank near the Konkapot River for water for the greens.

Of interest in the original lease was that the owners reserved the use of the sugar maple orchard with the understanding that the persons operating the maple orchard shall not cross the fairways of the golf links. Also reserved was a right to keep a portable house of the former owners on

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the property until such time as it was sold and moved. This was a Sears and Roebuck house that was shortly sold and moved to Tyringham Road.

Dick Tryon knows the layout of the course well because he caddied there in his youth. He says that it was a very challenging course with the range of fairways anywhere up to 250 and 300 yards. The shortest, between holes 3 and 4 was about 150 yards. From the 5th to the 6th one had to shoot across the river, being careful to avoid a group of trees, walk down and cross a footbridge and go back up to the 6th green. Then tee off to shoot down to the 7th hole back across the river. From the 7th hole one had tee off and drive the ball uphill, then climb a steep flight of stairs to get to the 8th green. At that point the end was in sight with the 9th hole behind the clubhouse. And then you could do it all again to make an eighteen-hole game of it. This does not even begin to tell of all of the other numerous trees that one would encounter along the way. (There might be lost balls still in the woods that grew along the fairways.)

The stock market crash had reverberated throughout the country and the club held on, but with the coming of WWII, the club was no longer able to sustain itself and closed in 1941. A few years after closing, the clubhouse burned down.

I want to thank Dick Tryon and Raymond Tryon for all the help they gave me in recreating the course and map; Barbara Tryon for her reminiscences; and George Emmons for the opening paragraph.

—Linda Thorpe



Above: The Lake Garfield Country Club clubhouse sat high above Route 23.

Below: A view from Tyringham Road, not too far from where Ray Tryon's barn is, looking towards the holes in the upper area.

Linda notes that these two postcards came from Tillie Jean (Westberg) Nightingale. She grew up in the white house with the tall pillars behind Tryon Construction, next to the ballfield. She is ninety-three years old and still sharp as a tack, living independently in her own home. She was in the class at the village schoolhouse that planted the "Children's Forest" in the flats along Route 23 opposite Fairview Road.

Bottom Left: The old library, which sat where the post office is now, was moved up and became the caddy shack.



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Monterey Parks Commission

"Summer is here and the livin' is easy"

Thanks to the folks who have removed their kayaks that were on the grass, to make room for new racks. However, there are still a number of kayaks that need to be removed.

- When the racks arrive, if any kayaks are still on the grass, the Parks Commission will be forced to remove them.
- Please tag your kayak with an address.
- Remember, the racks are there for residents and second homeowners only.

Play Ball

Baseball season is here, the baseball field has been meticulously groomed and is all ready to go.

Chair Yoga

Join Connie Wilson on Tuesdays, from 9 to 10 a.m., at the community center, for chair yoga.

Swimming Lessons

There will be swimming lessons offered in August, but dates are not yet set.

Outdoor Movie Night

Our always anticipated movie night is planned for Saturday, August 3. This year movie night may be moved to the town beach. Updates to follow.

End of Summer Party

The Parks Commission is thinking of having a little end of summer celebration at the lake on either Saturday, August 24 or Sunday, August 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. Details to follow.

—Monterey Parks Commission



Chair Yoga in Monterey

Curious about yoga, but not about to get up and down from the floor? Chair yoga is the answer. Join us on Tuesday mornings this summer at the Community Center from 9 to 10 a.m. We use chairs not only for sitting tall, but as props to support us in standing poses. We stretch, strengthen, balance, and breathe. We leave class relaxed and energized at the same time.

If you have questions or want more information, please call me, Connie Wilson, at 413-528-3798. I've been teaching yoga since 2002 and love being creative in my and your interpretation of it. I'll encourage you to listen to your body, and help you find ways to move that support and gently challenge you, whatever shape you're in. This is not "one size fits all" yoga. Movement will be at a gentle to moderate pace coordinated with the breath. We'll explore traditional yoga postures as well as some we make up on the spot. Yoga is a meditation in motion, a path to embodying your deepest self. In the words of two long time devotees of our Monterey class, "I had no idea that my experience of chair yoga would extend so far beyond the physical benefits!" and "Our weekly practice of yoga is calming and centering, and it has taught me to think of my whole day's experience as a mindful life of yoga."

Chair yoga is free and open to everyone, and is supported by the Monterey Parks Commission.

—Connie Wilson

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Veterans' Memorial Ceremony

Memorial Day began, as it does every year, at the Veterans' Memorial, at the corner of Route 23 and Blue Hill Road, with a solemn remembrance of women and men who lost their lives serving their country.

Pastor Liz Goodman gave an invocation. She prayed that everyone "remember and give thanks for those who have given their lives in service to our country;" to remember that "They gave the most precious gift they had, for us;" to help us "honor their memory by caring for the family members left behind," their wounded comrades, and reminded us to "be watchful caretakers of the freedoms they died to preserve." She also prayed that in living our lives, "we honor their legacy of freedom to choose the good—for freedom is not itself good, is only so when it's put to the purpose of the good."

Linda Thorpe



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Maureen Banner

Julio Rodriquez, Command Sergeant Major US Army, Retired

Our Lady of the Hills

The Roman Catholic church in Monterey, Our Lady of the Hills, will be open for Mass beginning Saturday, July 6th. The masses are every Saturday evening through the end of August. The eucharistic celebration begins at 5:45 p.m.

Yes, this is the tiny chapel with the stained glass angel, not far from Lake Garfield, at 70 Beartown Mountain Road. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to be a lector, altar server, or help with the music, please arrive ten minutes early and speak with the celebrant. —Mary Makuc

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Above: Mark Agerholm, a fellow just passing through, stopped and took numerous photos of what he felt was classic small town Americana.

Other photographers that day include Suzanne Sawyer, Bonner McAllester, Maureen Banner, and Linda Thorpe.



Gould Farmers, with Eric Martin and Steven Enoch playing music



Town crier Rob Hoogs, in period dress, rides in the back of Roger Tryon's show truck.



With the parade cancelled, we lost the chance to have the full Mt. Everett Regional High School marching band perform for us. But a contingent nonetheless showed up in support.



Monterey News folks, wearing hats folded from previous issues (thanks to Cora Baker for the idea and the craftwork)

MEMORIAL DAY		
Appropriation:		\$ 150.00
From Reserve:		134.23
		284.23
Expended:		
Balch Bros. & West Co.	\$ 94.43	
Roadside Store	110.80	
Massini Bus Co.	40.00	
Sportman's Shop	15.00	
Edward B. Dally, Inc.	24.00	
Total		284.23
Balance	\$	none

Above: Linda Thorpe sent in this list of expenses from the Memorial Day parade in 1974, which shows \$284.23 was expended. The town budget voted on this May, line 692, has the town currently budgeting \$2,000 for our Memorial Day celebrations.



Veterans Mike Banner and Dick Tryon cooperating to get the ketchup on the dog at the lunch in the pavilion afterwards



Above: Mary Kate Jordan and MC Andrew Shaw, on the town hall porch

Below: Veteran Don Pierce lowering the flag



Linda Gero on her old Icelandic pony making one more parade

Memorial Day Poem

Mary Kate Jordan read a poem to the attendees at the Memorial Day parade this year. Below are her comments and the poem.

“For nearly a century it’s been traditional on Memorial Day to read a poem written by a war veteran. We’ve most often used poems from WWI, such as John McCrae’s classic, “In Flanders Fields.” But since that “War to End All Wars,” the hell has continued. Too many veterans have not come home.

“This poem was written in 2012. British veteran Ed Poynter wrote it on seeing a friend’s grave in Aldershot Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England, for the first time. Their friendship had roots in the Falklands War where the friend had been killed thirty years earlier, in 1982.

“Faced with essentially the same loss of a brother-in-arms as McCrae’s in 1915, Poynter speaks of that deep and intimate grief in a more personal voice than McCrae used when he wrote almost a hundred years earlier.”

A Strange Reunion

It’s strange seeing you like this.
I know you’re not actually here.
Even that last time I saw you, held you, carried you...
You were not actually there.

The time before that, you waved.
You grinned as you shouldered your pack.
“Good luck mate,” I called. “Go carefully.”
I never thought you wouldn’t come back.

This hewn marble over your head
Tells me little about you.

I can read that you were ‘BELOVED
SON. BROTHER. FRIEND.’
I can read your rank, your name, your age...
I’m older than you now. That’s strange.

I can see that you were a soldier,
A Rifleman, a Jew.
But I cannot see your laugh, your smile...
I still cannot see you.

You were more than the sum of all these parts.
You were you. You. You are you.
You are there in the moments of life when all is good.
You kept good company and still do...
You live on in all of us whose lives you touched.
And we love you.

—Ed Poynter

2019 Memorial Day Parade

For a parade that was cancelled, reinstated and planned in about ten days, it went off remarkably well, on a gloriously sunny day. The parade committee would like to thank all those who planned, or participated in the parade by marching, driving, or waving from a float, plus our behind-the-scenes helpers.

We appreciate all those who came to the meeting to reinstate it or wrote letters to the select board in the middle of May. We also thank all the parade spectators.

Editor's Note: In early May the select board, sensing a declining level of interest in the Memorial Day parade, as well as the very busy village area from the library and store construction projects, voted to cancel it. A mild revolt quickly arose, which culminated in a select board meeting to discuss the parade. Select board member Don Coburn made a clear and sincere apology for the way the decision was made, and on the spot a committee from among the dissidents was formed to quickly organize the event.

Special appreciation to:

- Rev. Liz Rogers Goodman for her blessing that day,
- Mary Kate Jordan, who read "A Strange Reunion," by Ed Poynter. (See page 17.),
- The Honor Guard: Julio Rodriguez, organizer, and a veteran, joined by fellow veteran Jim Dutcher and the young folks, Luna, Steven, Patrick, Daniel, and Ned,
- Veterans in a convertible: Michael Banner, driving Dick Tryon.

Also in the parade were:

- Select board members Donald Coburn, veteran, and Steven Weisz,
- The Monterey News Board, with signs and paper hats,
- Roger Tryon and Rob Hoogs, our town crier, representing the Bidwell House Museum,
- The two horses in the parade: Garry, ridden by Linda Gero; and Arni, led by Ed Cortney,
- Hume New England, which had a float, and also cooked and served the hot dogs, chips, and drinks afterwards at the fire company pavilion,
- Gould Farm adults and children who provide lively music and livestock.

(The Monterey Fire Company was planning on being with us but got a fire call and had to drive their trucks up Main Road speedily just as the parade was assembling.)

Special mention to veteran Don Pierce, for lowering and raising the flag while an ensemble from the Mt. Everett Regional High School band accompanied.

We couldn't have done it that day without Andrew Shaw, the MC, and Linda Thorpe, our cemetery commissioner, who carries the reverence for the occasion and the history of parades past. Kay Purcell, plus our police chief Gareth Backhaus, were behind the scenes on many details, as was Melissa Noe. A special thanks to Danny Purcell who helped with regulating the time, and arranged for the Ding-A-Ling ice cream truck at the pavilion.

Please let the select board know if you have thoughts about the parade and if you would like to help serve on the planning committee for next year.

2019 Memorial Day Parade Committee: Linda Thorpe, Maddy Brown, Francine Leventhal, Dennis Lynch, Kay Purcell, Gareth Backhaus, Tamera McKiernan, Andrew Shaw, Mary Makuc, and Steven Weisz.

—Mary Makuc

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The Story

Two Termites on Noah's Ark. Try and sit with those five words for a couple of seconds. Conjure up the two termites, Woody and Dustie gnawing through their favorite food. They gnaw day and night, since termites don't sleep. When they're not eating, they love to explore the ark, connect with various animals and help those in distress. They meet a homesick bear, a claustrophobic lion, a seasick seagull and a sneezing porcupine.

Woody and Dustie are kind, respectful, and hopeful.

They and all the other animals on the ark live by three covenants:

- Respect one another.
- Do not harm one another.
- Do not eat one another.

Can you imagine what it is like to be on a large boat for over a year waiting for the rain to stop, the waters to recede, and the earth to dry out? Experience what happens through the lives of these animals. Look for the unexpected and the twist at the end.

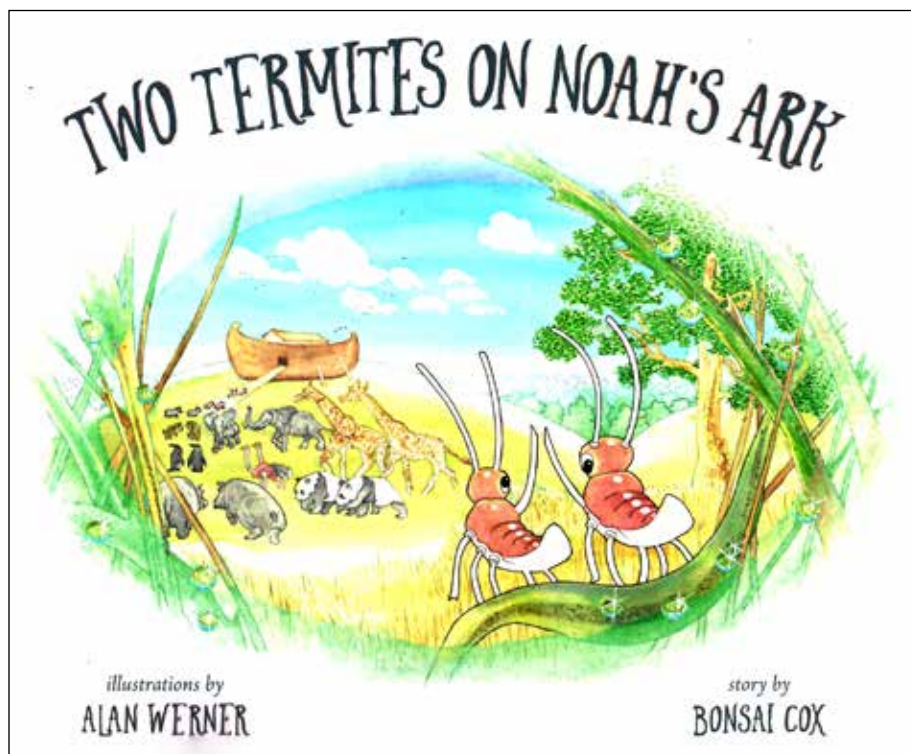
Why Did I Write It?

Back in February 2017, something was gnawing at me. I got thinking about Noah's Ark and the various species that might have been on board. How did they survive? How did they get along? Were there any rules or guidelines to live by? Did anything go wrong? If something ate through on the lowest level, would the boat begin to sink?

I continued to wonder—what were the animals' perspectives? If they had a voice, what would they want us to know about their struggles, challenges and adventures? Termites came to mind. Ideas began to percolate.

Working out at the gym one day, two friends helped me find names for the termites: Woody and Dustie. Then they became alive. They had purpose. I connected with them. They were kind and thoughtful and respected others. They were resourceful and helped others in distress. I not only liked them, I have grown very fond of them. We can learn from them.

I found out that termites have been around for over three hundred million years. There are over 2,500 species of termites in the world. They don't sleep.



There is a queen and a king (who are the breeding couple), and the queen can live up to fifty years of age. A termite colony has as many as ten thousand termites in it.

Woody and Dustie started to tell me their story. The rest is in the book.

Two Termites on Noah's Ark will be available from the Monterey Library, and can also be found at The Bookloft in Great Barrington and on Amazon.

Enjoy Woody and Dustie and their story.

—Bonsai Cox

Book Review Two Termites

A familiar story, told with a new point of view, *Two Termites on Noah's Ark*, is the third self-published book by Bonsai Cox, just released last month. The lesson in this new children's book is about everyone, no matter how small or large, helping and caring for each other. Thus the two title characters, termites Dustie and Woody, (being very careful not to get stepped on) move around the Ark visiting the other animals and helping solve their needs and problems. Since they are so small they can find their way around little corners and cracks easily.

At first they were nervous about moving among all the bigger animals, but the friendly porcupines reminded them of the covenant of only three rules that Noah asked all the animals to agree to.

Their good deeds came to the attention of Noah who thanked them. They also helped Noah solve a problem that pleases everyone. Of course, Bonsai has an interesting theory of why the Ark has never been discovered.

We can't wait to read it to our six-year-old granddaughter this summer.

—Steve Pullen



Thai Yoga Bodywork

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References

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Remembrance Susan Protheroe

Susan Bryant Protheroe, age 78, passed away on June 7 at her beloved home on Lake Buel after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. Susan was born on January 23, 1941, in Guatemala, to Lois and Norman Lothrop. She spent her childhood on horseback in Arkansas.

She graduated from East Bridgewater High School and received a BA in English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She was married in Medfield, Massachusetts, in 1963, to Thomas Protheroe. She taught special education and English as a second language (ESL), worked as a children's librarian, and was an avid storyteller. Later in life, she pursued a masters degree in environmental science and spent a lifetime birding and enjoying the natural world.

She was a passionate lover of books, old musicals, and singing; she was a member of Berkshire Sings and the Monterey community chorus. Susan was a long time member of the Unitarian Universalist Meeting of South Berkshire and volunteered for the local food pantry.



She loved to swim and kayak on Lake Buel. In their retirement years, Susan and her husband Thomas had many fond memories of their winters spent in Florida.

Susan is survived by her husband Thomas Protheroe, son David Protheroe and daughter-in-law Rebecca Protheroe of Glastonbury, CT; daughter Carolyn Stewart and son-in-law Brian Stewart of Great Barrington; grandchildren Evan, Drew, Brett, and Bryn Protheroe, and Annarose

and Eleanor Stewart. She is predeceased by her grandson Cameron Protheroe. She will be lovingly remembered as a joyful and kind free spirit. A celebration of her life will take place on Saturday, August 10, at 3 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting of South Berkshire at 1089 Main Street in Housatonic. Susan was an avid adopter of rescued dogs. In honor of her beloved dog Hobie, Susan requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Berkshire Humane Society in Pittsfield. Condolences may be made through birchesroyfuneralservices.com.

Editor's Note: It is often only by happenstance that the Monterey News learns of a community member who has passed away. There is no formal system for learning about these folks in a timely manner to publish remembrances, but they are important to the community. If you hear that someone has left us, please let this paper know.



Seashells by Glynis Oliver; April 1999

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On With The Arbor Quest

The Monterey Arbor Quest, created by the *Monterey News*, is continuing the search for the oldest living tree in Monterey.

You may have heard the expression, “You can’t see the forest for the trees.” Simply put, this means that someone may get so involved in the details of a problem that they miss the big picture. Well, the Monterey Arbor Quest asks residents and property owners to embrace the details for the sole purpose of finding the oldest tree in the town.

If you look closer at the details of trees, you do begin to see them in a different and interesting light. Most of us appreciate the beauty and shading qualities of trees, whether they be evergreens or deciduous, which turn from green to the many different colors in the fall before they lose their leaves. Some people may view trees from a more scientific point of view, perhaps as so called “carbon sinks” as they pull greenhouse gas carbon dioxide from the air to create food for new growth during photosynthesis, using the energy of the sun and releasing oxygen as a byproduct. Because of their ability to capture carbon dioxide and release oxygen, green plants such as trees are important in the battle to adapt to climate change.

However, if you’re looking for the oldest tree, you may come to realize that you are actually seeking a time capsule. A tree that may be many hundreds of years old, if it could speak, would tell us about the history of events from the time of its first growth to the present. The Monterey Arbor Quest is a way to recognize these many aspects of trees and their importance in our lives. They comfort us with shade, amaze us with beauty, and stand as silent markers of our history.

Join with your family, neighbors, and friends in the Monterey Arbor Quest, which started in April and will end at the Annual Monterey Fire Company steak roast on July 27. Please fill out the coupons that are available in the *Monterey News*, on flyers found in Monterey Town Hall, and in the *Monterey News* distribution box at the library on Main Road. Measure the circumference of the tree and indicate its location, the type of tree, and your contact information. Or you can email this information directly without a coupon.

To date we have twenty-eight entries for the oldest living tree in Monterey. Recent entries include those submitted by Susan Cain, Carl Hartman, Kathryn Roberts, and Mari Enoch.



Let’s see if we can get another twenty-two entries to round out the search to fifty final entries. The oldest living tree entry will be announced in the August edition of the *Monterey News*.

Seek out those trees and keep those coupons coming during the quest for the oldest tree in Monterey.

—Dennis Lynch

Monterey News Board

MontereyTreeQuest@gmail.com

Left: An eastern hemlock along the Konkapot River measured forty-five inches in diameter. We are researching the growth rate for eastern hemlocks to estimate its age, but it is likely two- to three-hundred years old. At about seventy feet up, where the trunk disappeared into the canopy overhead, the trunk was still probably thirty-plus inches in diameter. It might not be the oldest tree in Monterey, but it might be the tallest. (Photo taken in panoramic mode from dark forest to bright sunlight.)

Val Costas

Val Costas passed away on Friday, June 28. She lived on Mt. Hunger Road for the last thirty years. Steve Snyder, who reported her passing, said that, “For all those fortunate to meet her for a moment or a lifetime, she was an inspiration of contagious delight, charm, generosity, graciousness, fun, energy, creativity, adventure, and love.”

A remembrance of her will be in the August issue of the *Monterey News*.

Monterey Arbor Quest

Tree circumference _____ inches

Tree type _____

Simple descriptive location _____

Name _____

Email _____

phone _____

Enter by:Emailing info to
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or dropping information in the outside
Monterey News box at parking lot
of firehouse library.

Possum in the News

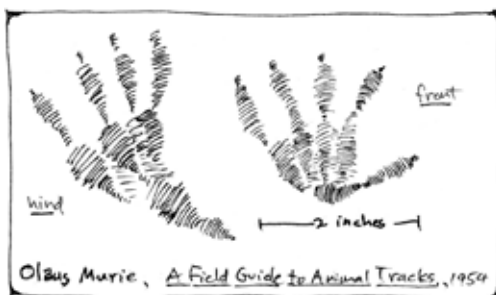
The possum is back in the paper! One day in mid-June the *Berkshire Eagle* featured a color photograph of a “huge, handsome opossum” in the B section. It is handsome, all right, with its many long toes splayed out like a hand on the ground, as it nibbles up birdseed under a feeder. The fur is overall grey, but multi-colored with black and white and a tousled look. The nose is pink and pointy, the naked ears a bit pink and a bit black.

We used to see a possum in the paper every day when I was growing up and his name was Pogo. He walked around on his hind feet, wore a striped shirt, and never appeared in color. As a kid I loved him and his marvelous pals in the Okefenokee Swamp, as drawn by cartoonist Walt Kelly. My parents had a book of *Pogo the Possum*, and pretty soon they were finding other collections of the comic strip and giving them to me. I got the *Pogo Stepmother Goose*, the *Uncle Pogo So-so Stories*, and lots more, making a collection I treasure still.

What has brought the possum back to the paper this summer has nothing to do with the comics. The woman who took the photo wrote a caption that says, “Did you know they can eat a thousand ticks a day?” I looked this up and found it expressed as “up to four thousand ticks a week,” and similar statistics.

This spring, ticks have been an important interest around here and one friend suggested we ought to have free-ranging chickens to gobble them up. Last month’s *Eagle* lets us appreciate possums

as tick gobblers, in case we didn’t already appreciate them for other attributes. One article I read urges us to build opossum nest boxes and take other steps to “transform your property into a Certified Wildlife Garden.”



Further research gives us the picture—possums don’t really go around the certified place, looking for teeny eight-legged creatures to nibble up. Rather the ticks find them, just as they do our dogs and us. With no one to install a tick-toxic collar for them, the possums do their usual careful grooming and dispatch the ticks they find with their many fine sharp teeth. Possums have more teeth per mouth than any other land mammal—fifty! I have watched our dog Russell nibble after a tick that is biting him, and then try the same system of dispatch as the possum, but dogs don’t have the right teeth for it. As to whether the handsome possum in the paper is really “eating” those thousands of ticks per day or week, it doesn’t matter. The attribute here is tick dispatch.

Here is a list of what possums are known to eat: beetles, bugs, grasshoppers, moles, worms, snakes, fish, frogs, crayfish, birds, eggs, mushrooms, ants, apples, cherries, haw-apples, grain, pokeberries, carrion, and suet. We can add birdseed

and ticks. The creature has a cosmopolitan palate. When I was in college we got a grant in my department to study possums and ran what we called “the Possum Project.” We fed the possums the same thing the lab rats got, and they did okay. We stayed up all night and watched them and wrote down what they were doing, which was eating. We were not the scientists who counted the thousands of ticks consumed per day or week. I’m not sure how we could have gotten all those ticks for them.

Taxonomists consider possums to be the most “primitive” of the mammals in these parts. The fossil record shows they were common in this northern bioregion ages ago, but then disappeared. Now they are back, having successfully migrated back north over the last fifty-plus years. The secret to their success? They are adaptable. They do not hibernate, they don’t move very fast, and even with all those teeth they are not aggressive. They can “play possum,” which is the third response to danger in the “fight, flight, or freeze” plan. This may work well in some situations in these modern times, but not in the face of oncoming traffic.

Possums are marsupial, as compared with placental. Their babies are born only days after conception and are so teeny and embryonic that you can see their organs right through their skin and they have no ears nor eyes, and it is said that sixteen baby possums would not fill a teaspoon. We did not check this out during the Possum Project at my college. These little newborns find their way somehow to their mother’s pouch, where they fasten onto the nipples inside for the next six weeks, when they have a sort of second birth and come outside to ride on the mother’s back, hanging onto her fur with their toes.

They have five toes, just like us, and on the hind feet one toe is like a thumb, widely separated from the other four. It is opposable, and can grip. The track it makes is very like a human handprint.

Should we say “opossum” or “possum?” It doesn’t matter. Either one is fine, and derives from an Algonquian word that had no spelling but which European note-takers back in the day wrote as opassom or aposoum. Some current dictionaries will tell you the first “o” in opossum is silent like the “h” in honor. The

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Twelfth Annual Otis Arts

The Twelfth Annual Otis Arts Festival will take place on Saturday, August 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Farmington River Elementary School, Otis, MA. A variety of crafts and artisans will exhibit their wares. There will be a pottery demonstration by fine artist Pied Piper Hamelin. In addition, the CHP Health Van will be on site for the community. They offer health screenings, blood pressure checks, WIC service, and face painting for the kids. There will be a food truck on the grounds. For information, email culturalco.otis@yahoo.com, or call 413 269-4674. Free admission.


original name is said to have meant "white dog" or "white animal." If we follow this trail too far we may find ourselves singing that crazy old song about the "ogo-pogo," which could somehow have influenced a brilliant cartoonist when he was naming his possum character.

Pogo the possum is well known for having said, "We have met the enemy and he is us." But I always liked another character, too, Porky Pine, who said, "Don't take life so serious, son. It ain't *nohow* permanent."

—Bonner McAllester



Garlic
Glynis Oliver
June 1999



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Bidwell House Museum Summer Events

Summer is here and the Bidwell House Museum has some great programs planned for July.

Bidwell Country Fair

First up, on Saturday, July 6, from 1 to 4 p.m., the museum invites you to the Bidwell Country Fair, a free community celebration for young and old alike. Bring your friends and family for an enjoyable afternoon on Art School Road. There are many excited things planned for the afternoon including:

- Live music with Mountain Laurel and the Adams Brothers,
- Butler's Rangers reenactors, who will set up camp, answer visitor questions and give a talk about historic clothing titled "Loyal They Began, Loyal They Remain,"
- Craft demonstrations that include spinning, stone carving, timber framing, wool applique, and blacksmithing,
- Kids crafts, games, face painting, and a fun project with the Flying Cloud Institute,
- Local businesses and groups like Gould Farms, Woven Roots Farms, and the Berkshire Botanical Garden Herb Society,
- Hot dogs, ice cream, popcorn, lemonade and watermelon,
- Pony rides with Marilyn Fracasso,
- A tag sale full of treasures,
- A fern maze, a hayride, and more.

Back by popular demand this year is the Pie Baking Contest. Show off your baking



Walter Engels

Face painting at last year's country fair

skills to our panel of local judges, Michele Miller of Bola Granola, Rachel Portnoy of Chez Nous, and Clayton Hambrick, formerly of the Church Street Cafe. We have three categories this year: sweet pies, savory pies, and bakers sixteen and under. Ribbons will go to the top three pies. If you would like to enter, please contact the Museum at 528-6888 or bidwellhouse@gmail.com. All pies need to be delivered to the contest table no later than 2 p.m. on July 6. The full list of rules can be found on our website. This event is free thanks to grants from the Tyringham Cultural Council, the Monterey Cultural Council, Salisbury bank, and all of our wonderful volunteers. For more information call 528-6888 or go to bidwellhousemuseum.org, under events.

History Talks

Saturday, July 13: Come to our second history talk of the season titled "A Little Rebellion Now and Then: A History of Shay's Rebellion," presented by Dennis Picard, former director of the Storrowtown

Continued on page 25



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Remembrance Cynthia Weber

Cynthia J. Weber, 91, of Main Road, Monterey passed away suddenly in her home on May 3.

Born in 1928 in Denver, CO, she was the daughter of the late Walt and Alberta Milton. Her family moved to Saint Louis in 1940 where she graduated from Central Senior High School. She attended Colorado College in Colorado Springs where she discovered her passion for the entwined histories of art and Western civilization, earning a Bachelor's degree in art history.

Cynthia enrolled in New York University's highly regarded graduate program where she earned a Master's degree. Her thesis on Spanish art was recognized as meeting the requirements for a doctoral work, adding new information to the field. It was also translated into Spanish and published in Spain, a rare achievement for a woman at the time.

While in New York, Cynthia found her studies engrossing and her job at the Spanish Art Institute fulfilling. She made lasting friendships and enjoyed the many cultural opportunities the city offered. "It was a wonderful time to be in New York," she later reflected. She met her future husband, Leonard, on a boat trip to Spain in 1953 and they married the following year.

On a spring day in 1958 the Webers drove over the hill from Tyringham into Monterey, immediately falling in love with its many charms and resolving to make it their home. During their first summer they lived in a rented barn near the center of town where Cynthia offered sketches by old masters for sale. They soon made many friends and bought property in town. Cynthia helped Leonard open the Hayloft Art Gallery, and began volunteering and working and for the town.

From art historian to town worker is not an obvious transition, but it made perfect sense to her. She valued the principles of Western civilization as first articulated by the ancient Greeks. She saw strong connections between them, the enlightenment ideals upon which our country was founded, and their expression in modern life. She was a true believer in the value of a democracy and of engaging fully in it.

Cynthia worked part- or full-time for the Town of Monterey from their second year on, taking time off to start a family. People forming committees often sought her out. As one friend explained, "She was smart and everybody knew she did the work." Her contributions included:

- Monterey Council (1973, founding member with Molles and Lancomes)
- Monterey Democratic Committee
- Assistant to Assessors
- Town Assessor



Cynthia with her son Jason and his son Grant.

- Daffodil Sales/Garden Sales
- Blood Pressure Clinic
- 911 House Numbering
- Cub Scouts
- Monterey Historical Society
- Monterey Historical Commission
- Poll worker
- Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Council
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Wilson McLoughlin House/Community Center
- Multiple state lobbying efforts on behalf of Monterey

From the early 1970s through the 1990s, Cynthia balanced the demands of raising her son, working for the town, and helping guide the success of the Hayloft Art Gallery. She understood both the fine art market and the opportunities presented by the times. It was her idea to publish the iconic "Townscape" series of watercolors created by her husband Leonard as limited-edition lithographs in the 80s.

Cynthia officially retired at sixty five, though she continued to engage in committees and various volunteer roles until her passing. After some time off, she began working as a tour guide at Chesterwood. She studied the works and life of Daniel Chester French with characteristic vigor, visiting related sites domestically and in Europe. She became a sought-after tour guide who could offer



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broad historical and artistic context for visitors. At age ninety, she still preferred leading walking tours of the grounds and structures to overseeing an exhibit or artistic space. She was looking forward to returning to Chesterwood this summer.

Cynthia pursued many interests throughout her life. She skied in college, worked part-time at Butternut for many winters, and was a season pass holder for many more. She enjoyed skiing until she was 80, declaring, "I think it's time [to stop], there's plenty of other things to do." These included travel, gardening, quality time with good TV and her cat, movies with friends, NPR, and politics. She traveled to many places of significance in the Western tradition including Greece, several neighboring islands, and Turkey. She thoroughly enjoyed the cultural offerings of the Berkshires including Tanglewood, Jacob's Pillow, and Shakespeare & Company.

At ninety-one, Cynthia lived a long and fulfilling life. She is survived by her son, Jason W. Weber, her grandson, and her many friends. A memorial service celebrating her life will be held on Saturday, July 13, at 11 a.m., at the Corashire Cemetery in Monterey.

She had a twinkle in her eye, a gentle laugh, a hardy soul—she was unstoppable.

—Jason Weber



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Bidwell House Museum, cont. from p. 23
Village Museum in West Springfield. Shay's Rebellion has long been viewed as an agrarian revolt pitting impoverished farmers in western Massachusetts against the wealthy merchant class of the coastal eastern part of the State. However, there are accounts of the participants and events of this post-revolutionary uprising that both confirm and negate this long held perception.

Saturday, July 20: You can set sail with Mayflower passengers, arrive in Boston Harbor on a Winthrop Fleet ship and start a new life alongside Puritans, Pilgrims, or the forebears of Revolutionary War patriots, all without leaving your seat. Katherine Dimancescu, an author of historical nonfiction narratives which primarily focus on the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, will tell stories for "Navigating Seventeenth Century England and New England." Hearing her talk in advance of the four-hundredth anniversary of the Mayflower's arrival next year and well in advance of the four-hundredth anniversary of the Winthrop Fleet's arrival in 2030, means you will be ready to mark both milestone anniversaries.

The history talks are held at 10 a.m., at the Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15.

Tracing Native Histories

If outdoor pursuits are what you are looking for this month then head over to the museum on Saturday, July 27, for the 1 p.m. guided walk "Tracing Native Histories on the Landscape." Join guide Rob Hoogs to explore an interpretive trail on the grounds

of the museum as you retrace the steps of the Native Americans—specifically the local Stockbridge Band of the Mohican Tribe—who lived and hunted in this area for thousands of years. This walk is \$10 for non-members. Children and members are free. A guided tour of the house can be added before or after the guided walk. The price for the walk and tour together will be \$15 for non-members. Tickets for the walk and both history talks can be purchased in advance on the museum website.

Summer Garden Party

Finally, save the date for our summer garden party to benefit the museum on Saturday, August 3, from 4 to 7 p.m. Celebrate with us on the grounds of the Bidwell House Museum as we honor award-winning author and long-time museum supporter John Demos. There will be delicious *hors d'oeuvres* catered by the Old Inn on the Green, a fun signature drink, beautiful music from Eric Martin and Karen Axelrod, gardens to admire, short tours of the house and much good cheer. Tickets can be purchased on the website or over the phone.

The Bidwell House Museum is located at 100 Art School Road, open Thursdays to Mondays (closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with tours on the hour, Memorial Day through October. The museum grounds—192 acres of woods, fields, historic stonewalls, trails, and picnic sites—are open all year free of charge. The program of events can be found on the museum's website at bidwellhousemuseum.org. For more information please call 528-6888.



Remembrance

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

Royal F. Shepard, Jr., a long-time summer resident, passed away on April 9 at the age of 91. He was a United Church of Christ (Congregational) minister, poet, and historian. Monterey played a pivotal role in his life.

He was born in 1927 to Royal F. Shepard and Adelaide K. Denk. Known as “Roy” or “Shep” to his friends, he grew up mostly in Montclair, NJ, and New York City, but also lived for a time in Hopewell Junction, NY, and in the Catskills. There he attended a one-room school, immersed himself in books and nature study, and roamed through the woods and fields with his cousin Charlie. He later attended Trinity School in Manhattan and graduated from Montclair High School.

As a teen, Roy became deeply interested in religion, joining the Society of Friends (Quakers). He would later attend Haverford College, a school founded by Quakers outside Philadelphia, where he majored in philosophy. His college studies were interrupted for a period when he traveled to Mexico with the American Friends Service Committee, helping to build a well for a rural school serving indigenous people.

In 1943, when he was sixteen, a Trinity School friend told Roy about a girl he had met while on summer vacation at a log cabin on Lake Garfield in the Elephant Rock Road community. The girl was Georgianna (“Jana”) Burch and he was sure my father would like her. Jana lived in Brooklyn but spent every summer in Monterey with her grandfather Herbert Peterson and mother Olive Davis at a cottage not far from the log cabin. That fall, Roy met Jana at a party at a friend’s apartment in Manhattan. After that, they



Roy and Jana Shepard at their Monterey cottage in 1990 with four of their grandchildren. From left to right: Nick and Sophie Netland, Calandra Shepard, and Rosalind Roth.

dated a couple of times but did not see each other often.

While at Haverford, Roy discovered that Jana was attending nearby Swarthmore College and asked her out. Soon they were engaged and Jana insisted that, before the wedding, he travel to Monterey with her to see her grandfather’s cottage, climb Hunger Mountain, and attend a service at the Meeting House. They were married in 1949.

After graduating from Haverford, Roy earned a master’s degree from Columbia University Teachers College and taught high school English for a year. He then decided to dedicate himself to the ministry and enrolled in Union Theological Seminary, becoming an ordained minister in 1954.

His first congregation was in a small town called Neligh in the corn-growing country of northeast Nebraska. In the next few decades, Roy and Jana would move several times and raise four children before returning to his hometown of Montclair. Both

of them had been “only” children and they wanted to have a large family. (Roy had an older brother who died before he was born.)

He served as United Church of Christ minister at churches in Watertown, WI, Sacramento, CA, Duluth, MN, and Wayne, NJ. He was also interim/exchange minister for churches in upstate New York, Michigan, and Bath, England. While in Sacramento, he earned a doctorate of theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley.

A gifted writer and orator, he was widely appreciated for his sermons where he mused over diverse themes from Yankees games to the works of Reinhold Niebuhr. An admirer of Martin Luther King, he frequently advocated from the pulpit for the civil rights movement and joined marches in Sacramento in the 1960s. In 1980, he traveled to Cuba with a group of clergymen as part of an effort to secure freedom of religion. Dr. Shepard’s sermons are available from the website of the Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth (pilgrimduluth.org/history).

In 1992, he and Jana retired to Montclair and he became the township historian. They spent several months each year at the Monterey cottage, where Jana was active in the Monterey Historical Society. In 2004, they moved to the Crane’s Mill senior community in West Caldwell, NJ.

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Roy's published works include *Seeking the Mind of Christ*, a daily devotional, and the novel *The Latest Epistle of Jim*, which won the 1995 Mid-List Press Award. But he reached his stride with his poetry, winning several awards and publishing in journals such as *Poetry*, *Poem*, and *Nimrod*. His last published poetry collection, *Veery Song*, won the Comstock Review Award in 2013. The work contains many poems with references to Monterey and is a loving reminiscence of Jana, from their first meeting as teens to her slow decline as a result of Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Shepard is survived by his children, Alice Roth of Lenox, MA and husband, Donald; Melanie Shepard of Duluth, MN and husband, Alan Netland; Roy Shepard of St. Louis, MO, and Elizabeth Shepard of Montclair, NJ, six grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

—Alice Roth

Great Blue Heron

The wonder was mutual, I
not to be expected.

As for myself thought had narrowed
vision to the path proper
when below me blue of a steel
sky soundless his wings reached
rims of my world and lofted
us both.

Now across the canal he stood
all vertical at the water's edge
a wire only with an eye
for my passing.

—Royal Shepard

At the Summer Place

It is November and the leaves are down;
we will not stay beyond the raking now.
This frail house was built for days of green,
but geese are passing where we cannot see,
high and far, the vacant lake is cold.
Now is the season when the creature creeps
to tight burrows and the mind turns in
upon itself and recollects and waits.

We stop to rake because you look to free
the bluets when they rise in May, to lock
yourself in a place another time. Without
these rank ferns, this dark conspiracy
of hemlocks on the bank, that blue-eyed doll
kept always, these ancestral canes that crowd
the shadows, you would be lost to me.
And so I come again to rake with you.

The year is late. It catches up to us.
It strips away. The bare branch against
the cloud is statement clean enough and just
of what we have become. We rise beyond
our foliage, both lush and sear; we stand
free of all we have achieved and all
we may have failed. Take my hand; we soar
among these oaks. Now we can trace the sky.

—Roy Shepard



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Siberian iris

—Bonsai Cox

Wildlife Report

End of May to Middle of June

Bears, a Moose, Foxes, a Raccoon, and More, Including a June Bug

Right at the end of May, Joe Baker reported the first “June Bug” of the season. These are large, dark, glossy beetles. They used to come around the light bulb out in our summer kitchen, fall onto the wood cookstove where we were cooking, and become roasted. Our cat Chutney loved to eat them once they were done like this.

Also right about this time, Roberta Weiss saw a mother bear cross Hupi Road with four little cubs. Steve Weisz told of a cream-colored fox he’d seen near the intersection of Blue Hill Road and Route 23, and Ed Salsitz wrote in about having seen an orange eft, or newt. He and Arrie also saw an opossum for the first time in their lives. This was near the Umpachene Grange in Hartsville. Ed and Arrie also report that after a winter of no blue jays at all at their place on Beartown Mountain Road, they have now seen one at last.

Early in June, Carol Edelman was working in her flower garden and came upon a garter snake with a large frog in its mouth, head first. She took a photograph. Stacy Wallach wrote early in the month that a fox had hunted a mink up a tree at his place, which is about half a mile from Stevens Pond. The two animals watched each other intently for some time before the fox ran off.

Bill Carlson and Anne Shatas live on the east end of town, just off Route 23, and were visited there by what Anne describes

as a “very big bear.” Also in early June, Nancy Kleban rescued a small snapping turtle from the middle of Beartown Mountain Road, moving it carefully with a large piece of wood. She also saw an orange eft and sent photographs of both the turtle and the eft.

Carol Edelman wrote again in June, sending a good photograph of a glorious huge *Polyphemus* moth, quite furry, that nearly came in the bathroom window one night. About this time, mid-June, Julie Johnston was taking it easy at her house up on Chestnut Hill Road when the local chipmunks and birds set up a big alarm of chirping and chittering. She looked out and saw the cause—a handsome big bobcat was on the scene. Her photograph, taken through a glass door, shows a fine creature. Later in the month, Julie was visited by a black bear right near her house, and got another good wildlife photograph.

In the middle of the month, Steve Snyder was out on Lake Garfield and heard a loon calling. He also saw a pair of ospreys up in the trees hanging over Parker’s Cove, one of the treasured places on that lake. Back home at Gould Farm, Steve says folks have seen a female moose near the lagoon. A female moose is called a “cow moose” and has no antlers.

Steve says people living over his way have seen an eagle flying overhead, back and forth, and he thinks it may be the one from over at Lake Buel. We heard from Kyle Pierce that the bald eagles on Lake Buel had been seen under attack by a large bird back in May.

Steve told about seeing grey foxes in the neighborhood of the transfer station

and the hayfield near there. He feels there is probably a den nearby. Chris Goldfinger wrote in about seeing many large black birds perched up high in the trees in this area and sent some photographs. I feel pretty sure they are turkey vultures, though they may be black vultures, a different species. Black vultures have naked heads, like the turkey vultures, but the heads are dark grey or black, not red like the familiar turkey vultures.

Joe and I were driving home from town and had slowed down to turn onto East Hupi Road, off Route 23, when we saw a lovely bear crossing Hupi. She was followed by two cubs and they looked just like little black puppies, with no tails.

Steve Moore and Wendy Jensen have a “pollarded” willow which means it is cut off up at a certain height to encourage the growth of suckers from the stump. These are good for making baskets. Meanwhile, the trunk has also been good for feeding yellow-bellied sapsuckers lately, and they have been drilling away there, making their characteristic horizontal rows of holes. Recently one of these woodpeckers flew into a window and was somewhat stunned. When it came to, it was perky but not yet leaving, so Wendy got some very good photographs of it.

In the middle of June we got a call from Liz Hoogs and Barbara Tryon, who were having a visit at the Tryon farm. They watched as a male Baltimore oriole visited the hummingbird feeder. The hummingbirds just waited until he was gone, and then returned to feeding there, themselves. The female oriole didn’t come, and Barbara has put out cut oranges, but only the male comes for these.


Margery Spagnoletti wrote in to say she’d had a puzzling view of an owl sitting by the side of the road. It was unhurt and flew off as her car came by, but then returned to the same place, we know not why. Margery saw no obvious food or prey there or anything else of interest to an owl. That we know of.

Thanks, all, for your mysteries and conclusions, also for your photographs and enthusiasms. We are lucky to be part of this wild world.

—Bonner McAllester

528-9385, or bonnermca@gmail.com.





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Above: Carol Edelman's snake with frog lunch. Below: Her Polyphemus moth.



*Seashells
Glynis Oliver
May 1999*



Above: A stunned yellow-bellied sapsucker. Right: The pair of sapsuckers drilled vertical holes in a willow. Photos by Wendy Jensen.



Above: Nancy Kleban rescued this small snapper from the middle of the road. Below: Nancy discovered this orange eft.



Above and below: Maureen Banner took these two photos (through screening) of a parent woodpecker feeding a chick.



Left: Julie Johnston's bobcat. Below: Julie's photo of a black bear.



Below: Pat Nourse sent in this photo of a doe and her fawn in her yard. It's a bit fuzzy—the doe was at some distance, and she took the photo through a screen.





Select Board Corner

Welcome to the Select Board Corner. Our goal is to submit an article each month to the *Monterey News* to keep everyone up to date on important issues, office closings, highway projects, etc.

MontereyMA.gov

Our town website is a great way to access information about the town.

Meetings and Events

Board of Health: Mondays, July 1 and 15, at 4 p.m.

Conservation Commission: Wednesday, July 10, at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Mondays, July 8 and 22, at 10 a.m.

Visiting Nurse: Berkshire VNA will be here on Thursday, July 11, from 2 to 3 p.m. No appointment necessary.

Parks Commission: Wednesday, July 3, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursdays, July 11 and 25, at 7 p.m.

Select Board: Wednesday, July 3, at 9 a.m., and Wednesday, July 17, at 6:30 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Town Hall Closings

Most individual office closings are posted on the town calendar and on the department's voicemail message. We recommend always calling ahead.

Town hall will be closed on Thursday, July 4.

Other News

Some members of the public have requested the select board hold a meeting in the evening. Beginning in July, the

board has decided to meet on the first Wednesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m., and the third Wednesday of each month, at 9 a.m. The board voted to try this for six months. At the end of six months the board will evaluate if attendance at the meetings has increased and if they should continue meeting at that time.

— Kenn Basler, Chair
Don Coburn and Steve Weisz
Monterey Select Board
(kenn@montereyma.gov)
(don@montereyma.gov)
(steve@montereyma.gov)

For general inquiries, please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov.



Suzanne Sawyer

Police Emergency Contacts

- For real emergencies, call **911**.
- The email address for the dispatch service is:

dispatch@sdb.state.ma.us

- Police dispatch service number:
413-236-0925.
- For non-emergencies to contact the Monterey Police Department, call:
528-3211.

Contributors June 2019

As with most months, our contributors list includes both longtime supporters and folks who are new to supporting the *Monterey News*. For the new folks, welcome to sharing news about Monterey!

Roz Halberstadter
Paula Hartstein
Peter Kleban
Joel Goldstein
Mattia Henley-Zwirz
Kathy Frome
Eileen Clawson
Frank D'Amato
Earl & Ruth Champigny
Joe Catino
Skip Amidon
Ginger VanWagenen
John & Lynn Seirup
Ed Salsitz
Kay Purcell
Robert Menaker & Katherine Bouton
Dorothy Seirup

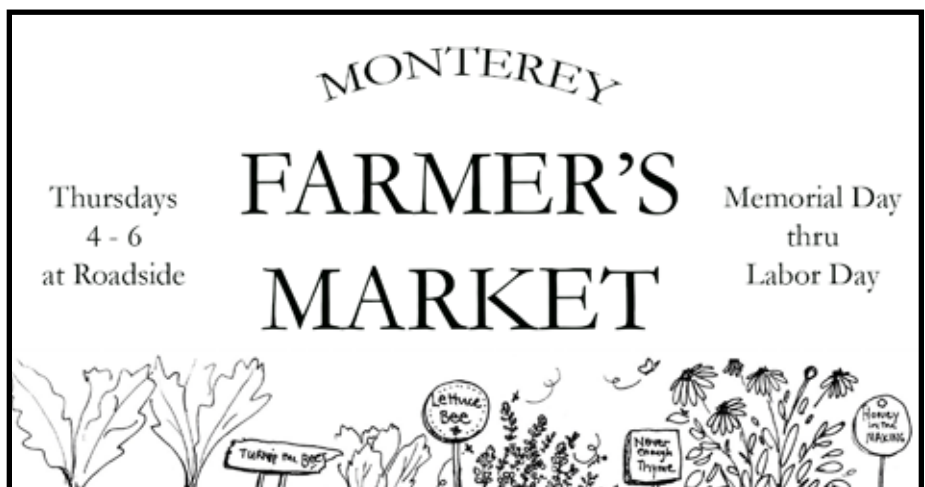
Upcoming Blood Drives

American Red Cross
RedCrossBlood.org

Tuesday, July 2: Berkshire South, 15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington, 2 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, July 10: Eisner Camp, 53 Brookside Road, Great Barrington, 10 to 3 p.m.

Friday, August 16: Lee Council on Aging, 21 Crossway, Lee. 10 to 3 p.m.



July Calendar

Sundays: Slow-pitch softball, Greene Park.
10 a.m. batting practice, 10:30 games.

Tuesdays:

Chair yoga, with Connie Wilson, 9 a.m.,
community center. Sponsored by the
parks commission.

Cards and games, 1 p.m., community center.

Community chorus, 7:30 p.m., com-
munity center. See page 10.

Wednesdays: Matter of Balance review
classes, 10:30 a.m. No class on July 17.
See page 2.

Mahjong, 3:30 p.m., community center.
See page 8.

Thursdays:

July 11 and 26: Ping pong, 3:30 to 5:30
p.m., community center. See page 8.

July 18 (only): Darn Yarners, 1 to 3 p.m.,
community center. See page 8.

Gould Farm farmers market, Roadside
Cafe, 4 to 6 p.m.

Fridays: Cards and games, 1 p.m.,
community center.

Saturdays:

July 6 and 20: Ping pong, 2 to 4 p.m.,
community center. See page 8.

Saturday, July 6: Berkshire Country Fair,
1 to 4 p.m., Bidwell House Museum.
Free. See page 23.

Sunday, July 7: Pittsfield Suns baseball
game and picnic. See page 2.

Tuesday, July 9: Movie night, 7 p.m., town
hall. Showing *The Help*. See page 2.

Saturday, July 13:

Fishing derby, 9 to 10:30 a.m. See page 21.

Friends of Lake Garfield annual meeting,
9 a.m., firehouse. See page 7.

Bidwell History Talk: "A Little Rebellion
Now and Then: A History of Shay's
Rebellion." 10:30 a.m., Tyringham
Union Church. See page 23.

Memorial service for Cynthia Weber, 11
a.m., Corashire Cemetery. See page 24.

Monday, July 15: Lake Garfield Working
Group, 7 p.m., town hall. See page 7.

Wednesday, July 17: AARP Driver
Safety Course, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
lunch provided. See page 2.

Saturday, July 20:

Bidwell History Talk: "Navigating
Seventeenth Century England and New
England." 10:30 a.m., Tyringham Union
Church. See page 25.

Lenox Contra Dance, evening dance 8 to
11. Calling by Donna Hunt, with live
traditional New England dance music.
Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St.
LenoxContraDance.org. Contact 528-4007.

Monterey News deadline.

Tuesday, July 23: Monterey Community
Chorus concert, Laurel Lake Assisted
Living, 6:30 p.m. (No regular chorus
that night.) See page 10.

Saturday, July 27:

Family yoga, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.,
community center. See page 8.

42nd Annual Steak Roast, 5 to 7 p.m.
See page 6.

Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may be sent via email to montereynews9@gmail.com or to PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. For advertising rates or other information, contact the Editor at 413-528-4007 or email.

Saturday, August 3:

Celebration of Life for Susan Protheroe,
3 p.m., Housatonic. See page 20.

Bidwell House summer garden party,
4 to 7 p.m., Bidwell House Museum.
See page 24.

Town Contact Information

Emergency! 911

Administrative Assistant:

528-1443 x111

admin@montereyma.gov

(for town boards and misc. questions)

Assessor: 528-1443 x115

assessors@montereyma.gov

Building Department: 528-1443

x118 buildingsafety@montereyma.gov

Community Center: 528-3600

center@ccmonterey.org

Fire Department (non-emergency):

528-3136

chief@montereyma.gov

Highway Department: 528-1734

dpw1@montereyma.gov

Library: 528-3795

montereylibrary@gmail.com

Police Department (non-emergency):

528-3211, Alt./Emergency 528-3211

mpdchief@montereyma.gov

Post Office: 528-4670

SBRSD (Schools) 413-229-877

Tax Collector: 528-1443 x117

montereytax@yahoo.com

(for questions about your tax bill)

Town Clerk: 528-1443 x113

clerk@montereyma.gov

Town website: Montereyma.gov, under
each department, for office hours.

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Saturday, July 27

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• At the transfer station

• Call 528-3136

• Or visit montereyfire.org

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Wednesday	2-5 p.m.
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Friday.....	4-8 p.m.
Saturday ..	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
.....	7-9 p.m.

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*Contributions from local artists this month:
Bonner McAllester, p. 18, Glynis Oliver, pgs. 20, 23, 29.*

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