

Pick up at the general store, library (in and outside), town hall, community center, Roadside Cafe, Rt. 23 farm stand (in-season)



The Bidwell House Museum is pleased to once again participate in the eighty Housatonic Heritage Walks throughout Berkshire County and northwestern Connecticut. There will be three walks at the Bidwell House, as well as one at Gould Farm, and one in Beartown State Forest. See pages 10 and 11. Photo courtesy of Bidwell House Museum.

Karl Finger will lead a music singing series, free and open to all, of four sessions of American folk music.

American Music Series page 7

When you sing, you pray twice, is an axiom I grew up with, so I've always connected music with joy.

From the Meetinghouse page 9

you would see me watching there ...
my existence flickering
as they moved the curtains.

Storm at Sea page 15

Something is happening here, and we don't know what it is (to paraphrase Bob Dylan, 1965), "do you, Mr. Jones."

Milfoil-Boom and Bust? page 9

feast for kings , food for death
up from earth, gills and spores.
rot-maker! underground toll-taker!

The Mushroom page 25

...with light refracting on their multi-faceted throat and body plumage, creating a shimmering display of furious romance. Ruby Throated Hummingbirds page 13



Knox Gallery page 5



Mini-LakeFest page 14



Library Fund Raising page 2



Steak Roast page 22



Butterflies and Moths Throughout



Monterey Gravestone Art page 14

Monterey Library News

Thanks to everyone who participated in the recording of our library history this past weekend. We recorded four hours of stories about the library. It was amazing to hear all the ways in which our patrons remember the library, and very gratifying to hear how excited you all are about our building project. The library is central to many people in Monterey and we hope to continue that significance for future generations. We recorded more than thirty individuals and will be hard at work making a promotional video to help raise funds.



Bonsai Cox

On the subject of fundraising, we are grateful to those who have stepped up already and donated. We need your help to raise about \$20,000. We hope to reach that in the next month so we can hire the architect to draw the building permit plans and begin the process. If you would like to help keep the project moving forward, please send in (PO Box 172, Monterey, MA 01245) or drop off your donation to the Friends of the Monterey Library.

The *Monterey News* is published monthly by The Monterey News Inc, PO Box 9, Monterey, MA 01245-0009.



Stephen Moore

Be sure to check out the thermometer on the library lawn (thanks to Larkin Sign Company Great Barrington) to watch our progress.

I try to greet everyone who walks in the library by asking, "How may I help you?" The library is now asking all of you if you can help us. This is the time when your support can make a difference. If we can raise this money we will be able to break ground next year. We believe we can get this project done and save money by moving forward instead of waiting and watching the costs rise as they normally do. Thank you to all who have so far supported the project, and if you haven't yet, now would be a great time to help us out!

—Mark Makuc
Library Director

Monterey News Pick-Up Spots

The *Monterey News* has many locations in town for readers to pick up copies. You can stop into the store, the library, the Roadside Cafe, the community center, and the town hall.

Two new spots have been added for picking up the paper anytime, day or night. Last year an informal box held copies at Duryea's Brack'n Brae farm stand on Route 23 east of the village. A more permanent box was added in July, and the papers have been flying out of there. This is good for the summer and into the fall at least.

A pick-up box was added right in the village in mid-August. If you look toward the library, along the right side of the driveway, bolted to the large stainless steel box (for the bookmobile to pick up and drop off items) you will see a box that looks curiously out of place, but with the current issue displayed on the front door.



Stephen Moore

This box was built and mounted on the wall of the store's porch during the period after Kenn Basler had to close the store, so some people might recognize it.

Mark Makuc was asked if there was a spot outside the library for mounting the box, and he quickly offered this location. The driveway is kept plowed, so this box should be easily accessible year-round. If this proves to be a place where people get their paper each month, then some provision for an outside pick-up spot may be made in the course of the library renovation project. If you like the idea of the paper being available 24/7, vote with your hands, open the door, and take a copy!

2017 Running for Recovery



September 24th, 9:30 am
Registration 8:00 - 9:00 am

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gouldfarm.org 413.528.1804

Entry Fee:

Adults \$25 / Children 12 and under \$10
Free t-shirt to all who register by Sept. 5th!

All others will receive a t-shirt as long as they are available.

Award Categories

First Male/Female
First Male/Female in age groups

Meet Our New Superintendent Wednesday, September 13

Parents of school-age children, and any other interested residents—come meet, greet, and express your opinions about school issues.



The select board will be welcoming Ms. Beth Regulbuto, our new superintendent of the Southern Berkshire School District (SBRSD), on Wednesday, September 13, at 6 p.m., in the town hall. In an effort to ensure that Monterey families, and our role in the SBRSD, are considered during school committee and district discussions, we are inviting residents to meet and speak with Ms. Regulbuto. The main topic we expect to discuss is the status of the Monterey School and its future.

As you may know, it is outlined in the regional district agreement that the town of Monterey owns the Monterey School building, and the SBRSD is responsible for

maintenance. In recent years, upkeep has been minimal, at best, and the kindergarten program has been suspended for three years. Before we proceed with any further actions with this building, the select board and the residents need a dialogue with the school administration.

If we expect the SBRSD to assume responsibility for educating our children, we must participate in the decisions which will be made. Please make every effort to join us for this important opportunity to share your thoughts about the future of education in Monterey.

—Carol Edelman
Select Board

Editor's Note: In My View is a monthly feature for this paper. It provides the individual select board members an opportunity, on a rotating basis, 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.



Plant Sale Success

The last Saturday in July is always an exciting day in Monterey as it is ushered in with the book sale at the library and concludes with the steak roast at the pavilion and lawn at the fire house.

For the past seven years, the addition of the plant sale has proven both a colorful and profitable addition to this special day. This year, over \$300 was collected to add to the book sale profits. This could not have happened without the continued generous contribution of dozens and dozens of flats of plants donated by Clark's Nursery in Lee. The success of the plant sale is due also to the tireless effort of Lin Howitt and Libby Wolf.

—Myrna Rosen

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Lake Garfield Working Group

As many of you know, the Lake Garfield Working Group (LGWG) is a citizen action team that has been meeting monthly for nearly a year to collaboratively address the health of Lake Garfield. An important aspect of this work has been developing approaches to reduce the presence of Eurasian water milfoil in the lake, a non-native, invasive species that, in its habitat, crowds out native plants and reduces levels of oxygen for fish.

On August 14, the LGWG met in town hall to discuss how best to respond to the welcome report from Dr. Ken Wagner that there has been a significant reduction of milfoil biomass in the lake. Dr. Wagner writes, "It appears that the prolonged presence of dense Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) stands over a long, contiguous stretch of the lake allowed one or more populations of insect herbivores, most likely the milfoil weevil, to expand to the point where EWM was reduced in abundance. There is minimal evidence of ongoing activity at that level, however. This is all consistent with classic predator-prey ecology, which sets up cycles of boom and bust but never results in the elimination of either predator or prey." His report is available on the Lake Garfield page of Monterey's website. (Go to—MontereyMA.gov, under Departments/Lake Garfield.)

This explains the observations of multiple boaters and lake-side residents that the milfoil does not appear to be widespread this year. Indeed, compared to a total of twelve acres in 2015 and twenty-seven acres in 2016, the report states that, "The total area of dense EWM is estimated now at less than two acres," with up to three more acres of scattered growth." Dr. Wagner's report ends with a set of recommendations, including to, "Apply suction harvesting or hand harvesting in remaining patch areas." (See his report for a map of these four areas.)

Based on research to date, and Dr. Wagner's recommendations, and abiding by the existing parameters for acceptable milfoil management strategies on file with the Conservation Commission, the LGWG voted to make the following recommendation to the select board, which was submitted in a letter during their meeting on August 23: "Please select a contractor (e.g. from among the five that the LGWG has contacted, or from the two who have submitted quotes) and allocate town funds (from the \$50,000 secured through Article 14 of the May 2017 annual town meeting) to conduct diver-assisted suction harvesting of milfoil in Lake Garfield this fall (abiding by Notice of Intent 230-0275 and its Order of Conditions)."

The LGWG also recommended that the select board, representing the town,

Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Giant Swallowtail, Maureen Banner

extend the above Notice of Intent, as well as the Notice of Intent 230-195 on the Lake Garfield drawdown, for three years from their respective end dates in 2018. This will allow for diver-assisted suction harvesting and the drawdown to remain among the milfoil management strategies at the town's disposal.

As part of the LGWG'S research into conservation commission files, we confirmed that a negative determination was made on a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) in September 2012 concerning hand pulling of weeds around docks—three feet beyond the end of docks, up to forty-eight feet from shore, twenty feet to the right and left of docks, and up to twenty feet from the shore along shorelines where there are no docks. This means that the conservation commission did not foresee any harm being done to the lake bottom through such activity. As such, hand pulling close to the shore also remains among our milfoil management strategies.

Stay tuned to future articles for a synthesis of the "Monterey Community Survey on the Health of Lake Garfield" that the LGWG conducted from May-July. Thanks to all who contributed!

This article is presented by the Lake Garfield Working Group, a Town of Monterey committee charged with helping sustain Lake Garfield, a town treasure. Meetings of the LGWG are open to the public and are held at the town hall. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11, at 7 p.m.

—Dominic Stucker,
Lake Garfield Working Group



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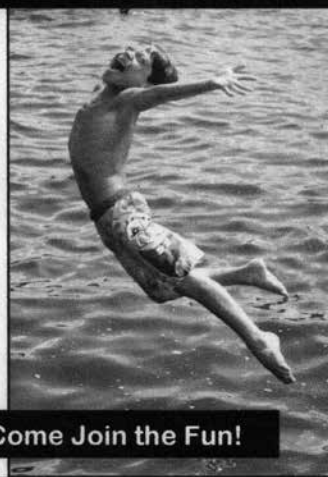
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Come Join the Fun!



Knox Gallery in September

If you haven't yet, we hope you all will be sure to check out the work of local artists Jim Singelis and Linda Skipper currently on view at the Knox Gallery. *Duet in Black and White* beautifully juxtaposes Skipper's elegant ceramics against Singelis' bold and striking drawings yielding a dynamic effect. The opening on August 12 was well attended by enthusiastic viewers, and they left as well-fed nosherers. Thank you to Kenn Basler for handling our opening reception food offerings for these many receptions. This exhibition closes on September 9.

Ellen Piccolo: Sicilia and the Basque Country will open on September 15, with a reception on Saturday, September 16, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The artist will talk about her work just beforehand, at 6 p.m. Please join us for the evening.

Piccolo is a representational oil painter with a focus on nautical themes and architectural details. Her paintings capture commercial fleets in France, Spain and Italy. In some images the author works with details from larger compositions that explore rigging, hulls, and equipment. Others appear to be abstracted riots of shape and color, but upon closer examination are actually enlarged micro-compositions. Her latest work comprises images of gargoyles, commercial fishing fleets, and the coastlines of Sicily, Italy and the Basque Country of Spain.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, with initial training at the Brooklyn Museum Art School in her teens, she has evolved and honed her skills over many years in New York.



Above-Marina in Polarmo. Below- Orange Sailboat. © Ellen Piccolo.



She received a Bachelor of Science from CUNY and a Master of Fine Arts from Brooklyn College. After a career as an art educator with the NYC Department of Education, she is currently an adjunct professor at CUNY-Queens College, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate art education classes.

Piccolo is represented by Prince Street Gallery. Her work has been exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions and is in both corporate and private collections.

Ellen Piccolo: Sicilia and the Basque Country will be on view through October 21, 2017. All exhibits can be viewed during library hours. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, MontereyMassLibrary.org/knox-gallery/, 452 Main Road, Monterey, MA, 413-528-3795. [Facebook.com/KnoxGallery](https://www.facebook.com/KnoxGallery), [Instagram.com/knoxgallery](https://www.instagram.com/knoxgallery), @Knox_Gallery on Twitter.

—MaryPaul Yates

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Yoga on the edge of your seat!

Through this summer, you already heard that we had big days on Tuesdays, with chair yoga, bridge and pitch, the farmers market, and Vikki True's soulful and rousing Eclectichorus. However, we also want to mention a few current highlights while we prepare for September and October.

Not just Tuesdays had plenty of activities. Sue Cain's kundalini yoga class had regulars every Monday and continues into the first three weeks in September. Wednesdays had our balance review class, complete with music brought in by Kate Basler—don't forget the waltz step (and remember—the more you can dance, the less likely you are to fall). Thursdays brought us Women Talk, with Libby, Elaine and others (if you want to know what the women are talking about, come Thursday at 1 p.m. and find out).

Fridays, and the weekend, had a smattering of bridge, private parties, or croquet facilitated by our spacious and lovely grounds. Those who booked a private party were very happy with the accommodations. We have tables and chairs, a kitchenette, and an accessible bathroom, plus beautiful woodwork and a bright open space. While doing yoga, cards, singing, or other activities, visitors can look out on the gorgeous raised garden created by Val. You may also stroll down to our peaceful on-site apiary, tended by Russ Wilson.

What's coming up for September and October? You can go to ccmonterey.org to check out the events calendar. The calendar is also posted each month outside the Monterey General Store in the glass-encased Community Notes box, where election results are also found.

Upcoming Events

Karl Finger will hold a folk song series for four weeks starting Thursday, September 21, at 7 p.m. Karl will lead us in learning about American history through the singing of American folk songs. This will be fun and informational, taking us from the colonial period to today. Please see his article on page 7 for more information.

Zumba, or another similar movement class, will start soon. Stay tuned for more details in the October news.



M. Makuc

Apparently, Vikki True's Eclectichorus wasn't all work and no play. But then, look who was involved.

A Matter of Balance class will start October 6, from 1 to 3 p.m. It will continue for eight weeks. This class teaches balance exercises, and helps you learn about how to make your home more safe if you are feeling unsteady on your feet, due to age or any other reason.

Anyone interested in leading or attending any workshop, event, or private party may email calendar@ccmonterey.org, or call 413-528-3600 and leave a message.

There is interest in a workshop series on "Peace through Non-Violent Communication." The book and DVD are already available. Please use the contact info above if you want to be a part of this group as a facilitator or participant.

Special thanks to Joe Baker, our fearless leader, who has been the executive director since well before we opened, and president of the board of the Friends of the Wilson-McLaughlin House since 2009. Not only has Joe been working on the construction upstairs, but he has handled the fundraising, grant writing, and the picayune details which keep the place going, including meeting with the select board and media, interfacing with the community garden folks, and designing and running the website ccmonterey.org. Financial support is always welcome, either through

the website or mailing to MCC, PO Box 302, Monterey MA 01245.


Kudos also to those who helped out this summer with cleaning, answering calls, and helping in other ways, especially Kay Pierce, Wendy Germain, Libby Wolf, Elaine Lynch, Kyle Pierce, JoAnn Bell, Bonner McAllester, and Norma Champigny.

Edith Wilson's self-portrait gazes out at us as we congregate near the fireplace. Anyone who knew Edith might conjecture whether she would approve of what's happening at the Monterey Community Center thanks to her bequest. I hope so.

—Mary Makuc

Monterey Community Center

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American Music Series

Led by Karl Finger

I will lead a music singing series, free and open to all, of four sessions of American folk music, tracing its origins from abroad, its value as a window into the various periods in American history, its effect on social and political movements, and its role as an expression of people's experiences and the climates of the times.

This will be done through performance of the songs, mostly singing together with the group, and some discussion if the group feels like it.

Among the periods we will be covering will be:

- Songs of the colonial and revolutionary war period and early frontier days,
- Songs that helped build America, the Civil War era, slavery and the struggle for freedom,
- Immigration, the gay 90s, the dust bowl, migrant workers, the depression, and the effects of industrialization and the labor movement,
- Rumor, tall tales, songs of political and social satire, social commentary and protest.

Experiencing American history through the music and the words of the times gives you a much better sense of the atmosphere, the feeling, the historical, political, and social context, than just reading a textbook, for example.

The sessions will begin Thursday, September 21, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Monterey Community Center, and will continue for four weeks through October 12.

This series is sponsored by a Monterey Cultural Council grant. All are welcome, to sing along with full throat or just listen!

— Karl Finger



Above- The former attendant's shed from the old transfer station has become a lovely garden shed at the community garden. An all-weather picnic table was donated as well. Below- JoAnn Bell McTavish is admiring the glorious raised bed of flowers that Val Costas designed and planted outside the community center main door.



Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Large skipper moth, Bonsai Cox

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Council on Aging News

Matter of Balance Classes

Seventeen people have completed Matter of Balance classes in Monterey. This is a free program of eight sessions that was very well received. It is not vigorous but it is effective. The council has agreed to host another class this autumn. The classes will be on Fridays, 1-3 p.m., at the community center, starting October 6. To enroll, call 413-445-9232.

Chesterwood Trip Sept. 6

The Council on Aging is sponsoring a trip to Chesterwood in Stockbridge on Wednesday, September 6.

Daniel Chester French's Chesterwood was his principal studio during the most productive period in his life during the late 1800s and into the twentieth century. He is most widely known for his massive statue of Abraham Lincoln, which stands in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC. French did much of the preliminary work on his Lincoln while at Chesterwood. During much of his life he was celebrated for his wide range of public and private figure sculptures.

Please call 528-9151 to reserve your spot. Bring a lunch. (Hint: While you can't reserve a library pass, you might check the day before to see if the Chesterwood pass is available.)

—Kay Purcell



Connie Wilson (second from the right) leads a chair yoga class at the community center.

Kundalini Yoga Class September Schedule

Kundalini yoga is for everyone. It is deliberate, intentional, and available to you. When the body is strong, healthy, and resilient, life is enjoyable and exciting. When it is not, you have less energy, life is challenging and obstacles seem to be part of each day. Practicing Kundalini yoga on a regular basis helps you to enjoy youthfulness, a healthier life, and vitality. Kundalini tunes up your body's systems leading to health benefits and possible radiance. Sounds impossible? It's not, and it is available to you. Come to class and journey to becoming a more vibrant you. Modifications are offered for special needs.

The class schedule for the September sessions, including a teaching curriculum, will concentrate on one aspect of this yoga as well as the weekly kriyas (postures), meditation, and deep relaxation. Classes are held at the Monterey Community Center.

- September 4: Mantras: Setting intention and personal power.
- September 11: Guided meditation.
- September 18: Pranayama—The energy of the breath.

Classes run from 9 to 10:30 a.m., and cost \$10. Please bring a yoga mat, a light blanket to cover yourself, and water. Mats are available to use. Questions? Please feel free to email me.

—Susan Cain
susancairn9@gmail.com.



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P.O. Box 9 Milfoil-Boom and Bust?

Good Thing We Didn't Put Those Herbicides in the Lake

In the August 2017 issue of the *Monterey News*, I learned that the scientist has looked around Lake Garfield and found about one or two acres of milfoil. Last year someone took a look and sounded quite an alarm over there being twenty-seven acres of it, and an article in the *Berkshire Eagle* back then described this lake as being “choked” with pondweeds.

The scientist in all of us should be excited and curious as to what has happened here. Is this the result, as the Friends of Lake Garfield quiz implies, of someone “winning the war against milfoil?” Or is it some kind of delayed aftermath of a possible grazing insect of which there is no current evidence to be found, as suggested in the Lake Garfield Working Group’s August report? Or maybe both of the above, or neither. Maybe it was all that rain, though we have had rain before.

We pondweed sleuths are scratching our heads and considering the factors, of which there are many. Fortunately, chemical herbicides is not one of them, thanks to strong annual town meeting votes against the use of these. If herbicides had gone into the lake and then the milfoil was found to have decreased by a factor so many percents, I imagine we’d have signed onto herbicides for life. Or death. Anyway, it was a close call.

I hope all the folks who so worried over the invasion of the pondweeds are resting easier now. As for me, I celebrate when some familiar old adversary disappears for no good reason, but there is a nagging drumbeat of worry, too. Something has changed. Something is happening here, and we don’t know what it is (to paraphrase Bob Dylan, 1965), “do you, Mr. Jones.”

—Bonner McAllester

Transfer Station Summer Hours

Sunday	10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.



Mary Kate Jordan

From the Meetinghouse When You Sing, You Pray Twice

I’ve been in songwriting classes for a number of years now. Some folks call this kind of thing life-enrichment. For me, music helps weave the fabric of my life. When you sing, you pray twice, is an axiom I grew up with, so I’ve always connected music with joy.

Music’s a breath of life. It doesn’t require professional status. It’s all about falling in love. At its best, music doesn’t “get played.” It gets playful and intimate with the person who’s the player.

When I began songwriting, my idea was I’d bring lyrics to class and find someone who wanted to write the music. But that’s not how classes with David Hodge (above) stack up. Songwriting class is all



Mary Kate Jordan

about song writing, music and all. So I borrowed a guitar, leaned on a basic chord sequence, C-G-C-F.

Then I started haunting The Music Store in GB, unfortunately no longer in business, and decided to buy myself a guitar. I tried a few, but no sparks flew until I took a sweet little Alvarez down from the wall. I sat down and strummed an A chord.

It was love at first note, and the love affair continues. In fact, it continues to expand. Sterling enjoys how well he fits inside the case. My cousin, Bruce Werner, played for us while he and my cousin Mary Gin visited here in August. Now he’s started searching for an Alvarez of his own. And Tally, well, she loves to play cozy in the case.

This month starts a new semester of David’s classes at BCC South County. I’m looking forward to each one. After all, I’m in love with the music. May you fall in love with whatever you do, too.


—Mary Kate Jordan



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Housatonic Heritage Walks Three September Weekends

The 16th annual Housatonic Heritage Walks program offers eighty-plus, free guided walks to the most interesting historic, cultural, and natural sites in Berkshire County, MA, and Litchfield County, CT. The hike dates are Saturdays and Sundays, September 16 and 17, 23 and 24, and 30 and October 1.

All types of heritage walks are offered, ranging from tours of historic buildings, cemeteries, and town centers, hikes on the Appalachian Trail, walks through industrial heritage sites and ruins, walks and bike rides on old country roads that have a history, behind-the-scenes tours at various performing arts venues, and strolls through formal gardens and estates. The walks take place at established heritage and cultural sites, as well as less familiar areas. Also included is a canoe paddling trip on the Housatonic River, and "family friendly" walks. All ages are invited to join us. Local experts leading the tours will help participants explore the region's rich and varied historical, cultural, industrial and environmental history.

A great many historically and culturally significant venues will open their doors to the public on these weekends. Natural resource conservation organizations provide access to many of the region's significant resource areas, and provide interpretive talks about those resources.

There will be five walks in Monterey. For more information on the walks listed below, the walks on the Bidwell House Museum property, and the myriad of other

walks, go to housatonicheritage.org, under Events, click on 2017 Heritage Walks.

See page 11 for the three walks to be held at the Bidwell House Museum in Monterey, on September 16, 23, and 24.

Devany's Hearthstone Quarry

On Sunday, September 17, from 1 to 3 p.m., join Bernard Drew, from the Great Barrington Historical Society, for a hike to the mid-nineteenth century quarry operated by John Devany, who supplied fire-resistant hearthstone quartzite to area iron blast furnaces. The walk will be on current and abandoned sections of the Appalachian Trail to Devany's Bluff, part of Beartown State Forest. Wear sturdy footwear, as the terrain is rugged and steep in parts, and bring drink/snack. The walk will last about two hours, and cover one and one-half miles. To register, email Bernie Drew at bddrew@verizon.net.

We'll meet at the Appalachian Trail parking area on the north side of Route 23. To reach the parking area, drive 3.3 miles east of the traffic light junction of Routes 23 and 7, in Great Barrington. If parking area is full, park on the north side of Route 23, and be careful of road traffic, as the entrance is hidden behind a tall hedgerow.

Gould Farm Heritage

Also on Sunday, September 17, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., join forester Bob Rausch on a hike around the farm, to learn about its founding as one of the first therapeutic working communities over one hundred years ago. Explore the land, passing by old charcoal pits, stone walls, and foundations. Learn about Gould

Farm's "model forest" status. Enjoy tea in the main house afterwards. Wear sturdy footwear and bring drink/snack. The walk will cover about two miles over two hours.

From Rt 102 in Lee, at the traffic light at Big Y: Take Tyringham Rd. and drive 5.5 miles south. Turn right onto Monterey Rd. and drive 4 miles to Rt. 23 to the Monterey village. At Rt 23, turn right, drive 2 miles, then turn left onto Curtis Rd. Drive .5 mile to Gould Rd. Turn left and continue to the second driveway, to the Harvest Barn.

OR—From the traffic light junction of Rts. 7 & 23 in Gt. Barrington: Take Rt. 23 east and drive 6.2 miles. Turn right onto Curtis Rd. Drive .5 mile to Gould Rd., then turn left and continue to the second driveway, to the Harvest Barn.

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Bidwell House Museum Events in September

Monterey Gravestone Art

Join us on September 9, at 10 a.m., for a talk and walk with historical archaeologist Bob Drinkwater, an expert on New England tombstone carvers. Drinkwater will give a brief history of gravestone art and then lead a tour of Monterey's historic cemeteries. Drinkwater is a charter member and past president of the Association for Gravestone Studies. He holds a masters degree in anthropology from UMass, Amherst. Meet at the Bidwell House Museum. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15.

Housatonic Heritage Walks

The Bidwell House Museum is happy to participate as a host for the series of Housatonic Heritage Walks this September. Each year the Upper Housatonic National Heritage Area invites residents and visitors to explore the natural beauty of the region and learn about local history through the archaeology, architecture and geology of the Berkshires and northern Connecticut.

The Bidwell House Museum will focus on the local landscape with three walks.

September 16: "Nature in Autumn," a talk and walk with Tom Tynning, Professor of Environmental Science at Berkshire Community College, exploring the flora and fauna of the Berkshire upland forest. Please dress for the weather and terrain and bring water.



Courtesy of Bidwell House Museum

Adonijah Bidwell's gravestone.

September 23: "Camera Trapping: An Up Close Look at Wildlife," with Richard Greene. Dr. Greene will explain wildlife tracking using trail cameras. He will demonstrate the equipment needed and how to install it, show examples of wildlife captured on film, and then take the group on a walk to some tracking sites on the Bidwell grounds. Please dress for the weather and terrain and bring water.

September 30: "Tracing Native and Settler Histories on the Landscape," with Rob Hoogs. Explore the Native American presence that pre-dated early settler history—this was not the "howling wilder-

ness" often portrayed. We will consider how Mohicans lived here for centuries before and after English settlers and we will view some of the four miles of trails, stone walls, and artifacts built on the Bidwell grounds by farmers in the 18th and 19th centuries.

All Housatonic Heritage walks are free and begin at 10 a.m. We ask that you dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. If you would like to pre-register for any of the walks, contact the museum at bidwellhouse@gmail.com or 413-528-6888. See page 10 for more information about the Housatonic Heritage walks this month.

—Heather Kowlaski
Executive Director



Courtesy of Bidwell House Museum

This cairn on the Bidwell House property is one of the intriguing relics of much earlier days. "Tracing Native and Settler Histories on the Landscape" will focus especially on land use practices by the Indians.

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Ceremonial Stones

Standing with the Narragansett

In these wooded hills there are piles of rocks, big ones and small ones. We always got the story that Dad Keyes and his dad gathered rocks into piles to leave some spaces less rocky, to make easier grazing for the cows. When Joe and I came along generations later, we used many of these rocks for building our house and our sugarhouse, also a chimney and a fireplace. We sorted through them, put the flat sides on the outsides of our slip-form walls, chose ones we thought were handsome. We appreciate rocks.

Recently I went to learn something about “living prayers of stone” in these woods. These are also called ceremonial stone landscapes and though they may be news to some of us, they have stood and served for a long time. (Look on page 11 for what may be an example.) I heard a Narragansett historic preservation officer address an audience in a church in Northampton. He told us he and others have identified, mapped, and documented seventy-three ceremonial stone features right next door here in Sandisfield in the path of the Connecticut Expansion Pipeline Project. He said the National Historic Preservation Act mandates review and study of such sites before any federal agency can license a project like this pipeline. This act hasn’t been enforced and the bulldozers have come and scattered the stones. A third of those sites in Sandisfield have been dismantled.

The Narragansett man told us the stones were ceremonially arranged to restore harmony and balance in a place where a trauma has occurred. Some of these arrangements look like animals, and we saw slides of a turtle, constructed of many small stones. It sits on a big boulder. We also saw a stone effigy of a snake, which might be mistaken for a short section of stone wall standing in the woods, with a big rock at one end that looks just like a head.

The historic preservation officer said some sites have been examined by archaeologists who have determined them to be land-clearing piles like the familiar ones between here and our sugarhouse. But in his photographs these are clearly

much more carefully made, and there are even some stone chambers. These may be hundreds of years old. They were built by Indigenous people of earlier times in a human effort to make things right again in a place where some kind of energy and spirit of the land was knocked into disharmony, by people.

I went by a place like this right on Route 23 recently, about a mile from home, or at least it felt like such a place to me. A small porcupine had been hit by a car and killed. I picked it up carefully and carried it into the woods, over a stone wall, into the shade where it won’t get any further smashed up on pavement by speeding metal boxes on wheels, careening along under power of burning petroleum and all the disharmony carried



in its mining and refining. I didn’t build a stone effigy to restore harmony in this place, just set the animal down on the damp leaves from last year’s tree canopies, in the shade. In another month or so a new blanket of sugar maple and oak leaves will gently cover this place and the small porcupine will be well along to its new life, guided not by me or any prayers that I know, but by the living creatures of the woods, mostly very small. For all I know, the nearby rocks will be involved somehow.

I don’t expect the harmony in this place of the porcupine to stop a pipeline, but it has made a difference to me. Every time I pass by I feel a connection and want

to come back and sit in the shade and sing a song I know that has the lines, “I laid her in the shade . . . gave her every dime I made . . . what else can a poor boy do?”


Last month, some of us stood on a small town road, in the shade, early one morning and stopped traffic. We were quiet, a hermit thrush was singing. The bulldozers stayed still for a couple of hours that morning until we were taken off to jail and the workers could get to their rigs and continue to unbalance the land in the name of profit for big business. But all across the country and the world, people are waking up and rising up, standing together for balance and harmony. This is love. That’s the power in those ancient stone features, too, and we need it more than ever today.

—Bonner McAllester

Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Tiger Swallowtail, Bonsai Cox



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Ruby-Throated Hummingbird

For many devoted backyard bird watchers, the ruby-throated hummingbird, a cherished, furtive, rapidly-flying aerial figure, flitting from flower to flower, hovering in mid-flight, quickly changing direction back and forth, then pausing at your feeder, is a rich reward for trying to attract such an entertaining visitor. The ruby-throated variety is only one of some twenty or so hummingbird species in this country, but is the only indigenous one east of the Mississippi River. The males arrive here in mid-April, ahead of the females, at about the time when our blossoming berry flowers and insects begin to flourish. When the females arrive a short time later, a mating dance of aerial acrobatics ensues over the bucolic dance floor of blossoms, as both sexes transform themselves into a kaleidoscope of changing hues, with light refracting on their multi-faceted throat and body plumage, creating a shimmering display of furious romance.

With love in the air, the ensuing nest is woven of cobweb or lichen, and is not much bigger than the half-shell of a large walnut, but camouflaged well enough to be hard to find even though they often raise more than one brood per season. A report from New Marlborough Road and elsewhere indicates that the second clutch of youngsters are already out and about, but still drab-colored in plumage. When you venture out on your kitchen deck, you may soon guess a nest is nearby when the parents fly at you in a loud divebombing flurry. This activity was first described to me by my neighbors Rod Palmer and his late wife Jerry when I was new in Monterey. They recounted this experience near their backyard feeders. The hummingbird's wingbeats are so rapid that, as in a good card trick, they can defy the eye, and they require seven times the oxygen when flying than at rest. They are particularly attracted to the color red in flowers or feeders, but even the deep purple cluster of iris (as in my drawing) is celebrated as a floral castle of seductive attraction.

There are many other flowers that attract hummingbirds, for example, bee balm, tulips, and viburnum, where they hover to sip nectar using a tongue barbed for that purpose. Flowers can



only be pollinated by their own kind of pollen and some are too deep-tubed to be reached by a bee, thus leaving the job to the hummingbird with its long barbed tongue that unrolls and plunges deep into the trumpet blossoms of columbine and others. Hummingbirds are fickle, light-hearted nectar sippers, darting from one kind of flower to another, dusted from several pollens, but preferring brilliants such as honeysuckle weed in fields and open meadows. When too many family members compete for the same relished food source, one can clearly hear the commotion as they dive bomb each other and joust with a threatening acrobatic intention. They also can emit a series of short squeaky notes to express their excitement of competitive combat. But all too soon the end of summer will wind down the assortment of variable food supply that diminishes choices with each passing and cooler day.

Hummingbirds have the highest metabolism of all animals, which is necessary to beat their wings up to five hundred times per minute, with heartbeats that can reach twelve hundred beats per minute. As a result, their need for food, which can range from consuming their body weight every day, to much more, is constant. They are often within hours of starvation. At night, as the temperature drops, they allow their body to go into torpor, which can slow their metabolism to as little as 5% of their active periods.

This conserves their energy overnight, and it takes a bit of time to wake up in the warm temperatures the next day.

Their long and arduous migration journey to Florida or Central America is just over the horizon. Very little is known about their migrations, but it seems to be a daily amount of travel, noticed just above tree level, if by land, and slightly above waves, if by water. They seem to be always ahead of the dropping average nightly temperatures, to continue being able to find insects and flowering plants that cannot survive at colder temperatures. The last passing-through migrants appear just before mid-October. While some ruby-throated hummingbirds follow the Texas coast during migration, it has been widely observed that many of them fly directly across the Gulf of Mexico, a single flight of up to five hundred miles, which they will do in non-stop flying for nearly a day (unless a ship or oil derrick presents an opportunity to rest).

As in the 1950 love song about the end of summer romance, "The Days Grow Short When You Reach September And I Don't Have Time For The Waiting Game," the hummingbirds often slip away with the passing of autumnal equinox, flying silently overhead. The next morning, suddenly and sadly, they are gone, leaving a void in our backyard. But we wish them safe journey, and look for their sudden flashing arrival next spring.

—George B. Emmons

Berkshire Pottery Tour September 23 and 24

The fourth annual Berkshire pottery tour will be held on the weekend of September 23 and 24, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Experience a self-guided tour of six local potters' studios, see their new work and how they work, while enjoying the beginning of the beautiful fall foliage season. The tour takes you through the hills and valleys of the southern Berkshires, reaching from Richmond south to New Marlborough. In addition to Grenadier Pottery, the studios of Linda Skipper, Dan Bellow, Lorimer Burns, Paula Shalan, and Ben Evans will be open. Admission to all studios is free and families are welcome.

Preceding the late September tour is a Berkshire pottery tour group's show, until September 24, at Stonehouse Realty's Gallery 35, on Railroad Street in Great Barrington. There will be a festive opening on Sunday, September 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. This is a good opportunity to preview a sampling of all six potters' work. Gallery 35 is open most days, so stop in to see the pottery and pick up a map of the tour.

For more tour information, artist statements, pictures of each potter's work, and a map of the tour route, go to berkshirepotterytour.com. Maps are also available at Grenadier Pottery, on Tyringham Road, in Monterey. Call 413-528-9973. Look for the distinctive orange and white pottery tour road signs at key turns on the weekend of the event.

—Ellen Grenadier



Gerry Clarin



Hy Rosen



Gerry Clarin

Mini-LakeFest Kids Lured to Fishing Derby

August 19 saw a mini-LakeFest featuring a fishing derby at the Berkshire National Fish Hatchery's derby pond followed by free hotdogs at the town beach.

Don't let his size fool you—Roberto Chait hauled in the largest fish and first prize. Way to go, Roberto! His brook trout measured thirty-four centimeters. Right on his tail, a mere half-centimeter behind, Lucia Naventi captured second prize with a thirty-three and one-half centimeter brook trout. Big sister, Tessa Naventi, walked away with a big smile and third prize.

Kudos to Gerry Clarin, Al Flicker, and Dave Ziegler for supervising the fishing derby—and to Roberta Hatcher, a very busy lady, who volunteered and found time to be our hotdog chef supreme. Our thanks to the Friends of Lake Garfield for sponsoring the day, and a special thank you to the Berkshire National Fish Hatchery.

—Hy Rosen

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Storm at Sea

Within an atom, I hear,
particles may form, smaller
than quarks, so small that they
blink in and out
of existence—
like when I stood late
at my upstairs window
light still on, straining
to hear your guitar
over the night—
the ocean uneasy
around our island,
pulling in all ways
at once, leftover
rain—
and if you turned,
whether or not
you would see me
watching there
depended on the winds,
my existence
flickering
as they moved the curtains.

—Kateri Kosek

Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Pale Beauty moth, Stephen Moore

Kateri Kosek is a poet, essayist, and occasional bird columnist living in Sheffield. Her writing has appeared in *Orion*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *The Berkshire Edge*, and other journals. She teaches English at Northwestern CT Community College and mentors in the MFA program at Western CT State University, where she received an MFA in nonfiction. Kateri has also been the copy editor for the *Monterey News* since early 2017.

Night Crossing

First of all, don't leave much.
A quarter mile of water
is enough
to make the island
an island,
and they are dark
twisting roads
that lead back to water.

In Maine, a coastline
is a tattered thing,
not as obvious
as you might think.

To bring yourself home,
descend the plank
to the dock. The night
cool and still,
fog so wet
you can taste it.
Step into the stern,
let the engine down
with a heavy *plunk*.

Breathe deep
of fog, get drunk
on salt. Don't
take the last rowboat.

Someone must hold
the light, the bay
is full of buoys—
you don't want a lobster line
caught in the engine.
Go slowly. Shine the light
ahead of you, sweep it

back and forth. The beams
will vanish into fog
until they hit bright green,
faded blue, striped red
or white or yellow.
Danger is colorful.
Keep the light on each one
until you are safely past it.

Near the dock, cut
the engine, come in
quiet. Let momentum
take you the rest of the way.
A night heron erupts
from the dock with
a harsh croak, silvery wings
catching residual light
and the quiet
buckles
then softens:
take note of
the dark space,
what it takes to fill it.

When the boat
bumps gently against
the dock, jump out
and tie it off. Your hands
know how to wrap the rope
in a figure eight, twist it into
a loop, cinch it tight
around the metal.
That, you'll never forget.

—Kateri Kosek

Remembrance

Marjorie K. Heller Miner, 101

Marjorie Kux Heller Miner died on August 9. She celebrated her 101st birthday on July 23. She was the mother of Ross, Peter, and Glenn Heller, and the spouse of two remarkable men—the first, an engineer and salesman, and, her second husband, a surgeon. In her 80s and on into her 90s, Marjorie became an acclaimed sculptor—a self-proclaimed “Grandma Moses of Clay.” The great delight of her long career was her exhibition, in her one-hundredth year, at the Monterey Library’s Knox Gallery, in February 2016.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Marjorie was the youngest child of Martin and Rellie Korach Kux. She met her first husband, Harold Philip Heller, then a young engineer with Radio Corporation of America, on a double date at her temple’s “shabbat social.” They married on Memorial Day 1941. The couple lived on Long Island in Bayside, New York. Beginning in 1956, after spending time during previous summers at Eastover, a Lenox resort, taking in Tanglewood, they spent three summers in Monterey staying with friends Ellie and Bill Pearl, who had bought a decaying 1920s-era former resort on Route 23 a mile east of town center. The Pearls and Hellers knew each other as founding members of Temple Beth Sholom in Flushing, New York. The families’ children were close in



age, and Ellie and Bill welcomed Marjorie and Harold’s help bringing the huge house back to life. The old house was famous for the bats that lived in its eaves and which flew out every night at dusk (the occasional one ending up in the house and causing the ladies to shriek and the men to wield brooms to get it out).

Marge and Harold liked summers in Monterey so much that by 1959, they decided to buy their own place. They found a fixer-upper just a quarter mile down the road with a steep driveway that angled up the mountain, which local maps called

Chestnut Hill. The old house had suffered damage during the Great Hurricane of 1938, but came with beach frontage on Lake Garfield and a small boathouse. Built around the turn of the century, Marge and Harold named the house with its long front porch, cedar-paneled two-story great room, massive stone fireplaces, Glenwood stove, and gravity-fed water supply (prone to going dry) after Dr. Seuss’s Big-Hearted Moose, “Thidwyck,” who hosted way too many guests in his antlers.

Thidwyck was Marge and Harold’s special pleasure—a place where they exhibited their decorative flair. They moved the cast-iron bathtub out of the master bathroom—it used too much water anyway—into the living room beside the fireplace, covering it with leopard vinyl and thick cushions. Those cushions and tub walls, warmed by the fireplace, rendered quickly asleep anyone caught reading and reclining within. Marjorie and Harold spent afternoons at the lake, picnicking, watching the boys water-ski on Lake Garfield, or shlepping to and from the house on the hill (the boat house having no facilities). There were thrice weekly visits with the boys to the Tryon milk barn on Tyringham Road where the top two (not homogenized) inches in a quart



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Ellen Piccolo:

Sicilia and the Basque Country

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preceded by Artist's Talk at 6pm

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Duet in Black & White

Linda Skipper Jim Singelis

through September 9

Knox Gallery supported by Friends of the Monterey Library
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bottle were pure cream and you bought on the honor system. Next stop was the Monterey General Store to pick up the mail (a separate window within before the age of the new post office) or buy penny candy and balsa airplanes. Back then the store was owned by the Miner brothers (no relation), who sported a huge wheel of 'store' cheese (sharp cheddar) inside a glass case on the counter. The boys got regular tastes.

Marjorie and Harold especially loved estate auctions that, for some reason back then, occurred with great frequency in Berkshire County and upstate New York. It was the perfect way to furnish an antique house.

Marjorie and Harold lived for BSO concerts at Tanglewood and the dance programs at Jacob's Pillow. Monterey served as the perfect launch point, especially with the boys going off to sleep-away camp at Camp Mah-Kee-Nac on the Stockbridge Bowl. Conveniently, Tanglewood's side entrance was just a quarter mile from camp. While Harold attended BSO's Saturday morning rehearsals, Marjorie puttered around the house. The pair loved eating at the Roadside Store (then privately owned), the Inn on the Green in New Marlborough, and Hillside in Hartsville. One of Harold's great pleasures were Saturday morning trips to the Monterey dump—then a real dump—and far less organized than today's "transfer station." Harold practiced early full-cycle recycling, usually bringing back as much, if not more, than he discarded.

Two years after Harold's untimely passing in 1980 at age 64, Marjorie married a recently widowed Long Island surgeon, Dr. Walter Miner, whom she met at an engagement party she threw for her niece Penny, who had recently become engaged to Walter's son, David. With Walter, Marge continued to summer at Thidwyck, passing on her love for the place to their respective children and grandchildren.

As she got older and less mobile, Marjorie spent less time at Thidwyck. In total, she enjoyed more than fifty-two summers there and was devoted to having the old house—and Monterey—become treasured places in the hearts of her entire family.

Living with Walter in Wantagh, Marjorie discovered a passion for sculpting. She took courses with noted Hungarian

sculptor, George Gach, on Long Island. With Walter's retirement in the 1990s, the couple moved to the Whitney Center in Hamden, Connecticut. Sculpting became Marge's avocation in the art room there. She was renowned both for the variety as well as the prodigious number of her clay works output, almost eight hundred during her lifetime. Their Whitney Center apartment was filled with small animals and whimsical figures which, after firing, she painted in the brightest colors she could find. Marjorie was skilled at capturing in her figures a sense of the emotions and moods she imagined they experienced. Her works were not for sale, rather, on display throughout the Whitney Center's public spaces, free for the taking. She had tech savviness that was the envy of her Whitney Center peers, using the internet to find interesting images to sculpt. In 2015, she won sculpture honors at the Connecticut Senior Juried Art Show and was featured in articles in the *Hartford Courant* and *New Haven Magazine*. Her last pieces were fired the final week of her life. Seeing them, she smiled and, unable to speak, scrawled a request that her lifetime list of sculptures be updated.

When Walter was stricken with Alzheimer's, Marjorie was his caregiver. After he died in 2008, she wrote a book to guide others through the challenges of being the partner of someone with Alzheimer's. Self-publishing *For the Alzheimer Care Taker—Helpful Hints*

Marjorie distributed copies through the Alzheimer's Association. Marjorie's energy for self-expression also extended to poetry and essays, many of which were published in the Whitney Center's newsletter.

Marjorie is survived by her sons, Ross E. Heller, of Chevy Chase, MD; Peter S. Heller, of New York City; Glenn M. Heller, Falls Church, VA; step-son David Miner, MD, of Middletown, CT; step-daughter Mary M. Kaskan, of Watertown, NY; six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Peter and Abbie summer in Monterey at his house on Riverwood Way by the Konkapot; Glenn, Sheila, and their son Harold vacation at Thidwyck.

Donations in Marjorie's memory may be made to The Alzheimer's Association, an organization the work of which she strongly supported. A memorial service and celebration of her life was held on August 30 at the Whitney Center.

Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Tiger Swallowtail, Ellen Coburn



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Bidwell House Museum

Successful Gala Party

The Bidwell House Museum is one of our local treasures. The museum tells the history of our community, educates students of all ages, invites visitors to enjoy the blessings of nature with beautiful gardens and hiking trails, offers interesting events to residents and guests, and provides a glimpse of a different time.

A great event that keeps the museum going is the annual summer fundraising party, which was held on August 5 at the enchanting Monterey estate known as Fiddletop, on Wellman Road. The day started out stormy but shortly before the party began the gray clouds melted away, the sun came out and guests were treated to magnificent views across the hills of Monterey. This year we celebrated the Makuc Family—parents Mark and Mary, Cynthia and Jacob, and especially their children, Gabriella, Joseph, Justin, Marya, and Jacob, who have devoted their time and talents to the Museum for years.

The Bidwell House summer fundraiser would not be a success without the help of many people in the community and so we need to say heartfelt thank yous to:

Gala Committee

Maggie Barkin and Linnea Grealish, co-chairs, Maureen Banner, JoAnn Bell, Delight Dodyk, Walter and Mary Jo Engels, Chapin Fish, Christine Goldfinger, Rob and Cindy Hoogs, Nancy Jones, Michael Keith, Jenn Kole, Elaine Lynch, Kathryn and Marc Roberts, Linda Saul-Sena and Mark Sena, Jane and Marty Schwartz, Ronald Skrepich, Carol Welsch, Rick Wilcox, and Mary Paul Yates.

Party Sponsors

We would especially like to thank Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Brockman Real Estate, Foresight Land Services, Tryon Construction.

Vendors and Services

Vendors and services were provided by Domaney's Liquors, KwikPrint, Nathan Lawton Design, Mahaiwe Tents, The Marketplace Catering, Monterey General Store, Mount Everett Sanitation, The O-Tones, and Ward's Nursery and Garden Center.



The beautiful view from Fiddletop looking north to Monterey and Tyringham beyond.

Auction Item Donors

Generous donors of auction items came from Berkshire Bike and Board, Berkshire Gold and Silversmith, Café Adam, Delight Dodyk, Eagle Shoe and Boot, Walter and Mary Jo Engels, Farm and Home, Beth Feeman, Chapin Fish, Charlie and Joy Flint, Jean and Wendy Germain, Linnea Grealish, Richard Greene, Bev Hyman and Larry Birnbach, Iredale Mineral Cosmetics, Nancy Jones and Gil Schrank, Michael Keith and Ronald Skrepich, Rick Mielke, Old Inn on the Green, Kathryn and Marc Roberts, Katherine Shoemaker, Roger and Kathy Tryon, Judy Veale, Alan Woliner, and Mary Paul Yates.

Finally, many thanks to all of our party guests for their joyful enthusiasm at our gala; the museum could not thrive without your commitment to our success!

Museum Archaeologists

The week following the August 5 gala party, the museum welcomed an experienced team of archaeologists from UMass Amherst, led by Dr. Kerry Lynch, who spent five days digging at various locations near the house. They were assisted for two days by a dedicated group of local volunteers who had an interest in archeology and wanted to learn all they

could about this type of field work. The team sifted soil from numerous test pits and among their many finds were shards of pottery, pieces of glass, old nails, and animal teeth. Dr. Lynch and the rest of the UMass crew will spend the next few months cataloguing and analyzing all of the items found to create an extensive report that the museum should receive next year. This archaeological dig will be instrumental in helping us understand the timeline for the historical settlement of the property.

The Bidwell House is the Berkshire's colonial history museum, the original parsonage and meeting house of Township No. 1, now Tyringham and Monterey. With over 190 acres of fields, forest, heritage gardens, and a diverse collection of colonial-era objects, the museum portrays life from the perspective of the Bidwell family, who lived here from the 1750s to the 1850s. The Bidwell House Museum is located at 100 Art School Road, Monterey, MA. For reservations or more information on the programs, please contact bidwellhouse@gmail.com, or go to the events page at bidwellhousemuseum.org.

—Heather Kowalski
Executive Director



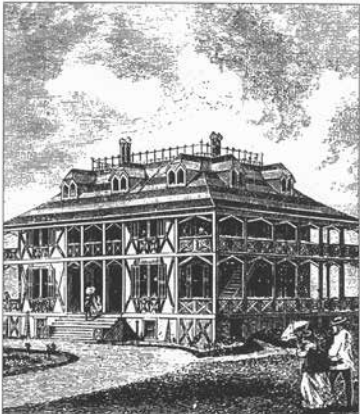
Walter Engels

Left to right- Bidwell Board Member Richard Greene, Lindsay Crampton, Bidwell Board President Rob Hoogs, Bidwell Board Member and Party Co-Chair Linnea Grealish.

August 2017 Contributors



Monterey is so fortunate for folks' generosity. People gladly line up for the steak roast. They buy books and plants for the library, and contribute towards the library renovation project. They support the Bidwell House and the fish hatchery foundation and scholarship fund. The community center is a testament to this generosity. And, thankfully, they also support the *Monterey News*. Thank you to everyone who helps how they can, and where they can.

Kyp & Joe Wasiuk
Bonnie & Richard Campeglio
Elizabeth Shepard
June Thomas
Colleen Johnson
Doug & Julie Neu
Wendy Benjamin & Mayra Rodriguez



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Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Fritillary on a cornflower, Charles Ferris

CHARLES J. FERRIS Attorney at Law



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Wildlife Report

Mid-July to Mid-August

Late in July, Don Pierce watched some interspecies playfulness involving a family group of turkeys and a young buck deer. The animals were just hanging out together near the intersection of Route 57 and Route 23.

Also late in July—thanks to Ellen Coburn for that great photograph of the Tiger Swallowtail getting ready to take a nap in a daylily (page 17). We had a good photograph last month from Colleen Johnson of a Great Spangled Fritillary on a purple Echinacea. Somehow the butterflies and photo credits fluttered out of control for August, but here is a great one from Maureen Banner. It is a swallowtail, clearly, but not one Maureen or I had ever seen before. This is a Giant Swallowtail, considered by my book to be a “vagrant in the north” and much more common down south where it loves oranges and other citrus. (Also pictured on page 4.)

Mike Skagerlind wrote in from Mount Hunger Road to tell of an adult bear, also three cubs “... up a large white pine by the pond while their mom snacked on berries.” Mike’s partner, Kathryn, got a good photo of the mom.

Liz Goodman also wrote about a mother and three cubs:

“The Goodman-four saw a bear family of four—a mother and three babies—crossing Tyringham Road after the steak

Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Giant Swallowtail, Maureen Banner



Sphinx moth, Maureen Banner

roast last week.

“They were so gorgeous and funny—the mama leading the way, one little one close on her heels, the second stopping in the street to sit for a moment, and the third coming out of the woods to cross just as the rest of the family was safe in

the woods on the other side.”

MaryPaul Yates of Griswold Road reported, “...two young bear cubs frolicking in my back lawn, which is a popular open spot just out of the woods.” She says they were about two feet high at the shoulder, and when her much smaller dog began to bark, they ran off and then came back and went up a big ash on the edge of the lawn. “Those bears were having a grand time climbing ... thirty, then forty, then fifty feet up. Right to the top.”

In mid-August, Steve Moore and Wendy Jensen saw four pileated woodpeckers, all on the same “matronly tree” that had been dead for years. For about two minutes, all four big birds moved up and down and flew from branch to branch on that same tree, before all flying off one-by-one back across a field to the woods. Steve feels they were all juveniles, without bright red crests or true black plumage.

Also in the middle of last month, Steve and Wendy began to hear coyotes for the first time in a year or more. Now the coyotes sing any time of the day or night there on the north end of New Marlboro Road, and the family dog has been joining in. It sounds like a big family group, but so far there has been no actual sighting of a coyote, except for one a mile or so away



Colta Ives

along Route 23, west of the town center.

Colta Ives sent a photograph (above) of Indian Pipes blooming in late August, and Maureen Banner saw and photographed a Great Blue Heron by her pond, a Garter Snake sunbathing, and a handsome grey moth, which is the adult of a caterpillar called a hornworm. The moth’s name

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The Mount Hunger Road bear—her three cubs were high up in the tree.



The Great Blue Heron (above) and garter snake (below), by Maureen Banner.



is either Hermit Sphinx or Waved Sphinx.

Here at the east end of Lake Garfield, in the wild swampy zone, Kit Patten and Connie Wilson were boating in late August and saw a Bald Eagle perched not far above the surface of the lake, on an old stump which was once a tree growing in the cow pasture of my (Bonner McAllester's) grand folks, the Keyes family. This was before the dam was built and the lake level raised for recreational use and increased property values. The eagle sat undisturbed as Kit and Connie approached, focusing all its attention on a mallard and two ducklings. Finally the boaters got too close and the eagle flew a short distance, where once again it tolerated a very close approach, to about ten feet. The ducks had flown off.

The Stucker report

Maddox and Tiegen are excited to report that they saw a black bear amble across their lawn on Blue Hill Road early one morning. It stopped, stared into their home, and then headed into the woods. They also observed a striking scarlet tanager pair and fascinating moths that looked just like hummingbirds. Around the corner on Brett Road, there was significant wetland activity. The boys saw a mother duck pretending to be lame to distract attention from her goslings. They also spotted a couple of turtles and two blue heron, one gulping down a sizable fish and one soaring overhead. While they saw many orange newts and moved them to safety off of Brett Road, they were most fascinated with one that had a forked tail. Additional mammal sightings included an eastern cottontail rabbit, two porcupines, and a woodchuck.

Thanks, as always, to everyone who spots the wildlife and cares to tell us all about it.

—Bonner McAllester
528-9385 bonnermca@gmail.com

Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Large Skipper, Bonsai Cox

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Monterey Fire Company's Annual Steak Roast 2017, photos by Devorah Sawyer



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Hume New England Christian Camp

August brings the shortening of days, thoughts of a fresh new school year, bounty at the farmers markets, and the end of summer camps. At Hume New England Christian Camp, August also meant saying goodbye to our thirty summer-staff employees and wishing them well as they moved on to their next adventure. Some were returning to school, some to a new job, and some added to their resumé as they seek out a new opportunity.

The Hume summer staff arrived in Monterey in June from different parts of the country. Some call Massachusetts home. Others are fellow New Englanders coming down from Maine and New Hampshire, and up from Connecticut. Some came from Virginia and South Carolina and nearby New Jersey; others from as far away as Washington, California, Arizona, and Wyoming. To many, it was a different world here in the Berkshires compared to where they came from. The striking things to some were the lush green-ness and vast woodlands. They commented on the colorful birds, abundant butterflies, and thriving flowers. They abhorred the pesky mosquitos, but loved the warm summer rain.

Courtesy HumeNewEngland



Some were returning to Hume, having been on staff during previous camping seasons. A few were fulfilling a goal—they had been Hume campers and dreamed of someday being in the role of a staffer they once looked up to. They came with enthusiasm and energy. They came to work hard and play hard.

They mowed, they painted, and they cooked. They made repairs and they made pizookies. They cleaned toilets and they cleaned canoes. They led recreation, bike rides, cabin discussion, and prayers. They learned new skills, and they learned a lot about themselves. They taught the Gospel of Jesus, they counseled, and they inspired. Most had no idea how much they would be looked up to and admired by hundreds of young campers. They also underestimated how their hearts would be touched by the campers, youth leaders, and fellow staffers they served.

They came not knowing anyone and chose their bunk bed. The stranger above them was soon a trusted co-worker and friend. On their days off they ventured together to the beach at Lake Garfield or made a run to SoCo. They tubed on Otis Reservoir and they floated down the

Farmington River. They ate together at the Monterey General Store and the fire department's steak roast. They prayed together, worshipped together, discussed life together, and in August, they said so-long-for-now.

Here at Hume New England we thank God for a successful summer camp and for the many lives that are forever impacted, including our 2017 summer staff. We look forward to the day when our paths will cross again.

— John Szablowski

Hume New England Christian Camp

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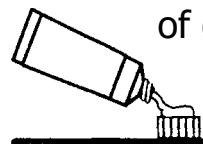
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Second Class Mailing

Apparently there has been a change in practice in the Great Barrington post office that may be driven by postal service rules. In the past, the two hundred-plus Monterey folks who received the *Monterey News* via second class mail would find their copies in their post office boxes within a day, or possibly two days, after the paper was printed. This was possible because the copies addressed to the 01245 zip code were set aside in a separate bag and brought directly to the

Monterey post office for delivery. The practice now is that all of the roughly six hundred second class mailings are sent to the sorting facility in Springfield to be delivered when it suits the postal service. They are under no requirement to deliver second class mail within a certain timeframe.

We're sorry that this may cause a significant delay in receiving the *Monterey News*, especially for our local readers.

—Stephen Moore, Editor



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food for death
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gills and spores.
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underground
toll-taker!
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stopped short by
hot, dry sand—
the desert.

—Nancy D. Adams



Gallery of Butterflies and Moths



Swallowtail, Bonsai Cox



Select Board Corner MontereyMA.gov

Meetings and Events

Board of Health: Monday, September 18, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Chair Yoga: at the community center: Tuesdays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Conservation Commission: Tuesday, September 12, 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Mondays, September 11 and 25, at 10 a.m.

Visiting Nurse: Berkshire VNA will be here on Thursday, September 14, from 2 to 3 p.m. No appointment necessary.

Foot Nurse: Thursday, September 14, 9 to 11:30 a.m., by appointment (please call 528-1443 x247). All ages are welcome.

Parks Commission: Wednesday, September 6, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursdays, September 14 and 28, at 7 p.m. Please call Maggie Leonard at 528-9685 to be placed on the agenda.

Select Board: Wednesdays, September 6, 13, and 20, at 9 a.m., and September 27, at 4 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.

The administrative assistant's office will be closed to attend offsite training on September 15 and 29.

Town offices will be closed from 12 to 2 p.m., on Thursday, September 14.

Other News

The select board held a meeting with second-home owners on Saturday, August 12. Attendance was low, which we see as a sign that there were few complaints, so we must be doing things right. Despite the small crowd, we had a worthwhile discussion. The board highlighted a number of achievements from this past year, including:

- The community center is open, and residents are enjoying this comfortable gathering spot.
- The new transfer station is open, with improved recycling and lower costs to the town.
- The library project is well underway, and we are getting closer to receiving our grant and beginning work.
- The Lake Garfield Working Group has become a successful team effort to address concerns and solve problems cooperatively.
- Our residents approved a lean but effective budget for 2017-2018 at the annual town meeting.
- Significant road, bridge, culvert repairs, and regular maintenance are ongoing.
- We have a new, highly-professional financial team in place, upgrading, correcting, and streamlining fiscal operations, which will also save the town money in the long run.

- Monterey has been awarded \$800,000 in community development block grants to help qualified low- and moderate-income residents upgrade existing housing.
- Our grant writers have several exciting grants in the pipeline to bring state and federal resources for improvements to town infrastructure needs.
- On the horizon, we are still working to bring twenty-first century broadband and cell service to Monterey; to increase our participation in regional planning initiatives; and to make sure Monterey families have appropriate choices regarding schools for their children.

We also listened, answered questions, and made copious notes. We are always interested in hearing comments and concerns from all residents, year round or part time.

— Steve Weisz, Chair
Carol Edelman and Kenn Basler
Monterey Select Board
(steve@montereyma.gov)
(carol@montereyma.gov)
(kenn@montereyma.gov)

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Calendar

Every Sunday:

Adult Softball. Batting practice 10 a.m., games at 10:30. Greene Park.

Every Tuesday:

Chair Yoga with Connie Wilson, 9 to 10 a.m., community center. Free, sponsored by Monterey Parks Commission.

Cards and Games, 12:30 p.m., community center. Sponsored by the council on aging.

Farmers Market, 4 to 6 p.m., community center. See page 5.

Every Thursday: Women Talk, 1 p.m., community center.

Wednesday, September 6: Council on Aging trip to Chesterwood in Stockbridge. See page 8.

Saturday, September 9: Monterey Grave-stone Art, Bidwell House Museum, 10 a.m. See page 11.

Monday, September 11: Lake Garfield Working Group, 7 p.m., town hall. See page 4.

Wednesday, September 13: Meet our new SBRSD Superintendent, Beth Regulbuto, 6 p.m., town hall. See page 3.

Friday, September 15: *Ellen Piccolo: Sicilia and the Basque Country* opens in Knox Gallery. See page 4.

Sat. and Sun., September 16 and 17: Housatonic Heritage Walks. See page 10. Includes "Nature in Autumn," 10 a.m., Bidwell House Museum. See page 11.

Saturday, September 16:

Ellen Piccolo: Sicilia and the Basque Country, at Knox Gallery. Artist's talk at 6 p.m., with reception, 6:30 to 8 p.m. See page 4.

Lenox Contra Dance: Music by Lake Effect, calling by Margaret Matthew. All dances taught. 7:45 to 11 p.m., beginners session at 7:45. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org, or call 528-4007 for information.

Tuesday, September 19: *Monterey News* Deadline.

Thursdays, September 21 and 28: Karl Finger's American music series, 7 to 8:30 p.m., community center. Thursdays through October 12. See page 7.

Sat. and Sun., September 23 and 24: Housatonic Heritage Walks. See page 10. Includes "Camera Trapping: An Up Close Look at Wildlife," 10 a.m., Bidwell House Museum. See page 11.

Berkshire Pottery Tour, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. See page 14.

Monday, September 25: Adult book discussion. *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*, Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, 7:30 p.m.

Sat. and Sun., Sept. 30 and Oct. 1: Housatonic Heritage Walks. See page 10. Includes "Tracing Native and Settler Histories on the Landscape," 10 a.m., Bidwell House Museum. See page 11.

Saturday, September 30: Welcome Dance—A free contra dance, especially welcoming to beginning dancers. Music by Spare Parts, with teaching and calling by Jon Greene. If you've thought of trying contra dancing, come, or if you have a friend who might like to try, bring them. 7:30 to 11 p.m. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org, or call 528-4007 for information. Sponsored by the Monterey Cultural Council and several other area towns' councils.

Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4007 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

Friday, October 6: Beginning eight sessions of A Matter of Balance classes, 1 to 3 p.m., community center. See page 8.

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):

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

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*Contributions from local artists this month:
Maureen Banner, p. 25; George Emmons, p. 13;
Bonner McAllester, p. 12.*

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