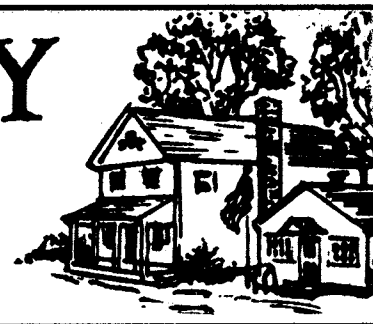


MONTEREY NEWS

November 2018
Est. 1970 Vol. XLVIII · Number 11



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



Daylight Savings Time "Falls Behind"

Sunday, November 4, at 2 a.m.

Massachusetts Elections

Tuesday, November 6
Town hall, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Our new kayak breeding program certainly looks like a success.

Monterey Town Projects page 2

You will find us there until we move into the new library next summer. Same hours. Same staff. Same services.

Library Settled in Fire House page 8

His love and understanding of nature to explore, create, and maintain trails goes back to his early years. He has been "into trails from the beginning."

Who's Who page 18

The Sheffield Food Assistance Program helps over forty families right in our district.

Fight to End Hunger page 13

The Farm launched the capital campaign in early 2017, and has since raised \$2.3 million to fund the construction of its first community center.

Gould Farm Capital Campaign page 11



Wildlife page 25

The library groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 6. Mark Makuc had said, "I want to have kids, because we're doing this for them." It's worth noting that while the adults showed up for a photo-op (above), the kids are the ones who came to work! See pages 6 and 7.

—Photo by Michael Johnson

What is the burden of the town (the law) and what is the burden of the individual (to stay informed), when it comes to information?
Cell Tower Delay page 10

In all those books, something for everyone, the deli offerings of civilization itself.
Library GroundBreaking page 7

Choose items for yourself and for holiday gifts. In addition to wonderful gifts, there will be delicious food.
Made in Monterey page 14

There is a growing interest among Monterey gardeners in hosting more native plants.
Native Gardeners Workshop page 4



Hockey Rink Set-up page 13

When done correctly, grazing greatly benefits the land while offering sheep their natural diets with no grain supplementation.
Grazing Sheep page 12

Yes, of course I use a GPS. But I carry a DPS in my car, too—my Dinosaur Positioning System
Just a Thought page 16



Of Mice and Us page 20

Mel Dyer-Bennet passed away on October 23 at the age of 102, in Hadley, MA.
Remembrance page 23

When I was pregnant with Tobias, my first, I had a dream that I could take him out.
From the Meetinghouse page 22

Town of Monterey Projects

Curtis Road Bridge

The phrase “hurry up and wait” comes to mind. After an impressive start, the bridge project ran into serious delays getting the special steel needed to complete the repairs. With no steel the project came to a stop, but after a wait, the steel arrived last week and the work is back on track with a projected completion date before the snow flies. This is one of the most important bridges in town, providing access to Gould Farm, town highway garage, and the transfer station. Working with a bridge engineering company, the town decided to repair, rather than replace, with a savings of over \$800,000. We received four solid bids and chose the lowest, which also turned out to be a local contractor. Once the repairs are completed, the weight restrictions will be lifted our heavy trucks will be allowed to use the bridge.

Grants

The recent grant awards caused me to look at what the town has received in grants during the past four to five years.

• Rt. 23	\$3,000,000
• Housing Rehab 2018	\$800,000
• Transfer Station 2017-2018	\$50,000
• Housing Rehab 2019	\$400,000
• Library Renovation	\$1,800,000
• State Best Practice Grant	\$10,000
• Hazard Mitigation Grant	\$12,000
• Lake Garfield Milfoil Control	\$41,000
• Blue Hill Road	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$7,113,000

All of the above were researched and written by town employees, and represent a focus by the town on supplementing our tax base with grants, which allow us to do more while not adding to our property owners' tax burden.

Roads

We just got word that the state, through the Mass Works Program, has awarded

\$1 million to Monterey for work on Blue Hill Road. This road was a high priority because of the failing culverts, and the state agreed. I know that there are concerns that residents have as to the impact of this work on the road, and we will schedule meetings with them to hear the concerns and keep them informed. A big shout-out to Terry Walker, our town clerk and grant writer, who wrote the grant with help from Shawn Tryon, our highway superintendent, and Melissa Noe, our administrative assistant. These are competitive grants and require a lot of hours in preparation.

In addition to the monies for Blue Hill Road, we also received a \$38,000 increase in our Chapter 90 monies, which we use for our dirt road and culvert work.

Kayaks

Our new kayak breeding program certainly looks like a success. Check out the kayak rack area across from the beach—at

last count, there was over thirty kayaks and half-a-dozen other water craft. With success comes the inevitable problems, “someone took my rack space,” boats left haphazardly so trucks with trailers could not back in (this space was a parking area for fishing boats long before the kayak revolution), kayaks on the racks not flipped over so they collect rainwater (we had to send the highway crew to remove a water filled kayak that was breaking the rack because of the water weight). What to do?

Over the winter the parks commission will be coming up with a plan for that area. Watch the *Monterey News* for meeting notices and get involved. ideas include more racks, different location, registering kayaks that use the racks, etc. What are your ideas? Send them to the parks commission at town hall.

—Kenn Basler

Select board member

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Snow Plowing Services Invitation to Bid

The Town of Monterey is seeking bids from vendors qualified to provide snow plowing services to assist the Monterey Highway Department in snow and ice removal operations on an as-needed basis. Vendors shall utilize a minimum one-ton truck with nine-foot plow. Although a sander is not required, if the truck is equipped to sand, and the Town authorizes such use, additional compensation will be paid. Vehicle must be operated by a qualified, licensed driver and be available on call from the period November 21, 2018, to April 30, 2019. Vendor must carry and provide proof of general and automobile liability policies of at least \$1 million, worker's compensation, and an umbrella liability of at least \$2 million.

Bid forms may be obtained on our website montereyma.gov under "Procurement." Bids on these forms, in sealed, opaque envelopes, shall be marked "Bid for Snow Plowing FY2019" and delivered to Monterey Town Hall, 435 Main Rd, P.O. Box 308, Monterey, MA 01245 by November 14, 2018, by 2 p.m., at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be awarded within two weeks from opening. The town reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor informalities or irregularities in any bid, and to make an award in any manner consistent with the law and deemed to be in the best interests of the Town of Monterey.

—Shawn Tryon
Director of Operations

Grant Writer News

The Town of Monterey was awarded a \$1 million grant from the MassWorks Infrastructure program. The MA Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development received 107 applications, and Monterey was one of the recipients of the award. The Baker-Polito administration presented the awards at the Tolland Safety Complex in Tolland, MA, on Thursday, October 18. Karyn Polito, Lieutenant Governor, presented the million-dollar grant award to grant writer Terry Walker, Monterey's director of operations Shawn Tryon, and select board member Don Coburn.

The grant will be used to complete a full-depth reconstruction on Blue Hill Road. The safety improvements will include replacing nonfunctioning culverts, replacing guardrails, drainage, and catch basins.

As one of the town grant writers, I want to thank the select board members Kenn Basler, Carol Edelman, and Steve Weisz, for going out on a limb in July 2016 and hiring me as a grant writer to research grants available to small towns. I would also like to thank Don Coburn for his continued support of my position and attending the awards ceremony. A special thank you to Shawn Tryon for his knowledge of maintaining and building roads. Shawn and I are a great team, and we can make great things happen. I have a passion for writing grants and helping small towns benefit by keeping the tax rate down. It is a pleasure working in Monterey, and I was ecstatic that we received this award. Total grant awards to date—\$5,347,260.

—Terry Walker



Maureen Banner

Council on Aging November Events

The Berkshire Visiting Nurse wellness clinic will be at town hall on Thursday, November 8 from 2 to 3 p.m. Flu shots will be available, no appointment necessary.

Veterans Day this year falls on Sunday, November 11. There will be a short service at 11 a.m. on the steps of the Meetinghouse after the regular church service. The Council on Aging is sponsoring coffee and muffins by Fiona de Ris in the Fellowship Hall immediately following.

Movie Night is Tuesday, November 13, 7 p.m., at the town hall. The movie this month is *Grumpier Old Men* with Walter Matthau, Jack Lemon, Sophia Loren, and Ann Margaret. Light refreshments are provided. Everyone is welcome.

The foot care nurse will be at town hall on Thursday, November 29, from 9 a.m. to noon. Call the Council on Aging at 413-528-1443 ext. 247 for an appointment. Any age is welcome (you do not have to be elderly or disabled); the cost is \$25.

The Mount Everett senior holiday luncheon and concert will be on December 6, 11:30 a.m., at the Mount Everett School. This is a wonderful program, but seating is limited. Please call the Council on Aging to reserve your seats by November 9.

—Kyle Pierce
Chair, Council on Aging



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Events Coming Up



Monterey Native Gardeners Workshop

Join us on Sunday, November 18, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., for a free workshop presented by Julie Kern, "Fall Garden 'How To': Winter Sowing and New Bed Prep."

There is a growing interest among Monterey gardeners in hosting more native plants rather than plants whose origins are elsewhere. Native plants are loosely defined as plants that have adapted to the local habitat conditions over extremely long periods of time, and play an intricate part in the food web of that specific habitat.

Our gardens, both private and public, have long been designed in the interest of people both for the purpose of growing food, and for the pleasure of the people enjoying them. Both the plants that are chosen and the manner in which they are planted and maintained is determined by people's interests alone. The surrounding

world of nature is mostly excluded from this process and often actively combated, as we eradicate insects and keep wild animals as far away as possible.

Julie Kern's workshop tackles the starting point of preparing new beds for native plants and giving seeds a jumpstart in our relatively brief growing season. Julie and Frank Kern have, over the course of the last ten years, implemented an extensive native garden restoration on their property, and have developed an equally extensive practical knowledge of gardening with native plants.

More specifically: "Winter sowing is a way to propagate seeds outside in the cold, including native plants, vegetables, and flowers. We will cover which containers work best, how to prepare the containers, and which seeds to sow when. We'll also discuss how to prepare a new planting bed in the fall so it's ready to use in the spring."

The workshop is open to all and free of charge.

First Annual Clothing Swap

Come one, come all, to our first annual clothing swap on Saturday, November 10, from 9 to 11 a.m. Clothing and accessories will be accepted, but no shoes or other footwear can be accepted. All items must be in good, usable condition or you will just take them home again.

Bring one or two bags of clothes you are ready to part with, and take home something from someone else's pile. No early drop-offs! It is okay to come empty-handed. Questions? Call 413-528-3600.

Free Mandala Magic Workshops

The final mandala "magic" workshop for the fall will take place on Wednesday, November 28, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. People will gather to create their own mandalas at the MCC. There is no fee, just show up with your supplies and have fun.

Participants need to bring a metal compass, a ruler, a pencil, and Bristol board paper (available at any art store). The coloring and filling in can be done with jelly roll pens, gel pens, or colored pencils. Watercolors can also be your medium.

For those new to this, you can learn much through your home computer. Just jump in and have fun. Creating mandalas has many benefits. It is a creative outlet as well as stress relief. The activity balances the hemispheres of the brain, giving one a feeling of relaxation and calmness. All ages are encouraged. Meet your neighbors and or make new friends.

Susan Cain, who has lead three

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mandala workshops at the center, will be there to give guidance and encouragement. There are no mistakes. Each mandala comes from within and can also be a spiritual experience.

Register for Susan's workshop by calling the center at 413-528-3600, or by email at center@ccmonterey.org. Additionally, questions regarding supplies can be directed to Susan at susancain9@gmail.com.

Ongoing activities

Ping Pong: Adult ping pong from 2 to 4 p.m., every Saturday through November. Please come and enjoy playing ping pong with your friends and neighbors.



Darn Yarners: First Thursday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. An informal group of knitters, stitchers, menders, spinners, crocheters, and such meet to work on individual projects in a somewhat social setting. No cost. Facilitated by Wendy Jensen.

Board Game Night: Second Friday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m. Join your neighbors for an evening of recreation with various board games. We have a number of games on hand, but feel free to bring your own favorites to share with others. No cost. Facilitated by Elaine Lynch.

Singing for All: Tuesdays, 7 to 9 p.m., through late November. Group singing of familiar songs from various genres in a friendly, neighborly setting, led by Oren Rosenthal. Donations appreciated.

The Monterey Community Center is available to you, subject to scheduling of course—it is a community facility. To see what's happening, consult our website (ccmonterey.org) and look at the Event Calendar there. To get more information, reserve your meeting time, or register for an event, please email calendar@ccmonterey.org, or leave a phone message at 413-528-3600. Either method will reach our event coordinator.

Eagle Fund Annual Phonathon Fundraiser

The Eagle Fund, an educational enrichment fund serving the students of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District for twenty years, will be conducting their annual student-led phonathon fundraiser on Wednesday, November 14, and Thursday, November 15, from 3:30 until 7 p.m. Your donations will provide the resources needed to fund grants supporting innovative opportunities for SBRSD students. If you have not received a phone call from one of our students during a past phonathon and would like to be on our call list, please forward your name and phone number via email to me at mzdziarski@gmail.com.

For more information on additional ways to support our future leaders please visit our website www.eagle-fund.net.

Thank you for your support!

—Melissa Zdziarski
Chair, The Eagle Fund

Transfer Station Winter Hours

Sunday	10 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m.—1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.—1 p.m.

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Monterey Library Renovation Groundbreaking Ceremony

A formal groundbreaking ceremony for the library project was held on Saturday, October 6. It began with a short list of speakers in the church, and then moved across the street where a lineup of shovels waited.

The speakers, with Mark Makuc in the familiar role of moderator, were led off by Lauren Stara, library building specialist and Monterey's liaison with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for this project. Lauren was followed by Senator Adam Hinds, and then by Representative Smitty Pignatelli, both of whom extolled the central role of libraries in the region's small towns.

Select board member Kenn Basler gave a recitation of the amazing progress Monterey has made, and is making, during a relatively short period of time while managing to control the burden on the taxpayers. The last speaker was Lisa Smyle, chair of the library's board of trustees, who extended the trustees', and really the whole town's, appreciation for everyone who has helped get the library project to this point.

As the crowd crossed the street and was joined by others who had been waiting outside, the groundbreakers, young and less-so, took their places in front of the now rather abandoned-looking library that had been built in 1931. Builders will tell us that the library has "good bones," and is certainly worth the effort to keep it as a central part of this project.

—Stephen Moore

Comments and appreciation from Lisa Smyle prior to the groundbreaking, speaking on behalf of the library board of trustees.

On behalf of the Monterey Library Board of Trustees—Shannon Amidon-Castille, Ann Canning, John Higgins, Mickey Jervas, and MaryPaul Yates—welcome.

Five hundred and fifty donations totaling almost \$150,000 since December of 2016, and countless hours of planning and revising, have brought us to this day.

Now that we're here, and knowing you can never say thank you too much, here goes:

Thank you to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for awarding us the grant that makes this project possible.

Thank you to the Friends of the Monterey Library, who raised the local funding without which this project would not be possible.

Thanks to the people of Monterey for your strong support—your generous contributions, your votes in favor, your time, your engagement with this process.

Thank you to Gould Farm and the Monterey Preservation Land Trust for giving us the land to do the environmental mitigation necessary for the project to move forward.

Thanks to the library staff—Esther Heffernan, Rosemary McAllister, and Molly Goodchild—and the many volunteers who work for the benefit of the library day in and day out, and those volunteers who have packed and moved books and

furniture and all the things a library collects over many decades.

Thank you to Monterey's select board and finance committee.

Thanks to Representative Pignatelli and Senator Hinds for joining us today, and for your steadfast support of our public libraries.

Thanks to Tim Eagles and the staff at EDM, and to Dan Pallotta and Rob Todisco of P3, professionals who have helped guide us through to this point.

And special thanks to library director Mark Makuc for his untiring and unwavering devotion to the Monterey Library.

We're proud to be preserving history and building with an eye toward the future.

Let's build our twenty-first-century library!

—Lisa Smyle
Chair, Library Trustees



Michael Johnson



Maureen Banner

Some of the forty to fifty people who showed up for the groundbreaking ceremony to hear the speakers, to watch the dirt fly, and then to socialize downstairs afterwards.



Stephen Moore

After the adults had drifted away, the kids were still at it. Roberto (in the black pants) was heard saying, "Why are we digging this hole?" Emery, to his right, said, "Do we have to dig this hole by ourselves?"

Monterey Library Renovation Groundbreaking Ceremony

Lauren Stara, from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC), on the occasion of the Monterey Library groundbreaking.

I cannot tell you how happy I am to be here and to share this event with you all. I am a small-town girl, and I know just how important the public library is to your town.

On behalf of Governor Baker, the commissioners, and the MBLC staff, congratulations to everyone who helped make this day happen: the select board, the Monterey Library Board of Trustees, the building committee, the design team, and every resident and taxpayer in Monterey. I especially want to recognize library director extraordinaire Mark Makuc and his staff. The dedication and perseverance has been remarkable; the whole design team worked hard to create a design that qualified for a \$1,855,675 state grant, accommodating the twenty-year needs of the community, but one that is also feasible for a town the size of Monterey. You are the new poster child for small towns in the state, because you made it work!

I want to close with a poem by Alberto Ríos:

The library is dangerous—
Don't go in. If you do

You know what will happen.
It's like a pet store or a bakery—

Every single time you'll come out of there
Holding something in your arms.

Those novels with their big eyes.
And those no-nonsense, all muscle

Greyhounds and Dobermans,
All non-fiction and business,

Cuddly when they're young,
But then the first page is turned.

The doughnut scent of it all, knowledge,
The aroma of coffee being made.


In all those books, something for
everyone,
The deli offerings of civilization itself.

The library is the book of books,
Its concrete and wood and glass covers


Keeping within them the very big,
Very long story of everything.

The library is dangerous, full
Of answers. If you go inside,

You may not come out
The same person who went in.



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Monterey Library Notes Settled in the Firehouse

Thank you. The town has been behind this construction project from the beginning. We are still in awe of how many people showed up in September to clean out the library. People donated their trailers, garages, and barns to temporarily store things for a month until the temporary firehouse library was ready. When we were in need of an even more temporary space, Pastor Liz Goodman and her church, as well as the coffee club, kindly allowed us to share their space on a moment's notice. Our little "underground" library in the church basement received returns and was able to circulate holds, so if a patron needed a book, an audio, a video, or a museum pass, they could get it.

The fire company was pushing as hard as they could with their local subcontractors to finish enough of the renovation to allow the library to move in. Floors, walls, electrical and plumbing, and at the last minute paving, appeared. Don't let anyone tell you that contracting a renovation is easy. Between building codes and regulations, nothing is simple, even just finishing an interior renovation.

When we were given the go-ahead by the fire company to start rebuilding a circulating library, enough people showed up with less than a day's notice to rebuild our 1931 shelves. The next day, again with less than a day's notice, people arrived to move five hundred boxes of books and other items into the building, and some of you even stayed until the last book was on a shelf.



Then the building inspector gave the temporary certificate of occupancy, which has allowed us to open. You will find us there until we move into the new library next summer. Same hours. Same staff. Same services. You have helped us, so we will continue to do our very best to serve the town in the many ways a modern library can. The town deserves no less. Monterey is awesome!

Renovation Photo Blog

Besides that whole side of the project, many of you have noticed that the construction is moving along. At the top of the home page for montereymasslibrary.org, there is a link "Our Building Project Blog," which displays a progression of pictures taken from the start in late September.



October was full of making the site ready for the actual build. Preparation of the site according to the conditions of the conservation commission, as well as making it safe and secure so no one gets hurt, was a priority. Then came the removal of the parts of the building that were not needed for the future. Finally there was the removal of the soil and ledge so that the concrete foundation can be built. November and December will be very busy months at the site. The current timeline has the building being framed and mostly weathertight by the new year so interior work can be done efficiently and safely over the winter. Watch as you drive by, or check out the link, and you are sure to see progress.

Again, this is thanks to the support of the Town of Monterey, and the townspeople of Monterey. We are trying to do our very best because you deserve no less.

—Mark Makuc
Library Director

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Lake Garfield Working Group November News

The Lake Garfield Working Group (LGWG) held its monthly meeting at the Monterey Town Hall on October 15. The topic of milfoil mitigation dominated the agenda with a review of the season's harvesting and a look towards funding for future endeavors.

To date there have been four separate sessions of mechanical weed harvesting done by diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH) conducted by New England Aquatics. The first session, in June of 2015, paid for by the Friends of Lake Garfield, removed one-tenth of an acre of the first noticeable patch, which a survey the previous year estimated to be two and one-half acres. In 2016 an alarming growth of milfoil raised the question as to whether the use of milfoil-targeting herbicide, used in other local lakes, would prove more cost effective. Out of a desire to avoid the use of herbicides as well as the costly maintenance of weed control incurred by the Lake Buel Tax District, \$50,000 was appropriated by town vote for continued mechanical harvesting.

A significant reduction in the patches of milfoil in 2017, possibly due to milfoil eating weevils introduced in prior years, brought welcome relief. That September, following the growing season at the time of least growth, 341 ten-gallon bags of

milfoil were harvested and delivered to Gould Farm for composting over the course of thirteen days, at the cost of \$22,000. This year, jumping ahead of the growing season, the first DASH session was in early May, paid for with \$15,000 previously budgeted by the select board. Currently, as we come to the close of the 2018 season, the report from New England Aquatics indicates that starting September 19, seventy hours of DASH was conducted in two acres over the course of ten days to remove 682 ten-gallon bags of milfoil from the densest patch located north of the narrows, paid for with the remainder of the original \$50,000. The full report from New England Aquatics will be available on the town website under the "Departments/Lake Garfield" page.

Recognizing that the continued growth of milfoil will be as constant as the weeds of a garden, the LGWG is currently attempting to define the costs and benefits of controlling this invasive plant at the same time as we look to help the town determine how these efforts can best be funded.

An additional item on the LGWG October agenda concerned the matching grant submitted by the town to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the funding of a surface water catchment to mitigate phosphorous runoff into the lake. On October 19 we were informed that the MA DEP had not

awarded us the grant, but that they would be conducting a meeting at 2 p.m., November 19, to inform us how best to resubmit the grant for next year.

The next LGWG meeting will be held on Monday, November 19, at 7 p.m., at the town hall, and we encourage all interested parties to attend.

— Steve Snyder, Chair
Lake Garfield Working Group

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In My View Cell Tower Delay



After eight years of meetings and lobbying with state government officials and cell phone companies, we were one meeting away from final approval for a second cell tower—a final approval that, if granted, would mean a cell tower erected and operational before the end of the year. Each past year we have experienced winter emergencies that cell service would have mitigated. We've been lucky that cars skidding in snow storms have not produced life-threatening situations, but all it takes is one time. Imagine skidding off the road and not being able to make a cell call for help. This emergency need has always been the driving force for cell service in Monterey.

At what point does publicly available information, information that is legally required to be published and available to all, get trumped by someone who ignores this information? What is the burden of the town (the law) and what is the burden of the individual (to stay informed) when it comes to information? This is a fundamental question with no easy answers.

At what could have been the final ZBA meeting, when approval would have been granted, an abutter to the project showed

up and protested the location. Stating that he is building a new house for his family and that the proposed tower would be visible from that house, he asked the ZBA to turn down the project or move it so it was not visible from the house site. Failing to take either of those approaches, he said he would take legal action to stop the project. To their credit, the ZBA took in this new information and scheduled a number of meetings including asking the cell tower company to sit down with the abutter and see if there was a solution. Me? I was astonished that after eight years of public input this challenge occurred at what was thought to be the very end of the process. Why?

I pulled the records and was troubled by what I discovered.

In 2010 the town was approached by a cell tower company with interest in putting up a tower that would cover the western part of town. After analyzing data, the high ground now owned by Camp Hume was determined to offer the best coverage, and negotiations were begun with the previous camp owners. The tower company applied for a building permit in late spring of 2011, and the first public meeting was held in August, 2011. An additional four public meetings (which required letters to all abutters and notices in the newspaper) were held before the building permit for the tower was issued in January 2012.

What's confusing for me is why Jared Smith purchased the abutting land to the cell tower project in March of 2012. There was an active building permit in effect and, with all the public hearings and newspaper articles, ignorance could not be an excuse.

For the next five years the town continued to push for the building of the cell tower, but could not convince Verizon or AT&T to partner with the tower contractor. (Cell tower companies require carrier participation before they proceed with construction.) During this time period there were no less than eleven articles in local newspapers and the *Monterey News* covering the struggle and identifying the tower location. In fact, Mr. Smith came into town hall and asked to see the cell tower plans. Mr. Smith then applied for and was granted a foundation permit in July of 2017 and a building permit in November 2017.

My frustration is his threat of a lawsuit when, all along, Mr. Smith should have known that the town was moving ahead with plans for a cell tower (the location never changed). Camp Hume has been very supportive during this period and remains so. As cell phones are not allowed at the camp, they never sought out the tower but recognized the town's need and stepped forward as any good neighbor would. The cell tower company has also been very accommodating, going so far as to try to come up with another location that would reduce the "impact" on Mr. Smith.

More meetings by the ZBA will be held in November, but we know one outcome already: no cell tower for this winter. An interesting aside on the possibility of a law suit is the failure of all such lawsuits in Massachusetts. Not just the courts, but the federal government, sides with towns in clearly stating that the needs and safety of all represent the greater good over the view of one person. But a lawsuit is a lawsuit and the tower company will not "build at risk." AT&T has taken the same position. The real fear is that AT&T or the tower company will say enough is enough and walk away.


I'm at a loss as to how one deals with this situation. On one hand, there is the positive that in this country one individual's rights are given such importance. Of course, on the other hand is how the need not to have a view of the tower can be more important than the health and safety of the general population, especially when Mr. Smith has moved ahead with his project with full knowledge of the cell tower project.

Stay tuned and keep your fingers crossed. I have full confidence that the ZBA (all elected members who give up their time for no compensation) will practice due diligence and make the decisions that are in the best interest of Monterey.

— Kenn Basler

Select board member

Editor's Note: In My View is a monthly feature for this paper. Select board members have 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.



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Gould Farm Capital Campaign A Generous Lead Gift

Gould Farm kicked off the public phase of its \$2.6 million Harvesting Hope Capital Campaign on Saturday, October 20, announcing a lead gift of \$500,000 from Tom and Ellen Bowler of Palm Beach, Florida. The Farm launched the capital campaign in early 2017 and has since raised \$2.3 million to fund the construction of its first community center.

The Bowler's lead gift honors Ellen's father, the Rev. Hampton E. Price, who served as executive director from 1961–1972. During his tenure, Rev. Price transformed the farm's campus, systematized the work program, and brought into focus the therapeutic value of meeting together as a community.

"Ellen's father had a long-term vision for the Farm and he had a profound impact on its life and effectiveness," says Tom Bowler. "It seemed highly fitting to us to name the new community center after him, to forever memorialize his life and leadership at Gould Farm."

"This is the largest single gift to the Farm in its 106-year history," says Phyllis Vine, Ph.D., chair of the board of directors. "Tom and Ellen have had a long association with Gould Farm. I cannot express the amount of gratitude I feel for their extraordinary contribution. We are all so thankful, humbled, and appreciative."

"As a pioneering therapeutic community, Gould Farm stands today as a standard bearer and model for effective mental health treatment," says Rev. Lisanne Finston,



Lisa Lewis

executive director. "In many ways, Gould Farm has stood the test of time because of the compassionate and faithful dedication of Rev. Hampton Price and visionaries like him."

Recognizing the value of a supportive community, Rev. Price organized the first all-farm Community Meeting in 1967. Over fifty years later, this weekly meeting remains vital to the therapeutic milieu and continues to contribute to a sense of shared participation.

According to Vine, the board of directors is hoping to complete the campaign and break ground on the new community center in the spring of 2019, and construction is estimated to be completed by the summer of 2020. Designed as a red barn,

the building will provide more than 120 guests, staff, families, and volunteers who live on the Farm with an additional five thousand square feet of much-needed flexible space for more integrated wellness, music, and arts activities. The larger space also opens up more opportunities for alumni, friends, and Berkshire residents to attend public performances and social events.

"We've long believed in and supported Gould Farm's essential mission of helping individuals with emotional and mental health challenges recover their lives," says Ellen. "The need for the new community center as a modern multi-purpose campus hub was abundantly clear to us. We are excited to be involved."

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Grazing sheep in Monterey

This summer, I was lucky enough to use a section of what had previously been hay land off Wellman Road to graze nine sheep on. I had been living in Vermont for five years before this, going to college and then working as a livestock manager on a farm raising 100% grass-fed beef and sheep, where I learned a great deal about intensive rotational grazing systems. In an intensive system, animals are moved frequently, every one to three days for me, using temporary electric fencing to target small sections of pasture. As they go, they eat a variety of grasses, deposit their manure (fertilizer) into the soil, and trample other grasses, which also adds more organic matter back into the soil. When done correctly, grazing greatly benefits the land while offering sheep their natural diets with no grain supplementation. Even after only two rotations of grazing around the field, I have been able to see how nicely the pasture is growing back with desirable grass species. Ruminants (grass-eating animals) are vital to maintaining healthy and regenerative pasture lands, and I find great joy in seeing their immediate positive impact on the land.

Growing up, I spent my summers working on North Plain Farm in Great Barrington, and I had always dreamed of farming on my own in the Berkshires some day. I am glad to be back here and part of



a community of great people that are very supportive of farmers. Although I have been involved with agriculture for a large portion of my life, having my own animals was a totally new experience, and although it is a major daily commitment, it is a fulfilling lifestyle. I have sent my first lamb to the butcher and have some others going soon. The rest of my sheep will be bred this winter, making for some late winter lambs to be born—an exciting next step in this journey. Even though I am still young and new to raising animals on my own, I feel that farming has become part of my identity and I look forward to where it takes me in life. Keep an eye out for grass-fed lamb for sale this fall!

—Christian Stovall



Christian's end-of-season reward.



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Monterey Can Help Fight to End Hunger

During the beginning of the holiday season there will be a food drive for the Sheffield Food Assistance Program throughout the month of November. Foods such as stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, canned beans, canned carrots, cake mixes, and canned gravy are needed, as well as any other nonperishable food items.

The Sheffield Food Assistance Program helps over forty families right in our district. Any donations are helpful and can be dropped off at the library (in the firehouse) or preferably at the Monterey Community Center. If there are any questions or anyone would like to make a monetary donation to the program, please contact me at nadiamakuc10@gmail.com.

—Nadia Makuc

October 2018 Contributors

It is worth noting that year after year the readers and advertisers of the *Monterey News* support the paper at a much appreciated level. However, contributions can vary considerably month after month, yet somehow it works every year.

Last month we had only two contributions, but we have every reason to be appreciative, and no reason to think that November won't bring continued support.

Thank you.

Melissa Hochstetler
Dorothy Enlund

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Monterey Ice Rink Set-up Saturday, December 1

As always, we are hoping for a wonderful winter of skating—we want winter ice as beautiful as in the photo. But—we need your help.

Everyone is welcome and no experience needed. If you have a cordless drill, that would be very helpful. A two-wheeled hand truck and a broom or two would be great.

Please donate an hour or two of your time at the firehouse pavillion on Saturday, December 1, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The work isn't very hard, made easier by many hands, and there will be coffee and doughnuts to get you through the project.

And, be ready to reap the benefits when the weather turns cold. Thank you all in advance and I look forward to seeing you there.

—Peter Poirier, Monterey Parks Commission



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Made in Monterey Holiday Market

Saturday December 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Monterey Community Center. This is a truly home-grown event, and it happens just once a year. Monterey is home to many extraordinary artists, and this is an opportunity to purchase hand-crafted items and paintings made right here. Choose items for yourself and for holiday gifts. In addition to wonderful gifts, there will be delicious food.

Craftspeople

Del Martin: The acclaimed blacksmith of Knox Trail Forge, Del will have hand-forged ironwork including kitchen cutlery, hardware, candle stands, fireplace andirons, and more.

Ellen Grenadier: Ellen finds leaves and ferns on her local hikes, takes them back to her studio, and incorporates them into her remarkable stoneware. Her many glazing techniques add depth and natural beauty to the plates, bowls, and mugs that will grace any table anytime.

Maureen and Michael Banner: Internationally award-winning silver-

smiths, the Banners will be selling many of their choice cloisonné pendants, along with stunning silver earrings, that make exceptional gifts or treat's for yourself.

Wendy Jensen: Wendy's hand-woven baskets of rattan and homegrown willow will get you thinking of all the ways and places you need baskets, or perhaps of building a gift basket, starting with Wendy's basket, and filling it with lots of Monterey products. Woven wheat ornaments will also be on sale.

Sue Cain: Sue designs and stitches truly unique decorative pillows that will go with any decor using an unusual technique. She utilizes a wide range of colorful fabrics that conjure up the sky, the sea, the sun and the earth.

Anne Shatis: You can't get more local than Berkshire Sting Honey. Annie's honey is harvested from hives around Monterey, including the community center. It is unfiltered, tasty, and very good for you.

Fine Artists

Joe Baker: Primarily *aplein air* landscape painter, Joe offers small oil, acrylic and pastel landscapes. Some of his more stunning paintings have been printed on greeting cards that will also be for sale.

Julie Shapiro: Julie will show color-oriented abstraction prints and works on paper along with dazzling oil paintings.

Christine Brunoski Goldfinger: Christine uses a distinctive tonalism style in her oil paintings that are captivating.

Ron Goldfinger: Ron describes his work as still life in the chiaroscuro tradition, yet also is showing his classic landscapes.

Gail Heath: Repurposing discarded items is a good thing. Gail paints delightful New England and holiday scenes on old ice skates, rolling pins, saws, and shovels—just about anything. Gail also paints on wood and canvas.

Frank D'Amato: Greeting cards created from paintings of "downtown" Monterey are wonderful to send out to friends and family, but you might want to frame some for yourself.

Please put **Monterey: A Local History** on your shopping list. Edited by Peter Murkett and Ian Jenkins in time to celebrate Monterey's sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary in 1997, and published by

the Town of Monterey, it tells stories of our town from incorporation in 1847 to 1997. It is on sale for \$20, of which \$10 will go to the Monterey Library for the new building.

Food

Fiona de Ris: Fiona will have her SOL Gypsy food truck on site serving delicious fare from a seasonal organic local (SOL) menu. We all fondly remember Fiona cooking up luscious meals for us at the Roadside Cafe for many years.

Hanna Jensen: The Sweetish Baker will be offering her selection of both savory and sweet baked goods. Hanna says, "I learned to bake from my mother [Wendy Jensen] when I was very young. She would always bake cookies and coffeecakes for her basket students."

Gould Farm: Everyone loves to receive maple syrup for a gift.

Most artists will take credit cards, but some would appreciate cash or checks. If you have any questions you can call the community center at 413-528-3600.

—Wendy Germain



The Sweetish Baker

Thanksgiving

Apple Pie - \$18
Loaded with local apples, this pie is a Thanksgiving classic


Pumpkin Pie - \$20
Creamy pumpkin custard spiced just right...a must have for the after-turkey party

Maple Pecan Pie - \$24
The Sweetish Baker's variation of the original, sweetened with local maple syrup and brown sugar

Aura of Autumn Pie - \$23 (limited)
This brand new recipe combines spiced dried apples, cranberries and walnuts with an apple cider bourbon sauce
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Bonsai Cox

in gratitude

remember when I wrote you
 about the stillness of the pond
 on hurricane evenings
 bats fluttering low and silent
 but I forgot to mention
 that when our whole life is
 questioned by life itself:
 substance, meaning, and worth ...
 we could try to find the way
 back to the waters' edge
 to find what it is that's fluttering there
 to bow in the silence there
 then send both arms skyward.
 —Boney Oscar
 September 2018

Come Inside Now

Come inside now.
 Stand beside the warming stove.
 Watch out through the windows as
 a cold rain tears down
 the last leaves.

The larder full of dried herbs,
 hot peppers, chutneys,
 jellies, jams, dill pickles,
 pickled relishes,
 pickled beets.

The freezer full of frozen greens—
 chard and spinach, collards, kale—
 green beans, basil, red sauces,
 applesauce, and
 smoked meats.

The woodshed dry and full of wood,
 winter squashes stashed away.
 Down cellar: potatoes, carrots,
 crock of sauerkraut.

Come inside now.
 Stand beside the warming stove.
 Listen. Wait.

—David Budbill
 SevenDaysVT.com



Bonner McAllister

Here's a Thought... GPS or DPS?

On Thursday, October 11, the tired remnants of wind and rain that had once been Hurricane Michael swept through Berkshire County. They still packed quite a punch, most of it water, as the base of our driveway attests. Maybe it was the wind, though, that contributed to reports of an overturned tractor trailer that night on the Turnpike. Either way, it was a wild night.

The next morning I'd turned off Route 57 with a comfortable amount of time before my appointment in Southfield. An overhanging tree limb let go just in time to smash horizontally across the roof of my car, sending bits of wood scattering down the windshield in the millisecond before it slid to the road.

Visceral shock of adrenaline. First thoughts: *Yikes!, No!, What?,* (moan) *new car!*, followed by *...but I'm still on the road, and the windshield's intact. I'll check the damage when I get to my appointment.* The miniscule roof damage had relieved my mind until I saw the passenger-side mirror. It listed crazily southward toward a dent and scratches in the door. I shifted my late-afternoon plans and got to R&W's in Lee at about four that afternoon. My car's well into recovery and doing fine, thanks, with help from R&W for parts replacement, and an appointment set at Carlson's for body work. ("They're smashing 'em faster than I can fix 'em," he said, as we negotiated the repair date.)

But the story doesn't stop here. Scott, the manager at R&W, was busy that October afternoon, so I joined three other folks in the waiting room. They were a family: a twenty-something young woman who looked uncomfortable and a little sheepish, and her parents. This was an unintended reunion, of sorts. The young woman and her husband live in Troy, New York. The parents live in Connecticut. None of them had been in the Berkshires before. The young woman and her husband had driven down to our neck of the woods to pick up a car they'd just purchased. She started back toward Troy in the new one; he drove their old car.

"See you at home!" they agreed. It was a good plan, one any of us might have made, even on a storm-swept night in unfamiliar terrain. At one point they were

separated and the husband pulled over on the side of the road.

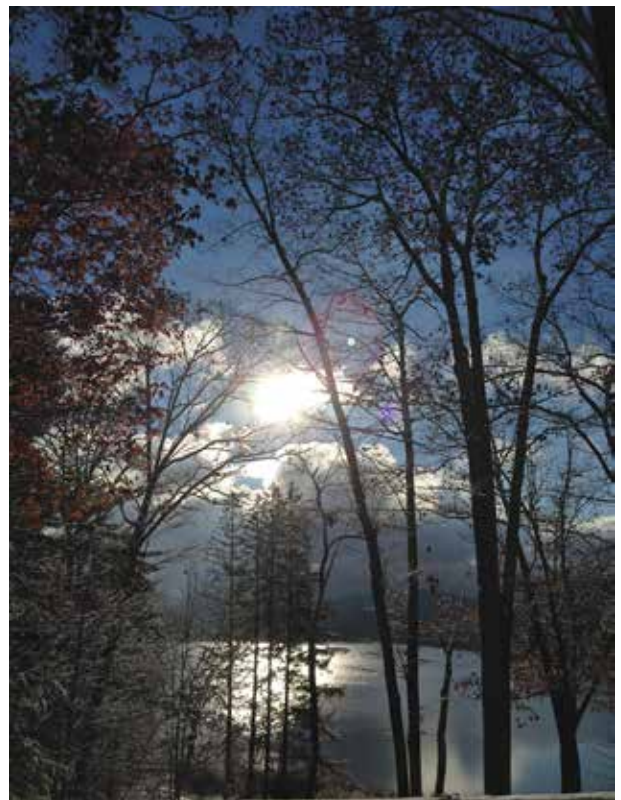
"I'm following the GPS," she said when he called. "Should be there soon."

He waited. And waited. The storm roiled on. Her GPS cut in and out but kept on offering directions whenever it connected again. Eventually, after being led on an unfamiliar series of paved and dirt roads in the rain, with no idea how to tell her husband how to find her, the young woman called her parents.

"Mom? I don't know where I am," her mother heard first. Bad news, it's 1 a.m., and she's lost; good news: it's her voice on the phone. After a focused search, police found the young woman. She and her husband decided he should just go home. She'd meet her parents at R&W, where the car was being towed. She'd stay with them, see about getting the car repaired, and get home as soon as she could.

The three of them and I all left R&W's at about the same time that afternoon, each of them about to drive home, and me about to stop at Carlson's on my way home. When the police had found that young woman, her car was hung up on rocks on a Tolland State Forest hiking trail. Yes, hiking trail. And, yes, she got there by diligently following the directions from the GPS on her phone.

I'm not dissing technology—the police found her by repeatedly ping-



No ice on the waters as I write this, but it's the last quarter of the year, so it's starting to get likely. Nevertheless, even November is beautiful in Monterey, and throughout Berkshire County.
—Photo by Mary Kate Jordan

that same phone. It's just that, sometimes, what tech provides is Ground-Positioning Screw-up. Nevertheless, yes, of course I use a GPS.

But I carry a DPS in my car, too. My Dinosaur Positioning System is a series of paper maps covering unfamiliar, or vaguely familiar, places within driving distance. Mine covers New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Maine. You might want to create a DPS for yourself, too. You'll be glad you did, but don't delay. Build it while the not-yet-fossilized paper parts of the critter are still available.

—Mary Kate Jordan

SUSAN M. SMITH Attorney At Law

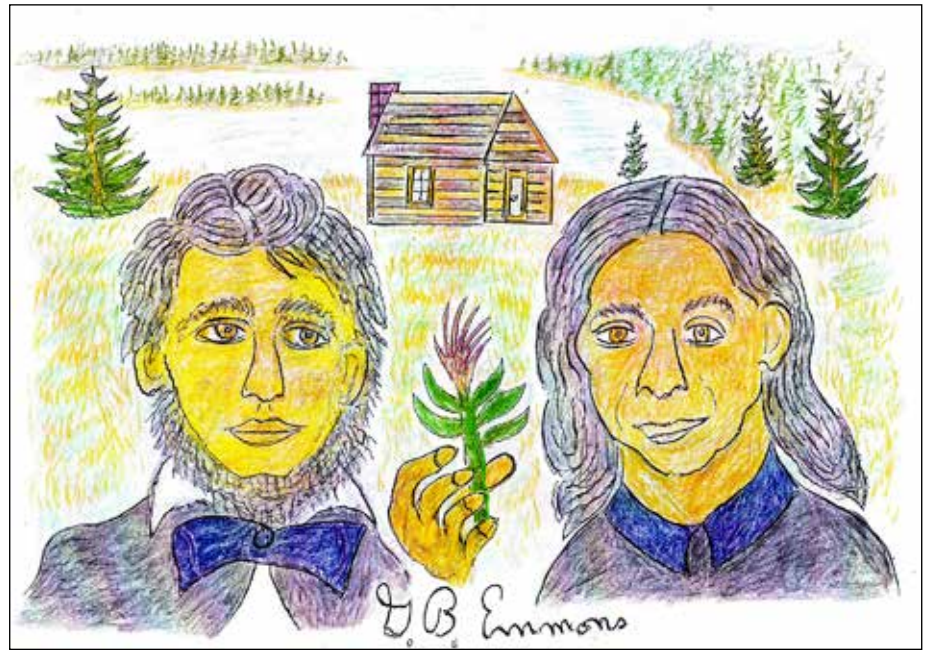
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Henry David Thoreau Visit to Fairhaven

After moving into our new shoreline home on Sconticut Neck in Fairhaven, MA, I was often out for an afternoon walk that led me back in time with a big historical surprise. I usually started down Indian Road to the water, then onto Wampanoag Road, across to Wigwam Beach Road, and finally in a circle past Reservation Road to my starting point. I was intrigued by these names and my exploring local history research proved what I suspected. The location of my new home had an Indian shell-fishing history. And very near here was where the last full-blooded Wampanoag woman lived in a small cabin, by the same water's edge as ours. Her name was Martha Simon, and she had a surprise visit by Henry David Thoreau, the eminent naturalist and essayist, author of *Walden Pond; Or Life In The Woods*. Thoreau was a transcendentalist who believed he could glean from nature the true meaning of God, like his friend Ralph Waldo Emerson.

In the late 1850s Thoreau was visiting his friend Daniel Dickerson in nearby New Bedford. Dickerson showed him a portrait of Martha Simon by renowned local artist Albert Bierstadt who, like George Catlin, painted documentary images to capture a vanishing America. Thoreau immediately became interested in ruminating with her about natural lore, her native observations, and his own. Thoreau was already a forerunner of environmental writing and moral idealism who would inspire future readers and philosophers such as Gandhi and Tolstoy.



He remarked to her that her cabin was even smaller than his at Walden Pond. This made him feel right at home. She had a typical tawny Indian face with high cheekbones, black eyes, and straight hair. To judge from her physiognomy, he remarked, she might have well been King Philip's daughter. (*See George's article on King Philip in the September 2018 issue.*)

But he was expecting too much of his visit with her. She had a very vacant expression, could not speak a word of Wampanoag, and knew nothing of her race, in spite of being nearly seventy. She seemed indifferent to the presence of this literary celebrity and kept looking out the window. Perhaps it was the same view we enjoy from our back porch. The only main focus of conversation

was her asking about a flower tucked into the band of his hat, as in my illustration. She said that it was a husk root, and good to put into bitters for a weak stomach. This indicated her knowledge of herbs had not vanished. Consequently, Thoreau wished he had brought a hat full of plants to embellish their mutual interest and discussion. However, his hopes for what he might learn by meeting with her were mainly futile.

Thoreau died in 1862, and was buried in a section of Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord, MA. That section, called "Author's Ridge," has Thoreau alongside of Emerson, Hawthorne, Alcott, and Channing—all followers of a literary movement to pen progressive ideals, who meant to influence the direction of national thought. Martha Simon had died in 1858, and she is buried near a stone tablet roughly etched with the name Sconticut Neck Indian Burial Ground, along with her elders William and Abigail Simon. It is a short stroll from my back porch, and laid out in a familiar handful of plots in a family configuration. It has an impressive, ethereal view, like the many I have seen in Monterey and the Berkshires. Chief Massasoit and family are also buried not far away, in Lakeville, a neighboring town with a consequential native historical heritage.

Thank you for joining me in my afternoon walk and literary adventure back in time and history.

— George B. Emmons

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Who's Who Bob Rausch

Monterey has the gift of Gould Farm and Gould Farm has the gift of Bob Rausch, forestry and grounds manager. In his forty years at Gould Farm, Bob has also served in the capacity of gardener, maple syrup maker, house parent, bushwhacker, and explorer of trails. His love and understanding of nature, which inspires him to explore, create, and maintain trails, goes back to his early years. He has been "into trails from the beginning."

Bob's interest in the outdoors goes back to Cumberland, Rhode Island, when he would go fishing, hiking, and exploring with his dad. Together they would explore the Diamond Hill Reservoir and surrounding land in the Cumberland area before development took over. His dad was the first of many influences in Bob's life that led to his love of the land.

Little league and ice hockey also defined Bob's early life. He "grew up with a glove on his hand." Winter brought ice hockey, "sticks and skates on our backs," as he and friends skated frozen ponds. As in most neighborhoods in the late 1950s and early 1960s, growth changed things and there was "a loss of independence." Sandlots and frozen ponds gave way to development.

As I spoke to Bob, I was quite taken by his journey from high school to present days. In high school he "identified with his biology teacher, Chet Walter," a great influence on Bob and the reason he majored in biology. Mr. Walter's field trips were "iconoclastic." Bob was accepted to a six-week workshop at University of Rhode Island while in high school. He studied agronomy, a science of the soil, with a Dr. Bell. He became a student at URI, where he majored in biology and minored in psychology, which may have foreshadowed his career at Gould Farm. His great influence there was Dr. Palmetier, a botany professor. His descriptions and his recall of his teachers was heartwarming and sincere, and their names deserve recognition.

Other influences include Louis Mumford, author of *The City in History* and *The Myth of the Machine*. "You can look into Mumford on your own. His works carried me through life." Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, and their essays on Nature also influenced him. The "idea of healing in the forest" and the forest as therapist, written about by Hannah Fries in her recent book, are ideas that have been important to him for years.

Bob's life experience is so rich in love for the land. As a student teacher, he "created a nature trail, which was the high point of his year." He went on to serve two years in the army as a lab technician. After service, Bob went on to other endeavors.

But how did Bob end up at Gould Farm? It was a stroke of luck that he went to a barber shop in Claverack, New York. The barber suggested he check out Gould Farm. This was 1978. In 1981, Bob met Diane, who came to the area to learn about healing for herself and others. She needed tree work done at her house lot off Hupi Road and that is how they met. Sadly, Diane died in 1992 of cancer. You may all be familiar with Diane's name from the



Lisa Lewis

beautiful trail that was lovingly designed between Curtis Road and Wellman Road. Bob gives much credit to Jon Greene for suggesting where the trail should be, and the "many hours of a painstaking labor of love," building not only the first bridge over the Rawson Brook, which was dedicated in June 1995, opening the first leg of Diane's Trail, but also a replacement bridge, which was finished in October 2009. Jon also has worked on additional walkways and smaller bridges.

Bob continues to work at the farm today. You may also see him on one section of the Appalachian Trail where until recently he was in charge of its maintenance and upkeep.

Bob Rausch's contribution to our community and Gould Farm is rooted in his deep understanding of the land in both a scientific and spiritual sense. His devotion to Gould Farm and the many people who live there and have passed through is evident in his closing words. While discussing the spiritual element of the farm, he feels there are "not too many places like Gould Farm, a place to come back to visit, a home you want to come back to."

—Cheryl Zellman

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Above are the two bridges that Jon Greene built in Diane's memory. The bridge on the left was dedicated in June 1995, and the bridge on the right was dedicated in October 2009. There is no record of who took the photo of the earlier bridge. Jon took the photo of the newer bridge.

Transfer Station News Mattresses

Please note that on November 4 the transfer station goes to winter hours, closing on Sundays at 4:30.

Well, it's hard to believe summer is over. It seems like just a week or two ago summer was still hanging on, and now frost, cloudy days, and the cold winds have descended on us. Most of our summer friends have left for warmer climates, and we will miss them all and hope they will all return next summer.

For the past year, the town has had a state grant allowing residents of Monterey and several surrounding towns to get rid

of used mattresses and box springs at no cost. We are hoping that this grant will be renewed for another year, but, as of now, the town has not heard whether or not it will be. If you still have a mattress or two you need to dispose of, you should do it soon, just in case the grant is not renewed. Also on the subject of mattresses, we have been told that futon mattresses will not be accepted under the terms of the grant, so there is a charge for their disposal.

As usual, there are some great things to be had at the Monterey Swap Shop. Beth has unpacked some nice warm sweaters and soon there will be Christmas items to be had. On the subject of Christmas—

there is always a need for artificial trees, so if you happened to have one stuck in the attic or garage that you're not using, bring it in and Beth will find a good home for it.

Finally, for those who have deposited their compost this last year, thanks to Gould Farm, we now have a pile of composted material next to the compost bin. Everyone who has contributed is entitled to two buckets.

Both Beth and I hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

—Dave Gilmore





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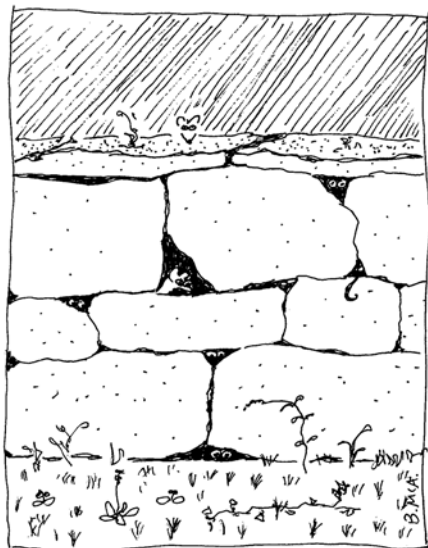
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Of Mice and Us

This is fall, or autumn. All of us plants and animals have our responses, some based upon the shorter day-lengths, some upon many another factor. These may be old habits and models, or sometimes bright new ideas we have picked up recently in today's world. We may even have cause to question responses we have always made, sometimes to other living things that do what they have always done.

One living thing that rears its teeny head in the fall is the tick. The head does not rear so much as sink into the warm moist meal offered by us and our household familiars. The mouthparts of the tick dive in there, also the head, and ticks do ramp up in the fall. What do we do? This varies with the individual. I am one of two or three humans known to me who does this: I remove the little bugger and then transport it to a place not on my regular beaten path. I'm not likely to meet this particular tick again.

We might meet again during my morning Russell wrasse which features a canine household familiar and myself early in the day, rolling around on the bedroom floor together. I like to bury my face in his fur, and smile. I pat him and massage his loose hide. Sometimes I come upon a tick, which I remove. Then I stand up and head for a handy release spot, hoping neither Russell nor I will run



into this critter again, but not caring too much if we do. Essentially, I try to "just act like we never have met," as it says in the song (Bob Dylan, 1964).

For me, this is a familiar dodging of responsibility. We did meet, and I was bigger and got to do with the tick what I chose. As an appreciator of fellow living things, I picked catch and release, rather than death and destruction. If I chose differently, I know the tick wouldn't suffer much since I'd be skillful and humane about the ending of its life. The thing is, I didn't want to be the one. Another song: "I didn't want to have to do it" (John Sebastian of The Lovin' Spoonful, 1965).

That was the 1960s and we were not taking on any more than we had to. We

had our hands full growing up, leaving home, dealing with some big questions and traumas on the national and international scales. We didn't also want to have to be the one to say goodbye, or to figure out what to do because of someone we had met. We sang those songs.

Fifty years later it still feels like there are too many balls in the air, including this tick. What I have figured out to do is set it on its own again, like it was before we met, like we never had met.

There is another small wild critter crossing paths with me in the fall, as it has done for many a decade, like fifty years. This is the deer mouse or white-footed mouse. The prettiest little furry housemate: quiet, sparkly-eyed, with a white belly, whiskers, a long sensitive nose, and small white feet. These feet carry it into the house, the cupboards, the kitchen drawers. They sometimes leave footprints, but mainly what the deer mouse leaves is tidy small scatological calling cards. If it weren't for these, and for some shredding of the paper towels and spare rolls of toilet paper, I doubt I'd take action. But the mouse poopies make it so I have to clean up (oh, perish the thought).

So I dig out the trap, buy some new peanut butter, and catch the small neighbors one by one right in the cupboard, every night. I set up in there so the mouse



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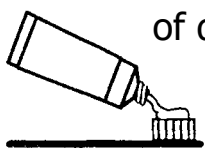
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will be spared any investigations by our cat Lucas. Lukey is a hunter, and mice are his specialty. He catches them inside or outside the house, brings them in killed, still warm, and eats them in the kitchen. This never bothers me, for some reason. Maybe because I am splitting hairs and figure that it was Lukey who met the mouse, not me. That is, by the time I met it, I did not have life or death responsibility. Many could debate that years ago I brought a kitten here to live and this has directly resulted in the deaths of quite a number of small innocents.

Where does responsibility begin and where does it end? And what is my problem with killing off the blood-sucking ticks and the poopie-producing mice? I might come to an answer before my own time is up. Meanwhile, I am grappling with evidence. For years I took the mice to a stone wall in the woods and let them go into that rocky fortress. I threw in some birdseed to assuage my responsibility for having deprived them of a familiar home, which was also my home, and in cold weather I stuffed in an old wool sock, thinking it could be fashioned into a warm home for the deported housemates.

The truth is, there never were any scampery mouse tracks around that wall in the winter snow. Were they holed up in there, happy and warm with each other? I knew better. I know better now, too, when I take them to another place in the woods by a big, downed tree, and set them loose under its shelter, along with some kidney beans or something, and more scraps of wool. They will not survive out there. They don't know their way to the next meal. With

any luck they'll get caught and eaten soon. Maybe I can imagine this, maybe I'll be fine with it as I am with Lukey crunching away on the kitchen floor.

My best path, now? The response I have known was just around the corner from plain sight? Send the little angels to mouse heaven the simplest way I know how. Some way I can do quickly and well. I know what it will be.

Is there another way besides the trip to mouse heaven? Of course! Just figure out how to make it so no mice ever get into the house in the first place. Stop up every little hole any bigger than a dime. Okay, I will. I'll make it so we never will meet. Lukey will still meet them outside and do what he does. I will get the right material (cement, stainless steel dish scrubbies) and go all around our leaky log house stuffing

up the ever-changing chinks. When I do this, I'll have done my best. For now, I can do my second best. I'll ease them out of the end of the trap into a soft cloth bag and break their little necks. This will be second-best love.

—Bonner McAllester

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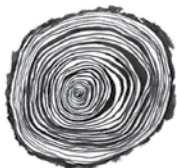
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From the Meetinghouse

This is from the last chapter of my book, an afterword.

When I was pregnant with Tobias, my first, I had a dream that I could take him out. Each day, for just a few minutes, even though he wasn't finished in the womb, he could take leave of it—but only for fifteen, twenty minutes at the most. So I would—I'd take him out, though still attached, and I'd play with him, though always with one eye on the clock.

A parishioner once asked me a question others often ask her: how could she fully hope for the end and still live fully in the world?

As it happens, this is what we're doing this month at church—turning an eye to the end. As the church year comes to an end, which it does in November, so our contemplation turns to the end, though a more final end than just the liturgical year, the end we call eschaton.

If you know anything about types of churches in the American religious landscape, it might surprise you to learn that we in the meetinghouse contemplate the eschaton. We're a mainline church, after all, and one thing the mainline church is supposed to have done in the last one hundred years or so is to have consigned itself only to the most reasonable aspects of the Christian story and tradition. Jesus was a great teacher, you might even hear said. He was kind to the very people who suffered unkindness most in the world. He questioned authority and upset convention. And, really, isn't this enough? I mean, we don't need to confuse things with mystery and miracles. We don't need to fill our minds with anything other than the provable, material world where there's quite enough to keep us busy. And we don't want to seem odd, or put ourselves at odds with the provable, predictable, material world, which so clearly can be asserted as "reality."

What you get from all of this, though, as it's been critiqued from within our tradition, is a functional atheism: we'll function as if we think Jesus is worthy of our imitation and as if we believe God is at work in all things for good, but we won't actually expect the miraculous or even much good to come. No, we'll assume if

anything good is going to get done around here, it will come down to us to do it. And there's a lot to do! So get busy! Because if we let ourselves go slack for even a bit of time, it will all just come unraveled, what little progress we've made, gone.

One of the many mysterious and transcendent notions that gets lost in all this is the eschaton, the notion that there is an end to all this—an aim, a purpose toward which history is drawn. And it's quite a loss because without it history amounts to a sort of factory conveyor belt, a rushing, rotating, toilsome business whose only

point is to keep going. Really, to remove the end of any story is to drain it of its shape and to obliterate its purpose, not least the greatest story there is, the story of all being.

But there's more, for this is all the more a loss when what we're to contemplate is a happy ending if ever there were one. Imagine a realm where all sickness and sorrow have been worked out. Imagine a realm where all suffering and fear were brought to rest. Imagine every stupid, useless, wasteful thing of time and history and humanity left behind as we go: imagine every bit of the



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nihilism that litters our path: imagine it all now redeemed. Pieces of polluting waste now filled with purpose, deemed valuable, even invaluable: imagine!

This one's my favorite. As it happens, there are lots of ways in scripture to imagine this end—as a great feast, as an arrival on a holy mountain or into a shining city, as a new creation where creatures once predator and prey are now coexistent and abounding with life, a new creation whose birth we are now laboring through. But this one's my favorite, because I both like it best and experience it as most true: the movement toward completion, perfection; the promise that all now partial or half-baked at last to be made thoroughgoing and whole. I like this in part because it keeps me moving forward rather than, anxious, thinking the task is to get back—back to before things were broken, back to before the “fall.” Much spiritual thinking would have us believe we started out good and have been on the decline ever since. My spiritual imagination is enlivened more by hope.

I realize, though, that all this runs with risk. Redemption, and a fulfillment of all promise and purpose—I realize these run with risk, for the fact is that history is replete with events and circumstances too heavy or horrific to blithely understand as “serving a purpose.” That treacly bit of pseudo-Christian wisdom that “everything happens for a reason” has little to say to children separated from their parents at our southern border or to war-torn and malnourished people in Yemen today. Speaking of purpose from the crematoria and ash-heaps of history can be downright cruel. So I realize full well the problem we might find ourselves in when we speak eschatologically.

It's that problem my parishioner encounters whenever someone asks her, “How can you live fully hopeful of a glorious and satisfying end while also fully engaged with the manifold realities of this world?”

It's a question she brought to me once, just as I was finishing the draft of my book. I answered her in the afterword, which falls in the book itself in such a way as you might not notice it, on a backward-facing page just in from the back cover. The reader, then, might not think to look

past the final full chapter whose title is “Room for One More.” But, ironically, significantly, you have to look past where you'd otherwise safely assume you've reached the end, the horizon past which (of course) there is no more.

Remembering my dream, I thought, this is how: Take out the finished product and play with it now. Even though it's not finished, even though all is yet imperfect and incomplete, even though mourning and crying and pain yet persist, even though death is still a thing and the fear of it yet holds sway, even though, even though: take out God's promised, perfect end and play in its midst.

Make believe.

Granted, it can be weird to jump into a story just as it's ending. If that's how you feel, rest assured we begin again in December, with the first season, Advent. As always, all are welcome to join in the journey of the year ahead. *You* are welcome, just as you are.

—Pastor Liz Goodman

Community Potluck Supper No November Gathering

This season's first Monterey community potluck dinner in October was very enjoyable, with Jenn Yates speaking about different kinds of house plants and how to care for them. Many thanks to her and Susan Cain for sponsoring her presentation.

Because it would fall on the night before Thanksgiving, there will be no November potluck this year. Everyone have a happy, healthy Thanksgiving, and we'll see you on December 19.

—Kyle Pierce

Remembrance Melvene Dyer-Bennet

Mel Dyer-Bennet passed away on October 23 at the age of 102 in Hadley, MA. You can find her obituary in the *Berkshire Eagle* (berkeagle.com). The *Monterey News* hopes to publish the full obituary in the December issue.

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Monterey Community Center



Bidwell House Museum

November 2018

The air is frosty, the trees stand as stark silhouettes without their leaves, and twilight arrives earlier each day. It is a season to slow down and savor the warmth of a congenial gathering of friends and neighbors. On Saturday, November 17, from 4 to 7 p.m., join the Bidwell House Museum for its twelfth annual fall fundraising party—A Fall Celebration of Our Early Berkshire History—to be held this year at the museum.

Delight in the festive décor, celebrate a successful 2018 season, and listen as guest Bonney Hartley talks about the work being done on a new Native American heritage trail through the Berkshires. Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as the museum thanks all of the members and friends in the community who support this enchanting place. A silent auction will offer some wonderful gifts and treasures—perfect for the holidays. All proceeds from this party support the museum, its programs, maintenance of the historic structures, and the preservation of its open space.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 413-528-6888 or go to the museum website at bidwellhousemuseum.org.

Don't forget; while the house may be closed for tours, the grounds and gardens are open all year, free of charge. There are over four miles of trails on the Bidwell House Museum grounds where you can take a brisk walk in the woods, exercise your dog, or learn about the Native American history of the area. Trail maps and maps of the new Native American interpretive trail can be found on the front porch of the house and at the kiosks on the property. You can also go to the museum website home page and download a pdf map of both trails.

The Bidwell House Museum is located at 100 Art School Road in Monterey. The house will reopen for tours on Memorial Day 2019.

—Heather Kowalski
Executive Director



On Friday, October 26, the Tryon tea house opposite the general store was demolished and the site roughly graded off. There seems to be a lot happening in the village these days.



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November Wildlife

The Bush Buddha, the Bees, and the Bear

Early in the past month, I noticed the “bush Buddha” at the Monterey Community Center had taken a dive out of his bush, landing face down on the lawn.* This was a Saturday and Connie Wilson was just arriving to open up for yoga class. We went over to stand the statue up again, thinking maybe the lawn mower had knocked it over. Russell the dog came with us. Connie noticed a “bug” on Russell’s side, and the next thing you know we were running like mad as all three of us got stung up by yellow jackets.

Monitoring the scene for several days, I noticed the wasps landing on the Buddha’s left arm and shoulder, then slipping inside the hollow sculpture through a small crack under the arm. After some travels and some mulling, I am thinking that this concrete statue was knocked over by a bear in search of insect protein. A friend in Nova Scotia had his backyard visited by such a bear, which tore up a mound of sphagnum moss that had been home to a colony of yellow jackets. By the time I saw the demolished mound, there were just a few confused wasps visiting, trying to make sense of things. The Community Center Buddha was a better place for a nest, even when knocked on its face, but looked more balanced once we’d stood it back up.

Ray Norrell wrote in from Blue Hill Road to say he has had many flickers feeding at his place, and has been visited by a bobcat and two turkeys. On New Marlboro Road, Steve Moore has written to say “Turkeys Are Everywhere!” Also strawberry-eating chipmunks and squirrels among the peaches and the corn. In fact, Steve and Wendy came home from a trip to find all their popcorn had been nibbled off the stalks by squirrels.

Nicki Humphrey got in touch to say she had seen a “huge grey wolf” just after 8 a.m. on a rainy Monday, at the edge of the woods by her driveway on Fairview Road. She was in the house and leaned forward for a better look out the window, at which point the wolf stopped and looked directly at her for a short time, before walking on

towards the road. Nicki reports that she and Sharelle have a friend who visited three years ago and saw a wolf then, in the very same place.

The last wolf report came a few years back from Valerie Costas on Mount Hunger Road. She hasn’t seen one since, but there has been a bobcat out back, seen recently there by Emily Sotile, Val’s daughter who is visiting.

Mickey Jervas saw a bobcat, too, out the window at her place on Swann Road. It walked across the lawn, sat, and then walked on. Recently, Mickey heard a loud screeching which may have been a barred owl. She has also seen many turkey vultures circling near the transfer station.

Roy Carwile asked what might be digging small shallow holes in his yard, and as he described these divots, we both thought they must be made by skunks, who will dig in a lawn looking for larval insects or grubs, to eat.



Suzanne Sawyer got in touch about a handsome bird that died beside the driveway, inexplicably, and I went to have a look (above). It is a male partridge, or ruffed grouse. Our best guess is that it flew or ran into an obstacle, probably the board fence beside the driveway, and broke its neck. Here is a photograph showing its dark ruff about the neck, and its tail feathers arranged in a fan. The male spreads his tail like this when displaying; also he will beat his wings to make a hollow drumming sound with his body as resonator.

At the Banners’ pond on Griswold Road there have been three hooded mergansers visiting. They may stay, or else move on. Like wood ducks, they nest in tree cavities or nest boxes. These are small ducks. The Banners took a great photograph of a big year-round resident of the pond: a male bullfrog. You call tell the males by the size of their ears relative



to the eyes—quite a lot bigger. Females have eyes and ears about the same size.

Michael Genchi, of East Lake Garfield, was leaving town for his winter residence in New York when he saw a “large cat” cross the road in Sandisfield, on Route 8. “It was brown and the size of a very large German shepherd, but beefier. It had to be seventy to one hundred pounds. I have been searching the Internet, and the more I look the more I think it was actually a mountain lion, too big for a bobcat. Truly amazing!”

Kit Patten called to say he has a “fairy ring” at his place, a big one. Sure enough, there is a ring of mushrooms growing around a big tree in the woods between his yard and Fairview Road. It is twenty feet across and the mushrooms are big white ones. There are at least sixty different kinds of mushrooms that can form these circles, and plenty more to say about them, much of it the stuff of myth and folktale, also of poetry and mystery.

Thanks, everyone, for all you notice and pass along to the rest of us.

—Bonner McAllester

528-9385 or bonnermca@gmail.com.

*This Buddha is a sculpture by Edith Wilson, an artist who lived where the Monterey Community Center is now. Edith named the sculpture “Laughing Boy,” and it sat on the cover of the well for years and years. He moved a distance off to the shrubbery to make way for the new entry to the house. The yellow jackets moved in more recently. Edith left her house and property to the Town of Monterey, for municipal use.



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, November 5 and 19, at 4 p.m.

Conservation Commission: Wednesday, November 14, at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Monday, November 5, at 10 a.m.

Visiting Nurse: Berkshire VNA will be here on Thursday, November 8, from 2 to 3 p.m. No appointment necessary.

Parks Commission: Wednesday, November 7, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursday, November 8, at 7 p.m.

Select Board: Wednesdays, November 7, at 9 a.m., and November 21, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Town Hall Closings

Town hall will be closed Monday, November 12, for Veteran's Day, and Thursday, November 22, for Thanksgiving.

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



Winter Roads Policy

Winter Parking Ban

From November 1 through April 15, no person shall park or leave unattended a vehicle on any town road or town property that is required to be plowed by the town, with the exception of downtown during business hours, where there are designated parking places. Vehicles parked in drive-ways must be far enough off the traveled way so as not to hinder plowing operations or be dangerous to the snowplows.

Vehicles found in violation of the above parking regulations may be towed at the owner's expense. If you are unable to make it to your destination you may temporarily park at the town hall or town beach. If you have a breakdown along the roadside, call the police or highway department ASAP to let them know that it is being taken care of.

Private Snowplow Operators

No private individual shall plow/blow snow onto, across, or otherwise dispose of snow onto town roads. This is illegal and dangerous and violators can be ticketed by the police.

Mailbox Policy

We do not deliberately knock over or damage mailboxes. Anything installed in the town's right-of-way (i.e. fence, mailbox, sign, etc.) is placed there at the owner's risk. Residents are encouraged to place mailboxes at the maximum allowable distance from the traveled way. Be aware the town of Monterey does not reimburse for mailboxes damaged during snowplowing operations. They should be inspected regularly to insure that they are secured properly and that wood posts are not rotted out.

Salt and Sand for Residents

Winter salt and sand for residential use is available only from a pile at the transfer station and is available only when the transfer station is open. Residents are asked to take only one five gallon pail at a time for personal use.

Winter Storm Operations

Paved Roads: Salt is usually applied as snowfall begins to prevent snow from bonding to the pavement. Road temperature, air temperature, wind, snowfall rates,

time of day, ice pellets, rain, freezing rain or sleet all affect the timing and amount of salt applications. On school days, bus routes are done before other roads as the buses start running by 6:30 a.m.

Gravel Roads: Gravel roads are plowed after the paved roads, and our goal is to have no more than four to six inches accumulate on any unpaved road. Roads are sanded normally at the end of the snowfall, and sand is reapplied as needed.

Rain and Freezing Rain: Salt is spread on paved roads and town properties before rainfall when the road temperatures are below or near freezing to prevent roads from icing up. Salt is reapplied as needed to prevent freeze-up.

On unpaved roads, sand is applied when possible. During a rain storm with road temperatures below freezing, unpaved roads freeze instantly, and sand that is applied is quickly frozen over. During a long rain event, we try to sand the gravel roads three to four times a day to allow some travel, but remember, they will freeze up on you rather quickly. We cannot keep them passable all the time.

Please keep in mind that each storm is unique and requires its own approach to managing the roads. The intensity of the storm may dictate the amount of time the highway crew is safely and effectively able to work.

The highway department does our best to plow and sand the roads in a timely manner, but please keep in mind that we are limited in how fast we can go (10–15 mph) and how much help we have (four trucks/workers) for fifty miles of road. After a storm has stopped, it takes us, on average, four to five hours to complete cleanup.

Winter Driving Suggestions

- Use common sense—don't go out during a snow/ice storm if you don't have to. The fewer people on the road, the fewer accidents and the easier for us to clean them.
- Slow down—reduce your speed and drive cautiously. Just because you own a 4x4 or all-wheel-drive vehicle does not mean you are invincible (4X4s and AWDs have the same stopping issues). Everyone should cut their speed in half during a storm.

Calendar

Saturdays: Ping pong, 2 to 4 p.m., community center. See page 5.

Tuesdays:

Chair yoga, 9 a.m., community center.

Sponsored by the parks commission.

Group singing, led by Oren Rosenthal, 7 to 9 p.m. See page 5.

Tuesday, November 6: State elections, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., town hall.

Friday, November 9: Board game night, 7 to 9 p.m., community center. See page 5.

Saturday, November 10: First annual clothing swap, 9 to 11 a.m., community center. See page 4.

Sunday, November 11: Veterans Day service, Veterans honor roll memorial on library grounds. See page 3.

Tuesday, November 13: Movie night, 7 p.m., town hall. *Grumpier Old Men*.

Saturday, November 17:

Bidwell annual fall fundraising party, 4 to 7 p.m., Bidwell House Museum. See page 24.

Lenox Contra Dance, live music with the Russet Trio. Calling by Jon Greene and the Callers Club, 8 to 11 p.m., beginners session at 7:45. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. Contact 528-4007. Lenox-ContraDance.org.

Sunday, November 18: "Fall Garden 'How To': Winter Sowing and New Bed Prep," 1 to 2:30 p.m., community center. See page 4.

- Put snow tires on your vehicle—all-season radials are not enough.
- Don't leave your vehicle on the traveled way.
- Listen to the weather forecasts and pay attention to changing conditions.

Snow issues or concerns should be reported to the Monterey Police Department by calling 528-3211, or the Monterey Highway Department (if appropriate) at 528-1734 or both.

—Carol Edelman, Chair
Kenn Basler and Don Coburn
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For general inquiries, please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov.

To subscribe to a printable monthly calendar via email, write to monterey-news9@gmail.com, and put "calendar email" in the subject line or text area. Print it (one page) and forward it.

Monday, November 19: Lake Garfield Working Group, 7 p.m., town hall. See page 9.

Tuesday, November 20: *Monterey News* deadline.

Monday, November 26: Adult book group, 7:30 p.m., community center. *Sycamore Rowe*, by John Grisham.

Wednesday, November 28: Mandala "magic" workshop, 10 to 11:30 a.m., community center. See page 4.

Saturday, December 1:

Hockey rink set up in the firehouse pavilion, 9:30 a.m. See page 13.

Made in Monterey holiday sale, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., community center. See page 14.

Thursday, December 6:

Mount Everett senior holiday luncheon and concert, 11:30 a.m., at the Mount Everett School. See page 3.

Darn Yarners, 1 to 3 p.m., community center. See page 5.



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.

Cafe Palestina

Cafe Palestina will be presenting two films addressing the Israel/Palestinian occupation at the Friends Meeting House, 280 State Road (Route 23), in Great Barrington.

The first, *The War Around Us*, on Thursday, November 8, dramatically captures the isolation of the only two reporters covering Israel's 2008 "Operation Cast Lead" attack on Gaza, in which 1,400 civilians died. It received a standing ovation at the 2012 Boston Palestine Film Festival.

The second film, *The Iron Wall*, on Thursday, November 29, provides a great historical overview explaining how Palestinian land was taken and how settlements work. There are interviews with Jeff Halper of ICAHD (Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions) and others.

Both presentations will start at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. Light refreshments available. Free admission, though donations are welcome. For information, email Cafe.Palestina@yahoo.com.

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Contributions from local artists this month:

Maureen Banner, pgs. 3, 26, 27;

George Emmons, p. 17; Bonner McAllester, p. 20.

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