

Alzheimer's prevention

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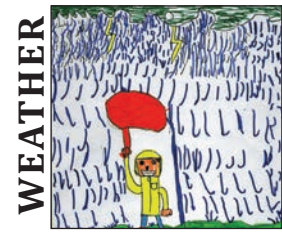
YOUR HEALTH, PAGE D1



Conway says 'no'

VOTERS REJECT THE PROPOSAL FOR A NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE.

LOCAL NEWS, PAGE C1



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SCATTERED STORMS
Logan Johnson
Erving Elementary
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In sweeping move, Court allows gay marriage

As appeals are rejected, gay marriage becomes legal in 11 more states

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court unexpectedly cleared the way Monday

for a dramatic expansion of gay marriage in the United States and may have signaled that it's only a matter of time before same-sex couples can marry in all 50 states.

Rejecting appeals from five states seeking to preserve their bans, the Supreme Court effectively made such marriages legal in 30 states, up from 19 and the District

of Columbia, taking in every region of the country.

Challenges are pending in the other 20 states.

Almost immediately, exuberant couples began receiv-

■ Supreme Court will begin term with police actions case, See Page A3.

enge to Oklahoma's ban, as she and her partner got their license in the Tulsa County Clerk's Office.

Directly affected by Monday's orders were Wisconsin, Indiana, Oklahoma,

See MARRIAGE Page A2

ing marriage licenses previously denied to them. "This is the dream day," said Sharon Baldwin, a plaintiff in a chal-



Recorder/Paul Franz

Sue Bridge uses a land-based approach to growing rice in Conway. She also has a permaculture garden and believes this region should grow more of its own food supply.

Rice is growing in Franklin County

By RICHIE DAVIS
Recorder Staff

It may not sound entirely astounding, since Franklin County agriculture yields everything from hops and barley and wheat to barramundi, but rice, a crop that's believed to have little historical precedent in Massachusetts, has been alive and well as a crop here for decades.

Sue Bridge, who created an edible permaculture garden surrounding a home she built in Conway about seven years ago to demonstrate sustainable living practices, has about 450 square feet of rice ready for harvest probably sometime this week.

Bridge, who has used a land-based approach at her Wildside Garden, expects about 50 pounds of seed from what will be her third year of growing

a Ukrainian variety of brown rice. She hasn't had to weed her 300 rice plants, and she has only had to water twice with a hose. She says she is still considering it an experimental crop as part of her belief that this region should be growing more of its own food supply.

"It's a lot of fun," Bridge says, looking over the rice field, which unlike her permaculture garden

of perennial gooseberry, high-bush cranberry, hardy kiwi, pawpaws and more will have to be replanted each season and provide enough food for her to give away.

"It's a simple story, but it's a deep story, in terms of survival," says Bridge, who points to Christian Elwell of Shelburne Falls Road as her inspiration and source of rice seed

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Hydro increase prompts protest

COG, watershed council intervene against proposed pumping boost

By RICHIE DAVIS
Recorder Staff

Two local agencies intend to intervene in a proposal to temporarily allow the Northfield Mountain hydroelectric station to boost output by pumping and releasing more river water at its mountaintop reservoir.

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments and the Connecticut River Watershed Council have filed a joint intervention in FirstLight Hydro Generating Co.'s application to the federal government.

FirstLight, which is also in the midst of studies as part of a relicensing process for Northfield Mountain and other hydroelectric plants along the Connecticut River, applied in August to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for permission to boost storage capacity of its mountaintop reservoir by allowing an additional 22 feet of pumping capacity to its 5-billion-gallon reservoir between Dec. 1 and next March 31.

The 42-year-old underground pumped-storage plant makes electric-

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Arms Library to 'put a roof on it' in spring

By DIANE BRONCACCIO
Recorder Staff

SHELBURNE FALLS — The Arms Library "Put a Roof on It" campaign has raised \$535,000 — enough to start construction next spring for the 101-year-old library's critical roof replacement, says fundraising chairwoman Whit Sanford.

But at least \$315,000 more will be needed to finish Phase 1 of the exterior work planned for the roof, masonry and foundation drainage.

Library officials discovered leaks in both the building's foundation and roof right after Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011. In January 2012, Sanford and Arms library officials told Shelburne Selectmen that the copper-domed roof should be done sooner rather than later, to prevent more leak-

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Where's all the military surplus going?

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — Doug Wortham used a Defense Department giveaway program for law enforcement to stock his office with an assault rifle, a handgun and a Humvee — even though the people in his custody are in no condition to put up a fight. They're dead.

Wortham is the Sharp County, Arkansas, coroner. He says the Humvee helps him navigate the rugged terrain of the Ozarks foothills, but he struggled to explain why he needs the surplus military weapons he acquired more than two years ago.

"I just wanted to protect myself," he said.



AP photo

Kim Clark, senior investigator for the Wyoming Livestock Board, shows his Colt .45 semi-automatic pistol with "United States Property" stamped into it on Thursday in Cokeville, Wyo. Clark's law enforcement unit, which investigates cattle thefts and other industry related crimes, was given seven .45-caliber handguns from a military surplus program roughly three years ago.

His office isn't the only government agency with limited policing powers and a questionable need for high-powered weaponry to take advantage of the program. While most of the sur-

plus weapons go to municipal police departments and county sheriffs, an Associated Press review shows that a

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for more information, see page 3



