

More hungry neighbors

The Franklin Area Survival Center in Turners Falls sees rise in number of needy families and individuals. JUST PLAIN NEIGHBORS, PAGE C1



Caution: Lead

Renovations can stir up dangerous lead dust. YOUR HEALTH, PAGE D1

WEATHER



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THE RECORDER

Serving the people of Franklin County and the North Quabbin Region

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Real Pickles wins 2nd Good Food Award

Two years in a row, Greenfield pickle company earns national recognition

Recorder Staff

Real Pickles has done it again.

For the second year in a row, the Greenfield manufacturer of naturally fermented pickles has won the top honor

at the Good Food Awards in San Francisco for its Organic Garlic Dill Pickles.

The awards highlight "outstanding American food producers who are making food that is exceptionally delicious

and supports sustainability and social good."

Co-owner Dan Rosenberg was among those selected to address the audience of approximately 400 artisan food producers and other

invited guests, lauding the annual awards ceremony for its efforts to change the way we think about food in this country.

"With its efforts to promote both taste and social

responsibility, the Good Food Awards are helping to bring 'good food' back into the American diet," said Rosenberg after winners had been announced. "Pickles are an essential food — one that can keep people eating nutritious fruits and vegetables from regional sources all

year long, regardless of how cold the weather gets."

As part of its award, Real Pickles was asked to recognize three community members who have contributed to the business' success. Rosenberg acknowledged

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SLAVERY ECONOMY TOUCHES EVERYONE



Katrina Browne, the director and author of "Traces of the Trade" film about eight families and their ties to the former slave trade in America shown to Bement School students on Monday, uses string to show how the slave trade was intertwined in all trade by listing the cargo of a slave trading ship.

Bement students take lesson in slave system

Katrina Browne's film traces her own family's ties to Colonial-era slave trade

By JOHN TILTON
Recorder Staff

DEERFIELD — String crisscrossed a classroom at the Bement School in Ted Pina's eighth-grade history class. It ran from one student holding a card that said "Sail Makers of Providence," to another student holding a card for "Swivel Gun," to another for "40 Handcuffs and 40 Shackles" and ultimately formed the web of the New England slave trade.

Each card represented an item

that was aboard the slave ship "Sally," which traveled from Providence to West Africa on a slaving voyage in 1764. Directing this web was filmmaker Katrina Browne who spent the day at Bement screening her film and facilitating classroom discussions to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Browne wrote and directed the documentary film "Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North," which follows the revelation that Browne's New England ancestors were one of the largest slave-

trading families in American history and were involved with the voyage of the Sally.

"It's a web," said eighth-grader Lauren Downes. "It wasn't just a few people. It was the whole community."

The activity was designed to represent the economics of the slave trade. Whether implicitly or explicitly, entire communities could be found at the helm of the notorious industry that haunts America's past.

To Browne, understanding this interconnectedness is crucial. It

begins to blur the preconceptions that we have about our own heritage here in New England.

"It's not as simple as good people and evil people with the extreme evil slave traders," said Browne, "but rather how the economy, the whole region, the whole town both in the North and the South were involved."

As the students stood in the classroom, holding up the web, Browne facilitated a classroom discussion about slavery that went to the present day. Browne said that 2011 marked the year when the most people were enslaved worldwide.

However, the face of slavery has

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BROWNE

Recorder/Paul Franz

More pets left at shelter

Dakin reports increase in need for homes for pets

By ANITA PHILLIPS
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — The number of surrendered animals increased at Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society in 2011, but so did the number of adoptions.

Candice Lash, spokeswoman for the local nonprofit shelter, said Dakin can't be 100 percent sure why both increased, but said the sagging economy is one of the main reasons for the increase in surrendered animals.

"Still, the Number One reason we

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Study: Babies lip-reading when learning how to talk

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Babies don't learn to talk just from hearing sounds. New research suggests they're lip-readers too.

It happens during that magical stage when a baby's babbling gradually changes from gibberish into syllables and eventually into that first "mama" or "dada."

Florida scientists discovered that starting around age 6 months, babies begin shifting from the intent eye gaze of early infancy to studying mouths when people talk to them.

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Greenfield police log item makes it to Ellen show

By BOB DUNN
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — So, why did those chickens cross the road?

To get mentioned on television, of course.

An item that was printed in The Recorder's police log got the attention of a reader who, in turn, sent it to "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" where it was featured on air.

The reader who sent the clipping in, Angeline Trenholm, 31, of Greenfield, said she watches the show regularly and when it began soliciting police log items, she said she began to keep an eye out.

When she saw an item about loose chickens reportedly being spotted behind Wilson's Department Store, she snapped a picture of it and



This screen shot from The Ellen DeGeneres Show shows the police log item mentioning chickens crossing the road from The Recorder on Dec. 19, 2011.

sent it in.

The log item read, "2:32 p.m. — Caller reports chickens in the back parking lot Wilson's Department Store; Officer sent, unable to locate; chickens possibly crossed road."

The log item appeared in The Recorder on Dec. 19, 2011.

The item was read as a part of a regular fea-

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