

The Daily Hampshire Gazette

Letters to the Editor
115 Conz Street
Northampton, MA 01060
opinion@gazettenet.com
Fax: 413.585.5299

The Republican

Letters to the Editor
Box 2350
Springfield, MA 01102
letters@repub.com
Fax: 413.788.1301

The Greenfield Recorder

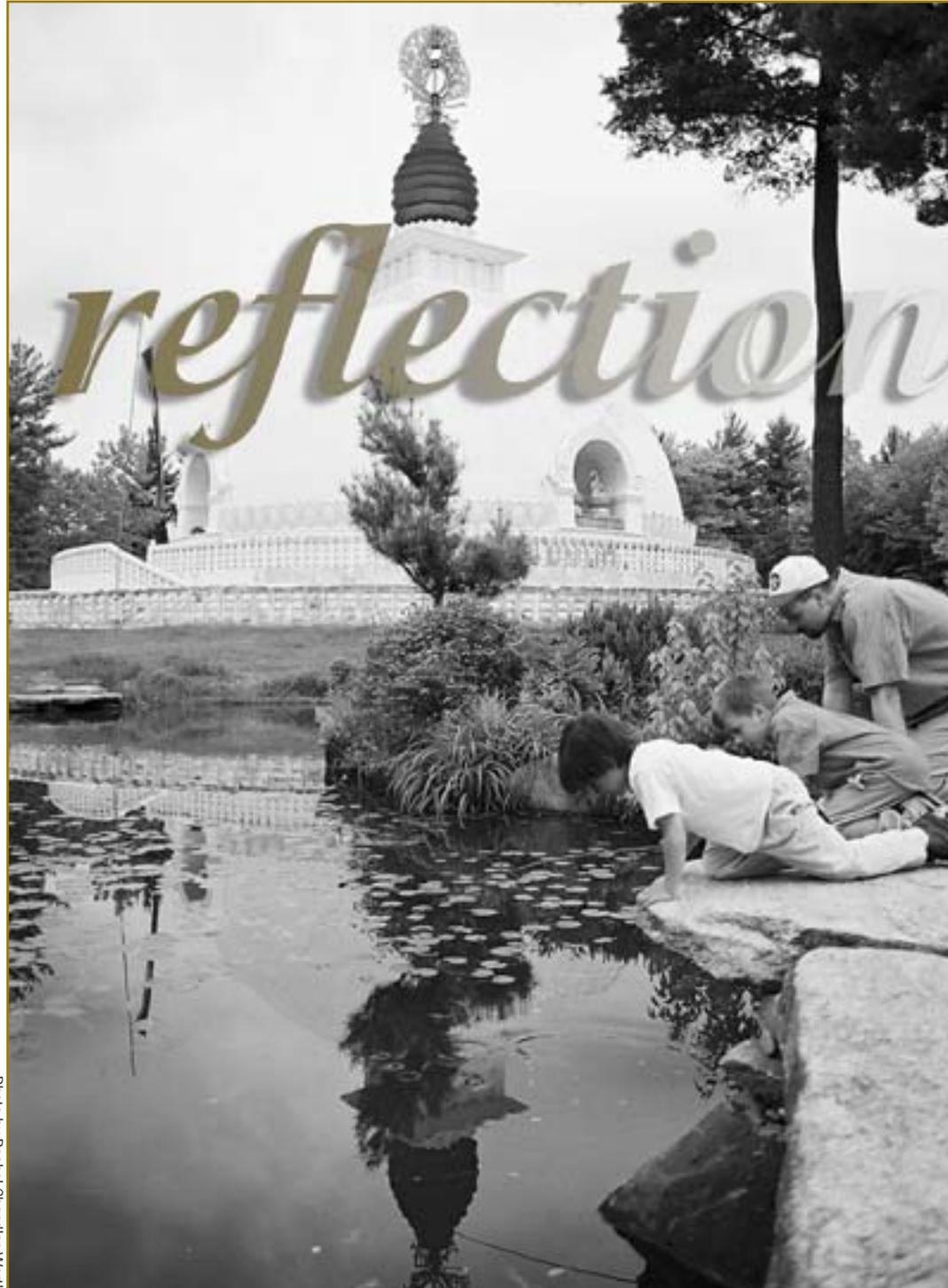
Letters to the Editor
14 Hope Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
letters@recorder.com
Fax: 413.774.5020

[Note: letters to the editor must include the writer's name, address and telephone number in order to be considered for publication. They must be brief, maximum 300 words.]

take action!

People read letters to the editor more than any other part of the daily paper. It is a place where neighbors talk to neighbors about important issues. Reflect on pressing social justice issues and become a regular writer to your local paper. Keep this post card handy for whenever an issue arises that you wish to address.

Photo by Rachel Chandler-Worth



NA-MU MYŌ-HŌ-
REN-GE-KYŌ

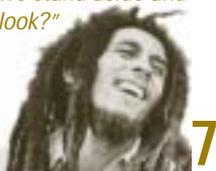
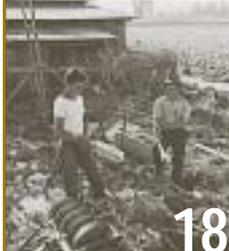
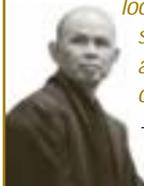
f Fe Eb Br Ru E a R r O y

☞ If you are white, take notice of the privileges you receive everyday just because of your skin color. Are there ways in which you avoid facing the truth by reaping the benefits without acknowledging the cost?

☞ When the monks and community members of Nipponzan Myohoji walk, they chant, "NA-MU MYO-HO-REN-GE-KYO." This loosely translates as a recognition of the divinity of everything they are encountering. To the pilgrims, every step on this earth is a prayer. Take time to notice the everyday miracles present in our communities.

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500



DOMINGO	LUNES	MARTES	MIÉRCOLES	JUEVES	VIERNES	SÀBADO
Eid Al-Adha. (Muslim). Eid Al-Adha or the Feast of Sacrifice, commemorates Ibrahim's (Abraham's) willingness to sacrifice his son, Ismail (Ishmael), peace upon them both, in obedience to God. This feast is part of Hajj (Pilgrimage) and takes place on the 10th of Dhu al-Hajj of the Islamic calendar. 1	Imbolc (Wiccan). Celebration of the return of the sun. 2	The Western Massachusetts Military Recruitment Education Network meets the first Tuesday of each month at First Churches Northampton, 129 Main Street. Thinking about enlisting? Get the facts about military service. Information: AFSC, 413.584.8975 www.WesternMassAFSC.org 3	Holyoke Community College celebrates Black History Month. Information: 413.522.2259 4	The U.S. government attempted to justify the establishment of Japanese internment camps during World War II under the pretext of protecting Japanese Americans from violence. 5	<p> Birthday, Bob Marley (1945-1981), performer, activist <i>"How long will they kill our prophets while we stand aside and look?"</i> </p>  <p> In late February, the Nipponzan Myohoji Peace Pagoda will begin its Third Annual Walk for a New Spring. The pilgrimage will travel until March 20. Information: 413.367.2202 6 </p>	7
<p> Birthday, Alice Walker (1944), author, activist <i>"Despite the hunger we cannot possess more than this: Peace in a garden of our own."</i> </p> 8	 <p> (1990) Nelson Mandela is released from Robin Island Prison after serving 27 years of a life sentence for his work to resist apartheid. La Wanza Lett-Brewington will perform <i>Truth: The Woman Behind the Legend</i> at Westfield State College Info: La Wanza, 413.863.8107 11 </p>	<p> (1909) National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) founded 12 </p>	<p> (1960) Lunch counter sit-ins begin in Nashville. 13 </p>	<p> The Northampton Interparish Social Concerns Committee will distribute the U.S. Bishop's pastoral letter on racism in our day, <i>Brothers and Sisters to Us</i>, at masses in all Catholic churches in Northampton. Information: 413.732.3175 14 </p>		
<p> (2003) More than 10 million people march and rally in over 60 countries and over 600 cities, demonstrating their opposition to the Bush administration's war against Iraq. Western Massachusetts sends 24 bus loads of people to the 400,000-strong NYC demonstration. 15 </p>	<p> <i>"Power concedes nothing without demand. It never did and never will."</i> —Frederick Douglass (1818–1895), escaped slave, abolitionist, editor, orator 16 </p>	<p> Birthday, Huey Newton (1942–1989), co-founder of Black Panthers 17 </p> 	 <p> Day of Infamy, February 19, 1942. The U.S. begins the internment of Americans of Japanese descent, and anyone who was assumed to be of Japanese descent. Approximately 120,000 people are forced to reside in distant, make-shift concentration camps. The U.S. government confiscates homes, farms, and savings, in some cases forever, on the pretext that Japanese Americans would ally with Japan. However, during the entire course of World War II, not one of the ten people convicted of spying for Japan was Japanese or Japanese American. 18 </p>	<p> Tibetan New Year. Beginning today, Tibetan Buddhists hold a week-long celebration of thanksgiving. A community-wide celebration will take place sometime near February 24. Info: 413.586.1568 21 </p>		
<p> Muharram (Muslim). Islamic New Year. Unitarian Society of Greater Springfield's Journey Toward Wholeness Sunday, 10:30am to noon, a time to renew our commitment to dismantle all forms of oppression. All welcome! Information: 413.736.2324 22 </p>	<p> <i>"If we are too busy, if we are carried away every day by our projects, our uncertainty, our craving, how can we have the time to stop and look deeply into the situation—our own situation, the situation of our beloved ones, the situation of our family and of our community, and the situation of our nation and of the other nations?"</i> —Ven. Thich Nhat Hanh (1926), Vietnamese Buddhist monk, activist and author 25 </p> 	<p> Northampton High School presents Magdalena Gómez in a one woman show, <i>Chopping</i>, 12:30pm today and tomorrow, Fayette Congdon Auditorium. Information: 413.587.1341 26 </p>	<p> Performance of <i>The Silken Phoenix</i>, Asian poetry and music Asian Arts and Culture Program Information: 413.545.2511 www.fineartscenter.com/asian 27 </p>	<p> <i>"O, happy the soul that saw its own faults."</i> —Mevlana Rumi (1207–1273), 13th century Sufi poet and mystic, from the land now called Afghanistan 28 </p>		
<p> During 1988 the U.S. government begins to meet demands for redress for losses and injury suffered by Japanese Americans imprisoned during WWII. The U.S. apologizes and provides partial payments to 60,000 surviving prisoners. 29 </p>	<p> Getting sensitive to language In our language, we use words like "black" and "dark" to label things that we see as bad. Think about all the examples of this we encounter daily: black ball, black list, black ice, black hole, black humor, black sheep, black market, black hats, etc. See if you can generate alternatives and make a point of using those instead. </p>					

Why do North America and Europe sit on the top of a globe or a world map? In space, there is no "up" or "down," so why are we always on top? For information about world maps, ODT, Incorporated, P.O. Box 134, Amherst, MA 01004, 800.736.1293, www.diversophy.com