

re. Gordon 2/2010

**Irmarie Jones
Just Plain
Neighbors
774-4954**



Prevention Project of Franklin County is asking for help from Recorder readers.

They explain: "Maafa is a Kiswahili word that translates 'great calamity, catastrophe, tragedy' and is now used to refer to the cumulative horror of the Africa-America slave trade. Known nationally, Maafa is a multi-venue educational commemoration taking place here and in the region, with the support of the DPP"

LaWanza Lett-Brewington of the DPP said they are setting up a secure space for a local museum of Maafa artifacts. She would like people or institutions to make temporary loan of historical objects relating to slave ownership, trade or treatment. Also, any material

relating to the Abolitionist cause would be of interest.

In October, multiple events for Maafa will be planned locally and nationally. Anyone with artifacts or an interest in helping can call Brewington at 863-8107.

CHERIE CLOUTIER AND LYNN O'RILEY have been recognized as paraprofessionals of the year at Turners Falls High School and Great Falls Middle School.

Cloutier operates the assisted learning center at the schools. She was presented a plaque for outstanding student support services. She is also varsity field hockey coach.

O'Riley, a member of the seventh grade Bluestreak team, organized and supported the creation of a "new" school store. She was trained by the Young Entrepreneurs Society (YES) and will offer workshops next year to middle school students. She was honored for her years of dedication to the school.