



**Volume 4, Number 1 - January 2023**

## Let your voice be heard!

A huge THANK YOU from the *Conway Currents* Newsletter Committee to all those who have supported our efforts throughout the past year!

If the staff of *Conway Currents* had just one wish for the new year, it would be for increased participation from the community.

- Have you an idea for a regular column you'd like to write?
- Do you have an interesting story about life in Conway?
- Have you a special recipe you'd like to share?
- Have you any feedback about *Currents*: what you like, what you don't like, what you'd like us to include?

One of our purposes in publishing *Conway Currents* was to give creative voice to those who live in, work in, or have a familial connection to the Town of Conway. So let your voice be heard!



## Pumpkin Hollow Stupa Pole

by Steve Thomas

We have been asked by a number of people what the structure that we have built in the Pumpkin Hollow hayfield along Conway's Academy Hill Road is all about and what its significance is. Below we have attempted to answer these questions.

This structure is an amalgam of several disparate but overlapping spiritual, social, and esthetic components. The word *stupa* is of Sanskrit origin and literally means "mound or heap," typically of stones. The Buddhists latched onto this word to describe mounds that were built as places of devotion and communication, including the places where the Buddha himself and other prominent religious personalities and their relics were stored.

While it has not yet been scientifically substantiated, some Buddhists believe that if you walk around a stupa in a clockwise direction, bad karma in your life will be attenuated and good karma will be enhanced.

Totem poles are usually red cedar monuments built by First Nation tribes of the Pacific Northwest to give thanks to their Great Spirit and to commemorate ancestry, tribal history, family legends, special beings, and important food animals.

So our term "Stupa Pole" is an amalgam of these two disparate roots. But this is not the only amalgamation embedded in our Stupa Pole.

It is also an amalgamation between two different craftsmen: Barry Kuzmeskus of Native Stone, a very accomplished stone worker who works on a broad range of stone masonry projects, and Steve Thomas of Three Crows Woodworking, who specializes in building timber-framed structures and doing architectural detail carving. The base of this structure is made from six cubic yards of

Ashfield schist, a sedentary stone that is about three hundred million years old. The pole component is made from locally sourced black locust, a strong and highly rot-resistant wood.

Additionally, our Stupa Pole reflects an amalgam and partnership between the corvid family of birds (crows, ravens), and humans. Indigenous People, among others, have always deeply appreciated the impressive intelligence of this group of birds. Particularly among Indigenous People has been the corvids' role as effective messengers (communicators) between humans and their Great Spirits who reside high in the sky.



Accordingly, the sky-pointed crow head and beak of the Stupa Pole woodwork is a very distant analog of the more recent use of steeples on churches: structures that attempt to more effectively transmit the worshiper's thoughts, prayers, and aspirations to their Great Spirit – whoever that may be.

Sooo . . . to answer the initial questions, some of the reasons we constructed this Stupa Pole and our hope for its future relevance include:

- Acknowledgment and respect for the previously mentioned spiritual, historical, and social traditions of our predecessors.

- To encourage existing, emerging, or aspiring craftspeople to keep moving forward with projects in their areas of specialization and to encourage clients to support them.
- To provide a place where the general public can, at their own risk, walk down from Academy Hill Road across the hayfield (which Jeanne and Steve own; no vehicles please) to the Stupa Pole. Feel free to walk around the Stupa Pole (hopefully in a clockwise direction!) and/or sit on the built-in east-facing stone bench to communicate with any deceased partners, family members, or friends, and/or to simply communicate with nature and/or your Great Spirit – whoever that may be.
- And finally, and of quaternary importance relative to the foregoing, we hope that this structure might further enhance Pumpkin Hollow's existing credentials as one of North America's few "Centers of the Universe."

If this Stupa Pole achieves at least some of the above objectives, we will consider this project a success. Enjoy!

Barry and Steve

## Update from the UCC

The UCC of Conway welcomes our new pastor, Marianne MacCullagh, at the anticipated opening of our new building in January. This date is subject to change, as we are at the mercy of many external events. If you would like to be informed of the final date, please email the church at [uccconway@gmail.com](mailto:uccconway@gmail.com), and we will add you to our email list for our latest updates.

Much has happened since Rev. Marianne joined our church in November as joint pastor for the United Congregational Church of Conway and the First Congregational Church of Shelburne. This has included slow but consistent growth in our congregation and the anticipated completion of our newly built church. We welcome the opportunity to introduce our new pastor to more members of our community at the opening of *your* community church.

By way of introduction for those who have not met her, Marianne wrote in her profile: “I feel strongly about reflecting the image of Christ in every personal encounter and also remaining open to how God may be speaking in surprising ways. I consider it central to my identity to share the love of God through words and deeds and to welcome all, no matter their circumstances.” Marianne has previous experience serving two churches at the same time and demonstrated many skills we believe are essential for this next chapter in the lives of our churches. Her strengths include pastoral care, described as her “ability to find remarkable ways in sermons to apply the lectionary readings to modern issues.”

We welcome all to join us for this anticipated open house, for God’s house and your community church. Finally, in accordance with the UCC Conway bylaws, we are calling our Annual All-Church Meeting open to the full congregation. However, due to unusual circumstances, we are temporarily suspending the UCC bylaws requirement to have our annual meeting in January, and we are scheduling it for Sunday, February 5, 2023. This meeting will be in person in the new building, as well as over Zoom, at 9:15 a.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 413 369 4040, Passcode: 876701

We will integrate the meeting into the regular service time to discuss and take action on the following proposals from the Church Council: Motion 1: To review and approve the budget for 2023, which includes a withdrawal from the portfolio gain in the United Church Funds for the purpose of meeting the church’s financial obligations for this fiscal year. Motion 2: To ask current Church Council members to reaffirm their positions for the next year or to select and elect new church members to join the Church Council. Nominations can be made on the floor.

We look forward to seeing you at this year’s meeting! Again, all are welcome.

## Holiday/Christmas Giving Tree Thank You

During this just-past holiday season, some wonder if the true spirit of the season – the spiritual messages of Christmas and Chanukah – has been lost. Well, not so in Conway. Every year the Friends of the Field Memorial Library put up a Holiday/Christmas Giving Tree in the beautiful library rotunda. The only “advertising” is an article in *Conway Currents* and on the library website.

For last year and this year the Friends decided to support the Hilltown Churches Food Pantry, which provides support for more than 100 families in the hilltown area. We put up the tree on Sunday, November 27, and took the first batch of items to the food pantry on Tuesday, December 13, for their holiday distribution. So much food and baking goods were contributed that they filled the back of the car, and we received more than \$1,000 in gift cards (most for Walmart, as requested). There were bags of books for children as well and some gift cards for Boswell’s Books in Shelburne Falls.

Thank you, Conway, for your amazing generosity!

## Conway Historical Society

As the society closes what has been an unpredictable and eventful year, we hope you’ll take this opportunity to join the Society or renew your membership: \$10 for individuals and \$18 for families. Please also consider making a gift. The Society is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization and is not funded by the town. Our officers and board members are unpaid volunteers. We rely on the generosity of our members and friends and are grateful for your support. Our mailing address is PO Box 174, Conway, MA 01341. Thank you and happy holidays!

## *From Conway's Kitchens*

### Basil, Cranberry, and Goat Cheese Spread from Camille Balestri

1 garlic clove, peeled  
1 cup dried, sweetened cranberries  
1 cup fresh basil  
¼ cup toasted walnuts  
¼ tsp red pepper flakes  
½ cup grated parmesan cheese  
¼ cup Italian parsley, minced  
¼ cup olive oil  
8 oz goat cheese

Pulse first four ingredients in food processor. Mix with the other ingredients. Top goat cheese with the mixture and serve with crackers or a good baguette.

### Pekarski's Sausage, Chard, & Lemon-Béchéamel Lasagna from Julie Petty, adapted from *Martha Stewart Living*, March 2011

3 Tbs unsalted butter  
¼ cup all-purpose flour  
3 cups whole milk  
1 cup grated parmesan cheese  
salt and pepper to taste  
5 cups coarsely chopped Swiss chard  
1 lb Pekarski's sweet sausage, no casing  
1 or 2 lemons, very thinly sliced  
1 package lasagna noodles

Melt butter over high heat in a saucepan. Stir in flour; cook for 2 minutes. Whisk in the milk. Bring to boil, stirring constantly. Reduce heat, simmer for 1 minute. Remove from heat. Whisk in ¾

cup cheese, ½ tsp salt, and ¼ tsp pepper. Stir in chard. Cook sausage in a skillet, breaking up into pieces, until just barely pink, about 4 minutes. Cover lemon slices with cold water by 3 inches in a saucepan. Bring to boil. Reduce heat, simmer for 7 minutes. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate using a slotted spoon. Spread ¼ cup sauce in an 8-inch baking dish. Top with a layer of noodles, half the sausage, and 1 cup of sauce. Repeat. Top with a layer of lemons, then noodles, then remaining sauce and lemons. Bake covered in foil for 7 minutes. Remove from oven. Heat broiler. Uncover, top with remaining cheese. Broil about 2 minutes.

### Ginger-Pear Pie

from Pat Lynch, adapted from *Gourmet*

unbaked 9-in. pie shell  
¾ cup sugar  
2 Tbs all-purpose flour  
¾ tsp ginger  
¼ tsp salt  
3 ripe winter pears  
2 Tbs soft butter  
2 eggs, separated  
1 tsp grated lemon peel  
3 Tbs lemon juice  
¾ cup whole milk

Combine ¼ cup sugar, 1 Tbs flour, ginger, and salt. Sprinkle in pie shell. Peel and core pears, slice thinly, and lay slices over sugar-flour mixture. Cream butter; add remaining ½ cup sugar and 1 Tbs flour. Add egg yolks, lemon peel, and juice and beat thoroughly. Add milk and mix. Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold into lemon mixture, then pour onto pears.

Bake in hot oven (425°F) for 10 minutes; reduce heat to 350° and bake 30 minutes.

## Unheard Melodies

by Nicole Braden-Johnson

*"Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard / Are sweeter"*  
– John Keats "Ode on a Grecian Urn"

### Slipping on Ice

Slipping even in thick, treaded boots on black ice,  
The wind numbs the nose, fingers, and toes,  
So that the fear of falling is even worse,  
Because it seems pain delayed just grows.

"Follow me, Mama!" my indomitable cherub lisps,  
He pulls me, stomping down snow as we go –  
He is a miniature king of this frozen hill.  
And yet, his mitt grasping my glove,  
His heart seeks mine still,  
So I can catch My Lord anytime he slips.



## Update from the Field Memorial Library

Having completed required circulation training and barcoded at least 80% of our collection (now at approximately 99%) on Wednesday December 7, the FML became fully operational in CWMars! Woohoo and hooray!! Using your new FML card or *any* CWMars library card, you may log in, search for, and place a hold on any of the eight million items in CWMars. You can also search only the FML collection by selecting "Conway Field Memorial Library" in the "Library" search field. This field includes "All C/W Mars Libraries" as one selection as well as any one of the 157 member libraries.

When you locate a resource and put a hold on it, you can also specify a pickup library. For example, if you search for an item that the FML does not have but Jones Library in Amherst does, you can place a hold on that item and specify that you want to pick it up at the FML. They will transit it to us, and when we check it in, you will automatically get an email notice that we have it and it is ready for you to pick up. You can also return to the FML any item from any library in CWMars. However, keep in mind that we have only one day a week delivery before we open on Wednesdays. Time-sensitive items must be returned to the FML by the preceding Monday.

As of Monday, December 19, 2022, we had coded 11,617 items, and we have started working through the last section needing barcoding: our "vintage" collection of older items. These items are often fragile and lacking most of the numbering that indexes modern books. Each vintage item takes extra time. These items will be for library use only, but they will be searchable through CWMars. Thanks, and thanks again to our volunteers and staff who have made these resources available.

At 99% complete, the "Barcodathon" of the FML collection is now in the home stretch. It's as if we were running in the Boston

Marathon: We've reached Fenway Park and Kenmore Square, we're veering right onto Comm Ave to run a few more blocks toward the city. Then, we turn right and then left onto Boylston Street for the final four blocks. We've run 99% of the 26 miles and 385 yards of the Barcodathon course and are in those final four to six blocks.

Distribution of the first-edition FML library cards is going well, and we invite you to stop by to complete a library card registration form to secure your card and access to all CWMars resources through the FML. We have ramped up preparing them on the fly while you wait (usually about five minutes), but if the library is busy, we ask that you complete your form and leave it for us to prepare. We will then email or call you (your preference) to let you know that your card is ready to pick up any time the library is open.

We are grateful for the continuing support of the Friends of the Field Memorial Library. Their holiday giving tree gathered a cornucopia of support for the Hilltown Churches Food Pantry in Ashfield, serving Conway and surrounding towns. Thanks to all who made our contribution so abundant!

We look forward to seeing you in 2023! Happy New Year!

David Whittier, Director, Field Memorial Library  
[director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org](mailto:director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org) 413-369-4646  
<https://fieldmemoriallibrary.org>

*Disclaimer:* The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor, the organizing committee or town officials and should not be construed as such. Although we work to produce accurate and typographically correct copy, we cannot be responsible for errors or accuracy of materials submitted. *Conway Currents* does not endorse any specific product or service mentioned in its pages and is not responsible for the reliability of any service.

## Notes from the Town Administrator

Reflections on the past year . . .

Looking back at my calendar, I see that 2022 started off in January with the purchase of some rapid COVID tests for the town – as the first expenditure from the town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds – and ended with the November 4th emergency bridge closure on North Poland Road and Special Town Meeting on December 10th. Thankfully MassDOT has already begun work on installing a temporary bridge, and although we do not yet have a definite time frame for completion, it's heartening to see progress happen so quickly.

Some of the major projects from 2022 include:

- The creation of a new Public Buildings Committee. This committee is charged with identifying and prioritizing current and future needs for existing and proposed town-owned buildings. Through this committee, work was completed on drilling a well for the old highway garage (it had never had one before!); creating plans and submitting a Notice of Intent for a new public safety building next to the old highway garage to house offices for fire, police, and ambulance; and renewing work on installing a lift for Town Hall.
- The official open house for the new highway facility was held on Sunday, October 23. Representative Natalie Blais came to honor the work performed by the committee, and huge thanks go to those members who worked so hard to complete the project and kept it well under budget: Ron Sweet, Ken Ouimette, Peter Jeswald, Walter Goodridge, Hank Horstmann, and Liv Wyatt!!
- Cyber security issues have risen to the top of priority lists for many municipalities. Conway has received two grants to help with this: the first from the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS), which provides training for employees on how to recognize and avoid cyber threats, and an MIIA Risk Management grant for an upcoming cyber



Ron has just cut the ribbon at the new highway garage opening. Left to right: Hank Horstmann, Phil Kantor, Ken Ouimette, Ron Sweet, Walter Goodridge, Liv Wyatt, Natalie Blais, Chris Waldo.

security assessment. The town also recently procured a new .gov domain, which is more secure (https as opposed to http) and created a new website through local vendor Montague WebWorks. As hybrid public meetings continue to be allowed, the town purchased an OWL, which is a 360-degree camera and microphone that integrates with Zoom meetings for several boards and committees.

- The new Habitat for Humanity home is now under construction at 638 South Deerfield Road, and it is a joy to see it being built!

This list is not all inclusive by any means and just represents a few of the highlights. I continue to be humbled by and in awe of the continuing work done by so many volunteers on our boards and committees. We are truly blessed to have so many folks putting in so much time for the town.

Here's to the year ahead and the projects to come, and Happy New Year to you all!

Véronique

## New COVID-19 Treatment Hotline

Tested positive for COVID-19? Telehealth is a quick and free way to see if you're eligible for COVID-19 treatment. You can access telehealth services by calling 833-273-6330 or by completing an online assessment at [mass.gov/CovidTelehealth](https://mass.gov/CovidTelehealth). Clinicians are available every day from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. EST. This service is not for medical emergencies or those who have severe chest pain or shortness of breath. Learn more at [mass.gov/info-details/free-telehealth-for-covid-19-treatment-with-paxlovid](https://mass.gov/info-details/free-telehealth-for-covid-19-treatment-with-paxlovid).

## Home Heating

from the FRCOG Public Health Team

Staying warm in the winter is important! With rising costs, heating your home can be stressful. That's when homeowners and renters can use fuel assistance. You are eligible for fuel assistance if your household income is not more than 60% of the estimated state median income. For a single-person household, that's \$42,411; for two people, \$55,461; for three, \$68,511; and \$81,561 for four.

These numbers and more information on who is eligible for help is available on the Community Action website:

<https://www.communityaction.us/fuel-assistance>. Locally, Community Action is the agency that processes applications for fuel assistance; the program itself is called LIHEAP in Massachusetts. If you have not used fuel assistance in the last two years, you'll need to apply and then have an intake.

Apply over the phone 413-774-2310 or online via the website above. An application checklist and a list of necessary documents are available online, or you can call the phone number and an automated message will guide you to the list of required documents.

Community Action wants its participants to know this:

- From November 15 to March 15, a moratorium is in place that prevents your gas or electricity from being shut off if that is what heats your home.
- Fuel assistance can pay for deliveries/heat usage only from November 1 to April 30.
- Please plan ahead; it can take weeks to process an application.
- This is an assistance program; you are still responsible for your bills.

Separate from fuel assistance, Community Action has other programs for renters and homeowners, including free energy-efficient and weatherization assessments and programs for homeowners with funding to repair/replace heating systems. They also have an Older Adult Modification Program to help eligible homeowners age in place.

Please remember that state minimum wage increases to \$15/hr starting January 1. This may change your income.

## Huzzah to All Who Came!

Oh, the weather outside was frightful, but inside it was so delightful as 18 brave souls came to our annual Christmas Carol radio play at the Conway firehouse. A special thanks to Bob Baker and Ron Hawkes for clearing the entrance. We raised \$237 for the Firemen's Auxiliary Scholarship Fund.

HUZZAH!  
Sir Reginald Buttwinker

## Winter Help for Seniors

We know that winter can be especially hard on older persons who may need help with getting sand for their driveways. The Conway Council on Aging is looking for volunteers to pick up sand that the town makes available to residents – located at the far end of the highway facility's salt shed at 26 Fournier Road – and deliver it to a senior's home. **Note:** only the sand may be taken, not the salt! If you are a senior who would appreciate this service, please get in touch with us. In either case, contact Pat Lynch at 369-4284 or [patricialynch@earthlink.net](mailto:patricialynch@earthlink.net).

## Conway Council on Aging

Council on Aging meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in Town Hall. There will be no January meeting. Next meeting will be February 1. For more information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284 or email [patricialynch@earthlink.net](mailto:patricialynch@earthlink.net).

## Senior Calendar for January

**Durable Medical Equipment Loans** The COA has items of durable medical equipment available for loan, including wheelchairs, transfer chairs, walkers, crutches, canes, tub and shower chairs, commodes, and raised toilet seats. Call Hank Horstmann at 369-4405 to borrow equipment.

**"First Friday" Walk-in Wellness Clinics** Clinics are held on the first Friday of the month in Conway Town Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Regional public health nurses Lisa White, RN, and Meg Ryan, RN, staff the clinic. There are no out-of-pocket costs to residents for this service, which is provided through the town's membership in FRCOG Cooperative Public Health Service. For more information, call 413-665-1400 x 114.



**Healthy Bones & Balance Classes** Classes meet on Tuesday from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. and Friday from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. on Zoom. Contact leader Gary Fentin at 369-0001 for information and the Zoom link.

**Monthly Foot Care** Foot clinics are usually held on the first Monday of the month in Town Hall **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**. There is a \$20.00 fee. For information or to schedule an appointment, call Peg Tiley at 369-4010.

**Senior Meals** In most months meals are held at Town Hall on the second and last Thursdays of the month. For more information and to be added to our email or phone list for announcements, call Carolyn Thayer at 369-6948.

**Yoga for Seniors** Led by Jody Fontaine on Wednesdays in person at the library and on Zoom. Class times: mat yoga 10:00-11:00 a.m.; chair yoga: 11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon. Call Jody at 413-824-9435 for information or for the Zoom links.

**Reminder:** The NEW town website is [conwayma.gov](http://conwayma.gov). *Conway Currents* welcomes input from the community! Do you have a story to tell, a column we might publish or a suggestion for something you'd like to see included as a regular feature? If so, get in touch with Kathy Llamas at [newsletter@conwayma.gov](mailto:newsletter@conwayma.gov).

We welcome advertisers! Ads are limited to 150 words maximum; for longer ads please contact Louise at [lmbeckett@crocker.com](mailto:lmbeckett@crocker.com). Give-aways, lost-and-found items, and noncommercial notes are always free.

**The deadline for articles and advertisements in the newsletter is 11:59 p.m. on the 20th of the preceding month.** Please send your content by email to [newsletter@conwayma.gov](mailto:newsletter@conwayma.gov). Thank you!

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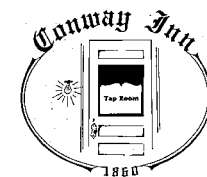
## Currents Advertisements & Notices

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**New Rates:** for ads up to 150 words are: one month \$8.50, three months \$16.50; six months \$26.50, twelve months \$45.50. For cost of longer ads or to include images (limited), call or email Louise at 413-559-1180 or [lmbeckett@crocker.com](mailto:lmbeckett@crocker.com).

Pay by checking account or credit card through the town's website <https://conwayma.gov/> > How do I . . . ? > Pay for > Newsletter Advertising; or send a check to **Conway Currents, PO Box 240, Conway, MA 01341**. Please send the text of your advertisement to Louise by email at [lmbeckett@crocker.com](mailto:lmbeckett@crocker.com). **Deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.** If you want to discuss your ad or have any questions, please call or email [lmbeckett@crocker.com](mailto:lmbeckett@crocker.com).

**The Conway Inn** - Open for pizza, chicken wings, and breadsticks, Friday and Saturday, 4 - 10 p.m.; Sunday 5 - 8 p.m. Call 413-369-4428 for takeout. Live music jams, second Friday of each month! Look for the blue flag on the porch.



**Baker's Country Store** - open seven days a week for all-day take-out breakfast and lunch: Monday-Friday 6 a.m.–6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 7 a.m.-5 p.m. **Open New Year's Day 7-3.** Find a variety of homemade desserts and baked goods – freshly baked cakes, muffins, pies, and cookies – and a large selection of last-minute items. Check us out on Facebook: [facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store](https://facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store) for today's specials or call 413-369-4936.



**Join Natural Roots CSA** - for delicious, fresh vegetables grown right here in Conway. We have several CSA share options, including part-time and low-income shares, main season (June through October) and winter shares. Our farm store is also open to the public year-round during daylight hours. We offer eggs from our own pastured hens as well as other local items like beef, chicken, pork, dairy, bread & baked goods, honey & maple

products, coffee & tea, ice cream, snacks, beverages and more!  
Support a horse-powered farm in Conway and enjoy this beautiful,  
bountiful farm and the vibrant community that we feed.

[www.naturalroots.com](http://www.naturalroots.com). Natural Roots, 888 Shelburne Falls Rd.,  
Conway, MA 01341, 413-369-4269, [farmers@naturalroots.com](mailto:farmers@naturalroots.com).

**Quail Eggs for Sale** - Fresh quail eggs from our small backyard  
flock. They taste just like chicken eggs but are even more  
nutritious. \$3 for half a dozen and \$5 for a dozen. Call 369-0326 or  
email Lynn at [lynnpodosek@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnpodosek@yahoo.com).

**Boyden Bros. Maple** - Our pure maple syrup, candy, cream,  
granulated sugar, gift boxes and pancake mixes are available to  
purchase and/or ship for the holidays (or any time of the year!)  
Visit our sugarhouse on Route 116 across from the Grammar  
School; call us at 413-369-4665; email us at  
[boydenmaple@gmail.com](mailto:boydenmaple@gmail.com) or message us on Facebook. Open by  
appointment or chance anytime until the spring season begins.

**Support your local church by shopping for Rada Cutlery!** - All  
cutlery is made in the USA and includes a lifetime guarantee. This  
fine cutlery is in high demand – the stylish design makes it  
attractive but still retains quality that will last a lifetime. Choose  
from many options, sure to help you in performing any kitchen  
task and creating all your favorite recipes. And your purchases will  
support the United Congregational Church! Items are available for  
ordering and viewing at Tea at Two on Thursday and Friday 1-5  
p.m. and Saturday from 10-5 p.m. Paper catalogs available by  
request. To order, call Tina Burnett at 369-8035, or use this simple  
link: [bit.ly/3mTpO18](http://bit.ly/3mTpO18).

**Happy New Year from Jan and John Maggs Antiques** - Special  
thanks to everyone who stopped in to say hello and have a look at  
our shop during December. We're proud  
of our new barn and love to show it and  
all it contains to visitors from town and  
beyond. On the weekend of January 27 -  
29 we'll be exhibiting virtually at the third  
annual **New York Antiques Show**, an  
online event opening on Friday at noon and extending throughout



the weekend. It's free to shop, and there's no pressure to buy. You'll  
find a link to the show on our website. Here in Conway, we'll be  
open by appointment through the winter months. Simply email  
[jmaggs@jmaggs.com](mailto:jmaggs@jmaggs.com) or call 413-369-4256 to make sure that we'll  
be around. You might also enjoy browsing our website: [jmaggs.com](http://jmaggs.com).

**Wilder Hill Gardens** - your local plant nursery, propagating and  
selling shrubs, small fruits, trees, perennial flowers, annuals, herbs  
and cut flowers in season. We are all tucked in for the winter with a  
great selection of new plants ordered and on the way for spring  
2023! If you would like to receive the WHG newsletter with pretty  
photos, useful gardening advice, and news of events and sales just  
contact me via [wilderhillgardens.com](http://wilderhillgardens.com). and request to be on the list.  
The January newsletter will share the secrets to keeping your  
houseplants healthy, good-looking, and pest-free over the winter.  
Stay warm and Happy New Year to all!

Lilian Jackman, 351 South Shirkshire Road,  
Conway, MA. 413-625-9446. Email  
[lilianjackman@gmail.com](mailto:lilianjackman@gmail.com)

**WILDER HILL**  
*gardens*

**Happy New Year!** - It's peak time to start winter pruning and we  
have what you need! For a long day outside, German-made LÖWE  
anvil pruners are easy on your hands and wrists. Professional quality  
Felco shears are available for all types of pruning, and don't forget the  
leather pouch! Our Silky saws come in a variety of shapes & sizes,  
and we carry their replacement blades, too. Perhaps you have large  
trees to tend to: we have long-reach pruners and pole saws for that. Be  
sure to remember blade cleaner, sharpeners, and gloves for your  
pruning toolbox. New to pruning and don't know where to start? *The  
Pruning Book* may be the reference you need! Of course, our friendly  
and knowledgeable staff is always happy to help, so call or stop by.  
Shop where the pros shop and thanks for buying locally! OESCO,

Inc. (Orchard) M-F: 7-5; 369-4335



**January Event at Debra Hoyle**

**Studio/gallery** - There's still one more space  
available at the "Playing With Collage"  
workshop - the workshop that isn't work!

Saturday January 14 from 1-4 at 46 Main Street. \$125 per person,  
materials provided. Register with Debra at 413-325-5579. Join us for a

warm and fun afternoon exploring colors, textures, and mark making that express your mood! No experience needed. And many thanks to all the art appreciators and collectors for your support during the studio's first year. Wishing you a happy, healthy, and creative 2023!  
[greenlady33@comcast.net](mailto:greenlady33@comcast.net) 413-325-5579

<http://instagram.com/debhoyle.art.rockpaperscissors>

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**Conway Quilts** - Quilt repair, restoration and cleaning – bringing new life to old quilts. Contact Carol Baldwin at 413-345-8977 – [hummerzinger@gmail.com](mailto:hummerzinger@gmail.com)

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**Tiny Glass Tavern** - New Conway-based ensemble is having its **very first** concert on Friday, January 20, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Haydenville Congregational Church, Haydenville MA. We will offer an eclectic selection of early, folk, pop and original music by Claudio Monteverdi, Connie Converse, Paul Holmes Morton, Fiona Gillespie, Adam Simon, Henry Purcell, Björk, and more. There will be some sing-along elements, so get ready to sing with us! Sophie Michaux: voice+accordion; Adam Simon: voice+mandolin+bass+guitar; Fiona Gillespie: voice+ fipple flute; and Paul Holmes Morton: voice+banjo+theorbo+guitar. Suggested donation: \$10-25. Tickets and information at [www.tinyglasstavern.com](http://www.tinyglasstavern.com). Join us for a singing workshop to discover this repertoire from the inside with the artists themselves: in Conway, Tuesday January 17, 6:30-8.30 p.m. Limited spots - inquiries at [sophie.p.michaux@gmail.com](mailto:sophie.p.michaux@gmail.com).

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**From Ecogrief to Ecoaction** - a weekly practice group with monthly expert-led workshops at the 46 Delabarre Avenue barn/studio. Free or by donation. This month: Mondays 6:30-8:30 p.m. beginning January 9: weekly regular practice and discussion group with Hannah Harvester. Saturday, January 28, 1:30-3:30 p.m. "The Work That Reconnects" introductory workshop. WTR is a process that supports us in honoring our pain for the world; equips us with tools to face the crises of our time; and helps us become more nourished, empowered, and inspired to act for life on Earth. Facilitated by Karina Lutz, regenerative farmer, longtime climate activist, and WTR facilitator newly-based in Shelburne Falls. This is for you if you feel fear, grief, paralysis, despair, or any other difficult emotions around climate change and ecological destruction. Contact [hannah.harvester@gmail.com](mailto:hannah.harvester@gmail.com) to let her know you're coming or with any questions.



South River After a Heavy Snow - Patricia A. Lynch, 2022

**Upcoming Art Classes with Hannah Harvester** - 46 Delabarre Avenue. Classes include all materials and emphasize the proper mindset for art-making: progress, not perfection! Learn more and register at [www.HannahHarvester.com](http://www.HannahHarvester.com)

**No-Pressure Drawing** - Winter session \$385: 11 classes Jan. 19–March 30; Thursdays 3-5 p.m. For all levels including absolute beginner. We will work primarily with still-life subjects to get solid on the basics of observation drawing.

**Printmaking Workshop** - \$50/session or \$90 for both sessions: Sundays Jan. 15 and Jan. 29, 1-4 p.m. For all levels including absolute beginner. Come use my studio space, materials, and expert guidance to explore block printmaking. Wherever you're at, I'll help you learn.

**Fearless Pastel Painting** - \$90: Saturday Feb. 18, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Soft pastel - a great medium for beginning with color. Work from photos as I teach you the basics of layering and the minimal color theory you need to create vibrant pastel paintings.

**Handmade one of a kind jewelry** - made out of pounded metals, semi-precious stones and glass. I also repurpose materials I come across that need a new life! Reasonably-priced gifts for special gifting: Come see me at my Conway home on Manning Road. Please call ahead 413-387-9297. Denise Dwelley Designs

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**Healthy and adorable kittens of Conway** - Two months old and very active. Three males remaining: weighed in last week of December at 3+ pounds. They are indoor kittens and anyone interested must always keep them inside. If interested, please call Darlene or Wanda at 720-250-8253.

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*Images:* Cover Banner: Michele Turre; Conway Town Tree by the Field Memorial Library: Véronique Blanchard; Page 3: Stupa Pole: Barry Kuzmeskus and Steve Thomas; Page 13: Highway Garage Opening, Staff Photo; Page 22: South River after a Heavy Snow: Patricia A. Lynch.