

Volume 4, Number 2 - February 2023

## A Look into Conway History

The Conway Post Office by Patricia Ann Lynch

Today, we take for granted that mail sent to us will reach us, whether it's delivered to our homes by postal vehicles or placed in boxes rented at the local post office at 38 River Street. Obviously, in early colonial times, mail service was vastly different. According to various sources, American colonists sent their letters by any means possible: friends traveling to other towns, merchants passing through, and Indigenous people, on foot or on horseback. There were no post offices as such before official establishment of the country's postal service,. Mail was commonly left at inns and taverns. Jabez Newhall's tavern in Pumpkin Hollow was most likely Conway's first "post office."

Most correspondence in the early days was between colonists and family back home in Great Britain. In 1633 the General Court of Massachusetts designated a tavern in Boston as the official site for mail delivery to and from England. This was the first official notice of a postal service in the colonies. However, colonists had to wait for almost 150 years before an actual mail delivery system was put in place. On July 26, 1775, the Second Continental Congress established the U.S. postal system, naming Benjamin Franklin as its first postmaster general. It was Franklin who established the foundation for many aspects of our existing mail system.

According to Deane Lee in *Conway 1767-1967*, "The first post office in town was on Baptist Hill. It was moved from there to a



Delabarre Bros. Store c. 1892, housed Conway's post office from 1856 until 1896. It now houses the Conway Historical Society Museum.

building northwest of the bridge on Main Street." Lee gives no specific date for the opening of our first post office, which was in what was formerly a hatter's shop, but a line in *History* of Conway 1767-1917 offers a clue that it was during the 1820s: "Two men were killed by lightning in the doorway of this

building in 1824." The post office underwent several changes of location over the following years (in 1856 it moved into the site of what is now the Historical Society Museum at 50 Main Street). then, Lee writes, "From 1896 until it was moved to its present site, the post office was located in the Masonic building."

In 1935 the post office made its final move: into what had been the town's Methodist Church. The church's congregation had been suffering a slow decline, until few members were left, and "The Quarterly Conference in 1912 requested that no pastors be sent to Conway. Services were not held again until the Methodists and Baptists formed the Federated Church in 1914." In March of 1935, the church ceased to exist. "The church building was sold in 1935 to John Williams. He built the present post office building inside the church and took down the church building in 1938."

In the 200 years since Christopher Arms took office as Conway's first postmaster, our town has had a total of 27 different postmasters or officers-in-charge. The next time you stop by the post office, be sure to say hello to our current postmaster, Kevin Yurkevicz – who will celebrate ten years of service in Conway on August 10 – and postal clerk Rebecca Andrews.

#### Thank You to Bill Burnett

I would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of all the residents on North Poland Road, to bring attention to and thank Mr. Bill Burnett, who has made life safer and better for all of us by shepherding the deal to repair the bridges on our road to include a temporary replacement bridge. North Poland Road is a very well-traveled road for commuters, school bus traffic, and local residents. In addition to this, our road also provides the only access to an all-important fire truck refill station that is necessary for keeping us all safe from fires and for fire prevention. Bill, thanks: We all thank you for your important contribution to our safety and local community access. The new year now seems a lot safer thanks to your concern for our safety and well-being.

Thank you, Bill Obry Wylie

#### Wells Trust Scholarship

Applications are now available for academic scholarships, as well as health and agriculture awards, funded by the Fred W. Wells Trust. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 20.

Throughout his life, real-estate development, industry, farming, and community projects provided Wells, a longtime Franklin County resident, with a wide range of interests. Since his death in 1946, his strong commitment to the community has continued to be evidenced by the generosity of his trust fund.

In accordance with Wells's will, agriculture awards are to be given annually to "some agricultural group or groups organized primarily for the advancement of agriculture."

In addition, health awards are to be granted to those involved in "the care of the sick or aged by providing home, nurse, medicine or hospital care" and "for helping to provide medical or nurses care in rural districts where no such facilities are to be had."

Anyone who has resided or whose parents have resided in Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Conway, Deerfield, Gill, Greenfield, Hawley, Heath, Leyden, Monroe, Montague, Northfield, Rowe, or Shelburne for not less than two years prior to the date of application is eligible to apply for funding. Awards are determined by an independent scholarship committee whose members consider, among other factors, each applicant's scholastic ability, need, character, leadership ability, integrity, and participation in work and/or extracurricular activities.

Applications can be obtained from town clerk's offices, high school guidance offices, Greenfield Community College, Greenfield Savings Bank Vice President and Trust Officer Prudence Blond, and online at <a href="wellstrustscholarship.com">wellstrustscholarship.com</a>. With questions, contact Ms. Blond at <a href="mailto:pblond@greenfieldsavings.com">pblond@greenfieldsavings.com</a> or 413-775-8243. The mailing address at Greenfield Savings Bank is 400 Main Street, PO Box 1537, Greenfield, MA 01302.

## Other Scholarships

Mark & Mildred Boice Germain Fund Scholarship - This Charitable Trust was established in 1985 under the will of Mark Walter Germain and is known as the "Mark Boice Germain and Mildred Boice Germain Fund." He directed that this fund be established "... to grant funds to those Conway residents whose parents or guardians cannot afford such child's college expenses, and any applications that such applicants have made for other private and government scholarships have resulted in an insufficient amount of funds to allow the furtherance of their education without additional

monetary support." **Application Deadline: no later than noon on Friday, April 21.** Applications available at the Conway Town Office, 32 Main Street or online at https://conwayma.gov/files/Germain\_2023.pdf

**Conway Firemen's Auxiliary Scholarship** - Information is being updated - watch for news of the scholarship in March's *Currents*.

Conway Sportsman's Club Scholarship - Awarded to any graduating Conway Senior or member of the family regardless of post-graduate plans. Not limited to club members. Seniors must complete an application to be eligible for an award. Application Deadline: April 15th of the year of application. No applications received after this date will be considered. Download the application at <a href="https://conwayma.gov/files/Sportsmans\_Club\_Scholarship\_App.pdf">https://conwayma.gov/files/Sportsmans\_Club\_Scholarship\_App.pdf</a>. Applications should be delivered or mailed to the Conway Sportsman's Club Scholarship Fund, PO Box 202, Conway, MA 01341.

Festival of the Hills Scholarship - Conway Festival of the Hills Scholarships are available to all graduating high school seniors from Conway who submit complete applications, regardless of school attended or post-graduate plans. Primary consideration is given to a student's community service, extracurricular activity, and academic achievement. Financial need, work history, and Festival of the Hills service are also considered. Seniors must complete the application to be eligible for an award. Download the application at <a href="https://conwayma.gov/files/2020-FoH-Application.pdf">https://conwayma.gov/files/2020-FoH-Application.pdf</a>. Application Deadline: Friday, April 28th. Please note: No application received after this date will be considered. Applications (hard copy only) should be mailed to: Conway Festival of the Hills Scholarship, PO Box 431, Conway, MA 01341. Questions? Please contact Phyllis Jeswald: pjeswald1@gmail.com 369-4410.

Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts Scholarship - The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts provides some financial assistance to students living in Franklin, Hampden

and Hampshire counties to help them achieve their goal of graduating from college. We have over 150 different scholarship funds, and each year we give away over 1,000 individual scholarship awards. This equates to approximately \$1.4 million in scholarships. Scholarships are provided for one academic year and are not automatically renewed each year. You can reapply to our program every year you are going to attend college, and the application you submit that year will be considered for all scholarships for which you are eligible. **Application Deadline: February 28, 2023**. Apply online only: <a href="https://communityfoundation.org/students/scholarships/">https://communityfoundation.org/students/scholarships/</a>.

#### The Friends of the Field Memorial Library Scholarship

The Friends of the Field Memorial Library in Conway announce their Scholarship 2023. We want to encourage and support the continued education of a graduating Conway high school senior. To be eligible for this scholarship (currently \$500), the applicant must:

- Be a resident of Conway, MA
- Be a graduating high school senior either from a school or home schooled.
- Have maintained good academic standing throughout high school (grade point average)
- Have demonstrated good communication skills by submitting an application.

Applications will be available at <a href="https://fieldmemoriallibrary.org/">https://fieldmemoriallibrary.org/</a> or contact Thad Bennett at <a href="mailto:FieldMemLibraryScholarship@gmail.com">FieldMemLibraryScholarship@gmail.com</a>. **Application Deadline: May 1, 2023**.

## Culomba Workshop and Concert

Culomba presents a singing workshop and concert **Saturday**, **February 4**, at the Haydenville Congregational church. Culomba is a Conway-based vocal ensemble specializing in close harmony singing from around the world.

Our 90-minute workshop, open to all, will explore several styles of folk music that we sing. The concert will feature music from

American folk traditions, Georgia, Corsica, the Balkans, Ukraine, early European polyphony, and original compositions.

• Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023

• Workshop: 4:30-6:00 p.m.

• Concert: 7:00 p.m.

• For tickets, visit culomba.com

Both events take place at the Haydenville Congregational Church, 143 Main Street, Williamsburg, MA. This program is funded in part by the Conway Cultural Council, a local agency of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

## Dog-of-the-Year Contest

The town clerk's office is holding the First Annual Dog-of-the-Year Contest. Three dogs will be chosen (first, second, and third place), and these dogs will have their photos published and their license fees waived for three years, two years, and one year, respectively. They will also have their photos posted in the April *Conway Currents*, on the town website, and on the town clerk's Facebook page.

Please submit a photo of your beloved *licensed* pooch(es) to the town clerk's office by March 1 for consideration. If a dog isn't currently licensed, come on down to the town clerk's office, get your pup licensed, and submit your photo(s). Our local Girl Scout troop will be choosing the winners at their March 9 troop meeting.



Please mail your submission to the Conway Town Clerk, PO Box 240, Conway, MA 01341, or hand deliver to the Town Hall at 5 Academy Hill Road, or email to <a href="mailto:clerk@conwayma.gov">clerk@conwayma.gov</a>.

*Images:* Cover Banner (detail): Patricia Ann Lynch; P. 2: Courtesy of the Conway Historical Society; P. 7: gettyimages.com; P. 19: Staff Photo.

## Conway Sportsman's Club Annual Ice Fishing Derby

When: Sunday, February 19 (weather and conditions permitting)

• Time: 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Where: Conway Swimming Pool (Whately Road)

• Ages: Open to all children 14 years of age & under

Refreshments Available & Prizes Awarded!

#### Notes from the Town Administrator

Happy February! Two important dates to keep in mind this month are:

February 9th, which is the date of the Transfer Station Public Forum, to be held in the Town Hall general purpose room at 6:00 p.m. There will be a Zoom option as well; please see <a href="conwayma.gov">conwayma.gov</a> for details. The idea behind the forum is to help residents understand how the transfer station is managed, the costs associated with running the transfer station, the potential for a pay-as-you-throw program, and to listen to residents' opinions and concerns. Jan Ameen, director of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, will present information to us on how much trash and recycling we produce and the increasing costs for processing and disposal. This fiscal year is also the first in which the transfer station budget has become a standalone budget, which means greater ease of understanding where our money goes. As almost every household in Conway makes use of the transfer station, this is an issue of importance to us all, and we encourage your participation.

The next important date is April 3rd, the deadline for warrant submissions for annual town meeting. If anyone is considering a citizen's petition warrant article, please see the town meeting webpage under <u>Town Departments</u> for a form.

I am very pleased to report the work on the temporary bridge has moved even more quickly than could have been anticipated. As of this writing, most of the new footings have been poured, and weather permitting, the new bridge could be delivered and assembled within the next two weeks. I know the reopening will be a huge relief to all of us, but most especially for those who rely on the bridge for their daily travels and for emergency services.

I wish you all a happy & healthy month,

Véronique

## Springfield Materials Recycling Facility Videos

The Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (SMRF) Advisory Board has released four short videos about household recycling to help viewers understand what happens to the materials they recycle. The videos are an antidote to misinterpretations recently shared by media outlets. The new videos are available at <a href="mailto:springfieldmrf.org">springfieldmrf.org</a> and on YouTube <a href="mailto:www.youtube.com/@springfieldmrf4175">www.youtube.com/@springfieldmrf4175</a>.

The videos focus on four different topics: "Container Recycling," "Paper and Cardboard Recycling," "What Happens to Recycled Materials," and Recycling's Most Unwanted." Produced by Reelife Productions, the videos include interviews with recycling industry experts, footage of recyclables being sorted and baled, and information on the industries that purchase local recyclables for reuse.

The SMRF annually processes and sells over 18,300 tons (95%) of the material collected by its 65 western Mass. member communities. Major news outlets have reported that "only a small percentage of plastic is recycled," but that statistic refers to the recycling rate of *all plastic manufactured*, including durable items not intended or designed for recycling. This figure does not refer solely to the items that residents put in their bins.

This new video series clarifies that the items western Mass. residents are instructed to recycle have value to processors and manufacturers that turn the materials into new products and packaging. In fiscal

year 2022, through the sales of recyclables to commodity markets, the SMRF paid its 65 member communities a combined revenue share of \$375,500.

This new series, along with the already popular <u>Me and My Bin</u> that was released earlier, gives western Mass. residents a behind-thescenes look at the environmental and economic values of recycling. The series sends a clear and simple message: Recycling is important, and we each have a role to play.

## Update from the Field Memorial Library

The entry of the Field Memorial Library (FML) into the CWMars library network is going strong, with a few hiccups here and there as both staff and patrons become more familiar with how CWMars operates. For those who have encountered any hiccups, we ask for your patience as we learn the ins and outs of the system, of which there are many!

The major advantage is that using your CWMars card, whether from FML or another library, you can search the catalog, put a hold on an item or items, and, if not available at the FML, specify you would like to have it delivered here. You can also specify whether to search all CWMars libraries or any one of the 157, including – for the first time – the FML. There is a link to the CWMars catalog on the FML website or you can enter <a href="cwmars.org">cwmars.org</a>. Even from the staff viewpoint, it is such a pleasure to be able to search in seconds the entirety of our own Conway library!

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. If it is not super busy, we can prepare a card for you while you wait: usually four to five minutes, but if it is busy, you may complete your form and leave it for us to prepare the card. 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.

The library is getting an early start on spring and is excited to announce that we will be offering a seed library starting in late winter! More details will follow in next month's issue of *Conway Currents* and on our website, but patrons will be able to sign out vegetable and herb seed packets to grow at home. The hope is that in time patrons will also save their own seeds and return some to the library so that we can start our own local seed bank. The library is ordering books on saving and growing from seeds to support this endeavor.

The FML collection of new titles, classics, and hidden treasures is richer than ever, especially now that we can search our own catalog! Stop by or search us online through <a href="cwmars.org">cwmars.org</a>, where you can choose to search only the Field library collection. The library is normally open Mondays 3:00-6:00 p.m., Wednesdays 2:00-7:00 p.m., and Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. We will be closed Monday, February 20, for President's Day.

David Whittier, Director, Field Memorial Library director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org 413-369-4646 https://fieldmemoriallibrary.org

# February Is for Heart Health from the FRCOG Public Health Team

The American Heart Association has dubbed February "Heart Health Month." Because of recent news items related to professional athletes and heart attack, heart health – and also heart disease – may be at the top of our minds.

**Heart disease** is the leading cause of death for both men and women, according to the CDC, killing about one in about every four people it affects. Our individual risk for heart disease comes from both our family history and our lifestyle.

Luckily, even small lifestyle changes made over time can lead to big improvements in heart health. Steps to improve heart health include:

continuing with routine medical care, exercising regularly, choosing healthful foods, limiting salt intake, and reducing or quitting smoking. Does some of this information sound familiar? Our organs are interconnected, so what's good for the heart can also be good for the lungs, brain, and other organs! One resource for heart-healthy recipes is the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's website: healthyeating.nhlbi.nih.gov.

**Heart attack** is serious and can be deadly. If you see signs of heart attack, call 911 immediately. A heart attack may not manifest as the dramatic chest-grabbing by someone in a movie scene.

Here are some symptoms of heart attack:

- Chest pain
- Feeling weak/lightheaded or faint
- Pain in the jaw, neck, or back
- Pain or discomfort in one or both arms or shoulders
- Shortness of breath

Signs can look different in men and women. Breaking out into a cold sweat, feeling like a rope is squeezing the chest, upper back pressure, and dizziness and fainting may be important-to-identify symptoms in women.

More information can be found on the American Heart Association website, heart.org.

#### Experience the Walk with Ease Program

Springfield College Department of Physical Therapy Community Mobility Clinic presents the Walk with Ease program, which was created and is certified by the Arthritis Foundation. Walk with Ease is a virtual walking program in which a team of health coaches will help you achieve your walking goals over a span of six weeks. The program starts the week of February 12. Walk with Ease will help you:

- Reduce pain and feel great
- Walk safely and comfortably
- Motivate yourself to get in great shape
- Improve your flexibility, strength, and stamina

Sign up for this free six-week virtual program today at <a href="https://springfield.edu/walk-with-ease/participate">https://springfield.edu/walk-with-ease/participate</a>. Call Springfield College PT at 413-748-3478 if you have any questions.

#### Senior Snowshoe Hikes

Hilltown Land Trust is partnering with All Out Adventures to offer a series of senior snowshoe treks this winter. Join us Wednesday mornings for one- to three-mile snowshoe walks along beautiful trails through the DAR State Forest in Goshen. We will have two treks per day, departing at 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, divided into multiple groups by ability level and interest. Please arrive 15 minutes early to sign in and get geared up. In the event of insufficient snow cover, we will hike together instead. Beginners are encouraged to attend!

There is no cost to attend, although a donation of \$5,00-\$20.00 in support of All Out Adventures programming is appreciated. Snowshoes, poles, and traction aids will be provided free of charge.

#### **Wednesday Senior Snowshoe Hike Dates**

February 8 February 22 March 8 (at Bullitt Reservation, Ashfield) March 15

RSVP required by phone or email: 413-584-2052 info@alloutadventures.org

**Questions?** Email Sarah: <u>sarah@hilltownlandtrust.org</u>. Find us on social media! Visit hilltownlandtrust.org,

## Come Play Pickleball in Conway!

Our outdoor equipment is stored until spring, but our indoor court in the Town Hall gym is now available. We have set up a couple of free play time slots – for players of all levels – to encourage people to play and learn how to play. Beginners welcome! We ask that you use the sign up genius at <a href="www.conwayma.gov">www.conwayma.gov</a> so you can see how many players may be coming and any other announcements. Bring a friend or two and pass the link along if you like, and HAVE FUN! If you'd like to host a regular indoor play session, scheduled weekly, or have any questions, please email me at <a href="mailto:conwayMApickleball@gmail.com">ConwayMApickleball@gmail.com</a>. At this time, the indoor court is not available for private party use.

## 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. The next meeting will be February 1. For more information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284 or email patricialynch@earthlink.net.

#### **Senior Calendar for February**

**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 The next clinic will be on February 6, NOTE: For this month only the hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 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.

## Currents Advertisements & Notices

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.

Pay by checking account or credit card through the town's website <a href="https://conwayma.gov/">https://conwayma.gov/</a> > How do I . . .? > Pay for > Newsletter Advertising; or send a check to *Conway Currents*, PO Box 240, Conway, MA 01341. Send the text of your advertisement to Louise by email at <a href="mailto:lmbeckett@crocker.com">lmbeckett@crocker.com</a>. 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 <a href="mailto:lmbeckett@crocker.com">lmbeckett@crocker.com</a>.

Conway Currents is available through the town's website: <a href="https://conwayma.gov/g/67/Newsletter-Committee-Conway-Currents">https://conwayma.gov/g/67/Newsletter-Committee-Conway-Currents</a> - Send the link to family and friends outside of Conway!

**The Town of Conway** is seeking a new Chief of Police. If interested, please visit the website <u>conwayma.gov</u> under 'How Do I . . .?', then 'Apply for', then 'Employment' which brings you to 'Job Postings and Information' - <a href="https://conwayma.gov/p/64/Employment">https://conwayma.gov/p/64/Employment</a>.

**Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage!** Conway Snowmobile Club's Annual Pancake Breakfast at the Firehouse, Sunday, February 12th 7:30 – 11:00 a.m. \$12 adults \$6 Children.

**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. 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: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store">facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store</a> for today's specials or call 413-369-4936.

Join Natural Roots Farm - Delicious, organically grown vegetables right here on our horse-powered farm along the South River in Conway. Enjoy this beautiful, bountiful farm and the vibrant community that we feed: Sign up for a vegetable CSA share today! We have several CSA share options, including flexible part-time shares, low-income shares, and winter shares. CSA pick-up and retail vegetable shopping is available during our main season, June through October on Tuesdays and Fridays from 3-6:30pm. Our farm store is open to the public year-round, self-serve during daylight hours. We offer eggs from our own pastured hens as well as other local items including beef, chicken, pork, dairy, baked goods, honey, maple products, coffee, tea, ice cream, snacks, beverages and more! Details on our website: <a href="https://www.naturalroots.com">www.naturalroots.com</a>. Natural Roots, 888 Shelburne Falls Rd., Conway, MA 01341, 413-369-4269, farmers@naturalroots.com.

**Jan and John Maggs Antiques** - specializing in 17<sup>th</sup>-century English oak furniture, Queen Anne and Georgian jewelry, paintings, carpets, and small accessories. Our next online antiques show will be the Spring Fox Valley Antiques Show on March 11



& 12. You'll find more details on our website as the dates approach. We're open these days by chance or appointment. Stop in when you see the blue doors. Visit our shop online at <a href="www.jmaggs.com">www.jmaggs.com</a>, and arrange an in-person visit by calling us at 369-4256 or emailing <a href="jmaggs@jmaggs.com">jmaggs@jmaggs.com</a>

**February is here** - and when the snow shows up, we've got you covered. Our Seymour snow pusher is great for quick snow removal. For tough jobs, ask about the Snow Rhino zero-turn or Snow Bull walk-behind plow. Maybe it's time to stock back up on firewood. Our 1/3 cord capacity firewood bags are great to use with a firewood processor or for moving firewood with ease. Winter work gloves are a must this time of year and we carry a variety of styles and sizes! Winter pruning season is in full force and we have all your pruning needs: pruners, loppers, saws, sharpeners, and more! Plan ahead and order your



bird netting now to guarantee spring or summer delivery. Call or stop by and talk with Gemma, Rebecca or Tim! Shop where the pros shop and thanks for buying locally! OESCO, Inc. (Orchard) M-F: 7-5; 369-4335

Debra Hoyle Studio/Gallery Workshops - continue on February 18 from 1-4 p.m. with 'Collage Stories'. We'll explore telling a story with collage using acrylic paints, text, sheet music, magazine images, painted collage papers, and mark-making tools to evoke an abstracted narrative or feeling related to our stories through color and texture. It's always surprising to see what collaging reveals! Location: my studio at 46 Main Street; Cost: \$125 - materials provided. An introductory demo will get you started. Please Note: Space is limited to 4 participants so sign up early: \$10. off for sign up by February 4! If the roster is full there will be a wait list. No experience needed. Please test for COVID prior to arrival. Questions? Text or call me at 413-325-5579. To register please send a check with '2/18 workshop' in the note line to: Debra Hoyle, 435 Bardwells Ferry Rd, Conway, MA.

**Conway Quilts** - Quilt repair, restoration and cleaning – bringing new life to old quilts. Contact Carol Baldwin at 413-345-8977 – <a href="https://hummerzinger@gmail.com">hummerzinger@gmail.com</a>

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

**Fearless Pastel Painting** - Saturday Feb. 18, 10 a.m.-3.p.m.: \$90. Soft pastel is 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. **Printmaking Workshop** - Sunday Feb. 26, 1-4 p.m.: \$50. 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.

**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 413-387-9296. Denise Dwelley Designs

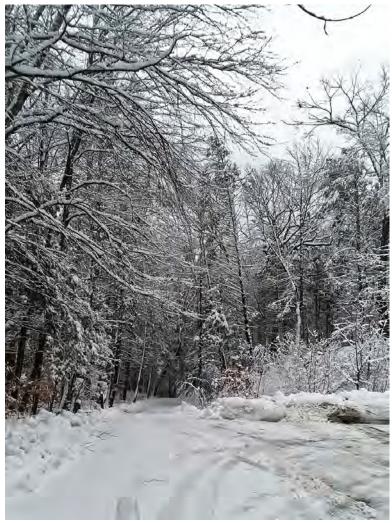
**Healthy and adorable kittens of Conway** - Three months old and very active! Two males remaining. They are indoor kittens and anyone interested must always keep them inside. If interested please call Darlene or Wanda at 369-0219.

Personal Care Aide (PCA)/ Caregiver - needed in center of Conway:

- Assist with ADL's daily; some shopping, transportation and companionship
- Provide medication reminders
- Valid Driver's License
- \$17/hr.
- 15 -25 hrs. a week

Please contact if interested. David 413-768-8751.

Eco-Grief Workshop with Jenny Campbell - Saturday, February 25, 1:00-4:00 p.m., 46 Delabarre Avenue. In this three-hour workshop, facilitator Jenny Campbell will share teachings from Francis Weller, author of *The Wild Edge of Sorrow*, and lead us in a practice that invites the expression of our personal and collective grief for the harm caused by human beings to the natural world. Grieving in community offers healing that is simply not as accessible when we try to do it on our own. Jenny Campbell is a certified Enneagram teacher and soul guide with over a decade of experience facilitating transformational group work. Suggested donation \$50; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Limited to 12 participants; please register by February 24 by emailing hannah.harvester@gmail.com. Monday night eco-grief group is ongoing; please email hannah.harvester@gmail.com to confirm before attending.



Off Route 116 - The Day After Monday's Storm; January 24, 2023; Staff Photo.

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