



Volume 4, Number 7 - July 2023

New Board of Assessors Member

The Board of Assessors has a new member. George Forcier of Baptist Hill was elected on June 8 and brings a valuable background of experience to the board. We thank Roxanne Parent for her service and commitment to the board. She brought excellent questions and her detailed analytical research to the position. We will finish up the informative property record card data demonstration that she started.

Because of the continuing increase in selling prices of properties, at this time we expect to have another across-the-board increase in taxable values for the FY2024 bills coming out in September 2023 and April 2024. This action does generally reduce the tax rate, but there are no final figures yet available. We always hope that the reduction in the tax rate will offset the increase in our individual property values, giving us a small increase in the actual bill, but that remains to be seen.

As always, you are welcome to come in or call the office or email any questions that you may have. We want everyone who is interested to understand the property tax process and its abatements, exemptions, or other “sides.” Lee is glad to set up an appointment with you to sit down and talk over any aspect of it all. Phone 369-4235 x 5, email assessors@conway.gov



Notes from the Town Administrator

I think it's safe to say that town meeting could have run more smoothly this year. The selectboard met with members of the finance and capital improvements planning committees as well as our moderator on June 5 to discuss their ideas on what we can all do to make sure things work better in the future. Many of us have heard comments from our residents, which we greatly appreciate, as your input guides our process. If you would like to send in feedback, please do so through our “email us” link in the middle of the front page of the website at conwayma.gov. We already know that we will have a special town meeting in December to vote on rights of way concerning the permanent replacement bridge on North Poland Road, and we will be making changes for that meeting based on all the feedback we've received so far, so if you have suggestions, please do chime in.

I also wanted to clarify that the new transfer station policy on bag stickers will not go into effect until October 7 and that the selectboard will hold another public forum on Thursday, September 14, to answer any questions you have about the new procedures. The current orange vehicle car decal will be good until October 7, and the new blue stickers will become available on September 1 at the town office, so you will get a little more time than normal on the orange sticker. The new blue vehicle car decal, which will include your license plate number, will be in effect from October 7, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

I would like to personally thank our retiring police chief, Ken Ouimette, for all his years of service and dedication to the town: 40 on the police department and 33 of them as our chief. Your standing ovation at town meeting shows you just how much the residents you have served all these years value and appreciate everything you have done for us. Thank you, Chief, and may you thoroughly enjoy your well-deserved retirement! I would also like

to welcome Don Bates of Whately, already a familiar face to many of us as he currently serves on Conway's police force, who will become our new chief on July 1. Welcome, Don. We look forward to working with you!

A safe and joyful July 4th to all, Véronique

Conway Festival of the Hills Sunday, October 1, 2023

The Board of Directors of Conway's Festival of the Hills is delighted to announce that the festival was awarded a Mass Cultural Council grant in the FY23 grant cycle! The money will be used to help offset the costs of running the festival and further build the festival scholarship fund for graduating high school seniors from Conway.

Volunteer Needed to Help with Publicity: We are looking for someone to help us publicize the 2023 Festival of the Hills. Conway's Festival attracts 2,000+ people and raises funds that provide scholarships for graduating high school seniors from Conway. This happens only if we get the word out!

We supply contact information for media outlets: newspapers, TV, radio, etc. and provide examples of press releases and high resolution photographs of past festivals. You submit press releases for newspapers, radio publicity spots, local TV, and paid newspaper ads. In addition, you might arrange interviews with newspapers, usually done by email. The festival has a colorful and informative website festivalofthehills.com, an active Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ConwayFestivaloftheHills/>, and a terrific promotional video <https://vimeo.com/368787051>.

If you have experience in communication or want to gain experience, this volunteer opportunity will allow you to showcase your skills, learn new skills, and promote Conway's premier event. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact us at

festivalofthehills@yahoo.com. Press releases go out starting in early August.

Calling All Crafters! If you are a crafter interested in participating in the Craft Fair at the 2023 Conway Festival of the Hills, please obtain a crafter application form by visiting the FOH website, festivalofthehills.com under "Events," click "Craft Fair", or by contacting the Craft Fair Coordinator, Adria Elskus, at conwaycrafters@yahoo.com or 413-325-4883.

All crafts must be handmade by the exhibitor. No manufactured, imported, or made-from-kits goods are permitted. Applications must be postmarked by August 14 and will be juried for craft balance and replied to by August 28. Crafters must provide their own canopy tent, tables, chairs, and other means of display. The fee for a crafter space (12' x 12') on the ball field is \$50, which supports the FOH Scholarship Fund for graduating seniors from the town of Conway.

Festival Planning Meeting: Thursday, July 5, at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. To get the Zoom link, email festivalofthehills@yahoo.com. Learn about volunteer opportunities, new events for the 2023 festival, and more.

Want to Volunteer? It takes 120 people to run this event. Volunteer opportunities abound! See the list below. The number of volunteers needed is in parentheses following each item. For more information, go to the "Volunteer" tab at festivalofthehills.com or contact us at festivalofthehills@yahoo.com

Prefestival Setup: Saturday, September 30, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Assemble and mount feather banners, put up parking signs, set up tables for children's activities, assemble tables and chairs for music area. (10 volunteers)

Festival Day Volunteer Opportunities

One- to two-hour time slots from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m.:

- Greet crafters as they arrive in upper parking area. (9)

Two-hour time slots from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.:

- Children's Games: fishing, frog-on-a-lily-pad, ring toss, coin toss, pumpkin painting, and more! (30)
- Information Booth (6)
- Cider Tent (9)
- Café Conway (9)
- Fried Dough (9)
- Merchandise Table (6)
- Green Team (19)

One-hour time slots from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.:

- Take down: Remove feather banners; pack up children's games; retrieve parking signs, tables, and chairs; and more. (10)

Annual Festival of the Hills Bake Sale

The annual FOH bake sale will be held on Saturday, September 30, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., on the Town Common in front of the library.

We are looking for donations of baked goods: cookies, pies, bread, etc. The food needs to be wrapped and labeled for things like nuts, GF, etc. Food can be dropped off the morning of the sale after 8:00 a.m. We will also have coffee, tea, and cider for sale. No time to bake? Please stop by and purchase some baked goods for the weekend, holiday company, or your freezer.

All proceeds from the bake sale are for the benefit of the Festival of the Hills Scholarship Fund for Conway's graduating high school seniors. Thank you for supporting the festival and Conway students. Any questions? Call Gail Connelly, 369-4287.

Festival of the Hills Scholarship Recipients

We are pleased to announce that the following Conway seniors were recipients of 2022 Conway Festival of the Hills scholarships (awarded in 2023): Kyle Baker, Sophia Band, Brooke Davis, Ella Flanders, Jesse Kurkulonis, Ben Makosiej, Amanda Romanovicz, Victoria Weagle, and Candince Wells-Robinson.

Festival of the Hills scholarships are available to all graduating high school seniors from Conway who submit complete applications. Consideration is given to a student's community/school involvement, academic standing, financial need, work history, and Festival of the Hills service.

Thank You from the FOH Un-Tag Sale

Once again our annual Un-Tag Sale, held in Pumpkin Hollow this year, was a success, adding to the Festival of the Hills Scholarship Fund for Conway's graduating seniors. This year we made \$2,524.60 despite having had to hold the sale on the rain date, having lost some participants due to the date change, and the competition of a nice family event at the Sportsman's Club on Sunday. There are so many to thank!

First and foremost, thanks to the generous donors who either dropped off treasures for us to sell at the festival table or purged their basements and garages, filled up their cars and trucks, and set up and stood by their tables from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., eager for those tables to empty and the donation jars to fill up! They could have had a yard sale of their own and reaped all the rewards, but no, they chose to give to our teens. Thank you!

Next, thanks to those who came from Conway or afar to look for a tool or a quilt or a jigsaw puzzle or a pair of skis or a canoe (yes, we sold a canoe for the minimum price of \$125!) and then gave us a generous donation in addition. One person even checked out all

the tables and chose nothing but came over to give us a \$20 bill.
Thank you!

Last, thanks to our team of volunteers who placed signs in five towns, placed ads in local papers and on social media, put up flyers in countless stores, set up tables, took down tables, and brought the leftover items to the grateful Salvation Army. Thank you all!

Pixie Holbrook, FOH board member

Conway Sportsman's Club News

After a long hiatus, Parent/Youth Day was held last month at the club with close to 100 Conway kids and parents participating in the fun event. Fish were caught, birdhouses were built, plaster track castings were made, bowstrings were plucked, balloons were popped, and burgers and hot dogs disappeared. All in all, it was a grand day for the kids of Conway. Thank you, Chief Ouimette, the Conway Police Department, and the Sportsman's Club.

The scholarship committee awarded scholarships to the following students: from Conway, Kyle Baker, Brooke Davis, Ella Flanders, and Victoria Weagle; from Deerfield, Amelia Carey and Emily Day; from Bernardston, Caroline Crocker. Congratulations and best of luck to all.

On June 25 more than 125 sporting clays enthusiasts – male and female, young and old – did their best to shatter clay pigeons as they traveled the club's magnificent course.

This month brings the highly anticipated International Bowhunters Organization (IBO) Triple Crown archery shoot to the club on July 8 and 9. This competition brings skilled archers from everywhere to Conway. You can learn more about the IBO and competition archery at iboarchery.com. To learn more about your Conway Sportsman's Club, go to our website, conwaysportsmansclub.org.

Notes from the Bluebird Boxes

by Katie Clarke Waddell

The South River Meadow in downtown Conway continues to be a refuge and haven for humans and wildlife as well as a nice place for people to walk themselves and their dogs (remember to clean up after them) in all four seasons. I have again been monitoring the bluebird boxes there this season on behalf of the Open Space Committee and making sure that they are in good shape and available to the bluebirds and swallows as opposed to other unwanted, invasive birds. I am very happy to report that three very healthy broods of tree swallows are being raised in three of the boxes, and bluebirds are busily nesting with eggs laid in two of the other boxes.

As of this writing in the middle of June, things are going well, and we have added two new round boxes on the far side of the meadow. These boxes, known as Gilbertsen PVC boxes, seem to discourage unwanted activity from ever-present, invasive house sparrows. So far, so good!

Bluebird boxes are a wonderful way for us to provide safety and shelter for these special wild birds, as well as for us to enjoy the beauty and miracles of the natural world. Please don't open the boxes, and keep your dogs away from them; be assured that they are being well tended and cared for this season. Bluebirds and swallows are both cavity nesters and often raise two to three sets of chicks per year, so we are just getting started! To find out more about becoming a bluebird or swallow landlord in your own backyard, check out this great national resource: micheganbluebirds.org.

Forest and Trails Committee Work Projects

The Town of Conway owns two forested properties: the Fournier lot near the Grammar School and the Town Farm Forest off

Cricket Hill Road. One stated objective of the Stewardship Plans developed to guide the care of these properties is removing invasive species that have become numerous in some areas on both properties. Asiatic bittersweet, honeysuckle, barberry, and multiflora rose are some of the most commonly found perennial invasive species. These threaten the healthy native plant communities that sustain biological richness, plant diversity, and forest resilience.

The Forest and Trails Committee has been removing invasive species, primarily Asiatic honeysuckle, from the trailhead on the Fournier lot. We have made good progress and look forward to completing the trailhead areas at Fournier over the next two months. We are asking interested members of the public to join us in these efforts.

If you are interested in invasive species removal; in planting native ground covers, shrubs, and understory trees, or in trail maintenance, please let us know by sending your email address to Cynthia Lawton-Singer at lagd2101@gmail.com. Please put “Conway invasives” in the subject line so that we can keep you informed when work dates are being planned.

Our next work parties are on Sunday, July 16, and Sunday, August 13, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We will meet at Conway Grammar School in front of the playground area.

Community Event to Prevent Tick Bites

Take steps today to prevent ticks from biting, and you’ll work toward preventing such tick-borne diseases as Lyme disease and anaplasmosis. The Conway Board of Health is excited to announce a community event to prevent tick bites! On Friday, July 7, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., the board will host a free event to spray shoes with permethrin to prevent ticks from crawling up to bite. Bring your shoes to town hall, and we’ll spray them with permethrin,

making them a threat to ticks during the dog days of summer. Your shoes will need to dry overnight, so wear shoes you don’t want sprayed. The spray should not change the color of your shoes.

Treating your clothing and shoes with permethrin, a chemical naturally found in chrysanthemum flowers, is a great preventive step. Permethrin can be an invisible spray that can make your clothing (or shoes or hat or tent) a hazard for ticks for weeks at a time. Check directions for any product you consider using!

An easy daily step? Perform a tick check! Make a habit of checking yourself, your children, and your pets for ticks after coming inside, even if you were in your yard, not the woods. To do so, look over your body for poppy seed-sized and larger ticks. Start by checking feet, ankles, legs, and groin, then work your way upward on the torso. Don’t forget the armpits and hairline! Ticks hitch a ride after physical contact and tend to crawl upward. Do your tick check thinking like a tick: start low and go up.

Free Organic Produce at Senior Meals

A grant from Mass in Motion, a statewide movement to ensure that Massachusetts residents have access to healthy, affordable foods and opportunities for safe physical activity, has enabled Conway to purchase shares from Natural Roots, Conway’s local horse-powered organic farm. These shares will be picked up from the farm twice a month for distribution at the senior meals held at town hall on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Produce is available to all Conway seniors. Until the growing season gets fully under way, the choice of produce will be limited, but we’ll soon be enjoying summer’s bounty. Please bring your own bags. As always on these days, a nutritious meal will be offered at noon.

What's Happening at Veterans Memorial Park?

Veterans Memorial Park recently received some much-needed landscaping attention. On June 4, a crew of 14 volunteers organized by *Pollinate Conway!* took the first major step in transforming the weedy, unmowed back area of the park into something more attractive and ecologically beneficial. To smother the rampant poison ivy along the property boundary, we covered the area with thick sheets of cardboard and topped that with several inches of wood chips, a process known as sheet mulching. This summer we plan to extend the area covered with sheet mulch in preparation for future planting of native trees and shrubs, most likely in 2024.

Many thanks to the Conway folks who generously dedicated their time on June 4 – estimated at 64 collective hours – as well as those who pitched in with advance preparations. With your help, we collected a mountain of hefty cardboard (when stacked, the flattened dishwasher-sized boxes reached over five feet in height) and moved over 20 cubic yards of generously donated wood chips from a nearby location via bucket loader and pickup trucks. Check out the results next time you are passing through downtown Conway, and stay tuned for future improvements to the site. If you have wood chips to donate or otherwise want to help with this project, email us at PollinateConway@gmail.com.

A Look into Conway History

Poor Farms

by Patricia Ann Lynch

I came across an item in the description of Maynard Cemetery that piqued my interest: “The cemetery is off of Cricket Hill Road on the north side of a nameless abandoned road that is lined on both sides with stone walls; it is directly across the old road from a large, deep cellar hole that the 1871 F.W. Beers Atlas of Franklin



Cellar hole of the Bates residence, which became the poor farm residence. Wigmore Forest Resource Management, *Conway Forest Stewardship Plan 2020-2030*

County labeled as belonging to ‘Z. Bates.’ At one time it was the home of the town's poor farm.” Conway had once had a poor farm? I had to learn more.

Poor farms, also called “poorhouses” or “almshouses,” were county- or town-run residences where indigent people, called

“paupers,” were supported at public expense. Poor farms evolved from the English poor laws of the 16th and 17th centuries, which required communities to take responsibility for poverty-stricken residents. These places generally functioned under the direction of an elected or appointed superintendent. Most were working farms on which the more able-bodied were required to labor to produce at least some of the food required to maintain the residents.

Poor farms were common in the United States from around the middle of the 1800s into the early 1900s. After the Social Security Act took effect in 1935, they began to decline, and all were gone by the 1950s.

I could find no reference to a poor farm in *History of Conway (Massachusetts) 1767-1917*, nor does Deane Lee’s book, *Conway 1767-1967*, contain an entry for “poor farm” or “town farm.” This omission might have been because of the shame often associated with these facilities. However, in the Forest Stewardship Plan for the Town Farm Forest (see the town website, conwayma.gov) I found this information: “The Town Farm was purchased by the Town in 1889 from Austin Bates for the creation of an alms farm.” Louise Beckett, the treasurer of the Conway Historical Society, greatly aided my research by locating town reports from the 1800s that confirmed the town’s support of those in need.

A “pauper farm” existed prior to the purchase of the Bates property. The report for 1867 lists under the town’s assets “Pauper Farm and Personal Property Thereon, \$4,693.93,” as well as a payment of \$269 for “Agent on Pauper Farm” and one of \$646.37 for “Poor not in Pauper Farm.” Annual town reports include expenditures for board, medical attendance and medicine, clothes, funeral expenses, and “Counsel in Pauper Cases.” Conway took care not only of its own poor but also for the relief and boarding of transient poor: a total of 126 “tramps” in 1876. The 1910 U.S. Census – the only census I found that reported on residents in individual institutions – showed that in that year the Conway Poor Farm had just four residents. Perhaps they were among the last to live there.



Unheard Melodies

by Nicole Braden-Johnson

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

Tanka Poem*

After ten green years,
The kiwi vine is blooming –

White buds like snowflakes.
Will this year's lucent surprise
Grant a long-awaited taste?

*Tanka is a Japanese poem, similar to a haiku, consisting of five lines, in a 5-7-5-7-7 syllable scheme, making 31 syllables in all and giving a complete picture of an event or mood. Traditionally, neither tanka nor haiku have titles.

Conway Historical Society News

Annual Picnic: On July 11 the Conway Historical Society will once again hold its annual picnic at the Conway Inn, starting at 6:00 p.m. All are invited. Bring a dish for eight and let Mary know what you’re bringing at 369-4224 so that we’ll have a nice variety. Plates, cups, and tableware provided. Lemonade will be available, or you may purchase drinks from the bar. After a three-year hiatus because of COVID, we are all pleased to gather together once again!

Summer Exhibition: This summer the society’s exhibition will focus on Jack Chesbro, Conway’s Hall of Famer. The 50 Main Street museum will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays July 9 through August 27. In 1904, pitching for the New York Highlanders – renamed the Yankees in 1913 – Chesbro won an astounding 41 games against 12 losses, racking up 454 innings and 48 complete games, numbers that are unimaginable today. The 1904 season didn’t end well for him, however, as he threw a wild pitch in the ninth inning of a tie game against Boston that allowed the winning run to score and lost the Highlanders the American League pennant. The errant pitch nearly sent Chesbro into retirement and clouded his legacy for years.

Historic Deerfield Passes: The Historical Society has two season passes to Historic Deerfield and is making them available to all Conway residents. Each pass will admit up to four people. To reserve, contact Joseph Zadroga at 413-824-2719. It’s best if you can give 24-48 hours’ notice. For more information on Historic Deerfield, including hours, see historic-deerfield.org.

Come Play Pickleball in Conway

Organized free-play time is for players of all levels. We can provide nets, paddles, and balls. Beginners and advanced-skill players are all welcome. Pickleballers are a friendly group and love to teach others the game, so don’t be shy if you don’t have all the

rules and scoring down yet. To participate in free-play time, use the sign-up genius below so that you can see how many players may be coming and any other announcements. Bring a friend or two; pass the link along if you like, and HAVE FUN!

Signup Genius QR code:



You can find more information here:

- Facebook group called “Conway MA Pickleball”
- Parks and Recreation Committee page on the town website conwayma.gov
- Email Jan at ConwayMAPickleball@gmail.com

You can play at the ballfield on your own at any time outside the organized free-play times if you have your own group. Email me for the combination to the storage bench for nets, paddles, and balls.

Update from the Field Memorial Library

A multifaceted celebration of the 122nd birthday of our library will be held at the library on Saturday, July 15, beginning at 2:00 p.m. In addition to acknowledging our Conway landmark’s birthday, we will celebrate the completion of our entry into the digiverse of CWMars by honoring the many volunteers who gave so much time to make this possible. This event marks the first change in

operations in those 122 years! Please help us thank those who helped to make the library more accessible to everyone, especially the Conway community!

On July 15 we will also celebrate the tenth anniversary of our current Friends of the Library group, who put so much time and effort into making many resources available to the library and its patrons. Although we have a magnificent building, our operating budget is thin, and we are grateful for their help. These acknowledgments will be followed by refreshments and a concert by The New Blue, who will perform at 3:00 p.m. outside in front of the library, weather permitting. **Check our website for details if the weather looks threatening.**

The Friends of the Library were proud on June 17 to present their 2023 scholarship award to Conway resident Victoria Weagle. Congratulations to Victoria and her family!

The Clark Art Institute and Museum in Williamstown will offer free admission on Sunday, July 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as a recognition of their patrons in a celebration of Community Day. There aren’t many details on their website as of this writing, but if interested, you may want to check out their website at clarkart.edu closer to July 16.

Although Juneteenth will have passed when you read this, in recognition of America’s newest federal holiday, Juneteenth, the FML assembled a list of some of the relevant nonfiction, fiction, and children’s titles we hold. There is a link on our library website, or you can go there directly at fieldmemoriallibrary.org/juneteenth-2023.

The FML now offers a Seed Library. Stop in and pick up some seeds for your gardens.

Happy 4th of July to all!

David Whittier, Director, Field Memorial Library
director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org 369-4646
fieldmemoriallibrary.org

Contest #4567: The Faces of Nature

Nature provides the observant with a variety of portraits of faces and figures. We've all seen a gnarled tree or rocks that, upon observation, have the characteristics of a human or an animal face or figure. Send a photo of any natural formation that has the appearance of human or animal characteristics and where it was observed to verybratty@aol.com by July 7. Include your contact information. I'll announce the winner of four Perkarski's smoked pork chops in the August issue of *Conway Currents*.

Sir Reginald Buttwinker



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 July 5. For more information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284 or email patricialynch@earthlink.net.

Senior Calendar for July

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 NOTE: Please, when loaned equipment is no longer needed, call Hank in order to return it.

"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 413-774-3167 x 156 (Lisa) or x 158 (Meg).

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.

Mah Jongg A Mah Jongg group meets at Town Hall at 10:00 every Wednesday. This group plays the Wright-Patterson style of Mah Jongg, which was created by the Officer's Wives Club at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the early 1920s. It has elements of Cantonese and American/National Mah Jongg League styles but uses Classic Chinese scoring. This style is equally as challenging to learn as the American style and is also worth the effort. For more information, contact Phylis Dacey at 369-4326

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 July 3. Clinic hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There is a \$20.00 fee. For information or to schedule an appointment, call Peg Tiley at 369-4010. NOTE: There will be two nurses at the August clinic, which enables us to make more appointments available.

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

Walking Group The walking group has been enjoying the group's conversation and companionship while indulging in healthful exercise. Join the group on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in front of the library, weather permitting. For more information, contact Phylis Dacey at 369-4326.

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 link.

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 <https://conwayma.gov> 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. **Deadline is the 15th of the preceding month.** If you want to discuss your ad or have any questions, please call or email lmbeckett@crocker.com.

Town of Conway Employment Opportunities

Highway Department Equipment Operator/Laborer - Full-time permanent benefitted position. Massachusetts CDL Class B driver's license with Airbrakes endorsement and Manual Transmission, Hoisters license 2B and DOT health card required prior to work. Must live within 10 mile proximity to town. Must pass town-provided physical and drug test prior to hiring; subject to random drug testing. Hourly Rate: \$21.83-\$23.33, based on experience. Application form available at <https://conwayma.gov/>. Applications accepted immediately; position open until filled. E-mail application to highway@conwayma.gov or mail to Highway Superintendent, P.O. Box 240, Conway, MA 01341. The Town of Conway is an equal opportunity employer.

On-Call Transfer Station Attendants - The town is seeking on-call attendants to fill in when needed at the transfer station. Hours vary depending upon the need, and current hourly pay is \$15.00. Job description: conwayma.gov/files/Transfer_Station_Attendant-final.pdf Interested parties should fill out the application and contact the Town Administrator at townadmin@conwayma.gov.

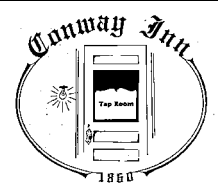
Assistant to Boards and Committees - The town is seeking a part-time employee to help the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals with taking minutes and other administrative duties. This job is mostly

evening hours, and averages 5 hours a week at \$19 per hour. To see the job description: [Administrative Assistant: Boards](#). Interested parties should fill out an [application](#) and contact the Town Administrator at townadmin@conwayma.gov.

Notice

The Town of Conway seeks bids for a landlocked property located at 0 off Ashfield Road, Assessor's Map 409, parcel 18.1. The minimum accepted bid price is \$5,000. Sealed bids will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk's office on Tuesday, July 11th. For more information please contact the Assessor's office.

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 7 p.m.-ish, and third Thursday - starts around 6 p.m. - 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. Fourth of July hours: 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.



We have flavored iced and hot coffee, fruit smoothies, gluten-free bread and bagels, and ice cream cones! Find tomatoes, cukes, squash and peppers; hanging baskets and local asparagus and snap peas. All flats \$20/flat - while they last. Check us out on Facebook: facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store for today's specials.

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: www.naturalroots.com. Natural Roots, 888 Shelburne Falls Rd., Conway, MA 01341, 413-369-4269, farmers@naturalroots.com.

Wilder Hill Gardens -has teamed up with DCR, MDAR, & MNLA to promote the use of native plants. Stop by the nursery to receive your very own kit: 2 native plants, a packet of New England native plant seeds and an attractive lawn sign encouraging your neighbors to increase the use of native plants in their own landscapes. Here at Wilder Hill we propagate and grow our own flowering and evergreen shrubs, small fruits, trees, perennial flowers, annuals, herbs and cut flowers. Varieties are selected for foliage, flowers, habit and ease of cultivation, ensuring that you'll have plants especially suited for Conway's climate. Wilder Hill Press Gallery will be open too with original prints, books and ceramics. Stop by any weekend for gardening advice from an experienced landscape designer, and view the stone stupas, gallery, and flower gardens. Lilian Jackman, 351 South Shirkshire Road, 413-625-9446. lilianjackman@gmail.com. Open Sat/Sun 9-5. 413-625-9446. lilianjackman@gmail.com.



July means weed management - and summer harvesting! Our super sharp ARS Nejiri Kama weeding sickle is available in 12" or with a 4' long handle, both made with a single, twisted shank to provide extra strength and durability. The lightweight Seymour weed cutter is equipped with serrated edges to cut through weeds with ease. Our large assortment of specialty knives will suit all your harvesting needs, from our general landscape and harvest knife to produce, cabbage and many other specialized harvest knives. Don't forget a garden hod, available in two sizes, or a Roo Apron to help carry your harvest. We have 12" and 15.5" blueberry rakes in stock and they are a must have for harvesting lowbush blueberries. Need help? Stop by or call to 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 - at Debra Hoyle Studio/gallery, 46 Main St., showing collage paintings this summer at Southern Vermont Art Center,

Manchester VT until July 15 in their members' show, and continually at Blake & Co., 47 Main St., Orleans, MA. If you find yourself in Vermont or at the Cape please stop by to enjoy the art work of many talented artists and artisans! Debra's studio/gallery is open by appointment visitors are welcome! Or if you see the 'OPEN' sign up come on in. No obligation, looking around is fine. She is often there exploring new ideas but there is always something beautifully finished on the walls for sale. One of a kind artwork is the perfect gift for a special occasion or as an addition to your home. 413-325-5579 <http://instagram.com/debhoyle.art>

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

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

Need Live Music? - Katie Clarke and Larry LeBlanc are your Conway connection for old-time country, bluegrass, folk, Irish and original tunes. Private events, weddings, house parties, memorials, etc -we've got you covered. We've got guitars, mandolins, banjos, vocal gymnastics, even accordions! We can customize material according to your needs. Call Katie at 413-695-7193 or email me at kclarkewaddell@gmail.com

Tea at Two Gift Shop - 85 Whately Road, Conway. Handcrafted goods - jewelry, pottery, woodenware, baby items and more. See RADA cutlery and the line of Stream2Sea products: sunscreen, body and bath essentials - all ecologically friendly. Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons or by appointment. Call 413-834-2339.

Home organizing - room design, and small repairs. I'd love to help you stage your home for sale, spruce up for an event, or prepare for the next chapter of your life's journey. I'll see you through with efficiency, privacy and "the heart of a midwife." Jiyanna Vagedes, Home Consultations, Main Poland Road; 413-387-8934

Blazing Star Herbal School - Conway, MA offers in-person, 10-month Beginner/Intermediate Herbal Apprenticeships and Botanical Art In-Studio programs, holistic health lifestyle consults and more. For openings for our 2023 season see <https://linktr.ee/TonyaLemosArts> or contact Tony(a) Lemos blazingstarclinic@gmail.com for more info. Blazing Star Herbal School is dedicated to teaching traditional herbal medicine in a way that supports a more sustainable future for all members of the green world and shows respect for the integrity of nature. We offer a unique perspective on herbalism, weaving social and political aspects of health and healing through the study of medicinal herbs and food practices. We inspire students to find their own healing path by creating a personal relationship with the plant world. The school also serves as a local and national resource for education and networking.

Sweet Roots Gardens - kids and adult garden and yoga programs this summer. Contact Sara at saracoblyn@gmail.com Find our herbal products on [etsy](https://www.etsy.com) Like us on facebook! www.facebook.com/SweetRootsGardens; sweetrootsgardens.com/

Jan and John Maggs Antiques - specializing in 17th-century English oak furniture, Queen Anne and Georgian jewelry, paintings, carpets, and small accessories, all in our new barn in Pumpkin Hollow. Open most Sundays 10:00 – 4:00 and by chance or appointment.



Feel free to stop in whenever you see the blue doors. Visit our shop online at www.jmaggs.com, or arrange a visit by calling 369-4256 or emailing jmaggs@jmaggs.com

I want to buy your record collection! - Hi, I live in Conway and I am a record enthusiast who wants to fill out my record collection. I love all genres including 60's, 70's, 80's rock, new wave, jazz, country and reggae and just about everything else. I am more than willing to pay for excellent records. I also love any kind of music paraphernalia. If you want to sell your collection, large or small, call me at 1-413-522-4919 billbrad@gmail.com (Bill).

Looking to sell or buy a home? - Conway native Laura (Kuzdeba) Dziura is here to help you navigate today's real estate market, while providing exceptional support along the way. Buying and selling throughout the Pioneer Valley - contact Laura today: laurad@delaprealestate.com or 413-695-3743.

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