



**Volume 4, Number 8 - August 2023**

## Natural Roots Flood Relief GoFundMe



On Monday morning, July 10, the South River jumped its banks and quickly swallowed the main crop fields at Natural Roots Farm in Conway, including the farm's equipment yard and flock of laying hens. All the main crop fields were completely submerged, soil was lost, and crops were flattened, uprooted, or blasted out of the field by the force of the flood. The farmers are anticipating a 100% loss of the food that was growing in those main fields at the time of the flood, and they are turning to their local community for help.

“The financial implications from this event are insurmountable without community support,” said farm manager Brittany Terry.

“Losses like this are impossible to absorb into the shoestring margins that farms like ours already work within. As resilient and adaptable as we are, we will be unable to keep our farm going without help, so we have launched a GoFundMe to raise the \$85,000 we need now to cover our lost income and rebuild our farm from the flood.”

The farm crew, along with the farm's brave team of horses, was able to rescue most of the chicken flock and most of the farm's equipment from being washed away in the rapidly rising floodwaters. All people and workhorses emerged from the rescue sodden and charged with adrenaline but otherwise safe. Now the farmers are working on assessing the damage, absorbing the regulations around what will be safe to harvest from unaffected plants, and determining what can be replanted in the weeks and months ahead. At this point in the season, however, there is not enough time left to replant most of the crops that were lost.

“The full extent of the flood damage is still unfolding, but it is our intention to continue to steward this land and offer nourishment to our community, who have supported us for over 25 years,” said owner David Fisher, who started the farm in 1998. “We are profoundly grateful for all of the community support we are receiving through this extremely challenging time.”

Natural Roots is a horse-powered vegetable farm utilizing organic practices along the South River in Conway Massachusetts. They feed over 250 local families with their main season and winter CSA shares and also sell a variety of vegetables to the general public and to local businesses. They offer eggs from pasture-raised chickens and have a small farm store that is open year-round. Established in 1998 by David Fisher on land owned by Christian and Gaella Elwell of South River Miso, Natural Roots Farm also offers one of the only teamster-training apprenticeship programs in the country to aspiring farmers who would like to learn the benefits and skills needed for draft-powered farming.

The farm's GoFundMe campaign is making great progress toward covering losses incurred by the flooding, and the farmers hope the momentum continues. Sharing the [gofundme link](https://gofund.me/a6b55da2) – [gofund.me/a6b55da2](https://gofund.me/a6b55da2) – is the best way to support their recovery efforts right now. The farmers are grateful beyond words for all of the incredible generosity! Another way to support Natural Roots farm through its recovery is to shop at the farm store! The hens have not stopped laying eggs, and the store is as full as ever.

Natural Roots  
888 Shelburne Falls Road, Conway, MA  
413-369-4269 [naturalroots.com](https://naturalroots.com)

### Notes from the Town Administrator

As I write this column it is, yet again, raining outside. I know many of us have been impacted by the recent deluge, both with damage to our town roads as well as some of our basements and driveways, and we are currently trying to assess the amount of damage that has occurred in town. Please do reach out to me if you have had any significant damage and associated costs, as I am compiling a list. I do not know yet if anything will come from compiling this list, but at least we will then know how much damage the weather has caused to both public and private properties.

If you did not receive the recent emergency alert system call stating that Main Poland Road had become impassable, I urge you to sign up for it. Look for "EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM" on the front page of the website at [conwayma.gov](https://conwayma.gov), in the middle of the page about halfway down. If you have any issues signing up, please contact me at [townadmin@conwayma.gov](mailto:townadmin@conwayma.gov) or call 369-4235 x 3.

Conway is also looking for two more members on our sustainability committee, which will be dealing with energy and climate change preparedness issues, so if you are interested in these issues and willing to volunteer a little time, please contact me.

Here's to a dry and happy August for all!

– Véronique

## Conway Festival of the Hills, Sunday, October 1, 2023

**Volunteer Needed to Help with Publicity:** We are looking for someone to help us publicize the 2023 Festival of the Hills. Conway's Festival of the Hills 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](https://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](mailto:festivalofthehills@yahoo.com). Press releases go out starting in early August. Applications must be postmarked by **August 14!**

**Last Call for 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](https://festivalofthehills.com) (under "Events," click "Craft Fair"), or by contacting the Craft Fair Coordinator, Adria Elskus, at [conwaycrafters@yahoo.com](mailto:conwaycrafters@yahoo.com) or 413-325-4883.

**Call for Artists!** Conway's Festival of the Hills is seeking artists for the Art Exhibition to be held at the Field Memorial Library. All Conway artists are cordially invited to enter up to five pieces in the exhibition. Please join us for this event. Last year the exhibition hosted almost 700 visitors! Applications are available at

[festivalofthehills.com](http://festivalofthehills.com). Queries and applications can be sent to the art show coordinator at [conwayfestivalarts@gmail.com](mailto:conwayfestivalarts@gmail.com).

**Festival Planning Meetings:** Two meetings will be held in August (dates to be determined) on Zoom. To get the Zoom link, email [festivalofthehills@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://festivalofthehills.com) or contact us at [festivalofthehills@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

## **Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

Franklin County Solid Waste District is planning to hold the 2023 household hazardous waste collection on Saturday, September 23, at GCC’s Main Campus and the Orange Transfer Station. **Residents and businesses must preregister by September 15.** Online preregistration for the 2023 collection will open on August 16, at [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org). Mail-in registration forms will be available in mid-August at town transfer stations and in local newspapers. Participants will be assigned an appointment time to bring wastes to the collection. An appointment time and instructions will be provided by mail after registration is processed.

The collection is free for residents of most of the District’s 21 member towns. Businesses may participate but must pay for disposal costs. For business registration information, call 413-772-2438.

This collection provides an opportunity to dispose of hazardous items that should not be put in the trash, such as leftover oil-based paints, stains, thinners, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, motor oil, antifreeze, household cleaners, and other household chemicals. A more complete list of acceptable items is at [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org).

Batteries and mercury-containing items such as fluorescent light bulbs, thermometers, and thermostats will not be accepted at this collection. These items, which may contain mercury or heavy metals, should never be put in trash or recycling. Handle carefully, bring them to a municipal transfer station or a Regional Hazardous Waste “Super Site” and hand to an attendant. In addition, fluorescent light bulbs are accepted at Lowe’s Stores (all types) and Home Depot (CFLs only).

For more information visit [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org) or contact the district at [info@franklincountywastedistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywastedistrict.org), 413-772-2438. MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD). The district is an equal-opportunity provider.

## Conway Hills Wildlife Sanctuary Walk

The Conway Open Space Committee presents a walk through the Mass Audubon Conway Hills Wildlife Sanctuary on Sunday, September 10, at 10:00 a.m. Audubon naturalist John Green will guide a tour of fields and wood trails on this special property, which provides important habitat for birds and other wildlife. Learn about the current management strategies and interesting facets of its plants and animals.

The Conway Hills Wildlife Sanctuary is on Rte 116 but has limited parking. Meet at the Conway Grammar School, 24 Fournier Road, to carpool to the site. Come prepared to walk in the woods. This event is free and open to all and will occur rain or shine. For questions contact Janet Chayes at [janet@chayes.org](mailto:janet@chayes.org) or 413-768-7416.

## Beethoven Invades Conway!

This Friday, August 4, at 7:00 p.m., the music of the revolutionary composer will be heard at St. Mark’s Church, 169 Delabarre Avenue, Conway. Cellist Douglas McNamers joins violinist Sarah Briggs and violist Geoffrey Archambeau in an all-Beethoven program. Built in 1879, St. Mark’s features a sanctuary that provides a remarkable acoustical environment with beautiful stained glass windows donated by such Conway notables as the late Jill Kerr Conway, past-president of Smith College. For more information, visit [conwayfinearts.com](http://conwayfinearts.com).

## Mutts in Need Fundraiser

The Friends of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter are holding a fundraiser on Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club. Tickets: \$25.00 advance, \$30.00 day of. There will be live music, a silent auction, raffles, an agility course, catered BBQ, Wagon Wheel Ice Cream, dog massages, face painting, canine demos, and much more! Free Pupsicle made by Crooked Stick Pops included with first 80 tickets purchased.

Proceeds support the work of the Friends. For more information visit [fcrdogkennel.org](http://fcrdogkennel.org) or call 413-676-9182.

## Your Town Needs YOU!

At the June Town Meeting this year, a change to the Personnel Committee bylaw was approved. This change enables a wider group of residents to support the very important work of the Personnel Committee. Conway employees work very hard for all of us, and they need – and deserve – a robust Personnel Committee to support the good work they perform for all of us day in and day out. Won't you please consider joining the Conway Personnel Committee?

I can say from my own committee experience that giving your time to the town is very rewarding. The time commitment is modest and totals perhaps 20 hours over the course of a year. As a newly appointed Personnel Committee member, I'm asking you to please consider joining us to give back to town employees the support they always give us.

If you have any questions and/or would like to join, please feel free to contact me, Phyllis Craine, by emailing [townadmin@conwayma.gov](mailto:townadmin@conwayma.gov) – put “personnel” in the subject line – or call Véronique Blanchard at 369-4235 x 3.

## Forest and Trails Committee Work Project

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 this month. We are asking interested members of the public to join us in this effort.

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](mailto: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 party is on Sunday, August 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We will meet at Conway Grammar School in front of the playground area.

## Swimming Pool

Our swimming pool is unique in many ways: clean, cool water; visited by friends and neighbors; pleasant grounds on which to picnic or bird watch; and run solely by volunteers. We are hoping that a few more residents will offer to help occasionally throughout the summer months. Tasks include string trimming once a month, watering window boxes, keeping walkways clear, and other small tasks.

This would be an excellent opportunity for teenagers seeking a community activity to add to an education or work application.

Contact us at [conwayswimmingpool@gmail.com](mailto:conwayswimmingpool@gmail.com) to find out ways to help or go to our Facebook page, "Conway Community Swimming Pool," where we post meeting dates and news/events.

## At the Historical Society

by George Forcier

This photograph, mounted on cardboard stock, shows what is likely a town road grading crew: two men holding hand tools, while another



Road Crew, c. 1890. Conway Historical Society; Gift of George (1916-1996) & Alice (1912-2008) Eldridge.

two are operating the horse-drawn wagon, rigged as a primitive road grader. One man controls the team, while a second at the rear operates the metal blade. This crew may be related to the Solomon Pease family and Burkeville Stable of the late 1800s. A similar image in the Society's collection of a road crew associated with Solomon Pease, the road commissioner at the time, is dated circa 1890. The first motorized, self-propelled road graders came to market in the 1920s, with young companies like Caterpillar adapting and advancing the design into the modern era.

Today's modern graders can cost up to \$100,000 and beyond, and are powered by up to 150 horses or more. Quite a change from the late 19th century.



**Historic Deerfield Season Passes:** The Society has two of them available to Conway residents, and each pass admits up to four people. To reserve, call or text Joe Zadroga at 413-824-2719. It's best if you can give 24-48 hours' notice. Passes should be picked up either the day before or the day of your planned visit, and must be returned immediately following your use so that others may enjoy them! For more information on Historic Deerfield, including hours, see [historic-deerfield.org](http://historic-deerfield.org).



**Summer Exhibition:** focusing on Jack Chesbro, Conway's Hall of Famer continues through August 27. The 50 Main Street museum will be open on Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Stop by!

### Contest #4567 Winners

The winner of Contest #4567, "Creatures in Flora and Fauna," is Heather Rose. She'll be munching down four beeyooteeful smoked pork chops from Perkarski's for her "Bard Owl Tree." Second place goes to Denise Dwelley for her "Walking Stick" insect. She'll receive a year's supply of instant tripe pudding. . . . Yum! In third place is Devlin Selman for her "Weasel???" cloud. Hmmm. She'll be receiving three Rorschach Tests in the mail.



## Conway Sportsman's Club News and Events

On July 22 a (not quite) surprise party was held at the club to honor Conway's recently retired police chief, Kenny Ouimette. Well over one hundred people came to show their gratitude to a man who has done so much in – and out of – uniform to strengthen our community in so many ways. Thank you, Kenny.

Eighty-one archers, some from as far away as Quebec, parts of Maine that no one has ever heard of, and all corners of the Northeast came to the Conway Sportsman's Club to participate in the third leg of the International Bowhunting Organization tournament. The competitors shot at a variety of circles, some as small as a nickel, placed on a variety of 3-D targets nestled in various parts of the club's woodlands. The competition finished just before the skies opened up. Go to [IBO.net](http://IBO.net) to find out more about the how, when, and where of this form of competition.

This month will see another archery shoot on August 5 and 6 and our second sporting clays shoot on August 20.

### Update from the Field Memorial Library

On July 15 we held a multifaceted celebration of the 122nd birthday of our library. In addition to acknowledging our Conway landmark's 122nd birthday, we celebrated the completion of our entry into the "digiverse" of CWMars and honored the many volunteers who gave so much time to make this possible. Our entry into the library's digital network marks the first change in operation in those 122 years!

To give you a small idea of what this means to the library, our circulation has doubled – even tripled – since we opened to CWMars on December 7, 2022. For example, in just one of the two days *every week* that we process requests from CWMars, we served our collection to patrons in Westfield, Dalton, Sheffield, Wilbraham, Florence, Westminster, Westhampton, Douglas, Longmeadow,

Monson, Turners Falls, Belchertown, Agawam, Deerfield, Northampton, Bernardston, and Hadley. That's 17 on a Monday. Typically, another 25 from other libraries and returns to the FML arrive on Wednesdays. This provides a snapshot of 42 items a week circulating both *from* our collection to others and from other libraries *to* Conway patrons. These are net additions to our circulation numbers since joining CW Mars. Which means, by the way, that by processing these items our workload has doubled!

Also on July 15, we celebrated the tenth anniversary of our current Friends of the Library group, who put so much time and effort into making 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. Please consider joining our Friends group to help expand the library programs that they provide. We are grateful to those who volunteer in programs and events and who contribute funds to library operations through the Friends group. You make a difference!

August is prime vacation time, and that will be true at the library while our staff take some time to recharge and plan for the year ahead. However, the library will be open during its regular hours. You will see some new faces at the desk, because we have recruited a fabulous group of retired librarians and library aficionados to substitute at the desk in August. Please drop in and say hello to this talented and generous group, who will help keep our circulation flowing.

In recognition of America's newest federal holiday, Juneteenth, we 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/](http://fieldmemoriallibrary.org/juneteenth-2023/).

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

## 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 August August 2. For more information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284 or email [patricialynch@earthlink.net](mailto:patricialynch@earthlink.net).

### Senior Calendar for August

**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 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 August 7. 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 9:00 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.

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## Currents Advertisements & Notices

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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 15<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).

### 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](mailto: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](https://conwayma.gov/files/Transfer_Station_Attendant-final.pdf) Interested parties should fill out the application and contact the Town Administrator at [townadmin@conwayma.gov](mailto:townadmin@conwayma.gov).

**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. 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, corn, squash, beans and peppers; Berries are in! Blue, black and raspberries. Check us out on Facebook:

[facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store](https://facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store) for today's specials.

**Natural Roots Farm** - We are a horse-powered CSA farm located along the South River right here in Conway. Enjoy this beautiful, bountiful farm and the vibrant community that we feed. 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](http://www.naturalroots.com). Natural Roots, 888 Shelburne Falls Rd., Conway, MA 01341, 413-369-4269, [farmers@naturalroots.com](mailto: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, all in our new barn in Pumpkin Hollow. Open most Sundays 10:00 – 4:00 and by chance or appointment. Our August Tax Holiday Sale begins on Tuesday, August 1, offering deep discounts on dozens of pieces from our inventory. The sale will be posted on our website at 10:00 a.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> and will continue throughout the month. Purchases finalized on the tax holiday weekend, August 12 – 13, are exempt from sales tax. Visit our shop online at [www.jmaggs.com](http://www.jmaggs.com), or arrange a visit by calling 369-4256 or emailing [jmaggs@jmaggs.com](mailto:jmaggs@jmaggs.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 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. 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 is open with original prints, books and ceramics. Stop by any weekend for gardening advice from an experienced landscape designer. Lilian Jackman, 351 South Shirkshire Road, 413-625-9446. Open Sat/Sun 9-5. 413-625-9446. [lilianjackman@gmail.com](mailto:lilianjackman@gmail.com).

WILDER HILL  
gardens

**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.

**August is here** - and what a rainy summer it has been! Clean up leaves and debris left by the summer storms with one of our heavy-duty DuraRakes and the ECHO SC-3013 Chipper/Shredder. The SC-3013 tackles tree branches up to 3 inches thick and can turn that unsightly yard debris into your very own compost! To learn more about creating your own compost, be sure to grab one of our reference books, such as *Weedless Gardening* or *Grow Your Soil*. Finish up harvesting with one of our many harvest knives and sickles. If you're lucky enough to have a blueberry harvest this year, our blueberry rakes make harvesting lowbush berries a breeze and are available in two sizes. Need assistance? 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.



**“Helping Our Community in the Ways We Can”** - is the theme this month at Debra Hoyle Studio and Gallery, 46 Main St., Conway. Purchase a sketch or collage during the month of August and 50% of the sale will be donated to flood relief efforts at Natural Roots Farm. This horse powered farm has nourished our community for over 25 years. Our lives, and theirs, would be very different if the farm didn't survive July's catastrophic flood. Contact Deb at 413-325-5579 to arrange a visit, or stop by and knock on the door when you see her old silver Camry parked out front. If it's not a time to buy art for you, donations for the farm in any amount will be accepted. Cash or check preferred for art, SQUARE available. [greenlady33@comcast.net](mailto:greenlady33@comcast.net); [instagram.com/debhoyle.art.rockpaperscissors](https://www.instagram.com/debhoyle.art.rockpaperscissors); visit [www.naturalroots.com](http://www.naturalroots.com) to contribute to their GoFundMe.com effort.

**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.

**Home organizing** - room design, and small repairs. I'd love to help you maximize your space, stage for sale, spruce up for an event, or transition to life's next chapter. I'll see you through with efficiency, ease and the "heart of a midwife." Jiyanna Vagedes, Home Consultations, [jiyannarose@gmail.com](mailto:jiyannarose@gmail.com), 413-387-8934

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**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](mailto:laurad@delaprealestate.com) or 413-695-3743.

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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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**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](mailto:kclarkewaddell@gmail.com)

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Thanks to all who voted for their favorite downtown Conway pastel painting at Hannah Harvester's Open Studio this summer. Come to the Field Memorial Library to view the winning painting, donated to the library. Affordable fine art reproductions of this painting, along with original pastels of Conway scenes, woodblock prints, and more are available at [hannahharvester.com](http://hannahharvester.com). Or stop by the studio at 46 Delabarre Ave. to see work in person. Some pieces are available to purchase by donation towards flood relief at Natural Roots Farm: \$685 raised so far! [hannahharvesterfineart@gmail.com](mailto:hannahharvesterfineart@gmail.com)

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