

Conway Currents

Volume 7, Number 5 - May 2026



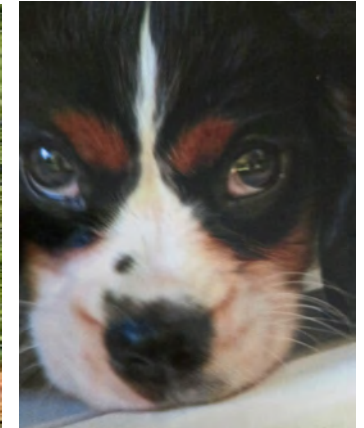
The Conway Fire Department and Firemen's Auxiliary invite the community to come out and celebrate Chief Robert Baker, who has retired after decades in the fire service. We hope you will join us as we celebrate his remarkable 60 years of dedicated community service to the Town of Conway. Robert Baker has been the face and spirit of Conway Fire for so long, and we look forward to everyone helping us wish him well!

Dog-of-the-Year Contest Winners

There were 35 entries in the town clerk's annual Dog-of-the-Year Contest. Judging was done by the Community Club at the Conway Grammar School. The winners were First Place: Mila, Second Place: Cody, Third Place: Mr. Jackson.



Left: Mila (on the right) curled up cozily by the fire; lower left, Cody; lower right, Mr. Jackson. All good dogs!



Don't forget to license your dog! For information contact Town Clerk Laurie Lucier, at the Conway Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road. Call 369-4235 x 4 or email clerk@conwayma.gov. Office hours: Monday 2:00 - 5:00 p.m., Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Closed Fridays.

Conway Pre-Town Meeting Dessert Potluck

All Conway residents are invited to a pre-Town Meeting dessert potluck and discussion on Tuesday, May 26, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Conway Grammar School cafeteria, 24 Fournier Road. Please bring a dessert to share that can be served on a napkin, serving utensils (if needed), and your own reusable cup/mug and spoon. Beverages will be provided. Residents who have information about particular warrant articles are encouraged to bring handouts.

Like past pre-Town Meeting gatherings, the evening is an opportunity for discussion that is informal, nonpartisan, and without the time pressure often felt at Town Meeting. Residents are encouraged to come with questions about Town Meeting warrant articles, procedures, and definitions. There will be an opportunity to meet candidates for town office. The intent of the meeting is to help people be well-informed voters and to have some time to think about what is being proposed, as a supplement to the democratic process of Town Meeting. Mary McClintock said, “These gatherings really help me have a better understanding of what we need to decide at Town Meeting. And the desserts are really tasty!”

For information: contact Jim Recore at jimmyrecore0318@gmail.com, 413-768-9939, or Mary McClintock at mmcclinto@yahoo.com, 369-0117.

Dual-Use Solar Array Proposed at Boyden Farm by George Forcier

The town has received an application for a 20-acre solar farm on Boyden land off Roaring Brook Road, an “agri-voltaic” system that would allow for continued agricultural use of the land. The sun-tracking solar panels would be set ten feet off the ground and spaced far enough apart to allow sunshine onto the field, allowing crops or grass to grow. This is the first use of the town’s solar farm

zoning rules, which were written following installation of the town’s only other solar farm, on Main Poland Road.

Developer Bluewave Solar, based in Boston, seeks a special permit and site plan review from the Planning Board on behalf of landowner Ronald Boyden. The area proposed lies roughly at the corner of Route 116 and Roaring Brook Road. Doing business as Roaring Brook Solar, LLC, the applicant proposes to build a 4.99-megawatt DC system that uses single-axis tracking photovoltaic panels and an associated battery energy-storage system (BESS).

The town’s zoning requires a special permit and site plan review for large-scale solar installations like this one. State policy encourages dual-use solar arrays that allow continued farming of the land. A months-long review of the plan starts with several town boards and officials, such as the fire chief, being given copies of the application and associated engineering plans. Their input goes to the Planning Board, which has scheduled a public hearing on May 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall. Copies of the application and associated maps and other materials are available for public viewing at the town clerk’s office and on the town website, conwayma.gov.

The Bluewave project would have a battery storage unit on site to allow the array to contribute to the grid in the nighttime or on cloudy days. The array is proposed to have a lifetime of 20 to 30 years. Bluewave would be responsible for decommissioning and removing the equipment when the array’s useful lifetime has ended.

Age-Friendly Conway Needs New Members!

The Age-Friendly Conway/Mass-in-Motion Committee is looking for two new members. We are the committee that hosts various events in town to bring cohesion, socialization, and fun to our older residents. We welcome anyone who is interested. What we most need are your energy and a willingness to bring new ideas into Conway.

We meet every third Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in Town Hall. Our next meeting is May 21. Anyone is welcome to drop in and observe. Come join us and be a part of Conway moving forward to create a more age-friendly community.

For more information, contact Tilda Hunting at 369-4170 or 413-687-3024 or Robin Yerkes, chair, at 413-575-7816.

Public Hearing on Proposed Solar Array

A public hearing on a proposed 20-acre solar farm on Boyden land off Roaring Brook Road has been scheduled for **May 5 at 7:00 p.m.** in Town Hall. The town's zoning requires a special permit and site plan review for large-scale solar installations like this one. For information on this proposed array, see the article by George Forcier elsewhere in this issue.

Come and Create with Us

by Risa Sudolsky

The Conway Craft Makers Circle meets weekly on Mondays from 3:15 to 5:00 p.m. at the Field Memorial Library. Come meet your neighbors, enjoy good company, and be inspired! Drop-ins are welcome. We are friendly and offer ideas and assistance. Bring any kind of project to work on. Call Risa with any questions at 369-4781. Hope to see you on Monday!

Notes from the Town Administrator

Annual Town Meeting is just around the corner, on Saturday, June 6, at 10:00 a.m. at the Conway Grammar School. Annual Town Meeting (and sometimes Special Town Meeting) is where the business of the town is decided, and as Conway has an open town meeting, this means that all residents who are registered to vote may attend and weigh in on the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year as well as on changes to general and zoning bylaws. In other words, this is the chance for everyone to make their voices heard in your government!

Childcare is available! Please call the Grammar School at 369-4239 to reserve a spot.

Open Volunteer Positions Sadly, there are quite a few open positions on various committees and boards in town, and these positions are essential to the running of the town. They are listed on the front page of the Town of Conway website, conwayma.gov. If you have any time to spare for the town or a special interest in any of these areas, please contact Town Clerk Laurie Lucier. It's also never too early to start thinking about volunteering for the next Festival of the Hills! Their website is festivalofthehills.com, and while you're there, check out their merchandise!

Thank you, and enjoy the spring flowers!

Véronique

Swimming Pool News

The Conway pool opens on May 22! To celebrate, residents of all ages are invited for free ice cream on May 23 at 1:00 p.m.

Opening the pool requires many hours and skill levels. Consider joining us on May 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Bring your own gloves, drinking water, and the tools you are comfortable using. We'll supply the doughnuts.

While we can't offer swimming lessons at the pool, both Ashfield Lake and Tri-Town beach do. To register contact them directly.

Ashfield: ashfield.org/DocumentCenter/View/12081/Swim-Lessons-Registration-2026?bidId=

Deerfield: deerfieldma.us/357/Tri-Town-Beach-Commission

Mark your calendars for June 12. The Swimming Pool Committee and the Conway Parks and Recreation Committee will hold a town-wide event with food, music, and a special guest.

Conway Sportsman's Club's Youth Day

June 7, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. is Youth Day at the Conway Sportsman's Club, 245 Elmer Road.

Youth Day – Wow! Last year's Youth Day, sponsored by the Conway Police Department and the Sportsman's Club, saw well over 100 kids and parents enjoy a beautiful day of educational and fun activities. The biggest draw was the indoor trout pond, the brainchild of Ken Ouimette and his band of merry men and women. The fish will be biting, and the kids will love it. The club supplies necessary equipment. Kids can also build birdhouses to proudly take home. Guided by our professional archers, they can safely and correctly learn archery. Another activity is making animal prints from molds of everything from bobcats to bears! Marvel at and have your picture taken with Tom Ricardi's birds of prey. For older youth and interested parents, there will be an opportunity to learn gun safety and try your hand at shooting clays. Folks can top the day off with burgers and hotdogs. It'll be a grand day, rain or shine!

Board of Health Update

As we head into the heart of spring, here are a few seasonal health reminders.

New Cholesterol Guidelines Leading medical organizations issued updated guidelines on cholesterol screening and treatment in March. In general, cholesterol goals are now lower than they had been. Check your goal cholesterol with the PREVENT (Predicting Risk of Cardiovascular Disease EVENTS) risk calculator online. The guidelines advise that children get checked between ages 9-11 and address any concerns about their family history or lifestyle habits.

Mental Health Awareness Month May is a good time to check in with yourself and those around you. Longer days and spring's return can lift spirits, but for many of us, anxiety and depression don't follow the seasons. Whether you're struggling yourself or

noticing changes in a neighbor, friend, or family member, connection matters. For help, contact the Behavioral Health Network at 413-737-5126 or the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, available 24/7 by call or text.

Spring Allergies Tree and grass pollen counts are climbing across the area, making May one of the most challenging months for allergy sufferers. Keep windows closed on high-pollen days, shower after spending time outdoors, and talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medications if symptoms are affecting your daily life. You can find a local pollen tracker at aaaai.org.

Sun Safety and UV Protection As we spend more time outdoors, sun protection becomes an important daily habit, even on cloudy days. Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen of SPF 30 or higher to all exposed skin before heading outside, and reapply every two hours. Sunglasses that block UVA and UVB rays help protect your eyes, and a wide-brimmed hat adds another layer of protection. Avoid outdoor activities during peak UV hours – between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. – whenever you can, and seek shade during those midday hours. These simple habits can greatly reduce the risk of skin damage and skin cancer.

Wishing everyone a healthy and vibrant May.

Information from the Conway BOH is focused on our shared public health. Consult your healthcare provider for your personal healthcare guidance. For the most up-to-date information, see the town website and BOH webpage conwayma.gov/g/42/Board-of-Health.

Eight Houses, 33 Dogs and Counting

by Tricia Vinchesi



It has been said that the cycle of a neighborhood is 25-30 years. People move in, have and raise children, grow older, and sometimes move or sadly pass, and the cycle begins all over again. But along with the people there are pets too. Pets that we see

regularly and get to know almost as well as our neighbors.

There have been dozens of dogs on Baptist Hill since we moved here in 1990. There are cats too, but they are much more mysterious. Looking back, on our singular street, there have been a total of 33 dogs in 36 years. And that's not all the homes, just eight. At the start of our dwelling here there were Duchess, Bucky, Sheena, Wilbur, Tyler, Elsa, and Wolf. It was five years before we got our dog, Jackson, joining what had then morphed into Bailey, Sparky, Murphy, Jasper, Lily, Harry, and Orchard. Then another wave with our rescues Abby and Sadie, joined by Cooper, Snoopy, Jolene, Lucy, Henry, Lyra, Tina, Phoebe, and Ralphie. And in the blink of an eye, we now have Orla and Pippa keeping company with Rosalie, Millie, Misha, RoarE, Chickpea, and a potential new arrival. Retrievers, whippets, sheepdogs, mixed breeds, beagles, and more. Barkers, chasers, lickers, jumpers, all with their own unique personality. And like their owners, we silently mourned their passing and missed them.

According to Town Clerk Laurie Lucier, there are 400 licensed dogs in Conway (and many unlicensed). That's a lot of dogs to get to know. We used to know every dog going by, but during COVID there were lots of new ones walking by: so many sizes, shapes, and colors! And if the saying that a dog is "man's best friend" is true, then I suppose it isn't a stretch to also say that the neighborhood dog is also your friend. So keep those treats handy.

Right-to-Farm Road Signs for Conway

by Susan Schroder

Imagine tasting the most delicious syrup from Conway's revered old sugar maples, hearing the clanking of the horses' harnesses at work, smelling the sweet newly mown hay, and eating eggs from your neighbor's truly free-range chickens. This is Conway. We have our own beef, milk, honey, CSA, vegetable, herb, and tree farms, all gifts from our Conway neighbors. And we have an

abundance of woodland trails for our pleasure-horse enthusiasts. We are a Right-to-Farm Community.

In the early part of this century, as people moved from suburbia into rural towns, it became popular throughout the state to protect the farming industry by voting to become Right-to-Farm towns with bylaws that support the local farms.

Conway's Agricultural Commission was created during a town meeting in 2007. With the intention to actively preserve Conway's farming heritage, in 2015 three town residents – Mary Parker, Susan Schroder, and Jae Silverman – picked up the cause. After two years of attending Right-to-Farm seminars, consulting professionals, and meticulously reviewing the language used, the commission presented a modified version of a sample of the Right-to-Farm bylaws at a 2017 town meeting. Conway's Right-to-Farm bylaws were ratified at that meeting, and they are now on the town website, conwayma.gov.

This spring the highway department will be installing our Right-to-Farm road signs on six entry roads leading to the town center. The signs will bring visibility to our town's support for our vibrant farming community.

Our artist for these signs is home-grown Aimee Langevin Anderson, daughter of the late Bob Langevin, owner of Sunset Garage. Aimee grew up attending local schools and when not in the library, she helped take care of the cows and horses on her family's small farm. After living in Michigan for ten years, she returned to Conway with her husband and plans to enroll their young children in our local schools. Their future would include building an earthen home.

Aimee is a self-taught artist. Prior to this project she had never painted animals. Nevertheless, she has an adventurous spirit, and she believed she could develop her artistic and computer skills sufficiently to satisfy the challenges, so she volunteered to create five designs that highlight farm animals and farming activities in

support of our Right-to-Farm Community. The results of Aimee's work are beautiful signs that residents of Conway will be proud to call their own. Grab your kids and take a tour in May. See if you can find all six signs!

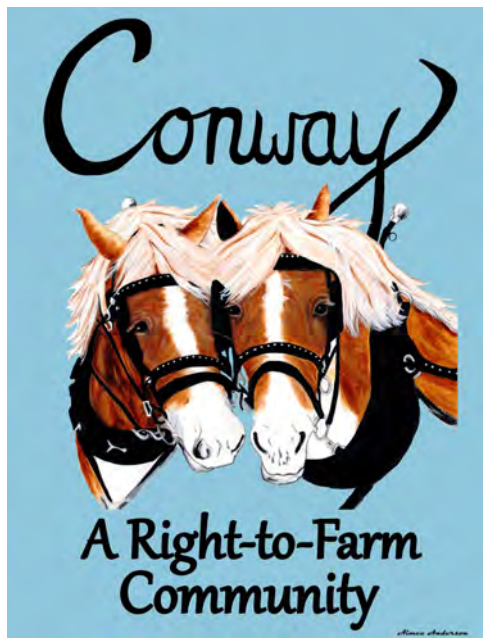
Name Our Beautiful Belgian Horses!

Four of the five right-to-farm sign designs have been named. They are Bessie Delight, a Guernsey cow; Mildred in the Sky with Diamonds, a Hereford cow; Maple Heaven, which reflects sugaring season; and Happy Dolly, a Nubian goat. The two beautiful, hard-working Belgian horse design still needs names for the horses, and you are invited to name them.

Contest rules: Entrants must be Conway residents. Homemade entry forms and multiple entries per person will be accepted. Entries must be postmarked by or put in a town drop box no later than May 30.

The Selectboard and the artist will pick the winner. The winning names will be announced in a future issue of *Conway Currents*. The winner will meet the artist, receive an autographed print of the horses, and have their photo in *Conway Currents*.

Entry form is on the following page.



Name the Horses Contest

Town of Conway
PO Box 240
Conway, MA 01341

Entrant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/Cell #: _____

Left horse's name: _____

Right horse's name: _____

Field Guide to Conway: Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)

by Courtney Gilligan & Marilyn Webster; illustration by Hannah Harvester



Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are arriving back to Conway's semi-open, mixed habitat of gardens, lawns, or meadows and forest edges. Like Red-winged Blackbirds, the males and females migrate separately, with males arriving and departing before females. However, they fly solo to Central America, either across the Gulf of Mexico, a nonstop flight of up to 18-20 hours, or following a coastal route around the gulf.

The only one of the 360+ species of hummingbirds – all native to the Americas – to breed east of the Mississippi, these small, charismatic birds with emerald green backs and crowns weigh about as much as a penny, can beat their wings fifty times a second, have the highest metabolic rate of any vertebrate, and are able to hover for extended periods of time as well as fly straight up and down and backward.

These adept fliers visit about a thousand tubular-shaped blossoms a day for nectar. They prefer red and orange flowers and are attracted to native plants, such as Jewelweed, Cardinal Flower, Wild Columbine, Wild Bee Balm, Canada Lily, and Wild Lupine. They also collect sap from rows of sawwells drilled by Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers in basswood and other trees. Additionally, they eat the tiny insects that are attracted to this sap for sources of fat and protein and pluck insects from spiderwebs.

During courtship, the male hummingbird first shows off his iridescent ruby throat patch or gorget – hence Ruby-throated Hummingbird – and then demonstrates his aerial acrobatics with a pendulum flight. However, after mating he doesn't stick around, so the female builds a firm yet pliable nest held together with spider silk or pine resin and camouflaged with lichen, incubates two eggs, and feeds the chicks all on her own.

In her book *Baby Birds: An Artist Looks Into the Nest*, artist and bird rehabilitator Julie Zickefoose writes that she noticed that young chicks, naked except for long yellow strands down their backs, reminded her of the toxic Black-waved Flannel Moth caterpillar. She wonders if this resemblance is a form of Batesian mimicry, in which a harmless organism evolves to look like a dangerous one. If so, this could protect the chicks from predators during their vulnerable time in the nest.

Bird Walk in Conway

Residents are invited to join the Conway Forest and Trails Committee on a guided bird walk with Daniel Fitzgibbons on Sunday, May 17, at 8:00 a.m.

Bring your binoculars and we will look for birds along the South River off of Reeds Bridge Road. Participants will be outdoors, slowly transversing a mixed terrain. Appropriate attire is recommended. Please take precautions against ticks. This event is free and open to the public, ages 12 and up. Please, no dogs. Space

is limited, so please reserve your spot by emailing courtney.gilligan@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Updates from the Field Memorial Library

From the Director of the FML

It's a new month, and we will display a new round of archival material from the FML files in our exhibit case. Stop by to enjoy slices of Conway history.

Crafting Circle Come and create with us on Mondays from 3:15 to 5:00 p.m.

The South River Singers Dress rehearsal on the front steps of FML on May 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Tech Help Drop-in tech help with Digital Navigator from Rich Vaden of the Franklin County United Way on May 27 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Chris Caldwell, Director, Field Memorial Library
director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org
369-4646 fieldmemoriallibrary.org

Update from the Friends of the FML

We are pleased to announce even more events during the month of May!

Food Exchange The food program at Town Hall will be paused until the fall. Thanks to all who have brought donations throughout the winter and early spring. We are grateful for a community that cares about the wellbeing of our neighbors.

The seed library in the catalog cabinet has been replenished with new seeds for this season. Please stop by and take whatever seed packets you need. There is no limit! In addition to the seeds supplied by the Friends, the Common Seed Project's seed of the season is a Hopi Sunflower. This is the same initiative that gave us

“the Provider Bean” last year. You can read up about this program at guides.library.umass.edu/commonseed.

Museum Passes Passes are available for several museums and parks. Come see what is available by looking at the pass board located in the library rotunda.. Each pass admits a varying number of people. Please check with the librarian to reserve a pass and to find out what it will cover. Historic Deerfield Museums are open for the season with a wonderful series of events. Take a look at what they offer and plan your visit: historicdeerfield@historic-deerfield.org

May 15-18, Story Walk May’s story walk is *Abuela* by Arthur Dorris. It will be set up at Veterans Memorial Park across from Town Hall. You can walk from one sign to the next to read the story. Activity kits will be available in a plastic container, first come, first served. Just help yourselves. More story walks will happen on the third weekend of each month. We are able to do this with the generous support of the Union 38 Family Network.

Scholarships

Conway Firemen’s Auxiliary Scholarship The Conway Firemen’s Auxiliary annually awards up to two scholarships of up to \$500 each. Applicants must be a Conway resident and a senior in high school. Primary consideration will be given to students who participate in community service, work, or extracurricular activities and who are planning to further their education in college, trade school, or a certificate program. Secondary circumstances the auxiliary will consider are grades and family financial situation. **The deadline for applications is the first Friday in May.** Applications are available through the town website: conwayma.gov/p/59/Scholarships. Submit completed applications to Conway Firemen’s Auxiliary, PO Box 46, Conway, MA 01341.

The Ryan Scholarship Attention parents: The Ryan Scholarship is now available to both college students and post-high school students. The Ryan Scholarship, sponsored by the Friends of the Field Memorial Library (FML), is accepting applications from Conway residents who are current high school seniors or were Conway residents when they graduated from high school from 2022 through 2025 and who are looking to expand their education and/or certification. The \$3,000 scholarship is made directly to the student. **The application deadline is May 30.** Information is on the FML website: fieldmemoriallibrary.org. If you have questions about college student applications or want to learn more about the Ryan Scholarship, contact Thad Bennett, coordinator, at theyanscholarship@gmail.com or at 802-579-7675. **Note:** If you have received a Ryan scholarship in the past, you may not reapply for two years.

South River Singers Concerts

The South River Singers, an eclectic Conway-based choir, invites you to two concerts in May:

Tuesday May 12, 6.30 p.m. Weather permitting, we will offer a short concert in front of the steps of the Field Memorial Library, free and open to all. Light refreshments will be offered by the Friends of the Field Memorial Library.

Tuesday May 19, 7:00 p.m. The South River Singers will offer the same concert at Edwards Church in Northampton with a few extra numbers.

Suggested donation \$20, with 100% of the donations going to a nonprofit. Led by Sophie Michaux and Adam Simon, the South River Singers will sing a wide variety of styles of choral music from around the world: early music, American hymnody, Eastern European, Gospel, South African, Corsican, new choral music, and much more. The South River Singers are supported in part by the Massachusetts and Conway Cultural Councils. We hope you'll join us!

Sir Reggie's Homemade Quiz

What you see is not necessarily what you get. Answer the following questions as quickly as you can.

1. To which planet do Abbott and Costello travel in *Abbott and Costello Go to Mars*?
2. How long does morning last on the moon?
3. The Caspian Sea is the world's largest what?
4. Where would you go to have a meal in Le Restaurant de la Tour Eiffel?
5. How far down a flagpole should a flag be if it is flying at half mast?
6. What type of creature was Buffalo Bill famous for killing?
7. On what side of the moon is the Eastern Sea?

Answers on page 23.

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 May 6.. For more information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284 or email patricialynch@earthlink.net.

Senior Calendar for May

“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).

Monthly Foot Care Foot clinics are usually held on the first Monday of the month in Town Hall **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Clinic hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The fee is \$25.00. A 48-hour notice is required for cancellations; without such notice,

you will be responsible for the fee. NOTE: Reservations are taken at each month's clinic for the following month. Reserve a space now for the May or June clinic. For information or to schedule an appointment, call Pat Kocot at 369-4248 or 413-775-3629.

Senior Meals In most months meals are held at Town Hall on the second and last Thursdays of the month. Meals may be eaten in or picked up at noon. For reservations, more information, or to be added to our email or phone list for announcements, call Carolyn Thayer at 413-559-0282.

Senior Strength & 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. Each class includes upper body, lower body, and core strength exercises with dumbbells and balance training. This Healthy Bones & Balance program is sponsored by RSVP. Contact leader Gary Fentin at 413-530-1703 for information or for the Zoom link.

Yoga for Seniors Led by Jody Smith-Soles on Wednesdays in person and on Zoom. Class times and locations: mat yoga 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the library, chair yoga 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the UCC. Call Jody at 413-824-9435 for information or for the Zoom link.

Senior Services

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 413-522-9240 to borrow equipment. **NOTE:** Please, when loaned equipment is no longer needed, call Hank to return it

SHINE Counseling The SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) Program provides free health insurance information and counseling to all Massachusetts residents with Medicare and their caregivers. People who have Medicare or who are about to become eligible for Medicare can meet with a counselor to learn about benefits and options available. A counselor will review programs that help people with limited income to pay health care costs.. SHINE counseling

is available by calling LifePath at 773-5555 or by contacting Meg Ryan, one of Conway's public health nurses, at 774-3167 x 158.

Transportation for Medical Appointments & Shopping The Shelburne Senior Center provides curb-to-curb van transportation within Franklin County for seniors 60 and over for in-county medical appointments and grocery shopping. Call the center at 625-2502 to make an appointment at least 48 hours in advance or for information about reservations and fees. An application with a copy of a photo ID is needed to be pre-approved for ridership. For rides to out-of-county medical appointments, call the FRTA at 774-2262 x 163 for information and reservations.

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. 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 made out to **Town of Conway with Conway Currents in the memo section, 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.**

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. and third Thursday - starts around 6 p.m. - 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 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Always find a variety of homemade desserts and baked goods and a large selection of last-minute items. Pick up a hanging basket for Mother's day and we'll have flowering and veggie plants as well. Check us out on Facebook: facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store for today's specials or call 413-369-4936.



Realtor on Main Street, Conway Center - Geoffrey Baker, licensed realtor with Cohn and Company in Greenfield. As the days grow brighter and warmer, the housing market is showing signs of turning a corner, so staying

ahead of the curve and meeting the future now is always a smart strategy. Let me help you make your move, whether buying or selling. Proud to support my community and children's arts education, 20% of all my commissions go to Amherst Ballet Theatre Company, 65 Sunderland Road. 413-296-5225, geoffrey@cohnandcompany.com.

Now's the Time! - If you're considering a move in 2026, now is the time to call your realtor for pre-listing advice, pre-buying guidance and coaching on how to be ready for the Spring thaw in the residential real estate market. Don't have a realtor yet? I'm a longtime Conway resident and love working with fellow Conwegians! Sarah Newman, Realtor with Coldwell Banker Community Realtors MA Real Estate Salesperson License #9561615, MA Registered Architect License #9849 sarahnewmanrealtor.com; Sarah.Newman@CBCommunityRealtors.com; 413-548-6525

May marks the true arrival of spring - and we're certainly ready for it. Winter chores are behind us, and it's time to plan our summer and spring gardens. OESCO is stocked with the essentials like trowels, hoes, rakes, snips, and pruners. Have you tried the popular multipurpose Cobrahead tool? It's great for weeding, digging, edging, and more, and its small head makes it possible to get into tight spaces with minimal damage to surrounding plants. Or maybe you prefer the elegant Japanese Hori-Hori knife by GrowTech - perfect for weeding, planting, and dividing, with useful features like a serrated edge and engraved depth measurements. Need ideas for planning your garden? Explore our selection of reference and gardening books while you're here! Call or stop by to talk to our knowledgeable sales staff. Shop where the pros shop, and thanks for buying locally! OESCO, Inc. (Orchard) M-F: 7-5; 369-4335



Jan & John Maggs Antiques and Art - 17th-century English oak furniture, Queen Anne and Georgian jewelry, and more in our shop in Pumpkin Hollow. Our annual Spring Opening will take place on the weekend of May 16 & 17. The shop will be full of our latest purchases: furniture, jewelry, smalls, carpets, and artwork, sourced locally and in England during the past six months, and displayed in room settings. It will begin online on Saturday at 10:00, and our OPEN flags will be out on Saturday from noon until 4:00 and on Sunday from 9:00 until 4:00. At other times, visit us online at jmaggs.com or in person by calling or emailing to arrange a visit: 413-369-4256; or



jmaggs@jmaggs.com. There's plenty to see, and we're always happy to show visitors around and answer questions about the things we sell.

Debra Hoyle Studio and Gallery - welcomes spring! Collage and gel printing workshops are available at the studio on individually scheduled Saturday afternoons. Typically 3 hours and all supplies are included for \$65. per person. No experience needed! Call or text 413-325-5579 for more info. [instagram.com/debhoyle.art.rockpaperscissors](https://www.instagram.com/debhoyle.art.rockpaperscissors)

Calm Computing - Tech help, made local. Having trouble with your computer, Wi-Fi, printer, or phone? Calm Computing provides friendly, down-to-earth tech support right here in Western Mass. Whether it's setting up a new computer, solving email issues, getting your smart TV online, or just making things "work like they should," we make technology simple again. We offer in-home visits, phone, and remote support with no long waits or confusing jargon, just patient, practical help. Serving Conway and surrounding towns for over a decade. Calm Computing LLC (413) 548-5358 • CalmComputing.net – Your local tech experts – calm, clear, and close by.



Learn to Draw or Paint - right here in Conway! Making art is a wonderful way to connect with the world around you and with each other, too. I'm Hannah Harvester and I teach drawing, painting and printmaking for all ages from my studio on Delabarre Ave. I'm planning my summer classes now, so if you've been looking for a drawing or painting class to learn or keep you motivated, contact me! My groups are small and I can take your individual needs and schedule into consideration when planning my summer offerings. Learn more at www.HannahHarvester.com or write to me at hannahharvesterfineart@gmail.com

Mosaic Art Workshops for Adults - Christine Kenneally, Conway resident and mosaic artist, with 18+ years teaching experience, is offering workshops at her home studio on North Poland Rd. Small classes, personalized instruction, creativity coaching. Upcoming Workshops include:

- Mosaic Stepping Stones: April 11 and May 16, 10-4 (lunch included)
- Mosaics for Beginners. Six weeks on Tuesday mornings beginning May 5.
- Mosaics Inspired by Nature. Six weeks on Wednesday mornings beginning May 6.

Details and registration: www.christinekenneally.net

Fresh, Local Farm Food Delivered Right to Your Door! - Hart Farm CSA boxes are filled with veggies, fruits, flowers, eggs, bread, cheese, meat and more. Choose from 3 different box types and then choose your delivery dates. Delivery throughout West Franklin/Hampshire Counties every Friday, April 24th-October 23rd. Pay with card/check/SNAP/Venmo. We provide an accessible, convenient and flexible schedule farm box program to the community that we love. You can expect high quality, freshly picked, delicious produce infused with good vibes and delivered with a smile. We also offer a 20 week flower CSA and garden plant sales for pick up at the farm! Info: www.conwayhartfarm.com, conwayhartfarm@gmail.com, 413-453-9098.

Davenport's Mobil Service Station - has been locally owned and operated by the Davenport family since 1981. Celebrating 45 years in business this year! We have an automotive service shop selling brand-name, competitively-priced tires. Pick up a soft drink, chips, lottery or the *Recorder* - Find us at 269 Mohawk Trail in Shelburne Falls. Hours: Mon - Fri: 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sat: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sun: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. 413-489-3740.

Katie Lo. Photography - is a Conway-based wedding and portrait photography business specializing in candid, documentary-style imagery. With a background in storytelling, Katie captures authentic moments that feel natural, vibrant, and true to you – so you can relive them for years to come. From mountaintop engagements to lively wedding days to unforgettable family portraits, Katie's approach is rooted in helping you feel comfortable and present. Now booking summer weddings and senior portrait sessions, along with engagements and family portraits. Learn more or book your session at katielo-photography.com.



Conway Natives Nursery - Native Plants, Locally Grown! 351 South Shirkshire Road, Conway, MA. Contact: 413-772-9065. lilianjackman@gmail.com. Join us for our grand opening Saturday, May 9, Sunday May 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.! Free garden tour and plant ID walk 10:00 - 10:30. Each visitor will receive a free native plant to take home. Enter our drawing to win an original woodblock print from Wilder Hill Press. Spring 2026 Workshop Schedule: Sunday, May 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.



- Starting Native Plants from Seed. Sunday, May 24, 10 a.m. -12 p.m. -
Vegetative Native Plant Propagation. Sunday, May 31, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. -
Transforming Your Yard Into a Native Plant Sanctuary. Fee: \$40 each;
pre-registration required. Visit conwaynatives.com for more information.

Garden maintenance - Weeding, planting, mulching, etc., Call or text
Jenny Burtis 413-768-1011, jennyburtis@gmail.com

Old Parsonage Flowers - does custom work! Custom house number tiles or
Conway coasters, small signs, wedding invitation mementos, along with our
regular stock of pressed flowers, fresh flowers in season, and upcycled
decoupaged items. The stand is open on Upper Baptist Hill when you see the
sign out on 116. Or contact us at oldparsonageflowers@gmail.com.

Eastern and Somatic Therapies - and Western
Mass Equine Therapy for mental health offers
private sessions and retreats in therapeutic yoga,
qigong, connection, intimacy and yoga therapy as
bodywork and dialogue, as well as equine therapy
for mental health. Sessions are available in person
or virtually. Yoga with Horses is scheduled for
Saturdays at 10 am starting May 9th. Class space is limited, so enroll soon at
www.ginambarrett.com/contact



Smith Landscaping - Call us at 413-325-4062
for your tree removal, snow plowing or brush
hogging needs!



Sir Reggie's Homemade Quiz Answers

1. Venus
2. A week
3. Lake
4. New Orleans, Louisiana
5. Only the distance of the flag's depth; i.e., the top edge of the flag is placed where the bottom edge of the flag rests when it is flying at top mast.
6. Bison. The American "buffalo" are not true buffalo, which are found in Africa and India.
7. The western side. The Mare Orientale, Latin for "Eastern Sea," is located on the western edge of the Moon's near side/far side border.

23. *Conway Currents*, Vol. 7, No. 5, May 2026

Presort-STD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 701
Greenfield, MA 01301

ECRLT
BOXHOLDER
CONWAY, MA 01341

Town of Conway
P. O. Box 240
Conway, MA 01341

Conway Currents

residents, is funded by the Town of Conway,
our advertisers, and generous donations from
our readers. To have an article published in
Currents

by the 15

, the newsletter for Conway
, To place an ad or a notice, contact Louise at

limbeckett@crocker.com

of the **precipitating** month.

newsletter@conwayma.gov
Thanks for your support of