



Appreciation in Action

You may have heard pockets of noisy celebration around town at 7:00 p.m. nightly.

Inspired by the global minutes of appreciation for essential workers reported in the news recently, Barbara Llamas of the Conway Inn has started what she hopes will become a trend.

"We cheer for all essential workers, not just medical or emergency personnel. Their work is vital, but without people willing to make and deliver food, without stockers and cashiers, without the many support workers to keep things moving – life in these trying times would be much more difficult."

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we interact with the world, our community, and indeed each other. Sheltering in place can feel very isolating. For many, it may feel lonely.

Yet there is something very inclusive and empowering about sharing this minute together. A moment that not only reminds us to express gratitude but also to never forget that we all comprise the wonderful community of Conway.

Let's make a lot of noise . . . Together!

From the Selectboard

We applaud the initiative taken by the Newsletter Committee to provide Conway residents with *Conway Currents*, the successor to the *Visitor*, each a valuable community publication with important town information.

We are going through unprecedented times with the coronavirus pandemic. Fortunately, Franklin County has the lowest number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among major counties, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA DPH). Conway has reportedly had one confirmed case, and that person has recovered, according to reports.

During this very stressful time, we are primarily concerned about the health and safety of our residents. Please continue to follow all of the recommendations of the MA DPH to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

Our second major concern is the financial health of the town. The economic shutdown of the commonwealth has resulted in major declines in state revenues that will affect the amount of state aid to the town for FY2021 starting July 1. We had developed a very sound and financially palatable budget for FY2021 that is now being reworked based on a number of potential financial scenarios that are dependent on the budget decisions of the governor and the legislature. Our objective is to develop a new FY2021 budget that will be financially flexible, provide for essential services, and have low impact on property taxes.

Due to both the pandemic and financial uncertainty at the commonwealth level, we have postponed the annual Town Meeting scheduled for May 11 until Monday, June 8. If the public health situation is still unsettled at that date, we will be able to postpone again.

Although town offices will be closed to the public until further notice, town staff members are working and available by phone and mail for any needed public services. During this state of emergency our health, public safety, and emergency personnel are on high alert. Please access the town website www.townofconway.com/ for updates on the pandemic and town business.

A concerted community-wide effort here in Conway that includes an increased awareness of and attention to our neighbors, particularly those who are most vulnerable, will help us get through this public health emergency with the least impact on the health and safety of our residents.

Respectfully submitted,
John P. O'Rourke

From the Town Administrator

Town Meeting has indeed been postponed, as I mentioned last month might happen. June 8 is the new target date, although the moderator can postpone again if necessary. The selectboard and I are working on a revised budget for FY2021 based on expected lower state and town revenues. We'll also need to coordinate with other Frontier District towns to set that school's budget.

In the meantime, work is expected to begin on restoring the Town Hall cupola, a project proposed by the Community Preservation Committee (thank you, Malcolm Corse!) and funded by Town Meeting. We also expect work to begin soon on the Highway Maintenance Building. The winner of the bid was the same company that built the shed (where finish work will continue with the warmer weather). Construction is challenging because of physical distancing but not impossible with new state requirements.

The town received a Forest Stewardship grant to create plans for the two town forests; see the winning quote on the Town Administrator's page on the town website, www.townofconway.com. I made sure our proposal included two public meetings to get residents' opinions, but that will be challenging given the restriction on in-person gatherings. We have asked for an extension but have not received word, and we are working with the state and the consultants on possible options.

Don't forget to check the town website for updates on COVID-19 and some informative links, and remember that committees have conference lines for meetings to ensure that these are open meetings to which anyone can call in. See the website calendar listings and click on them for the numbers to call (you can call on your phone and enter the PIN to join, even for meetings on Zoom).

Meanwhile, enjoy the long, slow spring and fresh air, with the possibility that frosts are behind us and days in the 60s will become common.

Thomas W. Hutcheson

Due Date for Real and Personal Property Taxes Extended to June 1st

FY2020 second-half real estate and personal property tax due dates have been extended to June 1. In addition, interest and fees on all bills due after March 10 and paid before June 30, 2020 (more specifically, on or before June 29, 2020) will be waived. This will include motor vehicle excise, personal property, and real estate tax bills. For more information contact Janice Warner at treasurer@townofconway.com.

Conway Council on Aging

The COA receives a grant from the state Executive Office of Elder Affairs and an appropriation from the town. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. During the COVID-19 crisis, the council is meeting by conference call. The number to join the meeting is 369-1541. Callers will be asked to input the participant ID, which is 1541. For information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284.

Senior Calendar for May

With town buildings closed to the public, all regularly scheduled activities have been canceled. However, both the yoga classes and the Healthy Bones and Balance Class are being offered on Zoom. Call the instructors for the meeting IDs. Weather permitting, the walking group may still meet while practicing social distancing. A nurse from Foot Care by Nurses is available for home visits. To arrange an appointment, call 413-367-8369 or email <https://footcarebynurses.net/contact/>

Healthy Bones & Balance Class This is a self-paced, low-impact, one-hour exercise class to promote strong bones and improve balance, conducted by RSVP trainers. The class meets Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. Contact leader Gary Fentin at 369-0001 for information about and a link for the Zoom classes.

Walking Group Join our walkers for gentle hikes around town. Interesting conversations and improved overall health are guaranteed! The group meets at 9:30 a.m. Monday mornings in front of the library, weather permitting. Social distancing will be maintained during walks. Call Phylis Dacey at 369-4326 for information.

Yoga for Seniors Led by Jody Fontaine on Wednesdays. During the COVID crisis, gentle mat yoga and mat yoga have been

combined, and the chair yoga time has changed. Class times: mat yoga, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; chair yoga, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. No floor work is required for chair yoga, and standing poses are optional. Call Jody at 413-824-9435 for a link to the Zoom classes.

Senior Services

Free Home Repairs for Seniors Handymen are available to do, free of charge, minor home repairs for seniors with the greatest economic and social need. Although the labor is free, homeowners are responsible for the cost of all needed parts and materials. Minor home repairs include screen and broken window replacement, handrail installation, and small carpentry, plumbing, and electrical repairs. Donations are accepted. This program is funded by a grant from LifePath under Title III of the Older Americans Act and the Church Street Home Fund. If you need help with a small problem, call Pat Lynch at 369-4284.

Durable Medical Equipment Loans The COA has items of durable medical equipment available for loan. Currently on hand are wheelchairs, walkers (with and without seats), crutches, canes, tub and shower chairs, commodes, and raised toilet seats. Call Hank Horstmann at 369-4405 to borrow equipment or if you have equipment to donate. We are unable to accept donations of large items such as hospital beds.

Home-Delivered Meals Meals on Wheels are still being provided by LifePath for Conway seniors up to seven days per week, using a new "Smile and Wave" method for the safety of both drivers and recipients. See the LifePath article in this issue for detailed information on the procedure. Call LifePath at 773-5555 for further information and registration.

Van Transportation The Shelburne Falls Senior Center is still providing curb-to-curb van transportation within Franklin County

for seniors 60 and over, although daily trips are no longer available. Call the center at 625-2502 to make an appointment at least 48 hours in advance or for information about reservations and fees. For rides to out-of-county medical appointments, call the FRTA at 774-2262 x 163 for information and reservations.

LifePath Provides Essential Services During the COVID-19 Crisis

LifePath is here to help Conway residents during this pandemic. We are open for business, going strong, and continuing to offer support for elders, people with disabilities, and caregivers. We are responding to the changing needs of the people we serve and offering services to new people. We are also staying current on COVID-19 developments and communicating these to callers. In addition, we have created a <https://lifepathma.org/resources/covid-19-coronavirus/how-lifepath-can-help> which is updated regularly.

We have moved most of our administrative functions off-site. Although our physical office is closed to the public, staff are continuing to communicate with and assess consumers via telephone and video connections. Home health aides and personal care attendants are still visiting homes and offering care to those who need it. Our Elder Protective Services department is here to help at a time when domestic violence is on the increase due to COVID-19. If you suspect an elder is at risk for physical or emotional injury or through self-neglect, call the Massachusetts-based Elder Abuse Hotline at 1-800-922-2275 or file a report online. LifePath also has the capacity to help people who want to avoid short-term rehab stays and those who currently live in nursing homes but wish to move home for the time being.

To receive help contact one of our knowledgeable resource consultants with your or a loved one's needs at 413-773-5555 x

1230, 978-544-2259 x 1230, or via email to <https://lifepathma.org/about/contact-us?view=contact>. Whether it is grocery delivery resources or a new need for home care, we can help.

LifePath continues to deliver Meals on Wheels and provide a critical wellness check during the COVID-19 pandemic. To keep Meals on Wheels recipients and volunteers safe, LifePath has implemented the "Smile and Wave" method, wherein drivers arrive at a recipient's house, use hand sanitizer or put on a new pair of gloves, place the meal on an outside table or pack the meal in a plastic bag and hang it on the doorknob, knock or ring the doorbell, and immediately step back 10 to 15 feet. When the Meals on Wheels recipient answers the door, drivers say "hello," indicate where the meal is, and make sure the recipient is able to retrieve it, before continuing on with deliveries.

If no one answers, the critical wellness check begins. Drivers call the recipient to make sure they are home. If no one answers, drivers report the lack of response to LifePath staff, who call the recipient's emergency contacts, their doctor's office, and then emergency services.

We have provided proper personal protective equipment (PPE) to all front-line workers to maintain their safety as well as that of those receiving care. We want to thank the many generous people who responded to our request for PPE donations and welcome additional contributions of homemade masks. If you want to contribute masks, please contact LifePath's main line to arrange drop-off or pick-up at 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259.

We continue to recruit backup volunteers should current volunteers or staff be unable to work or should new needs emerge. Over 100 members of LifePath's community have registered as backup volunteers, which is both inspiring and heartwarming. All volunteers are CORI checked and trained before being asked to serve the community.

One of the most important ways to support us during this critical time of increased need is to donate to Lifepath or take part in LifePath's 2020 Virtual Walkathon. Together we will work through this pandemic and keep our community strong.

Hilltown Churches Food Pantry

The Hilltown Churches Food Pantry is located at 429 Main Street, Ashfield, in Friendship Hall, downstairs in Ashfield Congregational Church. It serves the eleven hill towns of Ashfield, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, Plainfield, Rowe, and Shelburne. The only requirement for joining the food pantry is proof of residency in one of these towns and a simple statement of need. There are no income requirements. If you need food, please come and sign up

Food distribution is held every other Tuesday from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Emergency food is available during off hours. For detailed information on the procedure being practiced during the COVID-19 crisis, phone 413-625-0020.

The pantry relies on donations of both money and food for our continued operation. We are able to stretch our money by shopping at the Food Bank of Western Mass., as they provide most foods free and a few for 19 cents/lb. Last year we gave out 85,616 pounds of food to those in need. We spend 96–98 percent of our budget directly on food.

Emergency Management Department Update

The Conway EMD Team – consisting of the Emergency Management Director and Assistant Director, the Town Administrator, Selectboard Chair, Board of Health Chair, and the Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments – is working through weekly conference calls to monitor local conditions and information coming from the state concerning the coronavirus.

In these challenging times, in order to keep you and your loved ones safe, please remember to always:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after any outside trips.
- Avoid touching your face, mouth, or eyes, as this is where the virus enters the body.
- Keep a minimum of 6 feet apart from other people when in public, and always wear a face mask or bandana.
- Limit your public outings to the essentials, such as trips to the grocery store or pharmacy.

If you have any health concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your physician to discuss your health. If you think you may have COVID-19, check your symptoms at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.

Please stay safe, and if you would like more information, please visit the town's website at www.townofconway.com.

Talkin' Trash

The annual transfer station permit stickers for the new year will become available on June 1, 2020, and must be in place on your vehicle for entry into the transfer station by August 1, 2020. Stickers cost \$10.00 and can be paid for through the town's website at <https://townofconway.com/>. Go to the "View or Pay a Bill" webpage after June 1, where you will find directions on how to purchase the sticker. Once you have completed your purchase, stickers may be picked up at the transfer station from the gate attendants during normal open hours. Please be sure to have your receipt on hand as proof of purchase. Stickers must be affixed to the front windshield in the same place as last year, in the center of the windshield behind the rearview mirror. This placement is

essential for attendants to be able to quickly identify properly permitted vehicles.

As a point of reference, permit sticker prices in many of the towns surrounding Conway are more expensive, and some towns charge not only for permit stickers but also per bag of trash. Some examples of other local permit sticker prices are: Ashfield \$40.00, Deerfield \$65.00, Northampton \$25.00, and Amherst and Williamsburg \$100.00. Our \$10.00 sticker is a bargain!!

Please also remember to wear a mask when visiting the transfer station, do not get closer than six feet from the attendants or other residents, and do not linger to chat. This too shall pass; stay safe and be well!

Bulky Waste Recycling Day Postponed

Because of the COVID-19 crisis, the spring "Clean Sweep" Bulky Waste Recycling Day originally set for May 16 has been postponed until further notice. When a new date has been set, it will be announced.

Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter

The Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter, 10 Sandy Lane, Turners Falls, MA 01376, led by Shelter Director Leslee Colucci, is a group of mostly volunteers serving 21 Franklin County towns. We are determined to help every dog who enters our facility in every way possible. Our mission is to provide a safe, welcoming temporary home for stray, lost, or unwanted dogs and to find a home best suited for each individual dog. The shelter's director and her assistant are the only two paid positions, with all the day-to-day care of the dogs done by a corps of volunteers. These dedicated volunteers are the reason for the shelter's success. Expenses are met through donations and fundraising.

There is a never ending need for new volunteers to help care for the dogs and provide them with socialization, training, and just good old play time. Please come by for an application and to see how you can help with the care of the dogs! We currently are looking to fill the following positions: media coordinator, volunteer coordinator, and event coordinator. Please contact the shelter at 413-676-9182 or <http://www.fcrdogkennel.org/> if you are interested in more information.

Conway Ambulance Needs EMTs

The Ambulance Department is looking for new members! Residents with a current EMT license or who are interested in getting their license should contact us. Conway Ambulance reimburses EMTs for their class expenses and state testing fees if they join after becoming certified. The department also offers to pay up front the costs of an EMT class and state exams for anyone who agrees to work on the ambulance for a minimum of one year or more. Although this is a volunteer ambulance service, members are paid for each call they answer. To learn more about these options and opportunities, contact Director Gemma Vanderheld at ambulance@townofconway.com or 369-4235 x 9.

Conway Swimming Pool Seeks Donations

Please make a donation to the Conway Community Swimming Pool and help keep the pool open this coming summer! No contribution is too small. Send payments to Conway Swimming Pool, Inc., 309 Whately Road, Conway, MA 01341. Donations may also be made at the Greenfield Savings Bank in Conway or online by PayPal or credit card at <http://www.conwayswimmingpool.org/>

Update from the Field Memorial Library

The coronavirus-induced shutdown has been disruptive for us all, and the library is no exception. The library is closed physically

until at least May 4. This may be extended, so please check our website before coming to the library. Wi-fi from the library is accessible from the library steps and somewhat from the street. The password has been removed.

Please do not return books to the book drop. Overdue fines have been waived. We will be glad to have items returned when the stay-at-home order has been lifted.

Because FML is not digitized, we do not have direct connections to CWMars for online books and other resources. However, instructions are posted on our website for getting a Boston Public Library e-card online and then navigating to and borrowing from their eBooks selections and other online resources. This has added value, because a BPL eCard also allows one to use CWMars's online resources. This is a special arrangement from the state during the shutdown.

Even though the physical aspects of FML are closed, the virtual aspects are open and growing. Examples of the resources available through our website at <https://fieldmemoriallibrary.org/> include:

- Free, stand-alone online resources through the Boston Public Library for full text items and periodicals.
- Resources for children, including Books Read Aloud, Storyline Online, and project Gutenberg for Children.
- Interviews and talks with *Braiding Sweetgrass* author Robin Wall Kimmerer. *Braiding Sweetgrass* is the centerpiece of the Libraries in the Woods (LITW) project, and although nearly all events have been canceled, many online resources and comments are available through the LITW Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/librariesinthewoods>.
- Connected to *Braiding Sweetgrass*, spirals in nature, and math, there is a link to *Doodling in Math: Spirals, Fibonacci, and Being a Plant*. Thanks to Hilltown Families for this link.
- A fascinating interview at the 2019 Aspen Ideas Festival with Tara Westover, author of the popular memoir *Educated*.

- A tour of the beautiful Virtual Hosmer Gallery from the Forbes Library in Northampton.
- Finally, a link to the *Instant Relief from Stress and Anxiety* website. Make it full screen for the best effect.

There is a contact form at the bottom of the FML website where you can send feedback and requests. Please let us know how the library can help during this difficult time.

Conway Historical Society News

Due to the continued need for social distancing, the society's spring program for May has been postponed.

In addition, our planned summer exhibit on the Whitney family has been postponed. We hope to resume our fall 2020 programs as scheduled. Visit our website, <http://conwaymasshistory.org/>, to find historical materials about Conway and the cultural heritage of our corner of New England.

2020 Conway Festival of the Hills Canceled

The Conway FOH board has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Festival of the Hills. The current COVID-19 situation is severely affecting our planning time, and there is also uncertainty about what the fall will bring regarding social gatherings. We will continue to give scholarships for both 2020 and 2021 graduating seniors. Please consider donating to our scholarship fund by sending a check to:

Conway Festival of the Hills, PO Box 431, Conway, MA 01341

We are a 501c3 organization, and your donations are tax deductible. We are still looking for volunteers to help make our 2021 festival a success. For more information, please contact <https://www.festivalofthehills.com/>.

Conway Firemen's Auxiliary Scholarship

The Firemen's Auxiliary established a scholarship in 2004 in memory of Harold Fournier, who was a friend and supporter of the Fire Department and the auxiliary. The scholarship is awarded annually to a Conway resident who is a graduating high school senior. A committee of auxiliary members has developed the application and will review all submitted applications. Primary consideration will be given to students who have been involved in community service and extracurricular activities and who plan to further their education in college, trade school, or a certificate program. Secondary consideration will be given to grades and financial need. The auxiliary awards one or two \$250.00 scholarships each year.

Applications are available on the town <https://townofconway.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Firemens-Auxiliary-Scholarship.pdf>. Deadline for application is May 8. Submit completed application to Conway Firemen's Auxiliary, PO Box 46, Conway, MA 01341.

Garden Club Notes

May is a delightful – and busy – time for gardeners, with warming temperatures and frost-free nights. Mulching becomes important to keep soil moist through hotter daytime temperatures, and you may need to water more frequently. Here are some other springtime tips:

- Most spring-flowering bulbs have finished blooming by now. Deadhead them, leaving foliage in place until it dies on their own. This will prevent them from wasting energy in seed-production.
- This is also the time to prune early-flowering shrubs – such as lilacs, forsythia, and azaleas – shortly after they finish

blooming. If you wait too long to prune, you will be removing next-year's developing buds.

- Harvest any remaining cold-season vegetables, such as leafy greens, peas, and asparagus.
- Once night temperatures remain above 50 degrees and all danger of frost has passed, you can safely plant warm-season vegetables and frost-sensitive herbs. It's also safe to set out tomato plants.

The aims of the Conway Garden Club are to stimulate interest in gardening and related skills, to enhance the natural beauty of our area, and to educate and promote environmental improvement. The club welcomes suggestions for projects that would benefit the town. And, as always, we welcome new members. Contact Pat Lynch at 369-4284 or email patricialynch@earthlink.net with questions.

Knit Wits

Do you like to knit? Would you like to get to know other knitters in our community? For several years a small group of knitters has been gathering once a month at the home of Susan Fentin, 901 Roaring Brook Road, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to knit and share conversation. Because of the pandemic, we are now meeting virtually via Zoom. Our first virtual meeting had mixed results, but we're going to give it another try in May. Knit Wits meets the first Monday of the month, which in May is May 4. This issue of the town newsletter may not reach you in time to participate in our May gathering, but if you'd like to be included in future gatherings, whether via Zoom or in person, send Susan an email at susan@gfentin.com. Hope to see you there.

Wildside Cottage & Gardens

is welcoming spring out on the land with joy, as we and all our fellow creatures do! The wood frogs croak, the peepers sing, the asparagus is beginning to push up toward the sun, the figs in the greenhouse have leafed out, rice is germinating, the peach trees, quince, and persimmons are wide awake, buds on the nut trees are swelling . . . and on and on. Our late April snow made the daffodils bow their brilliant yellow heads – for one day only!

Willow catkins burst –
The neighbor's Italian bees
Sport golden leggings

We feel we cannot offer our usual tours and workshops until the current plague runs its course, but like the daffodils, we'll bounce back in good time. Stay tuned!

Friends of Conway Pollinator Project

As of this writing, Massachusetts Audubon lands in Conway and elsewhere are closed for all work projects, and Audubon staff members are working from home as part of the COVID-19 shutdown. The Friends of Conway pollinator project on Audubon land has been planned and funded and will move forward immediately once Audubon gives us the green light. Tom Sullivan of Pollinators Welcome will manage the project. The planned half-acre pollinator field on Audubon land on the south side of Route 116, supported by a \$12,000 grant from Conway's Community Preservation Committee, will move forward in three stages. This year we will lay down strips of black plastic to kill grass and weeds that would crowd out pollinator plantings. In the spring of 2021, the plastic comes up and the plantings begin. In the spring of 2022, the year-old plantings will be given an abundance of tender loving care.

For this year's tasks, Tom tells us that strength will be needed to handle the heavy rolls of solarizing plastic. Interested in volunteering? Contact Kristen Strange at kristenstrange@gmail.com.

The Conway Inn

I would like to thank the community for its generous support during the COVID-19 dine-in restaurant ban. The inn will continue to be open daily from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. during the current crisis for takeout pizza, chicken wings, and breadsticks. Orders may be placed starting at 4:00 p.m. The inn has been approved to sell bottled beer and single-serve wine with food orders. Call 369-4428 to place your order. Thanks again for the hometown spirit you've shown toward your local businesses. Barbara Llamas.

Baker's Country Store and Luncheonette

The store is open seven days a week for take-out breakfast (served all day) and lunch during the COVID-19 ban on dining-in restaurants. Current hours: Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Call 369-4936.

Along with our delicious breakfast and lunches, we have a variety of homemade desserts and baked goods, as well as a large selection of last-minute items. We feature freshly baked cakes, muffins, pies, and cookies. Put in your order today for one of Helen's famous pies!

Spring has sprung and the pansies are in, as are fresh vegetables daily. Check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store-2366819200270034/> for today's specials. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

From the Natural Roots Farm Store

There have been many exciting additions to the farm store recently, and we want to remind people that the store is open to everyone, dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Bread is now being delivered fresh from Bread Euphoria around midday on Tuesdays and Fridays, and our eggs are restocked daily around 3:00 p.m. We also have beautiful spring bouquets from Old Friends Farm, bagged organic potatoes and onions, as well as all of our usual offerings.

Please be patient if your favorite items sell out as we navigate the new demand we're experiencing in the store. If you have any suggestions of products you'd love to see here, please let us know. We plan to continue to expand our offerings as summer approaches and would love to support as many local, vital farms and businesses as we can.

Now that the winter CSA season has ended, we will be offering a limited selection of the remaining root vegetables in the retail cooler. We have celeriac, beets, a few cabbages, green or purple daikon radishes, rutabaga, and turnips. Lately we've been unable to source salad greens and chicken, but we will let you know as soon as they are available again.

Due to COVID-19, right now we prefer card or check payments, but cash is still accepted. No matter how you are paying, please record your itemized purchases in the Square checkout device so that we can keep track of sales! The device will give you options for how to pay when you're done entering your items, including cash, check, gift card, and credit/debit card. Using the Square device when you shop is hugely helpful in saving us time in the office so we can be outside growing food for you!

Unheard Melodies

by Nicole Braden-Johnson

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

Possibility

Budding within this white, swelling calyx
Is the entirety of human possibility.
19 inches and 6 pounds of opportunity.
Two tiny feet that have yet to take a step,
Two sapphire eyes that have never seen a sunset,
Yet one steady, faithful heart,
And a mind that is growing more and more alert.

Contained here are two hands
That will plant seeds,
Stroke ivory and ebony keys,
Write poems to his loves,
Providing the world with shape and sounds.

Contained here is the entirety of our love
And all the possibilities thereof.



South River Serenity, 2020, Veronique Blanchard

This photograph was taken while walking down 116, just down the road from OESCO.

Cover image of the South River courtesy of Michele Turre

What Does Conway Mean to You?

Remember when you first moved to Conway and the scenes or places that impressed you as you came to know the town? Or do you often recall those places in Conway that you loved as you were growing up here? We thought folks might like to see images that capture Conway's unique character, and for that reason we are asking people to send us photos of places in Conway that they feel are special. We will publish an image each month as long as you want us to and as long as we have space. Images may be either in color or black and white and should be sent via email to conwaycurrents.com. Either a .tif image in 300 dpi or a high-resolution .jpg will be fine. Send a brief description of your photo and add a few words telling us why this place is special to you. We look forward to your submissions!

Interested in Volunteering for the Newsletter?

Do you have a story to tell, a column we might publish regularly, or time to spare? Interested in volunteering to serve on the newsletter committee?

Conway Currents will run advertisements beginning with the June issue. Ads are \$9.75 for one month, \$24.75 for 6 months, or \$45.75 for 12 months. For information on advertisement payment contact Janice Warner at treasurer@townofconway.com or call 369-4235 x 2.

The deadline for articles and ads in the newsletter is the 20th of the preceding month. Please send your content, comments and suggestions by email to Kathy Llamas at conwaycurrents@gmail.com. Thank you!

If you find any errors in this issue of *Conway Currents* please let us know by contacting Pat Lynch at patricialynch@earthlink.net. Our aim is to present clear and accurate information of interest to the community.

Town Office Personnel and Hours

Call 369-4235 and follow the recorded instructions to reach the appropriate office.

Conway Selectboard: John P. O'Rourke, Chair, Robert Armstrong, Philip Kantor

Newsletter Committee: Kathy Llamas, Chair, Louise M. Beckett, Vice-chair, Veronique Blanchard, Treasurer, Patricia Ann Lynch, Secretary

Town Administrator: Tom Hutcheson
Mon.-Thur. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - noon

Asst. to Town Administrator: Lisa Turowsky
Mon. 2:00 - 8:00 p.m., Tues., Thur., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Town Clerk: Laurie Lucier
Tues., Thur., Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Treasurer/Tax Collector: Jan Warner
Mon., Wed., Thur. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Asst. Treasurer/Tax Collector: Lynn Kane
Mon., Wed., Thur. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Accountant: Michael Kociela
Monday afternoons or by appointment

Assessors' Clerk: Laura Hutt
Mon.-Wed. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Thur. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Board of Health Clerk: Ginnie Knowlton
Thur. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Sat. 9:00 a.m. - noon