



From the Select Board

Many thanks to all the residents who attended the Town Meeting. In February no one could have envisioned that we would be holding our Town Meeting on the first day of summer and in our new Highway Storage Facility.

The Selectboard, Finance Committee, and Capital Improvements Planning Committee worked diligently to produce an operating budget and capital improvements that give us flexibility for the financial uncertainties of FY2021 state aid appropriations, provides essential services, and has a low impact on property taxes. The operating budget, Article 2, received a favorable vote with some discussion on a number of individual items.

It is expected that the state will continue into FY2021 with a 1/12 budget based on FY2020 for July and August and have an operating budget sometime in September. After we receive information on state aid appropriations and property tax collections due on November 1, we will schedule a special town meeting in November to develop a financial plan for the remainder of FY2021.

On the coronavirus pandemic front, Franklin County continues to do well compared to other counties in the Commonwealth. According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), from June 1 to 19 in the Commonwealth, the number of hospitals using surge capacity is down 90% and the three-day average of COVID-19 deaths is down 83%. These are very encouraging trends that continue to indicate that serious coronavirus cases are declining.

Other data from the DPH indicate that if you are over 70 years of age and/or have underlying conditions including high blood pressure and/or diabetes, are excessively overweight, or have a compromised immune system, you need to take extra precautions to stay healthy. Over 98% of the people who died while infected with COVID-19 in the Commonwealth had at least one underlying condition.

We are working on a re-opening plan for Town Offices in accordance with the governor's guidelines for re-opening. The town staff is working and available by phone and mail for any needed public services. Please access the town website (townofconway.com) for updates on the pandemic and town business.

Please stay healthy and safe.

Respectfully submitted, John P. O'Rourke

Getting to Know You: Town Clerk Laurie Lucier by Kathy Llamas

Conway Currents is adding a new feature beginning this month, highlighting members of our town office staff and offering a glimpse into their work life and a tidbit or two about their personal life as well. We begin this series with a visit to Town Clerk Laurie Lucier.

I met Laurie at her office. It was a buzz of activity as she prepared for the Annual Town Meeting on June 20 as well as the Town Election slated for June 30.

Laurie and her husband, Troy, came to Conway about three and a half years ago. When their residence in Greenfield no longer suited their needs, they began to look at properties in towns in the surrounding area. Although they found many nice properties during their search, it was the peaceful, friendly, and relaxed quality of Conway that won them over.

When I asked Laurie what had brought her to the decision to run for Town Clerk, she related an interesting story. Laurie knew a few people who served on various boards in Conway and had worked with one of them. She had never given the idea much thought, but about three days before the Conway Caucus in February 2019, she had gotten several telephone calls from friends. They eagerly told her that they were putting her name on the ballot for Town Clerk upon the retirement of Ginny Knowlton. Knowlton had held the office for forty years, which was quite a legacy to live up to. While Laurie readily states that she is “No Ginny,” she hopes to remain in her position until her own retirement.

When asked what her favorite parts of her job were, she quickly cited two things that came to mind. First, being able to help and work with Conway's townspeople brings her great joy. Second, having a supportive role in other town departments keeps the job interesting and gives her the tools to direct inquiries to the best person to resolve the call.

One of the projects Laurie has at hand is preparing the mail-in ballots that have been submitted. With the COVID-19 pandemic, many residents have exercised this option, and nearly 100 ballots have been logged in.

The Town Clerk's Office, like all the offices that serve our community, is a busy, thriving, and active place. Laurie was quick to point out that although the town office remains closed, she welcomes phone calls and will be glad to get you to the right place.

Outside of her work at the town office, Laurie enjoys spending time with her husband and friends. She has two horses, an American Quarter Horse–Morgan and a Quarter Horse–mustang, as well as two Wheaten Terriers named Molly and Seamus.



Don't Be Late for C.L.A.S.S . . .

by Kathy Llamas

COVID-19 has changed so much of what we used to think of as normal. This period of self-isolation and social distancing has given many of us time to slow down, work on some long-put-off projects, and even dream a little . . . dream of what one might do when the pandemic slows and we can face the future with our “new normal” and all that entails.

The past few months have given me opportunities to pursue interests that I had often told myself I was too busy to find time for. My ukulele has brought me renewed joy, despite my not having grown into a significantly better player. My craft room has found new activities to undertake. I have had a long-held dream – but I was not quite sure how to manifest it!

My life for more than thirty years involved the education of young ones. I loved teaching, imparting something I knew well to an eager mind. As is so often the case, I learned as much as I imparted, if not more, from my students. This work was the foundation for my dream, which I feared making “real in the world” would alter all I had imagined that ember of thought could become.

Now the time seems right to fan that ember. I decided to create a C.L.A.S.S. that all people could attend. The Conway Learning and Skills Sharing will be looking for people who have a skill and match them with people looking to learn said skill. Mastery need not be required to teach – just the willingness to share what you know and grow in your own experience. From fiber arts to fencing, from hiking to haiku, from mechanics to Mongolian cooking, from theater to topography and all points in-between! Not only will the guide and learner gain knowledge, but new bonds of friendship may emerge.

There is no cost to join a C.L.A.S.S. As social distancing may still limit our physical contact, I will start to collect names of potential

guides and interested learners. A link will be posted in the August issue and regularly updated. I am hoping that if the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted by fall that perhaps interested parties can meet and mingle somewhere in town and see where this could take us.

Please send your inquiries to conwaycurrents@gmail.com. If you have questions, you are free to call 413-695-5626.

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 July

With town buildings closed to the public, all regularly scheduled activities have been canceled except for classes being offered on Zoom and the walking group. A nurse from Foot Care by Nurses is available for home visits. To arrange an appointment, call 413-367-8369 or email EmailAdmin@FootCarebyNurses.net. Town Nurse Lisa White is unsure when the drop-in wellness clinic will resume, but she is still responding to calls at 413-665-1400 x 114 and is available by phone consult and for home visits (wearing mask and gloves) in case of need. Check the Council on Aging page on the town website, townofconway.com, for updates.

Healthy Bones & Balance Class The class meets Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. Contact leader Gary Fentin at 369-0001 for a link to the Zoom class.

Walking Group 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.

COA Foot Clinics Resume Regular monthly foot care is again available from the COA. The first clinic is scheduled for Monday, July 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Town Hall, by appointment only. Call Peg Tiley at 369-4010 for information or to make a reservation.

Yoga for Seniors Led by Jody Fontaine on Wednesdays. Class times: mat yoga, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; chair yoga, 11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m. Call Jody at 413-824-9435 for links to the Zoom classes.

Senior Services

Durable Medical Equipment Loans The COA has items of durable medical equipment available for loan, including wheelchairs, walkers, 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.

Free Home Repair Program Ended The Council on Aging regrets to announce the end of its program offering free home repairs for seniors. If you are in need of minor home repairs, contact LifePath at 413-773-5555 for assistance.

Home-Delivered Meals Meals on Wheels are still being provided during the COVID-19 crisis 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. 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, for medical appointments and shopping. However, 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 for information and reservations.

From LifePath: New Options for Help

In response to the financial and food insecurity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, LifePath is offering a variety of new options for help.

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) The Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs applied for and was accepted into the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). This new U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program will take several actions to assist farmers, ranchers, and consumers in response to the COVID-19 national emergency. The Executive Office of Elder Affairs will coordinate the procurement, processing, and delivery of a food box designed to help elders access needed protein. LifePath has signed on to be a regional distributor for area elders and will work with Councils on Aging to distribute the food.

Participating elders will receive one 10-pound box of precooked meats (chicken sausage, pork sausage, chicken patties) or cheeses per delivery, at a value of about \$50.00 per box. LifePath has signed on to distribute 469 boxes four times a year (May/June; July/August; September/October; November/December). People 60 and over are eligible, and there is no cost to our community. The program will bring about \$93,800 in food to Franklin County and North Quabbin elders.

The delivery of the boxes will be "Truck to Trunk," with food available for pickup or delivery. Eligible people interested in getting a food box can contact their local COA. Participating sites are the Northfield Senior Center, Bernardston Senior Center, Greenfield Senior Center at John Zon Community Center, Athol Senior Center, Montague & Gill Senior Center, Erving Senior Center, Orange Senior Center, Shelburne Senior Center, and the Petersham and Leyden COAs.

Grocery Store Gift Cards and Caregiver Grants Financial support is also available from LifePath during this time in the form of grocery store gift cards (in limited quantities) and caregiver grants (as long as funds are available). Contact LifePath if you are experiencing financial insecurity and could use these supports.

Grocery Shopping and Delivery LifePath is offering volunteer grocery shopping and delivery in Franklin County and the North Quabbin areas for people over age 60, people with physical illnesses or disabilities, and people who are immunocompromised. If this is you, and you are concerned about visiting the grocery store and don't have someone who can help, LifePath can.

Phone Pals Program For people who feel isolated because of social distancing, LifePath has initiated the Phone Pals program, whereby volunteers will call participants to chat. If you or a loved one are feeling lonely, this is a way to reach out.

Meals and PPE to PCA Consumers Under 60 Besides continuing to respond to increased demand for Meals on Wheels for those 60 and over, LifePath is also reaching out to PCA consumers under 60, to provide a 7- or 14-day supply of frozen meals and to offer Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). A team of volunteers is making the deliveries on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

You can take the first step to receive help for you or a loved one by contacting LifePath at 413-773-5555 or 978-544-2259, or by emailing info@lifepathma.org.

Finally, none of these new programs in response to COVID-19 would be possible without the support of LifePath's incredible volunteers, the people making and donating PPE, the USDA, the Councils on Aging, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, the Community Foundation, Meals on Wheels America, and our amazing sponsors and individual donors. We at LifePath thank them all for their immense generosity toward elders, people with disabilities, and caregivers.

Benefits of Chair Yoga

If you haven't tried the chair yoga class currently being offered by the Council on Aging on Zoom, consider this: Yoga can be adapted to suit the needs and abilities of anyone, and it can be an incredibly beneficial

form of exercise for people with mobility and/or balance issues. No floor work is required as it is in mat yoga, and standing poses can be done seated or with a chair for support. Benefits include the following:

- **Improved flexibility and strength:** Gentle stretches tone and strengthen muscles and improve movement.
- **Improved proprioception:** Becoming more aware of where your body is in space and coordinating your movements enable greater control over your body.
- **Reduced stress and improved mental clarity:** The meditative discipline of yoga and the breath work involved can help with stress management and provide a greater feeling of well-being.

Instructor Jody Fontaine is expert in adapting the standard yoga poses to the needs of individuals taking this class. The cost is \$5.00 per class, with the first class free. The class currently meets virtually on Zoom on Wednesdays from 11:30 to 12:20 p.m. Call Jody at 413-824-9435, and she will send you a weekly invitation and link to the class.

Senior Hours at the Springfield Museums

The Springfield Museums are looking forward to welcoming visitors back sometime in July. When we do reopen, we hope to offer Monday morning from 10:00 a.m. to noon as senior-only hours at a reduced admission price of \$10.00.

Virtual content about the museums is available for free on the Engage page of our website - springfieldmuseums.org/ - and for a fee via our members-only page and through our Museum School Online classes. The content includes lessons in painting and drawing, downloadable coloring pages for all ages, behind-the-scenes video narrated by curators, and more.



Update from the Field Memorial Library

The Field Memorial Library (FML) is now open for “steps-side” pickup of materials and returns to our outside book drop. To request an item, send an email with your requested item(s), your address, and your phone number to director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org. To facilitate this process, we are building web pages to display some items from our collections. These are accessible through our website, fieldmemoriallibrary.org. Although not a complete inventory, these web pages will include our DVDs, audiobooks, and new and highly recommended books for both adults and children. Many books will not appear in the online listing, so if there is something you would like, please let us know. If we have it, we can arrange for a pickup time. Further, if there is an item you want that is not in our collection, we will try to obtain it for you.

“Steps-side” pickup is available in 30-minute pickup windows on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. These times are limited due to the extra precautions necessary for handling materials during the pandemic. Although these procedures take extra time and resources, they ensure that anything you borrow from the library has been handled as required. All items are loaned for three-week periods and may be returned to our outside book drop box.

To prevent virus transmission, the Field Memorial Library remains closed to physical visits for the time being. Please check our website at fieldmemoriallibrary.org for updates.

We hope you are well and managing during this weird and stressful time. Please let us know if you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns regarding how FML may be of service.

All Best,
David Whittier
Director, Field Memorial Library
director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org

Register for a Special Gift and Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment

Every female resident of Conway who turns 18 years of age and is eligible to vote for the first time on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, will receive a special gift at the Under the Dome Celebration on Saturday, October 3, at the library. This event is a Friends of the Library fundraiser, the opening of the Conway Art Exhibit and Sale, and the culmination of our celebration of a woman's right to vote in the United States: the ratification of the 19th Amendment on August 18, 1920.

To receive your special gift, you must register with the Friends of the Field Memorial Library by giving us your name, address, and birth date at FieldMemLibraryScholarship@gmail.com; dropping the information off at the Field Memorial Library, 1 Elm Street, Conway; or mailing it to Friends of the Field Memorial Library, PO Box 189, Conway, MA 01341.

Festival of the Hills Scholarship Recipients

We are pleased to announce that the following Conway students were recipients of 2019 (awarded in 2020) Conway Festival of the Hills scholarships: Emmett McGranaghan, James Morgan, Mackenzie Pitittieri, Olivia Romanovicz, and Margaret Strange.

A total of \$4,000 was awarded to these five students, representing three different schools.

Festival of the Hills Scholarships are available to all graduating high school seniors from Conway who submit complete applications, no matter what the graduate's post-graduation plans may be. Consideration is given to a student's community/school involvement, academic standing, financial need, work history, and Festival of the Hills service.

2020 Conway Pool Opening and Operating Guidelines

The coronavirus pandemic has affected us in many negative ways. Unfortunately it will change how Conway residents are able to use our pool. Pool committee members are working hard to ensure that we will be able to open our pool and continue its use all summer.

To open our pool this year, we are required to strictly follow Governor Baker's Phase 2 mandates. Trustees of the pool ask that residents self-monitor and limit their time at the pool so that all Conway residents are able to visit this special place with which we are entrusted.

Summer 2020 state distancing guidelines means we must limit the number of people on the beach and in the shallow water. *Due to state requirements, this is not a time to invite out-of-town guests to large gatherings or parties.* We are depending on **every one of us** to adhere to state guidelines so that our pool can remain open.

Summer 2020 Pool Usage Guidelines

- Do not enter if you have COVID-19 symptoms.
- No bathroom facilities.
- Groups/families (10 or fewer) must be 12 feet apart.
- Be sure your children maintain social distancing in and out of the water.
- Masks must be worn when not swimming.
- Limit your visit to two hours.
- No use of the raft.
- Swim at your own risk.

Random inspections will be made to ensure that guidelines are being followed.

The Conway Pool is a completely privately funded swimming area. It is for Conway residents ONLY.

Our pool is maintained and administered by an all-volunteer board of trustees, along with members of the pool committee. This committee meets regularly and is open to all Conway residents.

Sincerely,
Michelle Sanger, Jim Recore, Mary Parker, Risa Sudolsky, and
members of the pool committee

Community Forest Stewardship Forest Planning Project Update, June 15, 2020

We have exciting news to share: the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Grant (Mass. EEA Funding) has been extended until September 30, 2020. This extension provides valuable time for our team to develop the set of forest stewardship goals and objectives for your community forests based on your input.

With that in mind, we wanted to give an update on our outreach and listening efforts so far and a few important dates on the calendar to move this forward.

1. The initial survey has been a success: 87 people responded. Based on this, we presented our review and summary of the survey results at the first Conway Forest Stewardship Planning Workshop. We compiled a list of possible goals and objectives from your community and started a discussion on Sustainable Forestry Practices (SFPs) that might be useful toward the achievement of them.
2. The first workshop was a success: we heard loudly and clearly about what people value and appreciate in the community forests.
3. We also presented an educational article in the *Conway Currents* on the mechanics of Forest Stewardship Planning and the need

4. Our ongoing outreach work will involve the following steps:
 - a. This update in the *Conway Currents* outreach notification and on the town's website.
 - b. A simple, short follow-up survey that asks for an up/down assessment of each possible goal and objective and the SFPs that may help achieve them (July 2020).
 - c. Advertising for this second survey about goals, objectives, and SFPs for Conway's use on town forests (July 2020).
 - d. The second Conway Forest Stewardship Planning Workshop – in which you assist us to finalize the goals, objectives, and SFPs that will be included in the final Forest Stewardship Management Plan – will be held via Zoom at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12. Zoom information is listed below.
 - e. A final *Conway Currents* article that describes the final recommendations, goals, objectives, and SFPs to get us to them will be published in August.
 - f. Open communication with you as this work develops. Our email addresses are wfrmanagement@gmail.com and abarrett@longviewforest.com. You can also call Mary Wigmore at 413-628-4594 with questions.
5. The first drafts of the two Forest Stewardship Management Plans for the Fournier property and the Old Town Farm property are coming along. By late July the selectboard will review these drafts.
 - a. Then access to these draft plans will be made available to the community via your town website with a link for public comment.
 - b. Printed copies of the drafts will be available at Town Hall and the library for review (if allowed within Phase 4 of Massachusetts Re-Opening Guidelines).
 - c. In keeping with the spirit of community-based Sustainable Forestry Practices, we welcome and ask for your help in the completion of this important project.
 - d. Drafts are simply that: drafts! We are trying to reflect the

community's vision. We may not get it right the first time, so keep guiding us along as we edit and revise.

6. Final draft of the two Forest Stewardship Management Plans will be delivered to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation for review and approval on September 30, 2020.

Thank you for your patience with us as we have learned who you are and what it is that you value about your forests. We are still relying on your guidance for the completion of a useful, implementable Forest Stewardship Management Plan based on your community's vision.

Long View Forest: Alex Barrett

Wigmore Forest Resource Management: Mary K. Wigmore

For our workshop on August 12 at 7:30 p.m. join the Zoom meeting with this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97271514312>. Meeting ID: 972 7151 4312. Join by phone: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York).

Garden Club Notes

In poem 386 Emily Dickinson had questions for the month of July:

*Answer July –
Where is the Bee –
Where is the Blush –
Where is the Hay?*

*Ah, said July –
Where is the Seed –
Where is the Bud –
Where is the May –
Answer Thee – Me –*

In July the garden is still bursting with life, but the hot weather and a dry summer can be especially stressful for plants. You will need to keep watering and giving flowers and vegetables extra care to keep them growing. Here are some tips for jobs to be done in high summer:

- Prune June-flowering shrubs after they have flowered. Cut back to a new shoot and remove some of the oldest, less productive

wood down to the base. Prompt pruning allows maximum time for the development of new growth for next year's flowers.

- Insect infestations can be a special problem at this time of year. Be on guard against Japanese beetles (*Popillia japonica*), spider mites, thrips, tomato fruitworm and hornworm, chinch bugs, scale, and slugs. Aphids, especially if the weather is wet and warm, are a typical July infestation. Check also for leaf spot, powdery mildew, and rust.
- Growing a variety of plants that will attract beneficial insects can build up diversity and create a healthy balance between pests and predators.

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 new projects that would benefit the town. Contact Pat Lynch at 369-4284 or email patricialynch@earthlink.net.

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.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor, the organizing committee or town officials and should not be construed as such. Although we work to produce accurate and typographically correct copy, we cannot be responsible for errors or accuracy of materials submitted to us. *Conway Currents* does not endorse any specific product or service mentioned in its pages and is not responsible for the reliability of any service.

Buy Local!

The Conway Agricultural Commission has put together a listing of local farm stands and farms offering direct sales to the public. We created the list as a result of the renewed interest of purchasing items locally and directly from farms.

Antes Farm - 418 Roaring Brook Road, Conway - *grass fed beef* - 413-320-9174

Ashfield Soap Co., Ashfield - *handmade soaps* - ashfieldsoap.com/

Back Pond Farm - 238 Bardwells Ferry Rd., Conway - *USDA insp. Lamb/raw fleece/ss rugs/yarn/sheep/lambs*

Ben Hay - 104 Ashfield Road, Buckland - *produce* - mapleroworganic.com/

Boyden Brothers Maple - 642 South Deerfield Road, Conway - *maple syrup & products/dairy* - boydenmaple@gmail.com

Candle in the Window - 161 Fields Hill Rd, Conway - *soaps/solid shampoos/bath & beauty* - 413-369-4670

Chestnut Lot Farm - 396 Main Poland Road, Conway - *beefalo/maple syrup* - chestnutlotfarm.com/

Clark Brothers Orchards - 580 Apple Valley Rd., Ashfield - *fruit* - ClarkBrothersOrchards@Gmail.com

Davenport Farm - 111 Tower Rd, Shelburne Falls - *eggs/maple syrup* - 413-625-2866

Farm Stand - Rt. 116, Conway - *produce, flowers, eggs*

Farm On A Rock - 1270 Whately Road, Conway - *chicks/pigs/goats/guinea hens* - 413-522-2159.

Hanas Farm, Pine Hill, Conway - *hay*

Hart Farm - Hart Road, Conway - *eggs/produce/maple syrup* - conwayhartfarm.com/

Mar-Al Farm, Whateley Road, Conway - *hay*

Meghan Hart Pottery - 192 Academy Hill Rd., Conway - *pottery* - hartpottery@gmail.com

Natural Roots - 888 Shelburne Falls Road, Conway - *produce/eggs* - naturalroots.com/

Oliver's Farm Stand - 36 Main St, Goshen - *produce/fruits/dairy/meat/fish* - 413-264-5741

Porter Family Farm - 93 Steady Lane Road, Ashfield - *beef* - 413-348-5767

Shirkshire Farm - 661 S Shirkshire Rd., Conway - *lamb/eggs/meat birds/soaps/blueberries* - 413-625-9282

Sidehill Farm - 58 Forget Road, Hawley - *yogurt/dairy* - sidehillfarm.net/

South River Miso - 888 Shelburne Falls Road, Conway - *miso* - southrivermiso.com/

Vachel Farm - 1317 Pine Hill Rd, Conway - *beef/maple syrup* - 413-625-9340

Wheel-View Farm - 212 Reynolds Rd., Shelburne - *grass fed beef* - wheelviewfarm.com/

Wholey Cow Farm - 49 Wholey Road, Conway - *raw milk/duck eggs/maple syrup & more* - 413-369-4638

Wilder Hill Gardens - 351 South Shirkshire Road, Conway - *flowers/blueberries* - wilderhillgardens.com/

Windrow Farm - 388 Hart Road, Conway - *hay* - jfsilverman413@gmail.com

Mary Parker,
AgCom Secretary

The Conway Inn

by Barbara Llamas

Due to some lifting of the COVID-19 restrictions, we are now able to offer limited seating indoors as well as outside in the back yard.

The inn will continue to be open Sunday through Thursday from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. for pizza, chicken wings, and breadsticks. Take-out orders may be placed starting at 4:00 p.m. We are now able to serve alcoholic beverages for dining at the inn and to sell bottled beer and single-serve wine with to-go food orders. Call 369-4428 to place your order. Thanks again for the hometown spirit you've shown toward your local businesses!

Baker's Country Store and Luncheonette

The store is open seven days a week for take-out breakfast (served all day) and lunch. We now have limited seating outside and inside due to the partial lifting of 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.

Local strawberries and vegetables have arrived! Don't forget that 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! Check us out on Facebook: [facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store](https://www.facebook.com/Bakers-Country-Store) for today's specials. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

Unheard Melodies

by Nicole Braden-Johnson

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

Ode to the Oak

In autumn winds, the parental tree sends her helmed offspring
Dancing to a swelling staccato hailstorm by the thousands.
They bury into the warm flesh of the earth
And sleep through winter sleet until spring monsoons.
Throughout the ground reverberate myriad unheard *cracks!*
As the nut releases two tender tendrils,
One pushing into the earth's dark abdomen,
One reaching to the sun's bright face.

For centuries this tree spreads a dappled canopy
Giving home to chattering chipmunks and quarreling squirrels
As entire nations are born and go asunder.
Under steady boughs, lovers kiss, children grow,
And sometimes a world-weary wanderer rests a troubled brow.

Finally, the trunk stands hollow,
Its weather-beaten bark turned ashen,
Leafless branches broken under snowdrifts and rainfalls,
While nimble Virginia Creeper's arms adorn
The jagged skeleton with its final flaming foliage.



Megan Hart: Hart Pottery

Megan Hart of Hart Pottery's work will be on display in a handcrafted pottery cart by our neighbor Steve Thomas of the 3 Crows Woodworking.

Curbside pickup
Friday through
Sunday afternoons,
weather permitting.
Come take a look!
192 Academy Hill
Road. 413-522-6707



Ladyslippers - Off Shelburne Falls Road; Elizabeth West; 2020.

We love hiking to this special spot in the Conway woods to see the Ladyslippers bloom. Because of the tornado more light in the woods is causing the orchids to bloom which results in more seed production and more plants. Some people try to dig them up or pick the flowers, but these wild orchids are protected by Massachusetts law.

Town Office Personnel and Hours

Call 413-369-4235 and follow the instructions to reach the appropriate office.

Conway Select board: 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

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