



Volume 2, Number 6 - June 2021

Annual Town Meeting and Town Election

Town Meeting

Conway's annual Town Meeting is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 5, at 1:00 p.m. at the Conway Grammar School.

The selectboard is sponsoring two articles on the warrant that would (1) amend the General Bylaws to replace the words *Board of Selectmen* with *selectboard* and *selectman* with *selectboard member*, and (2) change the date of the annual Town Meeting permanently to the first Saturday in June.

Town Election

The annual town election will be held at Town Hall on Thursday, June 10, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The offices and terms on the ballot this year are:

- 1 member of the selectboard for three years
- 1 assessor for three years
- 2 members of the Board of Health for three years
- 2 members of the local School Committee for three years
- 2 members of the Planning Board for three years
- 1 moderator for one year



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. in Town Hall. Next meeting is June 2. For more information, contact Patricia Ann Lynch, COA chair, at 369-4284.

Senior Calendar for June

Grab-and-Go Meals The COA offers fully prepared meals from LifePath Thursdays at noon for curbside pickup at Town Hall. Menus vary. For more information or to sign up for a meal, call Carolyn Thayer at 369-6948. LifePath suggests a voluntary donation of \$3.00. We are planning ice cream socials and picnic lunches in Memorial Park beginning this month.

Healthy Bones & Balance Classes These free classes, sponsored by RSVP, offer a combination of upper body, lower body, core, and balance exercises. Meeting dates and times: Tuesdays 9:00-10:00 a.m., Fridays 9:00-9:30 a.m. Contact leader Gary Fentin at 369-0001 for the Zoom links.

Monthly Foot Care Foot clinics are held on the first Monday of the month in Town Hall by appointment only. The next clinic will be June 7. Call Peg Tiley at 369-4010 for information or to make an appointment. Face masks are required. There is a \$20.00 fee.

Walking Group The walking group is again taking to the streets of Conway for companionship, conversation, and exercise. The group gathers at 9:30 a.m. in front of the library every Monday, weather permitting. For more information, contact Phylis Dacey at 369-4326.

Yoga for Seniors Led by Jody Fontaine Wednesdays on Zoom. Class times: mat yoga, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; chair yoga, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Call Jody at 413-824-9435 for the Zoom links. Outdoor "pop-up" classes will be held during the summer, weather permitting. Call Jody for information.

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. Owing to lack of storage space, we are currently unable to accept donations of equipment.

Home-Delivered Meals Meals on Wheels are provided by LifePath for Conway seniors seven days a week. Call LifePath at 773-5555 for further information and registration.

Transportation for Medical Appointments and Shopping The Shelburne Falls Senior Center provides curb-to-curb van transportation within Franklin County for seniors 60 and over, for 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. A short application with a copy of a photo ID is needed to be pre-approved for ridership. Fares range from \$.75 to \$2.25 each way. For rides to out-of-county medical appointments, call the FRTA at 774-2262 x 163 for information and reservations.

Mah Jongg in Conway: Come Play with Us!

The Mah Jongg Group has resumed in-person games and is meeting every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Conway Fire House. Bring your own lunch and beverage. Come for the day or drop in when you can. All players, new or experienced, are welcome.

This group plays according to the Wright-Patterson Mah Jongg rules and uses the rule book for that style. The style was created by the Officer's Wives Club at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the 1920s. It contains elements of both Chinese and National Mah Jongg League styles but uses classical Chinese scoring. Many people have never heard of this style. According to one source, it's challenging to learn but worth the effort. For more information contact Phylis Dacey at 369-4326.

In It for the Long Run

by Peter Farber

As we age, and even for younger, active people who don't think their body is aging, damage to the protective cartilage that cushions the joints in your knees, hips, and spine may be occurring. The symptoms – pain, tenderness, and stiffness in the joints – may not have manifested yet.

More and more of us are becoming and staying active: engaging in high-impact activities such as jogging, basketball, tennis, and racquetball. Osteoarthritis (OA) develops when the cartilage covering the ends of the bones in your joints gradually wears away over time. Cartilage is a slippery tissue that enables joints to move almost without friction. As it is worn away, bone will begin to grate on bone. Any feeling of discomfort in your joints should get your attention. OA cannot be reversed, but further deterioration can be prevented.

Concentrating on one type of activity – in particular those involving extensive, repetitive motion as in jogging – puts you at increased risk of OA. If you do such sports, the likelihood is that cartilage erosion will develop until joint discomfort becomes more noticeable, especially when standing or going up and down stairs. If you are beginning to experience discomfort during exercise, don't push through it. Vary your activities, alternating high-impact with lower-impact activities to avoid overuse.

I understand the endorphin rush one gets from vigorous exercise. Is pushing through the discomfort worth it? Moderate physical activity improves flexibility and function. Continue exercising but consider activities that don't stress the joints: smooth, low-impact activities. Stretch, swim, cycle, walk, play golf. If you are at the early stage, don't give up your joy of running or tennis; just vary your activities. The reality is that our feet and the joints in our legs, hips, and spine are not made for pounding on pavement or on basketball or tennis courts.

If you want to be in it for the long run – to still be playing tennis or racquetball, to be jogging when you're 50, 70, or even 90 years of age – you need to begin now. You have to eat the right foods, maintain a healthy weight, wear the right shoes, stretch before and after exercise, and know when to ease back the throttle. Exercise can be addictive. Pay attention to what your body is telling you regardless of your age. Be in it for the long run.

Free PFAS Testing for Private Wells

MassDEP is offering free testing for private wells in Conway to determine if PFAS can be detected in any of our drinking water. PFAS is a group of chemicals that have been used since the 1940s in many different applications, such as in Teflon, Gore-tex clothing, and fire-fighting foam. It's called a "forever" chemical because it takes so long to break down, and it accumulates in our bodies, causing health problems. The main way PFAS enters our bodies is through our drinking water. MassDEP is offering free testing in 84 towns in Massachusetts that have at least 60% of residents with private wells, so Conway has been chosen to participate. If a level above 20 parts per trillion is found, that is considered to be a health risk. To apply to be considered, sign up at dwp-pfas.madwpdep.org or call 413-545-PFAS. For more information you can check the Frequently Asked Questions at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-massdep-private-wells-pfas-sampling-program/download>. If you are interested, apply right away, as this is a limited-time offer!

Tell Us What You Think about Open Space and Recreation in Conway!

We are updating Conway's Open Space and Recreation Plan – a tool through which the town plans for the future of its conservation and recreation resources and becomes eligible for certain conservation and recreation grants. We want to know your priorities for open space, recreation, trails, natural resource protection, and climate change resilience.

Take the **Open Space and Recreation Survey** here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ConwayOSRP>
Deadline: Monday, June 14

You can also pick up and return a paper copy of the survey at the Field Memorial Library or Town Office and at Town Meeting on June 5.

Charlemont Forum on Soil Health, Food Justice, and Nutrition

Forging links between the health of our nation's soil, having access to healthy food, and their far-reaching nutritional impact will be the theme of the Charlemont Forum's 2021 opening event on June 9.

Exchanging perspectives on the issues will be Jeff Tkach, Chief Impact Officer of the Pennsylvania-based Rodale Institute, and Jessica O'Neill, Executive Director of Just Roots, a Franklin County organization focused on food access and food justice. Hosting the program – "Regenerative Agriculture, Food Justice, and Nutritional Outcomes" – will be Mary Purdy, a Seattle-based integrative eco-dietician, author, and adjunct professor at Bastyr University.

"Our conversation will center on the intersection of people, planet, and food," says Purdy. "We need to realize that the health of the

individual, the health of the environment, and a just, balanced agricultural system are all dependent on one another and will ultimately each benefit the other.”

“Too often people mistake access to healthy food as being singularly defined as the physical receipt of food,” adds O’Neill, “and feel that the price of food is the main contributing factor to a lack of food access. But affordability isn’t the only factor. Transportation, time constraints, familiarity with local ingredients, confidence in the kitchen and even access to a full service kitchen and basic utensils are all barriers that prevent food access, contribute to poor health outcomes, and keep food justice at bay.”

Speaking from the perspective of the Rodale Institute, which founded the concept of organic farming in 1947, Tkach explains that “regenerative agriculture is an organic process that creates a healthier soil. By growing demand for organic food, we will move away from chemical-dependent agriculture. Organic farming produces a healthier food product. Healthier food means healthier people. It’s that simple!”

This forum event will be carried on Zoom between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. on June 9. Participants must register at <https://fb.me/e/4aTNUH2QA> or find the event on the Charlemont Forum Facebook page. The webinar link will be sent out two weeks prior to the event. This program is supported by the Cultural Councils of Amherst, Ashfield, Buckland, Charlemont/Hawley, Colrain, Conway, Goshen, Heath, Leyden, Plainfield, Rowe, and Shelburne, which are all supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Update from the Field Memorial Library

We are excited to announce that the Field Memorial Library will be reopening to physical visits Monday, June 7! Browse time may be limited to 20 minutes. Capacity will be limited and, if reached, patrons will need to wait outside for an opening. Face coverings

and social distancing will be required for now. If you would like to schedule an appointment for a browse time, email the director at director@fieldmemoriallibrary.org. Our schedule will be Monday 3:00-6:00 p.m.; Wednesday 1:30-6:30 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. We look forward to welcoming you back to the library!

The friends of the library are seeking new friends. If you are interested in supporting the library, please contact Co-President Linda McDaniel at lindamcdaniel2@verizon.net.

FML’s “steps-side” system of picking up materials and returning them to our outside book drop will continue for the near future. Pickup schedules include Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Monday and Wednesday afternoons/evenings scheduled via email or phone. Our phone (413-369-4646) is staffed during these times.

Please visit our website at <https://fieldmemoriallibrary.org> for news, events, and other resources. We are planning various community-engagement projects as we develop our program on "Perspectives on the Pandemic." This project will work to gain perspective on our pandemic by comparing it with the fictional one in the novel *Station Eleven*, providing a basis for sharing and reflection in easing the stress and grief that our real-world pandemic created.

Our website also has a new *Braiding Sweetgrass* resource page through which the library will post resources on ecological thinking and planning going forward. New titles for your consideration:

Adult Fiction

Hamnet by Maggie O’Farrell

There There by Tommy Orange

Masked Prey by John Sanford

The Dry by Jane Harper

Adult Nonfiction

After the Fact? The Truth about Fake News

by Marcus Gilroy-Ware

The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race by Walter Isaacson

More Myself: A Journey by Alicia Keys

Children

Steam Train, Dream Train by Sherri Duskey Rinker (author) & Tom Lichtenheld (illustrator)

A Day at the Airport by Richard Scarry

Elephant & Piggie Biggie! Volume 1 by Mo Willems

David Whittier

Director, Field Memorial Library

Garden Club Notes

Bladder Campion: Attractive, Edible, and a Pollinator Magnet

Its drooping flowers with their balloon-shaped calyx swelling behind a circle of five white, deeply cleft petals makes bladder campion (*Silene vulgaris*) readily recognizable. A native of Europe, it is now a common wildflower throughout North America, growing in yards, cultivated lawns, meadows, fields, and open woods, where it blooms from June to August. If you think of it as just another pesky, useless weed, think again.



In Europe, bladder campion is part of various cuisines, especially in the Mediterranean region, where the young shoots and leaves are eaten raw in salads. Older leaves are boiled or steamed like spinach, browned in olive oil with garlic, added to omelets, and used with other ingredients in soups and stews. Bladder campion is

high in omega 3 and antioxidants, making its leaves a nutritious addition to the diet.

The plant's rich nectar attracts bumblebees, butterflies, and other insects, and it has been called "perfect for pollinators," a helpful support for the local ecosystem. Bladder campion is a valuable asset to a wildflower garden.

Note: The Conway Garden Club is not meeting during the pandemic. For information contact Pat Lynch at 369-4284 or email patricialynch@earthlink.net.

Conway Festival of the Hills: Please Consider Donating and Volunteering

The Conway Festival of the Hills has been canceled for 2021. We are continuing planning for the 2022 Festival via Zoom meetings and looking for people to help us continue this long-time town tradition to benefit our graduating high school seniors. Please contact us at festivalofthehills@yahoo.com if you would like to get involved. We can't do it without you!

We will be giving out scholarships for both 2021 and 2022 despite not having held a festival since 2019. Without the income from the festival, we will need donations more than ever. Remember how that fried dough tasted while you watched the skillet toss? Now, think about how many times you opened your wallet over the course of the event to make those memories. Please consider donating what you would have spent at the 2020 and 2021 festivals 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 continue to look for volunteers to help make our 2022 festival a success. Please contact festivalofthehills@yahoo.com for more information.

Eating Around the World

by Veronique Blanchard

So, life intervened, and this last month we were not able to be quite as adventurous as before (although the darts do fall where they may on the world map!) The country I'll highlight today out of our past month's culinary adventures is Italy, and this one-pot dish of pasta primavera is quick, easy, and delicious!! Credit goes to *Epicurious* for the recipe.

Pasta Primavera

Ingredients

12 oz short pasta, such as penne or fusilli
4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
2½ tsp (or more) kosher salt
¾ tsp (or more) freshly ground black pepper
1 10-oz bag frozen broccoli florets
6 oz green beans, preferably haricots verts, trimmed
8 oz large shrimp, peeled, deveined, tails left on
1 pint cherry tomatoes, sliced in half
1 cup frozen green peas
3 Tbs unsalted butter
1 tsp finely grated lemon zest
¾ cup finely grated Parmesan, plus more for serving
¼ cup coarsely chopped basil
Red pepper flakes (for serving; optional)

Preparation

1. Place pasta in a large, wide-bottomed pot or large, wide, straight-sided pan. Add garlic, salt, black pepper, and 3½

cups hot water. Cover and bring to a boil. Once boiling, uncover and cook, setting a timer for cooking pasta according to package directions and stirring often.

2. When 5 minutes remain on timer, stir in broccoli and green beans. Cover pot and return to a boil. (If pot starts to dry out at any point, add another ½ cup water.)
3. When 2 minutes remain on timer, stir in shrimp, tomatoes, peas, and butter. Cover and continue to cook 2 minutes, then uncover and cook, stirring, until pasta is tender, shrimp are cooked through, and water is almost completely evaporated, about 1 minute more.
4. Remove from heat. Stir in lemon zest and ¾ cup Parmesan and toss to coat. Season with more salt and pepper, if needed.
5. Divide pasta among plates. Top with basil, additional Parmesan, and red pepper flakes, if using.

Distinguished Conway Residents: Jack Chesbro

John Dwight Chesbro (June 5, 1874-November 6, 1931) was a Major League Baseball pitcher whose 41 wins during the 1904 season set an American League record that has stood for more than a century. (Under current playing practices, his record is likely to remain unbreakable.) Nicknamed "Happy Jack," Chesbro piled up career numbers – a win-loss record of 198-132, 2.68 earned run average, and 1,265 strikeouts – that earned him a place in the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1946. In 2021 he was elected to the Western Mass. Baseball Hall of Fame.



Chesbro began his career in the minor leagues before joining the

Pittsburgh Pirates in 1900. In 1903 he signed on with a newly franchised team, the New York Highlanders (officially renamed the New York Yankees in 1913), pitching for their first game. The pinnacle of his career was the 1904 season. Unfortunately, that season ended with a wild pitch by Chesbro during the 1904 pennant race against Boston that gave Boston a lead it held to clinch the pennant. Chesbro was blamed for the loss despite controversy over the call. His life was haunted by the incident.

He had some success in the years that followed despite frequent absences from spring training and threats of retirement. However, after he made only nine appearances with an 0-4 record in 1909, New York waived him to the Boston Red Sox. His only game with Boston was a loss to New York in the season ender – his last professional game. Boston announced they would return Chesbro to New York, but New York had no place for him on the roster, and he refused to report to the minor leagues, choosing retirement instead.

Chesbro, a native of North Adams, MA, had married Mabel Suttleworth of Conway in 1896 and purchased a farm here in 1900. After his professional career ended, he returned to Conway, where he also owned a sawmill and timber land, to farm and raise poultry. He didn't give up baseball, though. In 1911 he coached for Massachusetts Agricultural College (now UMass-Amherst), and he continued to pitch and coach for local semipro clubs. Both Chesbro and his wife, who died in 1940, are buried in Howland Cemetery.

In 2013, for a fund-raiser by the 250th Anniversary Committee, Conway resident Mike Haley invented the Chesbro Challenge, "an 'alternative' baseball game using unconventional implements swinging at not quite baseballs," as the committee described it – a game as unconventional as Happy Jack's famous spitball and baseball career.



Found in California: A Conway Family's Baby Book

by Mary Irwin

Ron and Renee Fortenberry of Yuba City, California, requested help tracing a member of the Graves family. They explained they had found in a local thrift store a baby book created for Edward Thomas Williams, who was born in Rochester, New York. It contained family information, and they felt the book belonged with family members who might treasure it. They had made calls to the hospital where Edward was born and had even combed databases, all to no avail. Determined, they took a new tack and focused on Lyman Graves, the boy's grandfather, whose name they found "unusual." A Google search led them to the Conway Historical Society website and a photo of the Conway High School class of 1925 with Lyman Graves among the graduates.

"It might seem trivial to many that we would spend so much time and effort over a baby book, however, we think it is more than a baby book, it is someone's history, and family is very important to us." – Ron & Renee

The Graves family has deep roots in Conway and many descendants. The book *Conway 1767-1967*, edited by Deane Lee, indicated that Lyman and Gladys Graves's eldest daughter, Christine Carys Graves, married Harry Edward Williams in 1956. A phone call to Bill Graves established that Christine and Harry had moved to California. He told me that his cousin Cynthia Cranston in Ashfield has kept in touch with that side of the family. From Cynthia I learned that the baby in question, Edward (who goes by Ned) lives in Sacramento. Cynthia said she would pass the Fortenberrys' contact information on to Edward's sister. I relayed this to the Fortenberrys and thought that was the end of the story.

Ten days later, another email arrived from the Fortenberrys. They had reached out to Sacramento's KCRA-TV station to help locate

Ned. The TV station found Ned and asked if he would like to get the book back. He said he hadn't known the book existed, but he would love to see it. KCRA decided to run the story as a newscast. The Fortenberrys were very excited.

On March 24, they wrote, "Today a news station from Sacramento is coming to interview us about the story in front of the thrift store where we found the book. After our interview the reporter is then going back to Sacramento to meet with Edward and return the book to him. When he does that, we are going to Zoom in and talk with him very briefly about the book's journey . . . anyway, just wanted to share what is happening today; you are a big part of this story. Blessings, Ron and Renee"

Later that day, KCRA reporter David Manoucheri knocked on Ned's door, and when he looked at the book, Ned said he had never seen it before. His mother must have had it the entire time. He explained that after his mother passed away, the baby book must have been in some boxes that were donated to the thrift store. As the interview concluded, Ned remarked, "With all the craziness that's going on in this world, all the kind of hate that we're seeing, and the divide, for these people that went as far and wide, as deep as they did; you don't find people like that these days." The Fortenberrys would now like to visit Conway. The news segment can be viewed here: <https://www.kcra.com/article/ost-baby-book-made-life-long-connection/35948911>.

Getting the News in Conway

Conway's first newspaper appeared in 1798 and 1799. The *Farmer's Register*, published weekly by Theodore Leonard, had as its motto "Here truth unlicensed reigns, and dares accost / Even kings themselves, or rulers of the free." The author of Chapter II of *History of Conway (Massachusetts) 1767-1917*, Rev. Charles B. Rice, D.D., had a decidedly different opinion of the newspaper's quality, writing: "Both truth and error must in fact have 'reigned' in

Mr. Leonard's paper. He had no editorial sentiments, and published with a looseness whatever came to his hand, on all sides . . . part more thoroughly opposite than would be tolerated in any paper now circulating among us."

The *Farmer's Register*, while containing little local news, did – as today's newspapers often do – reprint news and various items from other papers, including news from both Washington and London. It contained advertisements, "mostly of stock, lost or taken," and had a poet's corner, which, according to Rev. Rice, was "full of Delias and Clorindas, after the dull manner of all the poetry of the 18th century."

A second weekly newspaper, the *Conway Banner*, which *did* include local news, was printed for about two years by Horace E. Miller beginning in 1885. And that was it for locally published news until July 1940, when the United Congregational Church of Conway began printing its monthly newsletter, *The Visitor*. For 80 years – until its final issue in February 2020 – *The Visitor* was more than a church newsletter. Mailed to every household in town, it became Conway's community connection: an outlet for official town news, notices of community events, and residents' contributions of poetry, recipes, gardening information, and the like. The members of the Newsletter Committee hope that *Conway Currents*, which began publication in April 2020, is continuing to fill that role.

Talkin' Trash: The Conway Mall

The times they are a-changin'! The swap table has been open for a month or so at the transfer station, and many are wondering when the Conway Mall will reopen. So much has changed in the past year, and all our lives have been changed as well. Given that, the Board of Health does not want to assume that those who volunteered in the past to keep the swap shed in order are still willing to do so, although if they are, please do let the board know!

And if there are any other folks who would like to help out, we would welcome the assistance. As you all know, the shed has to be organized and staffed in order to reopen. Please contact the Board of Health at boardofhealth@townofconway.com, or by calling 369-4235 x 8. Thank you!!

The Hills Are Alive with the Sounds of . . .

. . . the Hey Hey Club kicks off our summer outdoor performance series, the first of three events in Conway for our Conway neighbors on June 13, noon to 1:00 p.m., hosted by my Reeds Bridge Road neighbors Maggie and Zee, 615 Reeds Bridge Road. Bring your lunch, blanket, chair, and bug spray and be ready to have a great time listening – and maybe a little up-out-of-your-seats boogieing – to our West Coast blues with a mix of classic swing and big band Ellington. You will need to park on the north side of the road. Also, no port-o-san, but it's only an hour show. Let's respect the six-foot distance outside of your immediate group.

Friends of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter: Save the Date!

The Friends will host a tag sale/craft/event to benefit the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter on Sunday, August 15, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club, 210 Turners Falls Road, Turners Falls, MA.

One 6' Table W/ Bench \$20.00; Rain or Shine - Covered Venue

Contact The Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter for a reservation form to reserve your table. 413-676-9182. All proceeds go to benefit the shelter - thank you!

Some Advice from Personal Experience

by Sir Reginald Buttwinker

1. If you're over 50, never say, "Watch this!" while standing on a diving board. - Conway swimming pool & Cooley Dickinson, July 13, 2004
2. Never swat a fly on your wife's favorite vase with a rolled-up newspaper. - Cash withdrawal – \$110.19, Greenfield Savings Bank, August 3, 2016
3. Never say, "Here, kitty, kitty," if you don't know what a fisher cat is. - Skrocki Farm, Windsor, Massachusetts, June 8, 1953
4. If you don't want to be late for a dinner party, never take more than three seconds to respond to your wife's question, "How do I look?" - 10 times a year since 1983 (I'm getting better.)
5. Never try to attach jumper cables if you're colorblind. - My driveway, 1972
6. Even though it *looks* like a string bean, never take a big bite of a Diablo Grande pepper thinking that it'll *taste* like a string bean! - Boca Muerte Restaurante, Laredo, Texas, 1994
7. Never claim to your wife that you're sure there's a restaurant – with a restroom – "Just down the road," when your gas gauge is near "empty." - AAA towing garage, Frogleg, Mississippi, 2018
8. Even though you think you can, never attempt to show your family how you can flip pizza dough like the professionals. - Our kitchen (once, and once only), June 3, 1987

UCC Bake Sale June 11

UCC Conway will be having a baked goods sale on Friday, June 11, from 10:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Greenfield Savings Bank in Conway. We will be outside. Donations of baked goods are welcome. Proceeds will be donated to the Franklin County Relay for Life and the Heifer International project. Our thanks to everyone who supported our May bake and plant sale.

Transfer Station Attendants Needed

The Town of Conway Board of Health has openings for two part-time Transfer Station attendants (average 12-14 hours/week). Ideal applicants must be able to work outdoors in variable weather conditions and be available to work flexible hours including weekends, as the normal transfer station open days are Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Please send letter of interest to the **Board of Health, PO Box 240, Conway, MA, 01341**, or email boardofhealth@townofconway.com. Voice messages may be left at 369-4235 x 8.

Please provide contact information, including phone number and email address, in all correspondence. An application and full copy of the job description will be forwarded for further action.

Cover Banner, *South River, Summer*, Courtesy of Michele Turre
Bladder Campion, P. 9 - public domain
Jack Chesbro, P. 12, Courtesy of the Baseball Hall of Fame
Pumpkin Hollow, P. 21, Courtesy of Suzanne Artemieff



Unheard Melodies

by Nicole Braden-Johnson

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

The Onion

How easily this knife slices through delicate skin
Swiftly peels and separates the edible from the in-
Sides exposed, silky pungent white flesh diced

(How much abundance in one unassuming globe
And how many thousand years of sustenance?)

Dropped into the searing, oily belly of the waiting pan.
Cell walls crumble from the heat; juices ooze

(Carefully grown and chosen from wild brethren
Passed through a countless billion hands)

The smell lifts from the stove and slips through
The air filled with eager anticipation.

(Secrets traded between a hundred generations
Of just how to procure the perfect bite or sweetness)

Flipping the softening silver slices in the pan
Caramel edges turn and melt like so much gold

(This plump-bodied orb is the first step, the cornerstone,
the final touch of myriads of meals, shared and alone)

Whatever goes in after, whatever is added now
Is infused and embellished by this humble, ancient, earth-grown
sphere.





“I love walking through Pumpkin Hollow and find it magical in the mist” - Suzanne Artemieff

Currents Advertisements & Notices

Rates for ads up to 150 words are: one month \$7.75, three months \$15.75; six months \$25.75, twelve months \$44.75. For cost of longer ads or to include images (limited), call or email Louise at 413-559-1180 or lmbeckett@crocker.com.

Advertisements can be paid for by checking account or credit card through the town's website: <https://townofconway.com/> > View or Pay a Bill > Pay Newsletter Advertising or send a check to:

Conway Currents, PO Box 240, Conway, MA 01341.

Please send the text of your advertisement to Louise by email at lmbeckett@crocker.com. If you want to discuss your ad or have any questions, please call or email.

Your Home Town Realtor - As a Conway resident for over 20 years, I provide local, attentive and trustworthy service for both buyers and sellers in our community. Previous experience as a licensed residential architect is valuable for my clients. Please contact me for a free, no obligation consultation! Sarah Newman, Realtor with Coldwell Banker Community Realtors. Call or text: 413-548-6525 or email sarah.newman@cbcommunityrealtors.com - Thank you!

The Conway Inn - As of May 31, the Inn has returned to pre-Covid hours, including the pizza schedule: Friday and Saturday, 4 - 10 p.m.; Sunday 5 - 8 p.m. Call 369-4428 for pizza, chicken wings and breadsticks! Dine in or outdoors as weather permits.



Note: No pizzas the weekends of June 18-20 and 25-27 - The chef needs a well-deserved vacation!

Baker's Country Store - open seven days a week for all-day take-out breakfast and lunch. Limited seating outside when weather permits, and inside since the partial lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. Hours: Monday-Friday 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Call 369-4936. Annual flowers and many of your favorite vegetable plants are here for planting in your garden. Find a variety of homemade desserts and baked goods and a large selection of last-minute items. We always have 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. **Help Wanted** - for morning hours. Inquire at the store during regular hours.

Join Natural Roots CSA - for delicious, fresh vegetables grown right here in Conway. We have several CSA share options, including part-time and low-income shares, main season (June through October) and winter shares. Our farm store is also open to the public year-round during daylight hours. We offer eggs from our own pastured hens as well as other local items like beef, chicken, pork, dairy, bread & baked goods, honey & maple products, coffee & tea, ice cream, snacks, beverages and more! Support a horse-powered farm in Conway and enjoy this beautiful, bountiful farm and the vibrant community that we feed. www.naturalroots.com. Natural Roots, 888 Shelburne Falls Rd., Conway, MA 01341, (413) 369 - 4269, naturalroots@verizon.net

Auto Detailing - Exterior/Interior services available. Call or text Matt at 413-262-2687 for details or to make an appointment. Pick-Up and Drop-Off service available in Conway, April - October weather permitting. Makes a great gift for someone who "has everything".

PCA Wanted - Looking for a personal care attendant in our Conway home. Openings available on Fridays and Saturdays, possibly Thursdays. \$15.75/hour. Flexible times and will train. Prefer medical/nursing background but not necessary. Contact: Henry at tstreetcars@gmail.com or call Danielle 413-369-9975.

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