



## Historical Society Presenting “A River Runs through Conway”

Find out how the South River shaped the town agriculture, history and character of the Town of Conway and human efforts to shape the river from the 18th century to present day, in a presentation titled, “*A River Runs Through Conway: For Better or For Worse.*” Through stories and images, two of Conway’s best living historians, David Barten and Philip Kantor, explore the impact of dams, mills, floods, fertile farmland and the consequences of previous decisions on the current health of our watershed.

The presentation will be on **March 2nd 4 to 6PM** in **Town Hall**, followed by a lively discussion and refreshments.

David Barten, a long-time member of the Conway Historical Commission, has written two manuscripts on Conway in the 1800’s. Philip Kantor is Conway Historical Society president and has researched and written extensively on colonial times and characters. For more info, contact Dave Barten at [369-4742](tel:369-4742) or [abarten@crocker.com](mailto:abarten@crocker.com) or Phil Kantor at [369-4725](tel:369-4725) or [kantoring@gmail.com](mailto:kantoring@gmail.com).

## Easter Sunrise Service Planned

Please join us to greet Easter morn, **March 31, at 6:30AM** on the porch of the Deane Lee homestead. We will share a brief worship service outdoors to celebrate this Holy Day and to behold the majesty of a Conway sunrise. We will hold our traditional Easter Worship, complete with Easter Lilies at the Conway Grammar School at 9:30AM. All are welcome.

*In this issue of The Visitor:*

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| ■ SPECIAL TOWN MEETING   | ■ Big Night for Salamanders |
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Please send ads, notices, articles and correspondence to the NEW email address for *The Visitor*: [visitor@uccofconway.com](mailto:visitor@uccofconway.com)

## From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

Rev. Emily Heath writes, "When it comes down to it, Jesus only needed two sentences to sum the law up for his followers. First, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'" And second, "you shall love your neighbor as yourself." Those of us who try to be disciples of Christ are really good at trying to add our own words or interpretations to his, but in the end Jesus really made it pretty clear. If you want to follow him, and if you want to be a Christian, then your only job is to love."

In the big scheme of things, who we are as individuals is finite and fleeting. But who we are together, and who we are to God, is what matters, and what truly defines us, even when we are gone. In Lent, we remember the great truth: It's not all about us; it's about Christ's two commands: to love God, and to love others as we love ourselves.

For centuries Christians have undertaken a form of Lenten discipline, which is to say a practice that will in some way turn their hearts to Christ and prepare them for the new life that comes with Easter. For many, Lent is a time to give something up: meat or candy or Facebook. But Lent doesn't have to just be about giving up. In fact, at its best it isn't. Because if our Lenten discipline is only about us, and what we will allow ourselves, we miss the point.

Instead, what if we embraced Lent as an opportunity to show our love for God and others? We spend so much time focused on ourselves and on our own needs, but what if we used these forty days focus on something else? What if we try each day to remind ourselves that



it's not about us as individuals, but it's about God, and it's about all of us together?

This Lent, let us challenge ourselves to do at least one thing that either strengthens our connection with God or shows our love for a neighbor - every day. At first glance, this might sound like a lot to do, like it's just creating one more piece of work in our already crammed schedules. But what I'm advocating isn't about creating additional burdens. It's about being more conscious of what we are already doing, and using our time in a way that connects us with others and with God.

When we start being more aware, our daily walk turns into an opportunity for prayer. The trip to the grocery store yields a few more cans of soup for the food pantry. And a few extra dollars turn into a donation that makes a difference. We don't have to turn the world on its axis. We simply have to turn our attention outward, and make the small things matter in big ways.\*

Lent is a time to figure out what really matters. What matters in your life? And how can you pay more attention and devote more time and more of your heart to what really matters? Let's use this month, individually or together, to answer these questions with action.

**Journeying together,**

*Rev. Candice Ashenden*

**Rev. Dr. Candice M. Ashenden**

P.S. And if you are looking for company on your spiritual journey, please know that the doors of the UCC Conway, and my door, are always open to you

*\*With helps from Rev. Emily C. Heath*

## Church Clips

We invite you to join us for worship Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM at the Conway Grammar School. Everyone is welcome!

† **If you need to reach the church**, messages may be left with Rev. Ashenden at 978-544-2801.

† **Rev. Dr. Candice Ashenden** holds office hours Mondays from 9:30AM - 12 PM and will be available in Conway on Monday afternoons for visitation, appointments, counseling, meetings, etc. She is always available at other times, by appointment (or in an emergency). She welcomes calls at home at any time: **49 Charles St. Orange, MA 01364**, or call 978-544-2801, or email her at [revcandi@gmail.com](mailto:revcandi@gmail.com).

† **UCC of Conway mailing address** is: **P.O. Box 214, Conway, MA 01341**.

† **Church facilities** may be rented by groups or individuals for special activities. Equipment may not be removed. Call Lorraine at 369-4061 for details.



## Second Monday News

By *Betty Lou Guilford*

The Second Monday Group wishes to thank everyone that supported our Chocolate Delight and Valentine Basket Sale. Harry Bovio won the Basket. We will hopefully do this again next year. A sincere thank you to Deb at the Greenfield Savings Bank for hosting our event.

Baby Layettes and Health Kits need a few more items to make them complete. If you would like to donate, please call BettyLou at 369-4481.

“Souper Bowl” Sunday, our wonderful Sunday School youth put on a fabulous skit, written by Caitlin Burnett. They began by playing the Star Spangled Banner and then leading us in worship thru their play. Money raised for the Western Food Bank was \$172, with over \$350 of food for the Hilltown Food Pantry. Thank you to Billy and Christi Ashenden, Tristan and Trace McLaurin and of course Caitlin for a very inspiring morning.

[bettyloug48@hotmail.com](mailto:bettyloug48@hotmail.com)

### MISSION STATEMENT

The United Congregational Church of Conway is a welcoming Christian community bringing generations together to celebrate God's presence and learn to grow in our faith. We humbly strive to offer hope, encouragement and love to each other, the Conway community, and the world through our actions and with our resources.



## Gardener's Corner

By *Liz Pichete*

As I step onto the dawn-lit porch to grab wood for the morning fire, I gloomily think, "Still winter." A part of me must hope that some morning I will wake up to dramatically warmer temperatures, having magically risen overnight rather than the slow ebb and flow of weather that gradually brings spring! Winter seems to drag on and on.

March is windy, a time of the spring equinox, when days and nights are of equal length and the solar wind hits squarely upon the equator. If we're lucky, we may see the aurora borealis that peaks at the equinoxes. Though it would be amazing to travel to Canada to witness this spectacle first-hand, I don't believe I could endure the extremely frigid temperatures.

"In like a lion, out like a lamb," they always say of March. The transition brings mud-season, when dirt roads and driveways turn to liquid cement with ruts that freeze and thaw daily until at last the moisture drains or evaporates away. The rural country dweller perseveres, accepting it with a touch of pride and a shrug, if not a grumble or two.

As consolation, sugaring season sweetly coincides with this unpleasant one. Freezing nights and warm days make for optimum flow as the maple trees send forth their tasty sap. This weather creates great, sparkling icicles that hang like long, pointed fingers from the eaves. Gathering fresh, clean snow from the yard to make sugar-on-snow is bittersweet now that my boys are grown and gone, a seasonal treat we once shared together.

The robins and red-winged blackbirds return in large flocks and their calls gladden my heart after such a long hiatus. I wonder about where they spent the winter, what distances they flew to get here and how many will press on farther north?

At the end of the month there will be snow crocuses and snowdrops blooming in my yard. I always marvel at how bees find these flowers in what is still largely a dormant landscape. Yet there they are, domestic or wild I cannot tell, reminding me that another winter has passed and the days of drowsy, warm summer afternoons are ahead of me, where I will sit in the warm sun listening to the drone of bees in my flower-filled garden.

[briceh@verizon.net](mailto:briceh@verizon.net)

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## Garden Club Notes

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.

**Wednesday, March 14, 7 PM, Town Hall.** The club's 2013 season begins with a discussion of the book **Gardening for a Lifetime** by Sydney Eddison. The Field Memorial Library will have copies available through inter-library loan.

**April** - The Conway Girl Scouts will join Garden Club members in making May baskets for delivery to surprise recipients on **May 1st, May Day**. Don't miss this festive occasion!

For questions about the Garden Club and its activities, contact Pat McLoughlin at 268-0313 or the email below.

[mcloughlinpat3@yahoo.com](mailto:mcloughlinpat3@yahoo.com)

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## Big Night for Salamanders Approaches

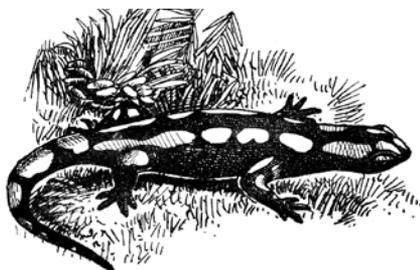
*By Ruth Parnall*

Did you know that mole salamanders belong on your list of woodland animals? You may think of them as wetland inhabitants, and it is true that they need the temporary springtime pools of water for their eggs to be laid, fertilized, and hatched. But except for a few species, anything other than larval salamanders live most of their two-decade life in moist deciduous and coniferous woods.

They live in abandoned burrows and tunnels of small woodland mammals (hence their general category of mole salamanders). They can range 300 sq. meters from their burrows while foraging in woodland leaf litter and moss for meals of earthworms, slugs, and beetles. They take refuge from daytime heat and sun in the soft soil under rocks and fallen logs. Salamanders are part of the biotic community that aerates and adds nutrients to the soil. This is the soil that supports the growth of the trees that provide us wood for building and fuel, habitat for birds, deer, turkeys, bears, syrup for our pancakes, seasonal beauty, shade for cooling breezes, and clean air.

So on Big Night – usually a rainy night in late March when the majority of salamanders move from woodlands to their breeding pools – if you see salamanders crossing the road, give ‘em a hand to safety and help support the web of life that we all love here in Conway.

[parnell@crocker.com](mailto:parnell@crocker.com)



# March 2013 Senior Calendar

✍ **Free Monthly Health Clinic:** Public Health Nurse Lisa White, RN, BSN serving the Town of Conway is available on **Friday, March 1st** and the first Friday of each month in Town Hall from 9AM to noon. Get your flu shot! Contact Ms. White at 413-774-3167 ext. 106.

✍ **Council on Aging (COA):** Meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month, at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall. Next meeting is **March 6th**. The COA receives grants from the state Executive Office of Elder Affairs and an annual appropriation from the town. Patricia Lynch is COA chair. Contact her at 369-4284 with questions regarding senior activities.

✍ **Senior Shuttle Bus:** The Senior shuttle runs to Greenfield in February on **Thursday the 7th** and **Thursday the 21st**. Reservations must be made by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before. Call **Heidi** at **FRTA**, @ 774-2262 ext. 103 to reserve a space.

✍ **Exercise Classes:** Exercise classes are held at Town Hall on **Wednesdays at 1:45 to 2:30 PM** and will continue until May. These classes, which include weight training, help maintain flexibility, increase endurance, and build muscle strength. For more info, call Pat Lynch at 369-4284 or Peg Tiley at 369-4010.

✍ **Walking Group:** Call Phylis Dacey at 369-4326 for more information.

✍ **Foot Screenings:** Bimonthly screenings are held at Town Hall by appointment only. To make an appointment, call Peg Tiley at 369-4010.



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## Remembering Shut-Ins

Though it doesn't yet feel like it, spring is only a heartbeat away. Why not bring some color into the life of a shut-in by delivering a small handful of flowers, or sending a card? You are invited to continue to take time from your busy schedule to remember those who cannot get out and about with a card, a letter or a visit. Your thoughtfulness and time can bring some much needed cheer to these individuals.

✉ **Edith Chase** at Buckley Health Care, 95 Laurel St, Greenfield, MA 01301.

✉ **Florence Hassell** at Vernon Advent Christian Home, 61 Greenway Dr. Rm. 118, Vernon, VT 05354-9474.

✉ **Elise Landstrom** at 447 Kendal Dr., Kennet Square, PA 19348.

If you know of others who should be included, please email their information to The Visitor at [visitor@uccofconway.com](mailto:visitor@uccofconway.com), or call and leave the information at 978-544-2801.

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## Second Monday Group Seeks Farm Photos

By *Betty Lou Guilford*

The Second Monday Group of the UCC is looking ahead to the 2014 Calendar. This next year, the theme will be *Conway Farms*.

If you have any pictures, documents or information about cattle, crops, when the farm was a working farm and the owners, we look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact BettyLou 369-4481 or Lorraine 369-4061. Materials collected will be returned promptly!

[bettyloug48@hotmail.com](mailto:bettyloug48@hotmail.com)

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## Maundy Thursday

On Thursday, March 28 at 7:30PM there will be a Tenebrae Service, commemorating the Last Supper. The "disciples" will tell the story of that fateful night so long ago, yet so meaningful to us still today.

The service will be held in the Conway Grammar School Library. Please join us.

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## Medical Equipment Loans Available

Through generous donations the Council on Aging has medical equipment available for loan, including walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, bath chairs and commodes. Call **Julie Clark** at 369-4629 to borrow equipment, or if you have equipment to loan.

## Roots Of Faith Lenten Series Continues

By Rev. Dr. Candice Ashenden

During this Lenten season, we of the participating faith communities will be lifting up those who have brought each of you to this faith-filled moment by creating a family tree together. Come join us on Wednesday evenings at 7PM as we join together to build our faith family tree.

**March 6th** - Fourth session offered by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Crosson-Harrington at the South Deerfield Congregational Church.

**Session Title:** *Where are you God? Emerging from trauma & loss*

**March 13th** - Fifth session offered by Rev. Sherril Willis at the Montague Congregational Church.

**Session Title:** *Four Plus Three Equals Seven*

**March 20th** - Sixth session offered by Fr. Randy Calvo. Hosted by the Conway United Congregational Church at the Conway Grammar School.

**Session Title:** *"Congregational Catholic"*



Refreshments will be served after each gathering by the host parish. All are welcome.

[revcandi@gmail.com](mailto:revcandi@gmail.com)

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## Conway Local Food Potluck Rescheduled

By Mary McClintock

On Sunday, March 24, at 5 PM., bring a dish to share featuring locally grown ingredients and join your neighbors, friends, and friends-you've-yet-to-meet at Town Hall for tasty food and great conversation. This event is rescheduled from Feb. 10 potluck, cancelled because we were still digging out from the big snowstorm. For information or ideas for simple, yummy local food dishes, contact Mary McClintock at (413) 522-5932.

[mmclinto@yahoo.com](mailto:mmclinto@yahoo.com)

## UCC Lenten Series Upcoming Schedule

Each week during this Lenten season, church worship will focus on what really matters.

**3/3 - Community Matters**

**3/10 - Place Matters**

**3/17 - We Matter**

Join us any Sunday at the Conway Grammar School at 9:30AM. Just stop by!

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## First Friday Health Clinic Continues

Lisa White, RN, BSN and Town Nurse will offer regular First Friday walk-in clinic hours from 9 AM to noon at the Conway Town Hall throughout the flu season. The next session will be **Friday, March 1st**.

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# Crafts and Cupcakes

By Michele Harris



Five years ago I took on the craft tent at the Festival of the Hills. Two years ago I took on leading the FOH and thought I could keep the craft tent as well.

Well...with some gentle prodding the board finally convinced me to give it up and focus on the big picture. Hmm, who could I give my 'baby' to? Erin Beaudet, that's who!

Erin has been a crafter at the Festival of the Hills as long as I have been involved; she is friendly and always helpful, perfect! I nervously asked her, terrified she might say no. 'Sure' she said, and so begins another new chapter at the Festival of the Hills.

Erin is another one that is calm and cool. Last year we were lining and flagging the tent, praying together that the rain would hold off after the mess of 2011. Erin is not new to the craft world as she makes beautiful bags and has organized another fair as well.

Erin has been a wonderful addition to the FOH and we so appreciate her as a member of our team. If you want to help Erin or have ideas you can find her at [erin@ouibags.com](mailto:erin@ouibags.com).

So, the Festival of the Hills is on Sunday right? Actually it starts on Saturday with our annual FOH bake sale.

Do you know Gail Connelly? She lives on the outskirts of town, but once a year you can see her taking over the common in the center of town selling every baked good imaginable. Gail is our bake-sale-queen. She's a quiet one, but don't be fooled, when it comes to pushing the pies, she has the knack.

I cannot remember how long Gail has been doing the bake sale...let's just call it a *very* long time. She makes the calls, asks the favors, delivers the gratitude and makes a great contribution to the Festival of the Hills.

On a selfish note, I declare that Gail shall never be allowed to leave us. During the Saturday set-up, Gail has the coffee and desserts that keeps us going!

To help out with the bake sale by working or baking, please keep reading *The Visitor*. She will post articles as we get closer to remind folks!

Now for my disclaimer: If you notice information missing from these articles, you are absolutely correct! These people do too much to list it all. I am just trying to give you a feel for their overall greatness!

[mdzialo114@yahoo.com](mailto:mdzialo114@yahoo.com)

## What's the Story Morning Glory?

By Deb Hoyle

### WITHIN AND WITHOUT

The tiny mica window on the front of the stove shattered today. It was a sudden and volatile fire started with bark and paper. Something about the bark, the skin of the tree, needed to explode—*was there some pitch on it?*—and smoke billowed out of the top seams of the metal box. Flames raged in there and she heard a loud pop. Shutting the vent and opening the porch door she saw with relief that the fire had begun to quiet itself finally and noticed that two of the three square, smoky windows were still intact behind the metal grate that was fitted across the trio in front. But the light on the far left had shattered and frayed in half by traveling too quickly from cold to hot. She found it satisfying to be able to see the fire so clearly through this new triangle and wondered about getting rid of all the windows.

The mid-winter day was frozen, metallic, and gray, causing everyone to dream of the sleeping ground under the snow and seed catalogs. Her thoughts drifted to the idea of skin, that thin organic barrier between inside and out. Even the tiniest of seeds had a skin covering the precious spark of life within it. Protector, container, moving and responding to whatever lies on one side of it or the other. A window, a tent flap, the bark of a tree, a veil covering the face of a woman. Expanding, contracting, moving, breaking, ripping, bursting, allowing for growth, entry and exit.

[greenlady33@comcast.net](mailto:greenlady33@comcast.net)

This is a column of original writing  
about life in the hills.

## Genealogy Work Group Planned

By Lee Whitcomb

Conway's 250th Anniversary Celebration in 2017 has inspired a lot of interest, including work on the continuing history and genealogy record of Conway's residents.

Do you have ideas about what to include? Would you like a chance to learn about genealogical research from some other enthusiasts? Have you done some research before? What about pictures or items from Conway's past residents?

You are invited to an informal get-together at the Town Hall General Purpose Room on **Sunday, March 24th from 3 to 5PM** to gather sources, energy and inspiration and to pull together a work group for the genealogy part of the 250th. This meeting is to bring forward ideas and suggestions and to find people who would be interested in helping on the project. Many of the ideas will be able to be done from your home and at no cost beyond your time!

We'll have cookies and cider, and this should be a lot of fun – please come!

[leewhitcomb@gmail.com](mailto:leewhitcomb@gmail.com)

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## Field Library Seeks a Few Good Friends

*By Aimee Anderson*

A new Friends of the Library group is being formed to enhance the Library's ability to serve the town. The Field Memorial Library is an old-fashioned New England library, and that won't change—but the need for a more modern approach to communicating with our community has been recognized. The Friends of the Library group will help the FML to reach out to Conway as well as surrounding communities. The Friends group also hopes to develop interesting programs and gatherings for children and adults as well as fundraising events like book sales and more.

One of the ways the Field Memorial Library is reaching out is through social media. A Facebook page has been launched to encourage all library patrons and Conway citizens to share their ideas with the FML. Interesting tidbits, images, and questions will be posted on the page to encourage discussion. The page will also be used to announce upcoming events. Anyone interested in viewing the Library Facebook page can go to Facebook.com (you must be signed up for Facebook to have access) and search in the friends bar for Field Memorial Library. Any constructive ideas and comments will be greatly appreciated.

Anyone interested in the Friends of the Library is welcome to attend our next scheduled meeting on **March 6th at 7 PM** at the Field Memorial Library.

Keep your eyes open for announcements of exciting new events taking place at your library!

[302windyhill@gmail.com](mailto:302windyhill@gmail.com)

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## How to Curl Up With a Good Book

The **Field Memorial Library** is open on Wed. from 3 to 8 PM and on Sat. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have a good selection of popular new books and current magazines, a growing collection of audio-books, and a wide variety of movies on VHS and DVD.

The lending period is two weeks with a fine of 15¢ per library day for overdue items. Renewals may be made by phone at **369-4646**. There is a book drop next to the front door if you can't return during library hours. Please band or bag items to prevent damage.

Titles not owned by the library may be ordered through Inter-library Loan. These items must be returned to Field Memorial Library by the due-date on the lending slip to allow time for processing and transportation.

Keep your library in mind when looking for a relaxing indoor activity during these winter months!

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## Burning Season Reminder

Open Burning Season in Conway runs from **January 15 until April 30**. Residents must have a permit to burn. Apply at [www.fcburnpermits.com](http://www.fcburnpermits.com) or call **625-8200** to request permits.

# Emergency Planners Ask: Is Conway Prepared?

Local Emergency planners are reminding residents that every winter cold, ice, and storms come to western Massachusetts and preparing for these inevitable events can make the impact much less severe for you, your family, and your pets. Lindsey Britt, Regional Preparedness Planner at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, suggests keeping several days of food (that does not require cooking) in your home and storing five gallons of water per person in case your pipes freeze or burst. Having a battery powered radio is also very helpful during power outages, because many town officials and emergency responders will communicate important information, such as the location of warming centers, through local radio stations.

During emergencies that cause disruption to utility service, it can

be particularly tempting to use generators, grills, gas camping stoves, and other similar devices inside the home. But Ms. Britt cautions that “generators or any gas-powered engines should never be run inside the basement, garage, or other enclosed structure—even if the doors and windows are open—unless the equipment is professionally installed and vented, because improper use can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning and possibly death.” The same risks apply to using a gas range and oven to heat the home.

If you have already prepared yourself and your home, Ms. Britt suggests reaching out to neighbors and family members who may need help protecting themselves. “You can also encourage your neighbors to visit [www.westernmassready.org](http://www.westernmassready.org),” says Ms. Britt.

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## Don't Abet a Four-Legged Fugitive!

Dog owners are reminded that State Law requires that dogs be licensed each year. Licenses expire annually on **March 31st**. After July 1st, owners are subject to a \$10.00 fine in addition to the regular licensing fee for each unregistered dog. Licenses are available from the Town Clerk on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings between 9AM and noon. You may also purchase licenses by mail at *P.O.Box 240, Conway*. Please include SASE with 66¢ postage.

Make checks payable to the **Town of Conway** – Males and Spayed Females are \$3.00 each; Females are \$6.00 each. Requests must provide: owner's name and address, dog's name, age, breed color and gender and a **current rabies certificate**.

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# Town Caucus on March 4th

The Annual Non-Partisan Town Caucus has been scheduled for **Monday, March 4th at 8:00 PM** in the Town Hall. A quorum of 25 voters is necessary. The purpose is to nominate candidates to appear on the May Town Election ballot. If they receive 8% of the total caucus vote, the two persons receiving the highest number of caucus votes for any office will be declared nominated for that office. Caucus Nominees must sign a Certificate of Nomination, indicating their acceptance. Any nominee who fails to sign the certificate prior to **March 11th at 5:00 PM**, will have to file nomination papers to appear on the ballot.

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## Voter Registration For Special State Primary

The Secretary of the Commonwealth has set **April 30th** as the date for a **special State Senatorial Primary Election**. Voters intending to cast their ballot in Conway must be registered and/or make any party changes **before 8:00 PM on Wednesday, April 10th**. The Board of Registrars will hold hours from 12 noon until 8:00 PM in the Town Offices, at 32 Main Street, on that day.

Registration for the annual town meeting and the town election will fall just 7 days prior to the Primary, but remember: though the town session is held in advance of the Primary, **it will not make a new voter eligible to vote at the Primary**.

Offices on the ballot include one Selectman, one Assessor, two Board of Health members, one School Committee member, one FRS District School Committee member, one Town Clerk, one Planning Board member, three constables, one tree warden and one Moderator.

Potential candidates not nominated by the caucus must contact the Town Clerk's Office after the Caucus for nomination papers. To appear on the ballot, signed nomination papers must be returned to the Clerk's office before **5:00 PM on March 28th**. Candidates for all offices must be residents and registered voters.

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## New Town Officials Reminded

*By Virginia Knowlton, Town Clerk*

State law requires that all elected and appointed persons acting on behalf of Conway residents appear to be sworn in by the Town Clerk before taking any action related to their office.

If you have not been sworn, or if you need information on scheduling an Open Meeting (in line with the Open Meeting Law) please contact the clerk at **369-4235 ext 4**.

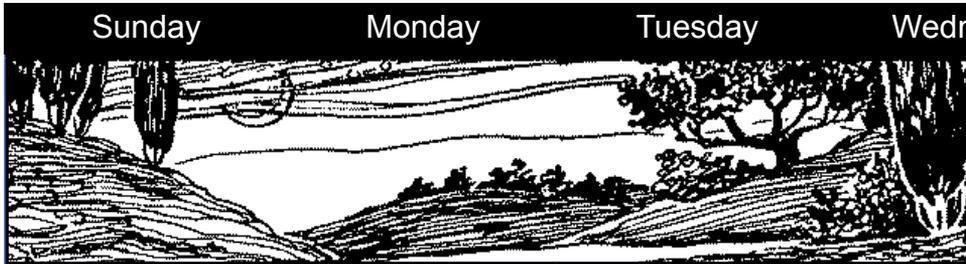
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## Thanks from The Visitor

Thanks for all comments on our format changes. Please keep them coming to the email below. Thanks for being a part!

**PULL OUT and POST  
this handy  
Conway calendar!**

# March



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednes

• UCC Service 9:30AM  
Conway Grammar **3**

• Women's Serenity Grp  
Meeting 9am-10am

• "Genetic Roulette" Movie  
& Talk- Jones Library  
1:30-4:30PM

**4**

• Town Caucus  
8PM Town Hall

• Selectboard Meeting  
7 PM Town Office

**5**

• Conway Quilters  
9AM-Noon Town Hall

• Housing Committee  
7:30-9 PM  
Town Hall

• Friends of  
7PM Conv

• Lenten Se  
7PM S. De  
Congregat

• Senior Exe

**DAYLIGHT  
SAVINGS  
TIME BEGINS** **10**

• UCC Service 9:30 AM  
Conway Grammar

• Women's Serenity Grp  
Meeting 9am-10am

**11**

• UCC Church  
Council Meeting  
7:30-9:00

• Selectboard Meeting  
7-9 PM Town Office

• Board of Health Meeting  
7-9 PM Town Hall

**12**

• Conway Quilters  
9AM-Noon

• Conway Sw. Pool  
Committee

• Conservation  
Commission  
7:30-9 PM Town Hall

• Parks, Rec  
Committee

• Lenten Ser  
Montague  
Congregat

• Senior Exe  
1:30-2:30P

**ST PATRICK'S  
DAY** **17**

• UCC Service 9:30 AM  
Conway Grammar

• Women's Serenity Grp  
Meeting 9am-10am

**18**

• **Special Town Meeting  
7PM Conway  
Grammar School**

**19**

• Conway Quilters  
9AM-Noon

• Housing Committee  
7:30-9 PM

**1ST DAY  
OF SPRING**

• Lenten Ser  
7PM Conv  
Grammar

• Senior Exe  
1:30-2:30P

**PALM SUNDAY** **24**

• UCC Service

• Geneology Workgroup  
3-5PM Town Hall

• Local Potluck Supper-  
5PM Town Hall

**25**

• Selectboard Meeting  
7PM Town Office

• Board of Health Meeting  
7PM Town Hall

**26**

• Conway Quilters  
9AM-Noon

• Conway Swimming  
Pool Committee

• Conservation  
Commission  
7:30-9 PM T.Hall

• Senior Exe  
Class 1:30  
Town Hall

• Parks & R  
Committee  
6-8 PM To

**EASTER  
sunrise service** **31**

• UCC Service 9:30 AM  
Conway Grammar

• Women's Serenity Grp  
Meeting 9am-10am

**This Month's Event Highlights:**

- *A River Runs Through Conway* - March 2nd
- **Read Across America Day** - March 2nd
- **Town Caucus** - March 4th
- **Friends of FM Library Meeting** - March 6th
- **Daylight**
- **Garden**
- **Special**
- **First Day**
- **Local Po**

# 2013

Something to add? Email your event, birthday or anniversary to *The Visitor*:  
[visitor@uccofconway.com](mailto:visitor@uccofconway.com)

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk in Health Clinic 9am-Noon Town Hall</li> <li>Girl Scouts Meeting 3-5:30 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WiredWest Board Meeting 9AM-1PM Town Hall</li> <li>Historic Commission Presentation - A River Runs Through Conway 4-6PM Town Hall</li> </ul>
<b>6</b> FML Conway Library Series Deerfield Memorial Church Exercise Class	<b>7</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning Board 7-9 PM Town Office</li> <li>Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board of Health Meeting</li> <li>Girl Scouts Meeting 3-5:30 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>9</b>
<b>13</b> ... & Trails ... 6-8PM ... Series 7PM	<b>14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garden Club 7PM Town Hall</li> <li>Open Space &amp; Recreation Plan Discussion Forum 6-8pm</li> <li>Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> Girl Scout Week
<b>20</b> ... ... ... School ... Exercise Class ... PM Town Hall	<b>21</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girl Scout Leader Meeting 6:00PM Town Hall</li> <li>Board of Assessors 7:00-9:00PM Town Office</li> <li>Planning Board 7-9PM</li> </ul>	<b>22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>23</b> National Poison Prevention Week
<b>27</b> ... ... Exercise ... 2-2:30PM ... ... Recreation ... Meeting ... Town Hall	<b>28</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>29</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall</li> </ul>	<b>30</b>

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Savings Time Begins-March 10th</li> <li>Club Meeting - March 14th</li> <li>Town Meeting - March 18th</li> <li>Day of Spring - March 20th</li> <li>Hotluck Supper - March 24th</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Passover - March 26th</li> <li>Good Friday - March 29th</li> <li>Easter - March 31st</li> <li>Girl Scout Week March 10-16th</li> <li>Lenten Series-Wednesdays in March</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

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## EXCHANGES

**H**ave a job that needs to be done? Looking for jobs to do? Have something to sell? Looking to buy or trade a particular item? For a small donation we will run your ad in EXCHANGES.

Mail copy and payments to **The Visitor at P.O. Box 214, Conway, MA**, or e-mail copy to [visitor@uccofconway.com](mailto:visitor@uccofconway.com) with subject noted as VISITOR EXCHANGE. The deadline for receipt is the 20th.

**NOTE OUR CHANGE IN RATES in 2013.** We request a donation of \$30 per ad for 6 months, or \$50 per ad for 12 months. All new **Exchanges are limited to 100 words, but full and half-page exchanges may now be run in the Visitor.** Advance notice, and approval is required, and subject to available space. Ads for give-aways, lost and found items, and non-commercial items **still free.**

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### EXPERIENCED HANDYMAN:

Repairs and small renovations, custom woodworking, drywall and plaster repair, other services available, small jobs a specialty, John Pelletier, handyman and woodworker. Hic. Reg. 153453\_ Phone: 369-4064 - ask for John. Email: [spell938@earthlink.net](mailto:spell938@earthlink.net)

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**THE CONWAY INN offers pizza** on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, including take-outs. Now with free WiFi. Call 369-4428.

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**GUILFORD SNOWPLOWING -**  
Call 369-4481 or 369-4762.

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**DOG WALKER AND PET SITTER** available. Experienced. **Boarding** also available in home with fenced patio. Please call Doreen at 369-0219.

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**PAINTERS**, responsive, reliable and reasonable. Please call Marc or Doreen at 413-369-0219.

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**“Nothing diminishes anxiety faster than action.”**  
—Walter Anderson

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**PAGES COFFEE BAR & USED BOOK STORE**, 98 Main Street, Conway. Phone: 369-6055. Closed Monday and Tuesday. Open Wednesday thru Friday from 6:30am to 2:30pm., Saturday 8:30am to 4pm, Sunday 8:30am to 3pm. Locally roasted, organic, fair trade coffee beans, espresso, cappuccino, lattes, organic hot cocoa, 100% crushed fruit smoothies, lemonade, iced tea, frappes, frozen hot chocolate, pastries and Chris' famous scones on weekends. Free WiFi. Indoor/ outdoor seating.

**WINTER IS WITH US!** We have snow shovels, snow rakes, ice chisels, Yak Trax, hand and toe warmers and warm gloves. We carry wood splitters, firewood processors, winches, grapples, axes, mauls, chainsaws, peaveys, pole saws, chaps, hearing protection, bar & chain oil, and work gloves. Authorized Echo dealer. Gift certificates are a great idea! Celebrating 58 years & Norm's 94th. **OESCO**, Rte 116, Conway, M-F, 7-5; Sat, 7 -noon; 369-4335.

**SHELburne Falls Bowling Alley** Weekend Open Bowling Hours Friday 2-Midnight; Sat. 12-Midnight; Sun. 12-8 p.m. Afternoon Bowling Special! \$2.50 per string Mon-Fri 2-6 p.m. Full Bar. Call or go online for party details. 625-6179. Shelburne Falls Bowling Alley, Candlepin Bowling Since 1906!

**CARPENTRY:** 30 years experience. Fully licensed, insured and lead certified. Replacement windows/ doors, repairs and renovations. Contact Frank Kuzdeba at: [fkuzdeba@comcast.net](mailto:fkuzdeba@comcast.net). Call 369-4223 or 413-222-3300.

**“It doesn’t matter where you are, you are nowhere compared to where you can go.” —Bob Proctor**

**WHAT’S YOUR STORY?** The Heart of Story is a six-week writing workshop for women 18 and older, led by **Jane Roy Brown**. Cost is \$150 (or \$120 if you “like” The Heart of Story on Facebook). The workshop is offered periodically at the Field Memorial Library in Conway, or you take it one-on-one online or via Skype. For more info, visit [janeroybrown.wordpress.com](http://janeroybrown.wordpress.com) and [facebook.com/theheartofstory](http://facebook.com/theheartofstory). Enroll or send questions to: [brownjaneroy@gmail.com](mailto:brownjaneroy@gmail.com).

**“Sometimes good things fall apart so better things can fall together.” —Marilyn Monroe**

**LASALLE FLORISTS, INC.:** **Spring is here** at LaSalle Florists in Whately. Fresh freesia, snapdragons, stock and other flowers are coming from our greenhouses. Visitors always welcome. Valentine’s Day is almost here. Visit our website for Easter and every day suggestions. Daily deliveries to Conway, Greenfield, Amherst, Northampton and Easthampton areas. Family owned and operated since 1934. LaSalle Florists, Inc. Rte 5, Whately 413-665-2653. [www.lasalleflorists.com](http://www.lasalleflorists.com) and on Facebook.

**LIFETREE THERAPUTIC**

**MASSAGE.** Deborah Donaldson is an experienced, nationally certified massage therapist in practice since 1994 specializing in Myofascial Release, chronic pain management and pregnancy massage. High stress? Muscle strains? Massage can help heal, restore, and rejuvenate. Every session is uniquely tailored to your needs. Gift certificates available. Visit [www.lifetreemassage.com](http://www.lifetreemassage.com) or call Deb at 369-0213.

**ASHFIELD COMMUNITY**

**GOLF CLUB.** Norton Hill Rd., Ashfield. Offering great gift ideas. Moneysaver Golf Coupon Books:

- 10 Rounds, 9 Holes \$90
- 10 Rounds, 18 Holes \$125

Every day, weekends, holidays. Send check to **Ashfield Community Golf Club, 108 West Hawley Rd. Hawley, MA 01339.** For more info call Charlie at 339-4231 or Jim at 665-3413. Memberships:

- Single = \$260
- Family= \$370
- Junior(18)=\$50

**ARE YOU ON CARING**

**CONWAY?** If you live or work in Conway, you should be on Caring Conway, our online Forum. Email: [caringconway@gmail.com](mailto:caringconway@gmail.com).

**CONWAY IS NOW HOME** to its very own candle company: **Candle in the Window.**

We sell highly scented candles jar candles with beautifully hand designed labels. We also carry room sprays, bath scrubs and foams, soap, bath fizzies and solid perfumes, as well as selection of wreaths and painted decorative items. Located at 161 Fields Hill and open every weekend 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Visit us for a unique shopping experience.

**COLE MOUNTAIN CABIN** is our newly-built 4-season retreat in the Northeast Kingdom of VT.

Back in the woods (best with 4-wheel drive in winter), sleeps 6, two sleeping levels, two baths Snowmobiling, snowshoeing, downhill (Burke/Jay), reading and relaxing. We're 3 hours from Conway, 20 minutes to Canada. See more at [www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com). Westmore, VT. \$800 weekly, \$125 nightly Pixie Holbrook/John Rioux. 369-4609 or [pjHolbrook@comcast.com](mailto:pjHolbrook@comcast.com)

**WINTER CLEANUP in progress.**

Need help? Free on-site estimates. Snowplowing and sanding for winter. Plan ahead. Call Edward Allis Zajac: Home: 413-369-4664; Cell: 413-824-1139.

**KAYER CARPENTRY.** Master carpenter; 25 plus years of experience. Custom creative designs in 3-D, remodeling and repairs, kitchens and baths, windows and doors, decks and porches, build-in furniture, entertainment centers, music and media storage, bookshelves, window seats, closet shelving and organizers, moulding and trim made to match or repair your existing woodwork. Licensed and insured. Call Kevin Ayer at 413-369-0078 or email: [kevinayer@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinayer@yahoo.com).

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**CONWAY HEALING ARTS,** 46 Main Street is expanding services to our community. For close to 20 years Debra Hoyle, nationally certified and insured bodyworker has offered informed, individualized sessions of CranioSacral Therapy, Acupressure and Reiki here in Conway, and now also has office hours in Shelburne Falls above McCusker's. In addition, Conway Healing Arts welcomes the work of **Betsy Mailler**, certified Seimei practitioner and instructor and **Jody Fontaine**, Reiki Master and certified yoga and fitness teacher. Contact numbers: Debra: 413-325-5579; Betsy: 845-258-8179; Jody: 413-824-9435. Let's work together for your well-being! **March & April Spring Special: Free 1/2 hr sessions for all new clients\$ (\$40 Value)**

\*Referrals welcome\*

**POTTERY CLASSES for adults and kids** at the studio of Megan Hart in Conway Spring session adult wheel throwing Tuesday or Thursday evenings 6:30 - 8:30 beginning March 19th for 8 weeks. \$200 includes all materials. From beginners to experienced. Learn the Art of centering and create pieces you will enjoy using every day. Small classes in a warm environment. Come drink tea and make pots. Kids classes, tuesday or thursdays, 4:00 - 5:30 beginning March 19th. Will focus on hand built creations using decorative painting and glazing techniques. 6 weeks, \$120 includes all materials Also being offered, starting Wednesday March 6th, an introduction to wheel throwing for ages 10 and up. This is a 6 week 1 and 1/2 hour class which will focus on learning centering the clay required to make beautiful pots. \$150 which includes all materials and firings.

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**ARE YOU A NON-PROFIT IN NEED OF A WEBSITE?** Develop a full client-centric website design and brand identity with the students of Franklin County Technical High School, for free. Now accepting community service projects. Email [mmclaurin@fcts.org](mailto:mmclaurin@fcts.org) for details.

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# LANDSCAPE DESIGN CLASS

at Wilder Hill Gardens Nursery in Conway

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Learn simple and effective landscape drafting skills to draft your own garden plans. Weekly presentations on plant material, hardscaping, color theory, soil and drainage.

**Class meets six Saturdays, 10am-12pm, beginning March 23.**

**Class size limited to 8 students.**

Pre-registration required.

Fee: \$220.

Register with a friend: \$200.

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Contact Lilian R. Jackman at (413) 625-9446. [www.wilderhillgardens.com](http://www.wilderhillgardens.com)

## INTRODUCING ARGUS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.

Full service management of single and multi-family properties and condominium associations in Franklin and Hampshire Counties. We provide oversight of all property maintenance, including 24/7 emergency coverage, location and screening of tenants, rent collection, expense payment, and concise financial reporting. Call Kathy Shaw or Jim Sarris at 413-397-3569 or visit [www.arguspropertymgmt.com](http://www.arguspropertymgmt.com). We're setting a new standard for residential property services.

## NATURAL ROOTS now open to the public during CSA

hours - Tuesdays & Fridays from 3:00 – 6:30 pm from June thru October. Come for our delicious vegetables, eggs, meat, and other locally-produced foods. Become more connected with your local community and the land as you visit this beautiful, horse-powered farm. CSA is also still an option for those who want larger quantities of vegetables on a regular basis. CSA members come weekly for a generous share of the seasonal produce we harvest and wash. Low-income shares available. For more info go to [www.naturalroots.com](http://www.naturalroots.com) or call David & Anna at 369-4269.

# YOGA - FITNESS WELLNESS PROGRAMS

In Conway with Jody Fontaine

*“Healthy Body, Healthy Mind”*

Day and time	Program	Location	For
Mondays 3:30-4:45 pm	Yoga	Conway Grammar School	Teachers, Staff
Mondays 5:30-6:45 pm	Yoga	Firemans Assoc.Bldg. (next to Fire Station)	For all Levels
Mondays Noon-8 pm	Private & Group Reiki Sessions	Conway Healing Arts 46 Main Street	All-By appt
Wednesdays 10:15-11:30 pm	Yoga	Firemans Assoc.Bldg. (next to Fire Station)	For all Levels
Thurs. 7-8:15 pm (once a month) 3/14 & 4/11	Restorative Yoga with Reiki Healing Touch	Firemans Assoc.Bldg. (next to Fire Station)	For all Levels
Fridays 9:30-10:30AM	Core Fitness	Firemans Assoc.Bldg. (next to Fire Station)	For all Levels
Fridays 8AM-8PM	Private & Group Reiki Sessions	Conway Healing Arts 46 Main Street	All-By appt

**Private Yoga, Reiki and Fitness sessions available.**

Call Jody Fontaine at 413-824-9435 or [ucreatesolutions@gmail.com](mailto:ucreatesolutions@gmail.com).



Jody Fontaine brings her diverse training and experience in the fields of health & fitness including certifications as an AFAA Personal Trainer, an Embody-Yoga teacher (200 Hr) and a Certified Pilates Instructor. Jody is also a Reiki Master and a Certified Birth Doula. A lifelong outdoor enthusiast, Jody's special love and passion for skiing has inspired her to achieve PSIA Level II Ski instructor certification.

*“I am eager to help you reach your personal fitness goals so you can experience the joy*

## Wells Scholarship Available

Fred W. and Ethel Dow Wells were longtime residents of Franklin County and established a Trust to fund aid to students of many Franklin County towns to help continue their education. Through their generosity, scholarships have been awarded to hundreds of students in Franklin County over the last 75 years. This is a wonderful opportunity!

Applications for 2013-2014 Fred W. Wells Trust scholarships and grants are available at high school guidance offices and town administrative offices in Conway, Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Deerfield, Gill, Greenfield, Hawley, Heath, Leyden, Monroe, Montague, Northfield, Rowe and Shelburne.

Scholarships are available to graduating seniors and full-time college students who have resided in the towns listed above for at least two years immediately prior to application. Recipients are selected based on scholarship, need, extracurricular activities and recommendations from counselors and teachers. The maximum award for any one academic year is \$1,000.00, contingent upon the number of qualified applicants.

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 20th to be eligible for the 2013-2014 academic year. For more info, contact your school guidance counselor or town clerk's office.

[kate4cats@hotmail.com](mailto:kate4cats@hotmail.com)

## Trustees of Reservations Welcome Conway

The Bullit Reservation, a new property of The Trustees of Reservations in Conway and Ashfield, welcomes you to enjoy upcoming events. Visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org) for more information, or call 413-628-4485.

## PTO News

*By Diane Hicks*

The Conway Grammar School PTO is looking for a new treasurer. We need someone to fill the shoes of Kathy Layer, as she and her family move to Amherst. We so appreciate her diligence, conscientiousness and organization she brought to this position. Anyone interested should attend the next PTO meeting on **Tuesday, March 12th** at 6:30PM or send email to [dianehicks100@yahoo.com](mailto:dianehicks100@yahoo.com).

The 6th grade will hold two fun, community fundraisers for their graduation and year-end trip to Boston. On **March 22nd** they will host a spaghetti supper at the school. All are welcome. Then, dust off your dancing shoes for an all ages dance on **Saturday, April 6th from 6:00-9:00PM** at the school. All children pre-K through 6th grade are invited, with an adult.

Thanks to all who came out for our first cookbook type-off. It was a success, but there are still many recipes to enter. We'll be holding a second type-off soon, and could really use your help.

We encourage parents to join us for the next PTO meeting. Your input helps our school and community to be the best it can be, so bring your ideas and get involved.

[dianehicks100@yahoo.com](mailto:dianehicks100@yahoo.com)

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# Special Town Meeting Scheduled

There will be a Special Town Meeting in the Conway Grammar School on **Monday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.** A copy of the warrant containing the business to be conducted will be mailed to each household .

The Board of Registrars will hold a special voter registration session on **Friday, March 8th** for unregistered Conway residents. Town Offices will be open from 9:00 AM until 8:00 PM on this last day to register to vote at the special town meeting.

The last day to submit articles for the Annual Town Meeting warrant will be **Thursday, April 18th**. Your article must be signed by at least 10 registered voters. Signatures must be certified by the Town Clerk.

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# Board of Assessors Says Thanks

*By Lee Whitcomb*

The FY2014 triennial revaluation of all taxable property in Conway is underway and we'd like to sincerely thank all who have signed and sent back the forms mailed out in January. Even if you have nothing to report, taking the time to return the form is appreciated as the level of response is also important. If you haven't returned the miserable (did I say that?!?) form yet, please take time to do so – any we receive are very welcome.

Between now and late June, we will be analyzing the sales of real estate sales to determine whether present taxable values need adjusting. When the new values are determined, we will notify everyone and hold a week-long "open house" at the Assessors' Office in the Town Hall. We don't expect a large change, as we have been adjusting a little each year. [leewhitcomb@gmail.com](mailto:leewhitcomb@gmail.com)

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# Deadline Near for Festival Scholarship

*By Phyllis Jeswald*

Applications for the Conway Festival of the Hills Scholarship are available on the town website: [www.townofconway.com](http://www.townofconway.com). Completed hard-copy applications are due at the Town Office by Tuesday, April 30th. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

Festival of the Hills Scholarships are available to all graduating high school seniors from Conway who submit complete applications, regardless of school attended or post-graduate plans. Primary consideration is given to a student's community service, extracurricular activity, and academic achievement. Financial need, work history, and FOH service are also considered.

Contact Phyllis Jeswald with questions at 369-4410 or at [Jeswald@verizon.net](mailto:Jeswald@verizon.net).

## Broadband Committee Notes

By Bob Armstrong

**Wired West needs your help!** The state is nearing completion of its fiber backbone bringing very high speed internet to our town centers, but so far, only Wired West has stepped forward to bring it out to our homes and businesses. The fiber backbone being built by the state is like having a high voltage power line going by your home. It brings the service to your region but you cannot tap into it directly. There are designated connection points where it can be distributed to individual homes by hanging fiber optic cables on existing telephone poles. Wired West has designed a network connecting the homes in member towns to the state's distribution points, but it will start by only wiring towns that have expressed a high level of support. Please take a few minutes to fill out a card online, or call me and I'll fill one out for you.

[bob@armstr.com](mailto:bob@armstr.com)

## Conway Can Shed supports Caring Conway

During the month of February, your D cans and bottle deposits went toward the support of Caring Conway, your online Conway private network and community forum. This month, regular volunteer Sue Childs is back and ready for your donations of redeemable cans and bottles.

We remind you that the redemption shed is not a recycling shed, and we ask only for your deposit bottles and cans, not all plastic and bottles. If there is a notice of deposit on the label, we thank you for your donation to this valuable source of support to the UCC of Conway, and other non-profit organizations. Thanks for your support...*and your cans!*

## Annual Thelma French Memorial Easter Egg Hunt

It's a Conway tradition-eggs on the Town Field, and a wild and crazy chase to see who finds the most, including one gold-wrapped egg, for fun and prizes! Children of all ages are invited to the Town Ball Field for the Annual Thelma French Memorial Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30, sponsored by the UCC. The festivities start promptly at 12 Noon, so be there a little early (to spot the most eggs)!

If you're interested in donating a dozen boiled eggs, or you're an older Student who'd like to help with the decorating, please contact Janet McLaurin at 625-0041, or email [guppiesmom@aol.com](mailto:guppiesmom@aol.com).

### DEADLINES FOR THE VISITOR

The deadline for Visitor articles is the 20th of the month. All attempts are made to publish the Visitor in the first week of each month. If your event occurs in that first week, consider providing your information in the month preceding! Mail copy to: Visitor, P.O. Box 214, Conway, MA 01341 or email copy to the NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: [visitor@uccofconway.com](mailto:visitor@uccofconway.com).

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# Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey

The Town of Conway is updating its Open Space and Recreation Plan, and a committee is meeting regularly to meet an **April 1, 2013** deadline. A survey circulated in June 2012 provided good summary information; however, response was limited and the Committee's efforts, in concert with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) has identified more detail on the issues addressed by the new OSRP draft.

We are here asking **all Conway residents** to rank and comment on the open space and recreation needs identified thus far. For each topic on the next page, please provide a rank as follows:

- A – Most Important,**
- B – Significant,**
- C – Neutral,**
- D – Less Important and**
- F – Not Important.**

We're also interested in determining other needs not addressed, and welcome all comments. Topics listed are in the draft plan.

Please fill out and return this form either to the Planning Board mail slot at **Conway Town Hall**, or mail to: **Tami Borton, Main Poland Road, Conway**. Or email opinions to Tami Borton [tborton@comcast.net](mailto:tborton@comcast.net) or Diane Poland [dpoland35@comcast.net](mailto:dpoland35@comcast.net). We also have a Word version that you can email.

Thanks for your participation.

## ■ Water Quality— How important is:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Flood plain management
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ensuring that Best Management Practices are utilized for construction and farm activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Farmland—What are some methods for increasing economic viability of farming in town:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Local farmers' coop
- \_\_\_\_\_ Community gardens
- \_\_\_\_\_ Farm-based recreation activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other (e.g., corn maze, buggy rides, etc.)

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Wildlife Habitat— How important is:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Identifying sensitive habitat and wildlife corridors for preservation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identifying areas suited for development (e.g., fewest impacts on wildlife)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

# OPEN SPACE SURVEY

## ■ Scenic Quality— How important is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Protecting frontages and encourage backlot development where it doesn't destroy important habitat or corridor

\_\_\_\_\_ Identifying and maintaining existing trail network to discourage additional deforestation

\_\_\_\_\_ Need for additional trails/connecting trails

\_\_\_\_\_ Working with Historical Society to identify historical resources

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Recreational opportunities— How important is :

\_\_\_\_\_ Identify location for a soccer field

\_\_\_\_\_ Create additional ball fields

\_\_\_\_\_ Identify elderly recreation opportunities

\_\_\_\_\_ Identify off-leash dog walking opportunities

\_\_\_\_\_ Create safe bike trail network

\_\_\_\_\_ Have a campground in town

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Tax burden management— How important is it to:

\_\_\_\_\_ Consider increased densities for downtown commercial

\_\_\_\_\_ Consider back lot development of higher density commercial

\_\_\_\_\_ Encourage environmentally sound light industrial businesses to locate in town

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Needs of special groups— Should we consider /what are the needs of:

\_\_\_\_\_ PTO

\_\_\_\_\_ Snowmobile Club

\_\_\_\_\_ Council on Aging

\_\_\_\_\_ Sportsman's Club

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Forestland-How important is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Zoning/other mechanisms to limit development in forested areas

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: _____
Address: _____

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# Conway Pool Update

By *Craig R. Warner*

**There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza...**

Yes, it has been a long couple of years with an empty swimming pool in Conway. The committee is looking forward to filling it again "soon." While working day and night, the committee is finally starting to crack a smile knowing the end is in sight.

Permit applications amounting to literally hundreds of pages (700+) have been submitted to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, US Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Environmental Protection, Natural Heritage, Department of Dam Safety, and the Conway Conservation Commission.

We are on track to have all permits in place and go out to bid in order to begin construction on July 1st (we have a short construction window which cannot start

until July 1 due to regulation guidelines). It is beginning to feel like we've made it to the crest of the dam and it should all be downhill from here.

Of course, the big hole in the bucket is that of funds, which you will hear about more in the upcoming couple of months, but we are still confident we can make this happen this year!!

We want to thank the many people that came out to our public forum on February 5th and we hope it was informative. For those that were not able to attend, you can view our presentation and get more information at [www.Conway-SwimmingPool.org](http://www.Conway-SwimmingPool.org).

Thank you to the community for your whole-hearted support.

[craigwarner@gmail.com](mailto:craigwarner@gmail.com)

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## Help a Hopeless Family in Haiti

**O**n **March 7 at 7PM**, Alison Childs will be speaking at the Conway Grammar School about her experiences in Haiti and about the needs of one particular family that needs housing desperately. For \$7000, this family can purchase land and then begin to build a home. A few area churches have offered to help this family and the UCC Conway has put forward a match of \$500.

**A**ll donations given in February will be matched up to \$500 and will be tax deductible if given through the church. Please attend this important event. Donations will be accepted that night or can be mailed to Second Monday Group, P.O. Box 214, Conway, MA. UCC Conway will be hosting this event and providing refreshments.

*United Congregational Church of Conway*

*P.O. Box 214*

*Conway, MA 01341*

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