



NEW YEAR-NEW VISITOR!

Visitor Seeks Editors!

We all know how important the monthly *Visitor* is to our community. But like many good things, *The Visitor* takes a lot of people and a lot of work and commitment to happen. For the past 20+ years, that commitment was shouldered by Ginny Knowlton, and her effort and dedication kept *The Visitor* alive and thriving. Thanks Ginny!

But as we move into a new era for *The Visitor*, the days of one person shouldering the work is past. That's where you come in.

We are seeking guest editors to help out with the publication of *The Visitor*. Responsibilities include collecting and editing articles. A volunteer staff of designers will help to lay out each issue-you will only need to deal with text.

This version of *The Visitor* can be quickly put together electronically, and anyone with email and a text editor can help! If you're interested in assisting or editing an upcoming issue, please email us at:

uccvisitor@uccofconway.com

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Please send ads, notices, articles and correspondence to the email address for *The Visitor*: visitor@uccofconway.com

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

Nothing can capture for me the mystery and the beauty of Christmas better than the carols we sing. They have the power to recreate in my imagination the scenes of the first Christmas. They seem to be able to set the atmosphere -- the crowded inn, the smelly stable, the sleeping city, the great star spilling its beauty down over the waiting earth, the lonely shepherds in the field, the blazing, sudden glory of the heavenly hosts breaking through the darkness, then the contrast of the stable in a cave with the sleeping babe and the wondering hearts that come to worship and kneel before this amazing wonder, Jesus Christ born on earth.

One carol we sing at Christmas asks the question, "What child is this?"

I am sure the shepherds asked the same question when they went into the stable on that first Christmas Day: "What Child is this?" But no one had an adequate answer. Mary, you remember, "kept all these things and pondered them in her heart," {*Luke 2:19 KJV*}. She did not know what the answer was. You never can answer that question until you have the full record unfolded in the Gospel accounts of the silent years in Nazareth and the coming of age of Jesus, his baptism by John, the trudging up and down the hills of Galilee and Judea with his disciples, the teaching, the miracles, and

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.

finally, the last crowded dramatic week in Jerusalem that culminated in the cross and the blazing glory of resurrection. It is only then you begin to get a full answer to this question, "What Child is this?"

Every Christmas season we remind each other that it is not enough for Christ to have been born in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago. What really counts is Christ being born in the human heart. As we move into this new year – 2012 – let us carry this Christmas spirit with us. Let us live as people who have heard the good news and believe!

Happy New Year!

Journeying together,



Rev. Dr. Candice M. Ashenden

P.S. And please remember that if you ever wish to have company on your faith journey, or just need a place to come and visit, the doors of the United Congregational Church, and my door, are always open to you.

revcandi@gmail.com

Church Clips

Members of the U.C.C. invite you to join us for worship on 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 on the church answering machine at 369-4040.
- † **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. Please don't hesitate to call!
- † **UCC of Conway mailing address** is: **P.O. Box 214, Conway, MA.**
- † **Church facilities** may be rented at any time by groups or individuals for special activities. Equipment may not be removed. Call Lorraine at 369-4061 for details.

It's that time again! Souper Bowl Sunday!

By Rev. Candi Ashenden

On Sunday, February 3rd, the UCC Church will be holding it's special Souper Bowl Sunday service with a "tail-gate" themed coffee hour. We will also be doing a special collection that day of food and money to benefit the Hilltown Food Pantry. Please drop off food donations at the school any Sunday before then, or mail monetary donation to the church with a memo for the food bank prior to the 3rd. Or better yet, come and join us on February 3rd at 9:30AM and bring your donation then!

Conway Quilting Group Regroups

The Conway Quilting group will meet again this year in the Town Hall from 9am to noon, beginning Tuesday, January 22. Newcomers of all skill levels are welcome!

For more details, contact Mary Merriam at 369-4052, or Fran Hatch at 369-4245.

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 preceeding! Mail copy to: **Visitor, P.O. Box 214, Conway, MA 01341** or email copy to visitor@uccofconway.com.

Gardener's Corner

By Liz Pichete

The New Year is upon us as we spin our way back toward the sun and its warmth. Hibernation and planning are the mainstays of January, apart from forays into our gardens to check on the health of over-wintering plants.

Look for vole damage around the base of trees and shrubs where these little varmints gnaw at the bark and can quickly girdle a favored plant. Protect with wire mesh if needed.

For heavy snowfalls gently brush snow from laden tree branches with a broom, but never try to remove ice-encrusted formations, as breakage will likely occur.

Broad-leaved evergreens such as rhododendron and mountain laurel can become desiccated in the severe, drying winds of winter. Rhododendrons will curl closed in extreme cold in order to conserve moisture and unfurl when the temperature warms. There are commercial anti-desiccant sprays available, but they usually are applied in the fall when the temperature is above freezing. If you notice browning and extreme drying, try wrapping the plant in burlap to buffer the effects of the wind.

Garden catalogs are filling our post boxes and provide hours of happy dreaming. Perennial, annual and vegetable gardens expand and unfold in our imagination as we plan our next gardening season. Whether you're starting something new or revamping the old, keep in mind guidelines for zone hardiness, light and moisture requirements for new additions to your garden. Consider buying locally raised plants because they tend to be healthier, hardened to local conditions and are not stressed by being shipped bare-rooted. It's a greener alternative to long-distance shipping and it supports our community. Many local nurseries now have websites for your perusal.

Trends continue toward the use of low-maintenance and drought-tolerant plants as well as native plants for their adaptability to local conditions. It is hard to predict what weather to expect next summer as the climate continues to offer unusual patterns. Drought and heat contrast with summers that can be cool and rainy. Darwin's theory applies to our gardens as to animal adaptation: only the fittest shall survive - all else ends up in the compost heap!

Stay warm, curl up in your favorite chair with a steaming cup of tea, coffee or cocoa, enjoy a good garden book to dream your way through winter into spring.

Garden Club Notes

The Conway Garden Club aims to stimulate interest in gardening and related skills, to enhance the natural beauty of our area, and to educate and promote environmental improvement.

The Garden Club does not meet January or February. In March they will meet to discuss a book they will be reading this winter: **Gardening for a Lifetime** by Sydney Eddison.

Anyone is welcome to join us on March 14th at 7pm in town hall.

If you have questions about the Garden Club and its activities, contact Pat McLoughlin at 268-0313 or mcloughlinpat3@yahoo.com.

Hilltown Churches Food Pantry Supports Conway

In Franklin County, one in eight people—at least 108,000 region-wide—has to choose between utilities and food. The Hilltown Churches Food Pantry has worked with the community to help this shortfall, spending over \$45,000 annually to help over 180 clients and families every two weeks.

The Food Pantry is supported by individuals, schools, churches and businesses donations of food, funding, and teams of volunteers to pack and distribute food.

Along with government support, the

program continues to need community support to serve the growing number of hungry families in the nine Hilltowns they serve. For every dollar donated, 97 cents goes directly to food. And the Pantry relies on volunteers from the community and multiple area churches.

If you would like to give or be involved, please contact Janet Rogers, President, at 413-625-6086.

You can mail donations to:

HCFP
P.O. Box 161
Ashfield, MA 01330

Visitor Deadline







Please remember that the deadline for articles in The Visitor is **now the 20th of each month**. This schedule helps assure that The Visitor is delivered in the first week of the month.

UCC of Conway to hold Annual Meeting

The UCC of Conway will hold it's Annual All-Church Meeting on Sunday January 20th. to review reports on the year past, elect new officers, and approve a budget for the year ahead. If you have any specific items you would like addressed in the agenda, or have any questions, please leave a message at the church at 369-4040.

The meeting will be incorporated into the service, and followed by a fellowship and community gathering in a potluck lunch. All are welcome!

January 2013 Senior Calendar

-  **Council on Aging:** Meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month, at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall. Next regular meetings are scheduled for February 6th and March 6th. The COA recieved 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 bus currently runs to Greenfield on the first and third Thursdays of each month. reservations must be made by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before. Call Heidi at FRTA, at 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 p.m.** and will continue until May. The aim of these classes, which include weight training, are to maintain flexibility, increase endurance, and build muscle strength. For information, call Pat Lynch at 369-4284 or Peg Tiley at 369-4010.
-  **Walking Group:** Call Phyllis Dacey at 369-4326 for more information.
-  **Feet Screenings:** Bimonthly screenings are held at Town Hall by apointment only. To make an appointment, call Peg Tiley at 369-4010.
-  **Free Monthly Health Clinic:** Public Health Nurse Lisa White, RN, BSN serving the Town of Conway is available on the first Friday of each month in Town Hall from 9a.m. to noon. Contact Ms. White at 413-774-3167 ext. 106.



Shut-Ins

As we continue through the winter season, the days can seem very dark and lonely to people who cannot get out and about. Please continue to take time from your busy schedule to remember shut-ins with a card, a letter or a visit.

Your thoughtfulness in sending cards and letters during the holidays brought 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, or call and leave the information at our answering machine at 369-4040.

Conway CPC Invites Funding Requests

By Janet Chayes

The Conway Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has funds available for open space and recreation projects, historical preservation, and community housing. Citizens and groups are encouraged to develop proposals for the CPC's consideration. A short Community Preservation Act (CPA) Pre-Proposal Information form is available online at: townofconway.com/committees/community-preservation. You can link to the Town website through Caring Conway. The short form is also available at the Town Office.

The Committee has meetings scheduled for Jan. 7, Feb. 4, March 4 and April 4 at 3:30 p.m. in Town Hall. Anyone wishing to make an appointment to discuss ideas should contact Janet Chayes (janet@chayes.org or 369-4697) or Marcelle Morgan (marcellemorgan@verizon.net or 369-4152). Proposals welcome anytime by the **March 1, 2013** deadline.

Since 2006, Conway citizens have approved 11 CPA projects to enhance the community, which total \$356,982.

Medical Equipment Loans Available

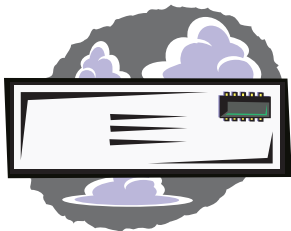
The Council on Aging, through generous donations, has various items of medical equipment available for loan. These include walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, bath chairs and commodes. Please call Julie Clark at 369-4629 if you wish to borrow equipment, or have equipment to loan.

First Friday Flu Clinic Continues

Lisa White, RN, BSN and Town Nurse will offer regular First Friday walk-in clinic hours from 9 a.m. to noon at the Conway Town Hall throughout the flu season. The next session will be Friday, January 4th.

Keeping your Mailbox Clear

Rural Delivery postal patrons are reminded that you alone are responsible for keeping their mailboxes snow-free and accessible to delivery vehicles. Please help your post office workers get your mail to you on time!



Selectboard Reminds Residents Winter Road Rules

In these difficult economic times, the Selectboard reminds Conway residents that, in the event of snow, you can help our road crews keep to their tight budgets and schedules by following the Winter Parking Ban policy, and being patient as they work to clear the roads.

A town-wide winter parking ban is now in effect through April 1, 2013, between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. During these hours, on-street parking on public roadways is not permitted. In addition, vehicles should be removed from public roadways during daylight hours, in "inclement" weather or stated snow emergency. Failure to follow this policy may result in a fine of up to \$300.

The Selectboard also reminds residents to clear driveways and private roads of snow and ice, to provide access to emergency vehicles. Please allow our fire, police and ambulance personnel to do their job of protecting everyone.

Field Memorial Library Looking for a Few Good Friends

By Nat Cohen

The board members of the Field Memorial Library are considering initiating a "Friends of the Library" group to help the library with fundraising and projects of public interest. .

If you are interested in learning more about this and maybe getting involved, please join board members at the library on **Wednesday, January 9th at 7:00.**

Pardon Us

"If you find mistakes in this publication, please consider that they are there for a purpose. We try to print something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes." *(quoted from a weekly paper in Clermont, FL)*

Festival Arts & Smarts

By Michele Harris

With many months to go before the next Festival of the Hills, I would like to keep it fresh in your mind by highlighting a couple of areas.

Did you know that Phyllis Jeswald (besides attending every meeting, laboring, decorating, hauling, cleaning, etc, etc) runs the scholarship program and the big FOH raffle in the town hall?

Phyllis gets the scholarship application ready to go, gets it to the schools, contacts all the people that she needs to contact, gets the apps together, gets the FOH board together and then gets to marvel at the truly amazing young people that we have in our community and reward them as much as we can.

Phyllis also organizes the big raffle in the town hall. She has 'about' 30 or so folks that she works with to bring the festival attendees the opportunity to win spectacular local wares

and services. Making tickets, running around to place ticket jars, collecting money and tickets, organizing the prize display, and getting in touch with all the winners...

Whew, if Phyllis ever decides to buy a villa in France, these are the size 50 shoes that would need to be filled!

Do you know Michele Turre? I will give you a hint; she's my neighbor, sometimes she can be seen walking around with a camera in hand, she's kind of quiet, and *very* talented. Yep that's the one I'm talking about.

Michele runs the art exhibit in the library for the FOH. Under the cloak of darkness, Michele and her 'elves' go into the library, move all the furniture, drape canvas over all the bookcases, hang and display art, and by Monday morning... you would never know she was there. We have so many talented artists in Conway and because of Michele's

hard work, we are all able to stand there on the day of the Festival in awe and think to ourselves, "*I never knew ...*"

Being an artist herself, Michele is the one that designs our t-shirts, coffee mugs, posters, grocery bags, and whatever else we can think of to print on. She has the patience of a saint, even when there's a month to go and we say, "do you think we should change the design...?"

To display your art or help with the show, you can find Michele at www.festivalofthehills.com, under the 'art show' link.

So now I have introduced you to just two of the many people that make the Festival of the Hills happen. Michele and Phyllis make such a huge contribution to the FOH and I am eternally grateful for them.

mdzialo114@yahoo.com



**PULL OUT this
handy Conway
calendar!**

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1 Happy New Year!	• Senior Executive Meeting 1:30-2:30 PM
6 • UCC Service 9:30 a.m.	7 • Selectboard Meeting 7-9 PM Town Office	8 • BOH Meeting • Conway Swimming Pool Committee Meeting • Conservation Commission 7:30-9:00 PM Town Hall	• Field Memorial Library Board Meeting • Senior Executive Meeting 1:30-2:30 PM
13 • UCC Service 9:30 a.m.	14 • Selectboard Meeting 7-9 PM Town Office • Board of Health Meeting 7-9 PM Town Hall	15 • Housing Committee 7:30-9:00 PM Town Hall	• Senior Executive Meeting 1:30-2:30 PM
20 • UCC Service 9:30 a.m. • UCC Annual Meeting and Potluck	21 MLK JR.'s Birthday • UCC Church Council Meeting 7:30-9:00 • Selectboard Meeting 7-9 PM Town Office	22 • Conway Swimming Pool Committee Meeting • Conservation Commission 7:30-9:00 PM Town Hall	• Senior Executive Meeting 1:30-2:30 PM • Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting 6-8 PM Town Hall
27 • UCC Service 9:30 a.m.	28 • Selectboard Meeting 7-9 PM Town Office • Board of Health Meeting 7-9 PM Town Hall	29	• Senior Executive Meeting 1:30-2:30 PM

This Month's Event Highlights:

- New Years Day - Jan 1st - Schools and Businesses closed
- Field Memorial Library Board Meeting - Jan 9th
- Conway Healing Arts - Free Open House - Jan 12th
- Conway Grammar School PTO Meeting - Jan 17th

2013

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

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Exercise Class 9 AM Town Hall	3 • Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall	4 Walk in Health Clinic 9am--Noon Town Hall Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall	5 National Bird Day
9 Memorial Library Meeting 7PM Exercise Class 9 PM Town Hall	10 • Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall	11 Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall	12 Open House- Conway Healing Arts 11 AM-2PM
16 Exercise Class 9 PM Town Hall	17 • Planning Board 7-9 PM Town Office • Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall • CGS PTO Meeting 7PM	18 Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall	19 National Popcorn Day
23 Exercise Class 9 PM Town Hall Recreation Meeting Town Hall	24 • Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall	25 Girl Scouts Meeting 3:00-5:30 PM Town Hall	26 National Spouse's Day
30 Exercise Class 9 PM Town Hall	31 • Evening of Pizza & Poetry-Conway Grammar 6-9PM • Board of Assessors Mtg 7-9 PM Town Hall		

- UCC of Conway Annual Meeting and Potluck - Jan 20th
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Jan 21st- Schools closed
- CGS-Evening of Poetry and Pizza - Jan 31st
- January is National Blood Donor Month!

What's the Story Morning Glory?

By Deb Hoyle

MENDING TIME

You set the kettle on the glowing
gas flame

I watch from my chair hardly
breathing

With hopes that a talk over endless
cups of tea

Will heal the years remembered as
full of scars

Turning you take the seat across
from me

Looks are leveled and what words
are large or small enough?

A beloved cat enters to seek out
our shins and ankles

Soothing us with the now, devo-
tion, and its claim

On two who have found them-
selves lost

So we can follow lifting our tails as
high as flags

And walking together again toward
a warm fire

Where curling up on the rug and
nothing said

Our smiling eye gazes return in a
new familiar way

That blue jay calls out from the
bush near the window

Before flying off into the yellow-
green wide clearing below

This is a column of original writing
created by Deb Hoyle
about life in the hills.

United Congregational Church of Conway Restoration Update

By Bill Leno

The United Congregational Church of Conway church building is on the road to recovery. Thanks to kind donations, and community support in the form of CPA funds, the mold inside the church building is gone and the air is free of mold and other contaminants.

Before we can complete the interior work, we must ensure that the issues which allowed the contamination, following Irene, don't occur again. With winter breathing down our necks, we are grading to prevent future moisture infiltration. December's scaffolding allowed the steeplejack to do his work and prevent future roof leakage. The outside carpentry work is in its final stages.

In the months ahead, we will concentrate on inside work involving the foundation and ceiling. With walls pulled out for the mold remediation, we can also work on insulation, electrical and plumbing upgrades, heating improvements and a kitchen redesign to make the building more useful for community events.

Next and finally, we will concentrate on the final carpentry, painting and floor restoration that we hope, in 2013, will bring back Conway's community church.

Vintage Calendars Available

By BettyLou Guilford

Conway Vintage Calendars for 2013 are available at Baker's Store, Greenfield Savings Bank and Pages Coffee Shop. If these locations are out, please call BettyLou Guilford at 369-4481.

The calendar is \$15.00. The monthly photos are from antique postcards. These calendars are true collector's items.

bettyloug48@hotmail.com

Trustees of Reservations Plan New Events

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 for details and trail maps.

They are accepting proposals for the agricultural use of this land. Call Wendy Sweetser at 628-4485 ext.1 or email wsweetser@nor.org for a full copy of the Request for Proposals.

Dedicated Volunteer Needed for Conway Mall

For the past several years, Paula Boulanger has provided the service of managing the Conway Mall, but beginning this March, we need a new manager. Her service will certainly be missed.

This is a flexible volunteer position requiring organizational skills and a willingness to work with the public. Paula is willing to train her replacement. If you are interested, you are invited to call her at 369-0132.

The Conway Mall has been an important part of the town's recycling program for more than a decade, cutting several tons from our refuse and disposal costs. During the years that weights have been tracked at the mall, more than 7 tons of reusable materials were recycled there annually. That fact aside, the mall has also been an important resource for many Conway residents.

The old "swap shop" originally came under the direction of a volunteer manager in December 2000 when Carolyn "Sparkie" Hill went to the Board of Health to express her concern that the facility was being underutilized. She was given leave to organize volunteers to sort and remove items that were soiled or beyond reasonable repair. To make the volume manageable, good items that did not seem to be moving were donated to a charitable group of the managers choice.

Through the years there have been many different managers of what eventually became known as the Conway Mall. If you have been a mall patrol through the years, you have probably noticed that each manager has left an imprint on the operation. Perhaps it is your turn to make a mark.

Since the site is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health, you may also call that office at 369-4235 ext.8 for details and information.

EXCHANGES

Have 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 next month's EXCHANGES.

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

NOTE OUR CHANGE IN RATES, effective 1/1/2013. 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 print ready ads may now be placed in the Visitor.** Ad design, logo creation and branding services are now available. Ads for give-aways, lost and found items, and non-commercial items **still free.**

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

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

BEEFALO BEEF - Time for outdoor grilling. Great tasting Beefalo Beef and grilling, the perfect combination. Always available at the Herrmann's Chestnut Lot Farm in Conway. Call ahead 369-4266. chestnutlotfarm.com

GUILFORD-BRUSH HOG- ROTARY MOWING 369-4481

FIREWOOD: Long fresh-cut hardwood 3" to 12" diameter - length varies from 6' to 16' - nice stuff to work up. \$100 per 128 cubic feet. Delivery available. Call Steve at 413-306-3007.

PAGES COFFEE BAR & USED BOOK STORE, 98 Main Street, Conway. 369-6055 Now open 7 days per week - Mon-Fri 7am to 3pm; Sat 8:30am to 4pm; Sun 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, a daily selection of pastries and Chris' famous scones on weekends. Free wi-fi.

IT WILL BE HERE TOO SOON!

We have snow shovels, snow rakes, ice chisels, Yak Trax, hand and toe warmers. We carry wood splitters, firewood processors, winches, grapples, axes, mauls, chainsaws, pole saws, Celebrating 58 years & Norm's 94. **OESCO**, Route 116, Conway, M-F, 7-5; Sat, 7 -noon; 369-4335.

BOYDEN BROS MAPLE

SYRUP: the sugarhouse on South Deerfield Rd. has a wide selection of maple syrup, cream, candy and gift packages. Products are also available by calling us at 369-4665 or email boydenmaple@mfire.com.

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!

DOG WALKER AND PET

SITTER available. Experienced. **boarding** also available in home with fenced patio. Please call Doreen at 369-0219.

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). I offer the workshop 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 and facebook.com/theheartofstory. Enroll or send questions to: brownjaneroy@gmail.com

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

TELL THEM YOU SAW IT

HERE! Please let our **Exchange** sponsors know when you read about their product or service in the pages of the Visitor! It helps us and them to know how their message is getting to you!

EXHAUSTED FROM THE HOLIDAYS?

Come relax, restore & renew yourself in Restorative Yoga once a month at the Fireman's Aux. building in Conway. For all levels. Dates for the next two months: Thursday, Jan 17 & Feb 14 , 7-8:15 PM (Bring 2 pillows & 2 blankets) For more info contact Jody Fontaine (413)824-9435 or ucreatesolutions@gmail.com

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 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

FREE IN CONWAY! Join Caring Conway and click on the **Free in Conway** tab for timely, free materials from your neighbors. www.caringconway.ning.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.

LASALLE FLORISTS, INC.:

Route 5 Whately ph 665-2653.

Serving the area since 1934.

Brighten up the dull days of winter with some fresh flowers from LaSalle Florists!

Daily deliveries to Conway, Greenfield, Amherst and Northampton areas. Teleflora services. Check out our new website: www.lasalleflorists.com



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INTRODUCING ARGUS MANAGEMENT.

Full service management of single 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, collection of rents, payment of expenses, and concise financial reporting. Call Kathy Shaw or Jim Sarris at 413-397-3569 or visit arguspropertymgmt.com. We're setting a new standard for residential property services.

PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED.

If you have local photos you'd like to share in the Visitor, let us know! We will publish with no fee, but full credit.

CONWAY HEALING ARTS

46 Main Street continues to serve our community in the new year! For close to 20 years **Debra Hoyle**, nationally certified and insured bodyworker has offered informed, individualized, restorative sessions of CranioSacral Therapy, Acupressure and Reiki here in Conway, and also has office hours in nearby Shelburne Falls. Conway Healing Arts now also welcomes **Betsy Mailer**, certified Seimei practitioner and instructor and **Jody Fontaine**, Reiki Master and certified Yoga and Pilates teacher, offering individual sessions in each modality. For inquiries and appointments: Deb:413-325-5579; Betsy: 845-258-8179; Jody:413-824-9435. Let's work together for your well being! Open Houses with Free Sample Sessions Jan 12 and Feb. 9 from 11-2.

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

to get in shape? Yoga-fitness for Moms & Kidz! Have fun achieving your goals while bonding with your child.

- Yoga flows & gentle stretching
- Mother-child playful interaction
- Exercises to strengthen core
- Resistance training & calisthenics

First 6-week session starts Friday, Jan 11th 9:15-10:30am. Pre-registration & info contact Jody Fontaine (413)824-9435 or ucreatesolutions@gmail.com

POTTERY CLASSES for adults and children at the studio of Megan Hart on Academy Hill. Winter session begins 22 January. Adult wheel throwing Tuesdays OR Thursdays 6:30-8:30 PM for 8 weeks, \$200, includes all materials. From beginners to experienced. learn the art of centering and create work you will enjoy using every day. Small classes in cozy wood heated studio. Come drink tea and make pots. Kids classes: Tuesdays OR Thursdays, 4:30-5:30, will focus on hand-built creations, using decorative painting techniques, and an introduction to the potter's wheel. \$120 includes all materials for a 6-week class. For more information, or to register, please call 413-522-6707 or email hartpottery@gmail.com.

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. Westmore, VT. \$800 weekly, \$125 nightly Pixie Holbrook/John Rioux. 369-4609 or pjHolbrook@comcast.com.

GET HEALTHY for the New Year! Yoga/Fitness & Wellness programs in Conway.

Monday: Yoga at Conway Grammar School 3:30-4:45 PM (open to teachers/staff & parents) - Yoga at Fireman's Aux. building 5:30-6:45 PM (next to Conway Fire Station)

Wednesday: Yoga at Fireman's Aux. building 10:15-11:30 AM

Thursday: Carnival Yoga for Kidz at Conway Grammar (Grades 3-6) starts Jan 10th 3:15-5:30 PM - Restorative Yoga once a month at Fireman's Aux Building 7-8:15PM (January 17 & Feb 14)

Friday: Yoga/Fitness for Moms & Kidz (ages 5 & under) at Town Hall Gym 6 wk session starts Jan 11 9:15-10:30 M
Classes are for all levels.

Drop-ins welcome. Private Yoga, Fitness & Reiki Sessions by appointment. For more information & blackout dates contact Jody Fontaine, RYT, CPT & Reiki Master (413)824-9435 or ucreatesolutions@gmail.com

TELL THEM YOU SAW IT HERE! Please let our **Exchange** sponsors know when you read about their product or service in the pages of the Visitor! It helps us and them to know how their message is getting through to you!

PTO Postings - News from Conway Grammar School

By *Diane Hicks*

This year several new faces join the Conway Grammar School PTO. Diane Hicks and Kristin Monfette stepped up as co-chairs. Jill Novak has been very active as the new PTO secretary, and Joanie Schwartz joins current treasurer Kathy Layer.

The PTO is creating a cookbook! We are currently looking for volunteers to help at our "Recipe Type Off". We will be meeting at the Conway Grammar School Thursday, January 9th at 5:00 in the Library. Feel free to bring a bag dinner or a snack to share.

On January 31st the PTO will sponsor an evening of Poetry and Pizza for 4th-6th graders and their parents. Paulette Levchuk, our fabulous reading specialist, will lead the children in creative poetry activities from 6:00-7:30 pm at the Grammar School.

This event follows a series of delightful activity nights geared toward younger children at the school including Reading Rocks and Math Night this fall. These events offer families an opportunity to share in their children's learning and build community.

In November, families joined for a potluck and evening All School Sing led by Katryna Niels and Dave Chalfant. Craft Night in December was also a big hit, with children taking home bags of treasures they'd created.

The next PTO Meeting will be Thursday, January 17th at 6:30 in the Conway Grammar School Cafeteria.

Adults Continue Education at Franklin County Tech School

Greenfield Community College will again be offering non-credit adult education classes at the Franklin County Technical High School.

Course selections include:

- **Introduction to CNC Router in Woodworking**
- **Machine Science**
- **Weatherization.**

Artists and photographers may try **Create your own Visual Reality with Photoshop or Basic Image Enhancement with Photoshop and Gimp**. Both courses are taught by Conway resident and digital artist Marcus McLaurin.

For more details, look for the GCC Spring catalog, or call Gail Villeneuve at 413-775-1605, or see the GCC website at www.greenfieldcc.3dcartstores.com.

Comments? Ideas?

As we transition the Visitor into a new format with new details, your feedback is more important than ever! Please forward ideas, comments and criticism to : visitor@uccofconway.com

A note of apology: If you experienced trouble with this email address last month, rest assured it has been resolved.