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GRANVILLE'S COUNTRY CALLER

Supported in part by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs

FEBRUARY 2022

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Please send all Country Caller information (all checks/cash for sponsor, donations, subscriptions, or Barter Box) to Debbie Sussmann, 44 North Lane, Granville, MA 01034 or put them into Karen Laptew's green box at 58 Sodom Street. The checks and information **MUST** be kept together. Make all checks payable to "The Town of Granville". **All submissions may be emailed to leefluhr@gmail.com** or sent to the above address **NO LATER THAN THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH**. Sponsorship or subscriptions will be for one year. All articles must be typed, and your name and telephone # enclosed. We welcome articles related to town activities, historical information, births, deaths and anything you would like to share with us.

The Country Caller is jointly funded by the Town of Granville, a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs, and donations from sponsors. Editors reserve the right to reject any material they deem inappropriate. We do not accept political advertising and may refuse other advertising not considered in good taste.

Subscriptions: \$5.00/year; Barter Box: \$2.00 for 20 words each additional word \$.10 each.

Advertising per issue: \$3.00 business card, \$5.00 for 1/4 page, \$10.00 for 1/2 page, \$20.00 for full page

You may call Debbie Sussmann to get information at 357-6420.

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TOWN OF GRANVILLE

Department of Public Works

707 Main Road
P.O. Box 247
Granville, MA 01034
(413) 357-8585 ext. 6 (phone)
(413) 455-4446 (cell)
Dpwsuper@townofgranville.org
Doug Roberts, Superintendent

WINTER ROADS POLICY 2021-2022

In effect from November 1 - to April 30

- On-street parking is prohibited. Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.
- Parking at the Town Hall, Library, or School is restricted to those doing Town business during business hours.
- During winter road operations, main roads are a priority.
- Town Roads with low use may be closed for the winter.
- Depositing snow on a Town road is prohibited.
- Plowing snow across a Town road is prohibited.
- "All season" tires are not a substitute for snow tires.
- High quality snow tires, preferably studded, are essential for winter driving.
- Limit travel during storm events.
- Drive below the posted speed.
- Be aware of changing road conditions, flurries, and frost. Shaded areas become hazardous rapidly. An isolated weather event will create hazardous conditions. Notorious for this are the Gorge and Hairpin Turn on Route 57, the North end of Old Westfield Road, and Water Street by the Transfer Station.



TOWN OF GRANVILLE

707 Main Road
P.O. Box 247
Granville, MA 01034
(413) 357-8585 (phone)
(413) 357-6002 (fax)
Department of Public Works

GRANVILLE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR DPW OPERATOR/LABORER

The Town of Granville requests applications for employment for the 40-hour position of Department of Public Works employee. The successful candidate should have a High School Diploma, a CDL driver license, Osha 10 certification, Hoisters License (hydraulic and side boom).

The position requires customer service and communication skills, equipment operator and maintenance experience, general labor for building and ground maintenance, general construction and snow plowing experience is preferred. The position reports to the Superintendent of Public Works and will require a positive work attitude, physical labor, and long durations of service during winter storms.

The responsibilities of the Department of Public Works are comprehensive for operating a Municipality in the Commonwealth. Public Works employees are expected to be productive under difficult situations and a wide range of work responsibilities. Training will be provided; however, employees are required to be productive at assigned tasks.

Random drug testing is required, as is a commitment to continuing education.

Please send a cover letter with resume and references to Town of Granville P.O. Box 247 Granville, MA 01034 Attn: Personnel. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. First review of applications will be February 14, 2022.

Sincerely,

Doug H. Roberts

Department of Public Works Superintendent

dpwsuper@townofgranville.org

Thank you!

The Granville Cultural Council would like to thank

Cooley & Company

Cooley & Company donated a wide-screen TV to support a 2022 film and video series for Granville's seniors. Details of the series to be announced soon – now possible, thanks to this generous donation!

Cooley & Company offers one-of-a-kind, handcrafted items made by local Granville artists and master crafters.





GRANVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Granville Fire Department would like you to meet Josh Markowski!

By Lt. Peter Sorrajja- GFD Firefighter/EMT

In the month of February, we would like to introduce Josh Markowski. If you know Josh already, you know that he is just a genuinely thoughtful, caring and kind individual. He is selfless and strives to help anyone and everyone he can whenever the opportunities arise.

Josh first joined the Granville Fire Department in 2015 (7 years ago). In his seven years on the department, he has completed several trainings through both the Connecticut Fire Academy, Massachusetts Fire Academy as well as Training through the United States Marine Corp. He currently holds certifications in Fire 1, Fire 2, Hazmat Operations and Crash Fire Rescue. In July of 2021, Josh was promoted to the position of Lieutenant. In his new role Josh helps coordinate trainings and is currently working on improving the departments driver training program.

As we all already know the majority of our members work outside of the department and for Josh this is no exception. He currently works as an Applications Engineer and is also a firefighter in the Marine Corps Reserve. Outside of work Josh enjoys several extra-curricular activities; hiking, playing video games, going to the gym, and spending time with his friends are just a few examples that come to mind.

If you have not already met or taken the time to get to know Josh, you should. He is a wonderful individual and would do anything for anyone. He is also extraordinarily smart and will definitely teach you something new.

Winter Safety Tips

The Granville Fire Department would also like to take this time to touch on some important winter topics. As we all may know February can be one of the harsher winter months. With the cold comes many different hazards.

Tip #1: Ensure that you carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are in working order. These are your first line of defense in the event of a heat source malfunction/failure.

Tip #2: You should contemplate putting an emergency kit in your car. This can contain items such as a flashlight, first aid items, a portable cell phone charger, non-perishable foods, and anything else you may need in the event you get stuck in a storm.

Tip #3: When shoveling snow, you should take periodic breaks as to not put unnecessary stress on your body. The combination of the cold weather and the high energy exertion can lead to several health risks.

Tip #4: Check on your neighbors. We are a small-town community, and we all know our neighbors fairly well. Do not be afraid to reach out if you think someone may be in need.

We know that there are several other hazards you can expect in the winter months, but these are a few we felt should be addressed. We hope everyone in the town of Granville stays safe and we look forward to continuing to support your every need.



Granville Public Library

2 Granby Rd · 357-8531 · www.granvillepubliclibrary.org

Monday, Thursday, and Saturday 10 AM-Noon

Monday 5-8 PM, Wednesday 3-8 PM, Thursday 3-6 PM

Closed Tuesday, Friday and Sunday

What's new at the Library? We are more than books!

We are:

*Internet Providers:

We have remote Mobile **WiFi Hotspots** (Verizon and AT&T) and **Chromebooks** for you to borrow. Funded by the Library Club and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds administered through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Hotspots help to:

- Close the homework gap by offering home Internet service for families with school-aged children
- Allow you to participate in online courses such as HiSET (GED) classes
- Provide you access to telehealth services
- Support workforce development and job skills trainings



Stop in and ask us how you can borrow one. Not all of the hotspots support video streaming at this time.

This Hotspot Program supports the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' goal to Advance Equitable Access to Resources by promoting "excellent connectivity and technology infrastructure, training, and support frameworks to equitably meet the needs of library users in Massachusetts" and the Institute of Museum and Library Services' American Rescue Plan Act to advance digital inclusion.

*Educators:

Go to the Events page of our website to see what is coming up: We offer both zoom and in house based on season and pandemic. We are a Climate HUB- Dedicated to advancing understanding of Causes, Effects, and Solution to Climate Change



This Month: Thursday, Feb 10 7:00 pm via Zoom

Climate-smart Forestry w/ Joshua Rapp, Conservation Scientist. Josh will speak on how landowners can manage forests to be both more resilient to climate change and to remove carbon from the atmosphere and store it in the forest to reduce the cause of climate change. His research includes the impacts of Climate change on Maple Syrup Production and how we can manage for them.

*Music, recreation, and craft providers:

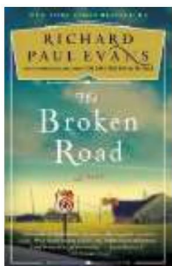
From Craft Stamps to projectors, microscopes, and telescopes to Children's Musical harp, our Library of Things has some "things" you might want to try. Some of our programs coming up will be on some pretty special crafts. Watch for programs for making Korean Lanterns, and natural dyes and silk scarves.



*Sharers of Stories: New Book Club Starting- Limit of 10 people.

Facilitated by Gloria Knoener. This month the book read is Broken Road by Richard Paul Evans. Call Gloria at 413-357-8706 to sign up.

Pick up your book at the Library, read it, then meet on Wednesday March 9 from 7-8pm to discuss it with friends.



Story Hour-10:30 AM Children's Activity, laughter and stories with Linda Dickinson



Saturday Feb 12

Thursday Feb 24

Granville-Tolland
**Dollars for
SCHOLARS®**
A Program of Scholarship America®

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Students: Our annual Mail-a-thon is **Monday, February 21** from 11-1 at the Granville Town Hall. Get hours towards NHS and points toward your scholarship application (more volunteer hours with us = larger award).

Adults: We are seeking board members and volunteers for 2022 and beyond. There are four meetings a year with a few fundraisers that need your help, your new ideas, and your new energy.

Email **GranvilleTollandDFS@gmail.com** with questions or to find out about our next meeting.



Joe Pietroniro

Granville, MA

EST. 1990

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ski lessons and snack bar**

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For Information 413-357-8829

Snow Phone 413-357-6697

www.maplecornerfarm.com

LET'S HAVE FUN IN FEBRUARY!

***DRIVE UP AND GET YOUR DINNER
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH***

GRANVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

***KIELBASA/BRATWURST OR HOMEMADE TOMATO SOUP,
ROASTED RED POTATOES, ASIAN SALAD, BREAD STICK
& DESSERT***



\$12.00 PER PLATE

PLEASE CALL IN YOUR ORDER AHEAD OF TIME TO:

Fran at 357-6492 or Bobbi at 297-0445

SERVING FROM 11:30 – 12:30 PM

DRIVE UP & PAY AT THE DRIVEWAY

***ENTRANCE TO FELLOWSHIP HALL & YOUR ORDER WILL BE
BROUGHT OUT TO YOU***

GRANVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

American Baptist and United Church of Christ
16 Granby Rd., Granville, MA
Interim Pastor: Dr. Rev. Johnny Wilson
Church Services: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
Coffee Hour following the service.

SPECIAL EVENT

Our Annual Meeting will be held after church on Sunday, February 6th. There are several important issues on the agenda, and we need a majority of our church members present for the vote. If you're a member, please try to be there or contact Bobbi to vote by proxy if you can't attend.

EVENTS

BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Johnny is leading us in a study of the book of James. We meet in the Fellowship Hall Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. It has been a wonderful opportunity for us to learn more from God's Word and about each other's faith walk.

DRIVE UP DINNERS

MANY, MANY THANKS TO BOB BECKWITH FOR HIS DONATION OF THE MEAT FOR OUR JANUARY DINNER. IT WAS A HUGE CONTRIBUTION AND HIS GENEROSITY IS REALLY APPRECIATED!!

The February Drive up Dinner will be Sunday, February 20th from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. On the menu are Kielbasa/Bratwurst or Bobbi's homemade tomato soup (the veggie choice), Roasted red potatoes, Asian salad, Bread Sticks and dessert. Price is \$12.00. To order, call Bobbi at 413 297-0445 or Fran at 357-6492.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday evenings-AA

Tuesday evenings-Church Board and Committee meetings

Wednesday evenings-Bible Study-7:00 p.m.

Thursday evenings-Choir-7:00 p.m.

MISSIONS NEWS

AGAPE SCHOOL

Bobbi is still looking for a little help in providing food for the children at the Agape School in Uganda. With at least 100 orphans to feed, any help is greatly appreciated. Recent photos of the children show that they look healthy and well fed so our contribution is making a difference. Please consider donating \$5.00 a month. It is making a huge difference in these children's lives.

INFORMATION

BIG Y GIFT CARDS

Big Y gift cards are available. A percentage of the sale goes to help support the church.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTALS

The Fellowship Hall is available for rent for functions. It is complete with 2 restrooms, tables, chairs, kitchen facilities and parking. For more information, please contact Bobbi at 413 357-0194.

CONTACT US

We try to help anyone who is in need of help in shopping, transportation, emergency fuel, etc. Please call.

To contact the church to leave a message for Pastor Johnny, call 357-8583. You can also call a Deacon (Dale Florida 357-8775, Eileen Jerome 413-896-0002, Fran Wackerbarth 357-6492, Alan Gregg 357-6156, Laura Fielding 357-6368) or our Head Trustee Bobbi O'Connell 357-0194

In Assisted Living

Skip and Alice Demarais,
The Arbors, 40 Court Street
Room 329, Westfield, MA 01085

Vaughn W. Banks

Vaughn was born and raised in Granville passed away January 16, 2022. He was born April 13, 1925 to the late Wallace (Chick) Banks and Clara (Jensen) Banks. He leaves his wife of 73 years Lovesta (Nobbs) Banks, his children daughter Dale Flarida (Banks) sons Thomas Banks and Wade Banks (Irene). Brother Wallace Banks. Six Grandchildren and 7 Great Grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Stephen Thomas Miller

Stephen Thomas Miller, 74, passed away Thursday December 30, 2021 at Bay State Medical Center. Steve was born in Hartford CT, son of Hank and Rose Miller. He came to live in Granville with his parents and younger brother in 1956. He lived in this little town he so loved for 65 years.

Steve attended the two room West Granville school house with Mrs. Frisbee as his teacher, finishing eighth grade in the Village School. He went on to graduate from Westfield High. Then he attended Springfield Technical College where he learned metal work, electrical wiring, welding, and other trades.

After schooling Steve went to work for Noble & Cooley Drum Shop and was there for many years. He also had his own business doing most anything the locals needed. He could wire your house, repair your plumbing or build an addition. Steve made fabulous clocks, some of his own design, others copied from antiques ~ all were things of beauty, working perfectly.

His friends were legion, as faithful to him as he was to them. He so cared about people. Steve leaves his mother, his brother and his two daughters.

And so good night, dear Steve, and flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

If it so pleases, donations in his name may be made to the beautiful little West Granville Cemetery.

Kathryn Affleck Rich Phelon

Kathy, age 89, left this mortal existence on December 29, 2021. She was the only child of Charles Clarence Rich and Katy Affleck Rich. Kathy was born November 19, 1932 in Salt Lake City, Utah. She graduated from South High School in 1951 and she graduated from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Seminary. At church she earned the Golden Gleaner Award. After high school Kathy attended Brigham Young University for two years. It was while she was at BYU she met John Wells Phelon. John was convert to the LDS Church when he was 18 years old and a resident of Massachusetts. John was a missionary for the church in Southern California. After his mission he attended BYU and met Kathy. They were married in the Salt Lake LDS Temple on September 16, 1953. After John graduated from BYU in 1955 they moved to Granville, Massachusetts and it was there that their 9 sons and 1 daughter were born. They lived in Granville for 18 years.

They returned to Utah in September of 1973. They found a lovely home in Pleasant Grove and have resided there ever since. Kathy kept busy raising their children and many other children who came to live with them. She always helped her husband in his many entrepreneurial quests. She branched out on her own and got her Real Estate license. She

managed rental properties for 25 years. She also managed the Pleasant Grove 7-11 store from 1982-1992. She helped John to support their children as 9 of them went on full-time LDS Missions. Kathy's goal in life was to love the Lord, live the Gospel, be a good wife and be a good mother and grandmother. Kathy loved her family very much. They were her world. Thanksgiving and Family Reunions were her most favorite times. Summer was her favorite season. She loved her friends and neighbors and enjoyed sending them birthday cards. Her grandchildren were the joy of her life. We cannot forget her dogs. She treated them royally.

Kathy held a position in the LDS Church ever since she was 14 years old. She has worked in every organization except the priesthood of course. She also worked in the Cub Scouts as Den Leader Coach for 5 years.

Kathy volunteered in civic endeavors. She was over the Cancer drive for the town of Granville, MA. She was a director of the Granville Co-operative Kindergarten for many years. In Utah she worked in the PTA in many ways including PTA President and Council President.

Kathy cared for her mother-in-law, Ruth Phelon for 6 months and cared for her father, Charles C. Rich, for 3 ½ years in her home until they died. She also lovingly cared for her son David who had Muscular Dystrophy until his passing. Her favorite church position was Compassionate Service person for the Relief Society.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband John Phelon, her sons: David Phelon and John Phelon and a foster son, Karl L. Stebbins; grandson: Christopher Phelon and great-grandsons Logan Phelon and Seth Phelon. John died on September 30, 1995, two weeks after their 43rd Wedding Anniversary.

She is survived by her children: Stephen (Martha) Phelon, Lindon; Thomas (Valerie) Phelon, Orem; James (Jeanie) Phelon, Pleasant Grove; Paul (Inger) Phelon, Pleasant Grove; Mary Ann (Boyd) Esplin, Anchorage, AK; Daniel (Carla) Phelon, Pleasant Grove; Peter (Stephanie) Phelon, Vancouver, WA and Joseph (Cynthia) Phelon, Cedar Hills; daughter-in-law, Lynette Phelon; 37 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren with one more on the way.

Deric Anthony Solek

Deric passed away suddenly at Baystate Noble surrounded by his family on Saturday, January 15, 2022, at the young age of 48. Deric was born in Westfield, MA to Robert W. Solek and Sandra M. (Alamed) Solek (deceased). He was a graduate of Southwick High School and the Barren Institute of Technology. He loved playing on the farm, driving tractors, eating steamers, milking the cows, tasting vodka, working on his house and sharing his pool with his many family and friends. He had a love for cooking and hosting Christmas morning. If he wasn't plowing the snow, he was on his snowmobile riding the trails. Deric was an extraordinary person and will be remembered for his larger-than-life personality. He was devoted to his family and loved them unconditionally. He was employed by Baltazar Construction in Ludlow and was a member of IOUE Local 98 doing what he did best, "digging in the dirt". Deric is survived by his loving wife Tracey L. (Williams) Solek, his stepchildren Jake and Rebecca Wolanian, his babies Theo and Bella, as well as his father Robert W. Solek and his wife Ruth-Ann, grandmother Marie J. Alamed, and his in-laws Lawrence and Lynn DeChesser. He also leaves behind his beloved siblings Carol Lisella and her husband Anthony, Justin Solek and his wife Ashley, Joshua Solek and his wife Ashley, and Caitlin Solek. Deric loved his nieces and nephews, Jennifer Koziol, Anthony Lisella Jr. and his wife Devon, Harlow, Colton, Brynlee, Hayden, Everett and Oakleigh Solek, and Vasilis Tsavidis. He will be remembered by his aunts and uncles, Thomas Alamed and his wife Marie, Edward Alamed and his wife Sue, Jeffrey Alamed, Richard Solek and his wife Carrie, and Cindy (Sondra) Pendelton and her husband James, along with numerous other aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Deric is predeceased by his mother, Sandra, grandfather William R. Alamed Sr., his grandparents John and Joan Solek, his uncle William R. Alamed Jr. and his aunt Cynthia (Townsend) Alamed.