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# GRANVILLE'S COUNTRY CALLER

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

**JANUARY 2022**

**Published since March 1976**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 CLERK'S CORNER....****Telephone: 413.357.8585 Ext. 3****Email: [townclerk@townofgranville.org](mailto:townclerk@townofgranville.org)****Website: [www.townofgranville.org](http://www.townofgranville.org) (Board and Committees, Town Clerk)****Office Hours: Temporarily Suspended; TBD****Office News:**

The Town of Granville was saddened by the passing of Town Clerk Donna Fillion. She had served the Town with professionalism and compassion as Town Clerk for the past six and one-half years. She will be missed. The Selectboard appointed Christine Teter as the Temporary Town Clerk to serve until the Town Election at which time the Town will choose a candidate to finish the unexpired term to which Donna was elected in Spring of 2020. Chris will be setting up office hours. Additional information will be posted on the Town website at [www.townofgranville.net](http://www.townofgranville.net).

**Census:**

The Town Clerk's Office will be sending out the 2022 Annual Census forms by mail mid/late January. Per Massachusetts General Law, census forms must be mailed to street addresses. If you have your mail sent to a post office box and do not receive a form call to be mailed a form to complete.

**Dog Licenses:**

The census package will also include a dog license application for dog owners to license their dog(s). All dogs that are six months of age or older must be licensed annually under M.G.L. Ch. 140. An updated proof of rabies vaccination is required prior to licensing as well as proof of spaying and neutering.

**Nomination Papers:**

Nomination papers for candidates running for town offices will be available at the Town Clerk's office beginning January 4, 2022, for the annual town election to be held Monday, April 11, 2022. If you wish to run for a position within our municipality in April, please call the office and we can either meet via appointment or I can mail you a nomination paper for completion.

Incumbent officer holders must submit nomination papers by February 19, 2022. New candidates for town offices must obtain at least 30 signatures of registered voters town wide. The last day to file nomination papers with the Board of Registrars will be March 7, 2022 at 5:00PM.

The following slates of office will be on the April 11, 2022 ballot:

- one member of the Selectboard for three years;
- one Moderator for one year;
- one Assessor for three years;
- one Town Clerk to fill unexpired remainder of term, two years;
- one Library Trustee for three years;
- one Constable for three years;
- one members of the Planning Board for three years; and
- one member of the Planning Board to fill unexpired remainder of term, one year.

If any resident has questions pertaining to the census form, the dog license form or nomination paper you may call Town Clerk's office for assistance. Forms are preferred to be returned by mail or to the drop box at the Town Hall addressed to attention of Town Clerk.

# ***FIRST DRIVE-UP DINNER OF 2022!***

***SUNDAY, JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>***

***GRANVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH***

***SHEPHERD'S PIE (beef) OR VEGGIE QUICHE,  
SALAD, ROLL & 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 FIRE DEPARTMENT

### The Granville Fire Department would like you to meet Tim Rickis!

By Lt. Peter Sorrajja- GFD Firefighter/EMT

I would like to start off by saying Happy New Year! We hope everyone spent some well needed time with family and friends all while staying safe. Now onto introducing the next member of the Granville Fire Department, Tim Rickis. While many of you already know Tim from his assorted fire department responsibilities such as smoke alarm installations, fire inspections, and even the country caller when he would write the monthly articles, we would like to introduce him to those that have not yet had the wonderful pleasure of getting to know him.

Tim joined the Granville Fire Department in 2017 (5 years ago) and prior to joining GFD he served as a volunteer firefighter on Lost Acres Fire Department (Granby CT). His oldest son currently serves as a career firefighter for Bradley International airport and Tim credits him as his inspiration for originally getting into the fire service. Another reason Tim gave for becoming a volunteer firefighter was because he wanted to volunteer to something meaningful within his community. There is no doubt in my mind when I say Granville is a better place because of time and dedication Tim gives to the community.

In his short time on the department Tim has certainly excelled and climbed through the ranks. He started as a firefighter and was soon after promoted to the role of Lieutenant. During this transition he simultaneously took on the

role as the training officer for the department. On top of his already full plate, Tim was also the sole individual responsible for any and all of the public relations responsibilities involving the department. After spending time as a lieutenant Tim was promoted to Captain of the fire department where he could focus his time on training and several of his other responsibilities could be distributed to those around him. Tim's current goal for the department is to keep us moving forward and to ensure that we continue to provide the best service we can to Granville and its residents.

In the time where Tim is not working at GFD, he is doing the things he loves and enjoys. He is a diehard hockey fan with his favorite team being the New York Rangers. Don't worry though he still supports the Bruins from time to time. In the winter Tim enjoys ice skating and, in the summer, he spends his time going for hikes. As far as work is concerned Tim is a Director at Otis Elevator's North American call center which takes elevator and customers calls for all of the US and Canada. Tim says his work keeps him very busy, but it is a job he truly loves.

If you have not already taken the time to meet Tim, you should. He is a genuine and kindhearted individual who would go out of his way to help those around him. He treats everyone with kindness and respect and strives to make the town of Granville a better and safer place every day. The department would not be a fraction of what it is today if it didn't have Tim in the position he is. He brings out the best in everyone and strives to spread the knowledge he has gained throughout his years of experience. With that being said if you ever see Tim, please, say hi and strike up a conversation because you will have the opportunity to meet one of the towns brightest and kindest individuals.



## Granville Public Library

2 Granby Rd · 357-8531 · granvillepubliclibrary.org

Library Hours are: **Monday, Thursday, and Saturday 10 AM-Noon**  
**Monday 5-8 PM, Wednesday 3-8 PM, Thursday 3-6 PM**  
**Closed Tuesday, Friday and Sunday**



## Newest Books, Movies, and Programs at the Granville Public Library

### DVDS



### Non-Fiction

### Audio Books



Story Hour-10:30 AM

January 8- What's your favorite winter sport?

January 22- Be You-Nique

## New Children's books



## Fiction: All types, Mystery, Thrillers to Christian



## Programs here at YOUR library.

\*\* Register for two great presentations this winter, about something we all love, THE FOREST and the products we get from them. Register today by calling or emailing, or through our Facebook page or website.



- **January 19, 2022, 6:30 PM-** John Meiklejohn will share his knowledge and experience of being part of The American Chestnut Foundation and their mission to return the iconic American chestnut to its native range. Currently planned for the Program Room at the Library- Masks Required.
- **February 10, 2022-** Joshua Rapp, Conservation Scientist leading climate-smart forestry for Mass Audubon. He 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. This will be a ZOOM presentation. Email us at [granvill@cwmar.org](mailto:granvill@cwmar.org) so we have your email to send the link. ( please note there is no E in granvill in the email)

**Mark your Calendars: March 31-6:30-7:30** for an exciting Lotus Flower Lantern Craft Zoom Workshop as part of the Korean Sprit and Culture Series on Korean history and arts: Both in the program room and zoom.





## 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.

### 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 pm (We are skipping Jan 5th though) 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

The January Drive Up dinner will be Sunday, January 16 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. On the menu this month is Shepherds Pie or Veggie Quiche, salad, roll and dessert. All for the cost of \$12. If you wish to order, please call Bobbi at 413 297-0445 or Fran at 357-6492.

### INFORMATION

#### BIG Y GIFT CARDS

Big Y gift cards are available. Please see Karen Rahn to purchase them. 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 contact Bobbi at 413 357-0194.

#### CONTACT US

We try to help anyone in town who is in need of help in shopping, transportation, running errands, food, emergency fuel, etc. but we need to know. Please call.

To contact the church to leave a message for Pastor Johnny, please 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.

### MISSIONS NEWS

#### AGAPE SCHOOL

Bobbi is looking for a little help in providing food for the children at the Agape School in Uganda. This is a huge help for Pastor Steve as they have over 100 orphans to feed every day. Please consider donating \$5.00 a month. It would be greatly appreciated.

#### AFGHAN REFUGEES

We are collecting clothing for Afghan refugees that are being settled in our area. You can drop items off at the church on Sunday mornings or on the porch at 23 Water St. Call Bobbi if you have any questions.

#### HAT AND MITTEN TREE

Thank you to all who donated to our hat and mitten tree. They are taken to the Springfield Council of Churches and distributed to children in the area.

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday evenings-AA

Tuesday evenings-Church Board and Committee meetings

Wednesday evenings- Bible Study-7:00 pm

Thursday evenings-(Choir will meet at 7:00 when we start evening rehearsals again. At this time we practice at 9am Sunday morning)

## In Assisted Living

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



## Donna Marie Fillion

Donna, loving wife and mother, passed away suddenly on the 3rd of December. The world has lost some light with Donna's passing as she loved people and would do anything for you even if a stranger. She touched countless lives. She gladly would do you a favor even if it was an inconvenience. She loved her work and co-workers and would often be working nights and weekends even if she wasn't feeling well.

Donna is survived by her beloved husband, Michael George Fillion of Granville, formerly of East Longmeadow who she gave her life to. Donna is also survived by her beloved children, Andre Michael Fillion and Celine Rose Fillion of Granville. Donna dedicated her life to her children and loved them beyond measure. Just last Thursday, Donna was happily helping Celine get ready for her pop up shop for her business this weekend. Donna is predeceased by her beloved Great Aunt and Uncle Rose and Steve Delnero of West Springfield who treated her like a daughter in her younger years. She was also predeceased by a dear friend Susan M. Dupuis of Granville who treated her like a daughter in her older years. Donna was a homebody often happy to just be home with her family and close to her friends.

Besides her love of Granville, Donna loved her home away from home – Block Island a place we have lived since 1993 and enjoyed it immensely. Often, we would peacefully walk on Andy's Way with our dog Toby that Donna loved with all her heart. On Block Island, Donna loved making and selling jams and jellies something she was very proud of. Donna loved her friends so much. In Granville, Donna had a few special friends that have survived her – Dottie Bettinger, Jess Ripley, Lisa Rickis, and Nicole Berdt all of Granville. Donna is predeceased by her dear friend Sally Wheeler who passed away recently.

Donna's early career included legal positions with Friendly's in the corporate office and also Cigna. Later in life her love for people led her to open an elder care business. With her love of animals, she also did pet sitting. Later in life she worked for the Town of Granville as its Town Clerk a position that she dearly loved. She also worked within the Town's Assessor's office and loved that position also. She also worked as a Librarian for the Granville Town Library a position she loved, because it was another opportunity to see people. She also was a member of the Granville Library Club whom she had many dear friends. In the past few years, Donna proudly became a Justice of the Peace and married several couples often writing their vows for them. Very recently, she took a position in Sandisfield as the Assistant Town Clerk, because she wanted to help a town in need. Donna loved her jobs, because they often required her to interact with people which she immensely loved. The hole Donna is leaving in anyone's life who knew her is incomprehensible.