



GRANVILLE'S COUNTRY CALLER

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

NOVEMBER 2023

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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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REMINDER THE FOLLOWING HELPING HANDS ARE AVAILABLE

✱✱ Western Mass. **HELP** – Hospital Equipment Loan Program

ie: wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds and shower chairs

Call Saturday mornings for information 413 301-3293

✱✱ Community Food Pantry Southwick - Granville – Tolland

220 College Highway, Southwick, 413 569-9876

✱✱ Highland Valley Elder Services – multitude of services, including counseling & referrals 413 586-2000

If you need more information, have questions or need help, feel free to contact Bobbi at 413 297-0445 or Terry at 413 357-8537

**~Lunch Bunch~**

Come join the Lunch Bunch at Granville Federated Church at noon on Weds, November 1st and December 6th.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Provided: Coffee, Tea,
Dessert,
Fellowship

(Bring your own sandwich)



Joe Pietroniro

Granville, MA

EST. 1990

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PILOT BUDDY PROGRAM MOVING FORWARD

We had an encouraging response from folks who are willing to be part of a test run of the “Granville Buddy Program.”

Please join us on November 16th at 1:30 pm at the Granville Federated Church Fellowship Hall. This meeting will be to discuss the desired components of the program such as “who’s your buddy”, numbers of calls per week, possible bi-monthly visits and/or transportation assistance. The pilot program will start in December and continue for a couple of months.

All are welcome at this meeting, and please consider joining our pilot study, no major commitment is required. Coffee, tea and cookies will be enjoyed!!

Thank you,

Bobbi and Terry

Contacts: 413 297-0445 or 413 357-8537



Westfield Technical Academy

33 Smith Ave
Westfield, MA 01085

Annual WTA PVO Craft Fair

Sunday
November 26, 2023

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Novi Cantori Concert

December 17, 2pm

Granville Federated Church

**Followed by a reception to
meet the singers!**



***WE'RE BACK !
DRIVE-UP LUNCH
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH***

GRANVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

***HAM , BAKED BEANS, SALAD, BROWN BREAD & HOMEMADE
APPLE CRISP***



\$12.00 PER PLATE

PLEASE CALL IN YOUR ORDER AHEAD TO:

Fran at 357-6492 or Bobbi at 297-0445

DRIVE UP & PAY AT THE DRIVEWAY

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

SERVING FROM 12:00 – 1:00 PM



West Granville Congregational Church

1580 Main Road, Route 57 - West Granville

Services will be on the 2nd Sunday of each month:

September 10

October - No service this month due to Harvest Fair

November 12 and

December 10

All services are at 7PM.

Refreshments and fellowship in the Academy Hall after each service.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Thank you to the Granville Cultural Council for helping to fund the Concert!

Both the Church and Academy are available for rental.

Please call Deborah Boulanger at 357-6360 for more information.

Check our Facebook Page for updates on upcoming services and events!

<https://www.facebook.com/WestGranvilleCongregationalChurch1778/>

Granville Post Office's New telephone is: **(413) 666-9000**

The other number 357-6447 is no longer in service.

We apologize for any inconvenience this change may have caused.

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 mornings
Coffee Hour following the service.

EVENTS**DRIVE UP DINNERS**

We're back with our next Drive-up Dinner on Sunday, November 12th from 12 to 2. The menu includes ham, beans, salad, brown bread & homemade apple crisp. Cost is \$12 per meal. To order, please call Fran at 357-6492 or Bobbi at 297-0445.

HARVEST FAIR

Thank you to all who contributed to making the Harvest Fair a huge success. Thank you to all the workers who put in so much time and effort, and to our customers who supported our efforts. And thank you so much to Mt. Orchards, Maple Corner Farm, and to Hilltown Pork for their generous donations!

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 1st and Nov. 15th at 10:45 am. We are studying the Book of Acts .

LUNCH BUNCH

Our next Lunch Bunch will be Wednesday, Nov. 1st at noon. Bring a sandwich. Coffee and dessert are provided.

COMING UP

Novi Cantori will be presenting a concert at the church on Sunday, December 17th at 2 PM

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday evenings-AA-8:00 pm
Tuesday evenings-Church Board meetings
Wednesday morning- Bible Study-10:45 am
(1st and 3rd Wednesdays).
Wednesday afternoon Lunch Bunch 12:00
noon (1st Wednesday)
Thursday evenings- Choir-6:30pm

In Assisted Living

Alice Demarais
The Arbors
40 Court Street Apt 108
Westfield, MA 01085

MISSIONS NEWS

We provide support for many organizations here and around the world:
Annual Advent Hat and Mitten Collection
Annual Lenten Open Pantry Food Collection
Operation Christmas Child
Meals around Town
Springfield Rescue Mission
Deacon's Fund for local aid
ABC and UCC Wider Missions
Dinners for the Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter in Westfield
Agape School, Orphanage and the well there in Kaleko, Uganda

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Fill a shoebox with toys, school supplies, personal care items to send to a needy child. Millions of these boxes have been distributed worldwide since 1993. Ages are BOY 2-4, 5-9, 10-14 and GIRL 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14. A donation of \$10 is also appreciated to cover shipping. Collection for this year is Nov.13th to Nov.20th. Bring to the church or drop off on the porch at 23 Water St.

INFORMATION**BIG Y GIFT CARDS**

Big Y gift cards are available. Please see Eileen Jerome 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

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.



JOB DESCRIPTION
Granville Public Library
Library Director

JOB SUMMARY:

The Library Director is responsible for the direction, operation, and oversight of the library in concert with the Board of Trustees and in conformity with applicable State and Federal Law, while envisioning community needs and promoting community engagement. The Library Director builds community relations and, with the Board of Trustees, is the liaison and key communicator among other town departments, including, but not limited to Town Administrator, Director of Public Works and Schools, as well as the Granville business community. In keeping with the mission of the Library, the Library Director is responsible for maintaining an appropriate library collection. The Library Director is responsible for all other Library staff, as well as their supervision. The Library Director is responsible for the completion and filing of all applicable, Federal, State, Town reports. In addition, the Library Director coordinates with the Trustees to submit a yearly budget to the town that addresses the needs of the community, advocates on behalf of the Library and. If necessary and available, the Library Director researches and applies for grant funding that supports the Library Mission.

SUPERVISION:

The Library Director reports to the Board of Trustees and is evaluated yearly on or around their hiring anniversary.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

As in all positions at the Granville Public Library, the Library Director's position requires flexibility and excellent use of time management. The Library Director's responsibilities include the same as all staff when working during open library hours. This includes working as a circulation librarian, preparing books and media for cataloging, assisting patrons and providing check-in and check-out responsibilities. The Library Director, in collaboration with appointed staff, evaluates, obtains and weeds all materials, including books, media, and other things for the Library Collection and is responsible for the cataloging of all the items purchased for this collection. In addition to the maintenance of the Library Collection, the Library Director will support the acquisition of up-to-date technology hardware and software, necessary maintenance and website and social media updates and/or oversight. This position is responsible for collecting, analyzing, and reporting statistics to the Library Trustees bimonthly and to recommend improvements to help meet Community needs and improve community engagement. The Library Director is responsible for outreach including connecting with the community and schools, to create and foster the relationship between the community and the Library, as well to acquire adequate funding through town budget and grants opportunities.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR:

- Develop and assign responsibility to staff, as well as the scope of duties.
- Supervise and evaluate employee performance and make recommendations.
- Manage approved budgets and oversee the maintenance of financial records.
- Complete yearly ARIS and Mass State Aid Reports, in addition to coordinating any report request for or by the Board of Trustees or the Library Club.
- Work with the trustees to prepare both short and long-range strategic plans for the library.
- Create, evaluate and submit book lists and reviews and pertinent information for the library's weekly Wowbrary Email blast and the Monthly Granville Caller Newsletter
- Update library technology for program and patron use.
- Research, write and manage grants, including, but not limited to LSTA, ALA, ARSL, MBLC grants.
- Maintain and develop knowledge of library procedures and activities and relevant State and Federal Laws by participating in appropriate in-service training and regional programs.

Library Director Position, cont'd.

EDUCATIONAL AND PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE:

Required:

- A Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Experience working with children and families.
- Demonstrated interest in Public Library service.

Preferred

- A.L.A. accredited M.L.S. with 1-2 years of library experience preferred; or 2-4 years of supervisory experience in the library field.

SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE/ABILITIES FOR POSITION:

- Strong interpersonal communication skills with children, adults, and other libraries are necessary in this position.
- Basic to moderate level of financial bookkeeping and accounting, with computer skills
- Strong supervisory/managerial skills
- A high degree of motivation and initiative; work independently
- Strong multi-level oral and written communication skills

ANTICIPATED WEEKLY HOURS AND PAY RATE:

Hours: 12-17 @ \$20-\$25 Hours and Pay rate are Board of Trustee Recommendations

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The occupant of this position must spend several hours a day walking, standing, and sitting. Activities include moderate to frequent physical exertion in body movement such as reaching, bending, and twisting. The position also requires moderate to frequent grasping, pulling, and pushing of materials as well as fine manipulation associated with the required use of a computer, keyboard, and calculator. The Library Director must also be able to lift and move objects up to twenty (20) pounds on a frequent basis.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS:

The Library director works predominantly indoors, but outdoor activities will be expected during seasonally appropriate weather. Winter Hours may require periodic sanding/salting of walkways and stairs. Covid cleaning procedures are required. The regular solvents are adhesives such as rubber cement and cleaning solutions.



Granville Public Library 2 Granby Rd · 357-8531 ·

www.GranvillePublicLibrary.org

Email for general inquiries: Granville@cwmar.org

Email for Program Registration: GranvillePrograms@cwmar.org

Our Hours:

Monday, Thursday, and Saturday 10 AM-Noon

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

Celebrating Local Authors!



The Granville Public Library will be hosting 4 local authors to come speak about their process and their writing with you! Join us in celebrating these authors!

Children's Author - Sarah Meiklejohn
(Sat-Nov. 4th @10AM)

Poetry - Phil Pothier
(Wed-Nov. 15th @7PM)

Adult Author - TJ Banks
(Wed-Nov. 8th @7PM)

YA Author - PJ Sharon
(Wed-Nov. 29th @7PM)

We encourage you to register and come, no matter the age and celebrate with them and hear their stories

The Regional Public Health Nurse, Tricia Sedelow for the towns of Southwick, Granville and Tolland will hold a monthly "Nurse Hour"

Nurse Hour
at the Granville Public Library
Nov 9th- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The nurse will be able to offer blood pressure checks, discuss preventative health screening, discuss and assist in finding community resources. Please bring any questions/concerns you may have to discuss.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR PATRONS.
GPL WILL BE CLOSED SO WE TOO CAN CELEBRATE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.



Granville Public Library
and Pathways for Parents
GROW, PLAY & LEARN

PLAYGROUPs

For children ages Birth-2 with caregiver.

Monday November 13

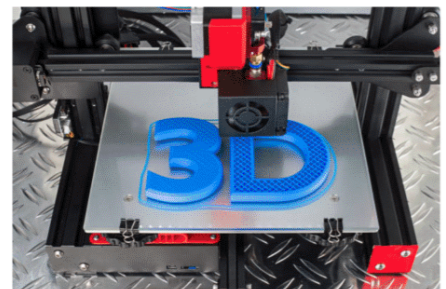
10:00 AM-11:00

For children ages 2-5 with caregiver.

Every Monday in November

10:00 AM-11:00

Pathways for Parents is administered by Ludlow Public Schools & is funded by the Coordinated Family Community Engagement Grant through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.



Did you know you can print here at your local library! Stop in and learn more

Granville Public Library

Granville Public Library

Painting classes for adults
with intellectual or
developmental disabilities
w/ Sharon Billings

- November 2, 9, and 16.
- 4:00-5:00 PM
- Library Program Room in basement.
Not fully accessible to those with
severe mobility limitations.

Preregistration Encouraged
413-357-8531

GranvillePrograms@cwmar.org



Granville Public Library After School Program

For Grades 3-6-

Registration Required.

GranvillePrograms@cwmar.org

Wednesdays

Nov 1- Pokemon Club

Nov 8- Staff lead activity

Nov 15- ARTventures- Tigers and Parrots

Nov 22- No Program

Nov 29- Staff lead activity



Join Granville Public Library for a
premiere viewing of

CLEAR DAY

THUNDER

RESCUING THE

AMERICAN CHESTNUT

A documentary film that tells the story of the American chestnut and the people who are working hard to bring it
back to our forests about the grassroots efforts of passionate citizen
scientists and researchers working to restore this ecologically and economically significant tree species.

"... We hope that it will inspire others to join us in our mission to restore this iconic tree species."

Features interviews with scientists, volunteers, and
luminaries. Including best-selling author Barbara Kingsolver, Rolling Stones
keyboardist Chuck Leavell, country music legend Dolly Parton, and former President
Jimmy Carter to name a few.

**Monday Nov 13 6:30 PM- 50 minutes followed by
Q&A with local TACF volunteer John Meiklejohn**

Light refreshments will be served.

Registration is always appreciated

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 27, 2023

Joel Dusoe – Legislative Director
joel.dusoe@mahouse.gov

Representative Boldyga supports comprehensive \$1.02 billion tax relief package

Reforms estate tax, expands Senior Circuit Breaker and rental deduction

BOSTON – State Representative Nick Boldyga (R-Southwick) has joined with his colleagues to approve a comprehensive tax package that will provide significant financial relief to Massachusetts residents and businesses, but he believes more needs to be done to ease the burden on taxpayers and small businesses to make Massachusetts a more affordable place to live.

House Bill 4104, An Act to improve the Commonwealth's competitiveness, affordability, and equity, offers a phased-in approach to a series of tax reforms that is expected to produce \$561 million in savings for taxpayers this fiscal year and an estimated \$1.02 billion in savings once the changes are fully implemented in 2026. The bill, which represents a compromise negotiated over the last three months by a six-member conference committee, received preliminary approval by the House of Representatives on a vote of 155-1 on September 27.

Representative Boldyga emphasized the importance of this tax relief package while expressing his belief that it should be just the start of broader efforts to reduce wasteful spending and further alleviate the tax burden on those struggling to make ends meet. He said, "While this is a step in the right direction, we must recognize that more needs to be done to ensure that the hardworking people of our Commonwealth get the relief they deserve. We must find ways to reduce wasteful spending and provide additional tax relief."

The final tax package provides several key benefits, including increases in the child and dependent tax credit, the rental deduction cap, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. It also doubles the Senior Circuit Breaker tax credit while raising the estate tax threshold from \$1 million to \$2 million and increasing the amount seniors can deduct from their property taxes when participating in the Senior Property Tax Volunteer Program.

House Bill 4104 also authorizes a reduction in the short-term capital gains tax rate and implements a single sales factor for companies beginning January 1, 2025, to encourage economic growth and help maintain Massachusetts-based businesses. In addition, the bill triples the maximum allowable Title V tax credit for homeowners repairing or replacing their septic tanks, while also expanding the lead paint abatement and taking steps to promote more housing development across the state.

According to Representative Boldyga, House Bill 4104:

- Combines the child and dependent tax credits into one while eliminating the existing cap and increasing the credit from \$180 to \$310 in FY23 and to \$440 in FY24, which will benefit over 565,000 families;
- Increases the rental deduction cap from \$3,000 to \$4,000, which will assist approximately 800,000 renters;
- Raises the Earned Income Tax Credit from 30% to 40% of the federal credit, which will benefit approximately 400,000 taxpayers earning less than \$60,000;
- Doubles the maximum Senior Circuit Breaker tax credit from \$1,200 to \$2,400, indexed to inflation, to assist nearly 100,000 seniors with their housing costs;
- Eliminates the estate tax for all estates valued under \$2 million and allows for a uniform credit of \$99,600, effective January 1, 2023;
- Allows municipalities to provide up to \$2,000 in property tax reductions for older residents participating in the senior work-off program, which is currently capped at \$1,500;
- Reduces the tax on short-term capital gains from 12% to 8.5%;
- Replaces the current three-prong sales tax apportionment for Massachusetts-headquartered businesses that incorporates property, payroll and sales with a new system that only factors in sales;
- Increases the maximum tax credit for septic tank repairs or replacement under Title V from \$6,000 to \$18,000 and also increases the amount that can be claimed to \$4,000 per year;
- Doubles the lead paint abatement to \$1,000 for partial abatement and \$3,000 for full abatement;
- Allows cities and towns to adopt a local property tax exemption for renters whose income falls below a certain level set by the community;
- Increases the statewide cap on the Dairy Tax Credit from \$6 million to \$8 million to assist local farmers impacted by reductions in milk prices;
- Exempts employer student loan payments from being counted as taxable income by the state; and
- Increases the maximum amount of alcohol that hard ciders and still wines may contain from 6% of alcohol by weight to 8.5%, which will allow more of these locally produced products to be taxed at a lower rate.

House Bill 4104 must still be approved by the Senate and enacted in both branches before reaching Governor Maura Healey's desk for her review and signature.

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Hazel Humphrey Drumm

Hazel Mary Humphrey Drumm, aged 97, of Largo, Florida passed away on July 21st, 2023, after a long battle with dementia.

Hazel grew up in Granville, Massachusetts as the daughter of Myrtie Hunt and Ernest Noble Humphrey. Her father owned Humphrey's Garage and early on, Hazel grew to know most all of the townspeople. She attended grammar school in Granville and graduated from Westfield High School.

Hazel married Russell M. Drumm in 1949, and they made their home on Maple (Main) Street in her grandmother's house. It was there that her daughter, Cynthia, was born. After several years, they sold their home to the Cusson family and moved up the hill to Barnard Road. Hazel was an accomplished homemaker and cook. She loved to entertain family and friends. The entire family enjoyed going to the Humphrey family cottage in East Otis, Ma. every summer.

When Hazel graduated from high school, she began working at the Noble and Cooley "Drum" Shop. She started as a piece worker in the factory, and eventually moved in to the office. Her family liked to tease her that she ran the place as she worked there until she retired at around age 65. Hazel had many friends and her sense of humor and storytelling skills were truly remarkable! Her personality was warm and engaging and she loved to nurture and help others.

After retirement, she and Russ moved to Florida where she enjoyed meeting new friends, walking on the beach and spending time with family. She returned to Granville each summer to visit cousins May and Ethel Hunt and their families. She loved helping with the daily tasks at the Gran-Val Farm and Scoop.

For the last 10 years. Hazel resided at Belleair Health Care Center in Largo, Fl. where she entertained the entire staff. She received wonderful care from all -administration to the nursing staff.

Hazel is survived by her daughter, Cynthia Drumm Madonna and a niece, Christiana Humphrey Tharp, both of Florida.

Hazel was predeceased in death by her parents Ernest (Wad) and Myrtie Humphrey; her husband, Russell M. Drumm, her brother Robert E. Humphrey and most recently, her sister in law, Jane M. Humphrey.

A family service and burial will be held at the Silver Street Cemetery in Granville at a future date.