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GRANVILLE,
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GRANVILLE'S COUNTRY CALLER

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

JANUARY 2020

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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 jana01@comcast.net 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.

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

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In memory of Reinhold and Florence Sussmann

West Granville Congregational Church

Zook and Zelda

Tuesday, Jan. 7th, 2020, 6:00 PM

Public Town Hall Meeting

* * * *

Guest Speaker: Rep. John Velis,
Candidate For MA State Senate

Rep. Velis is running in a special election for the MA Senate seat previously held by Sen. Humason. The special election will likely be held in March 2020.

Hear Rep. Velis' positions on current state and local issues.
Plenty of time allotted for Q & A.

* * * *

Granville Town Hall

707 Main Road

Granville, MA

[Inclement Weather Date: Thurs. Jan. 9th, 6:00 PM]

Hosted by: Voices Rising Together - a Granville-based grassroots advocacy group

For more info call: 413-348-2848 or email: jmiserve183@gmail.com



Granville-Tolland Lions Club

The 2020 Granville-Tolland Lions Club Community Anniversary, Birthday Calendar is now available for delivery. To subscribe for delivery of the annual calendar please email d.stosick@comcast.net. Your \$5.00 annual subscription is critical to the continued support of the Lions Club, which has served the Granville and Tolland communities for over 53 years. The lions are always a helpful resource for those with hearing, eye and sight emergencies and our club has helped several local citizens.

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7PM

at the Granville Town Hall, 707 Main Road.

The proposed microbusiness (cultivation and processing only – NO RETAIL) is anticipated to be located at 1566 Main Rd, Granville, MA.

There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.

If necessary due to weather, the make-up meeting will be held Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at the same location and time.

GRANVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH

American Baptist and United Church of Christ
16 Granby Rd., Granville, MA 01034

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AT GRANVILLE FEDERATED CHURCH, GRANVILLE, MASS. TO KEEP UP ON GFC NEWS

To contact the church, please call a deacon (Dale Florida 357-8775, Eileen Jerome 357-6610, Fran Wackerbarth 357-6492, Alan Gregg 357-6156, Laura Fielding 357-6368), or our head trustee (Bobbi O'Connell 357-0914)

WEEKLY/MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Morning Worship is held each Sunday at 10 a.m. A coffee hour follows the service
Monday nights- AA meetings
Thursday nights 7 p.m. choir rehearsal
Third Sunday 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. CHURCH FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 19, 2020 Church Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. COME AND MEET DR. JOHN WILSON!

Dr. Rev. John Wilson has been hired to serve as our transitional pastor as we search for a settled minister. Dr. Wilson (Pastor John) comes to us with over 36 years of experience in the ministry. He has served as Navy Chaplain, college lecturer and instructor, Director of college ministry, senior pastor, interim pastor, guest speaker at special events and much more. He and his wife Levonne live in Springfield. Please join us as we welcome Pastor John and Levonne to our fellowship.

Big Y gift cards are available.

Please see Karen McLaughlin to purchase them. A percentage of the sale goes to help support the church.

NEWS FROM AGAPE SCHOOL, UGANDA

Terrible rains for several weeks have caused crop failures and greatly increased food prices. This is also causing well water contamination (3 children hospitalized for typhoid). I am asking you to

consider helping me to send the school more funds in Nov., Dec., and Jan. to purchase food-no amount is too small! In addition, at year end I try to add new money to the well maintenance fund. The water contamination required chemical treatment to make it safe to drink and cook with. We are fortunate to be able to just turn on the tap!

Thank you.

Bobbo O'Connell and the GFC Missions

The Granville Federated Church Fellowship Hall is available for rent, complete with two restrooms, tables, chairs and kitchen facilities.

For more information contact Bobbi O'Connell at 413 357-0914 or Karen McLaughlin at 413 357-9090

Happy New Year

GRANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

January and February

Mystery Raffle

During the months of January and February

Stop in the library, take out a book and receive a ticket towards the Mystery Raffle.

Visit often! (Adult Raffle/Children's Raffle)

Drawing to take place on February 29 at noon.

Make & Take or Take & Make

January 13 – 18 Winter Scene (while supplies last)

February 10 – 15 Valentine's Day Card (while supplies last)

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION NEWS

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will hold its' 2020

Grant proposal meetings on the following dates:

January 16 February 20 March 19 (if needed)

All meetings will be held at Town Hall starting at 7 pm. Anyone wishing to discuss community preservation project funding for consideration at the Annual Town Meeting should plan to meet with the CPC to discuss the details of their proposal at one of these meetings.

Completed project applications should be received at the Granville Town Hall by Friday, January 31, 2020 or electronically sent to CPC chair Richard Pierce at rpierce@comcast.net. The grant application can be found on the town's website at townofgranville.net under the Community Preservation Comm. header. Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Rich Pierce prior to Jan. 5, 2020.

During January any questions should be sent to other members of the CPC directly or through Matt Streeter, Town Administrator.

This year, Granville is set to receive over \$ 3,357.00 in matching funds from the state. This amount will likely increase due to recent votes in the legislature allocating surplus state funds to the CPA Trust Fund. This represents a 14.1% match based on the \$ 23,873.00 that the Town receives from a local property tax surcharge (1 1/2% of property evaluations over \$100,000).

On July 31, 2019, Governor Baker signed legislation approved by the General Court that will increase funding for the CPA Trust Fund. Current funding is raised by a document filing fee at the Registry of Deeds. The new legislation increases this fee for the first time in 20 years, from \$ 20 to \$ 50 per filing. Since this new fee structure takes effect on Dec. 31, 2019,

The Town can expect a significant increase in the state match in the coming years.

Individuals and groups in Granville are encouraged to apply for CPC grants within the categories of Open Space, Historic Preservation and Community Housing. Grants approved by the CPC will be forwarded for discussion and voting at the Annual Town Meeting on May 11, 2020.



Joe Pietroniro
Granville, MA

EST. 1990

**REPAIR WORK • ADDITIONS •
BOILERS • REMODELS • GAS
PIPING • AND MORE**

Commercial and Residential

Master Lic. # 13035

In Nursing Homes

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

Arline Schultz
American Inn, Southwick, MA 01077

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

Granville-Tolland Dollars for Scholars®

Celebrating 45 Years of Success

Granville-Tolland Dollars for Scholars has awarded over \$500,000 in scholarships to benefit the students of Granville and Tolland. This could not be achieved without the selfless volunteers and board members.

We are in need of board members and volunteers as we begin 2020, people willing to bring the organization into the future. There are four meetings a year with a few fundraisers a year that need your help, your new ideas, and your new energy.

Please contact us today to become a part of this rewarding organization. Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26 at 12:30 PM at the LeFebvre house on Main Road in Granville. Walk-in volunteers are welcome, but please consider emailing your plan to join us at granvilletolldanddfs@gmail.com or call Kris LeFebvre at 357-9044.

Maple Corner Farm

Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoe Center

Beech Hill Road

Come enjoy cross country skiing and snowshoeing

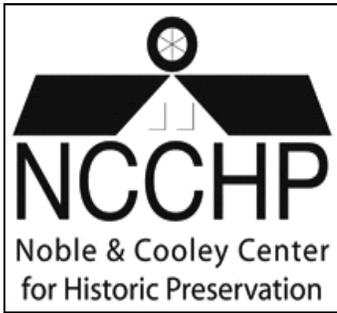
Available ski and snowshoe rentals,

ski lessons and snack bar

New and used ski equipment for sale

Snow Phone 413-357-6697

www.maplecornerfarm.com



Many thanks to all the NCCHP members, friends, family and visitors who supported the museum in 2019. From the annual ice harvest in February, the monthly living history series events in May – October, to the 38th annual Granville Harvest Fair weekend we enjoyed seeing many familiar faces and meeting new visitors as well. We appreciate all the local support for “Keeping The Drumbeat of History Alive”.

Mark your calendars! The 12th annual Ice Harvest at the shop pond will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1 from 12:00 – 3:00. Dennis Picard, former director of Storrowton Village Museum, will organize the harvest and invite visitors to join him on the ice (conditions permitting) to use the ice saw and other tools to experience life before the days of refrigeration. A video on ice harvesting in New England will also be shown continuously in the NCCHP Museum.

During the ice harvest, the museum will be open for tours that focus on Yankee Ingenuity from the 1850's to current day. We hope to bring people together to rekindle the community spirit of the farm communities and industrial villages that were common in most of New England. The Noble & Cooley Center for Historic Preservation invites everyone with an interest in “living history” to join us at the museum. The NCCHP museum is located at 42 Water St. Granville, MA in the historic buildings of the Noble & Cooley Toy Drum Factory.

There is no charge for the event but donations will be gratefully accepted. This living history presentation is supported in part by grants from the Granville Cultural Council, the Suffield Historical Society and the Suffield Land Conservancy. Last minute ice conditions will be posted on the NCCHP website (www.ncchp.org). Hope to see you and your families there!

This area of New England has a long history of ice harvesting and produced a great deal of natural ice during the early 20th Century. Commercial ice harvesting in Southwick and Suffield began right after the Civil War ended. Prior to that time the Hudson River was the major source of ice. For several years the polluted Hudson produced poor harvests and the ice companies looked around for a new source. The Congamond Lakes, favored with good rail transportation on the nearby New Haven-Northampton railroad line, offered a unique business opportunity. The spring-fed Congamond Lakes produced a pure, high quality ice that found a ready market. It wasn't long before the ice harvesters were cutting big blocks and loading them into boxcars for shipment to New York. The Congamond operation became the largest ice harvesting operation in New England from 1900 to 1925.

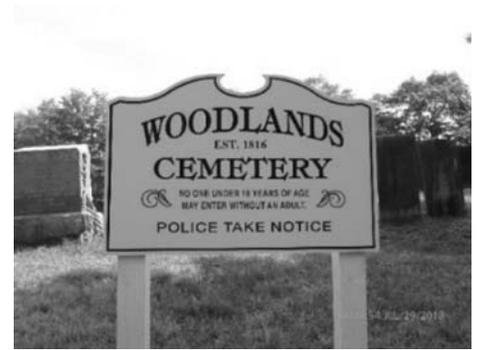
In addition to the large commercial ice operations, many local farmers harvested ice from their ponds for personal use or as a source of extra income.

Woodlands Cemetery Update and History

The calendar has changed, we are now in a new year. Happy New Year!

It is the New England winter and our "residents" are resting comfortably under a cozy blanket of snow.

We are attempting to rally interest and commitment to address badly needed repairs in Main Road and Northeast (Old Westfield Road) Cemeteries. This month we will be again requesting CPA funding for cemetery preservation. Woodlands needs a small amount to finish a few repairs remaining from last year. And now we are also requesting funding for Main Road cemetery and Northeast (Old Westfield Road) cemetery.



The Main Rd cemetery was once owned by the Congregational Church and was turned over to the town when it no longer had the financial resources to maintain it. The town mows and takes care of some landscaping issues but the stones have deteriorated badly; some have broken and fallen. It is a closed cemetery in that sites are no longer available. This cemetery is easily viewed by everyone who drives by on route 57.

The Northeast Cemetery resides on property still owned by the town but surrounded in part by the City of Westfield Water Resources and in part by a private resident. It also is a closed cemetery with many stones badly in need of repair. Northeast Cemetery is quietly half-hidden on a hillside. It is a small, very lovely old cemetery and worth a stop to visit.



For 21 years, Marie Beckman Shaughnessy was a very active participant in the Woodlands Cemetery Association. She was a member, an officer, and a tireless worker for the benefit of not only Woodlands but the Main Road Cemetery also. From 1950 to 1971, she filled many positions and worked tirelessly for the benefit of both cemeteries. Not only did she take care of a multitude of administrative responsibilities but she also rolled up her sleeves and did much of the physical work herself. She was a determined spirit with ideas of her own. The minutes of meetings reflect an appreciation for that contribution.

"For a long time she suffered with arthritis but nothing would deter her from performing tasks in the cemetery far beyond her strength. For much of her work she received little or no remuneration. Her reward was the satisfaction of seeing the two cemeteries, neat, well-trimmed and places of beauty".

Cont'd ---->

Woodlands Cemetery Update and History Cont'd

On one occasion, Marie helped a descendant of the Rose family from New York find the graves of her ancestors in Main Road Cemetery and received this thank you note in response.

"I found Granville so lovely, and its people so gracious that it will be a pleasure for me to return. Strangely I did not feel like a stranger, but like one going home for a visit. Went to the old cemetery and found the graves of Elisha Sharon and Peter Rose. How lovely and well-cared for the cemetery is, and it was thrilling for me to know that the people in Granville still remember and care enough about their early settlers to maintain their graves and set out those beautiful flags.

At dusk I sat down on Elisha's grave and mentally told him about his descendants, not that they are very spectacular – just good people trying to live right and of none of them ever set the world on fire, none of them ever tried to burn it down either. I was by myself – but not alone at the end of this perfect day". Leona Strella Delanson, New York.



Marie was also instrumental in the building of a dam that resulted in our large wetland called Shaughnessy Swamp. She and her husband John Brooke Shaughnessy, a veteran of World War I, are buried in Woodlands Cemetery. She is the grandaunt of our special town guys John, Mark and Bud Beckman.



From the members of the Woodlands Cemetery Association,
WoodlandsCem@comcast.net

Woodlands Cemetery has sites available:
 48 Blandford Road

Contact us for information.
 Carolyn Donatini
 Dorrie Holmes
WoodlandsCem@comcast.net



TOWN CLERK'S CORNER....

by *Donna M. Fillion*

Telephone: 413.357.8585 Ext. 3/413.357.3805

Email: townclerk@townofgranville.org

Website: www.townofgranville.net

Office Hours: Monday evening 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and by appointment

Census:

The Town Clerk's Office will be sending out the 2020 Annual Census forms by mail mid-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 or stop in for a form to complete. Dog License Applications will be included, in the mailing, for dog owners who sometimes forget to license their dog. 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. Incomplete applications will be returned to the sender.

Nomination Papers:

Nomination papers for candidates running for town offices will be available at the Town Clerk's office beginning January 6, 2020 for the Annual Town Election to be held April 13, 2020.

Candidates for town office must obtain at least 30 signatures of registered voters town wide. The last day to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk and Board of Registrars is February 24, 2020. The following slates of office will be on the April ballot: one Selectman for three years, one Moderator for one year, one Assessor for three years, one Library Trustee for three years, one Constable for three years, two members of

the Planning Board for three years, one Tax Collector for three years and one Treasurer for three years.

If any resident has questions pertaining to the census form, the dog license form or nomination paper you may call the Town Clerk's office for assistance. Forms may be returned by mail or hand delivered to the Town Clerk's office.

Marriage Intentions:

If you wish to marry, you may contact my office or any other Town Clerk in the Commonwealth. The first document that a couple must complete is the Marriage Intentions Form and both must be present at the same time to do so. Following this, a license is issued and you can be married any place in the Commonwealth. Your marriage license is filed at the Town Clerk's Office where the Marriage Intentions Form is completed. Here is some additional information on marrying in MA: <http://www.mass.gov/courts/case-legal-res/law-lib/laws-by-subj/about/marriage.html>

Justice of the Peace:

If anyone is planning a wedding during 2020, you can contact me to act as your Justice/Wedding Celebrant for your civil ceremony.

Vital Records:

Birth records are filed based on residence. If you are a resident of Granville at the time of the birth of your child, then the child's birth certificate will be filed in Granville. Death records are filed in the community in which you pass away. Certified copies of vital records (Birth, Marriage, Death) are \$10.00.



The Granville Fire Department wants to wish you a safe and Happy New Year!

By Lt. Tim Rickis – GFD Firefighter & Public Relations Coordinator

Think Safety First When Heating your Home this Winter



Heating caused 7,053 fires over the past five years and is the number two cause of home fires in Massachusetts. Use your home heating system and space heating appliances wisely and responsibly. That's the way to *Keep Warm and Keep Safe*.

The ABCs of Fire Safety

- Make sure there are working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms on every level including one outside the bedrooms.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms monthly and change batteries twice a year, when you change the clocks.
- Hold home fire drills to practice the home escape plan.
- Practice home fire safety and set a good example for the children.

Be Careful When Using Fireplaces and Solid Fuel Stoves

If you heat your home by burning *solid fuels* (coal, firewood, pellets), be careful before, during and after using these kinds of fuels.

- Have the chimney professionally cleaned every year.
- Make sure the stove is approved by a national testing agency such as Underwriter's Laboratory (UL).
- Get a building permit before installing a stove.
- Keep anything that can burn three feet away.
- Dispose of the ashes in a **metal** container, with a lid, away from the house, garage and porch.

Space Heaters Need Space

Fires caused by space heaters are rare but often deadly. If you must use a space heater, do so safely.

- Do not use space heaters as your #1 heating source.
- Keep anything that can burn three feet away.



- Use only heavy-duty extension cords.
- Always turn off when going to bed or leaving home.
- Portable kerosene heaters are illegal in MA for home use.

Maintain Natural Gas Equipment

Natural gas is a safe and efficient way to cook, heat our homes and hot water.

- Have your furnace and hot water heater professionally checked every year.
- Do not use or store gasoline or painting supplies inside where they can be ignited by the pilot light.

Gas leaks can be dangerous – if you smell something like rotten eggs or you think there might be a leak,

- Move outdoors.
- Do not smoke or turn on or off electrical switches - sparks can cause an explosion.
- Dial 911 immediately.

Maintain Oil Heating Equipment

Home heating with fuel oil is also safe and efficient.

- Have your furnace professionally cleaned and checked every year.
- Don't let the tank get completely empty.
- Call for service if the oil burner releases smoke or soot in the house.

Carbon Monoxide: the Silent Killer

Heating equipment is the leading source of carbon monoxide (CO) in the home.

- Install carbon monoxide alarms on every level of your home.
- Don't use the gas stove or oven for heat.
- Have furnaces and chimneys checked annually by a professional.
- Keep appliance vents and exhaust pipes clear of drifting snow and bushes.

Fuel Assistance

For information on fuel assistance, please call the HEATLINE at 1-800-632-8175 (or for Boston only 617-357-6012) or on-line at www.mass.gov/dhcd.

For more information go to:
www.mass.gov/keepwarmkeepsafe



Department of Fire Services
www.mass.gov/dfs • (978) 567-3380

Together, we can improve the life safety and well-being of our Granville residents!

The all-volunteer members of The Granville Fire Department are proud to serve our residents 24/7. Please visit our web page at <http://www.granvillefire.net> or find us on Facebook! For Public Relations contact Lt. Tim Rickis at firedept@townofgranville.org