

# **Cheshire Chatter**

## May / June 2021



## Carole's Thought's

It's springtime in the Berkshires. Oh, wait a minute it snowed three inches. The statement, "Wait a few minutes and the weather will change" certainly was true in April.

I am pleased to write that although the weather has been a challenge, the C0VID-19 Pandemic cases in Cheshire have been at a minimum with vaccination scheduling met by the Cheshire Council on Aging. The COA utilized vaccinations offered at Berkshire Community College, The St. Elizabeth Parrish in North Adams, local pharmacies, and homebound programs from Springfield. On May 12, 2021 from 10:00am to noon, the CHP medical van will offer a second visit for first and second vaccinations. The great part is, it will be parked right in the front of the parking lot of the center. Additionally, they will continue to offer blood pressure testing, address health questions, and offer guidance for referrals. No appointment is necessary. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call me at the center: (413) 743-9719.

To date, we have scheduled over 400 first and second vaccine appointments with transportation provided to those without transportation. Birthday cards are ready for the May mailing to 92 individuals. Each will receive cards plus an invitation to enjoy a free lunch.

Good News... Brenda Caufield has been hired for 12 hours per week to assist in the kitchen, and as a general assistant. Brenda has lived in Cheshire for twenty two years, her husband is Douglas, and she has two children. Her past careers have included being a clerk, waitress, business manager of Home Instead and she was the manager of a That's a Wrap. For fun she enjoys playing on a volleyball league in Pittsfield and glamping.



Continuing with good news, Anne Furey has been hired to be our COA van driver. New days and hours will be posted. Anne comes to us with years of transportation experience. Les Rhinemiller and John Bianchi will continue to be substitute drivers.

Raised gardens are being assembled as well as the bicycles for seniors.

The Foot Clinic will be scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>. Appointments are necessary with individuals waiting in their cars for their appointment time. Masks are mandatory.

New LED lights have been installed throughout the building with a date of May 21<sup>st</sup> for painting the center room. We are seeking bids for new stage drapes and hope to find a bid to suit our needs and budget.

On Wednesday, April 21, 2021 Gene Gebarowski was voted in as Chairman, Vice-Chairman is Peter Traub, Carol Francesconi, Financial Clerk, and Mal Gwozdz, Secretary of the Cheshire Council on Aging Advisory Board.

If you would like to volunteer, there are many opportunities. Gardening, weeding, wood bench assembly, keeper of the shed/bicycles.

We continue to be focused on keeping all seniors healthy by stressing the need for wearing masks-distancing- limiting group sizes and to consider getting vaccinated. We hope to offer a small group for Quilting with Betty and card making. Outdoor exercise will begin May 5<sup>th</sup>- weather permitting. Masks are advised.

Wellness calls are available, please call me to arrange a schedule. (413) 743-9719.

Carole

### Thank You to Our Volunteers



Last month during National Volunteer Week, the Cheshire COA gave gift cards from Bass Water Grill to 19 of our volunteers who donated more than 19 hours of their time to the Center during the last year.

We could not do all the programs we run without the help of these dedicated people. As we slowly come out of the Covid crisis and begin to open back to a more normal state, the COA looks forward to having even more people

join our ranks of volunteers. Not only is it rewarding work, but you meet new people and make great friendships along the way. Our volunteers feel they are needed and are serving a purpose and a greater good. And they are. We know we have many untapped assets in Cheshire, one of them is most likely you - the you that wants to volunteer, get involved and give back to the community you love. Won't you come down and join the team at the Cheshire Council on Aging.

#### THE COA BIKE LOAN PROGRAM

May is National Bike Month which was established in 1956. We at the COA hope that you will stop by the Center as we showcase our 3 new bikes available to be signed out by the



seniors in our town who do not have a bike. So stop by and grab a helmet and take advantage of our beautiful bike trail just down the street. We hope that having these bikes at the Center will encourage more folks to give biking a try. Our Biria bikes are easy boarding so we believe you will have a much easier time riding them. They do not have a high frame bar that you need to swing your leg over. You

just step through so it's easy to get on and off the bike. Biking is fun and is a great low impact physical exercise. We hope you bring a friend so you can take out another bike and enjoy each other's companionship and meet new and old friends on the bike trail. The COA also has one adult trike. Adding a third wheel to a bike makes it possible for almost anyone to ride it. Even for those of us who never learned to ride a bike or have since developed balancing issues. If you don't have a helmet, the COA has adjustable adult helmets at the center. Your safety is important to us when you ride our bikes. Don't let the relatively slow speed of a bike fool you. Serious head injuries can occur. Always wear a helmet when riding a bike, it's your head and brain's best protection. We hope you stop by the Center, sign out a bike and rediscover the joy of cycling. If you haven't ridden in many a year, here's your chance to give it a try. Our bike program was made possible by a grant from AARP.

Betty King can't quite be sure but it was around 13 years ago, or so, that she started the



sewing group at the Cheshire Senior/Community Center. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 1-3 P.M. Ages vary, the group can number from 5-15, each bringing their own machine, materials, or fiber project to work on.

As did many young girls at the time, Betty joined the Cheshire 4H sewing group with Cindy Martin as leader. They learned sewing basics making mostly clothes to enter competitions at fairs and shows.

As the oldest of nine siblings Betty was assigned the task of mending for the family, thus early on learning the mechanics of operating a sewing machine. High school subjects were taken up with college prep courses so there was no time for Home Economic classes but she continued sewing for her children, family and friends until, in the 1980's she started taking quilting classes and joined a quilting guild, eventually teaching her own classes in shops in Massachusetts and neighboring states.

Once, coming on a cache of military style camouflage material, Betty delighted her husband Tom and some of his outdoorsman buddies with hunting shirts and utility items in the camo pattern.

Her creations, now numbering over 2000 quilts completed, have been shared to family, friends and grandchildren and through consignments to various outlets over the years

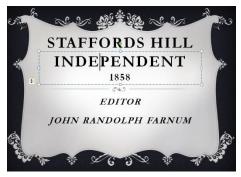
Betty is anticipating the upcoming opening of Inspired, a group craft shop in Lanesboro on Route 7, carrying her handiwork as well as those of other crafts people.

The sewing group at Cheshire can count on Betty for her experience and practiced eye for design to help whenever needed. She provides an iron, extra notions and support, and sometimes on occasion, when she has been given yarn or sewing materials, she shares with the group.

Group activities were suspended in March 2020 at the Center due to COVID-19. Now, quilting can resume on the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

It will be wonderful to hear the humming of sewing machines and the comfortable chatting of happy sewists again. The group Betty envisioned when she started this activity 13 years ago has brought together people of all ages with a desire to learn new skills, share knowledge, and make or renew social contacts. Please join us as we begin to get our lives back on track again.

Need more information? Call Betty at 743-3275 or Carole at 743-9719





## Third In The Series by Barry Emery

As you read these transcriptions from Farnum's 1858 paper, try to guess his age. His surprising biography will be presented in the next issue which will be the fourth and final installment.

## Going home with a girl the first time

We were between 15 and 16 years of age when the event about to be related transpired, and as a description of our personal appearance at that time is absolutely essential to the point of our story, we will give it as concisely as the subject will allow. In reference then to the period to say that we were green in the usual acceptance of that term would give the reader but a poor idea of the figure we displayed. Rather imagine A thick set flashy looking chap, with legs like an elephant, a hat with color about as expressive as a plate of Dutch cheese a face covered with fuzz That looked like the down of a newly hatched Gosling with a gate that would lead a backelor to suppose that we designed to travel up both sides of the road at the same time and you have a correct the Daguerreotype of a man and a 16th year of his age. One dark gloomy night in the month of December we changed to be at a spelling school not 1000 miles from Cheshire district number seven, while our eyes fell upon a fair form that immediately set are susceptible heart in a blaze. She was 16 or thereabouts, with bright eyes, red cheeks and cherry lips, while the auburn ringlets clustered in a wealth of profusion around her beautiful head, and her person to our ravished imagination. was more perfect in form and outline than the most faultless statute ever chiseled by the sculptuor's art. As we gazed, our feelings, which had scarcely ever before aspired girlward were fully aroused and we determined to go home with her that night or perish in the attempt.

As soon as school was dismissed and our "lady love" suitably bonneted and cloaked, we approached to offer our service as contemplated, and we then learned the difference between asking and doing. As we neared her, we were seized with a partial blindness red, green, blue, and yellow lights flashed upon our vision and appeared and disappeared like witches in a phantasmagoria. Our knees smote together like Belshazzer when he discovered the hahd writing upon the wall, while our heart thumped with apparently as much force as if it were driving ten penny nails into our ribs. We in the meantime managed to mumble over something, which is perhaps known to the recording angel, but certainly is not to us, at the same time poking out our elbow as nearly at right angles with our body as our physical confirmation would admit.

The night air blew keenly which served in some sort to revive us, and our senses returned what were our emotions on finding the cherished object of our first love clinging to our arm with all the tenacity a drowning man is said to clutch at a straw. Talk of elysian or slidin down greased rainbows, or feeding on German flutes what are such phelink in comparison to those mighty ones that swelled our bosom nigh into bursting of our waistcoat buttons! Our happiness sublime sublimity sublimely subliminated and every person who has ever felt the divine throbbing of a fledged love principle, fully understands the word of bliss couched in the third fourth fifth and sixth words of the commencement of this sentence.

## Dear Mary -Outwest Jan. 7"

Spelling as written by Farnum so you will have to sound out some words.

I expect you'll think I have reached the climam-axe of my existence when I tell you I've had a real honeyfidy offer. Don't you think I had a letter brung to me by the penny post what they call that ere man a post for, is mourin I can enjecter for he do't look a bit like one: well, he bring me a letter perporting to come from Job Sass Ir because that was the name that was writ and signed to the bottom ons. I don't who he is from Adams, nor I can't find out neither, for the poor thing was in such a tearing hurry to send it that he forgot to write all hisns last name and I can't emjin what name begins with IR. I wish you would find out and let me know rite off immediately. In that ere letter was the offer and I am in a terrible stew to know what to do. I'm never in sich a dylemon afore in all my born days. He said he was head over heels in love with my litternariness and can't begin to live without me. He said he was sitting a waiting for my answer with the greatest expectedness a grabbing a bottle er lordenum tight in his hand and if I didn't ressyprossgate his us feelings he'd dreen out every bit of that ere lordynum. I was almost skeered to death you'd better believe for fear that ere creetur'd up and commit sewerside and I'de haft ter have his sewerside a hangin onto my cornshunce. I conjugated a while what to do and then I sat down and writ to him that I felt very much flattened by his intentions and I gussed I'd have him if he twant for nothing but to prolong his valuable life and health. I ransacked my upper story to think what name begins with IR and at last I concluded twouldn't doto delay any longer with him holdin the bottle, so writ out Job Sass JR. Just then I saw the penny letter man a goin along so I put out arter him and hollered to him. There you Mr. letter post jest hold on a mint will yer? He was a streakin like a lamp lighter when I hollered but he brung to and looked as cross as a New Foundland bear, but I didn't care for that I was bound to save the breath of a human creetur, so ses I what Job Sasses tother name that sent me the letter? He look pitch forks at me and snapped out "I don't know nothing about your sassy letters." says I yer needn't undertake to play sham now yer know yer brung me a letter and I want yer to hurry back with this ere answer or else he'll swallow a bottle with lordemun in it and commit sewerside and should have highstur rups, now mind yer and bring me an answer rite off back agin for I shall be in pannics till you come; and look here don't forgit to tell him to let me know how soon I must get ready and tell him I think it's best to be married in the musicahall so all the folks can git in without squattin their best clothes

Well that ere male man flew inter the most outrgeoust fit of madness and said he warn't agoin to be made a April fool on for me nor for nobody else like me and then he threw my letter rite slap dab at me and hustled off. I think he's a dreadful uncomardatin letter post man and I shouldn't a thought God would a sent the letter by him any-how. O dear me I am in such a fix ingaged to be married and cant let my sweet heart no nothin out. I do think it's preposterus and likeanuff the poor thing has got tired of waiting and gone and committed the lorynum afor this time and I haint even got the consultation of ridin to his funeral neether.

I have sarched all the deaths and marriges every day since to find out but its no go, I'm lost all my appertight and cant eat nothin but Mrs. B won't take a single cent off my board for all that. She mightut charge so high, till I find out about whether or no or not I'm goin to be married or put on weeds agin so I can eat. Cousin Jimima ses its nothing but a April fool hoe-axe, but I know better: she only ses it out of spite cuze she didn't git the offer furst. Poor dear Job JR if he is alive how he must feel at not gettin my letter I can't write no more now for I am your disconserlate friend.

Jessie

The Gunner, Uncle Bill's story: The Gunner the caring man and his God and a cross in his



hand, "The Print Works Adams". Uncle Bill told me a few stories about his time in World War II. His role was a gunner in a tank so he was the one who would shoot the gun.

He saw much combat and told me he shook Patton's hand, an event he spoke about often with great pride and admiration.

Uncle Bill never really talked about the war but I was an inquisitive little boy and always asked him a few questions, not that I wanted to bring back those feelings he had. It was just that I was interested in the stories, and I always thought of him as a bigger than life character, and he was a caring man who loved this country loved his God but most of all loved his family.

Uncle Bill was a North Adams boy growing up on Taft Street in the west end of town according to his sister not the nicest part of town. He was the youngest I think of 13, sorry if I am wrong and correct me if I am. He was not the only LePine who fought the war, his sister Martha

did too. I can always remember because I thought how great it was to think that he had a sister who was a Lieutenant Colonel. She was a strong woman and, in my opinion, all LePine's had the characteristic to help others any way you can. Uncle Bill was so proud of his older sister. I can remember her being in her dress uniform when we went to her funeral. What an honor it was being in the presence of a woman who I am sure broke many barriers.

Uncle Bill said when he was in France, him and his buddy purchased a cow from a farmer. One of the tank crew was a farmer and they were going to have that cow for dinner in a few days. They tied it behind the tank and there it stayed until the orders came down to move out. Uncle said that they cut that cow loose and off they went chasing Germans out of France.

He also told that they went to a town in France and basically pushed the Germans out of that town and destroyed anything that would help them win.

He said he found a little boy who had no family so for about 2 weeks he took that little boy in the tank with him until his commander said Son you have to let that boy go. Until that day he died he regretted not sending that child to the states.

The last thing I can remember, and this was not a story he told, it was a story told about him. After war he came back to N Adams it was told that he had the indentation of a cross in the palm of his right hand. Why you may ask because Uncle Bill held his rosary beads so tight when he was in that tank that it left that indentation in his hand. Believe it or not and I do, for those of who knew and loved him know he always carried this rosary no matter where he went.

So next time you take your freedom for granted think about your Uncle Bill and remember his love for Country, Family, and God. And I know today he is looking down over all of us so proud that we do not take our freedom for granted and we honor these great memories of a man who knew firsthand what it meant to put their life on the line to preserve it.

Thanks Uncle Bill for what you did for this country, You will never be forgotten. May you rest peace.

A story by Mark Bissaillon of Wiater Farm, Cheshire Harbor, Cheshire, Mass.

Shared with permission of the author from an October 2020 post on the Facebook site "Berkshires Blast to the Past"

## **Senior / Community Center**

#### **Retired Flag Ceremony**



The Cheshire Council on Aging in collaboration with the Adams American Legion Post 160 will conduct a ceremony for the retirement of unserviceable US American flags this June and are accepting flags now.

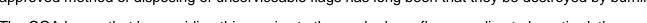
If you have any old worn, torn, faded or otherwise unusable US flags that you would like to have respectfully disposed of

you may bring them down to the Cheshire COA / Community Center at 119 School Street between 9 and 1 any Monday through Thursday until the day of the event.

The flags will be placed in a receptacle awaiting their proper disposal.

The formal disposal ceremony will take place at the bus circle at the former Cheshire Elementary School on Flag Day the evening of June 14th at 6 PM.

The event is being planned with children in mind while creating a dignified and solemn occasion. We hope you will be able to join us for this moving program. The American Legion passed a resolution about flag retirement ceremonies in 1937 and they have been an important ritual ever since. According to the resolution "The approved method of disposing of unserviceable flags has long been that they be destroyed by burning".



The COA hopes that by providing this service to those who have flags needing to be retired, the ceremony will enhance education and respect to the flag in our community.

## COA <u>new</u> start up Programs

## Pickleball Introductory Clinic Sponsored by the Cheshire COA

Dates: First 3 Thursdays in June

Time: 10:30 am to 11:30

Place: Cheshire Senior Center



Fee: Suggested Donation of \$5.00 for the series of 3 clinics. Instruction is designed for individuals to attend all three clinics.

Limitations: The clinic will be capped at instruction for 8 players per clinic. Depending on demand the COA may hold more clinics.

Pickleball was invented in the 1960s so it has been around awhile. However, it is only in the last few years that interest in it has skyrocketed. It has become the sport of choice for active retirees. You can think of it as playing ping pong with a wiffleball on a miniature tennis court. Hand eye coordination is still necessary, but it is a much easier skill to learn than all other racket/paddle sports. Because the court is only about a quarter the size of a tennis court there is much less running and hitting the pickleball with a paddle is much easier than learning tennis.

Good balance and sneakers are a must. Pickleball paddles and balls will be supplied. The clinic will be designed for complete novices. Basic rules and techniques will be covered.

The clinics will be conducted by Barry Emery. You may call him with pickleball questions @ 413-446-1623. Please call Carole at the Center to sign up for the clinics @ 743-9719

#### **Exercise**

Aerobic exercise on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9am. All are welcome. The classes will take place outside the Center.



### Quilting

Quilting, hand sewing, knitting, crafts, crocheting with Betty King on Second and fourth Thursday of the month. Call Betty at 743-3275 or Carole at 743-9719

#### **COA Walking Club**

The COA invites you to join our walking club which runs May 1st through Sept 30th. It's not too late to join. Our COA is taking part in the Walk Massachusetts Challenge. With five individual goals, there's a challenge for everyone - from walking 65 days during the course of the event to walking 692,000 steps - each tied to a fun Massachusetts fact. You may walk by yourself or with others. You may walk around your block, on the bike trail, around your home, on a treadmill or become involved just by counting your steps. Whatever you are comfortable with. Use your imagination, but just get moving.

You can pick up a walk journal to fill out at the Center and bring back at the end of the event or track and submit your info online at this website. Keep track of your progress by days, miles, minutes, or steps. https://fs16.formsite.com/mcoa/WalkMA/index.html

### Choose Your Challenge:

Walk 65 days (Fun Fact: Did you know...From the canal to Provincetown, Cape Cod is 65 miles long) Walk 65 out of 147 days of the event

Walk 1,788 minutes (Fun Fact: Did you know...Massachusetts became a state in 1788) Walk a little over 12 minutes a day

Walk 126.5 miles (Fun Fact: Did you know...It is 126.5 miles from Boston to Lee along the Massachusetts Turnpike) Walk less than a mile a day

Walk 192 miles (Fun Fact: Did you know...The Massachusetts shoreline is 192 miles long) Walk 1 1/3 miles a day

Walk 692,600 steps (Fun Fact: Did you know...Approximately 692,000 people reside in Boston) Walk 4,712 steps per day

Walk 351 miles (Fun Fact: Did you know...There are 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts) Walk 2.4 miles per day

## **CHP Mobile Health Van**

On May 12, 2021 from 10:00am to noon, the CHP medical van will offer a second visit for first and second vaccinations. They will be offering Covid-19 testing and flu shots among other medical services. If you need any non-emergency medical attention or have medical questions stop by and ask the CHP Mobile Health Unit staff. No appointments needed and open to anyone. Watch our Facebook page for any



additional visits or changes in dates. You may also call Carole with any questions at the COA office @ 413-743-9719

## **Cheshire COA Van Schedule**

Since the Pandemic the COA has been diligent in offering limited transportation on the COA van. Fortunately, Les Rhinemiller and John Bianchi have been subbing and addressing the needs of medical visits and COVID vaccination appointments taking high priority.

As of April 26, 2021, Anne Furey of Cheshire is our new van driver and will be driving on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9am to 3pm. We hope to expand service if the need warrants additional days.



Anne has a wealth of commercial driving experience and she is senior friendly. Please call the van cell at (413) 446-2559 or the center at (413) 743-9719.

The Café at 119 School Street, Cheshire - Hot Lunch for Seniors - The Center is offering grab and go lunches provided by Elder Services on Monday through Friday from 10:30-noon. When driving through, there is usually time to have a quick chat to check in on how everyone is doing. To reserve your meal, call 743-9719 at least 24 hours in advance. Suggested Meal Donation of \$2.00 for those 60 and over.

Cheshire Pantry In collaboration with the Cheshire Fire Department- The Pantry is located at the Cheshire Community / Senior Center and is open to Cheshire residents of any age on the first Saturday of the month from 11am to noon. Emergency food is also available by calling the Center at 743-9719. Monetary donations and nonperishable food, toiletries and paper goods may be left at the Center any Monday through Thursday 9 till 1 PM. I Love Cheshire t shirts with the Food Pantry logo are being sold as a fund raiser.

When notified of a need, a hearty food bag is delivered. This is available by calling 413-743-9719. If emergency assistance is needed call 413-329-2212.

Delivery is available for those isolated or without transportation.

**Brown Bag** – Free paper bag of food available on Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday June 25<sup>th</sup> between 1 and 2 pm. Contact Carole to sign up.

**Foot Clinic -** The Foot Clinic will be scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>. Sorry, no walk-ins - appointments only. Held inside the Center. Call Carole @ 413-743-9719 to schedule an appointment and for protocol. There is a fee for this clinic.

Coffee Club Thursdays, Quilting, the Cheshire Senior Club, the Blood Pressure Readings, and the Community Book Club are on hold.

## **Community Notes**

**Town of Cheshire -** Town Hall remains closed to the public at this time. Business for offices at Town Hall, please call 743-1690. The "drop box" may be used for payments. Reminder that dog licenses were due April 1st. A Late Fee of \$15 goes into effect on June 1st. Licenses are being done strictly by mail this year. The license renewal form was sent with the Annual Town Census. Either use the Postal Service or use the "drop-box" at the Church Street entrance to Town Hall. With the renewal form please put the appropriate amount check, a self-addressed stamped envelope and current rabies slip into an envelope marked Town Clerk. If mailing address to Town Clerk, P.O. Box S, Cheshire, MA

01225. Dog fees are males/females \$20 and neutered males/spayed females \$10. Your license and tag will be mailed back to you.

Annual Town Meeting will be June 8, 2021. Location to be announced.

**Historical Commission -** You've probably seen the carved plaques on some houses in town showing their birthdates. If you have seen one of them, then the building is over 100 years old. Provided by the Cheshire Historical Commission, these plaques help tell the story of our town's long and proud history.



The Cheshire historical commission was formed at the time of our bicentennial in 1976. Eileen Nutall spearheaded the group's formation and served as chair for many years. They began the plaque distribution about 12 years ago.

The group's current location over the Police Station is not accessible to the public. When renovations are completed at the Town Hall, the Historical commission will move to a new location in the lower level of the building where there will then be room to display items in it's collection.

Current Historical Commission board members are Bob Hitter, Diane Hitter, Gus Martin, Elaine Daniels, Jared Martin, George Reynolds, Vern Emerson and Lois Nangle.

The commission is always seeking to donate plaques to more centenarian Cheshire homes. If your house is eligible you may contact Town Hall at 743-1690 extension 22 or any member of the Historical Commission by calling 743-5423 to arrange for your free plaque

**Cheshire Library -** The Library remains closed to the public. However, library patrons may request books by calling 743-4746 leave your name, telephone number, title of the book and author. Calls are made on Mondays for pick-up of requested Cheshire books or Interlibrary loan books.

Summer Reading Program is just around the corner. Sign-ups for children, tweens and adults will take place in June. Interested, please call for more information.

The Library is distributing Inter-library Loans usually on Mondays. If the patron uses the CWMARS catalog to place a book on hold, it will be delivered to Cheshire. We then call you and give you a time for pick up. Patrons may also call 743-4748 and leave a request for book from the Cheshire Library holdings by title and author.

**Cheshire Ladies' Reading Club** – The oldest continuing existing reading group in the United States is right here in Cheshire. The Club has been meeting since 1879. Currently we meet every two weeks virtually, but hopefully soon in person once again. We would love to have a new member or two. Won't you help us carry on the tradition? Interested? Call Pat for more information at 413-743-2177

Cheshire A.T. Community News - Our dedicated volunteers have been working hard these last few

weeks to prepare the Father Tom A.T. Campsite, which will officially open May 1st. A big shout out THANK YOU to Gary Trudeau for his generosity! He





volunteered his time, skill and machinery to demolish the old building on the Fr. Tom Campsite property. After three large dumpster loads of building rubble now removed, we can offer a cleaner and more spacious site for long distance AT hikers to camp in. Big thanks to the Town of Cheshire Select

Board for approving town funds to support this project and other amenities at the site, i.e. port a potty, electricity, water etc.

Thank you to Mickey Biagini, John Tremblay, Peter Traub, Mike Biagini, Rob Daugherty & Eileen Quinn for assisting Gary with clean up. Also, thanks to Bob Navin - Highway Superintendent, for supplying top soil and stone.

For those of you on Facebook, visit the "Cheshire Appalachian Trail Community" page to view photos and videos of all the recent fun.

Sheds n' Stuff, Route

**Cheshire Garden Club** – Plant sale May 22, 2021 8am to 1pm at Shed n' Stuff on Route 8. Hanging baskets, organic vegetables and perennials will be for sale.

## Become a Friend of the Cheshire COA

We invite you to join us and do your part by becoming a Friend of the Cheshire COA. The Friends of the COA provide financial and other support serving the needs of the senior population of Cheshire. By becoming a "Friend" and paying a ten-dollar

annual membership fee, you will be supporting the activities of our seniors. The Friends have this past year made a substantial donation to the Cheshire Pantry, provided warm jackets to individuals through the COA and hope to resume their funding for social, educational, and cultural activities as the pandemic eases and makes these activities possible. Any support which you can provide would be most appreciated! Please join today and send your donation check to: Ed St. John, 4 Edmunds Street Unit N101, Adams, MA 01220.

#### **Resources and Contacts**

#### **COA Board Members**

Gene Gebarowski, Chair 413-743-2177 Robert Balawender 413-743-3356 John Bianchi 413-743-5723 Carol Francesconi 413-743-5028 Mal Gwozdz 413-743-9356 Barbara Proper 413-743-4945 Peter Traub 413-743-3496

#### Director

Carole Hilderbrand 413-743-9719 or 413-329- 2212

#### Van

413-446-2559

#### Car, Adams COA

Medical Appointments 413-743-8333

#### Friends of Cheshire COA

Ed and Pam St. John estjohn1@roadrunner.com

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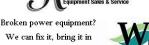
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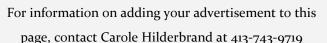
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