



THE

# Gill Newsletter

Fall 2020 Issue

## Disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors, the organizing committee or town officials and should not be construed as such. Although we work to produce accurate and typographically correct copy, we and our advertisers cannot be responsible for errors or the accuracy of materials submitted to us.

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Susan LaScala  
*Editor*

Harry van Baaren  
*Layout*

Barbara Watson  
*Advertising*

Dorri Beaubien  
Bev Demars

### MAILING TEAM

Jeffrey Blomstedt  
Betsy Evans  
Lissa Greenough  
Vicky Jenkins  
Colleen Lilly  
Emily Samuels  
Anna Steele  
Dorothy Storrow  
Barbara Watson  
Anne Wiley

## From the Town Clerk

### Election Information

- Early voting continues through Monday November 2. Hours are posted on the Town web site.
- Mail-in ballots will be accepted with a November 3rd postmark until November 6th at 5 PM. There must be a legible November 3rd post mark for the ballot to be accepted.
- You may continue to drop ballots off at the drop box located behind the Town Hall, left of the back door until 8 PM November 3rd.
- The drop box will be emptied at 8 PM sharp on November 3rd. Any ballots deposited after 8 PM cannot be counted.
- On November 3rd, Election Day, the polls open at 7 AM and close at 8 PM.
- Polls are located upstairs at the Town Hall, 325 Main Rd.
- Please wear a mask and observe social distancing protocol.
- Any questions call Doreen at 863-8103.

*Doreen Stevens, Town Clerk*

## Board of Assessors

The Board of Assessors has been meeting on its regular schedule by teleconference every two weeks since the state Covid -19 restrictions were put in place in March. Home visits have been temporarily delayed by Town Assessors and our contracted consultants will also postpone visits that will be done in the next fiscal year. Assessors are currently in a bid process, along with the town of

Montague, to contract for appraisal of FirstLight Hydro Generation Properties. This work will reflect value to be used in the Quinquennial Revaluation of the two towns for Fiscal Year 2022. Lastly, efforts are being made to meet with the Selectboard and Finance Committee to establish funds for an additional Utility Appraisal as well as other plans they would need to complete in FY2021 in preparation for the FY2022 revaluation.

## Energy Commission

MassSave.com has a wealth of information and resources to help you save money, make your home or business more comfortable AND reduce your energy consumption with a full lineup of rebates, incentives, and special offers. Whether you own or rent, saving energy and money is easy with the no cost Mass Save® Online Home Energy Assessment.

Call 1-866-527-SAVE (7283) to schedule a no-cost Home Energy Assessment. You can also choose a participating Home Performance Contractor (HPC) who can complete your Home Energy Assessment, insulation, and air sealing.

What You'll Receive from Your Virtual No-Cost Home Energy Assessment: A customized energy report tailored specifically to your home.

Energy-saving products recommended during your assessment delivered at no cost, such as: ENERGY STAR® LED light bulbs, Advanced power strips, Low-flow showerheads, Faucet aerators Efficient thermostats, 75% or more off approved insulation improvements, No-cost targeted air sealing.



Generous rebates of up to \$2,750 on qualifying energy-efficient heating, cooling, and water heating equipment.

The opportunity to apply for 0% HEAT Loan financing for eligible upgrades.

Eligibility for a Remote No-Cost Home Energy Assessment

Customers must be comfortable working with the energy specialist over the phone and able to use technology such as video chat and/or sending photos of the home over email.

Customers who do not qualify for a virtual home assessment may still sign up for an in-person no-cost Home Energy Assessment. Customers who meet household income guidelines may instead be eligible for enhanced offers through the Mass Save Income Eligible Program.

## Public Health

Nearly 100 residents and families received their annual flu vaccine last Saturday at Gill Elementary School. The flu clinic was hosted by FRCOG's Cooperative Public Health Service with great help from volunteers including school nurse Carol Varner, Selectboard and Board of Health member Randy Crochier, members of the Medical Reserve Corps, UMASS medical students and community nurses. Taking advantage of the mild weather, the entire flu clinic was held outside with physical distancing. Beautiful views of the season and the opportunity to view a moose wandering the cow pasture on Boyle Rd. made the day all the more special. As daily

life during this pandemic continues to challenge all of us in many ways, it is encouraging to know we can come together to safely meet needs like community vaccination. There are still several flu clinic scheduled and all are welcome. The entire clinic schedule is available at [www.frcog.org](http://www.frcog.org) by link on the Gill website. Need more information? Please contact FRCOG Regional Public Health Nurse Lisa White at 413-665-1400 x 114.

## Four Winds School

The school year is off to a great start at Four Winds School, and students are making the best of their new covid-safe routine. On Mondays we operate in person in the Riverside building in two small "pods", with no more than seven people in a room at a time. Additionally, our two classrooms have been outfitted with surgical-quality air filters to ensure everyone's safety. On Tuesdays-Thursdays, students and teachers participate in school from home. Teachers offer office hours during three hours of independent work time. This period is book-ended by synchronous group classes using Discord. Additionally, students have been socializing after school hours over Discord's video chat function while playing a popular video game, Among Us. On Fridays, if the weather is right, we spend all day doing school together in our beautiful new tent! If it is too rainy, we do Fridays remotely from home instead. We will continue with this schedule through Friday, November 20th and announce

our plan for the winter around Thanksgiving time. Please check our website to learn more ([www.fourwindsschool.info](http://www.fourwindsschool.info)), or send us an email at [fourwindsteachers@gmail.com](mailto:fourwindsteachers@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Stay well!

## High School Graduations and Scholarships

Gill had two seniors graduating from Turners Falls High School this year, **Zachary Mason** and **Alyson Murphy**.

Alyson was a National Honor Society Member and received a Turners Falls High School American Citizenship Award, Most Valuable Player Award for Field Hockey, and an Academic and Service Award for Excellence in Film Editing. Alyson also received the Ethel Raymond Orcutt Scholarship, The Friends of Gill Scholarship, Harriet A. Tidd Memorial Scholarship, Massachusetts Elks Scholarship, Mery O'Brien Scholarship, a Turners Falls Athletic Club Scholarship, the T.F.H.S. Class of 1962 Scholarship, a T.F.H.S. Student Government Service Scholarship and a Wells Trust Fund Scholarship. Alyson is currently attending Russell Sage College in Troy, New York, majoring in Education and playing softball. **Maddie Tombs** graduated from Four Rivers Charter School in Greenfield, MA and is attending Greenfield Community College. She was on the Honor Roll with High Honors for last winter's semester at Four Rivers and also on the HOWL of Fame. The HOWL



of Fame recognizes strong Habits of Work and Learning. **Jacqueline Morrissey** has been awarded a scholarship from the United States Coast Guard Foundation that supports its members and their families. Jacqueline is attending Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT.



**Riverside**  
HEALING + BODYWORK

*Healing Body  
Mind  
Heart  
and Soul*

Helpful for: Aches & Pains, Allergies, Anxiety, Arthritis, Boosting Immunity, Depression, Headaches, Insomnia, Low Energy, Stiffness, Stress, & more...

Janet Masucci, ABMP, NCTMB 413-863-8694 Nationally Certified Bodyworker since 1993  
64 French King Highway, Gill, MA JanetMasucci.com

**Doug's Auto Body**  
Doug Smith - Owner



MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph: (413) 863-2785  
Fax: (413) 863-0120

39 Center Road  
Gill, MA 01354

**THE Gill Tavern**

Local, seasonal, creative New American cuisine in a warm, welcoming environment. Come for a drink, stay for a meal.

[www.thegilltavern.com](http://www.thegilltavern.com)

Open Wed - Sun at 5PM for dinner and cocktails.

326 Main Rd, Gill, MA  
413.864.9006

TRAVELKUZ

**Join Our Team!**

888-863-8048

No Experience Needed!  
Paid CDL Training!  
Bring Your Kids to Work!  
Paid School Vacations!  
Paid Summers Off!  
Paid Sick Time!  
HMO Healthcare!  
Vision Plan!  
401K Retirement!



**THE SPIRIT SHOPPE**  
SPIRITS, BREWS & FINE WINES

Gill, MA 01354



[www.thespiritshoppe.com](http://www.thespiritshoppe.com)

Commercial • Residential

**WALLACE**  
Plumbing & Heating

Jason P. Wallace, Owner  
Gill, Massachusetts

**413-863-0014**  
wallaces98@comcast.net

**Painting Contractor & Retailer Since 1900**

HIC Lic. 100326

\* Commercial  
\* Residential  
\* Industrial



Christian S. Couture  
President  
chris@couturebros.com  
Lead Paint Renovator R-I-18398-10-04197

Tel: **413-863-4346** - Fax: **413-863-3740**  
400 Avenue A-P.O. Box 270 - Turners Falls, MA 01376  
[www.couturebros.com](http://www.couturebros.com)



**RIVERSIDE RADIATOR**

Service & Repair for

**Plastic - Aluminum - Copper and Brass Radiators For Cars - Trucks - Heavy Equipment Cooling System Specialists**

413-863-4049 1-800-439-4049  
FAX 413-863-3799  
CELL 413-218-6815  
riversideradiator@verizon.net

Dennis "Chu-Wee" Underwood  
French King Hwy., Rt. 2  
Gill, MA 01376  
M-Thur 8-5



**Follow the Sun Into the Future**

John Ward  
Claire Chang  
Claire@ or John@solarstoreofgreenfield.com

413-772-3122  
2 Fiske Ave, Greenfield, MA

**UPINNGIL**

*Food You Need from the Land You Love*

Clifford Hatch  
413-863-2297  
clifford@upinngil.com



Sorrel Hatch  
413-863-4431  
sorrel@upinngil.com

411 Main Road Gill, MA [www.upinngil.com](http://www.upinngil.com)




**Husqvarna**

- Lawn Tractors
- Snow Blowers
- Rototillers
- Chainsaws
- 0-Turn Mowers
- Lawn Mowers
- Trimmers
- Leaf Blowers
- Push Mowers
- Full Service Dept.
- Financing Available



1 Main Road (Route 2) Gill, MA 863-4892  
[www.greenriverpowersports.com](http://www.greenriverpowersports.com)



**NEIL A. ZILINSKI**  
ELECTRICIAN  
RESIDENTIAL\*COMMERCIAL  
FULLY INSURED\* FREE ESTIMATES  
24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE  
OFFICE: 413-498-2605 \* CELL: 413-834-5780  
GILL, MA LIC# 39553E

**FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS**



**Donald J. Mailloux**  
GRI  
Recognized Top Producer

UPTON-MASSAMONT REALTORS

(413) 665-3771 x104 Office  
(413) 665-3772 Fax  
(413) 834-1524 Cell  
(413) 423-3810 Home  
don@cbumr.com E-mail

4 Elm Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373  
[www.cbupton-massamont.com](http://www.cbupton-massamont.com)


**Renaissance Excavating**  
Complete Site Work

Septic & Drainage Systems  
Sand, Gravel, & Loam



Douglas Edson

Main Road  
Gill, MA 01376  
413-863-4462




**Patrick M. Cotter, D.V.M.**

Diplomate, American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

53 Munns Ferry Road  
Gill, MA 01354

(413) 203-4422

INFO@RENBUILD.NET  
413-863-8316



WWW.RENBUILD.NET • PO BOX 272, TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376




66 French King Highway  
GILL, MA 01354

Cell: (480) 262-8720  
Email: robinasa@yahoo.com  
Office: (413) 863-9736 x13  
Fax: (413) 863-9739  
Website: www.gjar.com

Robin Paris  
ABR, SRES



Town Hall  
325 Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354-9747

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM Retail

LOCAL  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

GILL, MA 01354

---

Check in with the Gill Website  
**[www.gillmass.org](http://www.gillmass.org)**  
for up to date news,  
announcements and  
contact information!

