



# The Quail Runner

For and By the Residents  
Of Quail Run



November—December 2011

Began Publishing 2003  
www.QuailRunHudson.com

Hudson, Massachusetts



## HOLIDAY PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 7pm

\$5.00

BYOB – DOOR PRIZES  
FINGER FOODS – HOLIDAY DESSERTS  
COFFEE, TEA & PUNCH  
HOLIDAY MUSIC

Freshly made Chanukah Latkes (Potato Pancakes)

**First Annual Cookie Contest\*\***

DEADLINE DECEMBER 6

Please bring an unwrapped toy for  
“Toys for Tots”

Contacts:

“Lee” Bradbard 978-562-7249 Barbara Morgan 978-568-1929

\*\*To enter the Cookie Contest, bring a half dozen of your favorite holiday cookies (one kind only), to the party. Entries will be judged on presentation/decoration, uniqueness and taste. Along with bragging rights, prizes will be awarded. Preheat those ovens and join the fun.

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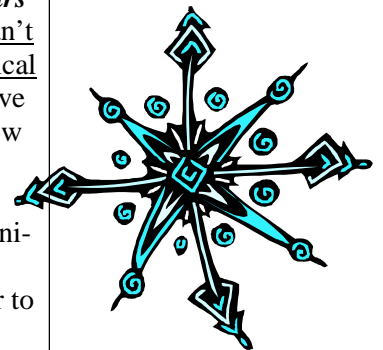
### BOG News

As this is being written, SPS has finished installation of the roof shingles and has only some trim and siding work to complete. Depending on the cooperation of the weather, they may have finished with the items on their punch list by the time you read this. SPS has warranted their workmanship for two years so if any problems show up during the next two winters, they will take care of it at no cost to us.

The shingles that we now have installed

are warranted by *Certain-Teed* for 40 years is void if ANY roof raking is done. We can’t use any chemicals (“salt pucks”) or electrical cables either. Accordingly, we will not have any roof raking at all, and we will not allow any individuals to do any raking on their own either. This means that we will need extra on-going work at ground level to minimize the risk of ice build-up, and we will have Lawn Barber making extra trips over to spread extra ice melt as needed, and

(Continued on page 8)



### The Quail Runner Staff

**Editor:** MJ (Mary Jean) Ebens  
**Assistant Editor:** Terri Kilshaw  
**Advertising Manager:** Ruth Fay  
**Proof Reader:** Bob Freedman

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- 1/3 Autumn **Peggy Kunz**
- 4/9 Autumn **Marilyn Hoffman**
- 5/7 Autumn **Terri Kilshaw**
- 6/11 Autumn **Mary Lewis**
- 1/3 Strawberry **Sally Mauro**
- 2/4 Strawberry **Barbara Champine**
- 5 Strawberry **Lee Rouse**
- 6/8 Strawberry **Toby Allen**
- 7/12 Strawberry **Barbara Paradiso**
- 1/4 Rotherham **Kevin Fitzgerald**
- 6 Rotherham **Harry Morgan**

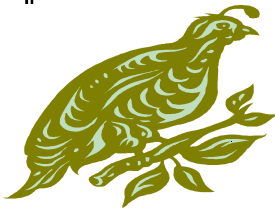
**Columnists:**

- Technology Corner**—George Champine
- What’s Up** — Beverly Beylouné,
- Area News**—Barbara Champine
- Healthy Living**—Peggy Rittenhouse
- QR Real Estate News**—Hugo Guidotti
- Senior Money Sense**—Howie Pearlman

**Communications:** Phone, email address list:  
Barbara Picarello.

**Website:** [QuailRunHudson.com](http://QuailRunHudson.com)

**Published** first week of February, April, June, August, October, December



### Deadline on the 23rd of previous month.

Copies of the *Quail Runner* can be emailed to a friend, relative, or yourself. Contact the editor if interested

**Back issues of the *Quail Runner* are available at the Community Center.**

### Vacation Delivery

To Receive *Quail Runner* while away, give your reporter or the editor an extra long envelope with two first class stamps and your vacation address. The editor has some free extra large envelopes. Or you can get issues emailed to you, or view the current issue on [QuailRun Hudson.com](http://QuailRun Hudson.com).

### Editor’s Desk

MJ Ebens, editor



The *Quail Runner* is over 10 years old now. Where has the time gone?

We’re trying a new vendor for our copying needs — the UPS store at the Stop and Shop shopping center. This will be very handy, if this proves satisfactory and less expensive than Office Max.

Do you remember the old Jackie Gleason show? Test your memory on page 6!

Quail Run is a consistent supporter of the Hudson Food Pantry. **Toby Allen**, who volunteers there says that though the shelves are stuffed full now, they will quickly empty. The Pantry people are always grateful for what we do.

The Stitch and Knit group is continuing to knit for the homeless in between their other personal projects. Great place to learn and /or perfect your technique. We have several residents who collect the finished projects and speed them on their way.

Our Quail Run **Game Nite** is moving to the **afternoon** for the month of January. If the time change proves popular over the dark winter nights, we’ll have to come up with a new name! Any ideas?

I won a Kindle in the Hudson Public Library raffle – my best \$5 investment ever! Rich discovered the Kindle’s easy page turning system is great if you only have one good hand after falling at tennis!

Life here at Quail Run with our many friends, despite the roof problems, is still good. As Willy Nelson said in a recent *Christian Science Monitor’s* article on Gratitude “When I started counting my blessings my whole life turned around.”

What has turned your life around?



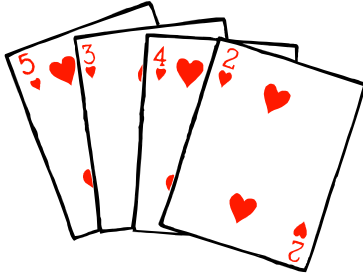
### Phone and Email Updates

Our new Directory already has a correction!  
**Vince Picarello’s** email [vpicarello@verizon.net](mailto:vpicarello@verizon.net).

## Game Nite Change

With the loss of Daylight Savings Time and the darkness of winter, the Gamers are experimenting with **Game Afternoon on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the January at the Community Center from 2:00 to 4:00.**

We break for coffee and snacks around 3:30. Players supply the snacks as divided by the alphabet — A-F on the first Tuesday and G—Z on the third.



After January, we will decide whether to continue in the afternoon for the rest of the winter

or go back to nights.

Everyone is welcome. Bring your own game or play one at the Center.

## Study Group

The Study group will be meeting at the Community Center on Mondays from 1-3 For further information, call Janice Owen or Marion Anderson.

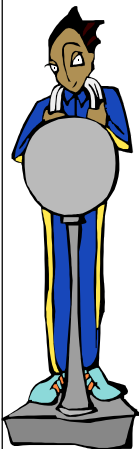


## Weight Loss Support Group

Meets every Wednesday from 9:30 am to 10:30 am in the Community Center. There are no dues or fees involved. The group is there to support and help one another by exchanging ideas, recipes, and strategies.

The group as a whole has lost over 60#.

Open to all ladies here at Quail Run. Contact **Marlynn Stott** – 978-567-5912 [mjandpkstott@yahoo.com](mailto:mjandpkstott@yahoo.com) or **Marcella Monte** – 978-562-0823 [marcella-monte@comcast.net](mailto:marcella-monte@comcast.net)



## ROMEO's

**Jakes Restaurant** – 30 Main Street – Marlboro, 12:00, December 14

The group is open to all men living here at Quail Run. For reservations contact Frank Monte (978-562-0823) or [FJMonte30@yahoo.com](mailto:FJMonte30@yahoo.com)



## Retired Old Men Eating Out (and having fun!)

## Welcome New Residents

Brooke and Kelly Clenchys 1-E Autumn. 978-310-7261 (Renting from Nina Schlikin.)

Be sure to let Barbara Morgan, 978-568-1929, [h.morgan@comcast.net](mailto:h.morgan@comcast.net), know if you have new neighbors. She's our "Welcome to the Neighborhood" representative.



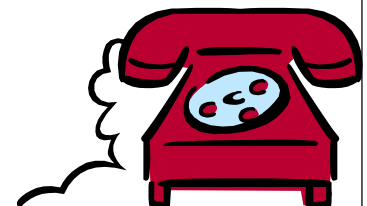
## Communications Committee New Directory Distributed

The Communications Committee has updated the Quail Run Directory of Street and Email Addresses, Phone and Alternate numbers for this year.

**Barbara Picarello** headed up the effort and you should have your new directory by now. If not contact the reporter covering your area. (See page 2 for a list of reporters.) Barbara is also the contact person to have an email sent out on the Quail Run distribution.

**Pete Recklett** has put in much time and effort in entering the information into the Quail Run database that he maintains.

Other members of the committee are **George Champagne** who maintains the Quail Run website, **Bruce Eckman** who is developing an Emergency Contact Protocol, and **MJ Ebens** who chairs the group.



## Quail Run Real Estate News

by Hugo Guidotti

Not much has changed since last month's report and unfortunately there are no sales or closings to report for QR home owners. However this stagnant market seems typical for the Metrowest area in both single family, condos and over 55 communities.

Recently I spoke to the managers at Westridge (on Reed Rd) and Toll Brothers (near Assabet Regional HS) and they tell me pretty much the same story. Despite the favorable prices and the historically low interest rates the potential buyers are just in a "wait and see" mode. So it seems that for any QR owner who really **must** sell the asking price must be reduced by \$10,000 (\$280,000-\$290,000 range) in order to have a chance of getting a quick sale.

The only segment that seems to be doing any buying at all are the young, first time buyers because they can find a purchase that will cost less than renting!

About 25 people came to the financing seminar on October 27 at the clubhouse and some felt it was of help to them in planning how to pay for the roof project.

We had professionals speak about Home Equity Loans, Lines of Credit, Refinancing, and Reverse Mortgages. If anyone feels a need to find what might work best for them I would be happy to refer you to the people that presented the programs.

**Finally, I offer to do a Broker's Price Opinion at no cost**



**if it is required by a financial institution for purposes of financing for the roof project.** It is very simple for me to provide that for any QR owner.

### Heaven is Where:

- The Police are British,
- The Chefs are Italian,
- The Mechanics are German,
- The Lovers are French and
- It's all organized by the Swiss.

### Hell is Where:

- The Police are German,
- The Chefs are British,
- The Mechanics are French,
- The Lovers are Swiss and
- It's all organized by the Italians.

Insults for everyone!



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www.495realtygroup.com

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04/12



## Curtain Call

Toby Allen

Three members of C.C. attended the play Drowsey Chaperone put on by

The Concord Players. It was one of the best plays I have seen and suggest seeing it should the play ever come back.

The time for Curtain Call's meeting December 9 has been changed to 3:30. Hope to see you there.

## Hudson's Food Pantry

Over 100 Scouts collected 8,030 lbs of food on November 5<sup>th</sup> during their Annual Scouting for Food Drive. All the food collected during the Annual Scouting for Food Drive was delivered to Hudson Food Pantry.

This was the 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this National Good Turn where Knox Trail Scouts and Scouters collect food for the local food pantry.

Without the generosity of Hudson residents, this good deed could not be accomplished.



The Food Pantry staff says "THANK YOU" to the Quail Run residents for the food delivered after the Pot Luck and other occasions when QR collects food for the Pantry.

The Pantry made up 150 boxes for the makings of a Thanksgiving dinner (including a turkey) for those in need.

## Senior Money Sense

by Howie Pearlman

In part three of this article, we finish looking at the allocation of your portfolio, review when to rebalance, and make sure that you aren't sending the tax man any more money than necessary. We'll finish with **Step 2** and move on to looking at your holdings and reviewing them in the context of your overall retirement investment goals.

**Check the turnover rate.** As fellow Fool Amanda Kish pointed out recently, a fund's turnover rate gives you several important clues about the manager's approach. It's also an important consideration if you hold the fund in a taxable account -- too much turnover can leave shareholders with a nasty tax liability.

Admittedly, if you're looking at funds in your 401(k), the above considerations may not matter too much -- even if your fund is stinking the place up, you may not have access to a suitable alternative. If that's the case, consider switching to an index fund -- most plans have at least one or two -- or just buy the best funds you can and complete your asset allocation strategy by using your IRA holdings to fill in the gaps.

### Step 3: Take stock of your stocks

If you hold stocks in your retirement accounts, chances are you're already a hands-on investor. But even if you follow your stocks regularly, running down this checklist can help ensure that your holdings are a smart fit for your overall retirement portfolio.

Is the investment thesis intact? Is your original reason for buying the stock still a good one? For instance, if you bought a stock in the hopes that it would double, should you hang onto it after it does? Likewise, if a stock's price hasn't met expectations, should you keep hoping for a move or dump your shares now? Does the stock still fit into your portfolio? Hot small-cap growth stocks have a way of turning into more stable mid-caps over time. If you have a few of those, are you still OK with owning those companies? Or do you really want to replace those former growth bunnies with new, more promising choices?

How are market conditions and business developments likely to treat the stock in the coming months?  
(Continued right)

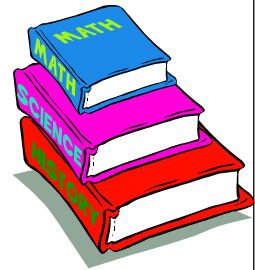
15 BONAZZOLI AVENUE, HUDSON, MA 01749  
877-7-CHAVES or 978-562-5309  
www.chaveshvac.com

07/12

## Book Club

Meetings are the Community Center on Wednesdays, from 7 to 9 PM; generally the last Wednesday of each month.

Contact **Marcella Monte** for more information; 978-562-0823 or marcellamonte@comcast.net



## Senior Money Sense

(continued from left)

Nobody can really predict the future, and market timing isn't a great strategy as a general rule, but sometimes upcoming changes are obvious. Stocks that are sensitive to the economy, such as Toyota (NYSE: TM), may be approaching a cyclical downturn. A recent management shakeup may have changed things, for better or worse. Consider these kinds of developments as you decide whether to add, hold, or move on.

That's it! That wasn't so hard, was it? Stick a note into your calendar to do this again in a year or so, and sleep soundly tonight. Your portfolio's health is in good hands.

The Motley Fool.com by John Rosevear, August 1, 2011

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

# Condo Care

## Condo Calendar

- Storm Door Reminder – Don't lock the storm door while you're away. In an emergency if the association has to gain entry to your unit, they may have to break the door to get in.
- This is a good time of year to change the batteries in your thermostat and smoke detectors

## WINTER PRECAUTIONS

- Heat left no lower than 64 ° F to prevent pipes from freezing and bursting. Insurance will NOT cover a loss if adequate heat is not provided at all times.
- Check the vent pipes from your furnace on the back of your unit. Make sure it is NOT blocked by snow. Units that have low rear decks (no basement access) are more susceptible to this. The furnace will not run if that vent is blocked. If you are able, please go outside and check your furnace vents to make sure they are not blocked by snow. There is a combination of two pipes on the outside of your unit in the back. Usually, one points up and the other downward. Obviously, it is the lower one that could be a problem. If you are unable to check this out this, please call **George Shaw** at 978-562-2340, and he will do so for you.
- Be sure your carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are operational - one on each level of your condo near the bedroom. Most of them have indicator lights which should be on steadily, or occasionally blinking.
- Turn on your fireplace occasionally. This could help to prevent the fire sprinkler pipes in the area from freezing.

If you have any other weather-related questions, feel free to call me at 978-371-9090 x 13 **Cathy Birnbrich** or email (recommended)

**Toby** Allen reports that there are suppose to be 2 filters behind the grill vent in our microwave oven. The energy inspection discovered that she only had 1.

**No longer used Christmas decorations** are welcome at *Project Home Again* – pass them on to the **Bradbards** at 1-B Strawberry

## Stove Top Blazes

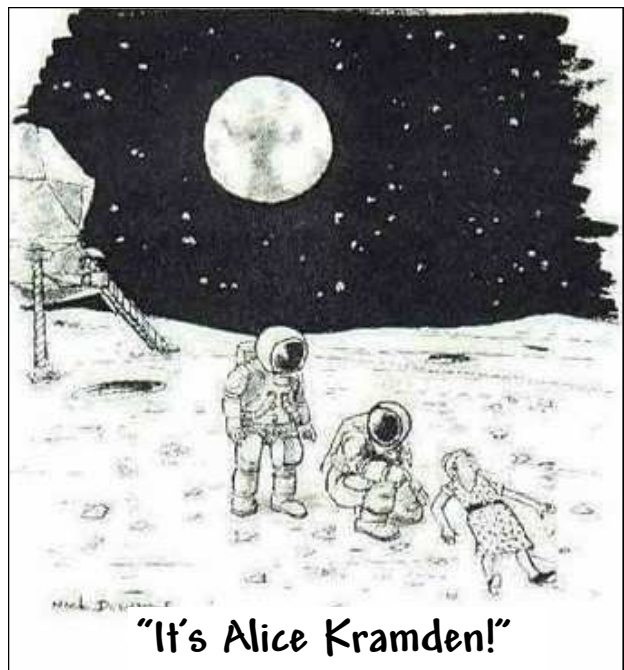
Cooking caused 64 percent of residential fires last year. “The key point is when you’re cooking, you have to focus on cooking,” said Ming Tsai, owner of the *Blue Ginger* restaurant in Wellesley in an interview in the *Boston Globe*, 11-1-2011. “You can’t be walking away, baby sitting, doing errands, and being on the phone. When you’re at the stove and the flame is on (whether gas or electric), you have to give it 100 percent attention. It’s too dangerous otherwise.”



The two main messages of the campaign are “Stand by Your Pan” to prevent cooking fires and “Put a Lid on It” to safely extinguish grease fires. If fire starts in a pan on the stove, put a pot lid on it immediately. Then using pot holders, or other hand protection, move the pan to the sink.

If the fire is on the stove itself, put a lid on the main section of the fire and then dump **Baking Soda** on the area. **Baking Soda** is a good way to put out a fire. **Never put flour on a fire – flour will explode.**

**And of course, be sure your fire extinguisher is handy and you know how to use it.**



1/12



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### Quail Run Birthdays

#### December

- Jane Freedman, 2
- Richard Ebens, 6
- Theresa Bosio, 19
- Renee Kossuth, 21
- Ken Spears, Marilyn Hoffman, 29
- George McGoldrick, 31

To include a birthday, contact your reporter or the editor

#### January

- Lois Boemer, 2
- Nina Schlikin, 6
- Barbara Langley, 10
- Helen Marckini, 13
- Barbara Kansky, 17
- Peggy Rittenhouse, 20
- Terry Milot, 20
- Shirley O'Connell, 27
- Deborah McCormack, 30
- Karen Hart, 31

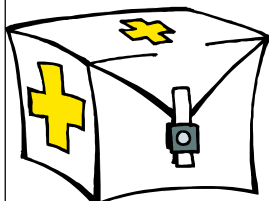


### R U OK?

**Are You OK?** is a service run through the **Senior Center** that provides peace of mind to those living alone.

Basically those who enroll get a daily, automated phone call at a time of their choice. To confirm that everything is fine, simply pick up the phone and then hang up. The automated system knows you are there and functioning. If there is no pick up, the system will call back later and, if no response, contact the listed back up person.

Contact the center at 978-568-9638

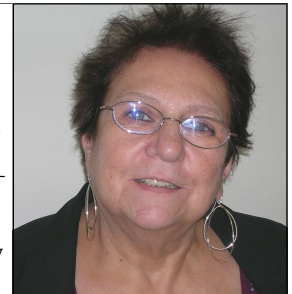


### Astrology — What's Up

By Beverly Beyloun

**CAPRICORN** - December 22 – January 19

You devoted a lot of your energy (this year) concentrating on career and/or domestic responsibilities.



You need to find a balance for 2012 between work and play; one that redefines what you want out of life. Transits usher in a 'lucky' time for you now and through the new year.



You'll also find your intuition and ESP sharpened, allowing you to make some lucrative decisions. The rest of this year may find you on the social scene as planets light up your party zone! You'll feel closer both to your family and to your community as you forge new bonds and strengthen old ones.

**AQUARIUS** - January 20 - February 18

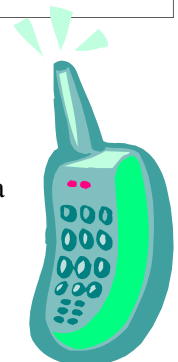
This year you spent a lot of time putting your idealism to work – maybe you did volunteering in your community or decided to take on a creative project. Whatever it was you definitely have received feelings of greater contentment as a result.



Transits have helped you to lower your personal defenses, so you can give and receive love on a deeper level. You are able to understand and accept the differences of those around you. You may find yourself planning some weekend trips to relax or find ways to have a good time at home when you take up a new hobby or some classes to expand your horizons.

### Donate Your Old Cell Phone!

Donate your used cell phone at one of AT&T's 2,000+ retail stores or download a postage-paid mailing label. Go to [att.com/recycle](http://att.com/recycle) for more information.



BOG News (continued from page 1)  
knock down any big icicles that may form.

The gutter installation has been held up by the fact that the engineers have to sign off on a building roof as being finished before the gutters can be installed.

They are running about two weeks behind SPS but they should be done by the middle of December with larger gutters and downspouts throughout.

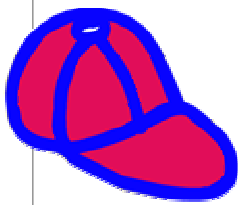


We were faced with the prospect of extremely high insurance rates and very high deductibles going into this winter without SPS timely completion of the work. We have already asked for rebidding of our insurance coverage at lower rates and possibly by the time you read this, Quail Run will already be enjoying a significant savings.

During the next month you will be getting a letter with the exact dollar amount that your condo fee will be going up. The increase is about 6.5% for the year. Unfortunately, there will also be a separate additional letter with the bill for the roof replacement costs.

We have been in touch with various lenders to help out those who might need assistance in paying for their portion of the roof project. If you apply for a loan and the lender asks if Quail Run is listed by the FHA or HUD, we are eligible for such a listing. We are not currently listed since we would have to pay each year simply to show up on such a list. The paperwork

needed can be handled by the lending party at the time you apply. Banks, credit unions, or insurance companies that provide conventional or reverse mortgages, or loans should be able to take care of this.



you're driving.

### Sun in Your Eyes?

Keep a *baseball* cap handy in your car these short winter days. The bill of the cap can be adjusted to block the sun's glare while



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5/12

### Tradespeople Recommendations

**The Good Good Sheep** for yarn, fiber, needle art supplies, books and patterns at 26 Main St. (on the rotary), Hudson. Call Dana 978-562-0900 for hours. Small store but packed with goodies. Dana recently offered a knitting demonstration at the Hudson Library attended by some of our Quail Run knitting group.

Recommended by MJ Ebens

**At Home Vet Care** If you are unable to take your pet to the Vet's office, the wonderful Southborough Veterinary Hospital will come to you. Phone 508-449-5049. Their facilities are at 78 Deerfoot Rd.; Southborough-Vet.com. The vets are Joan Ogden and Sharon Westphal. They are highly recommended by **Barbara Paradiso** and **Ruth Fay** who have *uncatchable* cats!

Don't miss the brochures at the Community Center on Emergency Animal Preparedness — just incase you are forced to seek shelter with your pet. Thank **Harry Morgan** for them.



### In Memoriam

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed last week.

Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "*The Hokey Pokey*", died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in. And then the trouble started.



## Area Highlights

By Barbara Champine

### WORCESTER ART

MUSEUM is the second largest art museum in New England. It is world-renowned for its 35,000 piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. The works span 5,000 years of art and culture. Here you will find paintings by Cassatt, Gauguin, Monet, Sargent and Whistler. Admire floor mosaics from the ancient city of Antioch, see cutting-edge contemporary art, and discover the Museum's many other treasures. The Museum is acclaimed for the quality of its collections: European and North American, Asian, Greek and Roman.

Special exhibitions showcase the masterworks, seldom seen gems, and important works on loan. Enjoy a delectable lunch in The Museum Café and browse The Museum Shop for unique gifts.

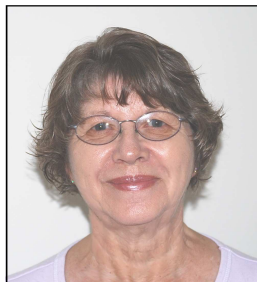
One sample of an upcoming special exhibition is "Hymn to the Earth": Photographs by Ron Rosenstock. This exhibit will be at the Museum from December 15 until March 18, 2012. Mr. Rosenstock is a renowned landscape photographer and teacher. He divides his time between Massachusetts and Ireland. He travels the world with his students, finding time along the way to pursue his own work. He has published several books and DVDs of his photographs. This solo exhibition presents evocative black-and-white views selected from forty years of his work.



The Museum is located at 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester. Take 290 to Exit 18-Lincoln Street. Bear right off the exit ramp onto Lincoln Street. Make a quick right onto Concord Street which turns into Salisbury Street. At the second traffic light turn left onto Lancaster Street. The Museum is on the left. There is free parking. George and I find this Museum much easier on our

"older" backs and legs than the MFA.

(Continued at right)



## Labels for Hillside School

The school was founded in 1901 two sisters, Charlotte Drinkwater and Mary Drinkwater Warren, as a self-sustaining school for poor and homeless boys on their farm in Greenwich, Ma. Characterized by practicality and compassion, the school reflected the sister's selfless desire to provide a home and basic education for young boys in need.

In 1927 the School moved to Marlborough after the flooding of the Swift River Valley to create the Quabbin Reservoir. The boys grew crops and raised cattle, pigs and chickens, providing food for the entire community.

Today, Hillside has solidified its reputation as a premier junior boarding school providing structured, supportive, and challenging academic opportunities to a diverse population of young adolescent boys in grades 5 to 9, both traditional learners and those with learning differences, in preparation for secondary school.

**Toby** Allen collects food *Labels for Education* for the school supported by a number of companies including: *Campbells, SpaghettiO, V8, Franco American, Swanson, General Mills, Land O'Lakes, and Prego.*

Thank you to all who have dropped off labels. (There is no need to trim the labels — the kids do that.)

## What Was That?

My Short Term Memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

My Short Term Memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

from John Ogden

### WORCESTER ART MUSEUM (continued from left)

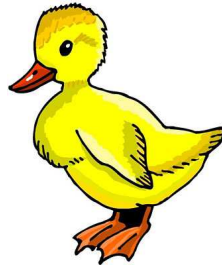
Gallery Hours: Wed-Friday and Sunday 11am-5pm; Saturday 10am-5pm; 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month 11am-8pm. The café is open Wed. to Sat. 11:30am-2pm.

Admission \$12 seniors and free for kids 17 and under.

From Dec 1 to 31 the Museum is open 7 days a week with festive live concerts in the Renaissance Court, decorations inside and outside the museum and expanded Shop and Café hours. For more information check out their web site: [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### A Sad Ending\*

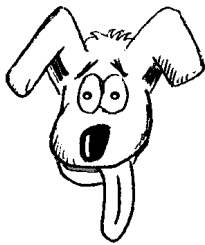
A woman brought a very limp duck into a veterinary surgeon. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest.



After a moment or two, the vet shook his head and sadly said, "I'm sorry, your duck, Cuddles, has passed away."

The distressed woman wailed, "Are you sure?"

"Yes, I am sure. Your duck is dead," replied the vet.



"How can you be so sure?" she protested. "I mean you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet turned around and left the room. He returned a few

minutes later with a black Labrador Retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked up at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head.

The vet patted the dog on the head and took it out of the room.

A few minutes later he returned with a cat. The cat jumped on the table and also delicately sniffed the duck from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, meowed softly and strolled out of the room.

The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck."

The vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman.

The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "\$1500" she cried, "\$1500 just to tell me my duck is dead!"

The vet shrugged, "I'm sorry. If you had just taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20, but with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan, it's now \$1500."

\*By special request of the QR Staff



HUDSON, MA

- ▶ AUTO
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**978-562-2332**

**9 Bonazzoli Ave., Unit 6, Hudson, MA**

Website: [www.countryglass.com](http://www.countryglass.com)

3/11

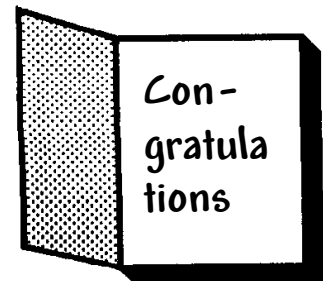
### Get a Birthday Card from the White House

The White House will send greetings to United States citizens only, for special occasions as outlined below. Although they are swamped and it is currently taking "several months" for the request to reach the Greetings Office and be mailed out, they promise it will arrive eventually.

**Birthday greetings will be sent only to people turning 80 or older or veterans turning 70 or older.**

**Anniversary greetings will be sent to couples who are celebrating a 50th, 60th, 70th or later wedding anniversary.**

Requests may be submitted through the office of one of the U.S. Senators or U.S. Representatives from your state. Requests can also be mailed, at least six weeks in advance of the event to: White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20500. For faster service, requests can also be faxed to 202-456-2461.



**REQUIRED INFORMATION.** Please include the following in your request:

- Name and home address of honoree(s)
- Form of address (Mr., Ms., Mrs., Dr., Miss, etc.)
- Exact date of occasion (month, day, year)
- Age (birthdays) or number of years of marriage
- Your/requestor's name and daytime phone number
- Any specific mailing instructions if other than to honoree's address

Thanks to **Bob Freedman** for this information.

## JULIETS NEWS

### All Quail Run women are invited to Lunch

Allora Restaurant, 139 Lakeside Ave. Marlboro. Wednesday, December 14, 12:30; pick from menu, separate checks

Contacts:

**Teresa Bosio** 978-568-1416

**Ginny Bosio** 978-568-0301

Sign up for either event at the Community Center.



### Hudson Leading By Example

The Town of Hudson is the proud recipient of the **Leading By Example Award** presented by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER). The LBE Awards recognize outstanding efforts among state agencies, public colleges/universities, and municipalities that have implemented policies or programs that have led to significant and measurable environmental and energy benefits.

The Town has undertaken several innovative projects utilizing green technologies and sustainable practices in key facilities. While many municipalities shy away from retrofitting historic buildings, the Town has made great effort to work within preservation guide-lines for not only historic accuracy, but also energy efficiency and sustainability.



The splash pad located within the **Cel-lucci Skate & Splash Park** features a special reclamation water filtration system that recycles the water being used, running it through an underground filtration system and separately-housed water quality management system. An underground holding tank allows the splash park to operate in times of drought.

The newly renovated **Hudson Senior Center** installed state of the art insulation, energy efficient windows, low-flow and dual flush bathroom fixtures, and high efficiency water heaters. Both interior and exterior lighting has been equipped with motion/occupancy sensors to energize the lights when required but keep

(Continued right)

## Great Lengths

### Hair & Nail Salon



Appointment \_\_\_\_\_

176 Maple Street, Marlborough, MA 01752  
(508) 481-8086

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### Hudson Leading By Example (Continued from left)

individual areas or shut them down completely when unoccupied. The highlight of the energy efficient Senior Center is its Geothermal Exchange HVAC system which uses moderate ground water temperatures to heat the building in winter and extract heat from the building in the summer.

Hudson's most recent project, the **Library Window Project**, installed 117 energy efficient, double and triple glazed window units and 27 new shades throughout the historic building. Hudson projects that it will benefit by a 40% reduction in energy usage.

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) named Massachusetts number one in ACEEE's annual state-by-state energy efficiency scorecard. Massachusetts topped California in the ranking for the first time with ACEEE noting the Patrick-Murray Administration's clean energy agenda, which includes the Green Communities Act of 2008 and innovative energy efficiency programs like Leading by Example. *Action Unlimited*, 12 Nov. 2011

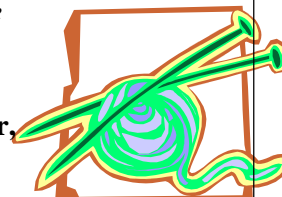
## Stitch & Knit

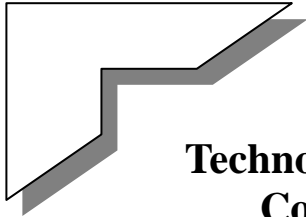
The group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 each month at members homes. All knitters (or other types of handwork) are welcome.

The group enjoys exchanging patterns, hints and ideas as well as helping sort out knitting and sewing problems.

Many knitters both in and out of the group are *knitting hats and scarves for the homeless*. You can too, even if you're just a beginner.

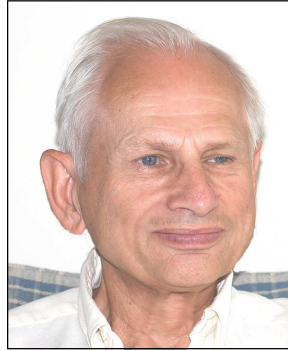
For information **Barbara Baker**, 978-562-2460.





## Technology Corner

By George Champagne



### New Consumer Resources on USA.gov

Do you have a problem with your phone or Internet service company, auto mechanic, or credit card company? Do you want to learn how to avoid being scammed, report an unsafe product, or be a safe and savvy online shopper? USA.gov's Consumer Protection page can help you: Download or order a copy of the resource-packed 2011 Consumer Action Handbook at: <http://www.usa.gov/consumer-action-handbook/order-form.shtml>.

### My Favorite Gadgets

One of the good things with Vista and Windows 7 is the support of gadgets. Gadgets show up as icons on the right side of the screen, and do all manner of useful functions. My favorite gadget is the calendar, because I am constantly referring to events in the future. My second favorite gadget is the processor performance meter. It shows what percent of the maximum performance the system is using. I like it because it shows when the initial boot process is complete: the percent of maximum performance used drops to near zero. If you have two, four, or eight processors in your computer, there are gadgets for each.

To browse the list of available gadgets, right click in a blank area of the screen. The menu that comes up shows an entry for gadgets. Click on it, and see the available gadgets, about 5000 or more. If you install a gadget and do not like it, right click on the gadget, and then select "close gadget". Or position the mouse pointer over the gadget and you will see a small black "x" in the upper right side of the gadget. Click on the black "x" and the gadget will vanish. Other popular gadgets are: open/close optical drive, network performance used, clock (many versions), clipboard manager, mini TV on your desktop, and traffic maps that show current congestion areas.

### My Favorite iPhone Apps

Smart phones like iPhone are amazing devices. Their usefulness can be extended by installing apps (appli-

cations). Some of my favorites are as follows. WBUR (watch WBUR TV), Y! Finance (access financial information on Yahoo), Translate (translate between any two languages), Bakodo (scan bar codes), Facebook (view Facebook), Netflix (view Netflix movies), and PBS (view PBS TV). There are hundreds more that can be brought up by touching the Apps Store icon. Most are free or less than \$1.

### Natural language searches in Windows 7

Windows 7 is able to carry out searches based on natural language queries, such as

- Email from George → Find any saved email messages from George
- Pictures of Barbara → Find any picture files named or tagged with Barbara
- Documents created last week → Find any documents created last week
- Documents by John → Find documents where John is the author
- 4MB MP3 → Find MP3 files under 4MB in size
- "Adobe Acrobat Document" created last month → Find any PDF documents created last month

To enable natural language searches, click the Start button and type "Folder Options" in the Search text box. When it appears in the result, click it. Once the Folder Options dialog box appears, select the Search tab. Now, select the Use Natural Language Search check box and click OK.

### Is there a computer tablet in your future?

Computer tablets such as the Apple Ipad are becoming popular. Here are some of the advantages: Long battery life —up to a day or more, no virus problem, light weight for easy portability, short boot time: almost instant on. **Also:** On-line connection everywhere: if you get a tablet with 3G or 4G connection you can read your email or surf the web in the car at 70 miles an hour (make sure you are not driving); Thousands of useful applications free or really cheap (like \$1); User-friendly, simply touch what you want to do instead of bizarre invocations; Blue tooth connectivity for keyboards or head phones is very easy as is Facebook and Twitter.

*On the other hand, laptops and tablets will be merged in a new family of products over the next couple of years, and you may want to wait for them.*

