



THE

# Gill Newsletter

SUMMER 2022 Issue

## Disclaimer:

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## Town Hall

### COVID-19 Self-Test Kits and Face Masks

While supplies last, residents can get free COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Tests (iHealth brand) from the Town Hall. Although the Use By date on the box is 07/24/2022, the FDA has granted an extension to the shelf-life of these products to 01/24/2023.

Please only take as many test kits as you will responsibly use. And if you are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms, please contact the Town Hall to arrange for a contactless, outdoor pickup.

We also have three styles of disposable face masks available for free at the Town Hall. The tightest fitting is Aura 1870+, which is an N95 mask made by 3M. The loosest fitting is a TB-01 three-layer disposable protective mask (often called a "procedure mask") made by JCJZ. In between those two is a 4-ply non-medical N95 mask made by FFP2.

### Sewer System Warning

Residences and business that are connected to the Riverside Sewer System are **strongly** reminded that toilets are **not** the place to dispose of t-shirts, rags, rope, toys, and any other household materials that are flushable. These items get tangled up in the two pumps at the Pump Station and cause the pump motors to overheat and even to burn out! Repairs due to inappropriate materials being flushed have cost users of the Riverside Sewer System nearly \$10,000 in the last 6 months, and are a chief reason why the sewer rate will need to increase *again* later this year.

## Trash & Recycling Reminders

Casella Waste Management Systems, the company that does the curbside collection of Gill's trash and recyclables, reminds everyone to please have your items to the curb by 7:00 AM. Items that are not put out in time may not be collected until the following week. If there is a problem with your rubbish or recycling pickup, please call Casella directly at (800) 227-3552 as soon as possible.

It is important to remember not everything can be recycled, even if you think it should. Do not put these items in your recycling bins: plastic bags and wrap, Styrofoam, ceramics, paint cans or spray paint cans, auto glass, light bulbs, motor oil jugs, containers larger than 2.5 gallons, plastic or ceramic dishes, vases, gardening pots, or syringes/sharps. Repeat offenders will receive a letter from the Town, and could even have collection services suspended.

### Trash Stickers by Mail

If any resident wants to purchase trash stickers by mail, send a check payable to Town of Gill along with a self-addressed,



Check in with the Gill Website

**[www.gillmass.org](http://www.gillmass.org)**

for up to date news,  
announcements and  
contact information!





stamped envelope to Town Hall, 325 Main Road, Gill, MA 01354. Trash stickers are \$3 apiece. Please include a note or indicate on your check that you are purchasing trash stickers. Trash stickers continue to be available for in-person purchases at the following locations during their posted business hours: Town Hall, Upinngil, Spirit Shoppe, and The Mill.

### Recycling Bins & Compost Pails

Recycling bins – the free ones – are now available at the Town Hall. There is a limit of one per household; additional bins can be purchased for \$5 each. Kitchen compost pails are also available free of charge at the Town Hall, with a limit of one per household.

### Backyard Compost Bins Discounted Price

Are you looking to start backyard composting, or need a better bin for your compost pile? Backyard composting is easy and affordable. In fact, it may save you money in the long run by reducing the amount you pay to dispose of your trash. Yard wastes such as leaves and grass clippings can be used as well as food scraps.

The Town Hall currently has a supply of Earth Machine compost bins. The Earth Machine compost bin is rodent-resistant and has a capacity of 11 cubic feet. It has a sliding door at the bottom for removing compost and a locking lid. It is made from post-consumer recycled plastic. The Earth Machine is not bear-proof.

The Earth Machine compost bins are available to Gill residents for a discounted price of \$25 each (regularly \$55 each). Payment can be made by

cash or check payable to the Town of Gill.

Please call or email Ray (413-863-9347 and [administrator@gillmass.org](mailto:administrator@gillmass.org)) to arrange to purchase and pick up a compost bin.

For more information about backyard composting, visit the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District's website: <https://franklin-countywastedistrict.org/Composting>

### New to Town?

Are you one of the many people who have moved to Gill during the past year? If so, welcome! Please be sure to sign up for the Town's CodeRED emergency notification service. We use this system to provide residents with time-sensitive general and emergency notifications for such things as town events, changes to the trash/recycling collection schedule, hazardous traffic or road conditions, detours, flooding, emergency shelters, or evacuation notices.

There is no deadline to sign up. If you haven't added your telephone numbers (landline and cell), text numbers, and email addresses, visit the Town's website, and click on the link for CodeRED. If you don't have access to the internet, or need assistance with signing up, call Ray at the Town Hall, 413-863-9347.

### From the Town Clerk

Early voting by mail has returned to Massachusetts, and the Town Clerk has Vote by Mail applications. To get your application contact the Town Clerk, 413-863-8103. Applications can also be obtained at [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us). Follow the prompts for Voting, Early Voting, and Vote by

Mail. The State will also be mailing out applications to Vote by Mail, which you may have already received. *If you choose to vote by mail be sure you check the election options, i.e. All Elections, Primary Election 9/6/2022, or State Election 11/8/2022.* Also, if you are voting in the State Primary and are an unenrolled voter you must check *Democrat* or *Republican* to receive the correct ballot. If you do not wish to choose the Vote by Mail option, there will also be the opportunity to vote early in person at the Town Hall. Dates are listed below. The last days you may register to vote for the State Primary Election and State Mid-Term Election are also listed below. Please follow all the instructions on the application and your ballot when you receive them. You may also vote in person on Election Day upstairs at the Town Hall, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### State Primary: Tuesday, September 6th, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

- Last Day to register to Vote for the Primary: August 27th
- In-Person Early Voting Dates: Saturday August 27th thru Thursday September 1st
- Vote-By-Mail Applications are due at the Town Clerk's Office on Monday, August 29th by 5 p.m.

### Early Voting for the State Primary

- Saturday, August 27: 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m. (Note: this is the LAST DAY TO REGISTER to vote.)
- Sunday, August 28: No Early Voting
- Monday, August 29: 12-2 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 30: 12-2 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 31: 12-2 p.m.
- Thursday, September 1: 4-6 p.m.



- Friday, September 2: by appointment only (863-8103)

### State Mid-Term Election: Tuesday, November 8th, in-person voting 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

- Last Day to register to vote for the Mid-Term Election: October 29th
- In-Person Early Voting Dates: Saturday October 22nd thru Thursday November 3rd
- Vote-By-Mail Application due at the Town Clerk's Office on Tuesday, November 1st at 5 p.m.

### Early Voting for the State Election

- Saturday, October 22: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Sunday, October 23: No Early Voting
- Monday, October 24: 12-2 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 25: 12-2 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 26: 12-2 p.m.
- Thursday, October 27: 4-6 p.m.
- Friday, October 28: by appointment only (863-8103)
- Saturday, October 29: 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m. (Note: this is the LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE in this election)
- Sunday, October 30: No Early Voting
- Monday, October 31: 12-2 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 1: 12-2 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 2: 12-2 p.m.
- Thursday, November 3: 4-6 p.m.
- Friday, November 4: by appointment only (863-8103)

All early voting times are subject to change.

If you have any questions, please call the Town Clerk 413-863-8103.

Doreen Stevens  
Town Clerk

## Mosquito Control

Once again the Town opted out of the state's mosquito spraying program and submitted an alternative management plan that has been approved. A reminder to residents of mosquito prevention tips:

- Dump out standing water near your home. Mosquitoes need water to breed but need only a half-inch of water to lay eggs.
- Keep mosquitoes outside – use screens on your windows and doors.
- Use repellent like DEET. Essential oils like peppermint and eucalyptus in small dishes near where you are sitting outside can help.
- While most mosquito species are active just before dusk and through the night until dawn, you can be bitten at any time, day or night. The risk of mosquito bites and mosquito-borne illness lasts until the first hard, killing frost.
- Know that mosquitoes use tall grass, shrubs, bushes, and clutter as resting places.

MassDPH videos on YouTube are click-able links in the digital version of the newsletter that is available on the Town website.

*Mosquitoes and Ticks – They're Out in Mass! Protect Yourself From Mosquito Bites/Keep Mosquitoes Out of Your Home and Yard/Apply Repellents Safely and Effectively*

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## Public Health

### From the FRCOG Public Health Team

#### COVID Update

The FRCOG website has up-to-date information on what to do if you are exposed to or test positive for COVID. There is information about treatment options for COVID-19, up-to-date testing options, information on booster shots, and on how to get rapid COVID tests to have on hand at home—including those with MassHealth and Medicare. Visit the website at <https://frcog.org/covid>. No internet? Give us a call: 413-774-3167 ext. 206.

#### Walk-in Wellness

The FRCOG public health nurses will be in Gill every 2nd Friday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Stoughton Place Community Room; walk-in wellness hours are open to the entire community.

#### Healthy Food Access

One important topic in public health is healthy food access, or the ability to get healthy food, often around barriers like price, physical distance to stores, or a lack of nutrient-rich food. For many, the summer and fall growing seasons can bring higher access to healthy food because it is convenient to stop at a local farm stand. A map of local farm stands can be found on the website of nonprofit CISA (Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture) — [buylocalfood.org](http://buylocalfood.org).

However, accessing local food can be difficult simply because fresh produce can be pricey. Massachusetts

developed a creative solution to increasing food access and helping strengthen local farms: the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP). The program works alongside SNAP benefits (formerly food stamp dollars). Anyone who is eligible for any amount of these benefits has at least an additional \$40 dollars a month (as an automatic refund) that can be used on produce and other food items without preservatives. HIP dollars are widely used year-round at farmers' markets and benefit local farmers. Only certain retailers accept HIP, so check out CISA's website [buylocalfood.org](http://buylocalfood.org) for information on where to redeem HIP. Or, chat up your local farmer at the market!

Questions about HIP? Want to sign up? Check online at [mass.gov](http://mass.gov); call the Food Bank of Western MA (413-992-6204—English and Spanish), Project Bread (800-645-8333—a variety of languages), or call Community Action Pioneer Valley (413-475-1570).

#### Tick Tests

Subsidized tick tests are available to Gill residents. The town has secured funds to subsidize a limited number of tick tests. The subsidy does not cover the entire cost. Should you have a tick bite and capture the tick, you may get it tested through [tickreport.com](http://tickreport.com) and the subsidy will automatically apply when you enter your Gill address/zip code.

#### Covid-19 Vaccination & Booster Clinics

- Thurs. 8/4 4-7 p.m. Mohawk Trail Regional School, Buckland
- Tues. 8/24 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Federal Street Elementary School, Greenfield

- Tues. 8/24 3-6 p.m. Sheffield Elementary, Turners Falls
- Thurs. 8/25 3-6 p.m. Gill Elementary School
- Fri. 8/26 3:30-6:30 p.m. Deerfield Elementary School

#### Age eligibility:

- 6 months and up for vaccination
- 5 years and up for boosters

More info: [mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine](https://mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine)

Register online at: [frcog.org/covid](https://frcog.org/covid)

Walk-ins welcome. All vaccines are at no cost to you. Please bring a valid ID and, if you have them, vaccination and insurance cards.

## A Tribute To Doug Edson

In 1989, the first commercial internet service providers surfaced, as well as the first written proposal for the World Wide Web and gasoline was \$.90 gallon. In February the Soviets left Afghanistan, and on May 15, 1989, Doug Edson was elected to the Gill Board of Health.

Doug has served the Gill Board of Health since first being elected in 1989. He was Chair of the Board of Health for twenty-seven years. As of Election Day, May 16, 2022, he will have served 33 Years and 2 Days, or 12,055 days.

By the end of his term he will have served parts of five decades. At the time of Doug's election the President was George H.W. Bush and the Governor was Michael Dukakis. During Doug's time on the Board of Health we have had six presidents, seven governors and one very consistent, knowledgeable member of



our community give of his time to serve Gill. The town is a better place for all of us because of Doug Edson and his love of community. His love of Gill is evident whenever you speak to him; he has done, and continues to do, much for the community on his own and through his business.

I personally served with Doug for twenty-seven years and continued to work with him this past year as the Gill Health Agent. Doug has been my mentor and I am, in no small part, doing the job he trained me for over our many years together.

It is not always easy to serve on a Board of Health, never mind serving on one and owning an excavating company in that same town. Doug has done just that for thirty-three years. To avoid conflict or even the look of conflict is not easy. Doug has done so by being completely above-board and transparent at all times. Many people don't know that Doug has had to turn down work multiple times because he was a member of the Board of Health.

Doug always worked to ensure all people were treated fairly. His personal ethics carried through in his work with the Board of Health, and he provided the guidance to the Board of Health along the way.

I thank Doug both personally and on behalf of the citizens of Gill for his service to this community. I take solace in the fact that while Doug may be leaving the Board of Health, he is not leaving Gill. He is only a phone call away; or, of course, you could simply stop and have a chat when you see him along the side of the road in his truck, taking care yet another business matter before he loses cell service once again.

*Randy Crochier*

## Fire Department

### Join the Gill Fire Department

The Gill Fire Department is actively looking for members who want to help their community. Our members receive training in all aspects of fire-fighting and basic first aid, including CPR and defibrillation. If you are interested in becoming a member, please call the fire station at 413-863-8955, email Deputy Chief Kimball at [WKimball@gillmass.org](mailto:WKimball@gillmass.org), or stop by the station at 196A Main Road on any Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. during our weekly training night. Check it out. It's one of the most rewarding ways a citizen can help our community. Members are paid-on-call for emergency responses. If you, or someone you know, may be a good fit for our department, please pass on our information!

### New 4x4 Fire Engine

The Gill Fire Department would like to send a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone for your support of the Debt-Exclusion vote at the annual Town Meeting. We are excited to announce that the Town of Gill finalized its order for a new four-wheel-drive fire engine with a 1000-gallon water tank. This fire engine will suit our Town and Department very well, and it will help us better respond to all emergencies in the community no matter the weather or location.

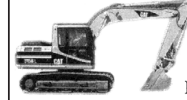
### Call Statistics

In fiscal year FY22, the Gill Fire Department responded to a total of 286 calls for service. Out of the total calls, 147 were emergency medical responses and 139 were fire-related incidents. Incidents included structure fires, fire alarm activations, downed

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electric lines, mutual aid to nearby communities, animal rescues, area searches, and public assistance. In addition to emergency responses, our members logged approximately 160 training hours each through weekly drills.

### **GFA Scholarships**

The Gill Firemen's Association is pleased to announce that its members were able to award two \$500.00 college scholarships to local graduates this year. This scholarship is presented annually in memory of Fire Engineer Stanley Ambo, Sr. The first scholarship was awarded to a graduating Gill resident, and the second one was awarded to a graduating member of the Gill Fire Department. We are proud to present Isaac Damon, PVRs Class of 2022, and Jacob Whitney, FCTS Class of 2022, with this year's Gill Firemen's Association Scholarships.

## **Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

Franklin County Solid Waste District is planning to hold the 2022 household hazardous waste collection on Saturday, September 24th at GCC's Main Campus and the Orange Transfer Station.

**Residents and businesses must pre-register by September 16th.** Online pre-registration for the 2022 collection will begin in mid-August, at: [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org). Mail-in registration forms will be available in late August at town transfer stations and in local newspapers.

Participants will be assigned an appointment time to bring wastes to

the collection; an appointment time and instructions will be provided by mail after registration is processed.

The collection is free for residents of most of the District's 21 member towns. Businesses may participate but must pay for disposal costs. For business registration information, call (413) 772-2438.

This collection provides an opportunity to dispose of hazardous items that should not be put in the trash, such as leftover oil-based paints, stains, thinners, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, motor oil, antifreeze, household cleaners, and other household chemicals. A more complete list of acceptable items is at: [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org).

Batteries and mercury-containing items such as fluorescent light bulbs, thermometers, and thermostats will not be accepted at this collection. These items, which may contain mercury or heavy metals, should never be put in trash or recycling. Handle carefully, bring them to a municipal transfer station or a Regional Hazardous Waste "Super Site" and hand to attendant. In addition, fluorescent light bulbs are accepted at Lowe's Stores (all types of fluorescents), and Home Depot (CFLs only).

For more information visit: [franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org) or contact the District at [info@franklincountywastedistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywastedistrict.org), (413) 772-2438. MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD). The District is an equal opportunity provider.

## **Gill Cultural Council**

### **Needs More Members!**

The purpose of Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) is to support public programs that promote access, education, diversity and excellence in the arts, humanities, and sciences in communities across the Commonwealth. Local decision-making is an integral element of this system. LCCs have the right to award grants that address cultural needs specific to their communities, and they can decide how to distribute funds, as long as the state policies outlined in the program guidelines are followed.

**We in Gill are a fun group who meet 2 or 3 times a year to review proposals and give out money!** We usually have about \$5,000 to spend, so the process isn't too long or complicated. Some organizations Gill has given money to include the Slate Memorial Library, Gill Elementary School, the Gill/Montague Council on Aging, the Gill Historical Commission, the Shea Theater and the Antenna Cloud Farm concert series.

Come join a small group of your neighbors to review projects being proposed, and help us decide which are the most worthwhile for our community. All ages are welcome, but we'd be delighted to have a few high school or college youth among those applying. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Town Administrator Ray Purington at (413) 863-9347.





## Slate Library News

Did you know that Slate Library has a “Library of Things?” Come visit and check out the newest trend in libraries today, a collection of objects that can be checked out to the community. We have trail cams and projectors, large screens for a backyard movie night, and video cameras for vlogging and blogging. Our newest acquisition includes snowshoes in four different sizes so your family or group of friends can enjoy exploring winter. We also have a power washer! What other items would you like to see in our collection? It’s an amazing way for us to collectively share items we may need once or twice or even try out before purchasing. We would love it if you would stop by and let us know your thoughts or email us at [gill.slate.library@gmail.com](mailto:gill.slate.library@gmail.com)

In other news, the library has beautiful outdoor spaces to explore and relax in during these long summer days. Sit in the shade with a good book, play in the sandbox, enjoy the open yard space, take a lunch break or work remotely from our picnic table with access to public Wi-Fi. All are welcome whether the Library is open or not!

The Slate Memorial Librarians, Trustees and Friends urge everyone to save the date of Sunday, September 25 for the Gill Fall Festival. Our sweet little library will show off its growing “Library of Things” and our seed library. Come celebrate at the Library with live music, food, activities and a raffle at this wonderful community event!

*Jocelyn Castro-Santos*  
Director, Slate Library

## Introducing the New Principal

This summer, Gill Elementary School saw the arrival of a new principal, Dr. Walter Huston. Dr. Huston shared a little bit about himself through this interview.

### What experience do you bring to Gill Elementary School?

I always wanted to be a teacher. After graduating from Gordon College in Wenham, MA, I became a classroom teacher for 12 years on the North Shore of Massachusetts. Then I was a special education teacher for seven years. In between I was a curriculum/instructional specialist focusing on social studies and ELA. For one year, I was a Fulbright Exchange Teacher where I lived and worked in North Devon, England. For the last 8 years, I have been a rural school principal in Marlow, South Hampton, and recently, Sunapee, NH. Four years ago, I earned my doctorate in Education Leadership.

### What brought you here to Gill?

Although we loved the beauty and quiet of NH, after living there for twenty years and working for eight of those years, my family and I wanted to return to Massachusetts. My hometown is Merrimac, MA. It is a small, town along the Merrimack River between Haverhill and Newburyport, MA. However, eastern Massachusetts is crowded and noisy. Western Massachusetts gives my family the best of both worlds - living in MA but enjoying the similar scenery of NH. I must admit that I had never heard of Gill until I applied. Now that I am here, it is beautiful. My favorite part of my drive is driving through the different farms and then over the

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## Harvest Festival

Join Your Neighbors at the 3rd Annual Gill Harvest Festival!

- The Fire Department will provide food and drink
- Farm activities for all ages!
- Gill farms and farmers will display the fruits, vegetables and meats of their labors
- There will be tractors to climb and hay wagons to ride
- Search for coins in the sawdust

**PLUS MORE, MUCH MORE!**

**Sunday September 25, 2022**  
**from 12-3 p.m.**  
**The Common,**  
**Town Center, Gill**

All those interested in displaying farm or farm-related products please call an Ag Commission member or go to the town website. Ag Commission Members are Ray Steel, Roger Augustine, Tom Chalmers, Dick French, Ed Golembeski, Gary Stevens, and Hannah Sol.



bridge to Turner Falls. I still smile every time I go over it. My hope is that it never stops being new. When I interviewed for the position, I knew Gill Elementary was the place I was meant to be. Many of the wonderful things that happen at the school are things I hold dear - composting, the nature trails, project-based learning to name a few. Gill Elementary (and I am learning everyday - the community of Gill) is a special place to be.

### **Where do you live now?**

Right now, I am living in a hotel in Greenfield until we find a house in the area. However, my official home is in Bow, NH, a small town right next door to NH's capital city of Concord. It is too far for a daily commute. So, I come down on Monday and then return on Friday. Hopefully, we will be closing on a home soon somewhere between Northampton and Greenfield.

### **Besides working at a school, what else do you enjoy doing?**

I love food and I love to cook. Baking is my specialty. I love baking cookies, pies, and cakes. My decorating skills, however, need some help. My family and I try to see as many musicals as we can, albeit on Broadway or WAY, WAY OFF Broadway!! We recently went to NYC to see Hugh Jackman (Wolverine) in *The Music Man*. After the show, I got to bump elbows!! I love reading, especially Young Adult and historical fiction. I am trying to get back to cycling and working out whenever I can. I also love to travel. I have traveled to at least 28 states and 12 countries. Besides living in England, I traveled twice to Tanzania

in East Africa to work at an orphanage. It was amazing! My family and I are hoping next summer to go on a river cruise through Europe. For years, I sang in local choirs but have not been able to do that due to the pandemic.

### **Do you have any hobbies or things you like to collect?**

When I was a little kid my aunt introduced me to Peanuts and Snoopy. Over the years, my collection grew from my single Snoopy stuffed dog (which I still have), to lots of books, a Snoopy phone, sheets, blankets, lots of stuffed animals, mugs, hats, clothes, neckties (over 25 of them), and enough decorations to cover a single Christmas tree. Needless to say, I have LOTS of Snoopy/Peanuts things.

### **What are you looking forward to during the time in Gill?**

I am looking forward to learning more about the community and the town. I love history, especially the history of small-town New England. I am hoping to connect with members of the community that do not have a direct connection with the school. My experience has shown me that there is a wealth of knowledge and experience in small towns like Gill and that we need to tap into it for the sake of the upcoming generations. I truly believe that it takes a village to raise a child, and I am quickly finding out that there is no better village than Gill!

## **Four Winds School**

We hope everyone is having an amazing summer! At Four Winds School we are busy preparing for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year, during which we will be studying local history and earth and space sciences. Additionally, Four Winds will be welcoming a new teacher this year, Nathaniel Madison, to cover the Humanities and ELA curriculum, while former co-director Becca Danielsen takes a year off for maternity leave. If you have any questions about Four Winds School, visit our website at [www.fourwindsschool.info](http://www.fourwindsschool.info) or send us any questions at [fourwindsteachers@gmail.com](mailto:fourwindsteachers@gmail.com). Have a great rest of the summer!

## **Honor Roll**

### **Pioneer Valley Regional High School**

3rd Quarter

#### **Grade 12**

Highest Honor: Isaac Damon

#### **Grade 11**

High Honor: James Staelens

#### **Grade 8**

Highest Honor: Anthony McNamara and Charlotte Relyea-Strawn  
Honor: Taj Diaby

### **Pioneer Valley Regional School**

4th Quarter

#### **Grade 12**

Highest Honor: Isaac Damon

#### **Grade 11**

Highest Honor: James Staelens





## **Grade 8**

Highest Honor: Anthony McNamara and Charlotte Relyea-Strawn

## **TURNERS FALLS HIGH SCHOOL**

4th Quarter

## **Grade 11**

Second Honors: Adeline Riley

## **Grade 10**

Second Honors: Owen LaValley

## **Grade 9**

Second Honors: Maren Balchelder

## **GREAT FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

4th Quarter

## **Grade 8**

First Honors: Lincoln Coleman, Vaughan LaValley, Emma Little, Miles Riley and Kainen Stevens  
Second: Dylan Brunault

## **Grade 6**

First Honors: Jocelyn Ovalle Roblero

## **High School Graduates From Gill**

Jacob Croteau, Dylan Mathieu, Alder Williams and Anthony Zager graduated from the Franklin County Technical School this year. Jacob Croteau and Anthony Zager graduated from the Electrical class, Dylan Mathieu from Carpentry and Alder Williams from Landscaping and Horticulture. Anthony Zager received the Light Up the Night Scholarship and a Peer Support/Mentoring Award.

Hillary Leeds and Victoria Malcolm graduated from Northfield Mount Hermon in May. Hillary Leeds received the Mary Ellen Peller

Memorial Award and Victoria Malcolm graduated Cum Laude and received the Head of School Award.

Issac Damon graduated from Pioneer Valley Regional School and received the Principal's Award, Excellence in Statistics Award, Excellence in Physics Award, Fred W. Wells Fund Scholarship, Friends of Gill Bernice Keech Scholarship, Gill Firemen's Association Scholarship and Outstanding Achievement in Engineering Design.

Valedictorian Hannah Marchefka had a dual enrollment her senior year with Turners Falls High School and Greenfield Community College. Along with being Valedictorian of her class, Hannah received the President's Award for Academic Excellence and a Turners Falls Class of 2022 Scholastic Merit Award.

## **College Graduation**

Joseph Lawton-Curtis graduated from Champlain College in May. He is now working in the cyber security field in Burlington, VT.

## **College Dean's List**

Althea Tierney was awarded Dean's List High Honors for the Spring Semester at Connecticut College.

## **Gill Historical Commission**

### **GHC Website**

Have you looked at the Gill Historical website with information, articles, and pictures that change monthly? The site also provides an archive of previous articles. Order forms for both the *Riverside* and

the *Jennie* books are available at this location. The GHC members and meeting schedule are also posted. Look in a future issue of the newsletter for an article on the history of Gill's old Stone Lodge or Stillwell House, built in 1894.

### **GHC Facebook**

The expanding GHC FaceBook page is a source for pictures and historical information and memories. Thanks to Charlene Curie, the postings change weekly. Visit us on FaceBook@GillHistoricalCommission.

### **Harvest Fair on the Gill Common**

September 25, 1-3 p.m.

GHC plans to exhibit a few items from the Gill Historical Collection. Our three books will be available to purchase. Come and join us for conversation about Gill's history at this year's harvest celebration.

### **Wert and Country Prints – Fall Event**

In the late fall, GHC will host a second event to celebrate the work of Gill's Robert Darr Wert at Country Prints. Watch for details on the GHC website and Facebook page as well as in the October newsletter.

Town Hall  
325 Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354-9747

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM Retail

LOCAL  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

GILL, MA 01354

## Harvest Festival

Join Your Neighbors at the 3rd Annual Gill Harvest Festival!

- Fire Department will provide food and drink
- Farm activities for all ages!
- Gill farms and farmers will display the fruits, vegetables and meats of their labors
- Tractors to climb and hay wagons to ride
- Search for coins in the sawdust
- Visit with friends and neighbors
- Plus more, much more!

Sunday September 25, 2022 from 12-3 p.m.  
The Common, Town Center, Gill

All those interested in displaying farm or farm-related products please call an Ag Commission member or go to the town website. Ag Commission members are Ray Steele, Roger Augustine, Tom Chalmers, Dick French, Ed Golembeski, Hannah Soll, and Gary Stevens.