



The WHATELY SCOOP

Certified News for the Town
with the Milk Bottle...

Volume 7 Number 1 September 2010 Whately, Massachusetts

Health Care Reform Summary

by Rebecca Jones, MD

Fellow Whately folks, healthcare reform is pretty confusing. The national physician's alliance Doctors for America, of which I am a part, has compiled this FAQ sheet:

How does Health Reform Affect You?

If you are insured now through a large employer, you can keep your current plan. Premiums are projected to stay the same or slightly decline.

If you are insured now through a small employer you can keep your current plan. Premiums are projected to slightly decrease. The new health reform law provides tax credits to small businesses starting this year to help them afford health coverage for employees.

If you are insured now through Medicare, you can keep what you have. The new health reform law does not cut guaranteed traditional Medicare benefits, and you get \$250 if you fall in the prescription drug 'Doughnut Hole' – it will be completely eliminated by 2020 and there are no

co-pays for preventive services.

If you purchase insurance on your own, you will pay 59% less on average than you currently do under the status quo.

If you are uninsured now and you just graduated from college, the new health reform law allows you to stay on your parents' health plans up to age 26.

If you are uninsured now and you lost your job or your employer does not cover you, new "exchanges" and new subsidies start in 2014 and will help middle class families purchase health insurance and keep premiums affordable.

If you are uninsured now and you have a pre-existing condition. The new health reform law bans insurance companies from denying you coverage based on pre-existing conditions in 2014, sets up high-risk pools in the meantime.

Learn more at www.drsgforamerica.org

Bringing Whately history home via the Internet

by Judy Markland, Whately His. Soc.

Who knew that Whately antiques and memorabilia had migrated to places as far away as Florida and Illinois – and that Ebay would be a great way to get them back? The Historical Society's internet auction acquisitions range from an 1873 Bible inscribed "From the Church in Whately, MA" (from Wisconsin) and a stencil used to print burlap potato bags on the Louis Kandz farm (sold from New Hampshire)? Thanks to Ebay, the Society has been able to fill important gaps in its collection, including our first piece of Frederick Adams furniture -



The following businesses have made donations to help cover the cost of printing & mailing the Scoop

[Enterprise Farm](#) – 75 River Rd. Whately
[Julie's](#) - North Street, Whately
[Pro Pel Plastech](#), Long Plain Road Whately

Look for the ads from [Austin's](#), [Collective Homecare](#), [Goin Gray Auto repair](#), [Hillside House](#), [Jassy Timberlake](#), [NEWFS](#), [Nicolas Jones](#), [North East Alpacas](#), [Signature Sounds](#), [The Whately Congregational Church](#) & [The Whately Health Center](#) inside!

Want to see your business listed here?
Details on last page of this issue.

a Queen Anne maple tea table - and an envelope mailed from the East Whately post office on the day it closed.

We've also learned more about the value of our Whately pottery collection, as well as how capricious online auctions can be. We were hugely outbid on an elaborately decorated jug believed to be decorated by Maria Crafts, but were lucky enough to be the only bidder on a rare jug by TS and JM Crafts and got a relative bargain.

The Historical Society has had more Ebay wins than losses, but unusual Whately dairy memorabilia has been especially hard to come by. We were outbid on a rare two piece Quonquont milk bottle cap, as well as on a Hillside Dairy 'Cop the Cream' milk bottle that sold for \$210! If you have one in your attic, guard it carefully. (If you have two, please donate one to the Society!)



Vendors are always delighted when they see a Whately object returning to Whately and often ask the reason. We've even had one or two discounts as a result, and several sellers have promised to let us know directly when they spot Whately items, rather than putting them up for auction.

We could use your help too. Please let the Society know if you spot something special from Whately on Ebay – and also if you're planning to bid on something, so we don't bid against you. Just call Adelia Bardwell or email info@whatelyhistorical.org.

And come to the Harvest Festival on September 26 and help us raise money for future acquisitions!

Friends of the Whately Library

by Susan Boone

Are you looking for some excitement in your life, romance, suspense, or adventure? Would you like to learn how to build a house, knit a sweater, do yoga, raise or entertain your kids, learn about classical music or current events, or read a good biography? Want to listen to great music, dance (all alone or with someone special), sing along, or be entertained? How about reading or rereading a classic or maybe trying something really obscure? Well the Friends of the Library annual used book sale has just the thing. You

want it, we've got it! We especially have lots and lots of kid's books. And it's not just books; we have videos, DVDs, CDs, jigsaw puzzles, books on tape, books on CD. It's all at bargain rates and all proceeds support activities for children and adults. So come on by the library between 10 and 2 on September 26th during the Whately Fall Festival. There will be some extra special deals, maybe even some freebies, and our spiffy 60th anniversary bags for sale. If you're cleaning out and want to donate any of the above you can drop them off at the library until September 15th.



compiled by Judy Markland

Brian (Chuckie) Belder and his cow won the Junior Champion prize at the Cummington Fair in August against very stiff competition. Way to go Brian!!

The cover article of the September issue of Preview Massachusetts features **Nicholas Jones**. Titled "A Hand in History", it describes his work as a restoration carpenter and cabinet maker. A companion article highlights the rare early 19th century five-paneled doors found in many Whately homes. Preview is a magazine highlighting arts and crafts in the Valley and is distributed free at many area locations, including the Deerfield Inn and the Millstone Farm Market in Sunderland.

Library Notes

by Tiffany Hilton

Baby Bunnies and Pet Rabbits – Saturday, September 11, 1pm. Destiny McDonough raises rabbits and shows them at American Rabbit Breeders Association shows. Come see her rabbits! She will share with us how to care for pet rabbits, raise baby bunnies, and children will have a chance to hold the babies too!

Free Seminar on Elder Law - Monday, September 20, 6:30pm. Join us for an informational seminar on Elder Law with Attorney Maureen C. Tobin. This one hour presentation will answer questions about Durable Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy, and Wills – What they do and do not do, and when and why you need one. She will also discuss Trusts, types of trusts and when they are useful. Bring your questions.

Book Discussion Group meets the 4th Monday of

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each month at 6:30pm. September 27th we will discuss *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin. Copies of the book are available at the library each month.

Join us for movies and popcorn each month! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Dear John, PG-13, Monday, September 13th, 4pm A romantic drama based on the novel by Nicholas Sparks about a soldier who falls for a conservative college student while he's home on leave.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid,

PG, Saturday, October 2nd, 1pm.

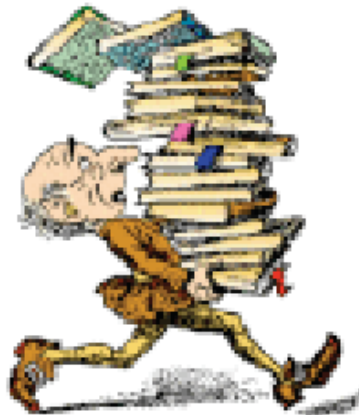
The best-selling book comes to life in this family comedy! Greg Heffley is headed for big things, but first he has to survive the scariest, most humiliating experience of any kid's life – middle school!

Kid's Craft Table – Make a fall wreath. Drop in anytime.

Outreach Services Do you have difficulty getting to our library? Volunteers will select and bring books and media to Whately residents who would otherwise have difficulty reaching the library. Call Tiffany to request delivery 665-2170.

DVD Collection – If you haven't been to the library in a while, come check out our growing collection of DVD's. We have the new releases you just missed in the theaters!

Handmade Holidays Fair Saturday, Dec. 11, Noon-3pm. The Library Holiday Fair returns! Vendors wanted to sell handmade items, baked



goods, soap, candles, crafts and more. Whately residents and employees may contact Tiffany to reserve a space. \$20 for a table to benefit the Friends of the Library. 665-2170 or library@whately.org

Gentle Yoga - Wednesdays 6pm, please contact Alexandra Mello 413-210-4346.

Library is closed for holidays on Monday Sept. 6, and Oct. 11.

Visit www.whately.org/library for the most up to date library events or sign up for our monthly email newsletter by sending your name to whatelypubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Greetings from the First Congregational Church

by Cynthia Crosson-Harrington

As the leaves begin to turn and fall is surely upon us, we at the First Congregational Church look forward to an active year ahead. On Labor Day, Monday Sept 6th, we celebrate the end of summer with our annual chicken barbeque. We boast some of the best barbequed chicken ever partially due to our secret recipe. We serve from 12 to 2 pm, eat in or take out. Tickets can be purchased by calling 665-2653 or from many church members. All are welcome.

Our Sunday School year begins on Sunday, Sept 12 with child-friendly worship at 10 am and a pot luck lunch to follow. Come and hear all the plans we have for our children in the year ahead.

If you are interested in worship, an ongoing Bible study, wonderful suppers, a variety of activities or loving fellowship, you will find it at the Whately church. Please join us each Sunday morning at 10 am. Rev. Cynthia can be reached at the church at 665-3537 on Tuesdays.

We hope to see you in church!

Visit me here in Whately at the Whately Health Center, or in Downtown Brattleboro at my new, completely "green" office!

1-800-994-0504

Dr. Rebecca Jones



You are welcome at the
 Whately Congregational Church (UCC)
 177 Chestnut Plain Road
 Worship service & Sunday School 10am Sundays
 Coffee hour following the service.
 No experience necessary!

Solid Waste Management Committee

by Fran Fortino

Hazardous Waste Collection Sept. 25

The FCSWMD's annual hazardous waste collection will be on Saturday, September 25 at GCC Main Campus and Orange Transfer Station. It is free to Whately residents and offers a once-a-year opportunity to dispose of hazardous items such as oil-based paints, thinners, household cleaners, pesticides, pool chemicals, motor oil, antifreeze, car batteries, fluorescent lamps, and other household chemicals. All participants must pre-register by Sept. 17 (online at: www.franklincountywastedistrict.org/hwdform.html) or call 772-2438. For a complete list of acceptable items, see the District's website: www.franklincountywastedistrict.org/hazwasteday.html.

Next Bulky Waste Day Oct. 16

Time for fall clean up! The next Bulky Waste Collection day will be held on Saturday, October 16, 8-1 p.m. at the Transfer Station. Here's another chance to get rid of your old bulky household items, large and small, including old furniture & carpets, mattresses, bicycles, scrap metal, BBQ tanks, appliances, TV's, computers & other electronics, tires, even some construction and demolition materials. Fees charged to cover costs.

A few volunteers are needed to make bulky day a success. If you can volunteer for a little while, or need more information, please call 665-4561.



This event is co-sponsored by the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District.

Welcome New Transfer Station Crew

Whately's recycling rate is consistently among the highest of all the 21 Franklin County towns in the FCSWMD. Beyond the intelligence of our residents, this accomplishment is due to our diligent transfer station staff. We are happy to welcome 2 new staff: Quint Dawson and Roger Huard, both Whately residents. Please say hello and let them, as well as Alan and Lee, help you make the most of our recycling and composting programs.

From The Town Clerk

By Lynn Sibley

It is an election year and the Town Clerk's Office is busy with election preparations. The State Primary will be held on September 14, 2010 from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. at the Whately Town Hall. The State Election will be held on November 2, 2010. The last day to register to be eligible to vote in the November election is October 13th.

Reminder from the Tax Collector

Second quarter taxes are due on November 1, 2010. In July you received a mailing that had the bill for both August 1 and November 1. If you need the information on how much is due on November 1st, please contact Susan Warriner, Town Collector at 665-2595.

Housing Rehabilitation Program

This is a reminder that the Town of Whately still has grant funds for Housing Rehabilitation under the Community Development Block Grant for residents who qualify. The income guidelines are quite generous. For example, a household size of four can have an annual gross income of \$62,550. Under this program you may be eligible for a deferred payment loan of up to \$30,000 to \$35,000 for roofing and foundation repairs, heating systems, plumbing and electrical work, home modifications, septic repairs, lead paint removal and much more. The loan is paid upon sale or transfer of the property. Contact Charity Day at the Franklin County Housing and Redevelopment

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Michael Archbald, RN- Owner

Owner
Robert Kubosiak

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413-665-3000

265 State Road
Whately, Ma 01093
Hours: 7:30-4:30 M-F

Authority at 413-863-9781 ext. 132 or cday@fchra.org for more information.

Capital Stabilization Fund

The Selectmen have voted to bring the Capital Stabilization Fund override back for a vote of the town on the State Election ballot on November 2, 2010. As you may be aware the question was on the Town Election ballot in June but it did not pass. The Selectmen feel that there will be a larger turnout of voters for the Nov. 2 election and that will be a better indicator of how the residents feel on this issue. We have had many questions regarding the Capital Stabilization Fund since that June vote. The vote was quite close and we feel that with some additional information, residents may reconsider their position on this question. Let me explain the process. Presently the town does not have the money to purchase capital items. Every year we hope that the fiscal picture will improve and this year the Finance Committee, Capital Planning and Selectmen recognized that this was not going to happen and we needed to develop a way to replace equipment and repair buildings in disrepair. The Fire Station Roof is the only capital item that was funded this year (FY11) and the money was voted from the Regular Stabilization Account which after this vote now has \$200,000. We would like to see this account in the \$400,000 range. This particular account is used for emergency items. If one of our buildings required an emergency repair during the year this account would be used.

The Capital Stabilization Fund would serve as a savings account for items such as highway trucks, police cars, ambulances, etc. We are asking for \$60,000 to be funded through an override in order to start this savings account. A Capital Stabilization Fund override works a little different than a regular override. The \$60,000 once voted by the town on a ballot would be applied each year at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen. As we get caught up

Hillside House Bed and Breakfast

60 Masterson Rd
Whately, MA 01093
413-665-5515

on capital item purchases or if we have a new revenue source the Selectmen could chose to eliminate the override amount in any given year.

Although the Selectmen have the authority to appropriate the \$60,000 each year, Town Meeting with a 2/3rd's will vote on what items will be funded using the Capital Stabilization Fund. The Capital Improvement Planning Committee will make recommendations on what capital items should be funded each year.

Some may suggest that rather than having a Capital Stabilization Fund, we bring each item to a debt exclusion vote. The pros and cons to paying for capital items by a

debt exclusion are:

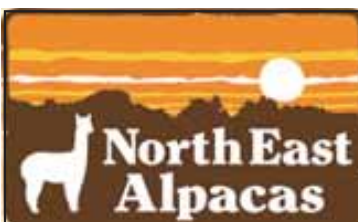
Pros to a debt exclusion rather than an override funded Capital Stabilization Account

- Residents are clear as to what the debt exclusion vote is to cover at the time of the appropriation. The item being purchased is specific.
- A debt exclusion has a limited time period (the length of the loan)

Cons to a debt exclusion rather than Capital Stabilization Account

- Tax rate will fluctuate with each of the capital item purchases which could make budgeting hard on the residents.
- The town will need to borrow over the length of the loan. The Capital Stabilization Account, on the other hand, will accrue interest as it grows rather than us paying interest towards a loan.
- It is more difficult to plan for future capital expenses without knowing there will be a funding source.

We hope you will think about this alternative method of funding for the larger capital items the town will desperately need in the next few years. If you have any questions about the Capital Stabilization Fund, please contact a member of the



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www.northeastalpacas.com

Board of Selectmen or Town Administrator, Lynn Sibley at 665-4400.

Eco Friendly Whately Elementary

by Peter Crisafulli, Principal

Whately Elementary School students and staff have set a goal to become the most eco-friendly school in Western Massachusetts. Do we have solar panels all over the roof to power the building? Well, not exactly. But when it comes to recycling and composting our food waste, we're in pretty good shape.

Our students receive regular lessons and reminders on the importance of recycling and how it supports a healthy ecology. We have appropriate recycling bins in all of our classrooms and offices. Our 6th grade students have taken on the job of collecting those bins and loading the material into our school-owned 96 gallon recycling toters.

Yes, we now own our very own toters thanks to a gift from Adam Quenneville Roofing and a new relationship with the Town of Whately Transfer Station and the Solid Waste Committee. Quenneville roofing was able to give our school a "rebate" after they replaced our old roof. Because Quenneville was able to recycle the old roof, they realized a cost savings and they kindly turned that savings back to us with the request that we use the money for a "green" initiative.



When the Town of Whately Transfer Station approached our school to see if we would be to discuss a way of recycling with the town rather than the private trash hauler we had been working with, we were very interested. In a nutshell, the transfer station agreed to provide pick-up at a great savings to us, and we agreed to purchase our own toters from the "green" money provided by Quenneville. As the school year begins, we are about to embark on the partnership.

Our school is also very fortunate to have a Whately neighbor who is dedicated to eco-friendly living and a friend of our school. Bill Obear, the proprietor of Bear Path Farm, where a huge composting operation takes place, is the man who shows up weekly to take away our toter

which is filled with the many food scraps from a week's worth of school lunches. Bill comes in his own truck, on his own time, using his own fuel money, and charges us a total of \$0 to take our food waste. And after having visited his farm with our 5th Grade last year, it's evident that what we provide to him is just a drop in the proverbial bucket relative to the size of his operation. Despite our small contribution of compost material, Bill collects our food waste because he believes it is the right thing to do. Bill also did a fantastic teaching job when he shared his expertise with our 5th graders last year as we walked around his farm surrounded by huge steaming rows of compost in various stages of decomposition! We learned a lot that day, this principal included, not just about composting but also about what it means to be a good neighbor like Bill Obear.



So with good neighbors like Bill Obear and the good folks at the Town of Whately Transfer station and Solid Waste Committee, and with our dedicated students and staff staying focused on "being green", I think we are well on our way to becoming the most eco-friendly school in Western Massachusetts and we have saved a few budget dollars along the way for the taxpayers. Sounds like a good deal to me!

Nasami Farm Nursery Opens for Fall Season

Steven Ziglar, NEWFS

New England Wild Flower Society's Nasami Farm Nursery opens its 2010 Fall Season Thursday, September 2 and will remain open Thursdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until October 3. The Society's nursery propagates and sells over 450 native plant species at Nasami Farm in Whately and at Garden in the Woods in Framingham, MA. The nursery also grows large special orders for towns and landscapers.

For the first time, Nasami Farm will also offer a full-service garden shop with tools, containers, soil, and more. "We have had so many inquiries about the right tool for the right job that we decided to

GO WILD!
With sustainable gardens



2010 Seasons

Open Thursdays thru Sundays 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.,
April 15 thru June 14. Fall season Sept 2-Oct 3.

Nasami Farm Nursery, Whately, MA
413-397-9922 • www.newenglandwild.org



LEARN, GROW, AND PROTECT

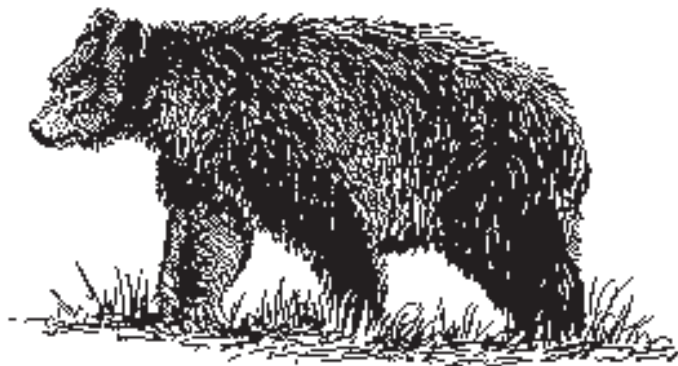
stock some of our favorites," stated sales manager Terry Morrow. "Recycled plastic bottles make great garden gloves. Other items include branded clothing as tee-shirts, umbrellas, hoodies, caps, lanyards, water bottles, and holiday ornaments. There are also rugs made of recycled fishing ropes, a random selection of gardening books and children's books, composters and rain barrels made of recycled plastic, spouts you can put on water bottles for watering, towels made of bamboo and corn which can be washed and reused, gardener soaps, bug-off soaps, an all natural insect repellent, and recycled-plastic dust pan and broom sets. We are trying to be as green as possible with our shop merchandise."

Founded in 1900, New England Wild Flower Society, the nation's oldest native plant conservation organization, promotes the conservation of temperate North American flora through education, research, horticulture, habitat preservation, and advocacy. The Society owns and operates Garden in the Woods, a 45-acre public botanic garden in Framingham, MA, and Nasami Farm, a 75-acre native plant nursery in Whately, MA, as well as ten sanctuaries located in New England. The Society's vision is a future where vigorous native plant populations live in healthy, balanced, natural ecosystems—protected, enjoyed, and beneficial to all life. For more information, visit <http://www.newenglandwild.org>.

WILD CREATURE SIGHTINGS


Marianne Simon

My daughter and granddaughter were exploring the West Brook that runs through our back yard when they observed, not 10 feet away, a large brown dog, which, of course, upon further observation, turned out to be a bear, several years old. My 12 year old granddaughter, who loves all living creatures, stood and looked at the bear, no doubt engaging him/her in a silent conversation for several minutes. Then the bear



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moved on up the brook, seemingly at peace. My granddaughter moved on into the yard, also very happy and quite excited!

Several hours later, our neighbors on Westbrook Road also sighted the bear, who was crossing the street in front of their house. Apparently, they did not engage him/her in silent conversation, but, nevertheless, were quite delighted at the sight.

It is a pleasure to be reminded, from time to time, that Whately is, indeed, quite rural, despite the high level of civilization demonstrated regularly by its denizens.

The Whately Scoop needs help following up on the small amount of fundraising we do to keep this newsletter free to all. It involves sending letters to our businesses sponsors and following up with a phone call, and depositing donations. This would help enormously to keep the scoop going, so if you have even a small amount of time to help out, it would be greatly appreciated.

*If you know of any local businesses that you would like to see advertising in the scoop, **LET THEM KNOW!**, and give them the following contact information: Joyce Palmer Fortune, jpfortune@comcast.net, 665-6739.*

TOWN DIRECTORY

Department	Office	Phone
Assessors	Town Hall	665-3470
Board of Health Health Agent		268-8404
Animal Control		665-8027
Emergency Mgmt	Center School	665-4400
FAX for Center School		665-9560
FAX for Town Hall		665-5064
Fire Department		665-2230
Burning Permits		625-8200
Highway Department		665-2983
Inspection Services:		
Building	Courthouse	772-2026x123
Plumbing & Gas	Courthouse	772-2026x125
Wiring	Courthouse	772-2026x126
Police (non-emergency)		625-8200
Schools:		
Whately Elementary		665-7826
Frontier Regional School		665-2118
Franklin County Technical		863-9561
Selectmen/Center School		665-4400
S. White Dickinson Library		665-2170
Town Collector/Treasurer	Town Hall	665-2595
Town Clerk	Center School	665-0054
Town Accountant	Town Hall	665-2595
Water Department	Center School	665-3080

If you misplace your copy of the Scoop - do not despair! You can always find it on the Whately Library's website (www.whately.org/library)

OFFICE HOURS

Assessors - Tue 9a – 8:30p. Wed. 9a – 5p
Library - Mon & Wed 10a. – 8p; Sat 9 a – 3:00p
Selectmen - Monday – Friday 9a – 4:00p
Town Clerk –M-W-Th-F 9:00a -4:00p; Tue noon-7:00p
Treasurer/Town Collector -Tue & Thu 8:45a-2:45p Mon. 3-7p
Transfer Station - Tue., Noon–5p; Sat. 7a–5p

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR TOWN BOARDS

Assessors- Most Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00p, Town Hall
Board of Health-2nd Tues, 7:00p, Center School
Conservation Commission-3rd Weds, 7:00p, Town Hall
Council on Aging - 2nd Weds, 10:00p Senior Center
Franklin Tech School Com. 2nd Weds, 7:00p, Tech School
FRS School Committee - 2nd Tues, 7:00p FRS
Historical Commission -3rd Monday, 7:00p, Town Hall
Library Trustees - 2nd Thursday, 7:00p, Library
Planning Board - Last Tuesday, 7:00p, Town Hall
Recreation Commission –2nd Mon, 7:00p,WES/Herlihy
Selectmen - 2nd and last Tues, 7:00p, Center School
Water Commissioners - 1st Tues, 7:00p, Center School
Whately School Committee -1st Monday, 7:00p WES
Zoning Board of Appeals - 1st Thurs, 6:30p, Town Hall
Historical Society 1st Thursday, 7:00p, Center School

Note: This schedule is provided for informational purposes only. Meetings are also posted on the Whately Bulletin Board, Channel #15 for cable viewers in town and at the town's website, www.whately.org. Please check at the Town Offices for official notification of meetings and hearings.

*Postage and Printing cost provided by generous readers and local businesses,
 Thank You All Very Much!*



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Certified News for the Town with the Milk Bottle...

152 Westbrook Road
 RFD So. Deerfield, Ma. 01373

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 Permit no. 1

Whately Box holder
 Whately, Ma. 01093

To be sung to the tune of Taking a Chance on Love

Here I go again,
 I see the garbage grow again
 Beside the road again,
 Taking my nice bike ride

Why do people toss
 Their garbage into grass and moss
 When it is such a loss
 To our pristine road side.

I know that stuff comes from autos,
 No walker holds trash.
 I know no cars are too tiny
 To hold so small a stash

So, please, take mindful care,
 Remember not to ever dare
 Toss out your used-up share;
 But recycle it with great pride.