



Senior Grapevine

Claire Teague Senior Center
917 Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230
413 528 1881
Polly Mann, Director
pmann@townofgb.org
Open from 8:00 - 3:30 M - F

CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY JULY 4TH - INDEPENDENCE DAY

Movies on Mondays
Join us at noon
in the library.

JULY'S MOVIE THEME: Crazy Office Problems!



Mon, July 2 CACTUS FLOWER

Commitment-phobic Julian Winston (Walter Matthau) has been able to keep his girlfriend, Toni (Goldie Hawn), at bay by pretending to be stuck in a loveless marriage. But when Toni insists on meeting his missus, Julian's forced to recruit his assistant (Ingrid Bergman) to pose as his wife. Based on the play by Jean-Pierre Grédy, this lighthearted 1969 comedy is directed by Gene Saks.

Mon, July 9 NINE TO FIVE

Judy (Jane Fonda), Violet (Lily Tomlin) and Doralee (Dolly Parton) -- fed up with their "sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot" of a boss (Dabney Coleman) -- entertain fantasies about revenge. But fantasy turns into reality when the women think they've inadvertently poisoned Mr. Hart's coffee. To cover their tracks, they concoct an intricate ploy that turns the tables on the chief and shreds the patriarchal old boys' network. This comedy from 1980 is directed by Colin Higgins.

Mon, July 16 DESK SET

Bunny Watson (Katharine Hepburn) is a reference librarian whose tepid long-term relationship with television executive Mike Cutler (Gig Young) is fizzling. Enter Richard Sumner (Spencer Tracy), a no-nonsense computer genius who's created a new product named Miss Emmy to automate the work of Bunny and her co-workers. The two butt heads in the beginning, but soon their disdain for one another turns to romantic sparks. This 1957 classic comedy's all star cast is directed by Walter Lang.

Mon, July 23 THE FRONT PAGE

Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau play battling newspapermen in 1920s Chicago in this fast-paced version of the comedy classic from director Billy Wilder. Lemmon is ace reporter Hildy Johnson and Matthau his irascible editor, Walter Burns. Hildy wants to quit and marry Peggy Grant (Susan Sarandon), but Walter will do anything to stop him, and an escaped killer (Austin Pendleton) gives him just the scoop he needs to lure Hildy back to work. Cast also stars Carol Burnett and is directed by Billy Wilder. 1974.

Mon, July 30 THE OFFICE SPACE

In a 1999 film that takes plenty of jabs at the nihilism of corporate life, Ron Livingston plays office drone Peter Gibbons, who conspires with his cubicle cohorts to embezzle money from their soulless employers. With help and hindrance from those around him -- including eminently quotable workplace nerd Milton Waddams (Stephen Root) -- and the affection of waitress Joanna (Jennifer Aniston), Gibbons might just find his sanity ... and his revenge. Directed by Mike Judge.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Sally Sanford, Assistant to Polly Mann Email: ssanford@townofgb.org
Senior Center: 413-528-1881 **HOURS:** Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Dining Room / Reservations or Cancellations: 413-528-4118
Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation Corporation: 413-528-4773
Visit us on the web: www.townofgb.org/Pages/GBarringtonMA_COA/index

Dorothy “Dot” Cahill

As told to Sally Sanford

On June 10, 1917, in Liverpool, England, Mary Cecilia Preston from England and her husband James John Ryan from Waterford, Ireland had their forth child and named her Anastasia Dorothy Ryan. Her nickname soon became “Dot” and it is the name she has gone by her entire life. She attended a very strict grammar school where she learned the value of being on time. The head mistress of the school would use her cane to smack the hands of any student arriving late. Dot was always on time!



Dot was a lively little girl who loved to dance! Even though she thinks of herself as having always been a tomboy, Dot would dress up in fancy dresses and dance in school shows and at dance parties. She even danced her way across the Atlantic at the age of 10! You see, Dot’s father’s position as one of the official administrators on Standard Oil Tankers kept him away from the family almost constantly. He spent so much time in the United States ports that in 1927, when Dot was just 10 years old, he finally decided to put the entire family on board the HM Celtic and bring them to the U.S. Eleven days later the whole family arrived in New York City and settled in Brooklyn. Dot recalls that while everyone else was sea sick, she and her brother Jim had fun playing and dancing all around the ship.

Now Dot didn’t like Brooklyn at first and wanted to go back home to England. But the children and teachers at her new school were so enthralled with her British accent that they had her stand up on stage in front of everyone and read out the morning prayers. That first year in Brooklyn Dot actually made many friends and even met a cute little boy named Bill Cahill in Sunday School. She dated him and others during her teens. Bill played lacrosse for Alexander Hamilton High School. After they graduated from high school, Bill pursued banking and Dot got a job at a Drugstore in Brooklyn. On September 8, 1940 the 23 year olds were married and honeymooned in Vermont. Bill began a very successful career in banking as a CPA in a big Bank on 43rd Street and Madison Avenue in NYC. However, in 1942, Bill went overseas to France to participate in World War II. He was gone four years.

While Bill was gone, Dot worked hard in the drugstore, doing bookkeeping, typing up menus and even spent some time working behind the counter. One day a businessman came in and ordered chicken soup. Dot placed his order. Then he saw how neatly the menu had been typed up and asked her, “Who typed this menu?” Dot confessed and the man was so impressed that he offered her an office job at his large mattress company. As he studied the menu a bit more, he happened to notice that “split pea soup” was another choice. So he asked Dot if she could change his order from chicken soup to split pea soup. Dot nodded and then yelled back to the cook in the kitchen, “Hold that chicken and make it pea.” Of course everyone in the drugstore got a huge laugh out of this, including Dot. But Dot was now on her way to a new job at a big company!

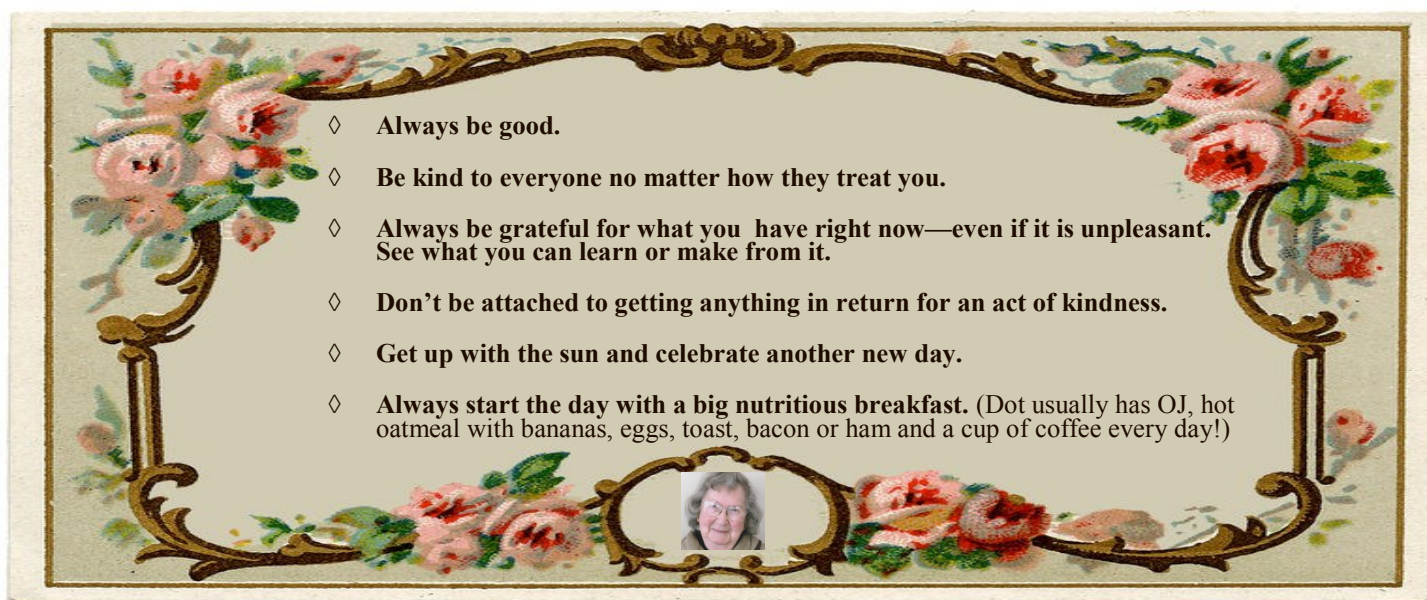
In 1946 Bill returned from the war. Shortly thereafter, he announced to Dot that he’d had enough of the big city life and that he wanted to move to Housatonic, MA and live on a farm. He had lived and worked on this farm every summer during his childhood and knew the owners well. Dot was left in Brooklyn to pack everything up for the move while her husband went ahead of her to Housatonic. He had decided to exchange “banking for milking,” as Dot put it. It certainly was not what she had in mind! After almost a year of farm life, living under someone else’s roof, doing chores for them while holding down a secretarial job of her own, Dot gave her husband a gentle ultimatum: Get me out of here! The couple then purchased a home of their own in the West Stockbridge area and moved off the farm. Dot was willing to replace the old coal stove in the kitchen to have her own home. The house is now over 200 years old.

When Dot was 38, she gave birth to her son Billy. He was premature and very tiny. A visiting nurse would come to help Dot care for him. Once Billy was old enough to go to school, Dot went back to work

in the administrative offices at several of the schools in the Great Barrington area. Bill became a Freemason and Dot joined the Eastern Star and eventually became “Worthy Matron.” Her husband Bill continued working as a CPA for a big insurance and real estate company in Great Barrington until he suffered a heart attack. After recuperating, he became the accountant for Ward’s Nursery. His last place of employment was the Eaton Paper Company in Pittsfield. One day in 1976 Bill suddenly died. Dot was a now widow at age 58. Her son Billy had graduated from high school in 1974 and was now off in college. Dot maintained her position working in the school offices and her friends stood by her as they always had. She truly loved her work and of course everyone truly loved her.

After retiring in 1980, Dot had much more time to herself at home. But Dot has never been lonely or bored a day in her life! She knitted sweaters for years and now she loves to knit baby booties, make very fancy decorative sugar Easter Eggs, and bake apple, strawberry rhubarb, and lemon meringue pies for her son and her friends. She loves baking banana bread as well and is always delivering special treats to her neighbors. In turn, they keep a close and tender watch on Dot and take her on errands and give her rides to the Senior Center.

So how does a lady 95 years old maintain such great health and have such a happy kind heart? Here’s the lifelong formula that Dot says she lives by:



Anastasia Dorothy Ryan Cahill is a living example of the joy and happiness that comes naturally to anyone who chooses to embrace life as it comes. All her life she has chosen to replace resistance with kindness and gratitude, a philosophy that has kept her alive and happy for 95 years and has supplied her with an abundance of delightful friends and experiences. We are all so blessed to still have this remarkable lady among us!



On Tuesday afternoons, you will always find Dot with a twinkle in her eye and a smile on her rosy face, playing bridge with her friends at the Claire Teague Senior Center!



July's Birthday Honorees

				
1 Ronald Zablotny	9 Gizelle Doyle	16 Anne Macheski	22 Clara Londoner	29 Martha Green Katie Baslow
2 Carole Holliday Nettie Lokker Anne Leccese Maureen Scism Loretta Hanbury	10 Sally Kusek	17 Geraldine Christiana	23 Joan Ury	
5 Rose Zargone	12 Jane Goewey	18 Marilyn Stevens	24 Flora Calero	
6 Richard Christiana Helen Hanky	13 Robert Zimbowski	19 Pia Bellinger Anna Marie Brookins	25 Matt Cantoni	
7 Judith Anderson	14 Bernard Boldyga Hellen Oggiani Robert Litourneau	20 Alma smith Carroll Woodward	26 Cory Hines Deloss Flomsbee	
8 Virginia Niewinski	15 Marjorie Blaire Barbara Tinker	21 Irene Norton Diana Vollmer Carolyn Becker Bruce Guater	27 Lisa Mandeville Ruth Ruthel	

Birthstone: Ruby

Flower: Larkspur, Water Lily or Sunflower

Celebrate YOUR July Birthday by joining us for a free

Birthday Luncheon

Wednesday, July 25th

Please remember to make your lunch reservation in advance with the Dining Room. (Call 528-4118)



Beginning in August, we will start celebrating the Birthday Luncheon on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month.

Congratulations to everyone who has a Birthday in July!



MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Tuesday July 3 - AVADA Hearing Aid Service with Herman Ogulnick
- ♦ Wednesday July 4 CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY!
- ♦ Friday July 6 we begin SUMMER MUSIC JAMMIN' with Polly. Every Friday 2-3pm for the rest of the summer bring your wind or acoustic instrument and jam with Polly. All ages welcome! (no electronic instruments, please)
- ♦ Monday July 9 - FOOT NURSE Day 1
- ♦ Monday July 9 - NO SHINE (moved to Friday 13th this week only)
- ♦ Monday July 9 - MONTHLY OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH—Four Brothers
- ♦ Tuesday July 10 - QUILTING GUILD
- ♦ Wednesday July 11 - BROWN BAG Distribution (please use/obtain a Senior swipe card)
- ♦ Wednesday July 11 - A.G.E. Triad Meeting
- ♦ Thursday July 12 and Thursday July 26 - FREE Lunch for Veterans and spouses
- ♦ Thursday July 12 - "BRIDGING THE GAP" Seniors and Students work together on projects each Thursday for six consecutive weeks through Aug 16th
- ♦ Thursday July 12 - BOOK CLUB - Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick
- ♦ Thursdays July 12 - WOMEN WITH CANCER SUPPORT GROUP
- ♦ Friday July 13 - FOOT NURSE Day 2
- ♦ Friday July 13 - SHINE Insurance Assistance date change for this week only.
- ♦ Tuesday July 17 - MONTHLY BREAKFAST
- ♦ Wednesday July 18 - RAFFLE at LUNCH (will be held monthly)
- ♦ Wednesday July 18 - CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP
- ♦ Monday July 23 - FREE MEAL AT BERKSHIRE SOUTH (bus \$3)
- ♦ Tuesday July 24 - COOK OUT and DESSERT POTLUCK (Rain Day July 31)
- ♦ Wednesday July 25 - FARMERS MARKET COUPONS AVAILABLE
- ♦ Wednesday July 25 - BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON
- ♦ Wednesday July 25 - COA BOARD MEETING (open to public)
- ♦ Thursday July 26 - BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC with VNA
- ♦ Thursdays July 26 - WOMEN WITH CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

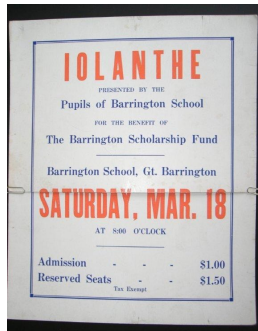
"One of these Days Alice...Pow: Right In the Kisser"

Preface: After the publication in the May Senior Grapevine Newsletter of my column about the Cotter sisters attending the Barrington School For Girls in Great Barrington, I discovered that I had made some errors in the article because my information sources were not as reliable as I had originally thought. I have since made the needed corrections and am resubmitting the article for you in this month's Senior Grapevine. There will be no article in August, but I will resume the monthly column in September. *David Rutstein*

In 1923, the Searles Castle became the Barrington School For Girls. This school was a private boarding school educating young ladies from the seventh grade through high school. The school closed in 1948. The school's most famous alumna was Audrey Cotter (and possibly her sister Jane too, but there's still no real proof she attended this school). By the way, Jayne began spelling her first name with a "y" only after she graduated from high school.

In 1920, Francis Cotter and his wife were missionaries in China when their daughter Jane was born. Jane was speaking Chinese before she began talking in English. Their second daughter, Audrey was born in 1922, in New York City (not China). Eventually, the family returned to their home in Sharon, CT.

Audrey was enrolled in the Barrington School For Girls. Jane may have enrolled there as well for a short period of time. However, Jane graduated from an Episcopal boarding high school in Providence, RI.



At spring time, the Barrington School staged musical productions. On Saturday, March 18, 1939 a seventeen year old Audrey Cotter played an Arcadian shepherdess named Strephon in Gilbert and Sullivan's Iolanthe.

Left: An original advertising poster of the operetta.

In the photo below of six players—Audrey Cotter (Meadows) is fourth from the left holding a small flute.



In the photo below of the cast of Iolanthe, Audrey Cotter is seated in the middle row third from the left.



Upon graduation, Jayne and Audrey went into show business changing their last names to Meadows (which was their father's middle name and also their grandmother's maiden name). Jayne married the comedian Steve Allen and Audrey played Alice Kramden in the hit TV series The Honeymooners opposite Jackie Gleason as Ralph Kramden.

"One of these Days Alice...Pow: Right In the Kisser"
—a line spoken by Ralph Kramden to his wife Alice.

By the way, if you have Time-Warner cable, you can watch reruns of The Honeymooners on channel 556. It's always a pleasure to remember while watching Audrey Meadows as Alice Kramden that one of her early stage appearances was right here in Great Barrington.



Audrey Cotter Meadows as Alice Kramden

Friends of The Claire Teague Senior Center, Inc.

Membership Options:

\$15	Individual Membership
\$25	Family Membership
\$50	Business Members

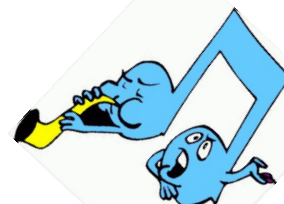
Please mail your tax-deductible check made payable to:

Friends of the Claire Teague Senior Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 988
Great Barrington, MA 01230

All donations in any amount are truly appreciated. Thank you.

SUMMER MUSIC JAMMIN'

Fridays from 2—3pm with Polly Mann



Friday July 6th we begin our Friday afternoon Summer Music Jammin' with Polly Mann. Bring your wind or acoustic instrument. Let's jam!

All ages welcome! (no electronic instruments, please)

Bridging the Gap: Projects Between Ages



July 12th - August 16th
6 week **FREE** program
Meets Every Thursday

Sheffield Senior Center 10:00 to 11:00 (229-7037)
Claire Teague Senior Center 12:30 to 1:30 (528-1881)

This project is a **FREE** recreational activity that incorporates mentoring, photography, video production, woodworking, hobbies, music, crafts, games and companionship with both **youth (ages 12 to 18) and older adults (ages 60+)**.

Call numbers above to sign up.

Bulletin Board

BRIDGE classes anyone?



Please let us know if you would like to learn how to play BRIDGE. We may start a new class for beginners.

Please call 528-1881 if you are interested.



BROWN BAG DISTRIBUTION

(Wed. July 11th 12:30—3:00pm)

BROWN BAG DOOR will not open until 12:30, so please do NOT stampede the volunteers before they have the bags ready!

Please scan your MySeniorCenter swipe card and select "Brown Bag" on the touchscreen **BEFORE** you pick up your food. A volunteer will generate a MySeniorCenter Swipe Card for you if you don't yet have one.

RAFFLE ON WED JULY 18TH AT LUNCH!

Important

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED IN SOUTH BERKSHIRE COUNTY

Could YOU volunteer to drive a senior to a doctor's appointment? If so, please call Elder Services at: **413-499-0524**

The Farmer's Market Coupons



will be available for those that are eligible
Wednesday, July 25th
after 10:30 am.

For questions about eligibility please call 528-1881.

Cookout and Dessert Potluck

Tuesday July 24th starting 11:30am



The desserts will be potluck.

The Senior Center will provide the hot dogs and hamburgers.

Enjoy music, food and friends. See you there!!!

The Computer Lab is Open on Friday's from 1 to 3

for students who don't have computers to come in and practice what that are learning in class.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

- ⇒ Shine will meet on Friday 13th rather than Monday 9th.
- ⇒ Diggin' For Ancestors Genealogy class will resume in October.
- ⇒ FOOT NURSE now comes twice a month, on the 2nd Monday and 2nd Friday each month.
- ⇒ AARP meetings resume in Sept.

CVS
pharmacy

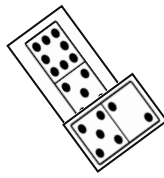
CVS Pharmacy will no longer be charging for delivery of prescription medications. They are now offering **FREE next day delivery** on **Monday, Wednesday & Friday in Great Barrington and surrounding areas.** Call 1 day ahead & pay by credit or debit card OR the driver can collect cash or check upon delivery.

CALL (413) 528-2860 TO REQUEST A DELIVERY.



ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liz Macchi has finished hand-painting the **Garden Plots Signs** that a few gardeners had requested. Please pick yours up if you ordered one. Thanks.

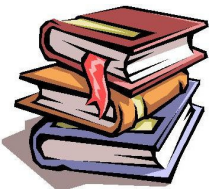


WANTED!!

Domino Players

for Wednesday Afternoons
from 12:30 to 3:00pm.

Please join us. Fun Guaranteed!



BOOK CLUB

Thursday July 12th
1:00 pm
in Dining Room

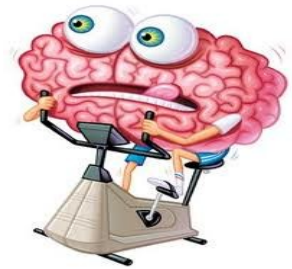
The Claire Teague BOOK CLUB will next meet at
1 pm on Thursday, July 12th to discuss:

Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick

A woman answers an ad for 'a reliable wife' and travels to the cold of rural Wisconsin. The year is 1909, and her future husband awaits her. Each has secrets, a past; but neither knows what the future will bring. Read the book, find out, and then, please join us as we take a look at this precursor to internet dating.

BRAIN FITNESS

The Claire Teague Senior Center would like to thank EPOCH at Melbourne Assisted Living for their fun and informative "brain fitness" presentation on June 26th. This summer you may want to try some of the suggested activities below:



1. Go on a guided tour of a museum or another site of interest. Pay careful attention to what the guide says. When you get home, try to reconstruct the tour by writing an outline that includes everything you remember.
2. Count up by threes from 0 to 99 (3-6-9-12-15-etc.) and down by three from 100 to 0 (100-97-94-91-88-etc). You can change the increments daily to keep it challenging. Challenge yourself by making up and solving math problems in your head.
3. Give yourself one minute to think of (and write down) as many words that:
 - start with each letter of the alphabet (such as **blue**, **babe**, **bench**, **basketball**, etc.)
 - start with a certain prefix like dis, mis, un, etc. Examples: **disturb**, **discuss**, **discipline**, **disco**
 - end with a certain combination of letters, such as ant, nd, ile etc. Example: **grant**, **plant**, **elephant**
 - have the same letters in the middle such as ou, ar, um, ee, etc. Example: **farm**, **lark**, **barn**
4. Choose an adjective and come up with as many words as you can that it fits with, like "**tight**"
Examples: **tight** jeans, **tight** rope, **tight** fit, **tightwad** etc.)
5. Read a page in a book upside down (the book , not you!)
6. Eat, write or brush your teeth with your non-dominate hand