



# THE NEWSLETTER

June 2012

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund – Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

## Greg Hennessy Profile

By Gary Trask

Ever since he was a kid working on the grounds crew at Nashawtuc Country Club in Concord, Mass., Greg Hennessy knew in his heart that he would someday make a living in the field of agronomy. And while the road has been full of unexpected twists and turns, the 58-year-old has indeed enjoyed a flourishing career in the field he loves so much, even if his business card doesn't say "superintendent" on it.

"I've been blessed," he says convincingly. "I've worked in the same industry for 40 years and still really enjoy going to work every day. That's not something many people can say. But that's how I feel and that's what keeps me going."

You can sure that there are countless superintendents across the region who are quite pleased that Hennessy is still punching the clock each day. Hennessy is a golf service technician for BISCO, the exclusive Rain Bird golf distributor in New England. He and his team are counted on heavily by courses that run into emergency situations and have earned the reputation as life savers in the most critical moments.

"It helps that all of us at BISCO are familiar with the superintendent industry because we know what these guys are up against on a daily basis and the kind of pressures they face," said Hennessy. "They're all under the same microscope and they rely on us to come through when they need us most and usually we're successful."

"We're not 100 percent, but we're pretty close. It's a commitment we make to these guys when they buy a system of this magnitude. We have to show a commitment in return. We don't look at them as customers or clients. We look at each course as a partner of ours and that's why we're so sympathetic to their needs when a problem arises."

Of course that means a lot of urgent situations at inconvenient times. Late nights. Early mornings. Holiday weekends. It doesn't matter when the call comes in from one of the nearly 500 courses BISCO services, Hennessy and his team react as quickly as possible.

"If it's urgent, we'll be there within 24 hours," he explains proudly. "We have to figure out which course is worse off and help them first. Not to sound too dramatic, but it's almost like doing triage in an emergency room. These guys count

on us and we don't like to disappoint. At the same time they are patient with me and know that some one else may be in a more dire need."

Hennessy realizes what it's like to have these kinds of situations because he's worked on a golf course nearly his entire life. After catching the "superintendent bug" at Nashawtuc as a youngster, Hennessy went to Stockbridge School at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he graduated in 1976. He returned to Nashawtuc as a foreman but then moved on to work as a landscape contractor and quickly realized it wasn't for him.

"I missed the golf industry and wanted to get back into it," he remembers. "Even if it wasn't on a grounds crew or as a super, I needed to get back to where I belonged."

He had a friend that worked as a Rainbird distributor and helped get him on board in sales. He learned more about the irrigation business and eventually began working as a consultant before finally finding his niche with BISCO eight years ago.

Hennessy says that part of the reason he loves his job so much is because he gets to deal with superintendents every day.

"They're a special breed," he says. "In 40-plus years in the business I don't think I've met one person I don't like. They're all very dedicated people who are happy to be doing what they're doing. They'll do anything to help a colleague. And they're all great guys. That's why we try so hard to make



**Greg Hennessy**

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## Hennessy Profile - continued from page 1

their lives easier. We know they would do the same for someone else in need."

Hennessy is also aided by the fact that he has outlets outside of work and is fortunate enough to have a solid family support system. He stays active by playing first base or second base in a local softball league – a hobby of 35 years – and getting out and playing golf on a regular basis. The 16-handicap plays in a Friday night league at The Overlook Golf Club in Hollis, NH and makes an annual golf trip with his buddies to Myrtle Beach in January.

He and his wife like to travel as well and they keep busy by keeping tabs on their three children. His son Patrick is leaning toward following his father's footsteps by interning at Brae Burn Country Club in West Newton, Mass. after spending four years in the Marines.

"Maybe he sees how happy I am at nearly 60 years old and wants to try duplicate that kind of life," Hennessy says with a laugh. "There's certainly something about working outside every day and being with people you genuinely like. I love the fact that we get the chance to help someone out and eliminate one of their headaches. That's what keeps me ticking and I have no plans to slow down. I'm having too much fun." ❖

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# Thoughts From Your Association Manager

Our Thanks to Rich Gagnon and the membership and staff at Segregansett Country Club for hosting the May meeting. The course was beautiful and the Club's staff made the day enjoyable for all. Rich did an absolutely wonderful job getting all in place in such short notice.

There was a glitch though. The registration process didn't go as smoothly as I had hoped. Since credit card information is no longer kept on file, registering for the meeting requires a check, or your credit card must be swiped through a machine. The process for credit card information entry should be quick, but wasn't. There were too few people trying to do too many things during the registration process. With the addition of a few more volunteers at the registration table and payment for everything except registration by cash, the process should be smoother next month. Volunteers are needed to help out at the registration table, so if you'd like to help out please contact me.

The UMass Turf Research Field Day will be held Wednesday, August 1, at the UMass Joseph Troll Turf Research Center in South Deerfield, MA. Viewing the research plots and taking a look at what's been happening in the world of turf research in our own backyard is a wonderful way to spend a day away from the constant demands of your job.

Not only are the plots an interesting way to view the results of ongoing research, but meeting others, sharing ideas, discussing the state of your course conditions and what's been working or not working at your own course is a great way to kindle a new friendship.

In addition to the science of turf research, there's the added benefit of taking some time away from your own turf and unwinding a bit. The research plots are located in a beautiful part of the state and you can turn the day into more than just a one shot event. The research facility is located at the base of Mt. Sugarloaf State Reservation. An auto road winds to the top of Mt. Sugarloaf. From this summit can be seen the broad agricultural landscape of the Connecticut River Valley.

A few weeks ago I visited a course with one of the MGA's Course Rating Teams. Scott Whitcomb, the MGA's Director of Field Operations, a member of the GCSA of New England and the MGA's guru of course rating, was kind enough to invite me to be a part of the team of volunteers doing the rating. I was a rookie trying to absorb the knowledge of the team members who have been doing this for a while. I watched and learned how

*continued on page 4*



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these knowledgeable volunteers go about the process of rating the multiple factors that contribute to the evaluation and final result of the process. Scott explained in detail how the raters come to the conclusions that result in the course rating. I learned the process is about as objective as an undertaking like this can be. Something that stood out was that it takes interested people willing to devote their time and energy to be course raters and help make the game more enjoyable for all of us.

Last month I attended a meeting of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in Boston. What this commission is trying to do is develop voluntary formulation and usage guidelines for phosphorous and nitrogen in fertilizers and the application of both to prevent pollution of water bodies. Meetings have been held with synthetic and organic producers of fertilizers to gather their input. Later this year representatives of end users – golf course superintendents, sports turf managers and others will be invited to attend a meeting so their input can be considered for inclusion in the commission's deliberations.

What the commission is trying to do is keep phosphorous and nitrogen out of bodies of water, while at the same time allow reasonable usage of fertilizer containing phosphorous and nitrogen.. Our interests will be represented at these meetings and you'll be kept apprised of the commission's actions. If you'd like more information on this please get in touch with me.

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**Don Hearn**  
**Association Manager**  
**GCSA of New England**



## May 2012 Tournament Results

### Bear Cup Results

May 30, 2012

Segregansett Country Club

Host: Rich Gagnon

Cape Cod won the Bear Cup 8 - 6

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Brian Smoot – Keith Tortorella
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Dennis Friel – Ron Kirkman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gross	Peter Lanman – Scott Whitcomb
2 <sup>nd</sup> Net	Jim Fitzroy – Larry Anshewitz
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gross	Scott Mackintosh – Bill Sansone
3 <sup>rd</sup> Net	Ernie Ketchum – Pat Hogan

**Closest to the Pin: Robin Hayes**

**Longest Drive: Greg Bennett**

# July 2012 Meeting Information



**Monday July 16, 2012 - Team of Two Championship**  
**Pleasant Valley Country Club**  
**Host - Donald D'Errico**

**Registration: 10:00 a.m.**

**Shotgun Start: 11:00 a.m.**

**Barbecue and prizes following golf.**

**Reservations Required by Tuesday July 10, 2012**

Reservations: [donhearn@gcsane.org](mailto:donhearn@gcsane.org) or 774-430-9040

When registering, include your partner's name and your handicaps. Including the handicaps is important to help with the registration process. If you don't have a partner, one will be assigned to you.

**NOTE: Credit card information is no longer kept on file. If you wish to pay by credit card be certain to bring it with you. Credit cards and checks are for registration only. All other charges will be cash only.**

Club Address: 95 Armsby Road, Sutton, MA 01590

Phone: 508-865-4441

Website: [pleasantvalleycc.com](http://pleasantvalleycc.com)

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# GCSANE Scholarship & Benevolence Update

The Scholarship and Benevolence Tournament being held at the Dedham Country and Polo Club has been rescheduled to Monday, August 6, 2012.

If this causes changes with your group or partner, please contact Don Hearn at [donhearn@gcsane.org](mailto:donhearn@gcsane.org) or call 774-430-9040 to let him know of any changes.

Raffle tickets are still available for rounds of golf and other prizes.

Below is a list of clubs that have donated rounds of golf. There's still time to add your club to the list.

Please contact Don Hearn if you need more raffle tickets or would like to add your club to those that have already donated a round of golf.

## COURSES DONATING ROUNDS OF GOLF

Amherst Golf Club	Oak Hill Country Club
Bear Hill Golf Club	Pocasset Golf Club
Bellevue Golf Club	Presidents Golf Course
Cape Cod National Golf Club	Reedy Meadow Golf Course at Lynnfield Centre
Chelmsford Country Club	Renaissance
Crystal Lake Golf Club	Salem Country Club
Furnace Brook Golf Club	Sankaty Head Golf Club
Glen Ellen Country Club	Segregansett Country Club
Hatherly Country Club	Sterling Golf Properties
Hickory Ridge Country Club	Stow Acres Country Club
Hyannisport Club	The Captains Golf Course
Kelly Greens Golf Course	The Milton-Hoosic Club
Marlborough Country Club	The Shattuck Golf Club
Nabnasset Lake Country Club	Thomson Country Club
Newton Commonwealth Golf Course	Walpole Country Club
Norfolk Golf Club	Wellesley Country Club
Norwood Country Club	Wianno Club



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# 3RD BIENNIAL UCONN TURFGRASS FIELD DAY SAVE THE DATE, JULY 17, 2012

AT THE PLANT SCIENCE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FACILITY IN STORRS, CONNECTICUT

For more information and to register, visit



[www.turf.uconn.edu/fieldday2012](http://www.turf.uconn.edu/fieldday2012)

The 2012 Turfgrass Field Day at the University of Connecticut offers exciting educational opportunities for turfgrass professionals of all levels.



The date of the Field Day has been selected in order

to provide the best opportunity to view the research plots when they are under the greatest summer stress. Cutting edge research in the areas of lawn care, sports and golf turf management will be presented.

Attendees will have an opportunity to discuss ongoing research and management concerns with the UCONN turf team. In addition to seeing the latest



research results, turfgrass professionals have the opportunity to interact with exhibitors and discuss the latest developments and challenges in the industry.

**AGENDA:**

7:30	Registration opens/ continental breakfast
7:30-8:45	Visit with exhibitors, silent auction opens
8:45-9:00	Welcoming remarks
9:00-11:30	Guided tour of research plots
11:30-12:00	Visit with exhibitors
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
12:30	Ice cream social with exhibitors in vendor section
1:00- 3:00	Visit with exhibitors
2:00	Silent auction ends
1:30 - 3:00	Afternoon Workshops (Separate registration required)
	• Turfgrass Disease Identification and Management Walking Tour
	• Use of Entomopathogenic Nematodes for Insect Management
	• Managing Weeds in the New (25b) World

**Early registration deadline is July 3, 2012.**



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## ***Annual Turf Research Field Day***

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**Date:** Wednesday, August 1, 2012

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**Hear about and see turf research  
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- Take a guided research facility tour
- Learn about cutting-edge turf research
- Talk turf with UMass faculty and staff
- Network with colleagues
- Meet with industry exhibitors
- Enjoy continental breakfast and an All American Barbecue lunch

### **KEY INFORMATION**

- Two pesticide recertification contact hours will be offered, valid for licenses in all New England states.
- CGCS, CSFM, MCLP, MCH and AOLCP certification credits have been requested.
- Sponsorship opportunities are available, please inquire.
- **QUESTIONS?** E-Mail [fieldday@umassturf.org](mailto:fieldday@umassturf.org), call 413-545-2965 or 508-892-0382.

As always, the 2012 UMass Turf Research Field Day will be held at the center of our field research universe:  
The UMass Joseph Troll Turf Research Center - 23 River Road, South Deerfield, MA 01373

**FOR:** - complete program information  
- research presentation topics  
- attendee and exhibitor registration

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***DIVOT DRIFT... announcements ... educational seminars ... job opportunities ...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.***

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- **John Coelho, Supt., Cherry Gill Golf Course, North Amherst, MA**
- **Joel Cyr, Asst. Supt., Blue Hill Country Club, Canton, MA**
- **James Webber, Asst. Supt., Blue Hill Country Club, Canton, MA**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

A reminder that if you, your assistant, or crew member (s) can help Jeff Baker, who is hosting the United States Golf Association's Junior Amateur Championship, July 16-21, 2012 please contact Jeff.

Thank you,

Jeff Baker

Superintendent, Golf Club of New England

[jbaker@golfclubne.com](mailto:jbaker@golfclubne.com) 603-775-7774

As in the past, *The Newsletter* continues to invite Affiliate members to submit a press release about new personnel, new products or a company bio. We will print each and every release **free of charge**. This is a great way to advertise for free. Who said nothing in this world is free? Free advertising to better your company, wow what an offer.

Jeff Urquhart, Editor

### GCSAA News

#### What could your chapter do with \$3,000?

Entries are being accepted for Lebanon Turf's 2013 Dog Days of Golf Calendar and Dog of the Year contest. Enter a

picture of your golf course canine companion today. If selected for the calendar your dog will also have a chance to be crowned 2013 Dog of the Year, garnering a \$3,000 prize for your affiliated chapter, a \$500 donation to your local Humane Society, and a \$500 prize for you.

Lebanon Turf's 2013 Dog Days of Golf Calendar will be delivered to your doorstep with the November issue of *Golf Course Management* magazine. Submit your entry at [www.gcsaa.org/dogcalendar](http://www.gcsaa.org/dogcalendar), or email a high resolution photo to [lebturfdogcalendar@gcsaa.org](mailto:lebturfdogcalendar@gcsaa.org). Don't delay – entries will be accepted through Aug. 1, 2012.

**July 15 is the deadline for Chapter Outreach Grants.** The application and details regarding the grant can be found here: <http://www2.gcsaa.org/Chapters/ps/ChapOutreachProgram.asp>



**I guess the pro shop couldn't see the trash, they weren't facing it.**



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Page 1

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## **International Golf Construction Co.**

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Fax (978) 664-9356 [www.maherserv.com](http://www.maherserv.com)

## **MAS Golf Course Construction LLC**

60 Hope Ave., Ste. 107, Waltham, MA 02453  
Fulfilling all your renovation and construction needs.  
[www.masgolfconstruction.com](http://www.masgolfconstruction.com) Matthew Staffieri (508) 243-2443

## **Maltby & Company**

30 Old Page Street, P.O. Box 364, Stoughton, MA 02072  
Provides expert tree pruning, tree removal and tree planting services. Our two other divisions include Natural Tree & Lawn Care, which treats for winter moth caterpillars, ticks and mosquitoes etc. Forest Floor recycling manufactures color enhanced mulch and natural composted leaf mulch. For more information or to speak with one of our arborists please call Bill Maltby at 781-344-3900

## **Matrix Turf Solutions**

29 Gilmore Drive - Unit C, Sutton, MA 01590  
Providing the finest turf care products and accessories.  
Jim Favreau - (978) 815-9810 - Larry Anshewitz - (508) 789-4810  
[www.matrixturf.com](http://www.matrixturf.com)

## **Mayer Tree Service**

9 Scots Way, Essex, MA 01929  
Your one source tree care company. Our certified arborists specialize in plant health care as well as tree pruning and technical removals. Jeff Thomas (978) 768-7232

## **McNulty Construction Corp.**

P. O. Box 3218, Framingham, MA 01705  
Asphalt paving of cart paths, walkways, parking areas; imprinted asphalt. John McNulty - (508) 879-8875

## **MTE ~ Turf Equipment Solutions \* new Location \***

890 EAST STREET (rear), TEWKSBURY, MA 01864  
New and Pre-owned Equipment ; Sales / Parts / Service  
JACOBSEN – TURFCO – SMITHCO – REDEXIM –  
NEARY GRINDERS - BUFFALO TURBINE – TRU TURF –  
GOLF LIFT – STANDARD & PAR-AID – SDI – BROYHILL –  
RYAN – HUSQVARNA- GRAVELY – LELY – VICON  
**NEW Office#: 978-654-4240** or Mark Casey 617-990-2427

## **Mungeam Cornish Golf Design, Inc.**

207 N. Main St., Uxbridge, MA 01569  
Golf course architects. (508) 278-3407

## **New England Lawn & Golf**

15 Del Prete Drive, Hingham, MA 02043  
Distributor of Express Dual and Anglemaster Speed Roller and Converted Organics a liquid compost & fertilizer from food waste  
John Lenhart - (781) 561-5687

## **New England Specialty Soils**

435 Lancaster, Street, Leominster, MA 01453  
1mm. Top Dressing Sand, High Density Bunker Sand, Rootzone Mixes, Tee Blends, Divot Mixes, Bridging Stone, Cart Path Mix, Infield Mixes, Inorganic Amendments, SLOPE LOCK Soil.  
Ed Downing - 978-230-2300 Rick Moulton (978) 230-2244  
[www.nesoils.com](http://www.nesoils.com)

## **New England Turf**

P.O. Box 777, West Kingston, RI 02892  
Phone: 800-451-2900 or Ernie Ketchum 508-364-4428  
Website: [www.newenglandturf.com](http://www.newenglandturf.com)

## **NMP Golf Construction Corp.**

25 Bishop Ave., Ste. A-2, Williston, VT 05495  
Golf course construction. Mario Poirier - (888) 707-0787

## **Northeast Golf Company**

*Golf Course Architectural/Consultation Services*  
118 Beauchamp Drive, Saunderstown, RI 02874  
Robert McNeil (401) 667-4994

## **Northeast Nursery Inc.**

6 Dearborn Road, Peabody, MA 01960  
Complete line of Golf Course, Landscape & Lawn Care  
Construction and Maintenance Supplies  
Tom Rowell (978) 317-0673  
Alan Vadala (774) 766-2516

## **North Shore Hydroseeding**

20 Wenham St., Danvers, MA 01923  
Hydroseeding and erosion control services.  
Brian King - (978) 762-8737 [www.nshydro.com](http://www.nshydro.com)

## **On-Course Golf Inc., Design/Build**

16 Maple Street, Acton, MA 01720  
We serve all your remodeling and renovation needs. You can trust your project with us! We make you look good!  
Sean Hanley (978) 337-6661 [www.on-coursegolf.com](http://www.on-coursegolf.com)

## **Putnam Pipe Corp.**

90 Elm St., Hopkinton, MA 01748  
Underground water, sewer, & drain pipe and fittings-Erosion and sediment control material. 24-hour service.  
David Putnam, Eli Potty - (508) 435-3090

## **Read Custom Soils**

125 Turnpike St., Canton, MA 02021  
Custom soil blending, top dressing sands, Root zone blends, "early green" black sand, divot & cart path mixes.  
Terry Driscoll, Garrett Whitney – (888) 475-5526

## **Slater Farms (Holliston Sand Products)**

P. O. Box 1168, Tift Rd., Slatersville, RI 02876  
USGA recommended topdressing, root-zone mixes, compost, pea stone, angular & traditional bunker sand.  
Bob Chalifour, CGCS (Ret.) - (401) 766-5010 Cell: 860-908-7414

*continued on next page*

## ***Please Patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION***

### **Sodco Inc.**

P. O. Box 2, Slocum, RI 02877  
Bluegrass/Fescue, Bluegrass/Rye, Bluegrass/Fescue/Rye, Bentgrass. Sean Moran, Pat Hogan - (800) 341-6900

### **Southwest Putting Greens of Boston**

P.O. Box 827, Westford, MA 01886  
Synthetic turf, tee lines, practice greens, outdoor and indoor practice facilities. Douglas Preston - (978) 250-5996

### **Stumps Are Us Inc.**

Manchester, NH  
Professional stump chipping service.  
Brendan McQuade - (603) 625-4165

### **Syngenta Professional Products**

111 Craigmere Circle, Avon, CT 06001  
Melissa Gugliotti (860) 221-5712

### **Tartan Farms, LLC**

P.O. Box 983, West Kingston, RI 02892  
Dave Wallace  
(401) 641-0306

### **Tom Irwin Inc.**

11 A St., Burlington, MA 01803  
Turf management products. Paul Skafas, Rob Larson,  
Chris Petersen, Greg Misodoulakis, Mike DeForge, Brian Luccini,  
Jeff Houde, Fred Murray (800) 582-5959

### **Tree Tech, Inc.**

6 Springbrook Rd., Foxboro, MA 02035  
Foxboro, Wellesley, Fall River Andy Felix - (508) 543-5644

### **Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.**

P. O. Box 167, Wood River Junction, RI 02894  
Joe Farina (774) 260-0093

### **Turf Products Corp.**

157 Moody Rd., Enfield, CT 06082  
Distributors of Toro irrigation & maintenance equipment and other golf-related products. Tim Berge, Dave Beauvais, Nat Binns,  
Andy Malone - (800) 243-4355

### **Valley Green**

14 Copper Beech Drive, Kingston, MA 02364  
Phone: 413-533-0726 Fax: 413-533-0792  
"Wholesale distributor of turf products"

### **Winding Brook Turf Farm**

Wethersfield, CT 06109  
Scott Wheeler, Mike Krudwig, Sam Morgan - (800) 243-0232

# NEW Lower Rates to Help Make Advertising in The Newsletter More Budget Conscious

## THE NEWSLETTER 2012 DISPLAY ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Issues (List month and total number): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Check: \_\_\_\_\_ (Made payable to "GCSANE")

<b>Member Rates:</b>	<b>Monthly Rate</b>	<b>4 Times Per Yr. (Save 5%)</b>	<b>6 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)</b>	<b>8 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)</b>	<b>Annual Rate (Save 15%)</b>
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1/4 page (vertical; 3.75" wide x 5" deep)    \$ 90.00    \$ 342.00    \$ 486.00    \$ 648.00    \$ 918.00

1/2 page (horizontal; 7.5" wide x 5" deep)    \$150.00    \$ 570.00    \$ 810.00    \$1080.00    \$1530.00

Full Page (vertical; 7.5" wide x 10" deep)    \$200.00    \$ 760.00    \$1080.00    \$1440.00    \$2040.00

**Non-Member Rates:** \*All payments must be received in full before the ad appears in The Newsletter.

1/4 page (vertical; 3.75" wide x 5" deep)    \$120.00    \$456.00    \$648.00    \$ 864.00    \$1224.00

1/2 page (horizontal; 7.5" wide x 5" deep)    \$180.00    \$684.00    \$972.00    \$1296.00    \$1836.00

Full Page (vertical; 7.5" wide x 10" deep)    \$240.00    \$912.00    \$1296.00    \$1728.00    \$2448.00

***\*DEADLINE for ads: The first of the month for that month's issue.***

### Ad Preparation Specifications:

**File Specifications for Ads Supplied in Digital Format:** Ads may be sent either by email or by mailing a CD to the address below. Formats preferred are .GIF; .JPG and .PDF. Ads can also be accepted in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Publisher files. Full color is available with all ads.

**Advertising Design Services:** Design services are available by request and consultation and will be billed separately.

**Send all Newsletter ads to:**

Julie Heston

36 Elisha Mathewson Road, N. Scituate, RI 02857

Phone: 401-934-7660 / Fax: 401-934-9901

jheston@verizon.net