

May 2009

# NEWBURY UPDATE

*Newbury Update* is published by the Town of Newbury to offer residents a view of the town government operations and activities. Copies are available at the town office, library, transfer station and post office, but we strongly encourage you to 'get your copy' at the town website: [www.newburynh.org](http://www.newburynh.org). To receive a copy via e-mail, send a request (and any comments or suggestions) to: [newburyupdate@gmail.com](mailto:newburyupdate@gmail.com).

## Businesses contribute to Newbury

The following businesses have responded in recent months with support for various projects and programs in Newbury. We would like to acknowledge their community involvement and participation.

As part of the pedestrian improvement project in the harbor:

**Benches:** Outspokin Bicycle & Sport Shop  
Mount Sunapee Resort  
Lake Sunapee Bank  
Mountain Edge Resort & Spa at Sunapee  
Skinner's Ski & Sport  
LaValley's  
Elliot Hansen Associates  
Bubba's Bar & Grille  
Baker Hill Golf Club

**Bike rack:** Outspokin Bicycle & Sport Shop

**Planters:** Mount Sunapee Resort  
Country Houses Real Estate  
Lumber Barn  
Bob's Beacon Marina  
Rainbow Garage  
Marzelli's Deli  
Newbury Quick Stop  
Sugar River Savings Bank  
Ledyard Bank

Contributions towards the summer concerts in the harbor and fireworks on Old Home Day:

Mt. Sunapee Resort  
Elliot Hansen Associates  
Lake Sunapee Bank  
Baker Hill Golf Club  
Freeman Architects  
Newbury Plastering Co.  
Irving, S. Main St. Newport  
George Neuwirt Construction  
3-Seasons Landscaping  
Tall Pines Realty/Insurance  
Lauridsen Auto Body  
Watermark Marine Construction  
Coldwell Banker Real Estate  
Market Basket

## Want big bangs for your bucks?

Now is your chance join the ranks of philanthropists who support the arts – concerts in the harbor and performance art (aka fireworks) – without breaking the bank. Contributions of any size are welcome and we'd like to acknowledge and thank the individuals, families and organizations in the newsletter and Old Home Day brochure. Please make checks payable to Town of Newbury and note 'Old Home Day' on the memo line. They can be dropped off at town office or mailed to Town of Newbury, PO Box 296, Newbury, NH 03255.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

|      |         |   |
|------|---------|---|
| Mon. | May 4   | Board of selectmen meeting, 6:30pm, town office |
| Mon. | May 4   | Book Discussion, 7pm, library, see page 5       |
| Tue  | May 5   | Planning board work session, 7pm, town office   |
| Wed  | May 6   | Newbury Beautification meeting, 9am, town ofc   |
| Thu. | May 7   | Historical society meeting, 7pm, town office    |
| Mon. | May 11  | ZBA hearing, see page 7                         |
| Wed. | May 13  | DES public hearing on Wild Goose, see page 3    |
| Fri. | May 15  | Expect tax bill in the mail                     |
| Mon. | May 18  | Board of selectmen meeting, 6:30pm, town office |
| Tue. | May 19  | Planning board hearing, see page 9              |
| Sat. | May 23  | Library book and bake sale, 9am-1pm, see page 1 |
| Sat. | May 23  | NBC plant sale, 9am-1pm, see page 1             |
| Mon. | June 1  | NBC presentation on gardening, see page 5       |
| Mon. | June 1  | Library - Poetry Jam, see page 5                |
| Mon. | June 1  | Library - Book Discussion, see page 5           |
| Sat. | June 6  | Daffodil moving day, see page 5                 |
| Thu. | June 11 | Old Home Day planning meeting, 7pm, town ofc    |
| Wed. | July 1  | Tax payment deadline                            |

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## Memorial Day Book & Bake Sale

Saturday, May 23 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Newbury Public Library

2-for-1 deal:

Get your books for summer reading in the sun  
*and*  
pick up some sweet home-baked treats  
(get some to freeze so you won't have to bake!)

Brought to you by the Friends of the Library  
\*in the town office meeting room if it rains\*

Baked goods or books to donate? Please drop books at the library beforehand and baked goods between 8-11 a.m. that morning.

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AND RIGHT NEXT DOOR...

## NBC Plant Sale & Garden Tag Sale

Saturday, May 23 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Velie Memorial Playground area

(rain or shine)

Something for all gardeners, including a gardeners tag sale.

6 packs 4-inch pots quarts

Tell us what you need – plants for sun, shade, etc. –

and we can point you toward the best plants.

Annuals Do you admire the NBC plantings around town?

Samples of the same plants will be on sale.

Perennials Many freshly dug from members' gardens,

proven hardy for our area.

Vegetables Favorites like tomatoes, basil and parsley for a  
& Herbs salsa garden, all started for you and ready to go.

\*\*\*PLUS\*\*\*

### Blue Star Sea Holly

This perennial is a basal plant with a thistle-like blue flower and is often used dried in arrangements.

### Compost Bins

from the Merrimack County Conservation District for \$45

### On-site experts to answer your questions

Stacy Luke from Merrimack County Conservation District will be available for questions, along with NBC's own Master Gardeners.

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## **From the desk of the Newbury Board of Selectmen**

*Jim Powell, Gary Budd, Dick Wright  
and town administrator Dennis Pavlicek*

**County program pays off** – Many spots around town are getting a spring touch-up, gratis, thanks to a new program at the county correctional institute. The town gets free labor and the inmates, carefully screened for the activity, get something constructive to do. Under the supervision of a guard and generally with a town employee to oversee the work, they have put together the benches for the sidewalk project, restained the gazebo and painted the train station and signal flags, the information booth and the kiosk.

Pavlicek said there's a long list of other projects and all the town needs to supply is the materials. The inmates appreciate doing something useful, especially outdoors. Items on the list: staining the caboose platform, painting the hearse house roof, painting at Vets Hall, and many projects at Fishersfield Park. Those include painting the cold storage building, putting a fence around water tanks by the snack shack, shelves in storage room and counters in the snack shack, a brick walkway from the parking lot to the field, putting the frame of the greenhouse back up and help with the covered bridge, plus sundry other things as well. Some will also be done by adult diversion workers – those required to do community service – a program also sponsored by Merrimack County.

**Appointment to tri-town assessing board** – On April 20 the selectmen appointed Gary Daniels for a two-year term on the tri-town assessing board. The board, which oversees the operations of the tri-town assessing office, is comprised of seven members. The three town administrators are permanent members. There are two seats each for selectmen and citizens which rotate between the three towns. Jim Powell is in his second year as a selectman member.

**Parking lot progress** – Dennis Mires P.A. The Architects has presented selectmen with a schematic recommendation for the town office parking lot expansion that requires no easement, no wetland permit, no alteration of terrain permit and no shoreland protection permit. Work will not begin until after Old Home Day, and possibly not until September. Once begun the project should take no more than three weeks.

**Tax bills cometh** – Tax bills will be going out soon, to arrive in mailboxes around May 15. If you do not have it soon after that, please contact the town office. Payment is due by Wednesday, July 1.

**Volunteer search ongoing** – The town organizations picked up some volunteers at the volunteer search events in April, but more are needed. Look for the handouts in town office and around town and see if there is something for you.

**Fine tuning Fishersfield** – Some projects Dick Wright has on the to-do list for the town park include preparing the community garden (see separate item), a fence around the water tanks by the building, a granite step placed at the back porch, stonework for end supports for the covered bridge and a gate or chain on the trailway to the bridge. The trailway is not for vehicle access except by the Kubota to do maintenance work. Wright also hopes to find a volunteer to remove the hemlocks that are falling over in back of the tennis court.

## **Status of infrastructure projects**

### **Blodgett Wastewater Treatment Facility**

At the April 6 board of selectmen meeting, representatives from Stantec Engineering gave an update on the meeting that took place with the Dept. of Environmental Services. DES agreed to the three-stage approach at Blodgett's Wastewater Treatment Facility and to

switch the priority of phase one (the plant upgrade) and phase two (pump stations) due to the ranking of importance of phase one for the federal funding. DES originally had phase two being done before phase one. The selectmen told the Stantec representatives to move forward with the engineering phase of phase one. Stantec will do this and will report back to DES.

With the switch of the two phases, Newbury's ranking on the priority list for funding moved up from #7 to #6. Pavlicek figures that is a virtual guarantee of funding for the plant upgrade as long as the plans are ready, which the engineers say they will be. Part of the stimulus plan is that things need to be shovel ready so the push is on. Once the plans get to the state, DES said it will review them quickly so they can go out to bid.

The original plan was for a new amphidrome-style facility, but after studying it, DES remained uncomfortable with this new approach, so it's back to a major upgrade of the Imhoff tank. Once engineering is done for that, then Stantec is to move on to the less extensive engineering needed for the pump stations. Each applicant is allowed only one wastewater-related project on the stimulus funding list, so the pump station work will not be eligible.

### **Bridges on Village and Sutton roads**

Of the two bridge projects in Newbury, the Village Road bridge is the one eligible for federal stimulus funds. Pavlicek said DOT has not released the final list yet, but he was told we are 'on the cusp' and they are looking for extra funding to cover us. To be on the safe side, Pavlicek is taking a required four-hour course with the engineers on the rules for using federal funding. The bridge work will be ready to bid by the end of August.

As to the bridge on Sutton Road, the engineers from Dubois & King met with selectmen on April 20 to discuss abutter input from the March 23 hearing. The selectmen asked the engineers to research adjustments including the placement of the bridge and work up a preliminary design. If the changes are workable and approved by the selectmen and the state, the engineers would have to reapply on permitting due to changes in impact.

### **Hazard mitigation grants for problem roads**

Dennis Pavlicek has advised the selectmen that Newbury has been awarded three hazard mitigation grants. It's federal FEMA money passed through the state and Pavlicek explains there's a larger pot of funds available now because of flooding problems in the recent past. FEMA hopes that efforts to mitigate the washout problem areas now will cut down on disaster declarations in the future.

Newbury will receive approximately \$40,000 for the areas of Cheney Road that have experienced problems, \$120,000 for Winding Brook Road and \$40,000 for some of the steeper roads in Sunapee Hills. The town is responsible for a 25% match which can be covered by our mobilization of equipment, labor, and administration. This is one grant where, once it's approved by the governor and council, the town gets 50% of the money immediately and the rest on completion.

The approach will be to use hardpack (to 'armor' the road and keep it as stable as possible), riprap along the ditch line to cut the velocity of water so it won't undermine the road itself, and to put fabric under the road surface and in the ditch on the steepest parts of the roads.

### **Sidewalk still ahead of schedule**

Piscopo Construction continues to defy schedules. The work on the sidewalk project is now about three weeks ahead. At press time the sidewalk is done from the Bald Sunapee property to Rte. 103A. The curbing should be finished about May 5 and they'll start putting down the loam between the curb and sidewalk area. Landscaping will start the first week of May also. The plan is to hydroseed, a process where a slurry of grass seed and water is shot into the loam.

Piscopo is also working in the harbor area on pavement and curbing. Riverstone pavers are to be laid for the harbor walkway.

Pavlicek anticipates the final portion of the project, placing the pedestrian bridge, will occur in June. The bridge foundation work is almost done now. Once the bridge is put in place and bolted down the sidewalk approach to the bridge will be ramped to line up and then, as they say in England, Bob's your uncle. The job will be done.

### **Community garden at Fishersfield Park**

The community garden is coming along, reports Dick Wright, and he hopes to have it available for use by the end of May. The highway crew has constructed a wall in the back field to separate the future ball field area from the garden area. In the next couple weeks loam will be spread, compost added and tilled in, then it will be ready to plant.

There will be 16 plots, each 20 feet by 20 feet, available on a first-come basis at a cost of \$20/plot per season. To reserve a spot, get your payment to the town office. Checks should be made out to Town of Newbury and reference 'community garden' on the memo line.

An informational meeting will be scheduled shortly, so watch for notices at the town office, on the website and around town. At that meeting Wright will review the rules and requirements for those wishing to participate. He will also speak at the May 6 Newbury Beautification Committee meeting about the community garden.

Anyone with questions may call Wright at 938-2414.

### **Wild Goose & proposed boat launch**

DES Wetlands Bureau has set the date for the required public hearing on Fish & Game's application for a wetlands permit for its Wild Goose proposal.

On Wednesday, May 13, at 7 p.m., F&G will present details of the project for public comment "with regards to [F&G's] proposal to impact 125 square feet of bank and 2,490 square feet of lake bed to construct a boat launch associated with a proposed facility to provide public access to Lake Sunapee off Birch Grove Road in Newbury," according to a letter from the bureau to Glen Normandeau, executive director of Fish and Game of April 29.

The hearing will be conducted at Sherburne Gymnasium on Rte. 11 in Sunapee. Plans are on file at the Wetlands Bureau office at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, and may be examined weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The bureau will accept written statements on this matter prior to the hearing.

F&G's shoreland permit for this project has been approved and is being appealed by LSPA. An alteration of terrain permit was approved April 21 and LSPA has advised Pavlicek that it intends to appeal that as well. Should the wetlands bureau approve the wetlands permit it would go to the governor and executive council for a vote. Indications are that vote will not occur until all appeals have been exhausted.

Newbury's selectmen invited Executive councilor John Shea to their meeting on March 9 to discuss the project with the board and members of the public. At the close of the meeting, Councilor Shea said that he would go check out the Wild Goose site and get back to the town. There's been no word from him yet.

### **Lake Sunapee Scenic Byway**

In the late 1990s a scenic byway was established around Lake Sunapee under a federal program. The Lake Sunapee Scenic Byway currently runs along Interstate 89 and routes 11, 103B, and 103 in Sunapee and Newbury.

The byway committee at the time developed interpretive signs for the harbors in Newbury and Sunapee and published and distributed a brochure. The second year, Newbury undertook a project where they bought a caboose, created a museum, and improved the site at Bell Cove. Activity largely dwindled after that.

Now the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) has won a grant to 're-energize' the Lake Sunapee Scenic Byway committee and to develop a vision and plan for the byway's future.

Two meetings so far have been identifying stakeholders to join the committee. Joining Pavlicek on the committee from Newbury will be Frank McConnell, Kerry Behrens, Jay Gamble and Karen Zurheide.

Once the committee prepares a corridor management plan, further funding would be possible. Eligible projects fall into several categories: corridor management, road safety improvements, byway facilities, access to recreation, resource protection, interpretive information, and marketing.

According to the RPC, the mission of the National Scenic Byways Program is to provide resources to the byway community in creating a unique travel experience and enhanced local quality of life through efforts to preserve, protect, interpret, and promote the intrinsic qualities of designated byways. ...The program is not just about funding projects; it is about a coordinated approach to attract tourism and promote economic development in a respectful way.

## **July in Newbury: Fun is on the calendar**

### **Fourth of July Parade**

The traditional Fourth of July Parade in South Newbury is set for Saturday, July 4th at 10 a.m. Once again it's an open call for kids and families and groups to dress up, grab your kazoo, make a float, decorate your bike or carriage or just march and have fun.

The South Newbury Union Church is sponsoring the parade again and word is there will be lots and lots of balloons, and cookies and juice at the church.

Meet at the state shed on Village Road in South Newbury at 9:30 a.m. to get lined up; the parade starts at 10 a.m. For more information call 938-2064.

### **Old Home Day 2009 taking shape**

All the now-traditional favorites are on the schedule for Saturday, July 11, for Newbury's Fourth Annual Old Home Day celebration.

The day will begin with the starting gun of the Tin Man Triathlon and the opening of the Farmers & Crafts Market. The Civil War re-enactment group will create its own time warp by the town office. Squam Lakes Nature Science Center will present two programs with animals this year, and other games and activities for children will be offered. Free boat tours around the harbor will embark from the town dock, thanks to the loan of a pontoon boat by Bob's Beacon Marina and Sargent's Marina. The Friends of the Library will sell books and ice cream. There will be a silent auction at the library for several gift baskets. The Fire & Rescue Dept. will have equipment demos and the grills set up for lunch.

Dinner will begin at 5 p.m. with a choice of barbecued pork or grilled chicken, and hot dogs for kids. There will be 400 tickets sold for the pig roast (\$6 if bought ahead, \$7.50 on site), 200 tickets for grilled chicken (pre-buy \$5, \$6.50 on site) and 100 hotdog dinners for children (\$2 / \$2.50). Watch for availability of the tickets in the next several weeks.

And for the day's big finish: music and fireworks in the harbor with lots of fun mixing and mingling.

On Friday evening the Center Meeting House is again sponsoring a concert at Mt. Sunapee Resort, this year featuring the U.S. Navy Band.

### **Want to play a part in Old Home Day?**

Here's where help is needed, even for as little as an hour:

- organizing games and activities for children
- triathlon registration, at finish line and etc.
- boat tour, coordinate activities on the dock
- clean-up after dinner, policing the area, stacking chairs, tables
- clearing up on Sunday morning, storing chairs/tables in town office

For the first two, contact Travis Dezotell, 763-4940 x210; for the rest contact Dennis Pavlicek on 763-4940 x204.

Any and all are also welcome to join the next Old Home Day planning meeting on Thursday, June 11, at 7 p.m. in the town office meeting room.

## PARKS & RECREATION

*Recreation Committee: Inge Lee, Jane Pratt, Marilyn Hill, Jennifer Morris Sweet, Gail Bostic, Katie Seabury, Mark Cashin, Monica Valovic, John Valovic*

The recreation committee and recreation coordinator Travis Dezotell have been working on the Newbury Recreation Summer Programs 2009 schedule, and as you can see from the list below, boredom has no place on it.

If you have any questions, or would like to work on the youth tennis program, contact Dezotell, Newbury Parks and Recreation Department, 603-763-4940 x210 or [travis@newburynh.org](mailto:travis@newburynh.org).

### Mom's Afternoon-off Camp

This camp for ages 5-12 will take place every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon starting June 30 and running through Aug. 6 from 1 - 3:30 p.m. Camp rotates between Fishersfield Park and the town dock at Newbury Harbor. There will be a schedule of camp day locations but with some flexibility on the hottest weeks. All beach days will be overseen by a Red Cross-certified lifeguard as well as the regular counselors. Camp will consist of numerous hiking, playing, swimming and sporting opportunities with a focus on building and maintaining a love of the outdoors. Cost is \$8 per day or \$75 to hold a space every day for the summer. Full summer registrations can begin now; daily spaces can be booked in advance starting June 1. Applications are on the town website and at the town office and library.

### Projects in Nature Camp

Camp will take place the week of July 13-17 and runs from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, camp will take place at The Fells; on Tuesday and Thursday camp will convene at Fishersfield Park. Each day of camp will consist of an outdoor search for the materials or major ideas behind the project for the day, followed by time to create and finalize the project. There will be a project exhibit on Friday at 11:40 a.m. at The Fells. The focus for this camp is to find creative ways to experience the wild world around us and to participate in the state initiative, "No child left inside," promoting outdoor experiences for our youth. Cost for the camp, geared for ages 6-12, is \$40 per child. Class size is limited.

### Newbury Recreation Swim Program

There will again be two weeks of swim lessons offered this year, the first at the town dock in Newbury harbor from July 6-10 and the second at the town dock in Blodgett's Landing from July 13-17. Swimming lessons are for ages 4 and up. Cost is \$24 per child for one week, \$20 each week for both weeks. Multiple siblings/same family will be \$20 per child per week. Lessons run from 11 a.m. through 2 p.m.; see signup for age/timing of lesson.

### Newbury Recreation and Ecology Camp

This is outdoors-based camp features a combination of wetland ecology, hiking, watershed ecology, fisheries biology and a day of fishing on the lake. Campers should bring a towel, sneakers and rain gear. Indoor locations are available but we try to be outside if at all possible. This camp is open for ages 6-13 and focuses on creating a love for the outdoors and a respect for the nature around us. Different local naturalists and scientists visit the camp throughout the week. The cost is \$40 per camper; space is limited. It runs the week of Aug. 3-7 from 9 a.m. – 12 noon.

### Unitor Soccer at Fishersfield Park

Unitor Soccer Schools based in New Hampshire brings the best of local coaching from the high school to collegiate level to our brand-new soccer field at Fishersfield Park. Camp will take place Aug. 10-14 from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Check back for final details coming soon.

### Wednesday youth day trips

Newbury Recreation in conjunction with New London Rec will be offering day trips on several Wednesdays throughout the summer. There will be trips specific to 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders, as well as trips available for 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Check back soon for all the details and costs. We will head to places like Whale's Tale, Canobie Lake Park, and Squam Lakes Science Center.

### Wednesday Night Soccer

Starting in mid-July there will be a weekly soccer night for middle and high school-aged players. These practices will feature guest coaches from local colleges and high schools as well as experienced college-level players. The focus of these practices will be to help players prepare for their upcoming tryouts and fall seasons. Ages 12-13 will practice from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and ages 14-16 will practice 7-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 per practice. Check the recreation page on the town website in early June for more details.

### Youth Tennis, if a coach is found

Youth tennis lessons are tentatively planned as a summer evening program. Dezotell is still looking for someone to coach before setting final details.

### Adult Coed Summer Tennis League

This intermediate-level league will operate in a round-robin format, one match per week for six weeks. Match is aggregate points in a two-set match (for example: 6-2, 6-2 is a 12-4 score for the match). Match may be played at any time in set week; players agree over the phone upon the time to play. Seedings will come out the week before play starts and will not be skills related. Play begins the week of June 22. Sign up at the selectmen's office (Donna Long's window) at town office for now, eventually at the park.

### Summer concerts

The tentative schedule for the summer concerts in the harbor:

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Thursday, Jul 2  | Dr. Harps Blues Revue Band (blues)  |
| Saturday, Jul 4  | Roxanne & the Voodoo Rockers (rock) |
| Thursday, Jul 9  | Tammy Jackson (country)             |
| Thursday, Jul 16 | Tall Granite Jazz Band (jazz)       |
| Saturday, Jul 18 | High Ground Band (country/rock)     |
| Thursday, Jul 23 | Chill Set (modern rock)             |
| Thursday, Jul 30 | The Flames (classic rock)           |
| Thursday, Aug 6  | Lunch at the Dump (folk rock)       |
| Thursday, Aug 13 | East Bay Jazz Ensemble (jazz)       |

The Thursday concerts are in the evening, the two on Saturdays will be in the afternoon. Specific times will be announced.

At Old Home Day on Saturday, July 11, the guitar duo of Pirozzoli & Putnam will perform during the afternoon and the Bruce Marshall Group will play blues and rock leading up to the evening's fireworks in the harbor.

--Travis Dezotell, recreation coordinator  
763-4940 x210 or [travis@newburynh.org](mailto:travis@newburynh.org)

## NEWBURY BEAUTIFICATION

The target date for spring planting all NBC containers is May 22, according to Joy Nowell, NBC president. The hanging baskets are already in the greenhouse busily growing.

The plant sale is the next day, Saturday, May 23 (see page one for details). Thanks to an ordering glitch at a wholesaler and the generosity of Ivor Freeman, there will be lots of Blue Star Sea Holly for sale this year. Freeman ordered 3 and got 2,003, donating some of the excess to NBC whose members have potted them. The perennial plant looks somewhat like thistle and is often dried in arrangements.

The monthly meeting is on Wednesday, May 6, 9 a.m. in the town office meeting room. All are welcome. Dick Wright will bring

attendees up to date on the plans for the community garden at Fishersfield Park.

The agenda also calls for finalizing the watering schedules for the barrels, baskets and window boxes, but Nowell stresses they can always use extra people, so please consider asking about it. Call her with questions at 938-6054.

Nowell thanks all who helped out clearing the group's adopted section of trail at Fishersfield Park. They had a good turnout and lots of debris was removed, branches cut, and the edges of the pond area cleaned. It looks so much better and they all had fun, she said.

June 6 is tentatively the day for transplanting the daffodils in the Celebration Garden from behind town office up to Fishersfield Park. It will depend on how the blooms go, Nowell said, but plans are to get holes dug at Fishersfield that day anyway. Watch for notices around town for details.

### **NBC branches into education**

With a full and active agenda already, the NBC isn't letting grass grow under its collective feet. One new effort is gardening books for the library, to make it easier for people to expand, or start, their own gardens. The group is also developing its presence on the web with a link on the town website.

One link at the moment lists upcoming presentations the NBC is arranging with the Master Gardener Speaker's Bureau of the UNH Cooperative Extension of Merrimack County. Scheduled on Monday, June 1, What is IPM? (integrated pest management), and on Thursday, Sept. 17, Putting Your Garden to Bed. Both will be at the town office at 7 p.m.

There are also plans for a field trip in July to a NH plant company and as always, any who want to go are welcome.

## **NEWBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

*Newbury Public Library Trustees: Liz Tentarelli, chair; Pam Ritchie, secretary; Pat Sherman, treasurer. Friends of NPL officers: Liz Moulton, president; Paula Falkowski, secretary; Ken Tentarelli, treasurer; Mickey Noyer, director; Jackie Keegan, director; Suzanne Levine, director*

*Library hours: Sunday 12- 5 p.m., Monday 12-8 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday 12-5 p.m., Friday closed, Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*

### **Poetry Jam on June 1**

The next poetry jam is set for Monday, June 1 at 7 p.m. rather than the usual last Monday of the month because of Memorial weekend. The evening of poetry readings will focus on mothers, but from a more controversial or thought-provoking angle than flowery. The event is moderated by award-winning poet and Newbury resident Dianalee Velie. Bring your original poems to share; limit two per person.

One attendee describes this monthly gathering as a free-form support group whose members, usually about a dozen, read what moves them. All are more than welcome.

### **Book Discussions**

The international best seller, *Neanderthal*, by John Darton will be discussed on Monday, May 4, led by Liz Tentarelli.

On Monday, June 1, Frank Perrotta will lead a discussion of *Beach Music* by Pat Conroy.

The book for July 6 is *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks, with Nancy Marashio leading the discussion.

All book discussions begin at 7 p.m. at the library. The books are available at the library.

### **Summer youth programs: watch this space**

Librarian Rosie Johnson advises that plans are afoot for various youth programs for the summer, but they are not quite ready for an

unveiling. In the meantime, children are engaged in the Penny-a-page reading program and Johnson is readying a progress poster for them to track their pages.

Here's hoping the summer programs prove as popular as the Wildlife Encounters offered during spring break – 67 children and 32 adults enjoyed the show, learning about and touching reptiles and amphibians, including snakes, turtles and Cajun the alligator. Thanks go to the Friends of the library for sponsoring the fun.

### **Speaking of the Friends...**

The Friends are putting lots of work into old and new fundraising programs for spring and summer to support programs and purchases at the library.

For starters, they hope to again see a good crowd at the annual Memorial weekend book and bake sale on Saturday, May 23 (see more on page 1).

The Friends are filling several gift baskets, each with a different theme from gardening to kids at the beach to summer reading, for a silent auction. They would welcome anyone who would like to contribute items to a basket (call Liz Moulton at 763-9833).

The baskets will be displayed in the library the week prior to Old Home Day, so you can come into the library any time that week, Monday – Thursday, to place a bid. Bidding will continue through Old Home Day and the winning bidders will be announced that evening.

When you stop by the library during Old Home Day to see how your bids are holding up, you can pick up something new to read at the book sale – and there will be ice cream too.

To raise money to purchase young adult books, the youth group at the library will sell baked goods during the summer concert series in the harbor.

Friends president Liz Moulton said they have just mailed an appeal for tax-deductible contributions which will help purchase books, DVDs, books on CD, equipment and technology. It will also go toward programs for adults and children to keep up with the growing number of people using the library. This year alone the library experienced a 20% growth in patron visits.

Anyone who would like to get involved with the Friends is more than welcome. Please inquire at the library or attend one of their quarterly meetings. Meetings begin at 6:30 in the library and are scheduled for Monday, June 8, Sept. 14 and Dec. 14.

## **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

[www.newburyhistorical.org](http://www.newburyhistorical.org)

*Board of Directors: Robert Morris, Margie Weiler, William Weiler, Alice Lynn, Mary Thayer, Shelly Candidus, Deane Geddes, Dennis Pavlicek, Barbara Steward*

### **We Remember Newbury: It's a hit!**

The Newbury Historical Society's series, *We Remember Newbury*, had a very successful beginning on April 26. The first program, entitled "Wind, Fire and Ice," drew an audience of 65 people to the town office for a presentation by Dave Anderson, director of education for the Society for the Protection of NH Forests. Many shared their own memories of the hurricane of 1938, the Mt. Sunapee fire of 1947 and the ice storm of 1998 during the open discussion period on April 26.

### **The Vanishing Newbury – Aug. 2**

The society's annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 2 at 1 p.m. in the town office meeting room.

The meeting will be followed by a PowerPoint presentation entitled "The Vanishing Newbury" by historian and author Tracy Messer. He will include some "then and now" contrasts as he addresses the loss of more than 200 public and private buildings in the town.

### **Hot off the presses**

Watch for the initial sale of Newbury's pictorial history book, titled "Newbury" and scheduled for an early June release.

### **PSNH removing brush & trees**

Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) will be trimming and removing trees and brush adjacent to and beneath some of its power lines within Newbury. According to the company's letter:

"...This work is necessary to insure the safe distribution of power and to improve reliability of electric service for our customers..."

"PSNH specifications call for removal of brush and limbs less than four inches in diameter which are located within eight feet to the side of, ten feet below or fifteen feet above conductors. Larger trees or limbs which present a threat to PSNH lines or other equipment because of decay or other defect will be removed on a case-by-case basis. All work will be performed in accordance with accepted arboricultural standards.

"PSNH has contracted with Asplundh Tree Expert Company to perform the actual trimming of trees. PSNH requires that our trimming contractors contact each landowner where trees are to be trimmed prior to commencement of work on that property. Individual concerns will be addressed at this time.

"All brush and limbs cut on roadside locations will be chipped. In wooded, undeveloped locations, these chips may be dispersed into the woods ... Near developed land, the chips will be blown into a truck and disposed of off-site. The chips make a good mulch and are often given to nearby property owners for landscaping purposes... All wood will be left on site unless otherwise directed by the landowner.

"Work on those roads not designated as scenic is scheduled to begin in April. The work will take the remainder of the year to complete."

PSNH has requested a public hearing with the planning board for the trimming and removal of trees on scenic roads in town, including Cheney, Old Province and Gillingham roads. The first is to be scheduled for May 19.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway administrator Cal Prussman is pleased to report all the paving work came in under budget, with United Construction winning the bid for the contract.

In preparation for paving, the crew is doing ditch work on Baker Hill Road. They are also doing some limited sweeping, largely of roads in Blodgett's and South Newbury Village, and ongoing ice storm clean-up. The roads are no longer posted for a six-ton weight limit.

### **POLICE DEPT.**

The Newbury Police Department is gearing up for the warmer weather, and the flood of visitors and traffic that comes with it.

On the traffic front, any hurried attempt to pass through the center of town may be hampered of late, as the sidewalk project is in full swing. Expect the delays to last off and on for another couple of months, but it will be a nice thing to have come this summer!

As a note to everybody in town, the US Census Bureau is here, and they will be visiting selected residences in the coming weeks. These folks will all have identification that they will readily provide, and some may be wearing vests with "Census" written on them. If you see somebody in the neighborhood that you don't recognize, please let us know.

### **FIRE & RESCUE DEPT.**

#### **Forest fire put out under adverse conditions**

On April 28 the Newbury Fire & Rescue Dept. fought a forest fire a good 400 feet off the old railroad bed off Mountain Road. When

Chief Hank Thomas, first at the scene, arrived an area of about 100 feet by 300 feet was involved.

Due to the rugged terrain of the area the fire fighters had to hike in, backpacking picks, shovels, and other gear and pulling long lengths of forestry hose. It was one of the days the temperature was near 90 degrees with high winds. It was steep terrain with the fire burning uphill so it wants to take off, the chief said, with heavy winds complicating matters.

Chief Thomas said they had it under control after about three hours, and it took another couple of hours to say it was out. He thanks the Newbury fire fighters and those from Bradford, New London and Sunapee who assisted.

The cause is under investigation. Chief Thomas said an extensive amount of maple sugar lines were lost. The owner of Sweet Maples estimates his loss at up to \$3,000. It did stay low, maybe 6 feet tall, so the trees may be saved. If they don't bud, the chief said, then we'll know the fire got them.

Everyone is urged to keep an eye on the forest fire sign by the safety services building for conditions. It's a time to be very careful; it doesn't take much to start a blaze. Fire and firework permits will be restricted when conditions call for it.

### **One call of many**

Chief Thomas said the department has been 'hopping with calls' including a 3 a.m. fire alarm activation, a brush pile burning with no one around just the other night, medicals calls and a very serious car crash with two helicopters called in for trauma transport. He's hoping the call volume will taper off soon.

That's what the members of Newbury Fire & Rescue face on a regular basis. It certainly sounds difficult. If it also sounds rewarding, stop by one Tuesday evening at the safety services building and explore the possibilities with one of the members.

### **HEALTH OFFICER**

#### **Swine flu plans in place, info available**

With the outbreak of swine flu topping the national news, Newbury Health Officer Wayne Whitford continues to work on updating Newbury residents with the latest public health information from state and federal health agencies.

A new section on the Town of Newbury website, [www.newburynh.org](http://www.newburynh.org), is updated constantly with information from the state Dept. of Health and Human Services, the US Center for Disease Control (CDC), US Dept. of Health and Human Services, World Health Organization and other public health agencies. The site contains a DHHS Fact Sheet on Swine Flu that provides information on the illness that all residents should be aware of.

Over the last several years, the Town of Newbury has been an active member of the Greater Sullivan County All Health Hazards Region in developing the Public Health Preparedness and Response Plan for our area. This plan addresses how area communities will support each other in the event of a pandemic flu or other disease outbreak. Similar planning has been going on throughout the rest of New Hampshire, and our state is well ahead of most states in this type of public health planning.

The Newbury Health Officer is continuously receiving e-mail updates on the swine flu from the Department of Health and Human Services, Greater Sullivan County All Health Hazards Region, the State of New Hampshire, Department of Safety, Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The Newbury Fire and Rescue Department is receiving information and guidance from the Bureau of EMS on responding to medical emergencies in the event residents suspect that they may have the flu.

At this point Newbury residents should keep themselves informed through the local and national news media and the Newbury website. There is no vaccine available to prevent this type of flu and people

should contact their primary care physician if they believe that they are coming down with the flu.

The Department of Health and Human Services recommends the following daily actions you can take to help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses such as influenza:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Avoid sharing eating utensils.
- If you get sick with influenza, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

## LAND USE BOARDS

Please note –

The land-use board sections here first present topics the boards covered at work sessions and other administrative actions. This is followed by summaries of hearings, arranged by case numbers and date sequence within each case. In some cases these notes and summaries are from draft minutes. You are encouraged to read the full and approved minutes, available at the town office and the town website.

### Regulations for reference

Click *Town Regulations* on the left-hand side of the town website's homepage and you can select from a list: building regulations, zoning ordinances, regulations for site plan review or subdivision control regulations.

## ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

*Katheryn Holmes, chair; Helen Wright, vice chair, Barbara Richmond, Steve Russell. Alternates: Alex Azodi, Sue Russell*

### Officers elected

At its April 13 meeting the ZBA unanimously selected Katheryn Holmes as chair and Helen Wright as vice chair.

### Administrative changes

Holmes suggested some administrative changes at the April 13 meeting, to which board members agreed. First, the board should convene at 7:15 p.m., conduct administrative business and begin hearings at 7:30 p.m. Second, hearings should not be scheduled until all of the application material is complete and in hand.

Holmes suggested the implementation of a revised checklist to ensure that applications are clear to the applicant and complete when they are filed with the land use coordinator. Wright volunteered to edit the applications to the ZBA to facilitate the application process and will email drafts to the board members for discussion at the next meeting.

*Summaries of recent ZBA hearings, some from draft minutes. See official minutes at town office.*

### **Joan Morena, for property located at 276 Rollins Road, sought a special exception to permit part-time massage and therapeutic services as a cottage industry.**

4/13/09 This hearing was continued from March 9. Morena informed the board that she has received the required two-thirds majority approval from the 22 other property owners of her subdivision, Sunapee Overlook, and has had an official addendum to the deed covenants recorded at the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds. It allows the business with provisions that include no more than one client permitted on the premises at any one time and services will not exceed 6-8 hours per week. In addition, it is written in the addendum that if the Morenas move the approval is null and void.

She explained that she did not realize there were covenants attached to her deed until a neighbor brought it to her attention.

Board members noted minimal impact on the neighborhood and that the conditions of cottage industry have been satisfied. The board voted unanimously to approve Morena's application for special exception.

### **Rockwall Properties LLC, for property located at 882 Route 103, sought a variance to permit the placement of a 12 ft. x 8 ft. sign at 882 Route 103**

4/13/09 Josh Perkins explained that he applied to the board of selectmen for a sign permit and they sent him to the ZBA because although they were supportive of the concept, they could not approve the sign based on the existing regulations. There is not a clear definition of a sign in the zoning ordinance. Perkins shared with the board a letter from the board of selectmen in support of his sign. He explained that the proposed sign is a 12 ft. x 8 ft. slab of granite, 16 in. thick, with the name of his company, Stone Face Excavating, LLC, across the middle of the slab. His interpretation would be that the bottom portion of the slab is the base, the lettering is the actual area of signage, and the top portion with a depiction of the Old Man of the Mountain would be considered art.

Holmes said that the lettered portion of the granite is in compliance with the sign ordinance because it is not more than 24 sq. ft.

Azodi said that in his opinion, the bottom section could be considered the base and the top section decoration if the letter section was outlined within an area of 24 sq. ft. or less thereby differentiating the sign portion from the rest.

Holmes said that the zoning ordinance does not designate what kind of base or supporting structures are acceptable. She suggested that the issue should be brought to the planning board for discussion and interpretation.

The board voted unanimously to grant the variance with the following conditions: 1. The lettering portion is no more than 24 sq. ft. and permanently defined with a border, 2. No future additions to the sign may be made without application for a new sign to the board of selectmen and 3. Placement of the sign must meet all setbacks and height restrictions as defined in the zoning regulations.

### **ZBA hearing scheduled May 11**

On Monday, May 11, the zoning board of adjustment will conduct a public hearing. At 7:30 p.m., John Recinito, for property located at 6 Shore Drive, will seek a variance to permit construction of a 2-story garage within the rear and side setbacks of the property.

## PLANNING BOARD

*Tom Vannatta, chair; Barbara Freeman, vice-chair; Travis Dezotell; Deane Geddes; Bill Weiler; Bruce Healey; Ron Williams, alternate; Jim Powell, ex-officio (Dick Wright, alternate ex officio). Ken McWilliams, advisor*

### **Application requirements & fee**

At the request of the land use coordinator, the board agreed to require applicants to provide additional copies of plans in order to provide the ex-officio and recording secretary with informational copies of the applications.

On April 21 the board agreed that each applicant should be given a copy of the regulations when applying to the board and the application fees will be raised \$5 to cover the cost of the copy.

### **PSNH public hearing for tree trimming on scenic roads**

Vannatta informed the board on April 7 that he had received a letter from Public Service of NH (PSNH) asking for a public hearing to be held in order for PSNH to commence tree trimming around the power lines on scenic roads in Newbury, including Cheney and Old Province roads.

On April 21 the board agreed to hold the first public hearing (two are required) at its May 19 regular meeting, beginning at 8 p.m.

### **Amend for Town Meeting 2010 – Sign Ordinance**

As agreed at the board's March 3 discussion of the sign ordinance, business people were invited to the April 7 work session. Vannatta opened the meeting to the public regarding input for revisions to the existing sign ordinance. Vannatta advised the public that the board is just in the beginning of the process of amending the sign ordinance. He expressed the board's open invitation to any of the members of the public to come to the planning board meetings to give input on regulations.

Several business owners were present to provide their perspective on the sign ordinance. Comments included:

- Come to a site to assess the conditions before denying a permit, e.g. when only one entrance to site, but several businesses there.
- Signage technology has been updated and improved, and internally lit signs should be reconsidered. The technology of illuminated light is probably more in keeping with the character of the town than flood lighting.
- It is not practical to put all signs through the same review criteria.
- There is a lot more to consider than taking the old sign ordinance and resizing the signs. The square footage of retail space should be taken into consideration and safety issues arise from restricting the ability to direct traffic with directional signs. The topography, lighting issues, snow banks, etc. make directional signs difficult to see based upon the existing regulations for size. Freeman noted that if there is a need for a larger sign than permitted, the safety issues usually weigh in strongly as support for a variance.
- If a business owner needs or wants more than what is allowed in the zoning regulations, there should be a method of review that takes into consideration the whole scheme and size of the business building.

Business owners were asked what size sign they felt would meet their advertising needs. Responses included:

- It would be helpful to have better provisions for lighting.
- The size of the signs should be contingent upon the size of the building.
- A 6 ft. x 8 ft. internally lit sign mounted on the side of the building. It could be controlled with a timer so that it did not shine all night long.
- The board should also prepare some guiding principles for the characteristics that would help guide the good taste of future signage.
- Take into consideration the sign regulations for buildings that have several businesses in them. This issue supports the reasoning behind the suggestion that building and lot size should be considered when regulating the square footage allowed for signs.
- It would be helpful to have a definition of what constitutes a sign. Sometimes the support structure is difficult to separate from the signage which makes determining the size of the sign difficult.

As to the issue of signs in the state right-of-way, Powell said that town counsel stated that the town does not have the authority to enforce what goes on in the state right-of-way.

Powell advised the board that the board of selectmen has been very successful in contacting businesses on Route 103 that have violated the sign ordinance and having them take down their unpermitted signs, but the issue of enforcement in the state right-of-way is a potential problem. He agreed that one size does not fit all when it comes to signage and perhaps different businesses should be able to have different signage in order to be profitable. In addition, LED lighting is low cost and energy saving. The board discussed several examples of LED lighting.

Freeman said that an ordinance could easily be established that gave standards for design and another part that would give flexibility for comprehensive sign presentation. The plans would have to be

very comprehensive and detailed. This type of regulation would be a lot more work for whoever is going to have to review the plans, but is certainly something the board should consider. Powell said that he agrees with Freeman, but the amount of review necessary should not stop the board from trying to make the sign ordinance more workable for area businesses. Freeman pointed out that the design of a sign is also an important part of advertising. Visual clutter causes people to not see any signs.

McWilliams pointed out that the concept that the board should be focused on is not so much the size of the building and the sign but the ability of the traveling public to safely see what business is on the property. In addition, when there is a change in business ownership or business type, the legal language pertaining to signs supports grandfathering. Therefore, new conditions cannot be set based on change of ownership. McWilliams agreed to research the concept of permitting signs based on principles instead of specific standards taking into consideration the whole site including building size and lot size. The board also reviewed the March 21 draft of the sign ordinance and made some changes.

*Summaries of recent planning board hearings, some from draft minutes. See official minutes at town office*

### **CASE 2004-006: Angel Hawk Subdivision – Jaimie Gould aka Advanced Conception Property Development, LLC – Development Agreement**

The planning board continues to deal with issues relating to this subdivision. Those interested should read the full minutes, available at the town office, of the meetings where the topic was discussed. It was a topic on April 7 and April 21.

### **CASE 2008-010: Annexation – Bradley LaClair – Park 10 Road – three lots into two lots**

4/21/09 This hearing was continued from March 17. The board reviewed the annexation plan presented with the surveyor (Christopher Patten) present, as requested by the planning board at the March 17 hearing. Patten explained the before and after lot acreages.

Patten was asked why the property line extends half way into the Spring Street right-of-way yet the property pins are at the edge of Spring Street. He explained that according to RSA 231:51, if a right of way is not built within 20 years of being approved, then the right of way reverts to the abutters on either side. He shared with the board a letter from the town administrator at the time to Anthony Negri referring to "paper streets" which was the town administrator's interpretation of town counsel's opinion.

Weiler said that his interpretation of the RSA is that the governing body needs to vote in order to give up a paper street to the abutters. The surveyor said that the regulation at the time of the subdivision did not require the vote of the governing body, it only needed to be undeveloped for 20 years, and then it would become the abutters' land.

McWilliams advised the board that the issue needs to be clarified because if a building permit is applied for, the building inspector needs to know if the setbacks are from the pins at the edge of the right of way or the pins in the middle of the right of way.

Vannatta said that the board's decision regarding this issue will affect all of the other lots and paper roads in Park 10, and the board should seek town counsel's opinion on whether or not Spring St. is automatically discontinued due to grandfathering of subdivision regulations, or do the lot lines move back to the edge of the right of way.

Asked if the application still falls into the parameters of making three lots into two lots regardless of counsel's opinion of grandfathering paper roads, Freeman said that yes, the application of

three lots into two lots can still go through, but the board is not going to approve and record an erroneous plan.

When the hearing was opened to questions from the public, Patricia MacDonald said that at this time she has no issues with the annexation being approved. She asked if the board of selectmen approves doing away with Hemlock and Spring streets that would then affect access to her lots.

Freeman said that the board cannot answer that at this time; the board will be seeking the opinion of town counsel to see if these roads are already abandoned because of the regulations in effect at the time the subdivision was approved and recorded.

The board voted to continue the hearing until May 19 at 7:30 p.m.

McWilliams advised Vannatta that town counsel's opinion should be communicated to Rodewald and Patten as soon as possible so that the plans can be adjusted if necessary.

**CASE 2008 -021: Final Site Plan Review – Cottage Industry - Joan Morena – 276 Rollins Road – Massage Therapy Business**

4/21/09 The board reviewed the application for completeness. Morena requested waivers from Art. 13.6-10 (documentation, site plan, structure plan, and permits and approvals) because she is not making any changes to the inside or outside of the existing residence. She said there will be no external signage, structural or environmental impacts. She provided the board a photo and building plan of her residence.

Weiler said that Morena should have submitted the pictures and house plans as part of the application along with a site plan of existing conditions.

Morena said that when she applied for the site plan hearing she asked the land use coordinator what was required and was told all she had to do was request waivers for those items that don't apply. She stated that she was not given a copy of the site plan regulations and brought the pictures and house plans on her own volition. There was little guidance through the process.

Weiler explained that there is nothing in the application to show what the board is approving. The board needs either a sketch drawing of the site with existing structures including the driveway and proposed parking, or a photograph of the property with proposed client parking indicated.

Freeman said that it is up to the planning board to decide if there are impacts or not, e.g. traffic patterns and lighting. The board is not concerned with the interior.

Morena said that after talking with McWilliams, she was of the understanding that the land use coordinator was her go-between in the process but was never referred to the website or the regulations for specific instruction regarding site plan review requirements.

McWilliams said that the board needs to decide how to move on with the application. Either the board reviews the application with the information available and may approve the application with conditions of additional documentation, or the board continues the hearing until the additional documentation is submitted.

Consensus of the board was to continue with the review of the application, vote whether or not to accept the application and then consider the request for waivers. The board voted to accept the application as complete.

Freeman commented that the board still needs a plan submitted which meets the criteria of Art. 13.6-9 in order to have documentation of what may be approved for future reference.

The board voted unanimously to grant a waiver from Art. 13.10 Permits and Approvals.

Freeman pointed out that the request for waivers state that there would be no change in the existing residential site. She explained to Morena that if the board approves the application without documentation for parking, access, etc. and then in the future someone says there was a previous business and they want to add parking and lighting, the board would have no proof that there was

not any before. The board still needs the documentation, despite the provision in the amendment to the deed restrictions, because the approval runs with the property. All a new owner would have to do is get the approval of 2/3 of the lot owners in the subdivision and they are in business.

The board unanimously approved the site plan application with the condition that documentation for Articles 13.6-9 be submitted by May 19, 2009 and that these documents show that there are no changes being made from the residential that already exists.

Morena asked if the seven copies are still required per Article 13.6. Freeman said that Morena would only need to submit three copies, one for the planning board files, one for the property file, and one for Morena.

The board voted unanimously to revise the requirements of Article 13.6 for Morena's site plan to be a size that is convenient and reasonable and the number of copies provided to be three.

**Planning board agenda for May 19**

At its May 19 meeting the planning board will review the site plan submitted by Joan Morena at 7:15 p.m. At 7:30 the board will continue the LaClair annexation application. The PSNH hearing for tree trimming and other maintenance on scenic roads will begin at 8 p.m.

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