

maps, and parking areas, once plans are final.

And an invitation to the Fells – Thank You, Newbury!

The Fells is proud to be part of Newbury's historic heritage and civic-minded spirit, and invites Newbury residents, town employees and civic volunteers, along with their immediate families, to tour The Fells gardens, trails and the Main House on Route 103A on Friday and Saturday, July 7 & 8, free of charge, as part of Newbury's Old Home Day celebration. The Main House opens 10 a.m.–5 p.m., the grounds dawn to dusk.

And the summer fun continues ---

Newbury Swim Program

This year's swim program will be offered Aug. 7-11 and Aug. 14-18, at the town dock in Newbury Harbor. Nicole Wallace is returning as the instructor, teaching half-hour lessons from 8–11 a.m., with more-advanced swimmers going first. The cost is \$25 per child, \$20 for each additional child in a family. Registration forms with more details are available at the town office and the town website and are due, with payment, by July 20.

Please note, children must be 5 years old by Sept. 30, 2006 to participate and a responsible adult must accompany your child(ren) and must remain at the waterfront during the swimming lesson.

?

2006 Summer Concert Series

Newbury Harbor Gazebo

Thursdays, 7 – 9 p.m.

- June 15 Pirozzoli and Putnam – jazz and pop
- June 22 Karen Morgan & the Pony Express – country
- June 29 Saylyn – reggae
- July 6 Kid Pinky – blues
- July 13 Upper Valley Community Band
- July 20 The Flames – oldies
- July 27 Mink Hills Band – bluegrass
- Aug. 3 Chris Kleeman – one-man band
- Aug. 10 Tammy Jackson – country
- Aug. 17 Kan-Tu Band – blues
- Aug. 24 East Bay Jazz Ensemble
- Aug. 31 Bruce Marshall Group – pop

All above shows have an automatic rain date of the following Wednesday.

Saturday, July 8, 7:30-9 p.m.

A concert for Newbury's Old Home Day, at the gazebo with the Kearsarge Community Band. Stay for the fireworks!

Sunday, August 13, 1-3 p.m.

Enjoy Pete Merrigan & the Lake Sunapee All-Stars playing original 'island' music at the gazebo during the annual Vintage Boat Parade around Lake Sunapee.

Newbury Public Library

Library director Rosie Johnson and her staff have a number of activities ongoing and planned, for all ages. Stop in for more information or to sign up.

>> Library Book Group – Meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month Jan.-Nov. to discuss that month's book selection. July's meeting is the 10th because of the holiday.

>> Preschoolers – Story Hour – 10:15 a.m. on Wednesdays year-round. The children's librarian, Jane Moss, is working on special evening events for children and their parents; watch for details.

>> Grades 1-5 – Books, Crafts and Ice Cream – 1-2:15 p.m. on Tuesdays, July 11 through Aug. 15.

>> Grades 6-12 – Reap Reading's Rewards – This program has young adults keeping a log of their reading, from June 24 to Aug. 14, to reap rewards. Read 25 pages and get two tickets for candy raffles at the three special events. Read 50 pages and earn 5 'library bucks' to use at the silent auction. Special Monday night events: June 26, 5:30-7, Pizza Tasting Night, blind taste tests of locally made pizzas; July 17, 6-8 p.m., Memory Boards, create a craft to display your summer photos and mementos; and the grand finale on Aug. 14, 6:30-8 p.m., Silent Auction, enjoy make-your-own-sundaes while using your 'library bucks' to bid on books, CDs, gift certificates and more. 2

The library now has a family pass to the Fells. There is no charge to borrow it. You may call to reserve it or simply check it out at the circulation desk.

Special Volunteer Deal – the Friends of the Library are looking for volunteers to help with their community events and some organization tasks and ... there are *no meetings!* Do as much or as little as you like. Interested? Fill out a Friends volunteer form at the library.

Nurturing Newbury's Natural Beauty

Newbury Recognized as 'Tree City USA'

Newbury has been named a 'Tree City USA' by the National Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to community forest. It is the first year that Newbury has received such recognition.

Newbury met the four standards to become a Tree City USA: a tree board or department responsible for the care and management of the community's trees, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance. That last will occur at Old Home Day and include a proclamation and the presentation of a Tree City USA plaque by state forester Mary Reynolds.

"Trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in our cities and towns, and provide environmental and economical benefits," said John Rosenow, NADF president. "A community, and its citizens, that recognize these benefits and provide needed care for its trees deserves recognition and thanks."

Tree City USA was established in 1976. The program is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. The designation provides recipient communities with direction, professional education, technical assistance and public recognition for its forestry programs.

Steve Chellis, DOT highway patrol foreman, has put up roadway signs which identify the town with its new designation as a Tree City USA.

Improve the View: Adopt a Highway

The state is looking for community groups, businesses or individuals willing to adopt a portion of state roads in town under the national "Adopt-a-Highway" program.

Steve Chellis, DOT's highway patrol foreman for our district, said that only one stretch is currently covered. Baker Hill Golf Course has adopted the two-mile stretch from Newbury harbor to the circle. All of Rt. 103A and the rest of Rt. 103 are ready to be picked up by anyone interested in helping to keep Newbury scenic.

The commitment is to clean up two or more miles of road four times a year. You pick the times, usually in April, June, August and October. The state provides the bags, reflective vests, and signs warning that litter pickers are ahead. Then just leave the filled bags at the roadside for the state to retrieve.

The state will put up a sign at either end of 'your' section with the name of your business, organization, family, whatever. Chellis

pointed out it's the only free, legal way to put a sign in the state highway right of way.

It's not necessarily an easy task, but the harder it is – because of the amount of trash – the more it needs doing. With all the rest the state highway workers have to do, they just don't have time to do this like it ought to be done.

As to the other roads in town, each of us can help by bringing a bag whenever we're out walking to grab the roadside trash. The bending is more good exercise, and the dog will understand.

Breaking News: At their meeting on June 12, the selectmen decided they will adopt the 2-mile stretch of Rt. 103 from the 103A junction to about the Chicken Rock.

Everything's Coming up Flowers

Thanks to the Newbury Beautification Committee the 'backyard' of the town office was a bright yellow sea of daffodils this spring, with 'extras' down at Bald Sunapee. The group is also again branching out its efforts to grace our roadsides and town center with five hanging flower baskets on telephone poles around the town office and library, more than a dozen flower-and-plant barrels and a number of window boxes around town. See them, enjoy them, and thank the NBC volunteers who plant, place and water them all summer. They will put some 200 flags out for July 4th and look for them helping with the barbecue on Old Home Day.

Beauty Captured on Film & Canvas

The exhibits of the artistic talents of our residents continue at the town office, with a display of local photographer Maureen Rosen's work through late June. The exhibit, titled "The Lake and Beyond," is a compilation of 30 photographs of the Lake Sunapee area inspired by poetic verses.

Missed some of the artists? You can catch up because for Old Home Day and through July, selections from all eight past exhibitors will be on display. In August the series will continue with the photography of Lynn St. Louis.

A Sidewalk Down the Road

Through the efforts of our town administrator, Dennis Pavlicek, Newbury has been approved for a \$514,000 grant through NH Dept. of Transportation from the federal ISTEA Transportation Enhancement Program. The funds will cover a sidewalk from Bald Sunapee to Bell Cove, including engineering, drainage, a timber pedestrian footbridge, historical lighting, landscaping and granite curbing. The 20% local match will be met mostly through prep and other work involved. The engineering work should begin next year.

Looking for High-speed Hook-up

Many residents and businesses in town have expressed their frustration to the selectmen at not having access to high-speed internet services. Verizon and the cable companies have no near-term plans to offer it as the business case is purportedly weak in rural areas.

Newbury has partnered with seven other regional communities who are working together to resolve the situation. They've formed a group called the West Central New Hampshire Regional Health and Security Communications Consortium, abbreviated to WCNH.net, chaired by Jessie Levine, New London's town administrator. They are operating with a phased business model, created in Sweden, that will ultimately tie in households, doctors, hospitals, schools, businesses and more.

The topic is too complex for this space, but some information from the consortium's website: It was formed in Oct. 2005 to discuss regional deployment of broadband, figuring strength in numbers or economies of scale in a regional approach would be key. They are working with PacketFront, a firm specializing in deployment of community broadband networks. WCNH plans to install a regional

fiber network that will deliver advanced telecommunications capabilities to every resident, public safety agency, educational institution, healthcare facility and business in the participating towns, net-ting a range of benefits. The business model has a phased approach, but the final product, 'when the dust settles,' will be a 50-mile fiber-optic connection between Orford and Newbury.

The current member towns of WCNH are Newbury, New London, Sunapee, Springfield, Enfield, Hanover, Lyme and Orford. Other towns, businesses and organizations are also being approached.

Clearly there are many more details, and they are available on the group's website, wcnh.net, and that of its contractor, packetfront.com. The possibilities are at a minimum intriguing.

3

Wild Goose Chase

The Wild Goose chase, in its second decade, continues, with Fish & Game's plans for the site as a public boat launch – trailered or cartop – and next steps still uncertain at least as far as the town has been advised.

Over the years the selectmen have conveyed their concerns and issues in many ways to many levels and areas of state government. The state's current plan for a trailered-boat launch presents many issues, but the selectmen's primary concern is public safety, which the board doesn't feel has been addressed adequately. They hired Pathways Engineering to do an independent traffic study and evaluate safety issues in the area. Other town issues include shoreland protection, site use for others beyond boaters, and concerns associated with the requirement for the site to be open 24 hours a day – lights, noise, policing, among others.

Newbury's Board of Selectmen wrote the Governor last summer outlining its position on Wild Goose and asking for a meeting with Fish & Game. Through February there was no response to that letter. The town asked Pathways Engineering to do a preliminary assessment of Route 103 at the Birch Grove Road intersections, while the state was doing its own study. Mid February the board heard from Lee Perry, head of F&G, that their study was finished and he would like to set up a meeting with the selectmen; April 17 was arranged. Meanwhile, once the town received a copy of the state's final road study, it was sent to Pathways for its analysis, before the meeting with Perry.

On April 3, Mike McCrory of Pathway presented his firm's analysis of the DOT traffic study. He noted that the study focused on the north intersection of Birch Grove Road with Route 103. His summary of the state report's recommendations: reduce the speed limit at the intersection area; the north intersection of Birch Grove Rd requires improvements – an 'open-house' configuration was recommended; no special turn lanes or bypass lanes are warranted; sight distances for motorists are sufficient, and warning devices could be used.

In his analysis of the state study, McCrory offered several comments about its conclusions and recommendations. It is clear, he said, that the intersection areas of Birch Grove Road and Route 103 would need specific improvements and permits from local, state and federal agencies in order to handle traffic of vehicles with trailers. McCrory said multiple sources have shown that changing the speed limit will have little impact on traffic. To be effective, enforcement or geo-metric changes in the road would be needed. Enforcement becomes a town issue.

The "open-house" concept involves minor changes such as moving guard rails, etc. at the northern intersection. Exiting traffic would be prohibited from turning south there, but would have to go to the traffic circle to turn around. Implementation would be a problem, since signs are often disregarded. Pathways thought that the conclusion that "no turn lanes or bypass lanes are needed" was based on outdated information and should be re-evaluated. They also found the traffic design speed was closer to 55-60 mph in the area rather than the 50 mph cited in the study. This makes the stopping distances for vehicles inaccurate.

On April 17, Fish & Game Executive Director Lee Perry met with selectmen to provide an update on the state's plans for using the Wild Goose site for a public boat launch. While it was not a public hearing, there was a short question/comment period for attendees after his presentation.

Perry gave a brief recap of the department's efforts over the years to find a suitable site for a public boat launch to provide access to Lake Sunapee. He said the state purchased the Wild Goose site for this purpose. He noted that there had been a lot of discussion and exploration of alternative sites, going back to 1990. He said the department had a statutory mandate to move forward. Perry then introduced Kevin Gagne, an engineering consultant hired by the state to study access to and egress from Birch Grove Road as it intersects with Route 103.

Gagne said he was at an open house in 2002 where safety concerns about the Wild Goose site were discussed so he was aware of these issues. He did studies to address the concerns and submitted them to DOT for its input. After adding that input, he got approval from Carol Murray, Commissioner of DOT. His studies found that at the northern intersection of Birch Grove Road and Route 103, it would be advisable to do a guardrail adjustment to make the turn more comfortable, but changing the angle of the turn to make it less acute would actually interfere with sight distance, thus increasing the potential hazard. The speed limit in the intersection area should be decreased by 5 to 10 mph. DOT suggests this may need more discussion. Signs will direct vehicles exiting from the north end of Birch Grove Road to turn right only. Southbound vehicles will have to turn north and proceed to the rotary at the traffic circle to turn around. Signs will tell vehicles traveling south that they cannot turn left into the southern end of Birch Grove Road. Gagne said traffic volume and sight distances were evaluated and did not warrant widening the northern exit area at Birch Grove Road, or adding another lane onto Route 103 at that site. DOT concurs.

Gagne discussed the site for the proposed boat launch, with two launch areas. He said Fish & Game would obtain all necessary permits. The paving material in the parking areas will not be conducive to run-off. There will be two ramps, at 4' and 5' water depths, and adjacent tie-up docks. Low-intensity directional lighting will be used. There will be an 8' buffer fence on the south of the area. A landmark boulder, "The Old Man of the Lake," will not be disturbed. Lee added the grove of trees that will be removed are not of any special geological or historical value. Asked how much this plan would cost, Gagne said that was not determined yet.

Jeff Goodrich from Pathways said that the project could be made much safer by the addition of several design modifications. He challenged the average speeds used by the state and the effectiveness of posting lower limits and asked how it would be enforced. He pointed out that this portion of Route 103 is a commercial corridor and trucking has increased in volume and nature dramatically over the last ten years. He said the north and south intersections of Birch Grove Road with Route 103 could be made safer by installing warning devices. He asked how overruns (missed turns) were going to be handled. He added that there should not be a compromise regarding design standards when public safety is involved. He repeated that the intersections could be made safer, but at an added cost.

Barbara Freeman, Newbury's planning board chair, asked if the site plans for Wild Goose would come before the Newbury Planning Board. State attorney Jennifer Patterson said no, they were not required to bring the plans to the planning board, but would submit them to the state Wetlands Bureau. In other closing comments, Perry said that Fish & Game had looked at the site as a fishing area, but backed away because to add that would mean additional parking and an added environmental impact on the site. Gagne added that the engineering analysis took the worst-case scenario into account, including truck traffic. This analysis was not based on trailered traffic, but rather truck traffic.

[The selectmen, Police Chief Lee, other town representatives, residents and more had comments that are recorded along with

additional detail in the minutes of this meeting, available at the town office or website.]

The selectmen support access to the lake, but their responsibility for public safety prevents support of trailers at Wild Goose. The board advocates *two* sites for lake access: Wild Goose for cartop boats and the state beach for trailered boats. [At this point the state beach is the most widely suggested alternative for trailered-boat access, but DRED, which runs the beach, will not agree.]

Selectmen feel the Wild Goose site should be open to all without special accommodations for owners of large motor boats, that public access to the lake means access for all – swimmers, fishermen, and cartop boats too. They find the Wild Goose site more conducive to low-impact access and uses. The existing trailer launch at the state beach could be dredged and upgraded to accommodate F&G's mandated use as well.

That resolution notwithstanding, the main concern continues to be the issue of public safety which exists in the present access and exit from Birch Grove Road. Major changes to those intersections to accommodate vehicles towing trailers would have to be made to address the safety issues, the selectmen feel, and it would be irresponsible to proceed without that. They noted that the stretches of 103 at Birch Grove and Ledge Hill have been documented as the two main accident sites in town.

The Newbury Board of Selectmen does not support F&G's current plan and is not inclined to grant a driveway permit to the state (as usually required by DOT), not that the state can't proceed without it.

On April 17 the selectmen requested that the town's traffic counter be installed on Birch Grove Road for a couple of test periods this summer.

Residents' participation and comments welcome **Newbury Master Plan**

The Planning Board is working on an update to the 1997 Master Plan. The master plan is the document used by the board to guide its activities and amendments to the zoning ordinances and regulations. Initial activities included Community Visioning Workshops held last summer and a community survey distributed to all households earlier this year. In March, the UVLSRPC completed the community survey analysis and copies are available at the town office.

"The master plan is like a blueprint for the growth of our town," said board chairman Barbara Freeman, "and as such it helps define Newbury's future. We can't stress enough how important it is for our residents to help shape that future by participating in this process. Please join us for the work sessions we're holding each month to contribute your comments and perspectives."

At the series of work sessions the board reviews the recommendations in each chapter of the 1997 Master Plan with the updated statistical and map information, with input from the town depts., with feedback from the Community Visioning Workshops and the results of the community survey. Each recommendation is reviewed to see if it has been accomplished, should be retained, should be revised or should be deleted. Additionally, the board considers whether new recommendations need to be added to address different approaches or new issues. Categories include community facilities and services, recreation, natural and cultural resources, housing, transportation and land use.

Upcoming work sessions, all beginning at 7 p.m. in the town office building, are scheduled for July 5, Aug. 1 and Sept. 5 and again, the planning board welcomes Newbury residents' participation and comments. Contact Patricia MacDonald, land-use board coordinator, for a detailed schedule of topics to be discussed or to be added to the email list of participants. She can be reached at 763-4940 x201 or patricia@newburynh.org. Materials to be discussed at the work sessions are available at the town office or online at www.newburynh.org.

In upcoming months the board will conduct a public forum to review and discuss the results of the community survey and the draft recommendations resulting from the work sessions to date.

Other work scheduled through next year includes: KBM & Assoc., the board's consultant for the update, will draft and the board will review one draft chapter of the updated Master Plan each month at a work session and KBM will incorporate revisions. The planning board will hold a public forum to discuss the draft Land Use Chapter including the draft future land-use plan. KBM will compile all the draft chapters into one integrated draft master plan; the board will review and make final revisions to the draft plan; KBM will incorporate final revisions and prepare the final draft for the public hearing; the planning board will conduct a public hearing or hearings on the final draft of the master plan, and KBM will incorporate revisions from the hearings(s) and prepare the final Master Plan for publication.

Further information is available on the town website, including Newbury growth projections data and the 2005 Newbury Vision document.

Town Clerk: Get Your Licenses Here...

...for your UNLICENSED DOGS...

If you have a dog that for one reason or another is not yet licensed for 2006 – now is the time to get it done, quickly. According to the town's records, some 100 dogs have yet to be licensed this year, although their owners were mailed a reminder card.

Dogs are required to be licensed with the town each year. The fee ranges from \$2-\$9, and you'll need a current copy of the dog's rabies certificate.

According to RSA 466:1, if you do not license your dog by April 30, 2006, a late fee of \$1.00/month will be assessed in addition to a civil forfeiture issued by the police department, carrying a fine of \$25.00. Save our police officers a visit to your house for a personal reminder – stop in at the town clerk's office.

...and HUNTING, FISHING and OHRV

As of June 1, 2006, our town clerk's office is licensed to issue: hunting licenses, fishing licenses, and OHRV registrations. As before, boat registrations are also available.

Departmental Doings

Electronics and Tin/Plastic

Newbury Expands Recycling Efforts

If you've been to Newbury's Transfer Station you'll have noticed the new containers for the recycling of electronics, tin and plastic.

To cover town disposal costs for the electronic equipment, there will be a fee for these items:

TVs and monitors less than 19 inches: \$10

Console TVs and screens greater than 19 inches: \$20

CPUs, printers and fax machines: \$5

Copiers: \$20

Stereo systems: \$10

VCRs and table radios (aka boom boxes): \$5

Keyboards, wires, computer mice: No charge

As with other transfer station fees, you can get a coupon for the appropriate denomination at the town office.

The town is also accepting tin (steel) cans and plastic containers designated as #1 PETE and #2 HDPE (as marked on the bottom of the items). These include milk and water jugs, and laundry and detergent bottles. These materials will be co-mingled in one container. There will be no fee for disposing of tin cans and plastic.

We all reap the environmental benefits, the town will have no cost beyond the transportation to the recycler, and we save money on the compactor by reducing bulk. The removal of the new containers four times a year will cost approximately \$650 per trip.

Aluminum cans (beer and soda) will continue to be recycled in a separate container inside the building, along with glass, paper and cardboard as before.

Thank you for your cooperation in our ongoing recycling efforts.

HIGHWAY DEPT.

Nine inches of rain fell here in mid-May. Highway administrator Cal Prussman reports there was no particularly major flooding damage in town; the majority of the impact was in Sunapee Hills. The rain and repair put the highway crew a week behind on the schedule, but they have since made up the time with some deft changes to work assignments.

The sweeping of town roads and replacement of guard rails in various locations were accomplished as scheduled before the end of May. The roads in Ramblewood are being prepared for paving, including grading and replacement of some half-dozen culverts. Weather permitting, the paving is to occur the third week in June. Paving in Marshall Cemetery is also tentatively scheduled for June.

Some major road work is scheduled for August: grinding and paving Old Post Road, reclaiming and paving South Road, and crack sealing in various locations. Before the paving on South Road, work will be done on the box culvert, which is currently being built and will be trucked in pieces for installation. Around Labor Day work will be done on the first bridge on Mountain Road, and later in September roadside mowing will be done.

The town recently received an inventory of town culverts from the UVLSRPC. There are more than 500 and this report provides the location, size, type, length and condition of them all, a big help in planning maintenance and upkeep.

Prussman also reports that Peter Titus has been appointed highway foreman.

POLICE DEPT.

The police department has been using three laptop computers purchased in January with half the cost met by a grant Chief Lee obtained.

The laptops can be used in the patrol cars and the office, wirelessly linked in to the department's computer network. On the road, the laptop offers the officers all the information as if they were sitting at their desk. By providing officers with the full database of information in the field, they don't have to return to the office to look up records or past histories and can do reports on the spot. At the end of the day, reports, data research, all in the laptop, can be downloaded. No need to leave road patrol because, basically, they can take the office with them. Before officers had to take report, write notes, and redo them at their desk. Now reports are done 'on the road' and automatically added to the database when the officers return to the office. It saves significant office time, increasing patrol work the officers can perform.

The chief is also making changes in the department coverage schedule which will provide more efficient and comprehensive coverage by the officers. What they're doing seems to be working, the chief reports, because crime numbers are very low in comparison to the region.

Other changes are the addition in February of William Hardy, Jr. as a full-time police officer and, ongoing at press time, the process of hiring a new patrol officer, approved at town meeting, in time for expanded patrol hours for the summer. The new 4WD patrol car is also on the road.

FIRE DEPT.

With funds from an Assistance to Firefighters grant from FEMA, the fire dept. has purchased personal protective equipment – self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and turnout gear – over the last several months. The new gear replaces old and outdated equipment and provides our firefighters the best possible protection. They have gone through training on the new gear and it's now in use

on all apparatus. A special washing machine to maintain the turnout gear was also purchased.

The Newbury fire boat is in the lake for the season as of the end of May. Prior to being put into service, the boat received a new coat of paint and new lettering. In addition to providing fire and rescue services for the residents of Newbury, the boat responds through mutual-aid agreements to the towns of Sunapee and New London, who do not have fire boats.

The new emergency generator for the safety services building, authorized at this year's town meeting, has been delivered and is being installed. In the event of a power failure, the generator will provide full power for the emergency operations of the police and fire depts. which rely heavily on communications and computers.

This summer the Newbury Fire Dept. will be hosting NH Fire Academy training classes for its members and neighboring departments as part of the enhanced training program in the dept.

The firefighters will be busy during Old Home Day (see page 1), and that evening will provide fire protection and safety services during the fireworks display.

BLODGETT SEWER

A schedule is being put together for work to be done at Blodgett Sewer to renovate the facility, as per the bond vote at town meeting. Stantec (formerly Dufresne Henry) engineers are readying bid documents for the first phase of the sewer update, the repair and renovation of the collection lines. Most of the work will be done in the pipes, obviating the need to break the pavement. Manhole repairs will also be done. The start date is expected to be after Labor Day. There are tentative plans to do some work on the pumping station in the fall; work will occur in FY07 on the amphidrome plant. The town is eligible for a 30% reimbursement from DES for the cost of design services done on the Blodgett Wastewater Treatment Facility. Stantec is also getting bid documents ready for work on the pump stations before the end of the year.

On Other Fronts

Recreation Committee Created

This spring several members were appointed to the newly formed Recreation Committee, and Peter Newbern accepted the post as chairman. They are focusing on interviewing for the also-new position of town recreation coordinator (a part-time, year-round position with a major summer emphasis), and brainstorming ideas for potential programs. Watch for their dunking booth, and its occupants, at Old Home Day.

Town Dock Fingers

The fingers at the town dock will be new and improved this year – once the water level goes down enough to allow the installation. The new fingers will be four feet wide, twice that of the old ones, for more stability. They can also be removed at the end of the season, eliminating the damage from ice that plagued the old ones.

Fishersfield Moving Forward

Soil analyses and other site work were completed to allow submission to the state DES of the application for a 'site-specific permit' needed in order to proceed with work at Fishersfield on Old Post Road. DES has 90 days to respond once a permit has been submitted. When the town has the permit in hand, work can proceed on such projects as constructing the playing field, roadways, snack shack, septic system and well.

Survey of Town Property

The survey of town-owned property on Village Road in South Newbury, including the Old Town Hall, the Grange, and Sherman Hall, has been completed and the mylar sent to the county registry to

be recorded. This was undertaken to know how far back the town could expand, if needed, and it provides prudent insurance to define the property since old deeds give conflicting information. A septic design for the old town hall is also in hand. The survey did confirm that the Grange well is in fact on Grange (town) property, not the neighbor's.

Update on Tax Maps

Latest drafts have been received and some changes are being made to the new tax maps. Final versions should be ready about the end of June. Meanwhile, the map system is available at the town office. With a more recent flyover than the earlier maps, users can locate more structures and driveways; permanent streams are delineated too.

Update on Tax Rate

While he is still waiting for values based on the statistical update which is under way, town administrator Dennis Pavlicek expects the tax rate will go down, but values up. Still, he said, it looks like a 30-cent increase for the town portion, based on 'old' values, though additional revenue (e.g. FEMA funds) may offset that in part. No word yet from the county or school district to figure overall tax rate.

Fishersfield Part Forest?

Selectmen are considering making part of the Fishersfield property a town forest. In April, Deane Geddes from the conservation commission brought two plans to them for forest management of the wooded rear acreage of Fishersfield. One of the plans includes the pond, the other excludes it. The conservation commission would have responsibility for the designated area by becoming a forest manager under state guidelines. A vote of the town would be needed to establish a town forest. Pavlicek will gather more information.

Resort Report

A copy of the Mount Sunapee Resort annual operating report is available for review at the town office. The report includes any plans for changes in operation or capital expenditures for the coming year.

Emergencies Past and Possible

FEMA Flooding Funds

More than \$30,000 was received from FEMA to help defray town expenses associated with the heavy rains last fall, largely road damage. There was less damage from the rains this spring; the town funding request will include the \$8,100 spent on pumping 60,000 gallons of excess water out of the pump stations at Blodgett's sewer.

Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance

Merrimack County was one of those designated for disaster funds. Residents and business owners who sustained losses can register online at www.fema.gov or by calling 1-800-621-3362 or for TTY at 1-800-462-7586 *prior* to visiting an Operation Flood Recovery Center. Refer to FEMA Disaster ID #DR1643. They're accepting personal property claims until July 25.

If you had damage, call to see if you have a valid claim and what is covered – you won't know if you don't call.

The following information is needed when registering: a telephone number where you can be contacted; your address at the time of the disaster and the address where you are now staying; your social security number, if available; a general list of damages and losses sustained; if insured, the name of your company or agent and your policy number; general financial information; and bank account information, if requested.

On June 2, Operation Flood Recovery Centers opened in several communities to provide additional assistance as needed. In Belknap-Merrimack counties, the center is at 2 Industrial Park, Concord.

Local Emergency Plan Under Way

Paul Groulx, our emergency management director, is working on updating the town's Local Emergency Plan. He explained the plan helps the town both prevent and respond to hazards, whether an ice storm, a virus, or whatever. Largely through his effort, the town received grant money from the state to bring the town's plan up to current state and federal standards. The grant pays for the services of consultant Jane Hubbard from Andover, who is providing overview and direction to aid the effort and moderate meetings. Groulx has gathered a committee representing town depts. and citizens: Dennis Pavlicek, Hank Thomas, Dave Smith, Bob Lee, Cal Prussman, Linda Champy, Wayne Whitford, Ken Tentarelli and Len Bloksberg.

They're working off a plan format from the state, and focus areas are: how and what the community can provide when disruptions are caused by a disaster; establish priorities for loss prevention; increase the town's planning, communication and response activities, and ensure redundant capacity of treatment, be it medical, food or oil. Groulx hopes to have it finished by September for review by the state. He reports that a hazard mitigation plan was already done and submitted to FEMA three months ago. It addresses all natural hazards in town, from ice storms to flooding, etc. Having it in place qualifies the town for disaster recovery funds such as recently received. For additional information, refer to the town website under Emergency Management.

Mosquito Control Measures

Selectmen have met with Mike Morrison of Municipal Pest Management Services, to discuss potential mosquito-control measures. He explained the process for obtaining a permit that would allow the town to react to an infestation if it should occur. The insecticide they use is a biological agent, very selective to mosquitoes, and not harmful to other types of insect life. Morrison said a severe problem is anticipated this year; the area of infestation is spreading. The season runs from April through October for different types of mosquitoes.

His company takes a pro-active approach by identifying habitats and flagging them. They use GPS coordinates to inspect ditches, fields, etc. and attack the larvae. He services 14 towns at this time, including a program in place for New London. They also offer surveillance and take mosquito samples to Concord for testing on a regular basis. Morrison provided the board with a rough estimate of costs for a program for the town, approximately \$36,000.

The town has now received a Special Permit-117 from the state to conduct a mosquito-control program for 2006, should the town so decide. The permit provides for the services of Municipal Pest Management Services and qualifies the town to receive a 25% reimbursement from the state.

With the permit in place, the town can quickly respond should the need arise. Statewide monitoring is ongoing and procedures are in place for notification, including state officials advising the town health officer of any reports of infection

Health Planning in Place

Wayne Whitford, Newbury's health officer, has been involved for the last several months in the Pandemic Emergency Plan for the town. The plan addresses the town's preparedness for an outbreak of the avian flu or other disease that could affect a large number of town residents and the possibility that a high percentage of town employees and volunteers could be out sick. The first draft of the plan was presented to the selectmen in late May.

Whitford and other town officials have been attending seminars and meetings put on by the NH Dept. of Health and Human Services and the Bureau of Emergency Management. These sessions have focused on the coordination of local health plans with those in place at the state and federal levels. The state programs have addressed the coordination of regional planning groups and the logistics of a mass public immunization, should a pandemic become a reality in the state.

This planning is in conjunction with the All Hazards Emergency Management Plan for Newbury now under development by emergency management director Paul Groulx. Also involved in the development of the pandemic plan are Dennis Pavlicek, Hank Thomas, Bob Lee and Pam Drewniak.

Information on pandemic planning, the avian flu and other public health concerns such as West Nile virus and EEE, with links to state and national health resources, are available in the Health Officer section of the town website.

Rule Reminders

Some seasonally pertinent ordinances, statutes and recent town policies.

State Law: Fire Permits Required

You are required to obtain a written fire permit before starting any outside fire unless the ground is covered with snow.

Dave Smith, Newbury's forest fire warden, said *even if it's raining*, you need a written fire permit. Campfires and chimenea-type outside fireplaces require a permit; these may be issued for the season.

A gas grill or charcoal fire in a container up and off the ground does not require a permit.

Even with a permit there is no daytime (between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.) burning unless it is actually raining. There is an exception for small 2-ft round campfires—*with a permit*—if conditions allow. It's best to call and check the details. The fire warden has brochures with the information you'll need.

It's best to plan ahead and put a call in to Smith (938-5925) or John Croteau (763-2679), one of his deputies, *at least* one day before you plan to burn. Leave a message and they'll get back to you.

Ordinance: Use of Town Docks & Parking at Town-owned Public Areas on Lake Sunapee

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any persons to congregate on foot or in vehicles at the public parking areas at Newbury Town docks on Lake Sunapee between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m.

Section 2. No dogs, bicycles, skate boards, furniture, or playing of any games will be allowed on the Newbury Town docks.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle of any kind for more than two hours on the Esplanade at the town beach, in the vicinity of the town dock, or on town property at Bell Cove. Further, it shall be unlawful to park or tie up any boat at the town dock for more than a two-hour period.

Section 4. It shall be unlawful to park or tie up a boat at any dock between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m.

Any person violating the provisions of any section of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$50 for the first violation and \$100 for the second violation. A third violation of Section 3 or 4 will result in a court appearance, as well as towing and storage fees. If a vehicle or boat is found in violation as first offense, it shall be subject to the penalty of a second violation if not moved within four hours from the time of the first offense.

Ordinance: Fireworks

To clarify, the new Fireworks Ordinance prohibits fireworks only on town-owned property and properties within the Blodgett Landing overlay district, except by permission as detailed. Fireworks are allowed on private property elsewhere as long as state laws are followed. Of course, courtesy to neighbors is requested as to timing. The restriction on minors and the required clearing of debris apply townwide. The wording of the ordinance follows:

As of July 1, 2005, the display of fireworks in the Town of Newbury is prohibited on town property and in densely populated residential areas as designated below.

Blodgett Landing Overlay District...

...except by permission of the Fire Chief and the Board of Selectmen to be obtained at least one week in advance of a planned display.

Minors may not ignite fireworks in the Town of Newbury without adult supervision. All fireworks debris must be removed from the scene and disposed of appropriately by the user(s).

Failure to conform to this ordinance will subject the violator to a fine of \$275 per incident.

Parking Prohibited

Vehicles were being parked on town property at the old highway garage and the Hearse House, so selectmen had signs posted to advise that such parking is prohibited. The parking ordinance will be applied so that parking regulations can be enforced at these locations.

Meetings with Board Members

Selectmen noted advice from town counsel that individual members of town boards should not meet privately with parties applying to said boards, as this could result in conflicts of interest in cases of appeals. A copy of the attorney’s letter was provided to the planning board and ZBA.

Town Gift Policy

Selectmen have signed a town policy for all employees regarding the acceptance of gifts. Town employees shall not accept any gift of value from the public, including cash or other gratuities, while serving in their capacity as a town employee. An exception to this rule is that a complimentary tee-shirt or cap from an outside vendor shall not be construed as a gift, and may be accepted.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Other Dates to Note

June 28 – The Fells’ Future

The federal Fish & Wildlife Agency will hold a public meeting on its plans for the Fells property on Wednesday, June 28, at 7 p.m. at the Newbury town office building.

June 28 – Citizen Corps Formation Meeting

This volunteer organization is similar to the old Civil Defense wardens and is coordinated nationally by the Department of Homeland Security. State homeland security funds are available if a critical mass of people attend this meeting, interested in forming a regional group. The volunteers would be a ‘community emergency response team’ who would be called on to support local emergency services if a need arose, doing things such as traffic or crowd control, helping at shelters or other as appropriate to the situation. There would be a 16-hour training course. The meeting is June 28 at 5 p.m. at the new Sunapee Safety Building.

Starting July 5 – Bingo

The volunteers of the fire department will again host the perfect small-town summer entertainment: Bingo! Enjoy the fun on Wednesday nights at 7:30 starting July 5 at the safety services building. Have a good time and help support our firefighters.

July 23 – Friends of the Center Meeting House

The Friends will hold their first annual meeting on Sunday, July 23, at 2 p.m. in the Center Meeting House on the corner of routes 103 and 103A. The meeting is open to the public and new members are welcome. The program will include a report from the architect and the schedule of reconstruction and rehabilitation for the building, as well as voting on directors. The group was approved as a 501c3 nonprofit organization at the end of May.

July 29 – Town Summer Informational Meeting

This meeting, largely held to accommodate non-resident taxpayers and including updates from selectmen and department heads as well as questions from the floor, is set for Saturday, July 29, at 8 a.m. at the town office building.

August 26 – Hazardous Waste Day

Selectmen have contracted with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) to participate in Hazardous Waste Day on Aug. 26 in New London. Details will be advertised and will be available at the town office.

August – Fire Dept. Auction

Watch for the signs with the date for the firefighters’ annual fundraising auction. It’s usually the last Sunday in August before Labor Day, and offers good fun plus snacks and bargains.

Town of Newbury website: www.newburynh.org

Selectmen’s office.....763-4940
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8am-noon
Selectmen meet: 6:30pm, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7, 8/21
Dennis Pavlicek, town administrator, x204
townadmin@newburynh.org
Shelly Candidus, administrative assistant, x202
shelly@newburynh.org

Town Clerk & Tax Collector.....763-5326 x205
Monday 1-7pm, Tuesday-Friday 8am-12pm, 1-4pm
Linda Champy
linda@newburynh.org

Planning, Zoning, Assessing.....763-4940 x201
Planning board meets monthly, 7pm on 3rd Tuesday
and work sessions; ZBA meets as needed.
Patricia MacDonald, land-use board coordinator
patricia@newburynh.org

Code Enforcement / Bldg Inspector.....763-4940 x203
Monday and Wednesday 8am-4pm
Paul LaCasse
paul@newburynh.org

Town Assessor.....763-4940 x209
Norm Bernaiche
Dan Fitzgerald, assistant assessor, x301

Highway Dept.....938-5494
Cal Prussman, highway administrator

Transfer Station.....763-2289
Monday 9am-1pm, Wednesday 1-5pm,
Saturday and Sunday 9am-5pm

Forest Fire Warden.....938-5925
Dave Smith

**Police – Fire – Medical Emergency
Dial 9-1-1**

After calling for emergency help, please turn on all outside lights, day or night, to aid in locating your residence. If