



Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire

April 2017

Update on Water Issues at Tracy Memorial Library

The Library was built on a site remarkable for its clay and ledge. This means that in times of heavy rain or snow melt, a high volume of water puts pressure on the foundation, seeking the lowest points in the building: the basement children's department and the elevator shaft. In addition to a wet location, there were hidden defects in the 1990 construction which have also contributed to water in the building.

Notable Events

- In 2011, a tropical storm flooded the ground floor children's area, damaging dry wall, flooring and insulation.
- Two years ago, a defective solder joint failed in an exterior wall of the basement, and two weeks later, a radiator pipe burst in the Tomie dePaola room.
- In December 2016, a heat pipe burst in an exterior wall of the children's department stairwell, damaging flooring and the radiant heat system.
- In February of this year, melting snow sent a large volume of water through the sump pump in the elevator shaft. The vibration loosened a PVC pipe leading out of the building.

Solutions in Place

- In 2011, a back-up generator was installed to power the heating system and the sump pump in the elevator shaft.
- A number of steps have been taken to address water in the elevator shaft. A commercial-grade sump pump and moisture detector were installed in 2012. The detector proved itself this February, sounding an alarm and thereby preventing water from damaging the children's department.
- Preventive measures in the Tomie dePaola room are numerous and have gone above and beyond repairs covered by insurance. The previous radiant heating system was set in plywood, leaving it vulnerable to water. As of March, all plywood has been removed and a new radiant heat system has been encased in a high-tech concrete product. This was funded by insurance and unrestricted gifts to the Library.



Reopening on March 30, the Tomie dePaola room features a new radiant heating system encased in concrete, not plywood.

- Presently we are addressing the heat loop located directly against the concrete in the exterior wall of the children's stairway. This loop is being removed because it is not possible to insulate effectively. The empty cavities will be insulated and a new heat loop installed on interior walls. Money for this will be eked out of our current operating budget.

Upcoming Capital Reserve Project

Our capital reserve project commencing in May is to install new perimeter drainage around the building. After moderate to heavy rainfall, we continue to see water coming into the basement. Using an exploratory camera, we discovered that the foundation drainage in the back was crushed and abandoned during the 1990 Library addition. In November 2016, members of the Department of Public Works repaired a section under the patio. Now we will address the rest of the perimeter, as well as add a waterproof membrane to the foundation.

Conclusion

Given the Library's location atop clay and ledge and the infeasibility of opening every exterior wall or tracking every interior pipe, there is always the possibility of water incursion, particularly in the basement children's department. However, the Library Trustees have been very diligent and proactive in taking reasonable steps to safeguard the building and the investment made by taxpayers over the years. We are optimistic that the Library is much more water resistant going forward. —Sandra Licks, Director

Building Permits and the State Building Code



Making improvements to your property by building a new structure or making improvement to an existing structure can be exciting as you anticipate the use of the new or improved space. As you are planning your design and during the construction phases of your project, keep in mind the requirements of the NH State Building Code (RSA 155-A:2). Although the Town of New London has not adopted any building codes, all buildings, building components, and structures constructed in New Hampshire shall comply with the State Building Code and State Fire Code. Furthermore, for any municipality which has not adopted an enforcement mechanism under RSA 674:51, the contractor of the building, building components, or structures shall notify the State Fire Marshall concerning the type of construction before construction begins excluding one- and 2-family dwellings. The contractor of a building, building component, or structure shall be responsible for meeting the minimum requirements of the State Building Code and State Fire Code. No municipality shall be held liable for any failure on the part of a contractor to comply with the provisions of the State Building Code. Prior to submitting a building permit application, take the time to review the Building Permit Frequently Asked Questions, which reference RSA 155-A. Make sure your contractor is meeting these requirements. Your safety and the safety of others around you may depend on it. For structures which require review by the State Fire Marshall, please contact the State Fire Marshall's office at the New Hampshire Department of Safety website, or contact Jay Lyon, New London Fire Chief with any questions you may have on Fire and Life Safety Codes.

—Lucy A. St. John, Planning & Zoning Administrator

New London Conservation Commission

We're happy to report that tree harvesting at the Esther Currier Wildlife Management Area at Low Plain has completed. Many logs were taken out of the western side of the property, and wood chips were made from trees that were not suitable for lumber. This harvest is part of the Low Plain Stewardship Program plan, which will help to increase and attract many species of birds and other wildlife. The harvest, while not significantly profitable, did generate enough revenue to cover the cost of the work and provide funds for the purchase of seedlings. These seedlings will be planted later in the spring as weather permits. The selective cutting, along with the removal of diseased trees and unwanted vegetation, will help to improve the environment so existing wildlife can flourish and new species can be attracted to the area. We should mention that the cut area is **not presently open to the public** and we ask that visitors stay away from that section of the property to allow for new plant growth and wildlife habitation. This is especially important during the nesting season. On the plus side, we are working on a new parking area on the east side of the Rte.11 lot, which should be completed soon. Visit the NLCC web site, or send us an email, for more details. Conservation trails are open year-round. At this time of year, some trails may still require the use of snowshoes or crampons but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy them. In fact, it's very interesting to see the trails at different times of the year. There is serenity in the quiet of the snow-covered paths, beauty in the changing vegetation of spring and fall, and enjoyment in the challenge of climbing the high trails on a warm summer day. It's always a good time to get out and enjoy nature and we hope you'll do just that. Lastly, we would like to remind everyone that the NLCC has a Trail Hiking Patch program. To receive a patch, one must hike all the trails on the trail walk list. The trail list can be downloaded from the NLCC web site. Once all the trail walks are completed, the list is submitted to the Town of New London. Patches are usually presented at the May and October meetings of the NLCC.

—Mike Gelcius

WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS!



The Conservation Commission is updating its web site with photos for each of our trails. We are looking for scenes that capture something special about the trail in each season. Please submit your contributions to **Mark Vernon at mtvernon@tds.net**. Each photo should be clearly labeled with the trail name and location.

I-89 NH Commuter Transit Service Feasibility Study

On March 29th an Open House Session was held at Lethbridge Lodge at Colby-Sawyer College to view the completed analysis of the feasibility study to evaluate a proposed transit route that would provide commuter transportation service along the



Interstate 89 corridor serving the Town of New London, Town of Grantham, Town of Enfield, Town of Hanover, and City of Lebanon. This proposed service would begin in New London with stops at the Exit 12, Exit 13 Park-and-Ride facilities in Grantham, Exit 16 in Enfield, Lebanon City Hall, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, and Dartmouth College/downtown Hanover. Pictured above is a map of the proposed route through New London which would begin at the Colby-Sawyer College circle to pick up about 83 nursing students with a destination of DHMC. After pick-up at the college the bus would continue west on Main Street and riders would flag the vehicle for a stop, then turn onto Newport Road (also flagged service) to the scheduled stop at New London Hospital and another scheduled stop at the Hannaford shopping area and then continue on to the Exit 12 Park-and-Ride. Please see the complete analysis of the study at the [UVLSRPC](http://uvlsrpc.org) website or uvlsrpc.org and use the Search Projects Tool for the keyword "transit."



The pre-Town Meeting Potluck dinner was a big success by the looks of the bountiful array of dishes brought in by diners who all remarked about the high quality and variety of food this year! Thanks goes to Janet Roberts for organizing and setting up event.



New London Selectmen

**Proclaim April
DONATE LIFE MONTH
In the Town of New London**

WHEREAS there are more than 118,000 Americans, with more than 5,000 in New England, who are currently waiting for a life-saving organ transplant; and

WHEREAS there are over one million life-enhancing tissue transplants each year that are made possible by the generous donation of corneas, bone, skin or other tissue, and;

WHEREAS we can all help to save someone's life and benefit up to 50 recipients by signing up to become an organ and tissue donor by enrolling in the New Hampshire Donor Registry when we apply for, or renew, our drivers licenses or by registering on-line at www.DonateLifeNH.org; and

WHEREAS New Hampshire is a leader in Donor Designation Rates and is dedicated to making it fast and easy to sign up to save a life through our Division of Motor Vehicles; and

WHEREAS this observance pays tribute to organ and tissue donors and their families whose decision to Donate Life enables others to receive life-saving organs and tissues for transplant,

Now; therefore; be it resolved the New London Board of Selectmen designate the month of April 2017 as "Donate Life Month" in the Town of New London, New Hampshire, and urge all the citizens of New London to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

*** ASSESSING NOTICE ***

Town Assessors Norm Bernaiche and Kris McAllister will be out visiting properties in New London that have had work requiring a building permit over the last year, and also those properties with incomplete work as of April 1, 2016. Identification is worn by both assessors. If you have any questions call Town Office at 526-4821.

Proclamation Recognizing Dan Allen for his work on the Conservation Commission

Whereas, Dan Allen has resigned from the New London Conservation Commission after serving as a member since 2005; and

Whereas, Dan Allen has served the Conservation Commission as Trail Master, organizing and managing much of the 30 miles of hiking trail maintenance and improvements; and

Whereas, Dan Allen's work at Clark Pond included the trails, bridges, performing most of the work himself, including grading the trails, building rock walls and earth moving all by hand, he was, however, known to use explosives on certain difficult projects!; and

Whereas, Dan Allen's fingerprints (or footprints!) are all over our trails, Phillips Memorial Preserve trail expansion, the Great Brook Bridge, the Dura Crockett Bridge, Sargent Brook Bridge, etc. to name a few.; and

Whereas, Dan Allen supported the trail work at SRKG Sunapee Ragged Kearsarge Greenway Coalition; and

Whereas, Dan Allen has climbed all the 4000 foot mountains in the White Mountains in summer and winter, and even in winter by the four points of the compass (bushwhacking in winter); and



Whereas, Dan Allen was an instructor for the AMC Mountain Leadership School and was a member of the "New London Striders" running club back in the 1980's, and ran road races all over; and

Whereas, Dan Allen has always been interested in Trail Safety and wrote a book called "Don't Die on the Mountain"; and

Now, therefore; be it resolved the New London Board of Selectmen wish to express their deep appreciation to Dan Allen for his dedication to conservation, and the many years of service upon, the Town of New London.

Adopted by the Town of New London Board of Selectmen this Fifteenth day of March 2017

Mark Your Calendar

- Monday, April 10, 2017 @ 6PM Board of Selectmen
- Tuesday, April 11, 2017 @ 6:30PM Planning Board
- Wednesday, April 12, 2017 @ 7:45AM Solid Waste at Dept. of Public Works
- Wednesday, April 19, 2017 @ 8:30AM Conservation Commission
- Monday, April 24, 2017 @ 6PM Board of Selectmen
- Tuesday, April 25, 2017 @ 6:30PM Planning Board
- Tuesday, May 2, 2017 @ 5PM Recreation Commission in the Whipple Conf. Room
- Wednesday, May 3, 2017 @ 7PM Energy Committee
- Saturday, May 6, 2017 @ 7:30AM Citizen's Advisory Committee
- Monday, May 8, 2017 @ 6PM Board of Selectmen
- Tuesday, May 9, 2017 @ 6:30PM Planning Board

**Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Town Offices, 2nd floor.
For a complete list of meetings go to the town website: www.nl-nh.com**



Municipal Matters
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the
Town of New
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