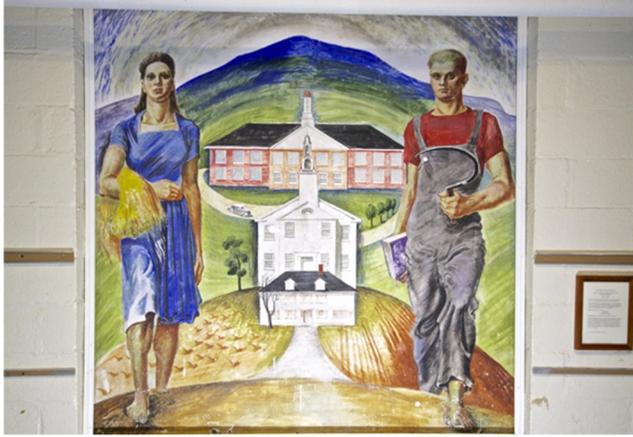




Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire

September 2017



1941 Building Mural Saved

On August 28, 2017, after weeks of preparation by Brian Dumais, the wall mural (egg tempera on plastered concrete) was safely removed from the 1941 building, in the midst of demolition, and placed at the Ice House Museum.

The history behind the picture: Francis Sumner Merritt (1913–2000) was an art instructor at Colby Jr. College in 1942 when the School Board commissioned an allegorical painting entitled "Procession of Youth," which includes stylized images of Mt. Kearsarge, the new school building, the First Baptist Church, and an unidentified house. The barefooted young man and woman, almost stepping out of the painting, were reportedly modeled on Walton Chadwick and Winnie Grant.

The mural was unveiled at the building's dedication ceremony on the night of October 12, 1942 and was located at the front entrance so it was seen daily by students, teachers and visitors. Mr. Merritt died at his home in Belfast, Maine, at the age of 87.

Best Wishes to Amy Rankins, Land Use & Assessing Coordinator



Amy has been with the Town of New London for 23 years and is leaving to assume the position of Executive Human Resources Assistant at Franklin Savings Bank. Amy will be missed by her co-workers, town officials and the many New London residents and visitors who have been cheerfully and capably assisted by her over the years. Thank you Amy!

Pictured left: The mural with a police escort; below: The mural after delivery to the Ice House Museum, plans are underway to create a permanent display.



Saving the 1941 Building Cupola



Rendering of the 1941 Building Cupola to be located off Main Street, on school grounds.
Rendering courtesy of Bonin Architects.

Efforts are underway by a group of New London citizens to preserve and display the iconic 1941 Building Cupola. The group's vision is to relocate the cupola behind Tom Brennan's Memorial Bench on the School District's Main Street property. This plan would add a nice walkway and some more plantings around the current bench as it exists and extend this walkway to the cupola adding an attractive base to support it and for visitors to sit on. Ideally, the bricks used would be repurposed from the original building with hopes that the 1941 Building cornerstone would be donated by the School Board. There would also be a plaque describing the building and its history which could be coordinated to be the first step in an effort to place more of these plaques in the Main Street area creating a small walking historical tour in town. For more information please contact Kim Bonin at kim@boninarchitects.com or Will Kidder at wkidder3@hotmail.com.



Pictured: Leo Mann standing on the cupola base. Leo is about 4 feet in height; and the cupola is about 18 feet tall.

Public Works Hard at Work Installing New Sidewalks on Parkside & Seamans Roads

The Highway Department Crew has been hard at work replacing sidewalks on Parkside Road and on Seamans Road. The sidewalks will increase safety for the children walking to school and encourage residents to stroll into town. The Parkside sidewalk extends from Main Street to the entrance to the Outing Club, making it much safer for walking from the Outing Club Indoor Center on Cougar Court to the ball fields at Woodward Park.



The Seamans Road sidewalk, which stretches from Cottage Lane to Main Street, will improve the safety of Colby-Sawyer students as well as the many people who go to the Recreation Department, Police Department and Whipple Hall.

September is Emergency Preparedness Month!



Emergency Kit: Consider making yours today!

Planning For An Unplanned Disaster

September. Cool, crisp mornings, the scent of balsam in the air, children going back to school, and the prescience of apple pies, Halloween and the most beautiful season in New England. *And the best time of the year to prepare for disastrous weather.*

Late summer through fall is the timeframe for some of the most potentially damaging weather events in our area. And these only precede the possible ice storms that frequently hit in the early part of winter.

A rough counting of the number of tropical storms that hit New England since the year 2000 has 36 storms making landfall in the area. Only 11 occurred from June through August. Well over two thirds occurred in September, October and November.

Lack of preparedness can be the result of complacency: "We're at least a hundred miles from the coast..." "We've weathered strong storms before..." "It won't happen here..." "Storms are weaker when they get up to New England..." We've heard it before.

Most of the damage in a tropical system is not caused by wind, but by storm surges, torrential rain and subsequent flooding. In basins such as the Connecticut and the Merrimack watersheds, or in hilly or mountainous areas such as our immediate vicinity, this damage can be catastrophic.

It may take weeks for waters to recede. Over 90% of the deaths in tropical storms are not from wind. They are from flooding. The memories of the havoc that Tropical Storm Irene caused in Vermont are still with us.

Just like in Vermont, a tropical storm system dropping 15 or 20 inches of rain over New Hampshire could cripple the state. Road infrastructure would be compromised. Travel would be

difficult if not impossible for days. Electrical power transmission would be disrupted for weeks. Damage to residences would be incalculable.

What can we do? Some simple actions that may prove life saving. First:

- Have a storm preparedness kit handy. Ensure self-sufficiency in terms of water, food, medicine, sanitary items, baby items (if applicable) and pet needs for at least 72 hours.
- Prepare an evacuation kit with copies of birth and marriage certificates, social security cards, a copy of the most recent tax return, passports, health insurance information, property insurance information, a copy of the deed to the home, and other important papers. Have them available in an accessible, but secure location.
- Consider flood insurance. Even if your home is not in a designated flood area, you can obtain a preferred risk policy.
- Draft a family evacuation and location plan to ensure your entire family can relocate. Pay attention to the mobility needs of elderly, children and those with special needs.
- Sign up for your local notification system. In New London NH, the Code Red notification system will provide you with emergency information tailored to your home area. Please visit <http://www.nl-nh.com> and you may sign up towards the bottom of the page. In addition, you may be able to download the smartphone app.

With proper and careful preparedness, you and your family can face unforeseen emergencies, minimize the disruption to your life caused by disasters, and enhance the prospects of recovery from these disruptions.

—Louis Botta, Emergency Management Director

New London Trails will soon be turning into a spectrum of vibrant autumn colors worth capturing. Pictured here is the boardwalk through the Philbrick-Cricenti Bog.

Here is a pond formed by a glacier that melted 10,000 years ago. Arctic plants, then living on the shore began to grow out over the water forming a floating mat. Today you can walk on a quaking mat of Arctic Tundra plants over an ancient pond. (Taken from guide provided at trail head by the New London Conservation Commission.)



Tracy Memorial Library

A new academic year is here and we welcome students to visit Tracy Memorial Library after school. Please review the following to insure the general safety of children, and to provide for the general welfare of all patrons at the Library.

- * Children ten years and older with parental permission may use the Library unattended. Children younger than ten must be in the immediate presence of an attending adult or designated caregiver (13 years of age or older).
- * Regarding behavior and conduct, children and teens are subject to the same rules and regulations in effect for adults.
- * Copies of the complete "Patron Behavior Policy" and "Unattended Children Policy" are available in the Teen Room, at the main Circulation Desk, and at the Youth Services Desk. Policies may also be found on the Library's website www.tracylibrary.org under the "Library Info" tab.
- * We would like to reiterate our commitment to serving children and teens at Tracy Memorial Library. We feature a great collection of books, audiobooks, magazines and movies, as well as inviting spaces for different age groups. And we will continue to offer special after-school programs, including the popular "Student Café" on the second Thursday of the month starting October 12th.



New audio-visual room at Tracy Library

Municipal Matters is published by the staff of the Town of New London. Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator, 526-4821 ext.13; townadmin@nl-nh.com

The Recreation Department's Summer Day Camp enjoyed their last Wednesday trip to The Flume Gorge in Franconia, NH. The 8 week camp enrolled 50 to 60 kids (ages 5 to 12) every week from 8:30am to 4pm.

Much thanks to all the sponsors and especially Unleashed, Lake Sunapee Bank and Clarke's Hardware for supplying camper shirts.

Scott Blewitt, Recreation Director



Say "hello" to Mary Hoyt, the friendly crossing guard at the intersection of Main and Pleasant. She has worked with parking enforcement in the past and really enjoys the children.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Tues., Sept. 12 — Planning Board @ 6:30 PM
- Tues., Sept. 12 — ZBA @ 6:30 PM, Whipple Hall
- Tues., Sept. 19 — Board of Selectmen @ 6 PM
- Wed., Sept. 20 — CIP Subcommittee @ 7:30AM
- Wed., Sept. 20 — Conservation Commission @ 8:30 AM
- Mon., Sept. 25 — Board of Firewards @ NLFD @4:30PM
- Tues., Sept. 26 — ZBA @ 6:30 PM, Whipple Hall
- Tues., Sept. 26 — Planning Board @ 6:30 PM
- Wed., Sept. 27 — Budget Committee @ 7 PM

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