



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week Of: September 21st 2015

Library News

The Town of Concord Committee on Disability is celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the ADA. The Committee will show the film 'Lives Worth Living' at the Fowler Branch Library, 1322 Main St. on September 30th at 6:30 p.m. Carol Steinberg, an attorney and disability rights activist and member of the Massachusetts Architectural Board will be speaking as well. All are welcome to attend.

In preparation for the official announcement of a variety of STEAM (Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts, and Math) programs and activities at the Main & Fowler Libraries, the Children's Room is decorated with many owls including our two STEAM mascots, Henry T and Weezie, nesting on a tree. The tree display is going to be used as a simple STEAM activity in observing the changing seasons. Children will trace, color, and cut out handprint leaves that will decorate the tree. They can also bring in leaves to stick on our nature collage, and they will observe the tree change for winter and spring. Fowler will have smaller versions of the owl mascots in their nest for their STEAM display.

A Teen Conversations program with professional life coach Michelle Wilson on transforming stress into success will take place on October 2nd at 4 p.m. at the Main Library for grades 9-12. Teens may register in-person, online, or by calling 978-318-3349. This is a free program and light refreshments will be provided.

Special Collections Curator Leslie Wilson has started scheduling interviewees for the next round of oral history interviews taking place in November.

Join us for a reception to welcome Nathalie Harty, Head of Reference, on Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:30-4:30 in the Trustees Room. All are welcome.

Open Table, Annual Meeting

September 29, 2015 at 7 p.m.
First Parish Church
20 Lexington Rd, Concord, MA

Special Presentations:

How Open Table Board Supports the Mission of Open Table – Amy Gordon
"Facing Hunger in America" – Betsy Comstock"

White Pond Recreational Water Advisory Has Ended

White Pond underwent weekly sampling on Monday, September 14th. An algal scum was no longer visible, although traces of the bloom are still present in some areas (notably the Thoreau Club boat launch area).

According to Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) guidelines, samples collected a week apart (with levels below the guidelines) are required before the advisory can be lifted. The September 14th result is the second low sample, so the advisory can now be rescinded.

Small remnants of the algae bloom may still be visible along some areas of the shoreline. These appear as green or blue-green streaks of floating algae. Avoid contact with any remnants of the bloom. The remnants are not dense enough to produce toxin in worrisome amounts, but people and dogs should still avoid contact with the algae.

For more information, call the Concord Board of Health at 978 318 3275.

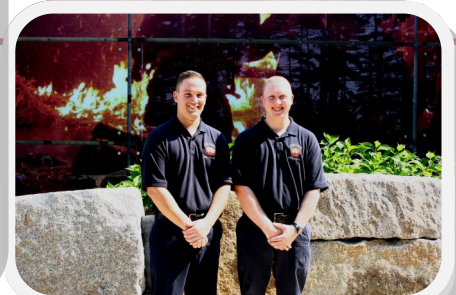
Fire

On Monday September 14th Concord Fire Dept. (CFD) responded to a reported garage fire on Brooktrail Road. On arrival fire-fighters extinguished the fire quickly saving the structure.

Last Saturday the CFD was proud to team up with Lincoln Fire crews to honor the Congressional Medal of honor recipients as they visited the Minuteman National Park (left photo)

New firefighters Taylor Soberg and Jim Foley graduated from the Massachusetts Fire Academy Recruit class (right photo).

Both performed well above the class average and, indeed, Jim Foley received the 'outstanding Recruit' award! Congratulations to you both!





HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

RECREATION • COUNCIL ON AGING • COMMUNITY SERVICES • YOUTH SERVICES • VETERANS OUTREACH

Veterans Services

Contact: 978-318-3038

The Office of Veterans' Services notified the on-duty Fire Captain at the Concord Fire Department of two "half-staff" flag notifications. The first notification was for US Army Specialist David Hazen Johnston of Lexington, MA who died on Aug 12, 2015. The second notification was to honor the individuals who lost their lives of September 11, 2001, and the Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice in the wars that followed.

The Concord Lions Club and Concord Park are organizing with the Office of Veterans' Services to provide a luncheon to Concord veterans sometime in 2016. Concord Park was interested in providing transportation for resident veterans to Sleepy Hollow Cemetery for the annual flag retirement ceremony that takes place on Veterans' Day. All information was supplied to Concord Park to make this possible.

The Veteran Service Officer (VSO) attended a meeting with area VSO's at Shawsheen Tech in Billerica. There was a lively discussion on recent changes in eligibility for Chapter 115 benefits and the State VSO certification, which involves testing relative to the certification.

The Office of Veterans' Services made available groceries from the Concord Food Pantry for qualified veterans who are without transportation.

Council on Aging

Contact: 978-318-3020

On Monday, September 28th the Council on Aging (COA) will offer a Group Paint Night. Artist Linda Malone will bring a well-known piece of art and all the supplies you'll need to recreate your personal version. There will be music, refreshments, guaranteed fun and laughter. The cost is \$25. Call to sign up as space is limited.

The COA is starting two new groups next month: 'Scrabble' and 'Handcraft'. Please call to sign up and join the fun!

The COA is pleased to have several computer tutors available to assist you, by appointment, in the COA computer lab. Please call if you need assistance, and we can arrange for someone to help.

The COA will again be participating in the Walk to End Alzheimer's. This year's event will take place on Sunday, October 4th. If you would like more information about how to join the walk or donate to the cause, please contact COA Board Member Margaret Hoag for more information at: margaret.hoag@gmail.com or 978-369-5970.

Save the Date: The annual COA Flu Vaccine Clinic for Seniors will be held on Thursday, October 15th from 10am to Noon at Harvey Wheeler Community Center.

Community Services

Aileen Buford, MSW- 978.318.3034

The Community Services Coordinator received **20 phone calls, 55 emails and had 8 office visits** all related to assistance requests. The requests focused on housing issues, utility bill payment assistance, domestic violence issues, disability application process, low cost legal assistance, holiday assistance, fuel assistance renewal process and transportation issues.

Beacon Santa applications have arrived. Any Concord resident who has children under the age of 18 and qualifies for low income financial assistance programs, please contact Aileen Buford, MSW for program details as well as an application. The deadline is OCTOBER 30th, 2015. The application requires a signature from a town official/professional who can attest to the legitimacy of the need, as well as a letter written by the applicant expressing the reason for the need. Contact Aileen Buford for more information.

Events

-Carlisle Community Conversation – at the Gleason Public Library, Carlisle, MA October 13, 2015 at 7:00pm– Optimize Your Brain Functioning with Neurofeedback. Call Gleason Public Library to register at 978-369-4898

-Buried in Treasures Anti-Clutter Group – Meets Tuesdays, 4:30pm-6:00pm begins October 20th, runs approximately 15 weeks. Call 781-275-7727 or 781-275-6825 if interested in participating or have questions.

-Domestic Violence Services Network, Inc. – Candlelight Vigil Wednesday, October 21, 2015 – Monument Hall in Concord, MA at 6:30pm. To honor the lives lost in Massachusetts to domestic violence in the past year. To RSVP please call 978.318.3421



Department of Planning & Land Management

BUILDING INSPECTION • PLANNING • NATURAL RESOURCES • BOARD OF HEALTH • ZONING

Natural Resources

Natural Resources Commission Meeting of September 16th: The NRC heard the following matters: continued Notices of Intent (NOI) for the Concord Country Club to relocate the entrance driveway and cart path and expand the 8th and 9th green and tee box; an NOI for Middlesex School to install a new cell tower and associated utilities; an NOI to construct a new single family house at 211 Park Lane; and a new NOI for 2112 Main Street to construct a new garage. An Order of Conditions was issued for 21 Park Lane. The next NRC meeting will be held on October 7th.

SuAsCo Watershed Water Chestnut Management Project: Natural Resources Director Delia Kaye attended the kickoff meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee, along with representatives from Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC), the Town of Lincoln, Aquatic Control Technologies (ACT), and other organizations. The project, which is funded by damages awarded through the Nyanza Superfund Settlement, is designed to develop a watershed-wide, coordinated approach to controlling water chestnut. A management plan will be developed over the next year to address water chestnut life cycle, best management practices for control and disposal, permitting guidance, and recommendations for funding water chestnut control projects.

Planning Division

Zoning Bylaw Amendments to be Discussed 9/29: The Planning Board has scheduled a working session for September 29th to discuss potential Zoning Bylaw amendments for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting. The current list includes: amending the Agricultural Exemptions to be consistent with State law, updating the Floodplain Conservancy District to be consistent with the recent Letter of Map Revision issued by FEMA for the Mill Brook, and amending Site Plan Review for Religious Uses, Educational Uses and Child Care Facilities to include an evaluation of the adequacy of stormwater management, methods of disposal of refuse and/or fire protection. The Board will further discuss a report prepared this summer by the Planning Intern on various options for addressing mansionization and whether there are specific options on which they wish to move forward. Also on the agenda is discussion of the formation of a subcommittee to look into the development of a Zoning or General Bylaw regulating the amount of tree clearing as part of the construction of a single family dwelling.

Historic Districts Commission (HDC) Meeting-9/17: The HDC reviewed five applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. The Commission approved construction of a new house, retaining walls, and paving at 20A Wood St.; new signage, paint colors, and relocation of the mailbox at 37 Lexington Road; and the installation of new garage doors and trim at 150 Barretts Mill Rd. The HDC also reviewed an application to construct a new market at the Millbrook Tarry, 91 Lowell Rd., and to amend the design for the house at 427 Lowell Rd; both discussions were continued to Oct. 1st to allow for additional time to submit revised materials.

Community Preservation Commission Informational Workshop-9/15: This workshop was an opportunity for potential new applicants to learn more about the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding process and for the Community Preservation Commission (CPC) to get a sense of new applications that might be submitted. Members had an opportunity to discuss these projects with Applicants and explained that the CPC expects to have approx. \$1.7 million available for distribution at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting. The CPC also reviewed a list of potential Town projects currently under consideration.

Affordable Housing Survey Now Online: As part of the work to prepare the Town's 2015 Housing Production Plan, project consultants have released an online survey to gather public input on existing community needs and potential future housing goals. The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/92PBDR2> and can also be found on the Planning Division's webpage at http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_Planning/index. All Concord residents, as well as anyone who works in Concord, are encouraged to take the survey. The survey will remain open through Wednesday, October 14.

Health Division

Septic System Permitting: 1 septic system plan review and 1 septic permit issued; 1 Deep test hole and 10 septic field inspections; 5 sewer reviews and 1 septic review completed.

Emergency Shelter Public Awareness Event 9/29 from 1-3 p.m.: An open house will be held at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center to learn more about preparing for emergencies.

Building Inspections Division

320 Baker Avenue: A full permit was issued for the Marriott Hotel - 128 room extended stay hotel. \$4.8 million total construction cost.

Legal Dispute, 54 Staffordshire Lane: perceived structural issue in the building. Inspections staff have now met on the site with 3 different structural engineers and two attorneys to try and seek some closure on this issue.