



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

MAY 12, 2015



IMPORTANT NEWS

As prom and graduation season approaches, Concord Carlisle Youth Services, Concord Police Department, and Carlisle Police Department are reaching out to parents, students and the community that surrounds them to offer practical tips, ideas and activities that will help keep teens safe during prom season and beyond.

Learn more at: http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_BComm/prom

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES DISVISION

The Concord Community Services Coordinator received 50 emails, 16 phone calls and had 5 home/office related to assistance requests. The requests related to assistance with SMOC, SNAP, paying utility bills, finding housing, assistance with summer camp scholarship requests, and homelessness.

The Concord CSC collaborated with Hugh Cargill Trust, Concord Housing Authority, Concord Carlisle Community Chest, St. Vincent De Paul Society, Emerson Hospital, Minuteman Protective Services, Concord Town Manager's office, Concord Public Library and the Concord COA to provide assistance in response to the requests made.

Any Concord resident under the age of 60 who is interested in applying for SNAP (food stamps) or would like more information about the program, please contact Aileen Buford, MSW at 978.318.3034 or abuford@concordma.gov

Individuals and families who are looking for food assistance, **OPEN TABLE offers community suppers and food pantry services** on Thursdays in Concord and on Mondays in Maynard. No application is required. Concord: 978.369.2275 Maynard: 978.823.0082

For more information about local food pantries and community suppers please click on this link to the **Concord Social Services Resource Guide** and find the FOOD section http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_WebDocs/CONCORD%20Social%20Services%20Resource%20Guide%20FINAL%202015REVjan22.pdf.

The **Concord Social Services Resource Guide** is available online or can be printed. Find resources for Energy Assistance, Financial Assistance, Food, Health, Housing & Lodging, Legal Services, Transportation and much more.



CONCORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

On Monday May 18th Engine 4 responded to Devens for a major fire in a large recycling plant (see attached photo). E4 replaced fire crews who had been fighting this fire for 24 hours. We were on scene for 12

hours overnight. Logistics during a longer term response like this include providing for meals for the firefighters on scene. The second photo shows Concord firefighter Dave Nichols taking his turn at the grill!

This past weekend CFD responded to several brush and mulch fires in the areas of Nathan Pratt Drive, Rte 2 west of the rotary and behind Oak Hill Circle. A reminder to all that the woods and mulched areas are very dry. Please be careful when discarding smoking materials etc.

NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Natural Resources Commission May 20th meeting: The NRC heard the following matters: the continued Notice of Intent (NOI) for 1767 Lowell Road for construction of a new single family house; the continued NOI for a pond management program at Musketaquid Sportsmen's Club; and, an Amendment to an Order of Conditions for 163 Lindsay Pond Road to conduct invasive species management of the island in Lindsay Pond. An Order of Conditions was issued for Concord Academy to renovate the science building. CC@ Play also discussed plan changes and drainage issues at the CCHS athletic fields. In addition, the Commission voted to endorse the Board of Selectmen's rules governing White Pond for this summer including banning swimming from Town land, closing some trails, and requiring all dogs to be leashed. These efforts are being imposed to address significant erosion occurring on the steep slopes around White Pond.

Invasive Species Pull at Punkatasset: Volunteers from the Concord-Carlisle High School assisted members of the Trails Committee and DNR staff to remove invasive species from Punkatasset Conservation Land.



PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Marcia Rasmussen, Director of Land Management: mrasmus-

PLANNING DIVISION

Historic Districts Commission May 21st meeting: The HDC reviewed two continued and five new applications for changes in the Historic Districts. The Commission issued Certificates of Appropriateness for new signage at 26 Walden Street (Salone Arte) and 200 Lexington Road (Concord Museum); a new a/c condenser and lighting at 59 Elm Street; new gutters and roofing at 10 Wood Street; new signage and snow guards at 54 Walden Street (Trinitarian Church); and, a new porch roof at 35 Lowell Road. The Commission also reviewed a new addition and window changes at 25 Lowell Road, which was continued to the next meeting to allow submittal of additional information. The Commission then reviewed proposed photos for their revised Design Guidelines and administrative questions.

Regional Housing Services Office (RHSO) Website: The RHSO announced the launch of its new website at www.rhsohousing.org. The new website provides the most up to date information on new affordable housing opportunities, existing affordable housing programs and sites, and local programs and initiatives to assist residents with utility and housing costs. Concord is one of the seven member communities in the RHSO. Moving forward, this website will be the go-to location for all new housing opportunities and application materials for Concord affordable housing projects. The Planning Division encourages all interested employees and residents to check out the site and the resources it provides.

Placemaking Workshop: Director Marcia Rasmussen attended a workshop in Lowell titled ‘Placemaking! Jump-starting dynamic public places through community engagement’ which was sponsored by DHCD/MA Downtown Initiative and MassDevelopment. The workshop focus was on improving public space and engaging the community in using that space; building a better relationship with the places where we live, work and play. Ideas presented may be useful in implementing projects for the Concord Center Cultural District, testing design ideas in the Village centers, and programming public space at Brookside Square

BUILDING INSPECTIONS DIVISION

Old High School Demolition status:

- ⇒ Cafeteria & Gymnasiums: Abatement Complete
- ⇒ H Building: Abatement On-going
- ⇒ A Building: Abatement On-going
- ⇒ I, S, L buildings: prep for abatement 5/25 – 5/29

At this point all tenant furnishings have been removed from the building, the gas is shut off at the meters. Electric, water and sprinkler are still active. All utilities to the building will be cut on the week of June 8th and interior demolition will begin. Structural Demolition is set to begin on June 29th.

Concord Country Club: The Concord Country Club is proposing to build a new paddle tennis court on their site at 264 Old Road to Nine Acre Corner (ORNAC). This work includes demolition of the existing house at 234 ORNAC, a new bathroom/changing facility and the re-routing of access to and from the country club site. This work will need to be reviewed by the NRC, the Planning Board and the Board of Appeals.

HEALTH DIVISION

Routine Health Division Activities—Staff provided the following services:

Septic system permitting: 2 Building Reviews to determine adequacy of septic system for residential expansion; 2 sewer reviews to determine if projects will create additional wastewater flow to municipal sewer; 3 septic system deep test holes witnessed; 4 septic permits issued; 8 septic field inspections.

Food service: 3 pre-operational inspections of food service operations under construction; 2 snack bar pre-opening inspections; 2 routine inspections of country club full food service operations; 1 regular food inspection; 3 re-inspections of food service operations. 2 consultations with a food service facility undergoing significant renovation. 1 catering permit issued. Response to a fire/smoke event at Dunkin Donuts (Rt. 2 at the Exxon Station/Convenience Store) with 2 follow up inspections prior to re-opening facility.

Other: 16 swimming pools inspected and opened prior to Holiday weekend; 5 pools required re-inspection. 3 beaches inspected for required signage and water quality prior to opening for summer season. 1 animal permit issued with site inspection. Reviewed paperwork for 4 new Recreational Camp applications. Inspected 5 tobacco retailers who sold tobacco to youth under age 21 during a compliance check in early May and issued non-criminal citations to the retailers for these violations.

Board of Health May 19th meeting: The BOH discussed and finalized its recommendation to the Planning Board on the Black Horse Place Preliminary Subdivision Plan; opened a discussion of artificial turf playing fields which was continued pending submittal of information by CC@Play; and, considered certain violations of the 1999 Food Code as amended by Chapter 10 of the State Sanitary code at Concord Provisions, 73 Thoreau St., relative to food preparation, cooking and/or repackaging food.



HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

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

YOUTH SERVICES



Recently Ms. Jacqueline Aspler, CHNA15 Steering Committee Member and Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Services Network presented the *Janice S. Hanson Award for Outstanding Healthy Communities Initiatives* to Susan Rask, Concord's Director of Concord Health Department. The award was established in 2014 in honor of Jan Hanson's 12 years of service and dedication as the Coordinator of CHNA 15. This award is given to a CHNA Grantee who has demonstrated a commitment to healthy community principles and has brought forward, through his or her work, opportunities for furthering the goals of the CHNA and the Community Health goals of DPH. The 2015 award of \$1,000 was given to Susan Rask at the CHNA 15 Annual Meeting on May 14, 2015. This award will be used to continue the work she and her staff and community partners completed through their CHNA 15 Healthy Communities Planning and Implementation Grants. Their project, entitled Healthy Concord, delivered two multi-faceted healthy community initiatives: a stress reduction/mindfulness initiative, and a share the road initiative to improve safety for bicyclists and drivers.

VETERAN'S SERVICES

The office of veterans' services received a call from the family of a WWII veteran that recently passed away requesting information on a veterans' organization to make donations to in the name of the WWII veteran. In most cases the office suggest making donations locally; however, in this case the family was going to reach a larger population, the suggestion was to donate to the Veterans' Upward Bound Program at UMass Boston. This is an education program that assists veterans getting a better education to improve their lives.

The office received information from Department of Veteran's Service in Boston for a half-flag notification for all municipal buildings as Memorial Day approaches--- this information was passed onto the Fire Department in Concord and the State' Fire Academy in Sudbury.

Each year, the Alcott School puts on a special musical event where the students sing patriotic songs in honor of Flag Day - June 14. The event will take place on Friday, June 12th at 9AM at the School. The music teacher reports that this is the 20th Anniversary of this event and requested that the office of Veterans' Services the presence of members of all branches of service to attend the event.

CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Seasonal Hours: Effective this weekend the Concord Free Public Library is now closed on Sundays. Sunday service will resume on October 18th. CFPL will open for CCHS students only from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 21st in support of preparation for final exams.

Minuteman Library Network (MLN) Updates: At the 5/20 MLN Membership Meeting the library directors voted to retire the classic catalog effective, September 1st. At that time the Encore catalog will be the default format, which integrates articles, streaming video and downloadable eBooks into all catalog search results. In addition, effective July 1st the fine threshold will increase from \$5 to \$10, the number of available holds a person can have at any one time will increase from 30 to 50 items, and the expiration date for patron self-registration eCards will increase from 30 days to 6 months.

Korean Family Month and Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month Events: Approximately 200 people attended and enjoyed the concert of contemporary and traditional Korean music on 5/16 at the Umbrella Center for the Arts. The fan dance and costumes of the Children's Traditional Dance Group of Quincy were equally engaging. A delicious reception topped off this delightful cultural event. In case you missed it the fan dance can be enjoyed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LoZuW48_Gj0&feature=youtu.be A special thank you to Sang Park, Technical Services Assistant, and Karen Ahearn, Supervisor of Children's Services who brought this wonderful program and month-long celebration to the Concord community.

Special Collections Gift: Earlier this week CFPL's Special Collections Department was pleased to accept Susan Abele's donation of the sketchbooks of Ada Shepard. Ms. Shepard was a governess to the Hawthorne children who traveled with the family to Europe.

Flower Fables Anniversary Celebration: Accompanying events for the *Flower Fables* exhibit in the Concord Free Public Library's front lobby include: *Drop in Storytime* on Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 4:00 p.m. at the Fowler Branch and Friday, May 29, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Main Library. *A Visit from Louisa May Alcott of Concord's Orchard House* will be on Saturday, May 30, 2015, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library's Children's Room. These events are open to all.

