



Laconia Links

May 11, 2012 - Edition #31

LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



Leavitt Park

The Laconia Parks & Recreation Department now has software set up on the City's website to show everyone what actually happens on our fields and in our parks! We think you will be surprised to learn how much they are utilized. Just click [here](#) to take a look (then click on the green "Facilities" tab), and keep in mind the schedule shows only those programs and events that come to the Parks & Recreation Commission with Facility Use Requests. More information will be added for the fall programs! Remember, the schedule does not include those who just go to the park for the day to play or have a family picnic. Did you ever imagine Laconia's fields and parks were so well used?

Click [here](#) for
Parks & Rec. website

Welcome to Laconia Links a weekly e-mail newsletter update devoted to keeping you informed of City of Laconia department news, City projects, useful links, activities and events!

Look for a new edition of the newsletter each Friday. If you have already signed up to be on our distribution list to receive your newsletter by e-mail, thank you for your interest! If you would like to be added to our e-mail list (or to unsubscribe), please click [here](#).

As always, we welcome your ideas and comments as to what you would like to see included in future issues. Just give us a call in the City Manager's office at 527-1270, or contact us by e-mail at info@city.laconia.nh.us

*We look forward to
keeping you up to date
on our beautiful City!*



Springtime in Downtown Laconia

Photo courtesy of River Crew Art

Have you ever wondered how busy
your athletic fields and parks are?



National Armed Forces Day is May 19th!

Please join us in honoring
Americans in uniform who
serve their country in times
of war and peace.



U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte Office Hours in Laconia!

DATE: **May 16, 2012**

(Third Wednesday of each month)

TIME: 11:00 am—1:00 pm

LOCATION: City Hall, Room 200B
45 Beacon Street East, Laconia, NH

Please call the City Manager's Office at
527-1270 or e-mail info@city.laconia.nh.us

CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPT.

Decks, Sheds and Pools

The Code Department is getting ready for Permit Applications for spring construction of Decks, Sheds and Pools! This is considered a Minor Building Permit and the [Application Form](#) is available online. Following are some helpful hints as you plan to submit your application for a shed:



SHEDS:

- Exempt from a Building Permit if they are under 150 sq ft
- Note setbacks to property lines. (Sheds are allowed to be located within 10 ft of a rear property line if they are under 12 ft tall.)
- If you live in an association, please submit a letter of approval from your homeowners'/condominium association.
- Green space calculations shall be provided if your property is nearing the maximum lot coverage.

Check next week's issue for info on pools..



LACONIA'S SPRING CLEAN-UP DAYS MAY 12, 2012 8 AM to NOON

Please click [here](#) for additional info, or call
Ann @ 528-6379



Click [here](#) for more info

Lakes Region Rotary
LACONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2nd Annual Community Yard Sale

Clean out your attic for a great cause!

Saturday May 19th, 2012, 7 am to 2 pm

At Laconia Public Works Warehouse on Bisson Avenue, Laconia

Lakes Region Rotary will be accepting donations Saturday May 5 to
Saturday May 12, 2012. Call (603) 556-8184 for drop off times.

Upcoming Meetings...

Keeping the public updated and aware of what's going on in our community and receiving residents' feedback is an important goal of the City Council.

Check each week's issue of *Laconia Links* for a schedule of the upcoming week's meetings. As agendas become available, they will be posted to the City's website. You can also contact any of the City's departments for more information on a meeting or to obtain a printed copy of the agenda.

Meetings are open to the public....you are invited and encouraged to attend and provide input.

Follow this [link](#) to the "Calendar" page of the City of Laconia's website. Click on a specific meeting for more information. Please check the "Calendar" page often for updated info and changes.

*Become involved in
your City
and make a difference!*

Meeting
in
Progress

City Council Budget Hearing

May 14, 2012, 6:00 pm
City Hall, Room 200A

City Council - Regular Mtg.

May 14, 2012, 7:00 pm
City Hall, Room 200A
(Check website for agenda
when available)

Senator Ayotte's Office Hrs.

May 16, 2012, 11 am -1 pm
City Hall, Room 200B

Water Commissioners' Mtg.

May 17, 2012, 8:00 am
Water Treatment Facility
Conference Room
117 Stark Street



Laconia Police Department

[Link to Laconia
Police Dept
Here](#)

SPEEDING

Speeding in residential areas causes harm to others.

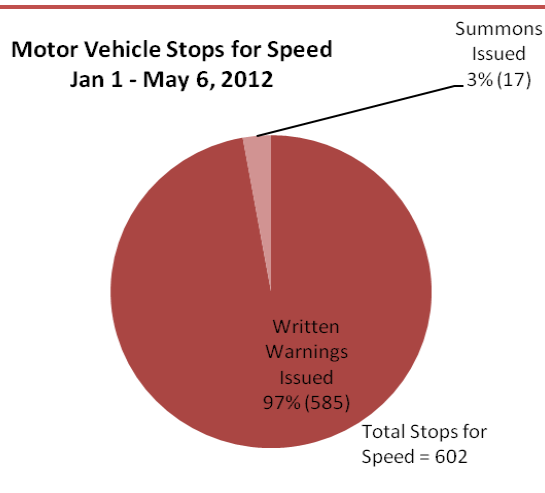
- It makes citizens fear for children's safety.
- It makes pedestrians and bicyclists fear for their safety.
- It increases the risk of vehicle crashes.
- It increases the seriousness of injuries to a speeder's own passenger(s) and to other drivers and passenger(s), pedestrians and bicyclists a vehicle strikes.

Speeding increases the risks of crashes and injuries.

- The driver is more likely to lose control of the vehicle.
- The vehicle safety equipment is less effective at higher speeds.
- The distance it takes to stop the vehicle is greater.
- The vehicle travels farther during the time it takes the driver to react to a hazard.
- Crashes are more severe at higher speeds.

Many drivers admit to speeding in residential areas. Their reasons for speeding include running late and wanting to make up for lost time, being unaware of the speed limit and trying to keep up with other traffic.

The Laconia Police Department makes a concerted effort to address the speeding motorist problem that comprises the quality of life in our neighborhoods. The Police Department conducts dedicated patrols throughout all hours of the day and night to help in our fight with speeding motorists.



The Laconia Police Department utilizes a radar board which shows the speed of passing vehicles and a Stat Pack which records the speed of all vehicles traveling in both directions in our effort to reduce speeding.

The Laconia Police Department asks for the assistance of everyone by reducing their speed and not hesitating in contacting us if needed.

Please contact Sgt. Gary Hubbard of the Laconia Police Department with speeding concerns if needed in your neighborhood. gghubbard@laconiapd.org

Please Drive Safe.



Our sincere thanks goes out to the volunteers from "River Crew Art" for covering up the graffiti and painting the back of the old police station property on Church Street. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Update: Lilies For The Lakes Region



"Lilies for the Lakes Region", sponsored by the Laconia Rotary Club, is an effort to plant 10,000 day-lilies in the next 3 years, all over the Lakes Region. A "Call for Volunteers" for this local landscape enhancement effort turned out beautifully, as did the plantings. The first volunteer planting day was Saturday May 5th, where over 30 people gathered at Laconia's Rotary Park bandstand. Volunteers were asked to bring a smile and a shovel and were provided planting instructions, a bag of day lilies and a nearby planting location. The Opechee Garden Club, the Laconia 4-H Club, the Lakes Region Boys & Girls Club and a number of individual volunteers lent a hand.



Boys & Girls Club kids at the Eight Gables Mall on Union Ave. with Don Clark, Gilford Rotary Club Treasurer and lily-planting volunteer.

Local Business owners like John Moriarity, Laconia Rotarian and owner of Eight Gables Mall on Union Avenue (Domino's & Subway restaurants), bought some of the daylilies to enhance the publically viewed parts of their properties, funding the next batch of plant purchases. Moriarity was assisted by a busload of Boys & Girls Club kids and members of the Gilford Rotary. The 1st batch of about 1,000 lilies, previously dug, split & packaged by volunteers, are now in the ground. More are on the way, the next volunteer planting date will be announced. Stay tuned for more information!

City Manager Updates

Two new updates have been posted to the City's website to keep you up-to-date and informed on what's happening in your City!

First, check out the newest version of [Project Updates](#) providing a concise update of projects in the community.

Next, take a look at the updated [Financial & Operational Trends](#) report. In this document you'll find financial information for the current year compared to prior years in several departments, such as fire and rescue call data, revenue from motor vehicle registrations and property taxes, winter storm costs, police incidents, overtime costs and much more!

Contact the City Mgr's office at 527-1270, or info@city.laconia.nh.us



We hope you find these documents helpful and informative!

Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....



Teen Scene

Monday, May 14
and 21 at 3:30 p.m.

Teens in grades 6-12 meet in Laconia Rotary Hall to play this popular card game. All levels of experience are welcome!

LEGO ® Club

Friday, May 18th @ 3:30 pm
in Laconia Rotary Hall. Kids ages 5-12 are invited to come to the LEGO Club!



We'll supply the LEGOs, you supply the fun and imagination!

Access the Library's Website [here!](#)

Updates from the Planning Office...



So what is a Brownfield? The Laconia Planning Department has used this term quite a bit over the last few years, in grant applications and in relation to the former Lakes Region facility property. According to the EPA the term "brownfield site" means real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

In 2011 the Planning Department completed several assessments under an EPA Assessment grant that the Lakes Region Planning Commission received. In April of 2012 the Planning Department received an EPA Targeted Brownfields Grant for further assessment of the structures on the former Lakes Region Facility property. This \$40,000 grant, fairly small in size, will be used to assess environmental hazards such as lead paint, asbestos and PCBs. As part of the grant, the consultant will put together a plan for cleanup, including a cost estimate. This will be valuable information for potential developers of the site or to be used to apply for cleanup funds.

By participating in the EPA program for assessment, properties have a high likelihood of qualifying for a cleanup grant from the EPA. If you are interested in participating in a City-wide Brownfields Committee to help identify future sites for funding, please contact the Planning Director, Shanna B. Saunders at SaundersS@city.laconia.nh.us.

Click [here](#) for Planning Dept's website!

Laconia Historical & Museum Society

Introduction to Gravestones

By Laurel K. Gabel

*Monday, May 21 – 7 pm
at The Laconia Public Library*



New England's burying grounds are often called outdoor museums. This 50 minute slide presentation will introduce you to the symbolism and special language of gravestones and to attitudes about death and memorialization that these historic artifacts reflect. Laurel Gabel is a scholar in the field of cemetery and gravestone studies, a lecturer and author of numerous essays and articles. Admission is free and open to the public – Refreshments will be served - Donations are gratefully accepted.

For more info, please call the Laconia Historical & Museum Society at (603) 527-1278, email us at lhmslpl@metrocast.net or visit us online at www.laconiahistorical.org

Assessing

*Important
DATE!*

Now is the time to file for NH State Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief! Form DP-8 must be filed no later than June 30, 2012. The State no longer mails the forms to property taxpayers who have filed in prior years.

You are eligible to file for this tax relief if:

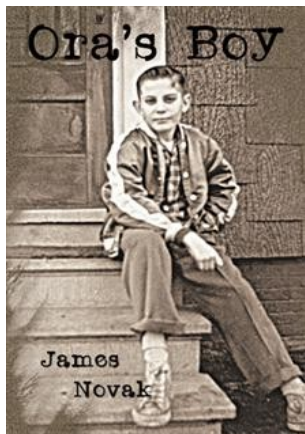
- You own a homestead subject to the state education property tax;
- You have resided in such homestead on April 1 of the year for which the claim for relief is made;
- You have a total adjusted gross household income of \$20,000 or less if a single person, or \$40,000 or less if married or head of a NH household.

Be sure to attach a copy of your final 2011 property tax bill and your 2011 federal tax return for each claimant and all adult members of the claimant's household for the corresponding period.

DP-8 forms can be obtained online by clicking [here](#) or by calling 603-230-5000. Completed forms are sent to: NH Dept of Revenue Administration, Document Processing Division, PO Box 299, Concord, NH 03302-0299.

Click [here](#) for Assessing Dept.

Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....



**Thursday, May 17th
6:00pm
in Laconia Rotary Hall**

James Novak is the author of "Ora's Boy", a true story of a Laconia boy's struggles to survive growing up with the prejudices of a small New England mill town in the 1940s and 50s.

Abandonment by his father and rejection by his mother were only the beginning of his struggles. Born in a highly conservative French Canadian Catholic community, he had to overcome bigotry to gain acceptance and approval from the very community in which his mother is ostracized and scorned for violating the tenets of her church.

The book also rekindles memories of historical events and changes that happened during that era, such as WW II, the Korean War, the Civil Rights movement and the advent of Rock N' Roll. A truly remarkable, heart-warming, inspirational story. Copies of the book will be available for sale.

*We hope you have enjoyed this
Edition of Laconia Links*

*We welcome your input, comments
and suggestions!*

Feel free to contact us at the
City Manager's office, 527-1270,
or by e-mail at info@city.laconia.nh.us

Have a great weekend!



Scott Myers, City Manager
City of Laconia
City's Website: www.city.laconia.nh.us

You are invited to join us in
dedication of the
Parents of Murdered
Children Homicide
Memorial Garden

**MAY 17, 2012
11:00 am
Stewart Park
Laconia, New Hampshire**

Located on the Northeast Corner
of Main Street and Union Ave
parking garage on
Beacon Street East



In memory of those whose lives
have been taken by violence.
For additional details please call Tanya
at the Attorney General's Office
(603) 271-3658

Work Out Laconia!

"Developing the potential for success with every student,
every day, in every way" -Laconia SAV

Date: June 6, 2012
(Rain Date: June 7, 2012)

Time: 9:00am—9:30am

**Location:
Opechee Park,
Smith Track Oval**

**Activities:
Yoga, Zumba, Kick-Boxing
Hoola Hooping, & Walking
all to energizing music!**

Who Should Attend?

Anyone who cares about the
health of our Community, Children and
Schools. Come join the fun!
THE MUSKRATS ARE COMING!



PRIZES

For More Information:
www2.laconiaschools.org

**T-shirts provided to all
participants**

EVENT SUPPORTED BY:

Laconia Schools
Laconia Park & Recreation
Laconia Athletic & Swim Club
All My Life Jewelers

