



Laconia Links

December 14, 2018 - Edition #366



See more photos of this year's Christmas Village on [page six](#)....

WOW Trail Holiday Brick Offering

This holiday season the WOW Trail is offering a special certificate to honor a loved one with an engraved brick out on the WOW Trail. As the work continues to develop the best way forward to complete this regional effort connecting Weirs Beach to Franklin, many people have asked how they can help.

Bricks are \$100 and can be purchased on the WOW Trail website at www.wowtrail.org.

Upon purchase, we'll give you a colorful certificate that you can box and wrap in time for the holidays. Your special loved one will appreciate opening this little package, knowing your thoughtful gift is supporting the efforts of the WOW Trail.

In the Spring, honorees will be invited to an Installation Celebration at the Lakeport end of the trail, where a beautiful garden park overlooking Lake Opechee exists and where the engraved bricks will be placed.

The WOW Trail Board would like to thank all the individuals, businesses and organizations that have and continue to support the efforts to have a world-class rail-trail built here in the Lakes Region, connecting our neighborhoods and communities.

Welcome to *Laconia Links* a weekly email 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@laconianh.gov

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



The WOW Trail promotes health, wellness, quality of life and economic development in the Lakes Region.

For more information, visit www.wowtrail.org



**Adult Craft:
Glitter Houses
Tuesday, Dec. 18,
2 pm or 6 pm
Laconia Rotary Hall**

Back by popular demand!
Paint a sparkly holiday
house decoration.

Upcoming

EVENTS



TEEN GAME: GIANT JENGA

Thursday, December 20
3pm

Laconia Rotary Hall
Prize to the winner!

FAMILY CRAFT: CANDY CANES

Friday,
December 21
4pm

Selig Storytime Room



Make cute candy canes to hang!



Jars of Joy

Monday, Dec. 17, 3:30 pm
Selig Storytime Room
Make a tasty holiday gift to
give or take home to bake
and eat! For families
with children.

LACONIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM SOCIETY

Exhibit Open House
Thursday, Dec. 20, 6 pm
Upper Exhibit Gallery

Official open house (with
cookies!) of the winter
exhibit, Gunstock and the
Laconia ski industry.



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.

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

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

Meetings

All meetings are held in the Armand A. Bolduc City Council Chamber in City Hall (formerly Room 200A) unless otherwise noted

Zoning Board of Adjustment

December 17, 2018, 7 pm
[Agenda](#)

Parks & Rec. Commission

December 17, 2018, 7 pm
Community Center

Human Relations Comm.

Dec. 18, 2018, 3 pm, Rm. 200B

Master Plan Steering Comm.

December 18, 2018, 6:30 pm

Police Commission

December 19, 2018, 3:00 pm

Conservation Commission

December 19, 2018, 6:00 pm
[Agenda](#)

Water Commission

Dec. 20, 2018, 8:00 am, 117
Stark St., Water Treatment
Facility Conference Room
[Agenda](#)

Board of Assessors

Dec. 18, 2018, 5:30 pm, Rm. 200B

Laconia Pride

Laconia School District

Ensuring success with every student, every day, in every way

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2018



During this season, we take time to reflect upon the good things we have... like our community. We appreciate working with you and hope that the holidays and the coming year will bring you happiness and success.

On Friday, December 7th, Key Club and Interact Club Members were "Elves" for the Journey to the North Pole event in Lincoln, NH. This has been a tradition for LHS students for 10 Years.



Pictured: L-R starting with the back row:

Destiny Jones, Aidan Eldridge, Lydia Tucker, Hannah Lowell, Angela Robinson, Eric Phelps and Patrick O'Reilly
front: Nicole Turpin and Gabrijela Djuric.



SAU support staff celebrate the season with ugly holiday sweaters on Thursday, December 13th.

Pictured L-R: (Back) Janet Brough, Louann Breen
(Front) Verna Peck, Regina Theberge, Tami Horan, Kim Lacasse and Kaitlyn Salome.

January 17th, 5-7 pm



Laconia Public Library



A Holiday Decorating Competition!



Vote for your favorite holiday decorated home and business today!

Residential Winner: \$250 prize
Runner-Up: \$100 prize



Business Winner: 50 radio commercial spots on WEMJ & holiday plaque



Crown the Community Choice Award this holiday season!

All members of the community can vote for their favorite home and business decorations. Voting is open until 12/14; one vote per person; only decorations visible from the street are eligible.

Home Vote: bit.ly/2018LaconiaHome
Business Vote: bit.ly/2018LaconiaBiz

Thank you to our Sponsors:

Bank of New Hampshire | Belknap Landscape Co. | Faro Italian Grille | Kennell Orthodontics | Laconia Daily Sun | Lakes Region Community Services | MI-BOX | Misiaszek Turpin | Normandin, Cheney & O'Neil, PLLC | **Questions: connect@celebratelaconia.org**



First United Methodist Church
Rte. 11A Gilford

FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER DECEMBER 25TH

Ham dinner & all the extras! Potatoes – Candied Carrots – Rolls
Green Bean Casserole – Homemade Desserts

MUSIC & APPETIZERS AT NOON – DINNER AT 1:00 PM

*Reservations Are Required
Call 524-3289 by Dec. 20th*

Please leave your name & number of people in your party
and we will see you on the 25th!

VOLUNTEERS needed for preparation on the 24th and clean-up on the 25th.
Please call 455-9455 and leave your name and phone number.

(Volunteers must call in advance for planning purposes.)

Open House
Freedom Firs
Christmas Tree
Lot to Benefit
Belknap House

December 15, 1-4
pm
73 Daniel Webster
Highway
Belmont NH
Across from Belknap
Mall and Aaron's

Come pick out a
freshly cut tree
from a NH tree
farmer. Hot cider
and cookies
available. Santa will
be hanging around
to greet the
children and those
young at heart.



Photo by Rick Green, Laconia Daily Sun

2018 Debra Bieniarz Memorial Award

Thirty-one years ago the Laconia City Council established the Debra Bieniarz Memorial Award for outstanding service to children and youth in the Lakes Region in memory of police officer Debra Bieniarz.

Each year a committee comprised of one City Councilor, one member of the Police Department and one member of the School Board selects an individual to be recognized for this award based on nominations from members of the community. The award honors a member of the community who has enlivened and enriched the lives of young people.

This year two winners were chosen by the Debra Bieniarz Committee. Shown above are Liz Rosenfeld and Bob Dassatti with Mayor Edward Engler (center) at a recent City Council meeting where they were presented with the award. We are very lucky to have Liz and Bob in our community! Please click [here](#) to read the presentations in their entirety.

PROPERTY TAX BILLS WERE MAILED 12/3/18!

Property tax bills were mailed on Monday, Dec. 3, 2018. [They are due on January 2, 2019.](#)

Payments are accepted by mail and at the counter in City Hall during normal business hours, Mon.-Fri., 8:30-4:30. There is a drop slot located on the side door of City Hall. We are now accepting credit cards over the counter and online (Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover). Convenience fees apply. Please call 527-1269 with questions.

News

From the City Clerk's Office



2019 Transfer Station Stickers

2019 Transfer Station stickers are now available for sale at the City Clerk's Office. Transfer Station stickers are \$20 each; a valid vehicle registration for the vehicle the sticker will be put on must be provided at the time of purchase.

Questions? Call the Clerk's Office at 527-1265.



**Socks, the Belknap
Mill Christmas Elf
has returned!**



Read his story [HERE](#) and follow the Belknap Mill on [Facebook](#) to find out what Socks will be up to this year and when you can visit him!

Sock's story will also be available as a story walk in our Power House exhibit through December.



Remember: "Glass is Trash"

*Curbside recycling will be
picked up the week of
December 24, 2018
(please see holiday schedule below)*



Winter Parking Ban!

The City of Laconia's winter parking ban is now in effect! From November 1st to May 1st no vehicle is allowed to be parked on a public street between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 6:30 a.m.

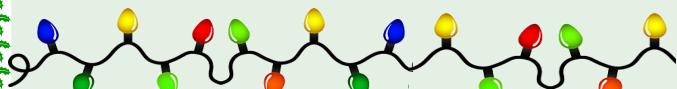
This parking ban allows our City vehicles to safely and effectively keep our streets passable during and after a winter storm. Failure to comply with the winter parking ban may result in your vehicle being towed at your expense.

Thank you for your cooperation!



**Department of
Public Works**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
Solid Waste Collection Delay
NOTICE TO RESIDENTS ON
CURBSIDE COLLECTION ROUTES**



Christmas Day is Tuesday, December 25th

There will be **A ONE (1) DAY DELAY** in curbside collection of trash for this week. Monday's collections will be as normal; Tuesday's collections will be on Wednesday. Every other day will be moved ahead by one day that week. Any questions, please call 528-6379.

Christmas Village 2018!

*Our sincere
thanks to all of
the volunteers
who make this
magical event
possible year
after year!*



Department of Public Works



The Laconia 2019 Curbside Recycling Collection Calendar is here!

Click on the image (left) to view a full-sized version of the calendar.

Questions? Please call the Department of Public Works at 528-6379.

Copies of the calendar can also be picked up in City Hall or at Public Works on Bisson Avenue.

A dark, atmospheric image of a winter solstice celebration. In the foreground, a campfire is visible. The background is dark with white and blue glowing particles. Text overlaid reads: "Winter Solstice Celebration DECEMBER 15TH, 3-5 PM \$3 ENTRY // ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES!" and "Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center".

Celebrate the Solstice with activities, crafts and opportunities to explore the land. The afternoon will close with a gathering around the fire to signify the days getting longer again. Sign up online or pay when you arrive!

<https://prescottfarm.wufoo.com/forms/m5usrhv1xsek18/>

Wondering where to get your Christmas Tree this year?



Maggy D's Garden Center will donate **10% of the proceeds** from every tree purchased to the NH Humane Society!

MAGGY D'S GARDEN CENTER



Visit the NH Humane Society at 1305 Meredith Center Road, Laconia

NHHumane.org

**330 Court St., Laconia
Trees On Sale Now!**



Knit, Pray, Crochet



Please join us monthly to knit prayer shawls and blankets for the LRGHealthcare Community. **ALL FAITHS WELCOME!**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019

(First Friday of Every Month)

6:00 - 7:30 PM

**LRGH Senior Services Dayroom
(80 Highland Street, Laconia - 1st floor)**

- No knitting or crocheting experience necessary!
- All levels of knitters are encouraged to attend.
- Please bring your own yarn and knitting needles or crochet hooks (some will be available).

What is a prayer shawl / blanket?

These shawls and blankets are made for the care and comfort of others. When being made, the person knitting the piece has prayed for healing and peace every time it is picked up.

LRGHealthcare
care. compassion. community.

For more information, please call Deb Hoffman, Spiritual Care Coordinator, at 524.3211, ext. 3528.



CONFIDENCE GROWS HERE



Mousetrap Cars

Saturday, January 12, 19, 26

Saturday, February 2, 9, 16

10 AM - Noon

The Belknap Mill
Beacon St. Laconia NH

In this workshop, youth will design, build, and race mouse trap powered cars. Youth will also have the opportunity to race the cars at a 4-H Maker's Expo in April.

Cost: Free

Open to 4-H and non 4-H youth ages 8 and older.



Belknap Mill

ARTS • HISTORY • EDUCATION

LEARN MORE OR SIGN UP:

Please contact Karen Delghan at

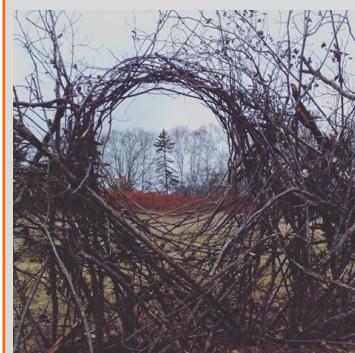
603-527-5475, email:

karen.delghan@unh.edu or Belknap Mill
at 603-524-8813.

Space is limited. Registration is required
for planning purposes.

All are invited to the Congregational Church of Laconia's Christmas Pageant!

The Congregational Church of Laconia invites the community to join us on Sunday, December 16th at 4 pm when the children and members of the church will present our Christmas Pageant! Join us in singing your favorite Christmas carols and enjoy this familiar Christmas story, told with love and joy.



Department of Public Works



NOTICE

Residents are no longer required to call Public Works to have the brush dump opened at 1:00 pm.

The Brush Dump will be open every Friday during the winter from 9 AM to 3 PM unless it is snowing.

All Public Works personnel are involved with snow removal. In the event of a major snow storm the City's priority is clearing the roads, and the brush dump will not open until the Department completes clearing all city streets of snow. Questions? Please call DPW at 528-6379.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Advent Soup and Study at the Congregational Church of Laconia December 13th and 20th - 5:30 - 7 pm, Church Hall 18 Veteran's Sq.

All are welcome to join together at the Congregational Church of Laconia in sharing a light meal of soup, and a time of study and reflection during this Advent season. Thursday, December 13th after our time of fellowship and soup, we will be exploring the meaning of several Advent hymns. With some singing and reflection let's join together in discovering the wonder and hope found in the music of the season! On December 20th, after our soup and fellowship, we will sing and explore the meaning of several Christmas hymns - discovering the joy and love found in a few special Christmas hymns.

We hope you can join us!



Granite United Way

graniteuw.org

**Volunteers are needed in Franklin and Laconia
for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program!**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, or VITA, provides free income tax preparation for low-to-moderate income working people.

- **Who does the program serve?**
 - Your neighbors! Working people with an average household income of about \$24,800/year;
- **Why is it important?**
 - Many people go to commercial tax preparers when they do not need to, paying between \$200-\$300 for a simple tax return;
 - Many people are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), however according to IRS and estimated one-in-four eligible filers don't claim this support for working families.
- The EITC and Child Tax Credit combined to lift more than 16,000 NH residents, including more than 8,000 children, out of poverty in each of the last three years, according to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

Granite United Way (GUW) operates VITA sites in Franklin and Laconia as well as in Manchester, Salem, Concord, Littleton and White River Junction and needs your help to serve more people. Last year, a GUW-led effort helped more than 5,000 filers claim their full refund. We are limited only by the number of volunteers who give their time to this effort.

Our specific needs are for:

- **Intake Specialists**—Greet tax filers, conduct an intake review to make sure all documents are present for a complete and accurate tax return, and offer resources for other financial needs filers may have;
- **Tax Preparers**—No previous tax or finance experience necessary, just a computer aptitude and a willingness to learn. Training and software are provided.

Volunteers are expected to complete standards of conduct certification, and commit about 3-5 hours every week or every other week from January until early April. For more information, please contact Cary Gladstone, cary.gladstone@graniteuw.org or (603) 625-6939, ext. 128 and please pass along to your colleagues, or otherwise share this need in your network. Thank you.

A Celtic Christmas

Fiddle and Piano music from Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Scotland, Ireland, Galicia, and Wales.

at
Unitarian Universalist Church of Laconia
4:00pm
December 16th, 2018

Join World-renown violinist - Anika Geldaze - and pianist - Noelle Beaudin - for a *foot stomping* evening of lively *Christmas Fiddle and Piano music* in the *Celtic Tradition* - Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Scotland, Ireland, Galician and Welsh tunes. Enjoy *Christmas music* the way it used to be - uplifting and celebratory! At intermission choose from hundreds of homemade cookies at the *Christmas Cookie Walk*; wine is also served.

Tickets are \$15
Unitarian Universalist Church of Laconia
172 Pleasant Street, Laconia, NH

Call 603-848-2469 to order tickets
Stop in at Greenlaws Music to purchase in person
or visit: <http://www.nhisom.org/> to order online

Whiskey Barrel

PRESENTS Proceeds to benefit NH Humane Society!

Wrap-A-Thon

Come on down on Dec. 22 to the Whiskey Barrel in downtown Laconia between 6 and 8pm and our elves would love to help you finish up wrapping gifts for your family! Donations will get you matching Whiskey bucks!

Donations Will Receive Matching Whiskey Bucks

Dec. 22, 6-8pm



NH Humane Society

NIH Human Society

Proceeds benefit

www.nhhuman.org



Winter Art Workshop

Lakes Region Community College

Your Community College

Explorations in Printmaking

Explorations in Printmaking takes a look at a variety of printmaking techniques and the unique possibilities that they provide. This workshop will introduce monotypes, collagraphs, and relief prints, as well as the materials and tools used to create them. Experimenting with these processes, students of all backgrounds will explore 2D design, pattern, and personal expression. Cost: \$200 (includes \$20 materials fee)

Four-Day Workshop:
January 15, 16, 17 & 18, 2019
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Course #: NCWK 1102L
CRN: 24201

register: over the phone: (603) 524-3207; Or, print Registration Form from www.lccc.edu. registrar and fax to: (603) 524-8084; Or in person at:



Recycling Update #2: Department of Public Works

Attention Residents!

Your assistance with improving the quality of City's recycling product is essential to retaining the City's recycling program!

The City presently pays more per ton to recycle than it does for trash. One reason is the amount of non-recyclable material mixed in with the recyclables. Reducing the amount of non-recyclable materials that are mixed in with the recyclables ensures that the cost of recycling will not exceed the City's ability to provide that service.

What residents can do to improve the quality of the City's recycling products:

- Do not put recycling in plastic bags.
- Do not put plastic bags in recycling.
- Ensure plastic bottles do not have a cap on them. If there is any liquid in the bottle and it has a cap on it, the bottle goes into the trash as the liquid in it could be hazardous to the employees sorting the material.
- Ensure the plastic that you want to recycle has the recycling number 1 through 5 on it. If it does not, it is trash.
- The only metal that can be collected at the curbside is "tin" and aluminum cans. Any other metal is too heavy for the sorting system at the processing plant and must be taken to the Transfer Station for collection and transfer to a large metals processor.



Please take all corrugated cardboard boxes to the City's Corrugated cardboard recycling area (see below for details). This is the type of box that is used to ship presents from on-line retailers.

Paperboard which includes cereal boxes and soda boxes must go in your recycling bin for curbside pickup.

Thank you for your cooperation!

CARDBOARD WANTED!!

Gather all of those corrugated boxes you're sure to accumulate this holiday season...flatten them down, pile them up and bring them to the bin behind the City garage at 257 Messer St. to be compacted and recycled!

Cardboard recycling is clean and easy.

Corrugated cardboard only please! No cereal, soda/beer or shoe boxes. No bubble wrap or air pillows.

Please help us save solid waste/recycling tax dollars by dropping off your cardboard.

Cardboard recycling is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

*Questions? Please call our Department
of Public Works at 528-6379.*





Don't forget !
ServiceLink
Resource Center
(1-866-634-9412 or
528-6945)....it's the first
number to call for
senior services.



The Laconia Senior Center
will be closed on **Tuesday,**
December 25th and
Tuesday, January 1st.
Buses will not be available
so please plan your trips ahead.



*Laconia Senior Center is located at
17 Church Street in Laconia.
Questions? Call 524-7689*

*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@laconianh.gov

Have a great weekend!



Scott Myers,
City Manager
City's Website:
www.laconianh.gov



CITY OF LACONIA PHONE DIRECTORY

Airport	524-5003
Airport Manager: Marv Everson	
Assessing	527-1268
City Clerk.....	527-1265
City Clerk - Cheryl Hebert	
City Manager	527-1270
City Manager - Scott Myers	
Code Enforcement.....	527-1293
Planning & Zoning Dir. - Dean Trefethen	
Conservation	527-1264
Conservation Technician - Evan Rathburn	
Finance	524-3877
Licensing	528-6331
Licensing - Lindsey Allen	
Planning & Comm. Dev.	527-1264
Planning & Zoning Dir. - Dean Trefethen	
Fire Dept. (Central Station)	524-6881
Fire Dept. (Weirs Station)	366-2229
Fire Chief - Kirk Beattie	
Library	524-4775
Library Director - Randy Brough	
Parks & Recreation.....	524-5046
Parks & Rec. Director - Kevin Dunleavy	
Personnel	524-3877
Personnel Administrator - Paula Baumol	
Police (Administration)	524-5257
Police (Crime Line)	524-1717
Police Chief - Matthew Canfield	
Public Works (Main Office)	528-6379
Public Works (Transfer Station)	528-5822
Public Works Director - Wes Anderson	
Tax	527-1269
Tax Collector - Lindsey Allen	
Water.....	524-0901
Superintendent - Seth Nuttelman	
Welfare.....	527-1267
Welfare Specialist - Gail Denio	

City Council Contact Info:

Mayor Edward Engler	630-4484
Bruce Cheney (Ward 1).....	491-8946
David Bownes (Ward 2)	524-4330
Henry Lipman (Ward 3)	528-0191
Mark Haynes (Ward 4)	524-3605
Robert Hamel (Ward 5)	524-6360
Andrew Hosmer (Ward 6).....	496-2078
E-mail: citycouncil@laconianh.gov	

Visit the City's website at:
www.laconianh.gov