



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Laconia Links

February 12, 2021 - Edition #475



If a fire hydrant is located near your home or business, please help us by clearing a 3 ft. perimeter around it, especially towards the street. Remember...seconds count in a fire! We appreciate your assistance.

LRGHealthcare
care. compassion. community.

CONCORD
HOSPITAL

Community members are invited to participate in a Public Forum on February 23, 2021 from 4 to 6 pm regarding Concord Hospital's proposed acquisition of LRGHealthcare assets. This is a Zoom meeting; please click [here](#) to register.

Topics of discussion will include:

- A community health profile by Katharine London, Principal for Health Law and Policy at UMass Medical School.
- A presentation on the proposed transaction by LRGHealthcare and Concord Hospital
- Audience questions and answers

Additional information about the proposed transaction can be found on the NH Charitable Trust Unit's [website](#). Comments regarding the proposed transaction may be submitted on or before March 5, 2021 either by email at charitabletrusts2@doj.nh.gov or by regular mail to: Director of Charitable Trusts, Department of Justice, 33 Capitol Street, Concord, NH 03301.

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!



City Hall will be closed all day on Monday, February 15th in observance of Presidents' Day. We apologize for any inconvenience.



The Library is open to the public! Check the Library's [home page](#) for updated information.



Adult Takeaway Craft: String Art

February 1- February 28, 2021

Choose from two adorable designs!
Pick a fox or a penguin to create
hangable art. All materials provided,
sign-up required as supplies are
limited.



The Library will be closed on
Monday, February 15th in observance
of Presidents' Day

Teen & Tween Programs -to-Go! February 1, 2021 - February 28, 2021

Make a sticker masterpiece!
Designs are limited to those available at
the desk. For teens and tweens ages 9
through 19. Call, text, or email the
Library to reserve one of our limited
number of kits.



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 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 additional information on a meeting or to obtain a printed copy of the agenda. You are invited and encouraged to participate in any public meeting and provide input.

MEETINGS

Zoning Board of Adjustment

February 16, 2021, 6:30 pm

[Agenda](#)

Parks & Rec Commission

February 16, 2021, 7:00 pm

[Agenda](#)

Police Commission

February 17, 2021, 3:00 pm

Conservation Commission

February 17, 2021, 6:00 pm

[Agenda](#)

Laconia Airport Authority

February 18, 2021, 4:00 pm

Library Board of Trustees

February 18, 2021, 5:30 pm

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.

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

Happy Valentine's Day



TRIVIA NIGHT

WEDNESDAYS 7:00 - 8:00 on ZOOM!

Find the Link on our Facebook Page

Reminder!

Curbside recycling
will be picked up the
week of February
15, 2021

"Glass is Trash"



WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT
(IN THE GARBAGE).



2021 Tree and Shrub Program

Photo: Tom Howe

The 2021 Tree, Shrub, Flower and Trout Sale is here! This annual sale is a fundraiser for the Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) and your purchases help support local conservation efforts here in Belknap County. This year we are offering strawberry plants, blueberry bushes, raspberry canes, nut tree seedlings, fruit trees, fruit bearing ground cover plants, evergreens, flower bulbs and potted plants, asparagus, onion, shallots, plants for wildlife food and shelter, live trout, and more!! Please visit the BCCD website at www.belknapccd.org on the home page to see the plant description and order forms. Most plants are offered as bare root in a dormant state, meaning they are not in soil and require immediate planting.

BCCD recommends customers order their plants by March 1st; however, orders will be accepted after the deadline while supplies last. The deadline for trout orders is April 23rd. The plants and live trout will be ready for pickup during the first weekend in May. Rainbow and Brook Trout come in 6-8" or 10-12". These disease-free fish are hatchery grown and cannot be released into free-flowing streams or public waterways. For more information please contact Lisa Morin, BCCD Program Coordinator at telephone (603) 527-5880 or email lisa.morin@nh.nacdnet.net

All programs and services are offered without discrimination.

Click
[here](#) for
more
info on
this
series
of
classes!

COOKING MATTERS® AT HOME

Do you live in Belknap County? Are you parenting children? If so, please sign up for a FREE online education series via Zoom.

Eight topics to choose from to help you with healthy eating in your home.

Contact Brenda Carey to schedule (weekdays or weekends)
brenda.carey@unh.edu

Call or Text: 630-8303

Receive a \$10 Hannaford gift card for every class you attend.
(Income restrictions apply)

If you qualify for SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, Housing Assistance, or other types of financial assistance, then you qualify to participate at no cost to you. Language assistance is available at no cost. For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact Brenda Carey at 603-630-8303 within 7 days so proper consideration may be given to the request.

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer. University of New Hampshire, U.S. Department of Agriculture and N.H. counties cooperating. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. The preparation of this document was financed under a contract with the state of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services. This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-SNAP. 1/2021



Extension
Nutrition Connections



Public Works Department

Update on the Court Street Bridge Project

Underground utility construction began on Court Street in the fall of 2020. Groundwater infiltration into the drilling pits for the new water line presented a challenge due to volume and contamination from an earlier leak from an underground fuel tank. The work was stopped and the Water Department, Public Works, HEB Engineers (the City's engineering consultant) and Evroks Corp. (the general contractor) have investigated alternatives for installing the new water line, as well as modifications to the sewer design, in order to minimize the volume of contaminated groundwater that we will have to deal with during installation of the utilities.

Due to the design changes, **the dates for the bridge closure on Court Street have been changed to September/October 2021**. The design changes include changes to the water main layout, lining the existing sewer in lieu of replacing the sewer, and changes to the bridge pile cap. All were necessary to minimize the volume of groundwater that we have to handle.

The closure dates will be finalized in the coming weeks, however, the closure is expected to be between Labor Day and Columbus Day, 2021. During the bridge closure, the Route 3 bypass will be used as the detour route.

As plans are finalized, DPW will update its 2021 construction schedule. We expect that we will be lining the sewer and installing the water main before tourist season begins this spring. The changes to the design of the utility lines will also help make it easier to keep two lanes of traffic open during this work.

Please feel free to contact Krista Larsen, Assistant Public Works Director, at 528-6379, or email Klarsen@laconianh.gov.



NOTICE TO RESIDENTS ON CURBSIDE COLLECTION ROUTES

There will be **NO DELAY** in curbside collection of trash on Monday, February 15th, Presidents' Day

Monday's collections (and collections the remainder of the week) will be on their normal schedules.

Questions? Please call DPW, 528-6379

Sand is available!



Laconia residents needing sand for their driveways or walkways during this icy weather can get sand from our Department of Public Works. There is a sand pile for residential use located at our DPW garage at 257 Messer Street. Residents can get a maximum of two five gallon pails (or the equivalent). Please do not take sand from our facility on Bisson Avenue; it is for City use only to maintain our streets and sidewalks. Questions? Please call 528-6379.

Thanks and have a safe winter!

Assessing

The abatement filing period is now open until March 1st. This is the process by which taxpayers can dispute their final 2020 value. Applications for abatement are available in our office or can be mailed upon request, by calling 527-1268. We always recommend that property owners get a copy of their Property Record Card to verify its accuracy and confirm if any changes have been made.

Questions? Please call the Assessing Office at 527-1268.



Colonial Theatre Updates...

Our thanks to City Councilor Robert Hamel for providing these photos!



Also be sure to check the Colonial Theatre's Facebook page [here](#) for renovation updates!





Great Meredith Rotary Ice Fishing Derby

The 2021 Great Meredith Rotary Ice Fishing Derby is on!

Dates Confirmed: February 13-14, 2021!

Click [here](#) for
website

PRESCRIPTION DRUG FRAUD



**Report potential pharmacy fraud or
prescription drug abuse, errors, or abuse if:**

**You see on your Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or
Explanation of Benefits (EOB) charges for:**

- Prescriptions (including refills) that were never picked up, delivered, or even prescribed
- Prescriptions that were prescribed by a health care provider you have never seen
- Prescription amounts beyond the quantity you were prescribed
- Prescriptions that are different (often more expensive) than the one you were originally prescribed





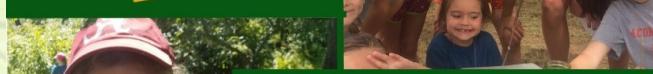
Maple Season is coming!

Tap into Maple at Prescott Farm
begins Saturday, March 6.

Ninety minute sessions begin at the top of the hour (10 am—3 pm) every Saturday in March.
Space is limited—don't delay!

FMI: prescottfarm.org




WildQuest Camp
Registration is Open!

FMI & to Register visit prescottfarm.org

Let the Outdoor Adventures Begin!

I love the Belknap Mill because...

Why do YOU love the Belknap Mill?

The Belknap Mill wants to hear why **YOU LOVE** the Mill. Send an [email](#) to the Mill, post a comment to their [Facebook](#) page, or stop in! They can't wait to add your love to their wall!



Sledding Hill Updates are posted on Parks and Recreation [Facebook](#) page. Depending on conditions, the lights are on from 4:30 until 10:00 pm! Laconia Sledding Hill is located on South Street, which is just after the cemetery on Academy Street. Questions? Please call Parks and Rec at 524-5046. Have a great winter!



Isaiah 61 Café has a need for gloves and thermal underwear (men's and women's of all sizes). for the local homeless community. We ask that if you are able you purchase an item and either personally deliver to the Café, or that you have it delivered there. If you wish to make a purchase on-line and have it delivered, please have it sent to Isaiah 61 Café, 100 New Salem St., Laconia, NH 03246, Attention: Dawn Longval. Donations may be dropped off Monday - Friday during the hours of 9 am to 2 pm. However, the Café asks that items not be dropped off during lunch which is from 11:30 am-12:30 pm.

This is a community effort of the Social Justice Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Laconia. Our little white church is located at 172 Pleasant Street in Laconia.

For further information please go to our Facebook page.
<https://www.facebook.com/UULaconia/>

Our yesterdays

Our thanks to Warren D. Huse, the Laconia Historical and Museum Society, and the Laconia Daily Sun for providing a glimpse into our community's past....



THEN ...

Gilford Avenue School, built in 1891, was made available to Sacred Heart Parish by the city of Laconia, 100 years ago this week, after the convent and elementary school (seen in distance at right) was gutted by fire, Feb. 3, 1921. As of 1954, the four-classroom Gilford Avenue structure was the 'only all-wooden school building' among Laconia's public schools. (Laconia School Survey, 1954)



... AND NOW

The Gilford Avenue School (which was at one time located at left), was purchased from the city by Sacred Heart Parish in 1960 and was torn down in conjunction with construction of the new Sacred Heart Parish Hall (off-photo at left) in 1963-1964. The brick convent and elementary school, as rebuilt in 1921, is seen at center. The city's three parochial schools consolidated as Holy Trinity at the former St. John School on Church Street in the 1970s but relocated in 2020 to the Sacred Heart campus. The other 1921 St. Joseph School building (fronting on Union Avenue), erected at the same time that the convent and elementary school were rebuilt, is now the Parish Office. (Adam Drapcho/The Laconia Daily Sun)



REGISTRATION FOR EVENTS:

Online at www.nepassage.org/calendar

E-mail at Northeast.Passage@unh.edu

Phone at 603-862-0070

February Recreation & Arts Events

We are continuing to monitor COVID-19 spread in our communities. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as scheduled event details may change, particularly with indoor events. Please remember that face coverings are required during Northeast Passage programming. We are limited to smaller groups, so please pre-register for each event and cancel if you cannot make it. *There is no cost for these events.*

SPORTS & RECREATION EVENTS

These events are funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

VETERAN WELLNESS LAKES REGION: PICKLEBALL AND BOCCIA - Laconia, NH

It's getting cold but we can still have fun! Come join us at the Laconia Community Center for a socially distanced game of Pickleball and/or Boccia in a large open indoor space!

This program is offered to individuals of all abilities, inviting standing and seated players alike. Review rule variations for seated Pickleball players here on the USAPA.org website!

Thursdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 from 10:30AM-12:00PM

NEP will provide staff, instruction, and a selection of sport wheelchairs for these events.

VIRTUAL ARTS EVENTS

Arts programming is part of a Veteran Wellness Series funded by Operation Hat Trick.

NEEDLE FELTING – Virtual via Zoom

We'll be using felt, colorful tufts of wool, and needles instead of paintbrushes to create your art. Researchers have been able to show a connection between doing things with our hands and the neurochemistry of our brains linked to happiness.

Tuesday, February 9 from 12:00-2:00PM

No experience necessary. Tools and materials will be shipped to you prior to the date of this event. Check out this [video](#) to learn more about it! To receive your materials in time, you must register by February 2. These materials will be yours to keep!

VETERAN FAMILY ARTS PROJECTS – Virtual via Zoom

For these events, we invite the whole family to be involved. All ages and family structure welcome, no experience necessary. Supplies will be shipped to you prior to the date of this event. These materials will be yours to keep. Zoom link will be included in your registration confirmation. Space is limited to 4 families, so sign up today!

Wednesday, February 17 from 4:00-5:00PM

Join us to create your own Family Crest. We'll be using multi-media art supplies. We will send out some basic supplies and encourage you and your family to utilize items and supplies from around your home to create a unique, artistic representation of your family values and beliefs. To receive your materials in time, you must register by February 9th.

Wednesday, February 24 from 4:00-5:00PM

Join us to have some family fun while collaborating with each other and exploring alternative perspectives. We'll be using acrylic paints for this project, all skill levels encouraged to attend. We will send out some basic supplies and encourage you to use your own supplies if you would like in addition (sparkles, buttons, beads glitter, stickers etc). To receive your materials in time, you must register by February 16th.

VETERAN FAMILY PUPPET MAKING SERIES – Virtual via Zoom

Join us for family fun creating your very own puppets! All ages and family structure welcome, no experience necessary. Supplies will be shipped to you prior to the date of this event. These materials will be yours to keep. Zoom link will be included in your registration confirmation and we'll walk through the process together.

Friday, February 19 from 6:30-8:30PM - We'll make Sock Puppets. To receive your materials in time, you must register by February 11th.

Saturday, February 20 from 9:30-10:15 AM - We'll play games with our puppets and practice some improv puppet theater. Bring your coffee (and your kids) and settle in for some fun!



**University of
New Hampshire**
College of Health
and Human Services

Northeast Passage
121 Technology Drive
Suite 161
Durham, NH 03824
603.862.0070

**New Hampshire
FISH AND GAME**
Connecting you to life outdoors

Residents and Visitors Urged to Exercise Caution on the Ice All Winter Long

New Hampshire Fish and Game Department officials urge outdoor enthusiasts to exercise caution when enjoying winter activities on or near the ice.

Parents are also urged to educate themselves about ice safety and share this knowledge with their children to help prevent accidents.

Click [here](#) for more information provided by NH Fish and Game.



Do you have questions about Medicare coverage of behavioral health care services such as mental health illnesses and addiction related issues? Click on the image (below) for helpful information:

MEDICARE RIGHTS
Getting Medicare right

Medicare Coverage of Behavioral Health Care Services

Behavioral health care: Services and programs intended to help diagnose and treat both mental health illnesses and addiction-related issues. A mental illness is a condition that affects a person's thinking, feeling, or mood. Examples of mental health illnesses include depression and anxiety. Examples of addiction-related issues are alcoholism and opioid use disorder. Behavioral health conditions are typically not the result of any single event or circumstance. Rather, they tend to be complicated conditions involving multiple factors.

What behavioral health services does Medicare cover?

Medicare Part A covers inpatient mental health services that you receive in either a psychiatric hospital (a hospital or distinct part in a hospital that only treats mental health patients) or a general hospital. If you receive care in a psychiatric hospital, Medicare covers up to 190 days of inpatient care in your lifetime. General and psychiatric hospitals have the same out-of-pocket costs.

- Part A deductible:** \$1,484 each benefit period
 - A benefit period begins the day you start getting inpatient care. It ends when you have not received inpatient hospital or skilled nursing facility care for 60 days in a row.
- Days 1-40:** \$0/day
- Days 41-90:** \$371/day
- Lifetime reserve days:** \$742/day for each day after day 90 in a benefit period that can only be used once. They are not renewable.

If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan, contact your plan to find in-network hospitals and learn about costs.

Medicare Part B covers outpatient mental health services, such as:

- Individual and group therapy
- Activity therapies such as art therapy
- Partial hospitalization programs
- Annual depression screenings

In order for Original Medicare to cover these services, it is important to see a provider who is Medicare-certified and takes assignment (accepts Medicare's approved amount as payment in full for services you receive). Ask your provider if they take assignment.

If you have Original Medicare, you will pay a 20% coinsurance after meeting your Part B deductible. If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan, contact your plan to find in-network providers and learn about costs.

February 2021 Medicare Minute



Work is underway to develop a Community Response Guide to address issues of children's health, welfare and safety. The Community Response Guide will be a web-based tool that can be used by individuals worried about a child or family in our community. Your help is needed!

For more information and to participate in the survey, please click [here](#).

Laconia
CITY ON THE LAKES

WINTER PARKING BAN IS IN EFFECT

No parking on any public street between the hours of 12 midnight and 6:30 am



KINSHIP CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH

12PM-1PM VIA ZOOM

UPCOMING DATES:

DECEMBER 28

JANUARY 25

FEBRUARY 22 

MARCH 29

Parenting is tough; parenting a second time can be even harder. This group aims to bring grandparents and other relative caregivers together to celebrate successes, mourn losses, problem solve for the hard times, and give support to one another. We hope you can join us to hear from other kinship caregivers and learn more about resources and opportunities that are available in your community.

This program is sponsored by the Family Resource Center of Central NH and the Greater Tilton Area Family Resource Center.

For more information, please contact:

Melissa Shadden-Cyr

(603) 460-5285 or Melissa.Shadden-Cyr@LRCS.org

Or

Patricia Eisner

(603) 286-4255 or PEisner@GTA-FRC.org

To Register, please follow this link: <https://www.lrcs.org/parentedregistration/>

ARE YOU RAISING
A GRANDCHILD,
NIECE OR NEPHEW,
OR OTHER
RELATIVE?

ARE YOU
INTERESTED IN
LEARNING ABOUT
RESOURCES
AVAILABLE IN
YOUR
COMMUNITY?

WOULD YOU LIKE
TO CONNECT WITH
OTHER RELATIVE
CAREGIVERS IN
YOUR AREA?

**DO YOU
NEED
SUPPORT?**

**YOU ARE NOT
ALONE**

**We hope you'll
join us for this
monthly lunch
hour group.**

LRCS
**FAMILY RESOURCE
CENTER**
Engage. Empower. Empathize.

The Greater Tilton Area
**FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTER**
MAIN OFFICE



ServiceLink
Resource Center
(1-866-634-9412 or
528-6945) is the first
number to call for
senior services.



Save the date! The 4th annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium is on May 6. This free, all-day, virtual event will feature engaging plenaries, informative sessions, and a diverse array of topics addressing the most pressing needs in older adult mental health. Free registration opens in March; stay tuned for registration information!

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
Assistant Assessor - Tara Baker	
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 - Ashley Ruprecht	
Finance	524-3877
Finance Director - Glenn Smith	
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 - Amy Lovisek	
Personnel	524-3877
Personnel Administrator - Paula Baumoel	
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 - Ben Crawford	
Welfare	527-1267
Welfare Technician - Cathy Raymond	

City Council Contact Info:

Mayor Andrew Hosmer	496-2078
Bruce Cheney (Ward 1)	491-8946
Robert Soucy (Ward 2)	524-7054
Henry Lipman (Ward 3).....	528-0191
Mark Haynes (Ward 4).....	524-3605
Robert Hamel (Ward 5).....	524-6360
Tony Felch (Ward 6)	998-1418

General Council E-mail:
citycouncil@laconianh.gov

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