



December 1, 2023 - Edition #615

*The Laconia High School Marching Sachems at the recent Holiday Parade!
Photo compliments of W. Stephen Loughlin. More photos on pg. 10*

Christmas Village 2023

December 1, 2 & 3

Friday 6:00 ~ 8:00pm

Saturday & Sunday 2:00 ~ 5:00pm

FREE with donations accepted & appreciated. Come see Santa, Mrs. Claus and all their friends from the North Pole. Pictures available for \$3. Laconia Community Center, 306 Union Avenue

Welcome to Laconia Links!

We hope you enjoy this issue of our weekly e-mail newsletter created to keep you up to date on City of Laconia news and activities. If you would like the newsletter sent to your email each Friday, or if you have changes to your email subscription, please call the City Manager's office at (603) 527-1270 or email us at info@laconianh.gov.



Community

Forum

A public forum was held recently in response to the recent antisemitic graffiti found in our community.

If you were unable to attend the event, you can still watch a video compliments of Lakes Region Public Access Television by clicking [here](#).



LACONIA
PUBLIC LIBRARY

WEEK OF

December 4-8

Mon
12/4

Sensory Storytime @ 10am

Tue
12/5

Tech Help @ 10am, Teen Mindfulness @ 3pm,
Kids Graphic Novels Club @ 5pm

Wed
12/6

Toddler Time @ 10am, Tech Help @ 2pm,
Writing Group @ 6pm

Thurs
12/7

Preschool Storytime @ 10am, Family Craft @ 3:30pm,
Evening Non-Fiction Book Group @ 6pm

Fri
12/8

Move & Groove @ 10am

For descriptions, age suggestions, and
more, visit our online calendar!

<http://laconialibrary.org>

follow us: @laconialibrary

call: (603) 524-4775

text: (603) 556-4666

email: info@laconialibrary.org

[Sign-up for our monthly email newsletter](#)



Visit our
website for all
our Library
events.

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Goss Reading Room Closed

Look what's happening at Prescott Farm!



Prescott Farm
Environmental Education Center

Holiday Workshop for Kids!

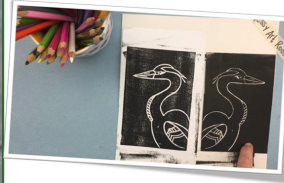
AGES 6-12
COST: \$30 (NON-MEMBERS)
\$15 FOR MEMBERS

Saturday, December 9
1-3 pm

Let your children learn the joy of gift giving with this unique opportunity to make nature-inspired gifts for the adults in their lives. This is a drop-off program (adults must sign children in and out) so the hardest part for grown-ups will be waiting to open the gift. No Peeking!

To find out more and register:
prescottfarm.org or call 603-366-5695

Learn something new, enjoy the outdoors, and expand your wellness options with us!



Styro Block Prints for the Holidays

Personalize your holiday greetings with your own artwork. Create your own image on an up-cycled Styrofoam block that you can use at home to print as many cards as you need!

10 am-12 pm

Layered Soaps

Learn how to safely make your very own soap using the cold process and add some variety by creating layers using different colors, scents, and textures. Each participant will take home about 10 bars of seasonally scented soap to enjoy.

10 am-1pm



Saturday December 2nd

Holiday Wreaths

Wreaths made from natural greenery are traditionally festive at this time of year. Learn a little about the history and symbolism of wreaths while you make and decorate your very own using natural materials.

1-3 pm

Additional programs, series, and registration details

prescottfarm.org

Prescott Farm
Environmental Education Center

928 White Oaks Road, Laconia, NH • (603) 366-5695 • info@prescottfarm.org

Learn something new, enjoy the outdoors, and expand your wellness options with us!



Homegrown Wellness: Elderberry Syrup for Winter Health

Elderberry syrup provides an antiviral boost for the immune system that can shorten the duration of colds and flus. Learn how to safely harvest and process black elderberries into a delicious syrup to take home.

Saturday, December 9th; 10 am-12 pm

Additional programs, series, and registration details

prescottfarm.org

Prescott Farm
Environmental Education Center

928 White Oaks Road, Laconia, NH • (603) 366-5695 • info@prescottfarm.org

COME OUT AND SEE THE The Great Santa Drop



SATURDAY - DECEMBER 2

DROP TAKES PLACE AT NOON

AT BEANS AND GREENS FARM



THE FOOD TRUCK AND
STORE WILL BE OPEN



CASH PRIZES
CLOSEST TO THE BULLSEYE

1 REGULAR SANTA \$10

3 REGULAR SANTAS \$25

5 REGULAR SANTAS \$40

GOLD SANTAS \$25

1ST - \$500 (IF A GOLD \$700) 2ND - \$200 (IF GOLD \$300) 3RD \$100 (IF A GOLD \$200)

2023 SPONSORS

Kara Financial, LLC*



ELECTRIC CONNECTION
INC
Reliable Electrical Resources

BERKSHIRE Holly Ruggieri Agent
HATHAWAY 603-524-2446
HOME SERVICES Office 603-527-1111
VERANI REALTY SERVING THE LAKES REGION



GET YOUR TICKETS ONLINE →

<https://www.ladiesofthelakenh.com/shop>

The Great Santa Drop is December 2 at noon
at Beans and Greens Farm!

500 regular Santas and 25 gold Santas will be
dropped out of a helicopter towards a bullseye.

The three Santas closest to the bullseye win
cash prizes.

All proceeds go to The Greater Lakes Region
Children's Auction. Get your tickets here:

<http://ladiesofthelakenh.com/shop>

Wishing you a Hanukkah
full of beauty and light.



Happy Hanukkah

A Celtic Christmas

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



Unitarian Universalist Church of Laconia

4:00pm

December 2nd, 2023

Join World-renown violinist Aniko Geladze and pianist / hurdy-gurdy player
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.

Tickets are \$20 at the door Unitarian Universalist Church of Laconia

172 Pleasant Street, Laconia NH

Call (603) 524-6488 to order tickets

"In Laconia Schools..."

Good Day, Laconia School District Community.

December 1, 2023

I hope that this communication finds you well as the calendar turns to the last month. We have a three week stretch before the Winter Break, and there are many exciting developments happening in the District, some of which I will share in this newsletter. As we finalize the District's Strategic Plan, I will connect the highlights with goal areas of the plan that are listed in bold type.

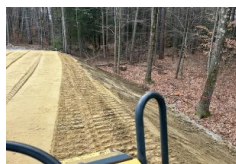
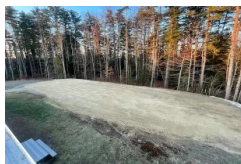
Academics: Teaching and Learning - Lily Lescarbeau (pictured to the left), a Senior at LHS, is engaged in a Diploma with Distinction project that focuses on the LHS Centennial presented her work to date at the Board meeting. The Diploma of Distinction program was created in the spring of 2019 to recognize students who have been "purposeful" in planning their education. Designed to recognize and reward student successes that exceed the minimum requirements of the 26-credit diploma, the program celebrates the academic achievements of the lifelong learner and is an important reflection of our district's vision and values. The framework for the program rests firmly on and embodies Laconia School District's Portrait of the Graduate and Sachem PRIDE expectations. It celebrates students' abilities to develop important skills that support career and life readiness through its "passion project" and "Sachem legacy." The Diploma of Distinction recognizes the goals and ideas that inspire students to explore their natural ability to learn and grow.



Lily's presentation was extremely engaging. Some of the highlights of her research thus far that she shared with the Board include:

- The first class graduated from Laconia High School in 1878. In the fall of 1886, the building that is currently the district courthouse opened up as the (then) new high school in the fall of 1886. The current Union Avenue campus opened in the fall of 1923.
- There were only five (5) Principals (called "Headmasters" at the beginning of the 20th Century) in a 77-year period, including Donald Piper (from 1949 to 1973), for whom the Auditorium is named, and Robert St. Lawrence (from 1979-2000), for whom the Library is named.
- The original football field, one of three on the Union Avenue campus, was perpendicular to the current field and located where the rear parking lot and where some Huot programs are located in the background of the 1923 building. There were additions and/or major renovations in 1936, 1976, 1983, and 2013.

Student Wellness - We are working to upgrade the playgrounds at all three (3) elementary schools. The District has set aside \$250,000 for this project and we are embarking on a capital campaign to raise \$250,000 more. We realized that there was site work that needed to be done at Pleasant Street School to make room for more playground equipment. The School Board and the City Council approved \$102,500 in impact fees to do this in November, and the site work at PSS was completed earlier this week. Below are some pictures of the completed site work at PSS. We are planning to have new equipment on this site and at the other schools in the spring.



Academics: Literacy - Our schools adopted a new assessment platform called iReady to measure our students' Math and Reading skills. Our students in grades K-10 take these assessments so that we can measure their progress and use the data to inform instructional plans. State law RSA 200:59 was amended to say that all students in grades K-3 in public schools must be screened for potential indicators or risk factors of dyslexia and related reading disorders. iReady is an approved screener designed to identify areas of concern and components of reading that may suggest characteristics of dyslexia and other reading difficulties. This is not a comprehensive dyslexia assessment designed to diagnose a child with dyslexia, but it does give us information so that we can dig more deeply and better-support our students.

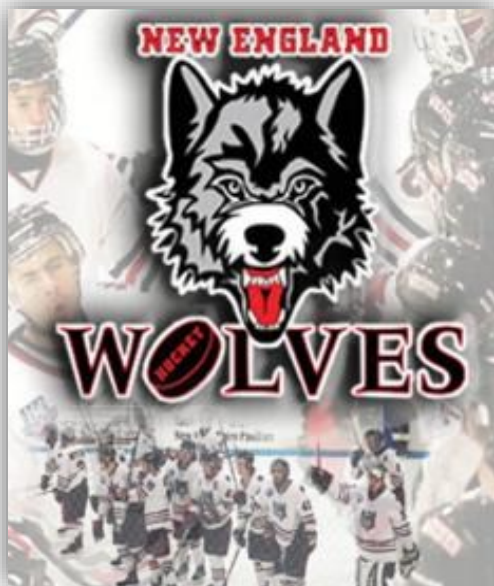
Other areas of the Strategic Plan include **Academics: Assessment, Staff Wellness, and Community Resources and Engagement**. We will continue to update the School Board and the Community on areas of the plan.

In closing, our schools and the wider City of Laconia community express generosity in several ways. I am always overwhelmed with pride and gratitude for all that is done in our Great Little City to support our kids and families in the holiday season. On behalf of the Laconia School District, the generosity of people in Laconia is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steve Tucker".

Steve Tucker, Superintendent
Laconia School District



Don't miss these New England Wolves games coming soon!

Please join us at the Merrill Fay Arena,
468 Province Road, Laconia, NH...

Saturday, Dec. 2, 6:00 pm - Valley Jr. Warriors vs. New England Wolves

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1:45 pm - NH Avalanche vs. New England Wolves

We hope to see you there!



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICES

Please see the Public Hearing Notices on this page which have been published in the Laconia Daily Sun. In future issues of the newsletter we will continue to provide citizens with notices of upcoming Public Hearings that may be of interest to our community.

If you have questions regarding any Public Hearings shown, please call City Hall at 603-527-1270 and we will be happy to direct you to the appropriate department. Thank you for staying informed about what is happening in City government!



CITY OF LACONIA Notice of Public Hearing

The City Council will hold a Public Hearing on **December 11, 2023** during the regular City Council meeting which will begin at 7:00 pm in the Armand A. Bolduc City Council Chamber in Laconia City Hall, relative to:

RESOLUTION 2023-34 - RELATIVE TO APPROVAL OF BONDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Katie Gargano, City Clerk



CITY OF LACONIA Notice of Public Hearing

The City Council will hold a Public Hearing on **December 11, 2023** during the regular City Council meeting which will begin at 7:00 pm in the Armand A. Bolduc City Council Chamber in Laconia City Hall, relative to:

RESOLUTION 2023-35 - DECLARING CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT TAX MAP 442/15/7.1, DESCRIBED AS THE SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS OF THE DOWNTOWN PARKING GARAGE (AND ANY COMPONENT OF THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE PARKING GARAGE AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY LEGAL ADVICE IN ORDER TO CONVEY THE PROPERTY) AS SURPLUS PROPERTY

Katie Gargano, City Clerk

City Curbside Solid Waste Collection during the winter for residents and businesses with curbside collection

Where and how to place your solid waste containers during the winter to ensure the containers can be emptied

Treat your solid waste containers as a mailbox! What happens If you do not dig out your mailbox after a snowstorm? The Post Office does not deliver mail!

For solid waste collection if you put your solid waste containers behind snowbanks, they cannot be emptied.

For rural area residences and businesses without sidewalks -

Place your containers in your driveway near the edge of the road, or dig out an area in the snowbank to create an opening in which to place your containers. Make sure the opening is 2 feet wider on each side than the containers. The depth of the opening only has to be deep enough to provide 1 foot of clearance from the back of the container.

For residents and businesses in areas of the City with sidewalks -

Place your containers in your driveway near the edge of the road.

If you do not have a driveway or the driveway is too small and:

Where the sidewalk is against the curb at the edge of the road, dig an opening through the snow bank out to the street in which to place your containers.

Make sure the opening is 2 feet wider on each side than the containers.

If there is a grass or gravel area between the sidewalk and the edge of the road:

Place the containers in your driveway near the edge of the road, or dig out an area in the snowbank to place your containers.

Make sure the opening is 2 feet wider on each side than the containers. The depth of the opening only has to be deep enough to provide 1 foot of clearance from the back of the container.

Please do not place your containers out for collection before 7 pm the night before your scheduled collection day, and bring them back to the residence or business at the end of the collection day. Do not leave your containers on the sidewalk so that pedestrians can use the sidewalk. If collection is canceled due to a major snowstorm, please bring the containers back onto your property so that the City's plow crews can keep the streets and sidewalks open for your use.

Will the contractor collect containers during a snowstorm? The contractor will provide curbside solid waste collection service during a minor to moderate snowstorm.

The contractor and Public Works consider canceling collection services when forecasters are predicting blizzard or near blizzard conditions. If the contractor decides to cancel collection due to the forecast, the City will post the cancellation notice on the City's [website](#) in the banner section on the top of the City's home page. For those residents who have signed up to receive City alerts, you will receive an e-mail informing you that solid waste will not be collected and the collection schedule for the remainder of the week. If you are not yet signed up to receive alerts and wish to do so, please sign up [here](#).

Solid waste collection and snow plowing –

Public Works leaders and crews will adjust their plowing procedures during minor to moderate storms to minimize the impact of plowing on scheduled curbside collection. Please help the City by following the recommendations in this notice. Call Public Works at 603-528-6379 with questions or for more details.

WINTER PARKING BAN

Winter parking ban began Nov. 1st



As of November 1st, vehicles and trailers cannot be parked on a public street from midnight to 6:30 am. This ban allows Public Works crews to plow snow piles back against the curb and clear snow from the streets when there is little traffic on the street. Vehicles parked on a public street during this time may be ticketed or towed at the discretion of the Chief of Police or the Public Works Director. The fine for parking on a public street during these hours is \$25.00.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Hilliard Road Brush Dump

From November 1st to March 31st, the City of Laconia Hilliard Rd. Brush Dump, located at 325 Hilliard Road will be open for winter hours! It will be open every Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm, unless it is snowing. If there is a snowstorm, this facility will be closed as all Public Works personnel are involved with snow removal. Residents using this facility must have a Laconia dump sticker or a day pass.

We accept clean wood only (not painted, stained or pressure treated). Wood and tree branches must be no longer than 3 feet with a diameter of 3 inches or less. Leaves are not accepted at the Brush Dump.

Questions? Please call the Department of Public Works at 603-528-6379.

One Peer to Another

STRONGER TOGETHER
ADDICTION
RECOVERY GROUP

Every Thursday 5-6:30pm
Non-Clinical/ Non Judgemental

Contact: Wayne Hilliard, Peer Support Specialist @ (603) 528-7742
328 Union Ave Laconia, NH 03246
email: wayne.h@onepeer.org www.onepeer.org



Holiday Concerts
2023



*The Pemigewasset
Choral Society*
Music from the Heart

Admission
by Donation

Celebrating 50 Years of Singing!

LIGHT BEYOND DARKNESS

100 Voices, One Goal — To Spread the Joy of Choral Music!

William Gunn — Music Director | Laura Belanger — Accompanist

THURSDAY
DEC. 7 • 7:30 PM
Gilford
Community Church
GILFORD

FRIDAY
DEC. 8 • 7:30 PM
Moultonborough
Academy
MOULTONBOROUGH

SUNDAY
DEC. 10 • 3:00 PM
PSU
Silver Center
PLYMOUTH

Plymouth State
UNIVERSITY

PemiChoral.org

SILVER
CENTER FOR THE ARTS



LAKES
REGION
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
Benjamin Greene, Conductor

Christmas Belles

Carols and Holiday Classics by
Streisand, Garland, The Carpenters, Reeves...

Saturday December 9, 7pm

Colonial Theatre, Laconia

Sunday December 10, 3pm

Inter-Lakes Auditorium, Meredith



Celebrate the Season
at the Symphony

with special guest
vocalist Sheree Owens

Tickets \$10 – \$30 at www.LRSO.org

Sponsored by



The Laconia Community Center will be
CLOSED from Friday, November 10th
through Sunday, December 10th for:

The CHRISTMAS VILLAGE TAKEOVER!!!

Holiday Parade 2023



Our sincere thanks to W. Stephen Loughlin for these photos!



**THE NEW HORIZONS BAND OF THE LAKES
REGION PERFORMS A FREE
HOLIDAY CONCERT
SPONSORED BY THE LACONIA
PUTNAM FUND**

The New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region will perform its season opening Holiday Concert on Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00PM at the Laconia Middle School. The Band is grateful for the sponsorship of the Laconia Putnam Fund. As with all Putnam Fund performances, there is no admission charge, and all are welcome.

The Band is under the direction of Debbi Gibson, former Music Director in the Laconia School system. Mrs. Gibson is known in the Lakes Region for both her musical performances with many local groups as well as directing both instrumental as well as vocal artists. The Band was recently featured on WMUR TV's Chronicle, as they performed along with the three other New Horizons bands in the State of NH.

The concert will consist of familiar (and not so familiar) holiday themed selections. There will be an opportunity to sing along with the Band and to join in the festive atmosphere. Mrs. Gibson has often stated that "Music is medicine." It is medicinal for the performers, the listeners, and those just singing along.

The New Horizons Band members are made up of a cross section of local and regional musicians, many of whom have re-discovered their love of performing after years of working and raising families. Many of the members played in their high school bands and have returned to play again, often after decades away from their instruments. The band rehearses on Tuesday evenings at the Music Clinic, and we encourage anyone with a desire to play to come and join in. Contact us at 603-528-6672.



**2023 Assessed Values
Now available**

In accordance with the State of New Hampshire law RSA 75:8-a, the City of Laconia has completed an update of value of all real property as of April 1, 2023. This assessment is based on fair market value using market data from April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023. This allows municipalities to assess properties accurately, fairly, and at true value.

Individual assessments can be viewed by property location in a report of new value updates that can be found at www.laconianh.gov, top of the page, click ALERT.

Any questions should be directed to the Assessor's Office at 45 Beacon St. E. in Laconia, by calling 603-527-1268, or emailing assessing@laconianh.gov.



Soft Plastic Recycling

On Saturday, December 9th, from 11am-1pm (weather permitting!), the Laconia -Gilford Lions Club, along with the Green Sanctuary and Social Justice Committees of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Laconia, are holding the next collection of soft plastics.

We are also collecting pop-top canned goods to benefit the Community Action Program food drive. Soft clean plastics are accepted. No crunchy snack bags. No pet food bags. No boat storage covers. Any attached paper on bags needs to be cut off.



Our community is to be complimented for keeping these plastics out of landfills where they end up being burned, polluting the air we and every living thing breathes. Take one big smiling breath when you bring what you have saved to the curb, along with a pop-top canned good or two, to the little white church at 172 Pleasant St., Laconia. Our volunteers will be out front to assist you. Should you have any questions, please call the church office at 603-524-6488 or check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UULaconia/>



**REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE**

**Curbside
recycling
will be
picked
up the
week of
December 4th!**

Public Works UPDATE

Please note that all signs, chairs, tables and other items that you may have on the City's sidewalks in the downtown area are no longer allowed to be on the sidewalk. This allows Public Works' crews to plow and treat the sidewalks during the winter. Next spring if you desire to again place these items on the City sidewalks, you will need to submit new sidewalk encumbrance permits. Please call Public Works with questions or for more information—603-528-6379.

Public Works Department



An important reminder... Please keep sidewalks clear of obstructions for use by pedestrians!

The City of Laconia prohibits parking on the sidewalks or parking in such a manner that a portion of the sidewalk is blocked. There are no exceptions during the Winter parking ban period which is in effect until May 1st.

Property owners and renters need to ensure their vehicles do not block the sidewalk and are not parked on the road from midnight to 6:30 am. Cars improperly parked will be ticketed or towed to ensure that Public Works snow removal crews can clear City streets and sidewalks.

Thank you for your cooperation!

LIVE UNITED & BE INCLUSIVE



Learn more about 603 United here: <https://www.603united.org/>



Tickets are LIVE!

Buy your tickets today before it's too late!
Pay by check, cash, or card!

If you cannot make it, but you'd still like to contribute, we will be having a silent auction again this year. If you do not have anything to donate but would like to still give, you can be a sponsor.

Can't wait to see you on the dance floor!!

<https://www.603united.org/second-annual-603-united-soiree/>

Come one, come all, to our Club Member Talent Extravaganza! Watch in awe as our talented tribe takes the stage to belt out a tune, bust a move, act their hearts out, rock the drums, and even tickle your funny bone with some comedy gold. Get ready for a night of entertainment and cheer as we celebrate our crew's amazing abilities!

Doors open at 6 pm, show begins at 6:30 pm. Tickets are first come, first serve and you must select either upstairs or downstairs seating.



UPSTAIRS SEATING

\$10 Per Ticket. First come, first serve day of event seating. Must sit upstairs

[CLICK HERE](#)



DOWNSTAIRS SEATING


\$10 Per Ticket. First come, first serve day of event seating.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Laconia Senior Center 524-7689

DECEMBER 2023 ACTIVITIES

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
 4 9-11:00am-Foot and Blood pressure Clinic -Granite VNA *By Appointment* 11:00-12-Balloon bash with pool noodles	5 10-10:30- Fitness for Seniors- chair exercises 10:45- Book club swap and chat	6 10-12:00- Bingo 2:00-6:00pm-Belknap Mill Quilters "Pop up" sale	7 9:30am- Affordable Hearing-"by appointment" 10-11:00am- Fire Safety talk with Laconia Fire chief	1 Chair Yoga with Russ 10:45-11:15 Bingo (10-12) (movie to follow) 8 10:45-11:15: Chair Yoga with Russ 10-12:00- Bingo (movie to follow)
11 11:00 am- Manicures by Brenda 10-12:00- Christmas tree decoration and recipe and cookie exchange	12 10-10:30- Fitness for Seniors- chair exercises 10:45- Card games	13 10-12:00- Bingo 12:00- Bring your favorite dish to share and stay for lunch	14 10-11:00am- Seasonal Depression awareness w/ Brook Newman	15 10:45-11:15: Chair Yoga with Russ 10-12:00- Bingo (movie to follow)
18 10:00am- Christmas Caroling Karaoke 11:00am-White Elephant gift exchange	19 10-10:30- Fitness for Seniors- chair exercises	20 10-12:00- Bingo 12:30-Wear your favorite ugly Christmas sweater and stay for a potluck	21 11:30am -Meatloaf w/ Mushroom Gravy Holiday meal 1:00-"Elf"-the movie	22 10:45-11:15: Chair Yoga with Russ 10-12:00- Bingo
25 Closed- Happy Holiday's!	26 9-11:00am- Foot Clinic w/ Maddy 10-10:30- Fitness for Seniors- chair exercises	27 10-12:00- Bingo 12:00: Occupation story telling- Tell us about your prior occupations	28 10:00am-Birthday Party for Doris 11:00am- Activity planning meeting- bringing new ideas!	29 10:45-11:15: Chair Yoga with Russ 10-12:00- Bingo (movie to follow)

The Gift of Family

Trace your family's history and discover the stories of your ancestors with
Family History Services

from Laconia Historical & Museum Society

Our experienced researchers can create a custom family tree, perfect for gifting to loved ones during holidays or family gatherings.

From personalized research to expert guidance, we're with you every step of the way.

Visit laconiahistory.com

to learn more or purchase today
 to give a Family History Service
 this holiday season.



Come join us for the original Climate Change Christmas Musical for kids!
 With appearances by Rudolph, Frosty, Santa and more holiday favorites, the cast will have your family thinking green this holiday season.
 This is a free event. RSVP is not required.

Saturday, December 2 at 7:00 pm
Sunday, December 3 at 2:00 pm

Our yesterdays

Our sincere 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 ...

The Laconia Hospital dedicated a new wing — directly behind the original 1908 hospital building — 100 years ago this week. In this 1955 aerial, the 1923 'new wing' appears between the original structure and a 1947 addition, at right. Elliott Street is at bottom and Highland Street, off-photo at top. (Laconia Historical and Museum Society)



... AND NOW

The original hospital building was razed in June 1970, following another major expansion, and the parking lot enlarged. Today, the 1923 addition faces Elliott Street at the top of 'Hospital Hill.' Further major additions in 1985 and 2011 significantly expanded the hospital's footprint to the southeast, toward Spring and Highland streets. (Daniel Sarch/The Laconia Daily Sun)

Since there was no newsletter last week, please see the next page for an additional edition of "Our Yesterdays"....

Our yesterdays

Our sincere 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...

This is what Beacon Street (now Beacon Street East), in Laconia, looked like in the mid-1950s. The houses at right were removed in 1957 to create a municipal parking lot. The structures at left were among the first to be demolished, in September 1967, during the city's Urban Renewal Project. (Laconia Historical and Museum Society)



... AND NOW

A parking lot, behind the Lakes Region Mental Health Center and Citizens Bank, has replaced the fence in the earlier view, as has its drive-up ATM facility in the distance, at left. City Hall is just off-photo at right. (Daniel Sarch/The Laconia Daily Sun)

Public Works Department

Property Owner's Winter Survival Tip!

The best place to deposit snow when clearing your driveway is to put the snow downstream of your driveway. (Downstream is the direction the plow truck travels.) When Public Works plows the street the snow will be pushed away from the driveway instead of towards it. Be nice to your neighbor and take them into consideration when you are clearing your driveway!

Also, you can minimize the amount of snow plowed into your driveway by creating a pocket in the snow just upstream of your driveway. This pocket will allow some of the snow on the plow to fall off into the pocket, resulting in less in your driveway! City plow trucks have wing plows on them and, like delivery companies, we always want to turn right. This causes properties on an inside corner to have areas of deep snow.

Corner lot owners should take this into consideration when developing methods to minimize the impact of snow coming off from a plow blade.

Let us know if you have questions! Just call 603-528-6379. We are glad to help!



Who can benefit?

It's easy to sign up!

All individuals, including those with the following conditions can benefit:

- ♦ Diabetes
- ♦ Obesity
- ♦ High Blood Pressure
- ♦ Breathing Problems
- ♦ Heart Problems
- ♦ Multiple Sclerosis
- ♦ Inactivity
- ♦ Cancer
- ♦ Arthritis



Equipment Available:

- ⇒ Treadmills
- ⇒ Rowers
- ⇒ Recumbent Steppers and Bikes
- ⇒ Free Weights
- ⇒ Elliptical Trainer
- ⇒ Strength Training Machines
- ⇒ Floor Exercise Equipment

Monthly Membership Fee:

\$55 Individual / \$90 Couple

Scholarships available

Community Wellness Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Exercise in a supervised setting
Be safe, comfortable and have fun!
Get started today!

*Call the center to gain more
information and schedule a talk
with our medical staff!*

*If needed, our staff will get in contact
with your Primary Care Provider so
you can begin right away.*

*Medically supervised exercise
program focusing on senior fitness.*

Hours of operation:

7am - 3pm

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

22 Strafford St # 2

Laconia, NH 03246

(603) 527-9355

commwellness@atlanticbnn.net

LIGHT UP THE MILL

Help us light the Belknap Mill this holiday season.



#LightUptheMill

The tradition of lighting the windows at the Belknap Mill returns. We invite you to help brighten the windows of the Mill and keep them lit until January 2024.

Celebrate a special person or event by giving a gift of light.

All proceeds support the Belknap Mill's programming.

<https://belknapmill.app.neoncrm.com/>



Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction Ready to Launch 2023 Event

The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction will open its 2023 auction at the Belknap Marketplace on Tuesday, Dec. 5 through Friday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. All are invited to come to the event and experience the magic in person.

A family night will be offered on Thursday, Dec 7, from 5:30-7 p.m. Come meet the Grinch, have your child's picture taken with Santa, and build a toy in Santa's workshop. Children can also decorate a holiday cookie.

The auction will be streamed live at ChildrensAuction.org, LaconiaDailySun.com and Facebook.com/ChildrensAuction. Watch live on Lakes Region Public Access TV Channel 25, or listen on Lakes FM 101.5. Viewers can bid online at ChildrensAuction.org, starting on Black Friday, Nov 24. Bidders who create an account at ChildrensAuction.org, can bid early on high-value items. New this year, **any bidder can also put a maximum bid on any items that will close during the week of the auction.**

If you'd like to become a sponsor, view options at childrensauction.org/sponsorship, email Jenn@ChildrensAuction.org or call 603-527-0999.



Decoration Competition! Join the fun for FREE! Decorate your home or business and share with your community. Four different categories to win and a best business category. Signup deadline is **December 2 at midnight!** An interactive map and online voting will be posted for everyone to enjoy the decorations.

Register [here](#)!



Are you enjoying the City on the Lakes Holiday Walk and wish you had sponsored a tree? We still have some available. It's not too late to get yours now!

You can pay online or send in a check. We will get a sign on a tree for you to decorate! Details can be found by clicking [here](#)



PROPERTY TAX BILLS WERE MAILED 11/28/23!

'TIS the season for Property Taxes!

Tax bills were mailed on November 28, 2023 and are due December 29, 2023.

Questions about your assessed value should be directed to the Assessing Office at 603-527-1268. Questions about payments should be directed to the Tax Office at 603-527-1269.

Payment options are: In-person, at the City Clerk's office, the drop box on the side of City Hall, through the mail at PO Box 489, Laconia, NH 03247, over the phone at 1-855-906-0411 or online at www.laconianh.gov

Please note there is a fee of 2.79 % for all credit/debit card transactions and a \$0.95 fee for all ACH transactions online.



Laconia Rod & Gun Club
48th Annual Santa Jam & Auction
December 2nd - 2pm to 10pm
 Cash Bar - Live Bands - Jackie Lee and the Granite 3 & Dancing
 Live Auction, Chinese Raffle, Door Prizes,
 Drawings throughout the day/night

Breakfast with Santa
December 3rd - 9am to 12pm
 Pancakes, Sausage & Beverages
 DJ with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Arts & Crafts, Face Painting,
 Games & Prizes, Christmas Songs & Dancing
 with Rockin' Ricky, Elf & Maria Elf (Lundin,
 from center stage entertainment & karaoke).
 Wrapped gifts for kids
 from Santa and Mrs. Claus!

**ALL FREE TO THE CHILDREN OF THE LAKES REGION
 COMMUNITY AND SURROUNDING AREAS!**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS from the
 ROD AND GUN CLUB**
 358 So. Main St., Laconia (Next to Vista)

SECOND CHANCES
 A CASINO - THEMED EVENT SUPPORTING
 NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANE SOCIETY

JANUARY 19, 2024
 6:00PM AT CHURCH LANDING
 AT MILL FALLS, MEREDITH, NH

**HELP GIVE HOMELESS
 PETS A SECOND CHANCE**

SCAN TO VISIT
NHHUMANE.ORG/EVENTS

Join New Hampshire Humane Society for the inaugural Second Chances Casino Night
 which offers a second chance to homeless, defenseless animals.

Enjoy a fun night filled with: Charity casino games - Gourmet food and hors d'oeuvres
 Top shelf open bar - Music and dancing - Incredible silent auction and raffles

THE KADISH CHARITABLE TRUST **LAKES FM 101.5** **104.9 FM HAWK** **The Sun**
 UN-ROCK & RELAX ROCKIN' THE LAKES & MOUNTAINS The Lakes & Mountains Daily Sun



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

ONE PEER TO ANOTHER - LACONIA

328 Union Ave, Laconia, NH 03246 | (603) 528-7742

DECEMBER 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Local Warmline: 1-800-306-4334 Open 5-10 PM 7/365 days For when you need someone to talk to! Local Mental Health Agency: Lakes Region Mental Health Center (603) 524-1100 CALL OR TEXT 988 24/7/365 days For when you are in crisis, feeling suicidal, or need professional assistance!	"Do all things with love"	"You never fail until you stop trying"	"When you know better you do better"	"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud"	1 10a Monthly Member Mtg 11a Healthy Relationships 12-2p Walmart Shopping Trip 2p Positive Affirmations
	4 10a How Was Your Weekend? 11a Chair Yoga/Meditation 12p All About Music 1p Advocacy 2p Meal Prep & Recipe Sharing	5 10a Mutuality 11a Setting Limits 12p Journaling 1p Sleep Hygiene 2p Healthy Relationships	6 10a TED TALK 11a Self Kindness 12p Ice Breakers Jenga 1p Coping Skills 2p Creative Art & Talk	7 10a Healthy Boundaries 11a Nutrition w/Ayssa 12p Creative Writing 1p Let's Move 2p Rock Painting 5-6:30 Recovery Group	8 10a Self Kindness 11a Healthy Relationships 12p Music Trivia 1p Positive Affirmations 2p Socialization Skills
	11 10a How Was Your Weekend? 11a Chair Yoga/Meditation 12p All About Music 1p Advocacy 2p Meal Prep & Recipe Sharing	12 10a Mutuality 11a Setting Limits 12p Journaling 1p Sleep Hygiene 2p Healthy Relationships	13  Field Trip - BOWLING	14 10a Healthy Boundaries 11a Nutrition w/Ayssa 12p Creative Writing 1p Let's Move 2p Rock Painting 5-6:30 Recovery Group	15 10a Inner Healing 11a Emotional Well-being 12-2p Walmart Shopping Trip 1p Coping Skills 2p Journaling
	18 10a How Was Your Weekend? 11a Chair Yoga/Meditation 12p All About Music 1p Resumes w/Ryan 2p Meal Prep & Recipe Sharing	19 10a Mutuality 11a Setting Limits 12p Journaling 1p Sleep Hygiene 2p Healthy Relationships	20 10a TED TALK 11a Self Kindness 12p Ice Breakers Jenga 1p Coping Skills 2p Creative Art & Talk	21 10a Healthy Boundaries 11a Laughing Group 12p Creative Writing 1p Let's Move 2p Rock Painting 5-6:30 Recovery Group	22 Holiday Celebration Christmas Cookies  Wear Your Ugly Sweater!
	25 CLOSED 	26 10a Mutuality 11a Setting Limits 12p Journaling 1p Sleep Hygiene 2p Healthy Relationships	27 10a TED TALK 11a Self Kindness 12p Ice Breakers Jenga 1p Coping Skills 2p Creative Art & Talk	28 10a Healthy Boundaries 11a Laughing Group 12p Creative Writing 1p Let's Move 2p Rock Painting 5-6:30 Recovery Group	29 10a Inner Healing 11a Emotional Well-being 12p Healthy Relationships 1p Coping Skills 2p Journaling

News

From the City Clerk's Office



2024 Transfer Station Stickers

2024 Transfer Station stickers will be available for sale at the City Clerk's Office starting December 11, 2023.

Transfer Station stickers are \$25 each; a valid vehicle registration for the vehicle must be presented at the time of purchase for the vehicle the sticker will be put on.

Questions?
Please call the City Clerk's Office,
603-527-1265.

Reminder from the Department of Public Works!

Fall curbside leaf pickup is over!

The last week for property owners to have their bagged leaves collected at the curbside was the week of November 13th. All residents must now bring their bagged leaves to the Transfer Station for disposal.

Residents do not need a dump or day pass to dispose of leaves, but you must have some form of identification that shows you are a resident of Laconia. A utility bill or tax bill are acceptable forms of identification.



Beginner Quilting Classes For Students & Adults - 2024!

What: Develop basic sewing skills while creating a tied quilt (throw size—40" x 50").

Where: Laconia Middle School, 150 McGrath St., Laconia NH 0324

Cost: \$10 Registration Fee

When: Saturdays: Jan. 13th, 20th, 27th & Feb 3, 10 & 17th, 2024 (March makeup dates)

Times: *Youth* (ages 10 - 16): 9 am - 11 am & *Adults* (ages 17 & Up): Noon - 2 pm
For Youth Class, a responsible adult is required to attend the 1st Class.

Sponsored by: The Belknap Mill Quilters Guild - Have questions, email us at info@bmkg.org

Pre-registration is Required: Register at BMKG.org

Due to the popularity of these classes you will receive a confirmation email letting you know you have either secured a seat in the class or that you have been placed on a wait list.

Maximum Class Sizes

- 15 Youth Students ages 10-16
- 15 Adults ages 17 +
- *We are limiting attendance to those who have not participated in a previous workshop series.*

Learn Basic Sewing Skills!



**All Fabric & Supplies
Are Provided!**

**Sewing machines are on
loan for classroom work.**



City of Laconia

Laconia City Hall
45 Beacon St. East
Laconia, NH 03246
www.laconianh.gov
info@laconianh.gov



CITY HALL HOURS:
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday through Friday
(603) 527-1270

SENIOR RESOURCES

ServiceLink Resource Center
(603) 528-6945 is the first number
to call for senior services.

Baby Boomers AND FOOD SAFETY

About 1 in 6 Americans will get food poisoning each year. Older adults are at an increased risk of serious complications from foodborne illness. A few simple steps can help keep the golden years pleasant for you or older adults you help care for.



Adults 65 and older are more likely to be hospitalized or die from foodborne illness. An increased risk of foodborne illness is due to the changes that organs and body systems go through as people age. To keep you or those you love safe and to learn more about food safety, click [here](#) for additional information provided by FoodSafety.gov.



City Meetings

Week of:
Dec. 4 - Dec. 8

Public participation and citizen input is a vital part of City government. Below is a list of meetings scheduled for the upcoming week. As agendas become available they will be posted on the City's [website](#). Also, printed copies of any agenda are available in the City department in charge of a particular Board or Commission. You are invited and encouraged to participate in any of our public meetings. **All meetings are open to the public and are held at Laconia City Hall, unless otherwise noted:**

Water Commission

December 4, 2023, 6:00 pm

[Agenda](#)

Planning Board

December 5, 2023, 6:30 pm

[Agenda](#)

Special Events Review Comm.

December 6, 2023, 12:00 noon

[Agenda](#)

Trustees of the Trust Funds

December 6, 2023, 2:00 pm

[Agenda](#)



CITY OF LACONIA PHONE DIRECTORY

(All phone numbers below
must be preceded by 603)

Airport	524-5003
Airport Manager - Marv Everson	
Assessing	527-1268
Assistant Assessor - Tara Baker	
City Clerk	527-1265
City Clerk - Katie Gargano	
City Manager	527-1270
City Manager - Kirk Beattie	
Code Enforcement	527-1293
Katherine Menici, Planning & Zoning Dir.	
Conservation	527-1264
Conservation Technician	
Finance	524-3877
Finance Director - Glenn Smith	
Licensing	528-6331
Licensing - Hilary Young	
Fire Dept. (Central Station) ...	524-6881
Fire Chief - Tim Joubert	
Fire Dept. (Weirs Station)	366-2229
Library	524-4775
Library Director - Deann Hunter	
Parks & Recreation	524-5046
Parks & Rec. Director - Amy Lovisek	
Personnel	524-3877
Personnel Administrator - Lindsey Allen	
Planning & Zoning	527-1264
Katherine Menici, Planning & Zoning Dir.	
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 - Katie Gargano	
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
Steven Bogert (Ward 5)	528-0613
Tony Felch (Ward 6)	998-1418

General Council E-mail:
citycouncil@laconianh.gov

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