



Moultonborough Town News

Fall 2019



MOULTONBOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW OFFICERS

The Moultonborough Police Department welcomes Sean Welch a long time Lakes Region resident with over a decade serving in law enforcement. We would be remiss not to thank John Curran who is a retired NH State Trooper who stepped up in a big way this summer as a part time Officer to help with our staffing shortages. Please be sure to say hello when you see our newest Officers.

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

It has been an exciting year for our office! Alison Rush joined the department on March 4, 2019. She has been an asset to the department, she received her DRA- certification as a Measure and Lister and attended several assessing courses. We hired a new assessing company, Whitney Consulting Group (WCG) who completed the 2019 update and 20% cyclical work. The 2019 update is completed, the MS-1 report was submitted to the NH Department of Revenue Administration to begin setting the tax rate. The results of the update show a 9.6% increase in values. The update was based on 310 qualified sales from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019, (93 of which were residential waterfront properties.) My goal as Town Assessor is to continue assessing properties within the town equitably and fairly with your neighbors in accordance with the New Hampshire Laws and keep the assessing process transparent and open.

In the coming year 2020 we plan to continue with the cyclical revaluation, with WCG visiting 20% of the town, this includes measuring all the buildings to ensure dimensions are correct. They will attempt to gain interior access to ensure the data (bedroom, bathroom count, heat etc.) is accurate. We plan to update values to keep up with the current market values.

You can download many different forms and applications from the town's website. You can also view tax maps, your property record card or link to the Vision on-line database. The Carroll County Registry of Deeds is also on-line! You can search for recorded documents at www.nhdeeds.com. Please feel free to call our office, if we can assist you in any way. We look forward to continuing working with you and for you.

MOULTONBOROUGH RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

After a very busy spring, summer and early fall, the Recreation Department is gearing up for winter. As such we remain committed to providing the highest quality in activities, events and programs for residents and visitors of all ages. These include but are not limited to the following: Adult Pickle Ball (held in conjunction with Meredith Parks and Recreation and at the Meredith Community Center); Beyond the Bell – after school program which now includes field trips, Totally Toddler and Music and Movement for our youngest “Rec kids”, youth basketball, Basketball Hoopla, sledding parties, teen activities, including “Teen Night” on December 27th - and much more.

With our new coach bus, we are able to offer trips more affordably to seniors, families and teens. We continue to use school buses for our youth summer camps due to the numbers. A trip to the Nutcracker at the Capital Center for the Arts, dinner and a ride through the Festival of Lights in Loudon is planned for Sunday December 8th. Other trips will be offered throughout the year.

Once the ice rink is open – usually in late December, with Mother Nature's Cooperation, skating parties and lessons will be added to the schedule. New dasher boards and replacing the plexi-glass around the rink with a more durable material will improve the aesthetics of this venue. We look forward to our continued collaboration with the Castle in the Clouds in offering outdoor events such as full moon snowshoe hikes and other fun activities. Other improvements to the park that are in process and hope to be completed by the publication of this newsletter include a new pavilion with composting toilets, a bocce court and a flagpole.

Information about the Moultonborough Recreation Dept. and its many activities can be found on the town's website by clicking on the Recreation Department page.

WINTER HOME HEATING SAFETY TIPS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Service oil and propane heating systems annually.
- Fireplaces and woodstoves: burn only seasoned wood, have chimney cleaned and inspected each year prior to use, open flue before starting fire, use spark screens, keep combustible materials (wood, newspapers, clothing etc.) away from unit.
- Keep anything that burns at least three feet from heating equipment (furnace, woodstove, fireplace, or portable heater). Don't stack wood on top of these.
- Do not use your oven to heat your home.
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
- Close bedroom doors every night before you go to sleep. Closing doors keeps smoke and fire out of the room and allows occupants time to escape in the event of a fire. **"Close Before You Doze"**
- Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.
- Portable space heaters use only UL or ETL listed appliances, leave 3 feet of clearance around heater, use only when in the room, never leave unattended or when children are in the room, never use to dry clothing or blankets.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected and cleaned every year.
- Keep exhaust vents and chimneys clear of snow build up.
- Keep access and egress paths to house shoveled and sanded.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Change batteries if you already have detectors.
- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Never run your car in the garage to warm it up, pull vehicle outside and close the garage door.
- Make sure your home/business is properly numbered, we can't help you if we can't find you. For more information please see https://www.moultonboroughnh.gov/sites/moultonboroughnh/files/uploads/ord_20_buildingnumbssystem031415.pdf
- Have a Home Fire Escape Plan and practice it.
- Be prepared if the power goes out.
- Every home should have a Disaster Supply Kit that should contain the following: Water: at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days. Food: at least enough for 3 to 7 days. Non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices, foods for infants or the elderly, snack foods, non-electric can opener, cooking utensils / fuel, paper plates, plastic utensils. Blankets/pillows, etc. Clothing: seasonal, rain gear, sturdy shoes. Medical supplies - first aid kit, medicines, prescription drugs. Special Items: for infants and the elderly. Toiletries: hygiene items. Moisture wipes. Flashlight with extra batteries. Radio: battery-operated and NOAA weather radio. Cash: (Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods). Important documents: in a waterproof container, insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, social security card, etc. Keys. Toys, books and games. Tools: keep a set with you during the storm. Vehicle fuel tanks filled. Pet care items. Proper identification, immunization records, ample supply of food and water, a carrier or cage, medications, muzzle and leash.
- Be prepared to leave if you need to, keep a "go bag" ready with essential items you will need if you have to leave.
- If you have no heat and the temperature is below freezing, run water at a trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing and breaking.



For more information on emergency preparedness please contact Chief David Bengtson at 603-476-5658.

Heating Assistance Programs: NHOEP Weatherization Program 603-271-6539 or go to the following website:

<https://www.nh.gov/osi/energy/programs/fuel-assistance/index.htm>.

MOULTONBOROUGH MILFOIL COMMITTEE NEWS

The goal of the Moultonborough Milfoil Committee (MMC) is to bring the infestation of milfoil under control in all recreational waters (both lakes and streams) within the borders of the town. A committee of volunteers, a team of Weed Watcher volunteers and a team of Lake Hosts work together to manage this task. This summer, Lake Kanasatka volunteers joined our efforts. Thank you for stepping up and learning how to protect your waters. Thank you to all our volunteers. We value your help.

We partner with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Protection and the New Hampshire Lake Association in our efforts to manage invasive plants and animals. Since eradication is all but impossible, the effort will be continuous and rely on volunteers to perform necessary jobs each season. We need you to volunteer to help our efforts. Please contact lakehoststracy@gmail.com or weedwatchers.moultonborough@gmail.com or simply call the Town Hall at 603-476-2347 and tell the receptionist you'd like to volunteer to help control the spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants. Thank you for your support!

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Highway crew would ask all residents to please check your roadside mailboxes to help minimize the chance of mailbox damage by the wing plow and the winter plowing operation. This can be done by checking that the mailbox is at least 42" above the roadway surface when the mailbox door is open, and that the mailbox support be three feet off the edge of the edge of the pavement or traveled surface. These guidelines can be found under the Public Works web page on the Town's website by clicking on Department & Boards, then clicking on Public Works, under additional links, click on Suggestions for Placement of Roadside Mailboxes. The department also has a web based "Service Request Form." This form assists the various divisions in responding more efficiently to service requests made by the residents.

We would like to thank our "Adopt-a-Spot" gardeners, for their beautiful flower beds at our facilities and Town line borders. We would also like to thank our "Adopt-a-Facility" participants for their adoption of the mowing and trimming efforts at our public buildings. If you have any concerns, questions or complaints, please feel free to contact the DPW office at 603-253-7445, via e-mail at dpw@moultonboroughnh.gov, or by stopping by the Highway Garage.

CODE, COMPLIANCE & HEALTH OFFICE

It's been a very busy spring and summer. By the beginning of October, we've processed over 224 building permits, 572 subcontractor permits, and completed over 400 inspections. We continue to fine tune the permitting process and look forward to introducing new forms for building permits and subcontractor permits. The goal is to make the forms more user friendly while providing the Code Officer with needed information. The Code Officer is available Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. to answer questions and to meet with contractors and property owners. Inspections begin after 10:00 a.m. and can be scheduled by calling the office at 603-476-2347. 24-hour advance notice is requested and appreciated. Applications for Building Permits will be processed once all of the required information is submitted. Building plans for most construction is needed. Depending on the location of the property and the type of construction, the following documents may be required: NH DES approved septic plan, NH DES Shoreland Permit, Town approved Driveway Permit. Upon receiving all of the requested documents, a review will occur, the permit fee will be determined by the Code & Compliance Officer, and the owner or contractor will be notified that it is ready to be issued and the amount of the fee (check or cash). The review/approval period depends on the project and could be ready within 7 to 21 days. Licenses are required and copies will be requested for work done by Electrical, Plumbing and Gas contractors. As of September 15, 2019, the State of NH has adopted the ICC 2015 series of codes with amendments. All permit applications submitted after this date will fall under these codes.

Please visit the Code, Compliance & Health Department's page on the Town's website. A lot of information, along with forms and links are available.

MOULTONBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS - SANTA FUND

Would you like to brighten the holidays for a local child? Please consider donating to the Santa Fund. This Trust Fund was created to support eligible families in the town of Moultonborough during the holiday season. It was started by the Moultonborough Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary over 25 years ago. Due to our community involvement, central location, and open hours, the library was deemed the logical choice to take on the responsibility after the dissolution of the Auxiliary. The Santa Fund Committee is comprised of library staff volunteers and other dedicated town residents. Our goal is to provide jackets, boots, and other requested clothing, grocery gift cards, and toys and gifts for children living in Moultonborough. Children up to and including age 16 are eligible for the program. Assistance from local citizens, organizations, and businesses is always welcome and appreciated. All donated funds are held in custodial trust by the Moultonborough Trustees of the Trust Funds. Please call the Moultonborough Public Library at 603-476-8895 for more information. Thank you!

MOULTONBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM

We are looking forward to Fall/Winter events scheduled for the Children's Room. We offer two **Story Times** a week all year round! On Tuesday evenings at 6pm, kids wear their PJ's and hear bedtime stories. On Friday mornings at 11am, we offer stories, songs and an easy craft. **Lego's & More** meet the third Wednesday of the month 3:00pm - 4:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us to see what you can build! Upcoming special events include: A visit with Santa, ornament making, cookie decorating, Teen Cooking program, Read-A-Thon, Bingo, game night, movies and crafts. Check out our website at www.moultonboroughlibrary.org for a complete calendar of events, pictures and collection. Check out our Facebook page too!

MOULTONBOROUGH SCHOOLS NEWS

COURAGE + GRATITUDE + FORGIVENESS + COMPASSION IN ACTION = CHOOSING LOVE!

Walk into nearly all Moultonborough Central School classrooms first thing in the morning, and you will hear students exploring the concepts of Courage, Gratitude, Forgiveness and Compassion in Action. These four qualities are the core of the Jesse Lewis Choose Love Enrichment Program, which was created in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy in 2012.

The program focuses on four important character values – Courage, Gratitude, Forgiveness and Compassion in Action – which cultivates optimism, resilience and personal responsibility. Included elements are positive psychology, mindfulness, neuroscience, character values and more.

Children learn that Choosing Love means choosing to live a life with Courage and Gratitude, practicing Forgiveness, and being Compassionate individuals. Being able to Choose Love promotes their resilience in challenging times. As a result, children learn personal responsibility and the understanding that they always have a choice in how they respond. They realize they can choose to love themselves, and others, and the program teaches them how to do this.

Jesse Lewis



Choose Love

“Although we can’t always choose what happens to us, we can always choose how to respond. Children can learn to choose a loving thought over an angry one. When a child realizes that they have the power to positively impact themselves as well as those around them, it is empowering and perpetuates their positive actions and interactions.” –Scarlett Lewis, Founder of the Jesse Lewis Choose Love Movement™ and Jesse’s mother

During the past year, a group of MSD educators learned about the Jesse Lewis Choose Love Program and worked to bring information about the program to the District. Shannon Decilets, of the NH Governor’s Office, presented an overview of the program and its impact during a workshop at the District’s summer curriculum institute in August. From there, MCS opted to pilot the program across all K-6 classrooms, with all teachers and staff participating with students. It is exciting to hear the many connections students are making and all the ways they are showing Courage in their lives! If the pilot program is successful, ideas are in development that include whole school and community initiatives.

MOULTONBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL VETERANS DAY TRADITION



On Friday, November 8th, Moultonborough Central School held its 22nd annual Veterans Day Assembly in the MCS Gymnasium. The program is held each year to commemorate Veterans Day and to recognize local veterans who have served our country in any branch of the military: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, or Navy.

The first MCS Veterans Day Assembly was held in 1998 and was started by MCS Art Teacher, Terry Dempsey. He felt there was a need to do something for local veterans who were not being remembered, as well as educating the children of Moultonborough

about the time and sacrifice these veterans had given in service to our country. Mr. Dempsey said, “There was little or no recognition of Veterans Day in our school, and I felt we needed something to help our students learn about and remember the veterans.” Nine veterans were honored the first year.

The assembly traditionally includes patriotic music, the Pledge of Allegiance, recognition of each veteran, the first performance by the MCS Select Chorus, and over the years has also included speakers, a slideshow, and the playing of “Taps.”

Over the past 21 years, MCS has welcomed over 250 different men and women from every branch of the service. In 2001 after the 9/11 tragedy, the assembly also included members of the Moultonborough Police and Fire Departments in recognition of their service to our town. Through the years, guests have included the pilot who flew Air Force One and brought John F. Kennedy’s body from Dallas to Washington; a veteran who worked with NASA on the first spacesuits and presented one to President Lyndon Johnson; a World War II veteran who had several brothers survive the war; parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, and friends of MCS students, as well as veterans who attended the assembly years ago when they were MCS students.

Dempsey’s father, Gilbert O. Dempsey, a World War II veteran, attended the program in 1999 and died two months later. Since then, the assembly closes with the veterans processing out to “Stars and Stripes Forever.” “It was one of my Dad’s favorite songs and I feel blessed to remember him each year with that song.” said Mr. Dempsey.

This has been a great opportunity to remember those in our local community who have served our country. The general public is always cordially invited to join us for this special program.