



Moultonborough Town News

Fall 2018



MOULTONBOROUGH WELCOMES A NEW CODE, COMPLIANCE, HEALTH OFFICER

Our new Code, Compliance, Health Officer, Steve Zalewski, began work on June 25, 2018. Here is an introduction to who he is in his own words.

It is my pleasure to be working for the Town of Moultonborough. Most of my life, I have lived in Carroll County but have worked in the construction field all over New England. It is so nice working close to home again. I have renewed many old acquaintances in town and made many more new ones. I cannot say enough about the Town's employees, board members, and others who have gone out of their way to help "the new guy". I am very grateful to you all. My predecessor, Don Cahoon, and Land Use Assistant, Bonnie Whitney deserve special thanks for helping me through a very busy transition period.

Over the past several years, Moultonborough has experienced a huge increase in growth, with new construction and re-construction increasing the Town's valuation by several millions of dollars. This growth has continued through 2018. Needless to say, the Building Department has been overloaded with work. I thank all who have been patient with us during this period.

The tremendous amount of permit applications, plan reviews, site inspections, phone calls, e-mails, and other items have become significant. We are considering changes to the systems we use to better cope with this work load. We will be working with our Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen to streamline our methods and systems in the coming months. Some changes will occur very soon, others will happen hopefully, by the first of the new year. Looking forward to continued work with you all.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN ASSESSOR

It is hard to believe I have been working in the Town of Moultonborough for almost a year. The taxpayers have been wonderful, the experience has been delightful, and I remain extremely busy. I continue to implement policies in the Assessing Department to ensure the work flow is consistent. 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. The 2018 update is complete, and the MS-1 report was submitted to the NH Department of Revenue Administration. The results of the update show a 5% increase in values. Some values went up more and some went up less, the total for the Town is 5%. The update was based on 316 qualified sales, 91 of which were residential waterfront properties.

The 2019 year is going to be exciting. We mailed RFP's for the Assessing Services for 2019 to complete a statistical update and begin the cyclical revaluation. The cyclical revaluation is a great way to ensure the Town's data remains accurate. The company will visit 20% of the Town yearly, they will measure 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 also correct.

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.

REMAINING HOLIDAYS FOR 2018 TOWN HALL & TRANSFER STATION ARE CLOSED

Veteran's Day, Monday, November 12, 2018
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22, 2018

Day After Thanksgiving, Friday, November 23, 2018
Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, 2018



Need to Contact Us: Phone: (603) 476-2347 Fax: (603) 476-5835

www.moultonboroughnh.gov

NEWS FROM TOWN PLANNER

During this past summer the Planning Board and the Town Planner have been involved with various planning projects and programs which have an impact on community development for Moultonborough. New community development initiatives have been launched by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen working together. Planning Department staff continue to provide administrative and technical support to these community development programs.

Community development activities included: 1) Creation of the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) which has been tasked by the Board of Selectmen to focus on economic development and housing development; 2) the "Charrette" community-based planning event with substantial local support and donations as well as record-setting attendance of local residents; 3) New applications for Planning Board review and approval including a 16-lot subdivision proposal for the Kona Mansion property on Jacobs Road; 4) "In-House" up-dating of two chapters of the Master Plan by the Conservation Commission and the Heritage Commission

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The library added a lovely garden to the grounds this past year. The *McCue-Prouty Memorial Garden* was dedicated on a balmy Saturday in September. Both Shirley McCue and Phyllis Prouty served as trustees for many years and were Mary Rice Volunteer Award winners. The garden is a lovely spot with a beautiful assortment of perennials, a waterfall flowing into a little frog pond, and two benches. The Friends of the Library and private donations provided all the funding. Thanks to the continuing generosity of the Friends, we have passes to several attractions that are open year-round: The Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord, and the Remick Museum in Tamworth. The Friends will have their next House Tour on Thursday, June 20, 2019. This is their biggest fundraiser and most popular event of the year. Our Holiday Open House is on Friday December 7, 11:00am-2:00pm. Stop by for treats and a cup of good cheer!



Children's Room Events: Our Summer Reading Program theme this year was "Libraries Rock." We had great fun with music, magic, animals and rocks! 133 children read throughout the summer, meeting and exceeding their goals. Older children read 84,631 pages and "Read to Me" participants read 2,690 books. Congratulations to our top readers, Kennedy Sturgeon, Knox Nolin and Grace Elliott. Julia Gray won a wonderful prize from the Boston Bruins, a signed team jersey! Next year's theme is "Space: A Universe of Stories."

Our annual Jingle Bell Party and tree lighting with a visit from Santa will take place on Friday, Dec 7, 6:15-8:00pm. Enjoy a sweet treat and punch (after a light dinner at the Recreation Dept., our co-sponsor). Then every child may visit and receive a gift from Santa. *Casual Cape* owners Norman and Vera Poitras have very generously donated the gifts for the past 11 years for this wonderful program. Thank you Norm and Vera! We'll also be crafting, decorating cookies, and offer other seasonal activities throughout the holidays.

Story Time continues on Tuesday evenings at 6pm and Friday mornings at 11:00am with stories, songs and a simple craft. Music and Movement will be back on Thursday mornings at 10:00am at the Recreation Dept. Great fun for children of all ages! There are several Read-A-Thons scheduled with the first for Grades 1-3 on Friday, January 25, 5:30-7:00pm. Grades 4-6 R.A.T will be on Friday, February 15, 5:30-8:00pm. This fun event includes quiet reading, snacks and pizza. It is a great way of sharing what you are reading with your classmates and getting book recommendations! New for 2019 will be a monthly toddler/preschool dance party and kindness projects



Technology News: If you are interested in learning more about your smart device (iPhones, iPads, tablets, smartphones or laptops), sign up for one of our Technology Classes. We offer an assortment of classes, including iPhones and iPads Tips & Tricks, Microsoft Office Word, Excel and Publisher, and Windows 10 for Beginners. Class sizes are limited to eight participants, so please register in advance and remember, ask to use one of our tablets or laptops, if needed. Check our website, www.moultonboroughlibrary.org for the schedule of upcoming classes. Don't forget about our weekly Drop-in Help sessions from 2:00-4:00pm on Mondays for all technology questions and Tuesdays from 2:00-4:00pm when we focus on Apple devices. If you would prefer our One on One scheduled appointments for personalized instruction; just call the library at 476-8895 to set one up.

New this year is our Kids Coding Club, which meets the second Wednesday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm. Please call to sign up and reserve a laptop. The purpose of this club is to introduce coding to kids in a fun way. This club is intended for elementary & middle school students. We expect beginners!

MILFOIL UPDATE

The Ongoing Challenge of Invasive Aquatic Plants

The control of non-native invasive aquatic plants in Moultonborough this past summer was the focus of over 40 local volunteers, many of whom are your neighbors. Invasive aquatic plants are undesirable because they disrupt the ecological balance of our waterbodies and make the use of our lakes, ponds and streams both unpleasant and dangerous. Left unchecked, they ultimately reduce property values and can affect our tourism based local economy. We are happy to report this annual effort yielded significant results in 2018.



Harvesting - As of this writing we have removed over 20,000 gallons of Variable Milfoil in 2018. Warm weather early and throughout the summer fostered high growth this year. With improved surveying techniques, we also found many new areas of growth in deeper waters that required more work by our harvesting dive teams.

Herbicide Treatments – Only one DES approved herbicide application took place in 2018 covering a total of approximately 40 acres across 9 different locations, primarily in the upper reaches of Moultonborough Bay. In 2019, we anticipate DES approval of a more effective, less restrictive herbicide for our local use.

Lake Hosts - In 2018 we conducted over 2710 courtesy boat inspections at the three major boat ramps in Moultonborough to make sure no invasive plants were brought in or transferred out of our lakes. During these inspections we provided over 6,594 boat owners and their guests with educational information about what they can do to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants.

Weed Watchers – In 2018, Weed Watchers used their canoes, kayaks PWC's and paddleboards to survey their waterfront neighborhoods and sent in over 30 reports on Milfoil growth. This important data is used to schedule harvesting and herbicide treatments. Local "eyes on the water" are critical to the success of our efforts.

Looking Ahead - In 2019, more local volunteers are needed to keep this important program going. If you have interest in being a Lake Host or a Weed Watcher in your local area 4 to 6 times during the summer months, we will be happy to train you. Please contact lakehosttracy@gmail.com or weedwatchers.moultonborough@gmail.com or simply call the Town Hall at 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

As winter is fast approaching, 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 3' off 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. This is truly a "Community in Partnership". If you have any concerns, questions or complaints, please feel free to contact the DPW office at 253-7445, via e-mail at dpw@moultonboroughnh.gov, or by stopping by the Highway Garage.

MOULTONBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS KICK OFF A NEW YEAR

Moultonborough 7th and 8th grade students began the school year with an overnight trip to the Merrowvista camp. This was the second year that 7th and 8th grade students visited Merrowvista. Students and staff took part in team-building activities on both the high and low ropes courses. After a large campfire event, students and staff spent the night at the camp. They returned to school the next day and continued team-building activities on campus.

September also saw the 6th graders make their annual week-long trip to the Sargent Center. For some students this was their first extended time away from their families. Students were divided into smaller groups for the week. These small groups engaged in many team-building activities throughout the week and also had responsibilities such as setting and clearing the dinner tables. Other Sargent Center activities included the rock wall, canoeing, environmental science, and high ropes course. Students returned to school at the end of the week tired, smelly, and with dirty laundry, but also with smiles on their faces.

The 5th grade was not left out of the action. They went to Copper Canyon camp in Bethlehem. The idea was to give the 5th graders a little taste of what Sargent Center will be like next year. Students participated in team-building and problem-solving activities, as well as water quality testing. Students and staff reported positively on their Copper Canyon experience. This is something we might look to expand next year.

ARE YOU A GOOD LISTENER?

Have you ever felt the sting of not feeling listened to or wished you were a better listener yourself? Listening well is one of the most important tools we have to learn about our world—its people, places, and ideas. Freshmen students at Moultonborough Academy spent their first weeks of high school learning about both the benefits of and tricks for good listening, and one group took the opportunity to share their knowledge publicly by designing a thought-provoking bulletin board.



The board focuses largely on empathy and how good listening can make others feel important and understood, while bad listening can be detrimental. The display has literally stopped several people in their tracks with its powerful message. A huge thanks to the freshmen for spreading their wisdom in such a meaningful way!

THE MARKET IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The **MArket**, a student run school store at Moultonborough Academy, opened for business in early September. The **MArket** includes school apparel, and food & drinks. Students from Mrs. Sullivan's business classes handle the day-to-day operations, and all of the proceeds go to benefit the After Prom party. Hopefully, we will see you in new gear from the **MArket**! Open before school, after school, and the first 15 minutes of PAWS block. ****Gift Cards are available****



NEWS FROM THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

As fall turns to winter the Moultonborough Recreation Department continues to offer a wide variety of activities, events, trips and programs for residents and visitors of all ages. These include, but are not limited to the following: Adult Pickle Ball (held at the Meredith Community Center and in conjunction with Meredith Parks and Recreation); Youth basketball and the Beyond the Bell (after school program), Totally Toddler and Music and Movement for toddlers and a parent. Mah

Jong and Bridge players meet at the Recreation Dept. on a regular basis. Once the ice rink is up and running we'll offer skating lessons and family skating parties. Also look for our Holiday Open House in early December and the Cardboard Sled Derby in February. On Friday December 21st, we'll be celebrating the winter solstice at, and in conjunction with the Castle in the Clouds. Many of our winter activities such as full moon snowshoe hikes, adult, teen and family trips, are still in the planning stages so be sure check us out on the Town's website – click on the Recreation Dept. button under Department's and Boards. We are also on Facebook.