NEWS FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR’S OFFICE

The flurry of activity the Summer brings has now passed and we are gearing up for the busy Fall/Winter months! We enjoyed seeing all our summer visitors and sharing information about our tax kiosk, online payments and Paperless Billing options! These features have proven to be of great help in assisting our year-round residents and seasonal folks access their tax information and make payments from the convenience of home. If you are interested in signing up for the Paperless Billing option or would like more information, please contact our office.

Your December Bill reflects the updated assessed values and 2016 tax rate. If you have questions relative to your assessment or require an address change for billing, please contact the Assessing Department and they will assist you. For your convenience, you may view and pay your bills online using our Tax Kiosk found at www.nhtaxkiosk.com or via the Town’s website at www.moultonboroughnh.gov. All information found on the tax kiosk is up to date and reflects what our internal systems display. Please note, although you may sign up for Paperless Billing through the kiosk at the time payments are being made, it is not a requirement. You may bypass this option in the online payment process and continue to receive your bills through the mail. As always, it is our pleasure to continue to serve you in the Tax Collector’s Office!

2017 & 2018 TRANSFER STATION/BEACH PERMITS

The 2017 & 2018 Transfer Station/Beach Permits will be available for purchase the first week of December. You can purchase these permits at the Town Hall, Monday – Friday between 7:30am – 4:00pm. Please have your license plate number available when you come in.

You can also purchase these by mail by sending us a request with your name, physical address in Moultonborough, license plate #, the State that the vehicle is registered in, a return self-addressed stamped envelope and a check made out to the Town of Moultonborough for the correct amount. Each 2 year permit is $20.00 each.

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING A WELCOME CHANGE!

As many of you know, single stream recycling was implemented at the Moultonborough Transfer Station this past spring. Almost all of the comments we’ve received regarding the change have been positive and facility users are enjoying the ease and benefits of the program! We will be working over the winter months to address some of the issues we had with long waiting lines especially during the days following holiday weekends. Thank you for your patience during our busiest days. We also want to remind you to be sure and visit the Transfer Station’s web page at http://www.moultonboroughnh.gov/transfer-station/pages/single-stream-no-nos for a list of the latest “No - Nos” of single stream recycling.
**LIBRARY NEWS**

The library has several groups that meet on a weekly or monthly basis. Everyone is welcome to attend any time, no need to sign up. Our **Stitch n’ Chat** handcrafters meet every Friday (10am) and our **Coloring for Adults** artists meet every Tuesday at 10:30am. Our informal **Book Talk** readers meet the second Thursday at 10:30am of the month. The **Evening of Poetry** poets meet on the first Tuesday at 7:30pm of every month.

Our **Technology Users Group** meets every Monday at 2:00pm. We will continue to offer our popular technology classes throughout the winter months. Technology librarian, AnneMarie Welch, is also available for one-on-one assistance with various devices. Through the NH State Library, the library has access to Overdrive for downloadable audio books, e-books and e-magazines. Patrons can access thousands of titles for a wide variety of devices. Please ask at the Circulation Desk for more information.

Our Friends of the Library sponsor passes to many local museums. The **Currier Museum of Art** in Manchester, the **Remick Museum** in Tamworth, and the **Planetarium** in Concord are open year round. Patrons can call us in advance to reserve the free or discounted passes for a particular date. The Friends **Fall Book Discussions with Scholars** concludes with **Plainsong** (Kent Haruf) on November 17th. Program Coordinator Susan Merrifield has already organized the next series for the spring: **Partners in Command: George Marshall and Dwight Eisenhower in War and Peace** (Mark Perry) on April 20th, **Lilah** (Marilynne Robinson) on May 25th and **Learning to Drive** (Mary Hays) on July 20th. Yes, sometimes there is such a thing as a “free lunch.” The Friends have already scheduled their extremely popular **Soup and Sweets Lunch** for St Patrick’s Day, March 17th. We will have delicious homemade soups and sweets for everyone. Please plan on joining us.

The Library Trustees, Staff and Friends invite everyone to the **Holiday Open House** on Friday December 9th, 11:00am-2:00pm. Please stop by for a sweet and a cup of good cheer!

**CHILDREN’S LIBRARY NEWS**

A note from our Summer Reading Program, N.H. Libraries were sponsored for the first time by The Boston Bruins! Every child received a Bruins poster and were enrolled into a raffle for larger prizes. I am thrilled to report that our own Paisley Chambers was one three Grand Prize winners in the state. Her prize was tickets to a Bruins game where she acted as bench assistant at the game!

On December 9th Pete and Marie will join us for a Christmas Sing-A-Long at 6:00pm, the evening’s festivities also include a tree lighting on the lawn, a visit from Santa and sweet treats!

The cold Winter days and nights bring cozy story times, afternoon movies, Read-A-Thons and seasonal crafts. Planned activities through Spring include our annual Tea Party, Egg Hunt, May Pole, and book discussions. It is hard to believe another year has flown by, I am looking forward to a fun filled 2017!

**MOULTONBOROUGH RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

The Moultonborough Recreation Department offers a wide variety of year round programs, activities and special events for residents and visitors of all ages. Please check out our fall and winter offerings on the town’s website (go to Departments and Boards and click on Recreation). We have Adult Pickle Ball, Adult Trips, Youth Basketball, Beyond the Bell (after school program), vacation camps, teen night, “Spot for Tots”, skating instruction and much more. Every year our goal is to have the ice rink open for skating by Christmas – weather permitting, of course. In addition to checking our website you can call the Recreation Dept. at 603-476-8868 or check us out on Facebook!

**WINTER DRIVING SAFETY TIPS:**

1. Keep your vehicle in good working condition, your battery charged, your gas tank full, or never below 1/2 a tank.
2. Make sure your tires are in good condition and that they are an all season or snow tread design.
3. Call ahead or check the TV, Radio or Web to make sure the event is still going on or the place of business is open. If you don’t have to travel in bad weather, cancel your travel plans and stay at home.
4. Make sure your vehicle is clear of snow and ice.
5. Allow extra time. Conditions may slow you down.
6. Keep additional distance between vehicles.
7. Reduce your speed, drive defensively and don’t drink and drive.

“ARRIVE ALIVE”
Matthew Anderson, now a senior at Moultonborough Academy, researched the life of Army Private Kenneth R. Day from Danville, New Hampshire. Anderson participated in a program with National History Day® called, Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom® Albert H. Small Student & Teacher Institute. This institute takes fifteen student and teacher teams from around the country on a journey of learning and discovery of the sacrifice for freedom. Each team selects one Silent Hero whose story of making the ultimate sacrifice has never been told and is memorialized at the Normandy American Cemetery. The journey culminated with a visit to the shores of Normandy, France, over the summer, 2016.

On the final day, Anderson read a eulogy at the memorial for Private Kenneth R. Day. He read a eulogy for someone he knew, someone whose story he was responsible for telling.

Anderson and his teacher, Mrs. Eckert, researched and wrote the story of this Silent Hero. Day grew up in Danville and attended the Eaton Grammar School. He enlisted in the Army in 1942. Anderson discovered that Day was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action during his combat operations with Company D, 18th Infantry Regiment, and 1st Infantry Division in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations. Day was also part of the invasion force at Normandy, where he is buried.

The Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom Albert H. Small Student and Teacher Institute seeks to teach a new generation about the sacrifices and challenges faced during World War II. The program is coordinated by National History Day and is funded by a generous donation from Mr. Albert H. Small, a veteran himself.

THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM OPENS ITS DOORS

MCS students and staff opened the door of the revamped Outdoor Classroom on September 6th during a grand ribbon cutting ceremony. The beautiful post and beam structure out side Moultonborough Central School received a major overhaul these past two months including new screens, benches, storage for books and materials, a door, an artistic ceiling, and landscaping. Many hands and hours went into the project!

Students walked into their new space with great excitement, noting the extraordinary artwork on the ceiling. Everyone is invited to stop by and enjoy our Outdoor Classroom! This is a special place for our all of our community so if you would like to use it, call the MCS office for details. Also, follow the progress of the revamping of the Outdoor Classroom on its Facebook Page found at https://www.facebook.com/mcsoutdoorclassroom/.

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

Join us for a screening of this award-winning film and an evening of dialogue about what matters most for students today. Screening will be followed by a panel discussion with Dr. Virginia Barry, NH Commissioner of Education and Dr. Tony Wagner.

Monday, November 14, 2016
6:30 pm
Moultonborough Community Auditorium
Moultonborough Academy
25 Blake Road
Moultonborough, NH 03254
ASSESSING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Total assessed values increased approximately 4% from 2015 to 2016, mostly due to increases in building values. Since this affected almost everyone in town, we had a larger number of taxpayers come in for informal hearings than in the last few years. However, after explaining the reason for the increase, most were satisfied.

I hope everyone remembers that while your assessment may have gone up slightly, we still have one of the lowest tax rates in New Hampshire and your overall tax bill is most likely less than most other citizens in the state. In fact, according to the NH Department of Revenue (DRA), not including the Unincorporated towns which mostly pay no tax, Moultonborough had the third lowest tax rate in the state. Only New Castle and Hebron had lower rates. DRA statistics also report that Moultonborough had the thirteenth largest total assessed valuation in the state, out of 234 cities and towns.

As of September 30, 2016, Northern New England Multiple Listing Service statistics indicated there had been one hundred thirty-five sales in Moultonborough since the beginning of the year. Twelve of those sold for more than one million dollars. The statistics also show that currently there are approximately one hundred twenty-five properties for sale in Moultonborough. Thirty-four of these are listed for more than one million dollars. Overall, sales are up from last year and the number of properties for sale is down. Hopefully, this trend will continue with a robust real estate market for 2017.

We will continue the cyclical property inspections (measure and list) starting this fall for the 2017 cycle. We completed much of the eastern side of town last summer and only have properties in Suissevale, Bald Peak and the surrounding areas left to complete this project. To all taxpayers, thank you for your help and support in this project. Due to the large number of second home owners, one of our most difficult jobs is to accurately report the interior features of the properties in town. The greater number of properties we can inspect, the more accurate the data we have and the more equitable our assessments are.

We have some changes in Assessing as we have combined our office with the Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Department. Look for us in the same location at the rear of the Town Hall. Also, I am now only in the office on a part-time basis, three days a week. However, Carol Fucarile is always available to answer questions. If I am not in the office, please direct all questions to Carol.

As always, we are available to answer any questions you may have regarding your property. You can also view property information on the town website at www.moultonboroughnh.gov.

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Highway Division: 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 which are recognized by the residents. This form can also be found on the Public Works web page under additional links and is called DPW Service Request/Comment Form.

Facilities/Parks/Cemeteries: As Fall approaches, we would ask that families who have Cemetery lots which they have been providing perpetual care for, to please remember to remove annuals, potted plants, and to trim bushes and shrubs. Please remember that perpetual care and stone maintenance is the responsibility of the cemetery lot owners. The division provides burial services (fee based) and then mows/trims and maintains existing fencing of the Town cemeteries. 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 603-253-7445, via e-mail at dpw@moultonboroughnh.gov, or by stopping by the Highway Garage.

REMAINING HOLIDAYS

Veteran’s Day: Fri., Nov. 11th
Thanksgiving Day: Thurs., Nov. 24th
Day After Thanksgiving: Fri., Nov. 25th
Christmas Day: Sun., Dec. 25th
Day After Christmas: Mon., Dec. 26th
New Year’s Day: Mon., Jan. 2nd 2017