



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week Of: October 19th 2015

Trunk or Treat This Saturday!

Concord Recreation is ghoulishly delighted to announce our first Trunk or Treat event to be held Saturday, October 24th at the Municipal Parking Lot on Keyes Road from 5:00-7:00pm. It is a safe, fun, creative spootacular way for Concord's children to enjoy Halloween. The fun begins when people gather, in their vehicles, in the municipal parking lot on Keyes Road. They open their trunks or the back of their vehicles, and decorate. How you decorate your vehicle is up to you. There are the obvious Halloween themed decorations, or you can choose a theme that echoes your costume, your favorite sports team or maybe even a super hero. When it's time to TRUNK OR TREAT, someone will remain behind to pass out the treats, while the little ghost, goblins, witches, princesses and superheroes gather up ooie-gooie-luscious treats. Younger children should be accompanied by an adult, while older children may TRUNK OR TREAT on their own. Please provide wrapped treats or non-food items.

Please arrive at the parking lot no later than 5:15 p.m., as the trunk or treat event will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m— and no vehicles will be admitted after that time.

There is no charge to participate, pre-registration is required. Please call the Recreation Department-978-369-6460 to register for the event or for more information. Rain Date is October 25th same time.

Trunk or Treat



Youth Mental Health First Aid

Only 10 spots left for Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) on 11/6 & 13. You may know CPR and the Heimlich maneuver, and you can call 911, but can you administer first aid in a mental health crisis? YMHFA is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Register for course 2241 at www.ace.colonial.net for only \$10.

Library News

Residents are invited to visit the 1st Annual Scarecrow Festival at the Concord Free Public Library (CFPL) now on display at the Main Library through Saturday, October 24th. Town departments submitted scarecrows that reflect their occupations and the STEAM skills needed for their work as part of the Library's LSTA *Full STEAM Ahead* grant.



Firefighter Scarecrow@ CFPL Festival

CFPL has received a new telescope as a gift from Donald T. and Clair C. Moir of Concord through the Aldrich Astronomical Society. It is in the process of being cataloged and will be available for borrowing at the Fowler Branch Library soon. Additional information regarding a kick-off event and the telescope's availability will be forthcoming.

On October 20th the Town of Concord's IT Department will upgrade the Main Library's phone system to VoIP (Voice over IP). The upgrade will take place before the Library opens and all existing phones will be replaced with new ones the same day. In addition, two new phones will be installed on the second and third floors, which will be programmed for intercom use. When patrons need assistance in the stacks, they will be able to pick-up the phone and speak with a Circulation or Reference staff member directly.



HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

RECREATION • COUNCIL ON AGING • COMMUNITY SERVICES • YOUTH SERVICES • VETERANS OUTREACH

Council on Aging (COA)

Contact: 978-318-3020

On Wednesday, October 14th the COA welcomed staff members and the Board of the Concord Carlisle Community Chest to their weekly luncheon where they gave a brief overview of the many programs and activities that the Chest supports in our community. The COA is very grateful that the Community Chest provides either full or partial funding for one of our Outreach Coordinators, our Volunteer Coordinator and our Social Services Coordinator!

Open enrollment for Medicare runs from October 15th to December 7th this year. On Thursday, October 29th at 2pm the COA is sponsoring a presentation to help residents understand 2016 Medicare basics and to help you evaluate your 2016 drug and medical coverage. If interested in attending please call the COA to sign up.

On Friday, November 6th at 9:00am, the COA is pleased to host our annual Veteran's Day Breakfast and cordially invites all veterans and their spouses to attend. This is a time of fellowship, sharing and remembering those who served and those who continue to defend our freedom. If interested in attending, please call the COA to make a reservation. This event is offered free of charge thanks to the funds generated by the Harvey Wheeler Treasure Chest gift shop.

The COA would like to remind seniors that we offer individual computer tutoring sessions with our many wonderful high school and adult volunteers free of charge. Please call to set up an appointment.

The senior drama group is recruiting new members! The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 1pm. This is a relaxed and fun environment to meet people. The only requirements are the ability to read plays and laugh. For more information, please give the office a call.

On Wednesday evening at 6pm at Harvey Wheeler the COA will offer an opportunity to hear a panel of financial experts. Scheduled to speak are: Margaret Hoag, Elder Law Attorney, Mark Baron, Independent Agent specializing in Long Term Care Insurance, Jared Hoole, Financial Planner, and David Tourtillot, specialist on Reverse Mortgages. We expect this to be an interesting and educational evening. Please call to sign up in advance.

Veterans' Services

Contact: 978-318-3038

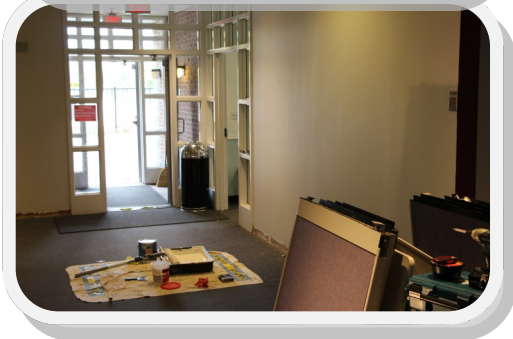
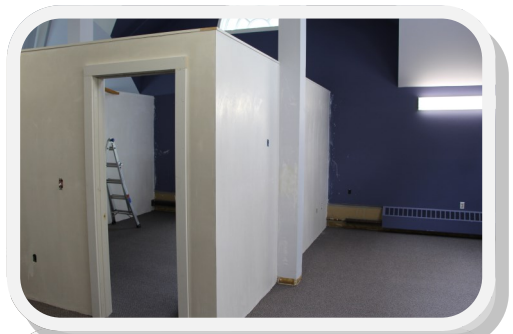
The week started off with a regional meeting at UMass Lowell, with Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. The Congresswoman questioned local Veterans' Service Officers (VSO) about concerns with the benefits and assistance that veterans receive via the Department of Veterans Affairs, and what she should bring to Washington. There were several topics that were brought up, but the two at the top of the agenda were veteran homelessness and sexual assaults of women members of the armed forces.

A local veteran requested help with fuel assistance. The veteran was assisted with completing an application for fuel assistance and delivery of 75 gallons of emergency fuel.

Northeast VSO's met at Shawsheen Technical High School in Billerica to discuss issues on financial assistance for veterans in need of help with their utility bills.

The surviving spouse of a local veteran was assisted in filing for "Mass Health Buy-In." A second surviving spouse reported to Veterans' Services the recent passing of her husband and requested assistance with Veterans' Affairs forms.

Another local veteran was assisted with groceries from the food pantry.



Recreation

The Hunt Recreation building on Stow Street is in the process of getting a new paint job and a recreation room added to it. These much needed changes will greatly improve the Hunt building (pictures above)!



Department of Planning & Land Management (DPLM)
BUILDING INSPECTION • PLANNING • NATURAL RESOURCES • BOARD OF HEALTH • ZONING

Planning Division

Comprehensive Plan Kick-off Event scheduled for Tuesday, October 27th: The kick-off event for the next Comprehensive Plan is an open public meeting that will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. The event is a celebration of the actions that have been completed from the 2005 plan, discussion of the actions remaining to be done and an introduction of the comprehensive plan standards framework. Come join the conversation about Concord's next Comprehensive Plan!

Concord Historical Commission meeting of October 13th: The Commission met with Community Preservation Act funding applicants to review the proposed restoration work on the front steps of the New Church at 53 Church St. in West Concord, and the proposal by the Emerson Umbrella to restore and rehabilitate 100 historic windows in the building at 40 Stow St. The Commission also reviewed and approved the text for an update to the Demolition Review Bylaw, which would create a review process for any building 75 years or older when total demolition is proposed. The update also proposes to extend the existing delay period from six months to one year. Lastly, the Commission is working on a Preservation Awards program for Concord which they hope to launch in early 2016.

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) meeting of October 14th: The CPC met to establish the fall meeting schedule and determine the Liaison Member assignments. The Committee received 17 applications for Community Preservation Act funding this year with just over \$5 million in requested funds. The Committee will be holding two evening and two morning meetings to accommodate project reviews and will hold their annual public hearing on Monday, November 23, in the Willard School Auditorium. The CPC conducted site visits on Saturday, October 17th to the following: Gowing Swamp/Concord Children Center, Wheeler-Harrington House, New Life Church in West Concord, Chamberlin Park, Veteran's Memorial in Monument Square, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Emerson Umbrella, Fields Restoration project at CCHS and White Pond Reservation.

Historic Districts Commission (HDC) meeting of October 15th: The HDC reviewed and approved two new, and one continued, applications for changes within the Historic Districts. The Commission issued Certificates of Appropriateness for alterations to the approved design for 427 Lowell Road, new lighting at 20 Lang Street, and the restoration of the front steps at the New Church, 54 Church Street. The Commission continued one application for new play equipment at the Concord Children's Center, 1300 Main Street, until the Applicant can be present for the discussion.

Natural Resources

Natural Resource Commission (NRC): Staff reviewed the following projects for the October 21st NRC meeting: an Amendment for 987 Lowell Road to construct a stone wall and fence; a Notice of Intent (NOI) to replace a retaining wall on the Sudbury River at 297 Heath's Bridge Road; an Amendment to change the footprint of a new single family house at 44A Fitchburg Tpk.; and, an NOI to demolish and reconstruct a single family house at 317 Old Bedford Road.

Heywood Meadow Wall: Much progress has been made this week reconstructing the stone wall at Heywood Meadow.



Building Inspection Division

Handicapped access concerns: Building Division staff continues to work with CC@Play and the School Committee to confirm that temporary handicap access is being provided at the high school fields during the playing field construction on the site.

Interior lighting conversion: A proposal for converting the interior fluorescent lighting to LED lighting in the 141 Keyes Road building has been submitted to the Town's Sawyer Trust Fund for consideration.



Department of Planning & Land Management (DPLM)
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Health Division

Septic system permitting: 5 septic permits issued; 4 septic plan designs denied with revisions requested. 2 Deep test holes witnessed; 8 septic field inspections. 1 sewer review and 1 building review completed.

Food service: 8 temporary food event permits issued.

Annual Barn Inspections: Acting in her capacity as the town's Animal Inspector, Health Inspector Gabrielle White completed 24 MDAR-required annual barn inspections this week. Approximately 80 properties which hold permits to keep animals must be inspected.

Senior flu clinic: The Senior Flu Clinic was held Thursday, October 15 at the Concord Council on Aging. Approximately 135 seniors were vaccinated against influenza.

Board of Health: At its October 13th meeting, the Board granted a preliminary septic betterment loan agreement for 113 Hill St.; granted a variance to the Massachusetts Food Code to allow New Leaf Café, 561 Virginia Rd., to use Time as a Public Health Control for catered food items; and reviewed a violation of the Board of Health's Well Regulation at 695 Monument St and voted to order the owner to reconnect the dwelling to the town's drinking water supply.

CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS (CPW)

ADMINISTRATION • ENGINEERING • HIGHWAY & GROUNDS • SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING • WATER & SEWER

Infrared Roadway Repairs – CPW contractor, North American Infrared, recently completed their 3rd week of programmed repairs. Over 10,000 sq. ft. of infrared repairs have been completed this season, greatly reducing CPW's patching requirements during the winter and spring months. Infrared repairs were completed near manholes, catch basins, and smaller sections of roadways that had significant deterioration.

Tree Removal Strawberry Hill Road – Sunday Road Closure – CPW Park and Tree Division have coordinated the temporary closure of a section of Strawberry Hill Rd. from Barrett's Mill Rd. to Finigan Way on 10/25, from 8:00AM -6:00 PM for the removal of a hazardous white pine. During the road closure all pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles will be detoured around this area using College Road and Annursnac Hill Rd. This road closure is necessary to provide adequate area for CPW crews and a contracted truck-mounted crane to remove the tree and to ensure everyone's safety.

Water Distribution System – Flushing Ongoing– CPW crews are continuing to perform seasonal unidirectional water main flushing, through 10/21. Efforts during this seasons flushing program have been targeted in the Central & Southern area of Concord.

Secondary Clarifier and Trickling Filter Rehabilitation - Hemi Enterprise of Attleboro completed the cleaning and refurbishing of major structural components of the Secondary Clarifier #2 and Trickling Filter #2 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Belknap Street - Project general contractor, Lazaro is finalizing work on the Roads Program on Belknap St. between Thoreau St. and Main St. The last significant phase of work for this contract will be the reconstruction of Belknap St. from the train tracks to Thoreau St. CPW is coordinating this work with the MBTA/Keolis in order to ensure adequate protection from railroad traffic. The work is scheduled for two days. Beginning on **Wednesday, 10/21**, and recommencing on 10/28. Full roadway closures are expected in this small section of roadway in order to complete the work safely and expeditiously. Once these dates are confirmed on Monday 10/19, CPW's Engineering Division will notify surrounding businesses and place notification in the News and Notices section of the webpage. As usual, all work is subject to change based on weather and other unforeseen circumstances.

Riverdale/Southfield Neighborhood - Lazaro is nearing completion of work within the neighborhood for the 2015 construction season. Crews will loam and seed disturbed roadway shoulder areas over the week of 10/ 19. Please note that majority of the Southfield and Riverdale neighborhood paving work is complete. Final paving for the back end sections of Pilgrim and Southfield Roads, which received full box reconstruction treatments and significant improvements to the drainage system, will be paved with top course pavement in the spring/summer of 2016 to allow the drainage improvement work to go through a freeze/thaw cycle.

Hunters Ridge Road - Project general contractor, Cedrone Trucking, has made significant progress on the water main installation, which is to be tested the week of 10/19. The tentative project schedule also includes drainage rehabilitation the week of 10/19, water service installation 10/22 through 10/30 and roadway reclamation and binder course paving by subcontractor PJ Albert beginning the week of 11/9. Please note that Hunters Ridge Rd. will remain at binder course pavement for the winter. Crews will return in spring 2016 to complete the top course pavement, driveway apron adjustments and sidewalk replacement.