



# TOWN OF CONCORD

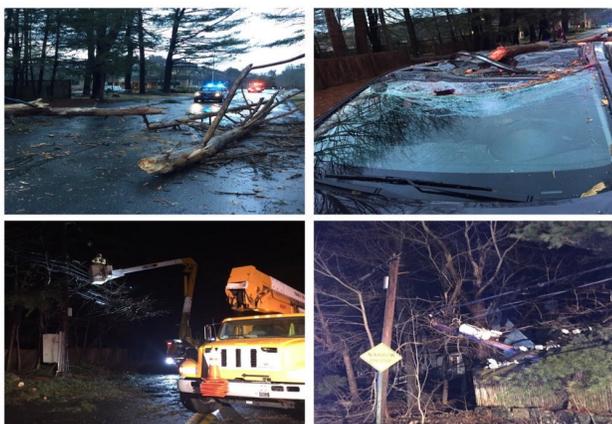
## Town Manager's Report

Week of: March 7, 2016

### Concord Fire Dept. (CFD) News

Contact:(978) 318-3488

CFD had a very busy period during the early morning hours of February 25th. The storm that passed through caused downed wires and broken tree limbs all over Town. These scenes are a good reminder that all downed wires should be considered live and left for the professionals from the Concord Municipal Light Plant to make them safe.



CFD members Captain David Curran, Lieutenant Sean Murphy, and Assistant Chief Tom Judge participated in "Commanding the Mayday" training. The course, provided by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, was hosted by the Bedford Fire Department. The training is designed to prepare incident commanders to manage an incident in which a Firefighter is in jeopardy. Seen here are Lieutenant Murphy and Captain Curran working a simulated incident in the MFA simulation lab.



### Longtime Member of Concord Police Dept. Retires After 38 Years

The Town of Concord would like to wish Richard Hodgson, a longtime member of the Concord Police Department, a very happy retirement. An integral part of the Department, Inspector Hodgson has been a visible member of the community for decades. We hope Inspector Hodgson enjoys his additional free time and wish to thank him for his years of dedicated service to the members of the Concord community!





## **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **RECREATION • SENIOR SERVICES • SOCIAL SERVICES**

#### **Veterans News**

Contact (978) 318-3038

The Office of Veterans' Services assisted a resident veteran obtaining a Medicare Supplement that will be paid for through the Veterans' Chapter 115 benefit. The Office also assisted local veterans with their prescription bills, financial help for low income, and medical supplemental insurance.

The month of February was "closed-out" with the Department of Veterans' Services in Boston, so that the Town would be able to be reimbursed 75% of the financial assistance it has provided to our veterans.

The Veterans Service Officer attended a meeting with personnel from the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Open Table, Saint Vincent DePaul Society, Council on Aging, Hugh Cargill Trust, Community Services, Youth Services and other "community service" organizations. The meeting agenda was to provide the best service in our community to those who may be in need of assistance.

#### **Community Services**

Contact: (978) 318-3034

The Community Services Coordinator received 14 emails, 15 phone calls and had 4 office/home visits all related to requests for assistance. The focus of the requests were based on housing needs, transportation needs, food assistance, fuel assistance, applications processes, utility bill assistance and rental assistance.

The Community Services Coordinator and the Assistant Town Manager met with the Concord Carlisle Community Chest Allocations team to discuss the role of the Community Services Coordinator and to complete the application process for a grant request from the Community Chest.

Youth Mental Health First Aid USA Training – March 18th, 2016, 9am- 4pm. Teaches how to help an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Sponsored by CC Youth Services and CC Adult and Community Education. This course is open to the public for a small registration fee of \$10 which includes course instruction, materials and a boxed lunch. Pre-registration is required. Register for course 3247 at <https://ace.colonial.net/ccace/>

Concord-Carlisle Youth Services is proud to be a member of the CCHS Wellness Committee. This week is HEALTH WEEK! The theme of this year's CCHS Health Week is the importance of sleep in our busy lives. Through Advisory and Health & Fitness classes, students will learn about the impact of sleep deprivation and discover some strategies for improving the quality of their sleep. Watch our Town social media accounts for more information on sleep and screen time.

#### **Council on Aging (COA)/Senior Services**

Contact: (978) 318-3020

The COA is planning a trip to the Edward M. Kennedy Institute on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$46 per person which includes transportation, lunch and gratuities. Please call the COA for additional details and to sign up.

Beach Party! The COA is hosting a beach part on Tuesday, March 22nd from 1:00- 3:00 pm. Come enjoy some sand, beach balls and of course ice cream! Cost is \$5 per person. Call soon to reserve your spot.

New Chicago Bridge group forming. Play on the first and third Fridays of the month from 9:45am to Noon. Designed for intermediate bridge players, though you are welcome if you know the basic conventions. No need to sign up.



## **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **RECREATION \* SENIOR SERVICES \* SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **Council on Aging (COA)/Senior Services (continued)**

Contact: (978) 318-3020

Time to break out the china teacups for our Annual Tea Party, which will take place on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Come be serenaded by harp music and indulge in finger sandwiches and sweets. This event is offered free of charge thanks to the proceeds from Harvey's Treasure Chest Gift Shop. You must sign up in advance.

The children from the Nashoba Brooks School Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes will perform a concert at 11:30am (just before lunch) at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center on Wednesday, March 9. All are welcome to listen to the concert. If planning to stay for lunch, please make a reservation.

The Concord Carlisle Class of 2016 will again host senior citizens from Concord and Carlisle at the annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on Saturday March 12. Guests will enjoy corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread and a plate of sweets. Irish step dancers will provide entertainment. There is no charge for this event. Doors open at 11:30am. Please call the COA to sign up.

The AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program continues to offer assistance in completing Federal and Massachusetts personal income tax returns. Seniors should call the COA to sign up for a free appointment.

### **Concord Free Public Library (CFPL) News**

Contact (978) 318-3301

On March 1st the Concord Free Public Library launched the 2016 Concord Reads series based on The Martian by Andy Weir. Please see <http://www.concordlibrary.org> for related programs scheduled throughout the month.

During March the Fowler Branch Library is hosting an exhibition of photographs taken by astronauts at the International Space Station. Dan Barstow, Education Manager for the International Space Station, worked on the development of software that helps astronauts on the International Space Station take photographs of Earth. A selection of these photographs can be viewed in the community meeting room during regular library hours.

On March 9th at 7:00 p.m., CFPL will host a program on the World of Robots with iRobot of Bedford, MA. The program will take place in the Main Library's Children's Room.

Library Director, Kerry Cronin and Special Collections Curator, Leslie Wilson will be guests at this Thursday's Retired Men's Luncheon meeting at the Trinitarian Congregational Church.

Local actor, Stephen Collins will present Irish Voices at the Main Library's Periodical Room on Monday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. His program will include excerpts from Irish poets and playwrights such as W. B. Yeats, James Joyce, Seamus Heaney, and others.



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

### Health Division

Contact: 978-318-3275

**Septic system permitting:** 2 septic design plans reviewed and 2 septic permits issued. 2 Deep test holes witnessed; 2 septic field inspections. 1 Building Review and 1 Sewer Review completed.

**Food Service:** 2 food service re-inspections in Concord and 4 food service inspections in Lincoln. Review of permits for 3 Temporary Food events. Review of revised HACCP plan for vacuum packaging of meats at Woods Hill Table, including multiple meetings with restaurant staff. Consultation with an applicant who wishes to create a residential retail kitchen. Consultation with a resident who is considering purchasing a local restaurant and making renovations/changes. Investigated a complaint about lack of access to bathroom facilities at the Route 2 Exxon/Dunkin Donuts convenience store.

**Other:** In preparation for the summer 2016 recreational camp season, worked with 2 camps to prepare for licensing and inspection; met with new Concord Recreation Department staff to review licensing requirements for their summer camp program. 1 housing inspection completed.

**Meetings attended:** Public Health Director Susan Rask attended meetings of the CHNA 15 Steering Committee and the Emerson Hospital Community Benefits Advisory Group.

### Building Inspections Division

Contact: 978-318-3280

**Exhibitions at the Old Manse:** The Building Commissioner, Natural Resources staff, Historic District Commission Chair and Town Planner met with representatives from the Old Manse to discuss installation of an interpretive art exhibit for the summer and fall. Given the exhibit would bring visitors onto a platform, it would be classified as a structure under the Building Code. The Old Manse staff and the artist will need to work closely with an architect to ensure the exhibit is ADA accessible, which may present some challenges that were not considered. The Old Manse is also planning to host four larger exhibit events over the summer, which will require an amendment to their current Special Permit.

### Planning Division

Contact: (978) 318-3290

**Crosswalk to Walden Pond:** Town staff from DPLM, Public Works, and Police met with the project team and site contractor for the new Walden Pond Visitor Center to discuss upgrades to the existing crosswalk over Route 126. The discussion focused around changes proposed within the Town's right-of-way and the additional information needed for issuance of a right-of-way permit. Also discussed were current Reservation practices used to address vehicles queued on Walden Street during the summer.

**Pre-construction meeting for the Black Horse Planned Residential Development (PRD):** Town staff from DPLM, Public Works Engineering, CMLP, Police and Fire met on site with the developer of the Black Horse Place PRD, located off Commerford Road, to review all of the special permit conditions required to be fulfilled prior to the commencement of site work, including: limit of work fencing, erosion control measures, safety precautions and the posting of Commerford Road reduced speed warnings on the site for contractors. The developer intends to begin site clearing next week if the lack of snow continues. The developer stated that he had sent a letter to all Commerford Road residents informing them of the start of site work and providing them with direct contact numbers for any issues or concerns they may have during construction.

**Historic Districts Commission (HDC) meeting of March 3:** The HDC heard a presentation by Historical Commission Chair Geoffrey Taylor about the 2016 Annual Town Meeting Article 32 - Demolition Review Bylaw. After brief discussion, the HDC voted to support Article 32, Demolition Review Bylaw at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.



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

**Planning Division (continued)**

Contact: (978) 318-3290

**Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) Advisory Committee meeting of March 3:** The BFRT Advisory Committee voted to recommend affirmative action on Articles 20, 57, 58 and 59, which will be considered at the Annual Town Meeting. Additionally, MassDOT Project Manager Sreelatha Allam reported that the 25% design plan for BFRT Phase 2B (the bridge over Route 2 that will connect the Acton and Concord portions of the trail) has been submitted to MassDOT by AECOM; a copy of the plan set is expected to be delivered to the Planning Office next week.

**West Concord Advisory Committee meeting of March 2:** The focus of this year's WCAC Open House will be on the Arts. The event is scheduled for Thursday evening, April 28 at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. There will be posters to view, refreshments to consume, music to hear and a panel discussion on celebrating the Arts in West Concord and what could be done to make it better.

**Natural Resources Division**

Contact: 978-318-3285

**Natural Resources Commission (NRC) meeting of March 2:** The NRC heard a Notice of Intent (NOI) for culvert replacement at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery; an NOI for 955 Lexington Road to repave the driveway and farm stand parking area; and a Request for Determination of Applicability for Wright Farm to conduct invasive species management. An approval was issued that night to the Wright Farm Condominium Association for the proposed invasive species management. The hearing for Concord Public Works for culvert replacement at Sleepy Hollow was continued to the March 16 NRC meeting at which time the NRC will issue an Order of Conditions approving the project. The hearing for 955 Lexington Road was continued to the March 30 meeting for the applicant to incorporate revisions to the plan. Orders of Conditions were also issued to MassDOT for the construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and to Ha Richmond for after-the-fact work to resurface a driveway at 144 Nashoba Road.