



MEMORANDUM - OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Neil Irvine, Town Administrator
RE: Weekly Report
DATE: April 15, 2024

Town Administrator:

In addition to the review & approval of the customary AP, this past week began with continued clean up from the weekend winter weather. The monthly meeting with the Department Heads was focused on the impact to services of the Default Budget and guidance to all to hold discretionary spending to an absolute minimum. I prepared for and attended the regular Selectboard meeting, in addition to meeting with representatives of Interlocal Trust to discuss Health Insurances options. We completed the conveyance of property previously tax deeded to the Town, drafting the RFP for road paving projects and completed research on a tax sale from 1958. Unfortunately, the week concluded with an oil spill at the Transfer Station after waste oil was inappropriately disposed of in the scrap metal container, requiring us to contact DES and contract with Clean Harbors for a very expensive response to a needless incident as the Transfer Station accepts waste oil at no cost to residents.

Department of Public Works:

All the plows and sanders have been removed from all the trucks except for the 6-wheeler. Jeff's truck is going to International for a service recall (no brakes). Highway department will be cleaning up roads this week, from all the fallen trees. Transfer Station had an oil spill, approximately 15-30 gallons. DES, Fire Department, and Clean Harbors were all notified for the appropriate clean up. Other than that, the Transfer Station is running smoothly.

Finance:

Last week in Finance, I processed accounts payables; prepared bank deposits for the Treasurer; attended the monthly department head meeting and took notes; met with NH Interlocal Trust along with TA Irvine to look at options for health insurances for the employees; created and entered miscellaneous general journal entries; miscellaneous filing and file maintenance.

Building Inspector:

Last week I attended the BI test academy provided by The Eastern States Building Federation on Monday and Tuesday. Fortunately, this event was held in Portsmouth NH, when past events have been held throughout the northeast. I plan on taking the exam to be ICC certified in the coming weeks. We had 6 inspections last week and 3 new permits. There were a lot of calls regarding lakefront properties for sale and also fielded a lot of calls for new projects by property owners.

Land Use:

- Responded to Land Use calls and emails
- Interoffice meetings with Town Staff
- Meetings with applicants
- Prepared for and Attended Master plan Subcommittee Meeting
- Prepared for and Attended Planning Board work session
- Continued training Administrative Assistant

Assessor:

Met with Resident to assist in applying for Current Use. Processed some yield taxes, continue to update properties with outstanding permits. Will be on Vacation the week of 04/15/24 returning to the office on April 24th.

Fire Rescue:

1. This week Northwood Firefighters responded to 15, 9-1-1 emergencies.
 - a. 9 Emergency Medical Calls
 - b. 1 Oil Spill
 - c. 1 Carbon Monoxide Incident
 - d. 1 Police Matter
 - e. 1 Assist Invalid
 - f. 1 Unintentional Fire Alarm Activation
 - g. Smoke Detector Malfunction.
2. Northwood Firefighters responded to a senior citizen who had fallen down a full flight of stairs. A trauma alert was requested at Concord Hospital. The Gentleman ended up having several fractures in his back. No surgical intervention was needed but he will be going to a rehab hospital before returning home.
3. Firefighter McElroy is attending the Fire Department Instructor's Conference in Indianapolis. Although Dave is representing the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, I am sure he will bring back useful information to Northwood.
4. Chief Tetreault completed and submitted a SAFER Grant application. If awarded this grant will provide for 3 additional career firefighters for 3 years. This grant will cover 100% of Salary and Benefits for the additional firefighters.
5. The Fire Department received a very generous donation of Girl Scout Cookies from our local Girl Scout Troup. Of course, some of the cookies went to one of our former explorers who is serving in the US Air Force in Arizona. The Northwood Firefighters would like to Thank the Girl Scouts for thinking of us!

Recreation:

Northwood Parks and Recreation is very excited for the upcoming Greenup Day this Saturday 8am to Noon at Townhall. This community event is a great opportunity to get out and meet your neighbors after our long winter and take pride in our community. Following the cleanup there will be a hotdog lunch at Townhall please come and enjoy. Spring soccer numbers are in, we have ended our registration with 165 kiddos from preschool to eighth grade participating in our spring soccer program. This is a fantastic number with a high percentage of those youth in Northwood participating in our program and we're very excited for some spring weather.

Registration is open for our Annual Trout Fishing Derby. This is held Saturday, May 4 at Saddleback Campground, free and open to all under age 16 years old. Please bring your own bait, prizes are available. The Food Truck Festival is right around the corner. This event will draw thousands of people to enjoy the live music by Matty And The Penders and all the food options, entry is five dollars per person and food is on your own. Northwood Recreation Department has partnered with Lantern Camp to offer swim lessons. Limited so please register ASAP.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector:

2 boats registered
157 Motor vehicles
49 Dogs Tags issued

DOG licenses due by April 30!

Late fees are \$1 in June and fines start mid-June \$25.00 per dog
Letters will go out in May!

Open Sat. April 20th 8:30am-11:30am
Collected a total of \$17,720.03 in taxes

* Certified tax impending notices were sent on April 12 (due Monday May 13 by 2pm) * this is only for unpaid 2023 taxes ONLY!

If 2023 balance is not paid by 2pm on Monday 5/13-the property will be liened and a copy of lien will be sent registry of deeds (3 years to pay in full before property could be deeded)

--you may have a balance for 2022, 2021 as well—call the clerk’s office to verify

Unpaid 2021 taxes will be up for DEED this September 26, 2024 (letters will be sent out later in June 2024).

Call to see what you owe, or you may look online:

NH tax kiosk: only view cannot pay on this link

<https://www.nhtaxkiosk.com/default.aspx>

use this link to view your balance and you can also pay online or send a check/money order or certified check:

<https://pay.eb2gov.com/Service/PropertyTaxes/2187?towncode=852&groupname=&source=PT&towncode=masterid=307>

CHESLEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

APRIL 2024

January computer tally: 32 patrons

February computer tally: 31 patrons

March computer tally: 35 patrons

January Downloadable Audiobooks: 647 items

February Downloadable Audiobooks: 611 items

March Downloadable Audiobooks: 670 items

January circulation: 1,111 items

February circulation: 1,193 items

March circulation: 1,117 items

January new patrons: 10

February new patrons: 5

March new patrons: 5

Total number of registered library card holders: 2,215

MEETINGS

April 12 – Trustee Meeting 9:00am

April 22 – Friends of the Libraries Annual Meeting 4:30pm

PROGRAMS

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Senior Café 1:00pm

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April 3, 10, 17 - Story Time 10:30am

April 3 – Afternoon Book Discussion 2:00pm

April 9, 23 - Writers Group 2:00pm

April 9 – Junior Book Discussion 4:30pm

April 20 – Library Table @ Town Hall (Northwood Green Up Day) 8:00am

April 22 – Earth Day Drop-In Craft Session

April 23, 24, 25 – Knitting, Crocheting, Amigurumi 3:00-5:00pm

April 29 – Cupcake War 3:00-5:00pm

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Do you know what a chatbot is? Do you want to learn more about AI, artificial intelligence? James Patrick Kelly will be presenting a program with live demonstrations at the Chesley Memorial Library on Monday, April 8, at 1:00 p.m. The program will be held during our regular Senior Café program, but anyone interested is welcome to attend. James Patrick Kelly has won science fiction's Nebula, Hugo and Locus awards. Jim's most recent books are *The First Law of Thermodynamics' Plus* (2021), a collection in PM Press's Outspoken Author series, *King Of The Dogs, Queen Of The Cats* (2020), a novella from Subterranean Press. His work has been translated into eighteen languages and has appeared in many Year's Best anthologies. He writes a column on science fiction and future technologies for *Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine*. He lives just down the road in Nottingham and is a big fan of the bagels at Almolus.

CUPCAKE WAR

Cupcake War is back!! Bring two (undecorated) cupcakes to the library on Monday, April 29, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE: ALL CUPCAKES MUST BE DECORATED AT THE LIBRARY!**

Decorations will be available here and cupcakes will be on display once completed. Vote for your favorite cupcake during library hours from Tuesday, April 30, until Saturday, May 4. The winners will be announced on Monday, May 6. All ages welcome; registration not required.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

In honor of Earth Day, we are participating in the Great Bay Book Club's region-wide discussion of *Small Town, Big Oil: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the Richest Man in the World—And Won* by David W. Moore. The story is about a local battle 50 years ago against a proposed oil shipping terminal on the Isles of Shoals, an oil refinery in Durham, and a 10-mile pipeline between the two. Had it not been defeated; this massive development would have irrevocably changed our Seacoast region. We will hold our local discussion here at the Chesley Memorial Library on Wednesday, April 3, at 2:00 p.m. There will be a regional book discussion held on Thursday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. at 3S Artspace in Portsmouth. Tickets are free but advance registration is required; see greatbaystewards.org for information.

JUNIOR BOOK DISCUSSION

The Junior Book Discussion Group will meet at the Chesley Memorial Library on Tuesday, April 16, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. to discuss "The Black Stallion" by Walter Farley.

KNITTING, CROCHETING & AMIGURUMI

Do you want to learn how to knit or crochet? Do you need help with knitting or crocheting project? Join local artisan Norma Heroux at the Chesley Memorial Library. You can even learn amigurumi, the Japanese art of knitting or crocheting small, stuffed yarn creatures. No registration required, all ages welcome. Sessions will be held from 3:00-5:00 p.m. on the following dates: Tuesday, April 23; Wednesday, April 24; and Thursday, April 25.

VACATION WEEK PROGRAM: SOCK HOP

Join us for a fun-filled sock hop at the Chesley Memorial Library on Wednesday, April 24, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wear your favorite socks and get ready to hop around on the Color Burst Play Tiles with lively music to accompany the festivities. Color Burst Play Tiles are interactive mats that respond to movement and pressure with bright gel liquid colors that move with every step, skip, jump, hop or hand movement.

STORY TIME

Join our Preschool Story Time on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. If you have not been attending Story Time, you might want to stop in and check out the program. Children can listen to a story and make a craft to take home. Registration not required; new participants are always welcome at any time.

SENIOR CAFÉ

Spring weather is here so it's getting easier to get out and about...when Mother Nature cooperates! Get to know some new friends and neighbors at the Chesley Memorial Library. The Senior Café meets every Monday from 1:00-2:30 p.m. so drop by to enjoy some delicious treats and a cup of tea or coffee while you socialize. You might even want to come early or stay later to check out the library's books, movies, or magazines!

LOCAL WRITERS

Join your fellow local writers — whether beginner, much published, or somewhere in between — on Tuesday, April 9, and Tuesday, April 23, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the Chesley Memorial Library. Sessions include group critique, writing exercises, and craft discussion. Some participants may want to come early or stay late for some quiet writing time. All genres welcome. Get some writing done this spring and learn from each other.

MEETINGS

The Chesley Memorial Library Board of Trustees will meet at the library on Friday, April 12, at 9:00 a.m. The Friends of the Library will meet at the library for their annual meeting on Monday, April 22, at 4:30 p.m.

Police Department:

No Report This Week

Northwood EMD's report for week prior to 04/15/2024

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