

Our Community Newsletter



Town Clerk/Tax Collector would like to remind everyone if you have not registered your dogs to please do so now. Remember you must have a valid rabies certificate



News from Great Brook Village

Great Brook Village had a surprise visitor at their coffee last week; it was our very own Chief Vinnie. We here at the Village appreciate the fact that he feels comfortable in joining us younger people which give us a great sense of security, and everyone was so glad to see him, I am sure it wasn't just the coffee he was interested in I think he truly enjoys getting to know us..

Our last Pot Luck Supper was really special as we had a lot more dessert than anything else, and believe me we all enjoyed the sweet treats.

The Village Annual meeting will be held on June 7, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. at the clubhouse. We look forward to seeing everyone. Our Nominating Committee came up with a list of six residents who would like to be on the board, so thing are looking pretty good.

Most of our Snow Birds have slowly come back to good ole NH, guess it was getting pretty hot down south but I don't think any of it came back with them, cause we sure haven't been having much warm weather. I am so looking forward to summer.

Our Village lost a couple of our residents, who have moved down to Kentucky to be closer to their daughter,

Got to give them credit because that is quite an undertaking for someone in their mid 80's.

That's all for now folks!

1st Annual Crusin' the Village Classic Car Show

Saturday June 4th 8-4 Downtown Belmont
Rain Date Sunday June 5th Registration
opens at 8 a.m. Come join us for a fun-
filled day of great food, great music and
some of the coolest cars in New England.
Music, food, prizes, giveaways, raffles
and trophies awarded in several classes
including Best in Show.

All proceeds benefit the Belmont
Heritage Commission and the Belmont-
Gilford Boys Hockey Team

Registration fee-\$20 per car. Call for
multi-car discount.

Contact Ron Cormier for more info @
603-520-9018 or visit
www.belmontnh.org

"Spring is a true
reconstructionist."



Public Works

Most Frequently Asked Questions of the Highway Department

DRIVEWAY CULVERTS

Q: My culvert is plugged; can you come and clean it?

A: No we cannot; we can clean the ditches leading to and from the culvert however, the culvert is the homeowner's property and their responsibility to maintain.

Q: There is a bump from the culvert in my driveway, can you fix it?

A: No we cannot. This usually is caused by frost pushing the culvert up due to lack of cover. Reverting back to earlier answer the culvert is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain.

Q: My culvert has holes in it. When will you be replacing it?

A: We will not be replacing it; it is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain the culvert so you can have easy access to your property.

DEAD TREES

Q: There is a dead tree about to fall; can you come cut it down?

A: This would depend on if it is in the Town's right of way or not. A general rule of thumb would be if the tree is on the road's side of the stone wall it is the Town's responsibility. If it is on the homeowner's side of the stone wall it is their responsibility.

Q: A tree fell in my yard and is partially blocking the road; I cut it up for you to come pick up.

A: It is not the Town's responsibility, it is the homeowner's responsibility to remove and as the homeowner you are liable for any damages resulting from the fallen tree.

MAILBOXES

Q: The plow has hit my mailbox and I need it replaced today.

A: Standard Town Policy is such that **we do not** replace mailboxes taken down by snow removal operations. However there are some exceptions, I.E. the plow truck has to move over to avoid striking another vehicle and accidentally hits the post. These unavoidable situations do happen and we will take full responsibility for them.

The more common problem occurs when the snow is being thrown from the plow and knocks the box off the post. We will not replace the box in this case.

Q: How high and how far off the road should my mailbox be?

A: The lowest part of the box should be no lower and 42" from the ground; and the front of the box no closer than 24" from the asphalt.

Q: I received a letter from my mail carrier to fix the shoulder in front of my mailbox because it has deteriorated and they won't deliver the mail.

A: This is caused by delivery of mail to your house. While we do repair shoulders it is again the homeowner's responsibility to make that repair, however we do have the material available to make that repair please call us for more information.

NOTE: Plastic mailboxes (although a wonderful idea) do not work so well with our northern climate. They simply do not hold up in the cold weather. Posts and mailboxes do not last a lifetime and do need to be replaced occasionally. Please be sure to check yours! Also granite posts are quite popular; however they do present a road hazard to vehicles if struck. The homeowner would be liable for damages. We do not recommend using them.

SNOWPLOWING

Q: The snow plow leaves a snow bank at the end of my driveway; can you turn the plow in the other direction?

A: No we cannot. The plow takes snow from the center of the road way and places it to the right. It is the same on every street.

Q: The plow put the snow in my driveway so I'm going to plow it (or snow blow) it back in the road.

A: The Town has a Snow Obstruction Ordinance that prohibits anyone from plowing, throwing, or snow blowing snow back into a plowed road. This ordinance is enforceable with a fine.

NOTE: We work hard to keep the roads clear, please don't clean snow covered cars off in a clean road. Also there is no parking on roadways during a snow event, so please be cooperative with the plow drivers. We can all work together for a better job!

NOTE: Private plow operators should not plow snow out of driveways across roads.

DRIVEWAY PERMITS

Q: I am going to add gravel to my driveway do I need a permit?

A: Yes you do need a permit. Permits are required for any new driveway as well as any alteration (i.e. paving, graveling, culvert replacement). Permits can be obtained from the Land Use department at Town Hall.

More information concerning Town Ordinances can be found on the Town's website under the Police Department. Please don't hesitate to call us if you have any questions. We can be reached at the Highway garage on Hurricane Road or by calling 528-2677.

Code Enforcement

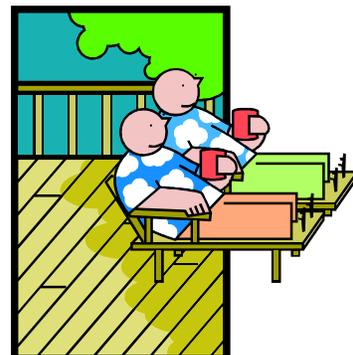
Is Your Backyard Party Friendly?

As summer approaches, The Town of Belmont, Building Officials Office is urging homeowners to take the time to check their outdoor areas for potential safety hazards. Proper inspection now can help to keep your family and friends safe in the future

Decks and Balconies

Balconies can be at risk of collapsing if they are not properly constructed or if they are old. A common safety hazard occurs when balconies are nailed to buildings rather than being attached with the proper anchors or bolts. Nails are poor method for attaching balconies to buildings because they work their way loose over time. Other safety hazards to look for are:

- Split or rotting wood
- Wobbly handrails or guardrails
- Loose, missing or rusting anchors, nails, or screws
- Missing, damaged or loose support beams and planking
- Poor end support of the balcony deck, joist or girders
- Excessive movement of the balcony when walked on



- Swaying or unstable balconies

Building or repairing to code, which requires a building permit and an inspection, will help ensure that the balcony is safe. The International Residential Building Code specifies the amount of weight a balcony is required to support. However, be careful not to allow the balcony/deck to become overcrowded. If the people on the structure have difficulty moving about, the balcony/deck could be exceeding its capacity.

Grills

Grilling on or near combustible areas can be a fire hazard. It not only puts your family and visitors at risk, but, especially in Condos and apartment buildings, can put your neighbors in danger as well. The most common grilling hazards are open flames and heat generated in the grill base that can be transferred to the wood of a balcony/deck to the home's siding, causing a fire. When grilling, follow these safety tips:

- Place the grill way from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches
- Periodically remove grease or fat buildup
- Use only proper started fluids and store the can away from heat sources
- Check propane cylinder hoses for leaks prior to use
- Do not move hot grills
- Dispose of charcoal properly, keeping ash containers outside and away from combustible construction
- Check with the Building Official or Fire Department to see what is required by code where you live

The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) Code 1 prohibits the use of charcoal and gas grills and other open burning devices on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction. There are exceptions for certain homes and where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system

Swimming pools

Because they are attractive-and dangerous-to young children, in-ground and above-ground pools should be surrounded by a fence or other barrier. Small, inflatable pools must also be protected. The international Residential Building Code states that any pool with more than 24 inches of water has to have a four-foot fence or other barrier around it. Any gates in the fence must be self-closing and self-latching. Other things to consider when installing a pool:

- A Building Permit and an inspection is required
- Zoning requirements apply
- Electrical clearances and utility easements
- Insurance policies



Police Department

Bullying - The Real Story by Officer Joseph Marcello

Over the last couple of years bullying has become a major concern for many parents. The article was written after receiving questions and concerns from parents of Belmont children.

There are many reasons why a parent should be interested in their child's social situations and peer relations. For years, there have been many occurrences involving children who have harmed themselves or others because of the mistreatment they have received from their fellow students or peers. Bullying, among our adolescent population, is a significant problem and many would agree that the problem is on the rise. Even with the wealth of information available to the public involving bullying, many people are often unclear to what it really means. So, what exactly is bullying, what types of bullying exist and is bullying a crime?

As defined by New Hampshire Statute, bullying shall include actions motivated by an imbalance of power based on a pupil's actual or perceived personal characteristics, behaviors, or beliefs, or motivated by the pupil's association with another person and based on the other person's characteristics, behaviors, or beliefs. In other words if there is physical harm, damage to property or the event causes emotional distress, this may be considered bullying.

Cyber-bullying means conduct defined in the above mentioned definition through the use of electronic devices (telephones, cellular phones, computers, pagers, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, social networks and

websites.) It is important to keep in mind that the act of bullying doesn't have to take place on school grounds. For example, if a student is being continually harassed by another student off school property, the imbalance of power exists and this matter interferes with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operations of the school or school-sponsored activity or event. The above mentioned example would be considered bullying.

At the current time, bullying is not considered a crime in New Hampshire (some states do consider bullying a crime) but it is addressed by the school administration, primarily through the Assistant Principal and Principal. Each school district has adopted a bullying policy and has to adhere to strict guidelines when dealing with such matters. Each substantial bullying incident is reported to the Superintendent of Schools in a timely manner. It's important to keep in mind if there is a bullying incident that involves an assault, theft or harassment, this may be reported to your local law enforcement agency as a crime.

Many would agree bullying is a significant problem and educating our community is the most effective way to end this incessant issue.

Officer Marcello is a Belmont Police Officer and the School Resource Officer for our Department. If you have more questions about safety or bullying, please contact him at 267-8351.

REALLY???????

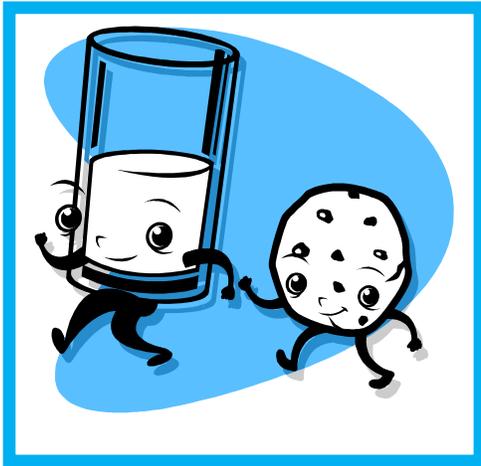
May 15th is National Chocolate Chip Day!!

&

May 11th is Eat Whatever you want Day!!!

I am thinking this will be a GOOD Month!!

ENJOY!!!



"Horticulturally, the month of May is opening night, Homecoming, and Graduation Day all rolled into one."



It is with great pleasure I announce the arrival of E-Registration, E-Dogs, E-Taxes, and E-Water & Sewer. Find links on our website www.belmontnh.org save yourself time and gas money!! Please check out the website for a whole new way to pay your bills.

Waste Management would like everyone to please note the following: Memorial Day, trash will be delayed 1 day.. Mon pick up on Tuesday, Wed and Fri will be ON SCHEDULE...



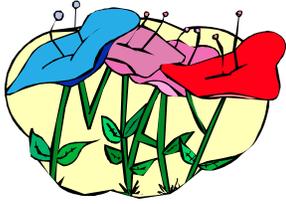
6th graders from Belmont Middle School wood working class built some Bluebird houses for earth day April 16th. Pictured at the Laconia Transfer Station. Fun was had by all!!

Once again we have some great programs currently being run by the Parks and Recreation department. Be sure to check out our website for all dates and times. They can also be found on our community calendar.



Coming Soon!

Coming Soon!



Town Administrator's Monthly Report

The 2011 Spring Tax Bills will be mailed the week of May 16, 2011 and will be due July 6th. Interest will begin to accrue after the 6th. The spring bill is based on the prior year's tax rate and assessed value. This year we have strived to collect in the field, data on new home construction and this value will be reflected in the spring bill. If you have any questions regarding your bill, please do not hesitate to contact the Assessing Office at Town Hall.

The Board of Selectmen, Land Use Office and Police Department have been working together to review the longstanding parking issues in the Village. Amendments to the Traffic Ordinance governing parking will be considered at a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, May 2, 2011 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House.

The Board of Selectmen is presently reviewing the Sewer Department's rates and a Public Hearing will be held in June to discuss changes in the current rate. Belmont currently has one of the lowest sewer rates in the State of New Hampshire and the proposed adjustment in rate will allow us to meet the operational and capital needs of the department, and still maintain a low quarterly rate. Notice of the public hearing will be placed in the local newspapers and posted at the Belmont Town Hall and Post Office.

In conjunction with Water Department staff, the Town's 2011 Consumer Confidence Report will be mailed to all water users in mid-June. This annual report is a report card for

customers on the quality of the water delivered by the water system.

The Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator's office continue to monitor the ongoing budget process at the State level and anticipate impacts will be known by early July for both the Town and School.

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 30th in celebration of Memorial Day.



The Board of Selectmen meet typically on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month beginning at 5:00 p.m., and your attendance is encouraged. Agendas are posted at Town Hall, the Post Office and on the Town's website at www.belmontnh.org.

Think Spring!!

The purpose of this Community Newsletter is to keep all of you informed about Community events taking place in Belmont or surrounding Towns. If you know of an event or have some news to share please let us know so we can include the information in our upcoming newsletters. You can reach us by e-mail at trusso@belmontnh.org or by phone at 267-8300. If you would like to be added to our electronic mailing list please let us know. We would love to hear from you! Please be sure to post the community calendar on your refrigerator so you don't miss anything! All news subject to approval by the Town Administrator.

The Historical Society-Submitted by Linda Frawley

The Historic Belmont Mill is among a distinguished list of 25 of New Hampshire's greatest preservation achievements of the past 25 years, unveiled April 8 by the N.H. Preservation Alliance (NHPA) at its 25th Anniversary Conference. "All 25 Milestone projects exemplify themes of leadership, creativity, tenacity, and community and economic benefit," according to Jennifer Goodman, NHPA executive director.

The statewide group includes rescues of two grand hotels, two town hall preservation efforts, mill revitalization, a museum's stewardship of a modern building, and two bridge "saves." "This list also illustrates the work that's being done every day to preserve New Hampshire's heritage, and, in the process, create jobs, support tourism, conserve existing resources, and strengthen community connections," said Jennifer Goodman, executive director, N.H. Preservation Alliance.

Built in 1833 and converted to hosiery production in 1865, the Belmont Mill was the economic heart of Belmont village until its 1970 close. Years of neglect, capped by a five alarm fire in August 1992 appeared to be the final chapter - until the Belmont Historical Society, led by Wallace Rhodes, began its legendary preservation effort. Bolstered by a report from State Architectural Historian James Garvin and legal advice from Carolyn Baldwin of Gilmanton, imminent demolition by the town was halted with an injunction in 1995.

In January 1996, Plan NH and the Office of State Planning held a first-in-the-state charrette, resulting in options for mill re-use.

The efforts led to two Community Development Block Grants totaling \$1M supported by Belknap County and aided by the Belknap County Economic Development Council, for the Town to rehab the building. Local voters approved a \$215,000 bond issue as its match, along with private donations, including an anonymous \$25,000 gift. The mill was adapted as "Belmont Mill Community Center" from designs by Meredith architect Christopher Williams and rededicated in August 1998.

As the heart of Belmont's National Register eligible "Factory Village District" the red brick building houses the culinary arts program and its Food for Thought Cafe of Lakes Region Community College, the Senior Center, a family practice of LRGHealthcare and a children's day care center. Its fundamental and iconic role in the town center has been reinforced through the last community master plan update and multiple village revitalization initiatives since 2008. Selectmen last year approved repairs, beginning with roof replacement, and the Heritage Commission applied successfully for federal funding to replace building and ornamental lights with energy efficient LED fixtures, in period style to illuminate the bell tower exterior. A return visit from a PlanNH team last June, helped citizens craft another charrette, still anchored by its signature building. The NHPA solicited nominations for the 25 Preservation Milestones in 2010. A panel of experts judged local favorites and well-known landmarks alike on their significance, challenges overcome, innovation, public support, and ability to serve as a model for others.

Those who guided these projects to success, notes Goodman, built on the ground-breaking work of a previous generation of preservationists in Portsmouth, Harrisville, Laconia and elsewhere, and benefited from a growing preservation movement and new tools. Awards presentations are scheduled for May 10 in Concord, and reservations and details are available at www.nhpreservation.org



Did you know that the Food for Thought Cafe in the Belmont Mill is open to the public for lunch on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday's from 11:30-1:00? Their last day of this season is April 29th however they will re-open in the beginning of October. Definitely worth checking out! Please call 267-1155 for reservations.



Have you checked out the NEW Belmont Fire Department Website? It is jam packed with tons of useful information. Fees, recall notices, pictures, kid's pages. And the list goes on....there is even a link to listen LIVE to Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association. Check it out www.belmontnh.org Click on the Fire Department.

Monthly Recipe

When spring arrives this is one of my favorite pies to bake, the tart and sweet blend perfectly practically doing a dance on your taste buds!! I hope you enjoy this as much as my family does. If you have any questions or comments please let me know.

Strawberry Rhubarb Pie

- Pie Crust for a 2 crust pie
- 2 1/2 cups chopped red rhubarb, fresh
- 2 1/2 cups de-stemmed, washed and cut strawberries (in larger pieces)
- 1 1/2 cups sugar (1 1/4 cups for high altitude)
- 2 tablespoons minute tapioca
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 tablespoons butter, cubed small
- 1 egg white beaten with 1 teaspoon water



Filling Preparation:

Mix the rhubarb, strawberries, sugar, tapioca, flour, zest and juice of lemon, dash of cinnamon, and vanilla. Mix well in a large bowl and pour out into chilled crust. Dot the top of the filling with the butter. Brush edges of pie crust with egg white wash. Roll out the other piece of dough and place over filling. Crimp to seal edges. Brush with egg white wash and garnish with sugar. Collar with foil and bake at 425 degrees F for 15 minutes. Decrease temperature to 375 degrees F and bake for an additional 45 to 50 minutes, or until the filling starts bubbling. Higher altitude will take 450 degrees F and 400 degrees F respectively. Let cool before serving.

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We're on the web!
www.belmontnh.org

Hazardous Waste Day

Hazardous Waste Day will be held the last Saturday in July the 30th from 8:30-12:00 at the Belmont Fire Department. Please see our website for further information. Volunteers are always needed please call Brenda Paquette at 267-8300 ext.12



May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1.	2. BOS 5:00 CMH Fire Dept. 9-4:30 CMH	3.LR Girls S/B 6:30-9 CMH	4.Conservation Comm. 6:00 CMH Fire Dept. 9-4:30 CMH Pre-school Story time @ 10:30 @ Library Pre-school Playgroup Parks & Rec Sargent Park 10-11- inclement weather will be at Old Winni Fire Station	5.Explorers 6-7:30 CMH Knitting Group @ Library 6:00 Pre-school Story time @ 3:30 @ Library Boy Scouts BMS 6:30-8	6.	7.Boston Red Sox Game with Parks & Rec 1:10 @ Fenway
8.	9.OHD Comm. Mtg 6:30-8 CMH Planning Board 7:00 CMH H.E.A.T. Class Old Winni Fire Station 6:30-7:30	10.OHD Comm. Mtg. 3:45-8 CMH Library Trustees Mtg 6:30 Golf Lessons @ Bolduc Park 6-16 yr 5:30 or 6:30	11.Pre-school Story time @ 10:30 @ Library Last day to turn in com- pleted nomination forms for Good Citizenship award 2011 H.E.A.T. Class Old Winni Fire Station 6:30-7:30 Pre-school Playgroup Parks & Rec Sargent Park 10-11- inclement weather will be at Old Winni Fire Station	12.Explorers 6-7:30 CMH Knitting Group @ Library 6:00 Pre-school Story time @ 3:30 @ Library Golf Lessons @ Bolduc Park Adult 5:30 or 6:30 Boy Scouts BMS 6:30-8	13.	14.
15.	16.BOS 5:00 CMH OHD Comm. Mtg. 3-6 CMH H.E.A.T. Class Old Winni Fire Station 6:30-7:30	17.BES Concert 6:00 Golf Lessons @ Bolduc Park 6-16 yr 5:30 or 6:30	18.BES Kindergarten Parent Orientation 6-7 Pre-school Story time @ 10:30 @ Library H.E.A.T. Class Old Winni Fire Station 6:30-7:30 Pre-school Playgroup Parks & Rec Sargent Park 10-11- inclement weather will be at Old Winni Fire Station	19.Explorers 6-7:30 CMH Knitting Group @ Library 6:00 Pre-school Story time @ 3:30 @ Library Golf Lessons @ Bolduc Park Adult 5:30 or 6:30 Boy Scouts BMS 6:30-8	20. Historical Soc. Mtg. 6:00 CMH	21.
22.	23.Planning Board 7:00 CMH H.E.A.T. Class Old Winni Fire Station 6:30-7:30	24.BMS 4th grade family night Good Citizenship award CMH 7:00 Golf Lessons @ Bolduc Park 6-16 yr 5:30 or 6:30	25.Zoning 7:00 CMH BMS Concert 5th & 6th 6:00 7th & 8th 7:15 Pre-school Story time @ 10:30 @ Library H.E.A.T. Class Old Winni Fire Station 6:30-7:30 Pre-school Playgroup Parks & Rec Sargent Park 10-11- inclement weather will be at Old Winni Fire Station	26.Explorers 6-7:30 CMH Book Discussion @ 2:00 @ Library Knitting Group @ Library 6:00 Pre-school Story time @ 3:30 @ Library Golf Lessons @ Bolduc Park Adult 5:30 or 6:30 Boy Scouts BMS 6:30-8	27.Book Discussion @ 7 @ Library	28.
29.	30.Memorial Day Holiday Town Offices Closed No School	31.				30.