



## Laconia Links

February 3, 2012 - Edition #17



Parks & Recreation Dept. Community Center

### Updates from the Planning Office...

The City of Laconia has been contemplating changes to the downtown one-way traffic pattern for at least a decade. In 2003 the Main Street Downtown Initiative Group presented a two way concept to the Community. In 2007 the EPA Smart Growth Technical Team, with input from its stakeholder interview process, also proposed a two way concept.

In both cases, the change to the traffic patterns was not a tool to alleviate the congestion of downtown or of any surrounding intersections, but instead a tool to make the traffic pattern downtown more conventional and thus more predictable to those unfamiliar with it – namely, the tourist community. The two way design would allow folks more visibility to their destination on approach, and less confusion with the two way pattern in case they passed their destination and needed to backtrack.

The 2011 design took all of this into consideration. At the January 10<sup>th</sup> Planning Board meeting the Board received valuable feedback regarding some changes to the design and some hesitation from those in attendance regarding implementation.

The consultant will return to the Planning Board on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in Room 200A of City Hall with plans reflecting public comment and with a visual interactive simulation showing the traffic flow in a two way pattern. Please let the Planning Department know whether or not you support this proposal!

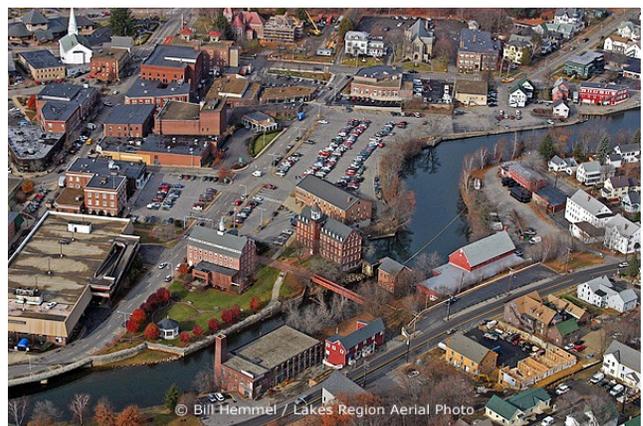
E-mail us at: [downtowntraffic@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:downtowntraffic@city.laconia.nh.us)

**Welcome to Laconia Links** a weekly e-mail newsletter update devoted to keeping you informed of City of Laconia department news, City projects, useful links, activities and events!

Look for a new edition of the newsletter each Friday. If you have already signed up to be on our distribution list to receive your newsletter by e-mail, thank you for your interest! If you would like to be added to our e-mail list (or to unsubscribe), please click [here](#).

As always, we welcome your ideas and comments as to what you would like to see included in future issues. Just give us a call in the City Manager's office at 527-1270, or contact us by e-mail at [info@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:info@city.laconia.nh.us)

*We look forward to keeping you up to date on our beautiful City!*



Link to the Planning Dept's website for info and updates —click [here](#)!

# Laconia Police Department

## LPD Internship Program



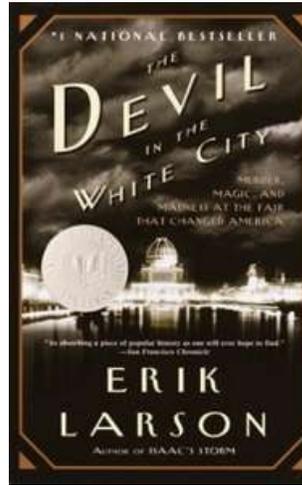
The Laconia Police Department has a new college intern that will be learning about police work and working side by side with members of the agency. She is a second year student at the New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord and is interested in a career within the criminal justice system.

The Laconia Police Department has long participated in offering internship opportunities to area colleges most often from The New Hampshire Technical Institute, Plymouth State University, and Hesser College. This unpaid position offers students the opportunity to put learned theory into practical application. Interns are required to complete a minimum of 120 hours, complete daily journals, and write a final analytical report. Based upon this and an assessment by the agency, interns earn credits towards their criminal justice degree.

Over the course of the last five years the Laconia Police Department has hired several officers who were previous interns with the department. It is a very valuable and beneficial program where students are able to learn about their chosen career path in a hands-on environment.

[Link to Laconia PD here](#)

## Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....



The Library's Winter-Spring Dynamic Book Discussion Series will begin on Tuesday, February 7th at 7 pm in Laconia Rotary Hall. The book being discussed is *The Devil in the White City*, by Erik Larson. This is a true story of the 1893 World's Fair and the cunning serial killer, Dr. H.H. Holmes, also known as Herman Mudgett from Gilmanston, who used the World's Fair to lure his victims to their death.

*The Devil in the White City* draws the reader into a time of magic and majesty. Erik Larson's gifts as a storyteller are magnificently displayed in this rich narrative of the master builder, the killer, and the great Fair that obsessed them both. The discussion leader will be Frumie Selchen. Copies of the book are available at the Library's main circulation desk. For more information please call 524-4775, Ext.12.

Check out the Library's website  
Click [here!](#)

## Upcoming Meetings...

Click [here](#) for  
City's website

### Planning Board

February 7, 2012, 6:30 pm  
City Hall, Room 200A

[Agenda](#)

### Motorcycle Technical Review Committee

February 8, 2012, 1:30 pm  
City Hall, Room 200A

[Agenda](#)

Keeping the public updated and aware of what's going on in our community and receiving residents' feedback is an important goal of the City Council.

Check each week's issue of *Laconia Links* for a schedule of the upcoming week's meetings. As agendas become available, they will be posted to the City's website. You can also contact any of the City's departments for more information on a meeting or to obtain a printed copy of the agenda.

Meetings are open to the public...you are invited and encouraged to attend and provide input. Become involved in your City and make a difference!

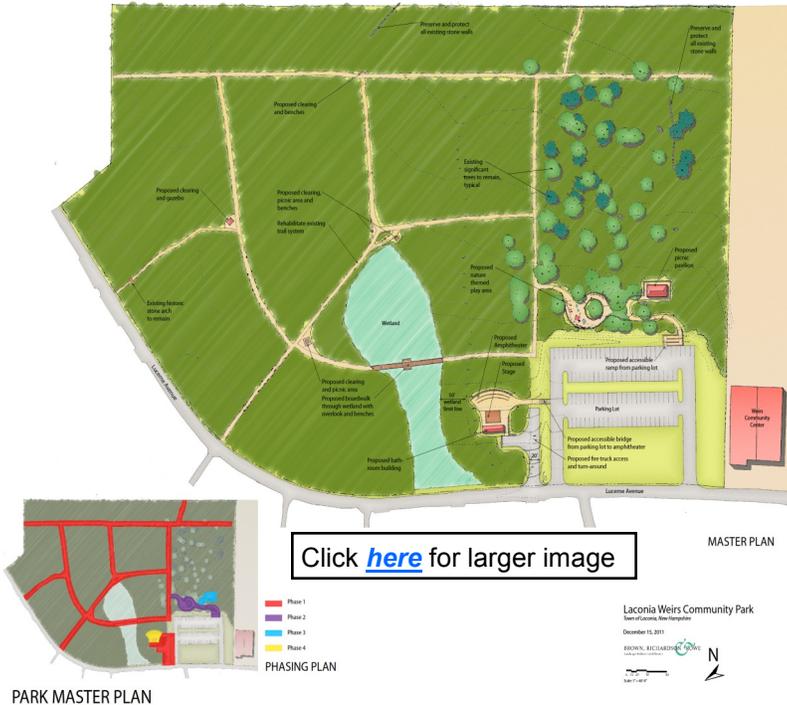
Follow this [link](#) to the "Calendar" page of the City of Laconia's website. Click on a specific meeting for more information. Please check the "Calendar" page often for updated info and changes.

# LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



## WEIRS COMMUNITY PARK CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS

Click [here](#) to access the Parks & Rec website



Work on the Weirs Community Park conceptual design has been completed by Brown, Richardson & Rowe. The plan for the park is to keep it as natural as possible. We are looking into the options of natural looking elements for the playground and actual natural elements for the other facilities. The trails currently exist and will just be redefined. The phases of the project are mapped out on the design shown here.

The Laconia Parks & Recreation Department will be presenting the design to the Planning Board on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Once the department gets the approval from the Planning Board, they will go forward and have the engineering designs done.

For any questions feel free to contact our office at 524-5046.



# Laconia Fire Department

Link to Fire Dept. [here](#)



The Laconia Fire Department has an important tool to keep track of inspections and new construction in the City. The Laconia Fire Department is using a computer-based CodePal inspection program developed by Sybatech, Inc. The system allows the Department to track all permits and building permits issued to contractors and installers on any property in the City. With this tool we can track the number of all types of permits issued to a location or to any individual and keep those records in an electronic file. The system also allows us to upload plans, documents and photographs that relate to that property.

When fully implemented, the system will allow us to schedule, inspect, obtain signatures and provide a printed report before leaving the location.

The computer equipment includes desktop office computers, portable/vehicle mounted tablet computers and hand-held units for field inspections. All of this data is uploaded to the department server and can be shared with everyone on the system.



Important Message  
from the Laconia  
Fire Department

# Laconia Fire Department



**A safety reminder about fireplaces, woodstoves, and ashes: Put the ashes away from your home. They should be placed in a metal container with a solid cover.**

**Never store the ashes in the garage, porch, or deck.  
Never place the ashes in a combustible container.**

**Ashes can take several days to completely cool down.**

Link to Fire Dept. website [here](#)



## City Receives Award for Beautification Efforts

At the recent Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce Awards Meeting held January 19, 2012 at Church Landing in Meredith, a packed room watched as eleven awards were presented. Over 220 business owners and community leaders attended.



*Shown left to right: Dale Squires and Hayden McLaughlin of Belknap Landscape Co., Kevin Dunleavy, Dir. of Laconia Parks & Rec, & Karmen Gifford, Chamber Exec. Director*

Dale Squires, a member of the Chamber's Award Selection Committee presented the awards that afternoon. Squires explained that the award categories included the Golden Trowel for Outstanding Renovations, the Golden Hammer for Outstanding New Construction, an Environmental Award, recognizing significant eco-friendly, sustainable investments, and a Tool Belt Award for outstanding building efforts of value to the entire community.

In the Municipal Category, for the Golden Trowel Award, Squires announced "In this public space, benches, trash receptacles, water fountains – everything – was in need of repair or replacement. Invasive plantings thrived throughout and the streetlights had not worked for years. Rebuilt underground utilities and water supplies now provide the safety of new lighting and protect the newly installed plants and turf from drought. New 8-ft. wide, well-lit, multi-use walkways, comfortable, strategically placed seating, planting beds full of native plant selections, restored turf and pruned trees altogether created a mid-town oasis for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike." He continued, "I am truly honored to ask that both Kevin Dunleavy from the City of Laconia and Hayden McLaughlin of Belknap Landscape Company accept the Golden Trowel Award for the transformation of Stewart Park!"

Congratulations to all of the eleven winners, and to everyone who works toward improving our community!



## NOW OPEN! NEW RECYCLING DROP OFF CENTER

On Lindsay Court across from  
Memorial Park Club House

Open 7-days-a week & 24-hours a day. Site is  
lighted for your safety.

Single Stream Recycling – **NO SORTING!**

**Materials accepted are:**

Glass bottles and jars (all colors)

Steel and aluminum cans

Plastics #1 thru #7

(no plastic bags or Styrofoam please)

Paper, paperboard, newspapers,  
cardboard, magazines, old mail

For questions or additional information,  
please call Ann at DPW, 528-6379.

### Laconia Public Library Events



Wednesday, Feb. 8th at 10 am  
and Thursday, Feb. 9th at 9:30  
and 10:30 am there will be a  
Valentine's Day Party in the  
Selig Storytime Room. Bring a  
snack to share!



For additional information,  
please contact the Library at 524-4775

*We hope you have enjoyed this  
Edition of Laconia Links*

*We welcome your input, comments  
and suggestions!*

Feel free to contact us at the  
City Manager's office, 527-1270,  
or by e-mail at [info@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:info@city.laconia.nh.us)

*Have a great weekend!*

Scott Myers, City Manager  
City of Laconia  
City's Website: [www.city.laconia.nh.us](http://www.city.laconia.nh.us)

## Frozen River: Free Film Showing February 6th!



To advocate cultural awareness and appreciation, the Laconia Human Relations Committee, in cooperation with the Laconia Public Library, is presenting a series of International Films depicting different societal dynamics on the domestic and international front. The next film to be featured is *Frozen River* which will be shown Monday, Feb. 6th, 6:30 pm at the Laconia Library.

*Frozen River* is a film about a desperate mother living in New York who resorts to smuggling illegal immigrants into the US as a means of making ends meet. The movie depicts difficulties faced by fractured American families, immigration, poverty and ethics.

This Laconia International Film Series is open to everyone. Informal discussion follows the film. Light snacks are provided. Feel free to bring a comfortable folding chair or cushion.

For more information, please contact Carol Pierce at [newdynam@aol.com](mailto:newdynam@aol.com) or Lovinia Ellsworth at [Lovinia.Ellsworth@yahoo.com](mailto:Lovinia.Ellsworth@yahoo.com).

### Reminder: From the Laconia Water Department



Temperatures have been moderately warm for this time of the year, but don't let this warm spell fool you and make you believe that pipes are not capable of freezing! Temperatures are falling below freezing at nights which would allow for the pipes to freeze.

***As always, be cautious and double check  
that all pipes are properly protected!***