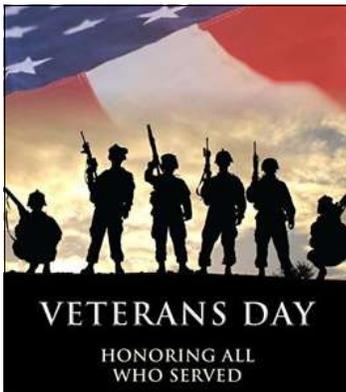


Laconia Links

November 11, 2011 - Edition #6



Veterans Day is Friday, November 11th.....

Please join us in expressing heartfelt gratitude to the generations of brave men and women who have proudly earned the title of United States military veteran.

We salute and thank them for their dedicated and loyal service to our country.

NEWS From the City Clerk's Office

The Municipal Elections were held on November 8, 2011. This election resulted in all incumbents retaining their positions as Mayor, and members of the City Council, Board of Education and Police Commission.

We still need to fill the position of Supervisor of the Checklist in Wards 2 and 5, as well as Selectman in various wards, all of which are now appointed by the City Council. Anyone interested in filling these vacancies should contact the City Clerk.

As always, we would not be able to have an election run smoothly without the poll workers who spend the day assisting our voters. We thank all of these individuals for their hard work and dedication to the election process.

We now look forward to the Presidential Primary election, to be held on January 10, 2012. To make this day run just as smoothly as the Municipal Election, we need help from the community. Each ward is looking for Ballot Clerks to assist in the check-in process.

There are a few newcomers to the elected positions at the polling locations. We would like to welcome Charles Smith as the Ward Clerk in Ward 4, Kyril Mitchell as the Moderator in Ward 5, and Brenda Moulton as a Selectman in Ward 6. It is very exciting to see fresh, ambitious faces stepping forward to take on these tasks!

If you would like to assist in the capacity of Ballot Clerk, please contact the City Clerk as soon as possible at 527-1265.

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

Laconia Police Department



The Laconia Police Department, in cooperation with the State Of New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency, is in the process of enforcing Distracted Driving to a greater extent. The Project is called: **“Laconia Operation Safe Commute Patrols”**.

The patrols will be conducted over the next twelve months and are designed to encourage all motor vehicle operators to focus their attention on the task of driving and operating their vehicles safely. The patrols will monitor and enforce all NH traffic laws. This will result in an increased number of motorist contacts leading to the issuance of citations and warnings contributing to increased public awareness that distracted driving will not be tolerated.

Learn the Facts

Distracted driving kills thousands each year. It injures hundreds of thousands more. Distracted driving includes any activity a driver engages in that could shift his or her attention from driving.

There are three main kinds of distractions:

- Visual – Taking your eyes off the road
- Manual – Taking your hands off the wheel
- Mental – Taking your mind off the task of driving

Driving Safely Is Every Driver’s Responsibility

It requires:

- Giving your full attention to your driving.
- Being alert and ready to respond to the unexpected.
- Being in the proper physical and mental condition to drive.

Cell Phones

Cell phone use increases the risk of a crash. Remember, “hands-free” isn’t risk-free. Talking on a cell phone is not the same as talking with a passenger. A passenger can notice possible problems and alert the driver. A passenger can stop talking when the situation demands it. Drivers using cell phones are four times more likely to get in a crash.

Texting

Texting behind the wheel is a hazard. Don’t text while driving. Don’t send or read messages. Wait until you arrive at your destination or you can pull over safely. Texting while driving is against the law in New Hampshire.

[Link to Laconia PD here](#)

Know The Risk of Any Device You Use

Examples of other devices that can distract your eyes, hands and mind: GPS, Hand-Held Computers, and Smartphones. These devices should not be used while you are behind the wheel!

Make A “Not While Driving Rule”

While you’re driving, don’t let any other task distract your eyes, hands or mind. Pull off the road to a safe spot before you use a cell phone or any other device (including GPS, maps, needed information, phone numbers and surfing).

Driver Fatigue

Driving tired is like driving drunk. Fatigue can take the driver’s mind, eyes and hands all away from the task of driving. Each year, fatigue is a factor in at least 100,000 crashes. These result in many serious injuries and deaths.

Other Distractions

While driving, avoid eating or drinking, smoking, grooming, reading, tending to children misbehaving or needing attention, searching radio stations, CDs, songs, music players, wearing headphones, reaching for an object, trying to catch something falling over, unrestrained pets, events (such as looking at another crash) people or scenery.

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

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

Assessing

The 2011 update has been completed.

New values are available for viewing on the City's website at <http://www.cityoflaconianh.org/>

The abatement filing period is from receipt of the final notice (fall bill) until March 1st.

If you have questions or require additional information, please call the Assessing office at 527-1268.

LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



The Laconia Community Center will be closed for Christmas Village as of November 11th. The actual Christmas Village event will take place December 1, 2, 3 & 4. Thursday and Friday the hours are from 6:00 - 8:00pm and Saturday and Sunday from 2:00 - 5:00pm. There are additional viewings for seniors and those with a handicap. There is no charge to enter the village, however, donations are happily accepted.



What people see when they enter the Christmas Village is amazing, but it takes a lot of work in order to turn a basketball gym into a winter wonderland! It takes VOLUNTEERS three weeks to accomplish this task and one week to tear it down. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated (especially characters and elves)! Call Laconia Parks & Recreation for contact names and numbers at 524-5046.

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

We thank you for your patience at having the Community Center closed, but it really is an amazing sight to see. Please come and see the magic for yourself!



Tips from the Tax Department

PROPERTY FRAUD ALERT BE INFORMED! - BE PROTECTED!!

Unfortunately, it's all too easy for a criminal to record a fraudulent deed making it appear as if they now own your home. Once they've done this, they can use your name as collateral on a mortgage or even attempt to sell your home to an unsuspecting buyer.

The Belknap County Registry of Deeds Office has made a conscious effort to be on the lookout for documents that may involve deed or mortgage related fraud. For your protection, consider subscribing to the Registry's "FREE" Property Fraud Alert website for real-time monitoring and notification of any potential fraudulent activity of interest to you. Your security does matter!!!! Don't let this happen to you!

To sign up for this free service, go to: <http://www.propertyfraudalert.com/belknapnh/Disclaimer.aspx> and check the box that states "I agree to the terms stated above" to begin registration. The service will notify you if a document is recorded with your name and you will be given the option to be notified by "Email" or by "Phone". If you have any questions regarding this or are having trouble signing up, please call 1-800-728-3858 for assistance. Brochures are also available in the Laconia Tax Collector's Office or at the Registry of Deeds.

"PROPERTY FRAUD ALERT." NH DEEDS. Barbara Luther, Registrar.
Web. 08 Nov. 2011. <http://www.nhdeeds.com/belknap/BePFA.html>

Follow this [link](#) to our Tax Dept. for more info.....

Public Works Department

Click [here](#) for link to our Public Works Dept. website

Court St. – Main St. – Union Ave. Intersection New Traffic Control (Video Detection) System Installed



After several months of reviewing alternatives, DPW recently settled on a new video detection system for controlling traffic at this major intersection in the city.

Utilizing a single video camera with 360 degree observation capabilities, the camera recognizes vehicles in detection zones at the intersection and then the signal controller responds to vehicle demand "intelligently", thereby providing for safe and efficient vehicle movements through the intersection without causing vehicles to wait for long periods of time unnecessarily.

This technology is relatively new and has been used successfully in several locations throughout the country. A significant advantage of this system is that it eliminates the need for installing vehicle detection "magnetic loops" in the roadway pavement, thereby eliminating the cost and associated underground work required to install and maintain those loops.

Proper timing and optimization of traffic signals can provide significant savings in **time, fuel, vehicle wear & tear and air quality impacts**. Increased emphasis is being placed on this issue throughout the United States through a Federal and State program called the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program.

Public Works Department

Fall Leaf Pickup Continues!

For the week starting Monday, November 14th, the City's solid waste contractor (Bestway Disposal) will continue to pick up an additional 10 bags of leaves/yard waste (20 bags for multifamily or business) at properties along the curbside trash pickup routes on their normal trash day.

Please note that yard waste will be collected by a separate truck, NOT the normal trash collection truck. Also, all yard waste materials must be placed in paper compostable bags.

Please place bagged yard waste at least 3 feet away from your trash containers, and be sure it is curbside by 6:00 a.m.

Laconia residents may also bring leaves/yard waste to the composting area at the Laconia Transfer Station – FREE of charge! Hours of operation are: Monday thru Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

Please direct questions to the Public Works Dept. office at 528-6379.

Click [here](#) for link to our Public Works Department website



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

Have a great weekend!

Scott Myers, City Manager
City of Laconia
City's Website: www.city.laconia.nh.us



CITY OFFICES WILL
BE CLOSED
FRIDAY, NOV. 11, 2011
VETERANS DAY

Laconia Putnam Fund



**DON'T MISS
"AN EVENING
WITH GROUCHO"
FRIDAY, NOV. 18, 7:00 PM
LACONIA HIGH SCHOOL**

See our schedule online at
www.city.laconia.nh.us
Special Events/Putnam Fund

**FREE ADMISSION!
NO TICKETS REQUIRED/
FIRST COME—FIRST SEATED**

Laconia Public Library Upcoming Event.....

Please join us on Friday,
November 18th at 3:35 pm
in Rotary Hall:
Movies & More For Kids
"Zookeeper" rated PG,
102 minutes



All children under 10 must be accompanied by a responsible person at least 14 years old; and all adults **MUST** bring a child. Snacks provided. Free!

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