



Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire October 9, 2020

ATTENTION TOWN OF NEW LONDON VOTERS!

Saturday, October 17 Noon -2pm

Drive Through Registration, Same Day Absentee Ballot Pick Up and Return at the Public Works Garage, 184 South Pleasant Street.

Friday, October 23 Noon -1pm

Supervisors of the Checklist (Celeste Cook, Carolyn Fraley, Linda Jackman) will hold a public session for additions and corrections to the checklist at the Town Office, 375 Main Street. Absentee ballots will also be accepted at this event.

NO ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS SHALL BE MADE TO THE CHECKLIST AFTER THIS SESSION until Election Day.

Due to COVID-19 we will offer drive thru registration at the above 2 events. There will be no need to leave your car. We suggest you wear a mask, gloves and bring your own pen and photo ID. In order to register as a **new voter** you will need to bring two forms of ID to satisfy proof of identity, age and domicile.

Absentee Ballot returns will also be accepted at the two following times:

Monday, November 2, 3-5pm at the Town Office.

Tuesday, November 3, 7am -5pm

There will be a dedicated drop off lane at the polling place, 184 So. Pleasant Street.

ALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE IN BY

5PM TO BE COUNTED.

If you have any questions about any of the above please call or email Will Kidder, Town Clerk at 603.526.1244 or tctc@nl-nh.com

NEW LONDON HALLOWEEN 2020

Recommended date/time

Saturday, October 31st 4-6pm

This year, Main Street **will not be closed down** and there will be no Town-organized events.

Trick-or-Treating is to your own, personal comfort level.

If you wish to participate in Trick-or-Treating, please consider the following:

Residents & Businesses

Indicate visitors are welcome by leaving your outside light on. Explore options for giving treats such as:

- * placing your treats outside on a table or in a basket,
- * only hand out individually wrapped items,
- * maintain social distancing & wear a mask

Trick or Treaters

Trick-or-treat in small groups, perhaps in your own neighborhood and avoid entering homes.

Carry hand sanitizer and use often & wear a mask

Absentee Ballot Request Reminders

- * If you can, please print double sided
- * New London has no ward, leave it blank
- * Mail your ballot to 375 Main Street, New London
- * Do NOT put in drop box at the office

Notes from the Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting - October 3

The Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting was held via Zoom this month, and members viewed this format favorably, so it will continue into the future. Meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month, from 7:30 to 9:00 AM. The first 30 minutes of the meeting were devoted to the topic of composting. In February, the CAC had requested more information regarding composting and a town composting initiative, which was highly supported in the Master Plan Survey. Maureen Prohl was directed by the BOS to explore this topic with the New London Solid Waste Committee and the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, of which New London is a member. She presented the information today.

In February, Maureen and two members of the SWC toured the Lebanon Solid Waste Facility and were educated about various aspects of waste reduction, waste diversion, and recycling/composting ([Link](#)).

We also learned about a small community composting pilot project which ran from 1/15/20 -7/15/20. This pilot project was highly successful; it demonstrated that, in 6 months, 11 Lebanon families diverted 1,800 pounds of food scraps from the landfill ([Link](#)). Members of the SWC and the Kearsarge Climate Action group toured the facility again on October 1, and were again well educated by the manager of that facility, Marc Morgan. The SWC has recently reconvened and elected John Manaras as Chair and Liz Meller as Secretary. The group intends to address the composting initiative in their first meeting on October 5.

Also in February, Karen Ebel, our state Representative and Chair of the Solid Waste Committee in the NH House, invited Maureen to a hearing in Concord regarding current practices in the Solid Waste Bureau of the Department of Environmental services. Three "Trash Bills" were developed in the last legislative session, but were vetoed by the Governor as part of the omnibus HB 1234. There is hope that DES will simplify commercial composting rules outside of this vetoed legislation.

In February and March, Maureen contacted the UVLSRPC and learned of an ongoing federal grant which supported rural schools in the planning and implementing of a composting plan/food scrap diversion program. We were very fortunate to have Kearsarge included in the grant after it had already begun. The KRES curriculum development coordinator was contacted and was enthusiastic to partake in the training, scheduled for late April.

However, due to the pandemic, the 4-module training had to be rescheduled to late September, and it was 75% online. By that time, the teachers were unable to attend due to their extreme workload. Maureen did attend as a

community member, and acquired a library of information which will be shared with all interested stakeholders, now and hopefully in the future.

Core Compost Training Videos: [Link](#)

Reference Resources: [Link](#)

Our keynote speaker for the remaining hour of the meeting was the Superintendent of KRSD, Winfried Feneberg. He was accompanied by our School Board Representatives, Bebe Casey and Ben Cushing. The focus of discussion was "Education in the time of the Pandemic". Superintendent Feneberg stated at the outset that the pandemic has had an "unimaginable impact" on the KRSD and that "Teaching as we know it has been upended". There is a 40 page re-opening plan on the website: [Link](#).

The School District began remote learning in the Spring, and spent untold hours over the Summer refining their model for reopening. Guidelines from the NH Department of HHS, and the NH DOE were also considered. Bebe Casey noted that in one online forum, 300 parents attended and gave input until midnight!

The KRSD model is one of "Simultaneous" teaching. That is, the teacher appears simultaneously to the in-person students, as well as the remote learners. Small group activities may occur in online "chat rooms". Families may elect to have students learn remotely or in the school building; in the case of the HS and MS, students may elect to have a combination of in-person and remote learning. This model poses significant challenges to the teaching staff, as traditional lesson plans/preparations "go out the window". Presentation of information, class participation and ongoing assessment of learning are radically different in this format. The Superintendent stated that the school community and the community at large must "accept that learning outcomes will **not** be the same".

The School District must also be quite flexible in responding and adapting to internal and external influences. For example, there was a positive coronavirus case in the Middle School that was reported at 5:30 AM on a Sunday. Contact tracing and quarantining were immediately initiated; the school was disinfected that day, and school opened as usual on Monday morning. There are concerns that if more than 4 teachers are out sick, substitutes cannot be called in because the online teaching process is too complex. If there is increase in community spread, which will impact the schools, then in-person learning may have to be suspended. Superintendent Feneberg offered enormous praise to other school staff "Superstars", including nurses, custodians and administrators. They have responded to this crisis admirably, implementing many new rules and procedures to keep the learning community safe in every way.

Continued on page 3

**The 2020 National Fire Prevention Week theme is
“Serve up fire safety in the kitchen!”**



The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 95 years, has announced “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen” as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2020. NFPA’s focus on cooking fire safety comes in response to home cooking fires representing the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended cooking is the leading cause of these fires.

Key messages around this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen” include:

- Keep a close eye on what you’re cooking; never leave cooking unattended
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — at least three feet away from your stovetop.
- Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don’t use the stove or stovetop.

Citizens Advisory Committee continued—

This is not to say that the re-opening has been problem free. 75% of students are “in school” either in person or online, but there are students who do not have the option for remote learning due to poor connectivity. Education of children with special needs has also been quite challenging. Teachers and teaching assistants are at risk for mental and emotional fatigue. Sports have been adversely affected. Football competition was eliminated, and all other sports were modified for safety. Buses were used over the summer to deliver food, on the bus routes, to all students who requested it. Community volunteers and school staff assisted in food delivery. There was some federal cost reimbursement for the transportation over the summer.

The School District has received \$177,000 in CARES money. The District has also transferred funds from its approved budget to cover new costs, such as increased cleaning, PPE, electronic infrastructure, repair and replacement. *~~ Maureen Prohl, CAC Vice-Chair*

WE ARE VILO SUPPORTERS!

Vilo and Officer Daley thank the following members of the Vilo Support Team:

- ◆ Sandra Brown
- ◆ Virginia Buckley
- ◆ Marsha Goldberg
- ◆ Leonard & Elizabeth Pace
- ◆ Michael & Sandra Schamel

PLEASE JOIN



OUR TEAM!

I want to be a K9 Vilo Supporter!

Here is my donation in the amount of: _____

to help support the New London Police Department
K9 Program.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please make check payable to:

Town of New London K9 Fund

Mail to: 375 Main Street, New London, NH 03257

Thank you for your support!!



Help eradicate an invasive non-native plant called Japanese Knotweed

Reprinted with permission from the Pleasant Lake Protective Association (PLPA). The PLPA would like to remind you that early Fall is a great time to identify and help eradicate Japanese Knotweed. It is one of our most damaging invasive weeds and is now in its flowering cycle.

It's flowers are easy to spot as you drive or walk past it. Its leaves alternate sides along a zig-zag red branch and the stems of the plant resemble bamboo (though it is not a bamboo but a smartweed relative).



Photo courtesy of Jen Esten. There are multiple large patches of it around Pleasant Lake and throughout the New London area. It is very difficult to control as it's roots grow 6 feet down and it can resprout from cuttings. Knotweed can cause damage to home foundations, roads and septic fields. Shortly before the season's killing frost is a good time for treatment. Or you can find it now and get after it in the spring. Simply cutting it down is a bad approach because it can regenerate from the smallest pieces of stem or root.

Please check the links below for how to identify and control this very invasive weed. PLPA Website: <https://plpa.net/2017/05/08/japanese-knotweed/> Includes "Homeowners Guide to Japanese Knotweed Control," a 5-page guide prepared by the New London Conservation Commission; and a concise 3-page article about the plant and its management.

2018 publication "Preventing the Spread of Japanese Knotweed - Best Management Practices" by NH Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food: www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/japanese-knotweed-bmps.pdf



Photo courtesy of Jen Esten.

Police Department thanks KRHS student



Lucas Carey, a student at Kearsarge Regional High School, recently donated his time and the materials to build a custom box for the New London Police Department to use in the back of one of their cruisers to hold gear and equipment. The project took Lucas 25 hours to complete. The New London Police Department is grateful to Lucas for all of his hard work!



No E-Waste accepted on

Monday, October 12

Public Works Dept.

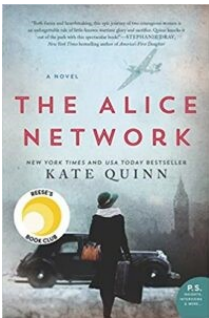
will be **CLOSED**



Join our email list to have *Municipal Matters & special notices* sent directly to you. Sign up on the town's website: NL-NH.com/Our Town/Sign Up

Virtual Book Discussion

Tues, Oct. 13 @ 10AM



We'll be discussing *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

Copies of the ebook and audiobook can be down-loaded through Hoopla (free with your Tracy Library card).

Please email roy@tracylibrary.org for a link to attend or with any questions.

October Meeting Calendar

Please check the town's web calendar for additional information and updates.

- TUE, OCT 13 @ 6:30 PM - PLANNING BOARD - ZOOM
- WED, OCT 14 @ 11 AM - RECREATION COMMITTEE
- WED, OCT 14 @ 6 PM - SELECTMEN MTG-PRESENTATION OF BUKER BLDG/PD STUDY @ WHIPPLE
- THUR, OCT 15 @ 8:30 AM - MASTER PLAN COM - ZOOM
- MON, OCT 19 @ 6 PM - BOARD OF SELECTMEN - ZOOM
- MON, OCT 19 @ 6:30 PM - JOINT SELECTMEN & BUDGET COMMITTEE - ZOOM
- WED, OCT 21 @ 8:30 AM - CONSERVATION COM - ZOOM
- WED, OCT 21 @ 4:30 PM - LIBRARY BRD OF TRUSTEES
- THUR, OCT 22 @ 6:30 PM - BLDG & FACILITY COMMITTEE
- FRI, OCT 23 NOON-1 PM - SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST
- TUE, OCT 27 @ 6:30 PM - PLANNING BOARD - ZOOM

For a complete list of meetings, check the town website: www.nl-nh.com

Nothing is Scariier than Spreading COVID-19 this Halloween

- Stay home if you are not feeling well.
- Consider wearing a mask over your nose and mouth when trick-or-treating and handing out treats.
- Avoid large gatherings or parties and find ways to trick-or-treat while staying at least 6 feet away from others, including when handing out and accepting treats
- Practice frequent hand cleaning - bring a bottle of alcohol-based hand sanitizer with you while trick-or-treating, and use it often.

For Motorists

- Drive slowly and stay alert.
- Watch for children walking across the street or at intersections.
- Enter and exit driveways slowly, keep eyes out for children.
- After dark, keep eyes out for trick-or-treaters in dark clothing.
- New or inexperienced drivers should avoid driving after dark on Halloween.

Trick-or-Treating

- Adults should accompany young children while they are out.
- Walk on sidewalks, not the street. Use crosswalks when crossing the street.
- Always travel in familiar, well-lit areas and stay in groups.
- After dark, carry a flashlight or glow stick to increase visibility.
- Phones down, heads up. Be aware of your surroundings.

ReadyNH.gov
TAKE ACTION. BE SAFE.

Share your photos in the 2020 New London Annual Town Report

Submit your photos of New London town events, buildings, scenery, animals, etc. to be included in the town's annual report or website with a photo credit. No hard copies or watermarks.

Forward photos and questions to Dianne via email: office@nl-nh.com



Municipal Matters is published by the staff of the Town of New London. Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator, 603-526-1240 Email: townadmin@nl-nh.com