



The Town of Newington E-Newsletter includes information about Town-sponsored events, projects, and special announcements. Visit www.newington.nh.us to join the distribution list, or to be removed.

Board of Selectmen

Bob Blonigen, Chair
Brandon Arsenault
Christian Wayss

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Upcoming Meetings:

3/5/2024	Police Commission	4pm	Police Station
3/6/2024	Board of Fire Engineers	5:00pm	Fire Station
3/7/2024	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
3/12/2024	Town Elections	8am-7pm	Town Hall
3/14/2024	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
3/16/2024	School District & Town Meetings	10:00am	Town Hall
3/18/2024	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
3/20/2024	Sewer Commission	9am	Wst. Water Trtmt. Facility
3/25/2024	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall

Newington Fire & Rescue

March is here and Spring is right around the corner. This winter was pretty mild compared to most, but this is New England, so we could always get that late season storm to make up for it. Fingers crossed that doesn't happen.

You may have seen the Fire newest addition, Engine 4, driving and doing various training lately. Well, all members have their respective driving and pump requirements and all equipment has and mounted. So, I am happy to pass finally in service and look forward to town for many years.



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As March is the time for Town elections (3/12) and Town meeting (3/16), if you should have any questions, are looking for clarification or would like to discuss any part of the FD budget or warrants, please feel free to reach out to me at the contacts below or even better, swing by the station.

Don't forget on March 10th to "spring ahead" with your clocks. Please make sure to check your smoke and CO alarms as well to make sure the batteries are fresh and in proper working condition. Should you need any assistance with your alarms please let us know.

As always, we are here and available if you have any needs or questions. Stay safe.

EJ Hoyt
Fire Chief
436-9441 x6
ehoyt@newingtonfire.org

Change Your Clocks / Check Your Smoke & CO Detector Batteries

When it's time to "spring forward" or "fall back" and change your clocks, make sure to change the batteries in all of your smoke alarms. If batteries were recently changed, it's still very important to conduct your monthly test of your smoke alarms. It could save a life!



Did you know that having a working smoke alarm reduces a person's chance of dying in a fire by half?

For the best protection, install smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside every sleeping area, and in every bedroom. Smoke alarms should be mounted high on walls or ceilings and tested monthly. You should also have a properly working Carbon Monoxide detector on each level of your home.

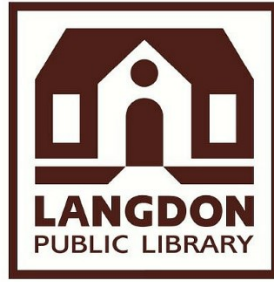


It's important to replace smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, unless they're 10-year lithium batteries. Even if your smoke alarms are hardwired, replace the batteries in case of a chirping sound or a power outage.

Reminder: Smoke alarms do not last forever. The maximum life span is 10 years. After that time, the entire unit should be replaced. If the unit does not respond properly when tested, it should be replaced immediately.

Help your smoke alarm remain sensitive and ready to protect you by gently using a vacuum cleaner once a month to remove dust and cobwebs. If your Smoke Alarms have been accidentally painted or contaminated, replacement may be necessary.

As always, if you have a question, concern, or need a hand, give the fire station a call or swing by.



Candidates Night

On **Tuesday, March 5 at 6 PM**, Newington residents are invited to come by the Langdon Library to hear and learn about 2024 candidates for town offices.



*Featured March Programs: Ninth annual Candidates Night;
and Mark Reinhold, Dinosaurs and Popular Culture*

The Langdon Library will host our **Meet the Candidates Night for the town of Newington, NH on Tuesday, March 5 at 6 PM**, to provide voters with a forum to hear and learn about the candidates. Each candidate has a maximum of five (5) timed minutes to give an introduction and summary of their interest in running, followed by a question and answer period for voters to ask individual questions. Candidates may provide informative materials about themselves and their candidacy by emailing to info@langdonlibrary.org by March 1. We will post a recording afterward on our website here:

<https://www.langdonlibrary.org/candidates-night/>

Mark Reinhold will join us Thursday, March 14 at 5:30 PM with a presentation about dinosaurs: **"From Beast to Blockbuster: Our Changing View of Dinosaurs Through the Eye of Popular**

Culture." Mark grew up in Newington and now lives locally. He has been a professor at the college level for almost 25 years, currently in the position of Professor of Earth Science at Northern Essex Community College. For more information about Mark and his program, click [here](#).

Food Drive: The Langdon Library is helping Seacoast Public Health Network with their food drive during the week of March 11-15, collecting non-perishable foods in jars, cans and sealed packets. Please bring your contributions by the library during our open hours. This drive supports all pantries and kitchens in the Seacoast Region.

Writing Group: All ages are welcome to join us on Weds, Mar. 6 at 6 PM for a short writing prompt. Sharing is optional.

Tech Talk with Randall Bush: Weds. Mar. 6 & 20 from 2:30 – 3:30 PM. All ages and “tech” questions welcome.

Story Times: Every Friday at 11 AM for preschoolers and their caregivers, and one on Saturday, March 2 at 11 AM, an outdoor scavenger hunt!

Video Game Night: Tuesday, Mar. 12 at 6 PM. Bring your consoles, controllers, and positive attitudes! Refreshments will be provided.

Craft Night: Tuesday, Mar. 19 at 6 PM. Make your own decoupage egg. All ages welcome.

Book Group: March Book Group is reading [Burning Marguerite](#) by Elizabeth Inness-Brown. Copies are available at the desk. We will discuss it together on Friday, March 15 at 10:30 AM. There is also a [digital forum](#) you may use to discuss it. Ask the library for the passcode.

Fortnite: Thursday, March 28 at 6 PM for teens

Langdon Library Board of Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, at 5:30 PM

See you at the library!

Lara, Theresa, Brittany and Debbie

www.langdonlibrary.org

January 2024 Library Usage Statistics

Checkouts	Visits	NH <u>Downloadables</u>	Hoopla Digital	Room Use	Program Attendance	Interlibrary Loan (To and From)
620	472	250	86	144	67	113

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Sorry winter enthusiasts, wintertime is almost over. Positive spin on it, you received an extra day last month. Happy Leap Year!!!

During the month February Captain Smart and Detective O'Reilly had the opportunity with the extra day, to complete a couple of yearly and biennial reporting tasks. Each year per policy and meeting Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) standards, we conduct a full audit of the evidence/property room. This can be a tedious task pulling all 746 pieces of evidence and triple checking to make sure the items are documented properly on the log sheet, coinciding with property number, and verifying with our in-house tracking system. There were 12 discrepancies, which were easily corrected (human error). Not only do we do a yearly audit, but we also conduct unannounced checks throughout the year.

We are also in the process of conducting our biennial equipment audit of all department owned property. From handcuffs to computer monitors, we document and inspect each piece of equipment issued to officers through serial numbers, confirming the items are properly functioning, and in fact what was issued to them. I say biennial, but we keep an accurate account of items purchased or provided through grants once the piece of equipment is received.

We are currently working with the New Hampshire Air National Guard on an active shooter drill on base. We are in the initial stages of planning this out, with a tabletop exercise being completed in March. When this comes to fruition, the critique will be beneficial to see how we work and communicate together, for a successful outcome. Residents and businesses on the PDA will be notified prior to the event, because the "Loud Voice" will be heard

You may not have noticed, but McIntyre Road is a little cleaner of litter, based on a joint investigation with the Newington Highway Department. A few months ago, it was reported to me someone was consistently littering Dunkin Donuts bags at the S curves on McIntyre Road. With the help of the highway department, we started picking up the bags and collecting them as evidence. At total of 16 Dunkin Donuts bags were recovered. We worked out a timeline based on the time stamp on the order receipt, and we were able to locate which Dunkin Donuts the suspect was frequenting. After conducting covert patrol operations on McIntyre and Newington Roads, we were able to narrow the suspect pool to two potential vehicles. I had Detective O'Reilly stake out the Dunkin Donuts in question and he was able to witness the suspect pick up his order. Detective O'Reilly followed the suspect's vehicle to Newington, by way of Newington Road. I intercepted the vehicle once on McIntyre Road, conducted an investigative stop and identified the perpetrator.

Long Story short, charges are forthcoming. Not the crime of the century. However, it is a quality-of-life issue. The Broken Window theory if you wish. Clean up and fix the small matters, so they won't manifest into a bigger problem.

If you are one of the people reading this and thinking to yourself or saying aloud to your significant other, "what about the beer cans?" We are working on that as well.

Statistics as of February 29, 2024

Motor vehicle stops	222	Summons/warnings issued
Accidents	4	Reports taken
Incidents/calls for service	29	Reports taken
Arrests	7	Felony/Misdemeanor offences
Field Interviews	4	Suspicious person(s)
Warrants	3	Felony/Misdemeanors

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call 431-5461 or send me an email; mbilodeau@newingtonhpd.com

Be safe and healthy!

Chief Michael Bilodeau

Town Election is Tuesday, March 12th 8am-7pm at Town Hall

School District and Town Meeting Coming Up! Saturday, March 16th 10am & 10:30am

2024 Town and School District Budgets can be found at these links:

[2024 Town Meeting Warrant and Budget | Newington NH](#)

[2024 School Warrant and Budget | Newington NH](#)



The Town Clerk's Office will be **closed** on Tuesday, March 12th due to the election.

Building Dept March Newsletter

Hello Newington! February has flown by, and we are ready for some warmth in March! I know, still plenty of opportunity for snow, but I am taking the groundhog's word and counting on an early spring!! This month has been busy to say the least! Various construction projects in town as well as some upgrades and general maintenance have been taking place in our town buildings. We are starting to plan spring projects in the upcoming months after town meeting as well. I would like to take some time to highlight a couple exciting things that have happened in February!

At the Police Station over the last year, we have been working on Access Control System (ACS) installation and recently in February we have completed some further upgrades! Nowadays, electronic access control systems have replaced traditional locks. These systems consist of readers which are devices that authenticate users. Authentication methods commonly consist of access cards or fobs and even mobile credentials. These systems allow for more efficient management and monitoring of access. Initially, the ACS was installed on all exterior doors as well as the detached garage. After combing through end of year funds that were unspent, the Selectmen authorized the use of some of these funds to expand the ACS system to include the armory and the evidence room at the Police Station. To further fortify the evidence room, which is the most sensitive area in the Police Station, we added 2 step authentication as well as motion detection. With the expansion to the ACS we not only made this room more secure, but we saved monthly costs for a separate alarm monitoring.



I would also like to take a minute to thank the Newington Fire Department. Recently the FD gifted older AED's that were part of the replacement package with the cardiac monitor. The AED's still have plenty of service life left in them and will be an upgrade to the unit we have here at Town Hall, but also give us the option to have one at Old Town Hall and the Meeting House! The cabinets have been ordered and once received, I will get these installed! Thanks Newington Fire Department!



Respectfully Submitted
Jeremy Boston
Buildings, Safety and Health Officer

Recreation Committee Newsletter

Hello Newington Residents! Can you believe this! We are talking about an **Easter Egg Hunt on the 23rd of March**. Snow/rain date on the 24th. So excited because we have a new Easter Bunny coming to visit us. It will be such a great surprise for our Newington children!! I heard the Easter Bunny will be hiding 500 easter eggs which includes, surprises and golden eggs. This event will start at **11am-3pm**. Will have snacks, coffee, and crafts for all to enjoy.

Not sure about the weather being cold enough to freeze our ice rink, which means the ice rink might be closed. But its New England you never know! Please follow the rules of the ice rink. It is posted on site. Thank you and enjoy!



March, April Activities 2024

Yoga Classes continue until the end of April. Classes are on a Saturday at 8:30AM. We have Beth Grecoe a teacher at Pasada Yoga Studio in North Hampton. She is well experienced in teaching us all levels of Vinyasa. Vinyasa yoga focuses on the breath with a flow of Physical postures offering variation to suit all students. The combination of breath control and movement in Vinyasa yoga is designed to cultivate a deep mind-body connection. Practitioners often find that the practice promotes mindfulness and reduces stress. Due to the popularity of the class, it will continue in to March and April. Bring your yoga mat and water bottle! See you there! **No class on March 23rd due to Easter Egg Hunt. No Class on April 6th.**



Dance Exercise Classes will continue into March, and April, . Classes are on Tuesday from 6:15 pm until 7:15. Tia Pike is an experienced choreographer and dance instructor. Tia has coached competitive dance teams, taught dance exercise classes, created, and organized many flashmobs, and has organized dance performances for the Portsmouth Halloween parade for many years. Class

description: Dance for Joy and Exercise! Get your body moving with some calorie burning dance exercise moves that are easy, safe, and fun! Learn simple dance routines that feel like mini performances to boost your energy and self-confidence. No dance experience required! Due to popularity, class will continue.



Both yoga and dance classes are being offered for 5 classes for \$35. The drop in cost is \$10. The class location depends on the class date, check in with town hall. Offered to Newington Residents and guests only. **Please pay at the town hall.**

February Activities 2024(recap)

Cooking with Jack Lee: The class started off with Jack Lee introducing himself and telling us how he began his love of cooking. We all enjoyed the story, and he also gave us the recipe that he/we were making in the class. It was so much fun to be part of the cooking process. We cracked eggs, stirred them in cheese. We also pan-fried pancetta. We boiled pasta. We marinated and stirred fried the chicken. The meal was made before we knew it. We sat down together to share a bountiful salad, pasta, chicken and ended it with a simple dessert of fresh fruit on a pastry crust. Delicious! Hope Jack Lee comes back and cooks for us again. Thank you, Jack Lee!!

CPR/EAD with Gail was a full class. The instructor is our very own Gail Klanchesser. Gail has been teaching CPR AED, First Aid, babysitting, and safety courses for 20 yrs. She is authorized through the American Heart Associates. Which includes a student workbook. The class was three hours long, but it went quickly with Gail as the instructor. The residents were on the floor learning how to save adults, children, and babies from choking or having a heart attack. Glad we had such a great turn out. We need all our residents to take this class. Hopefully we will not have to use it but nice to know your neighbors might be able to save your life. We did have a short break to regroup and then continue the class.

May Activities:

Pickleball nets will go up in Newington Road.

Tennis courts are open.

Senior Dinner will be on May 5, Sunday from 4pm-7pm. Save the date and you can sign up at the Town Hall. Reservations are required. Terra Carta pasta catered last year. So, I think we will continue it for this year since everyone seemed to enjoy it! Here are some pictures from last year's Senior Dinner!



June, July, August, Activities

Camp Newington is back for Summer 2024!

You've probably heard that Camp Newington 2023 was a great experience for all who attended, and the Recreation Committee, the Board of Selectmen, and the YMCA have worked hard to plan for an even better summer in 2024!

Camp is available for up to 9 weeks, from June 24th - August 23rd, 8am-5pm, and sign up this year is week-to-week! Pick only the weeks you want. Sign up early to ensure a spot in the camp weeks you need!

The camp is open to incoming kindergarteners (5 years and up) through outgoing 6th graders. Newington Residents, Newington Public School Tuition Students, Newington Town Employee Children (Police, Fire, Town Hall, Library), and grandchildren of Newington Residents may sign up at the resident rate. The cost is \$228 per week and includes 2 field trips - one to the YMCA for swimming and one special field trip! (Some of last year's favorite trips were the Boston Museum of Science, a Fisher Cats game, and Funtown Splashtown). Kona Ice will be likely back (and I believe that is included as well). Campers will also enjoy weekly activities at the Langdon Public Library.

Registration dates are IMPORTANT this year, so mark your calendars and think about which weeks are best for you:

- - Registration for returning YMCA campers (this includes Camp Newington, Camp Gundalow, etc.)
- - Registration open to all Newington affiliated campers.
- February 5th - Registration is open to a few non-residents to fill remaining available spots. The non-resident rate is \$285 (or \$228 for YMCA members).

Be sure to sign up before Feb 5th! Contact: llarocque@graniteymca.org 603-431-2334

FOX POINT TRAIL DIVERTED

Due to the **Portsmouth Waterline Valve Replacement Project at the Point**, the trail that traverses the Point from the docks through the woods to the bench at the tip of the Point will not be fully passable from March 4th to June 7th. There will be blockades set up on either side of the trail by the waterline project directing residents to go out to the field and loop back the way they came.

To read more about the project check this link:

[City of Portsmouth Water Transmission Main Valve Improvement Project » Wright-Pierce - Environmental Engineering Firm](#)

Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri. 9 - 4:30pm (436-7640)
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Tuesday through Thursday 9am-2pm
Building Dept. - Mon - Friday 7:30am- 3:30pm
Planning Dept. - Monday & Thursday 9 - 4:30pm (Planner by appointment)
Transfer Station: Wed 5 - 7pm, Sat 9 - 3pm

Subscribe or *Unsubscribe* at this link: <http://www.newington.nh.us/subscribe>

WOULD YOU PREFER TO GET A PRINTED COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER MAILED TO YOU?

Just call the town hall and we will put you on our mailing list (603-436-7640 ext 4)