



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

Timothy “Ted” Connors, Chair
 Michael Marconi
 Robert Blonigen

INDEX:	
Page	Topic
1	Meetings Schedule
2 -3	Newington School/Home Business Successes/Vaccination Rate/Gate
4 -5	Fox Point Dock Rules/Police Department/ Highway Department
6-7	Fire Department
8	School Funding/Double Utility Poles/Odor Complaints
9	Cyber Security/Septemberfest
10	Great Bay Wildlife Refuge
11	Town Clerk Hours/PFAS Action Act of 2021
12-14	Langdon Library/Power Plant Values

Upcoming Meetings:

8/2/2021	Board of Selectmen	5pm	Town Hall
8/3/2021	Police Commission	4pm	Police Station
8/4/3021	Board of Fire Engineers	5:30pm	Fire Station
8/9/2021	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall
8/12/2021	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
8/16/2021	Historic District Commission	10am	Old Town Hall
8/17/2021	Zoning Board of Adjustment	6:30pm	Town Hall
8/18/2021	Sewer Commission	9am	Wst. Water Trtmt. Facility
8/23/2021	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall
8/26/2021	Economic Development Committee	6pm	Town Hall

[Please check the town calendar at www.Newington.nh.us to confirm the meeting times, just prior to the date, as these may change]

Newington School

We are very excited for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The Newington Covid Taskforce will be meeting the first week of August to establish the guidelines for the start of school, but I can assure you we will be in person Monday through Friday. We are still waiting on a decision about the afterschool program, I am hopeful we will be able to offer the extended care program for the school year.

Chef Tom has been working very hard this summer, cleaning, painting (even the lockers are getting a fresh coat of paint) and making sure all of the floors have a fresh coat of wax! I have to say the school looks great. All of the classrooms are done and teachers have started setting up for the school year. This year we have several new staff members to welcome to NPS: Mrs. Grattan - special education teacher, Mrs. Macdonald - Spanish, and Ms. Shimko is our new music teacher.

The first day of the year will be Tuesday, September 7th. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions (platchaw@sau50.org). I will be sending out much more information about the start of the school year and kindergarten camp in the next few weeks.

REMINDER: The Fox Point Road Race 2021 will be Saturday, September 25th. More information can be found at www.foxpointroadrace.org.

HOME BUSINESS SUCCESSES IN NEWINGTON

In early March, 2020 the Coronavirus transitioned many residents from their workplaces to working from home. By the start of April, 35% of workers in the US had swapped the office for their homes. This move is temporary for most, although some residents will remain as remote employees. Remote working is not the same as having a Home Occupation. When you are a remote employee, you are working for an off-site business from the comfort of your home. When you have a Home Business, your home becomes your place of work as well as your home.

Newington allows residents to have a business located in their home, in accordance with the restrictions outlined in the Zoning Ordinance, Article XIII Home Occupations. There are several successful Home Businesses in Newington and this article is going to highlight three residents that have been running their businesses from home.

R. G. Young and Son

On April 22, 1970, Bob Young started R G Young and Son at 72 Nimble Hill Rd. The company acts as a general contractor performing all aspects of construction, with a focus on commercial/industrial work. They mainly work with the waterfront businesses in Newington, also providing services to the ship traffic that come into port.

Their first in-town job was the children's reading room addition on the Langdon Library, and they have continued to work through the years for the town, residents, and business owners. Their employee count has varied from 1 to as much as 140 (when cleaning up oil spills in the Piscataqua River.) In 2000 the business was purchased by Bob's son Guy, who ran the business with his father for many years and continues to operate at the same location.

Cornerstone Financial Planning

Jill Boynton's Cornerstone Financial Planning was established in 2004 as a comprehensive financial planning and investment management firm. They are fee-only financial planners, which means they don't charge commissions or sell any investment or insurance products.

Cornerstone Financial Planning started out as two planners working 60 miles apart - Jill in Newington and Susan Veligor in Portland. They have grown to 6 financial planners and 3 support staff and added a third office in Portsmouth. Their clients stretch from NH to California and abroad to Switzerland.

Knight Hill Land Surveying Services, Inc.

In 1995 David Hislop set up a land surveying office in his home on Old Post Road and formed Knight Hill Land Surveying Services, Inc. Dave is licensed to survey in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Maine and has always had only one or two employees with his wife performing the secretarial work for him.

Dave is preparing to retire soon, but still enjoys the business - with each job there is a new puzzle to solve.

For those people looking for a good entry into business ownership, there are many advantages to starting a home-based business. While starting your own business is never easy, more and more entrepreneurs are discovering the benefits of running a business out of their homes. COVID-19 has provided an opportunity for many of them to work from home and see if a homebased business is in their future.

Newington Vaccination Rate is at 70%!

According to the Concord Monitor (see news link below) Newington's vaccination rate is 70%. That is 10% above the US average of 56% and the State's average of 58%.

<https://www.concordmonitor.com/vaccination-by-city-41352513>

Nimble Hill Road Gate to PDA & Arboretum Drive

PROCEDURE: Please stop once you have passed through the gate **and press the clicker to close the gate.** It does not close automatically anymore.

Fox Point Dock Rules:

The Fox Point Dock Rules have been approved by the Selectmen and are available at this link:

<https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/new-fox-point-dock-rules-regulations>



Police Department:

On Monday July 19th, the Newington Police Department began its two-day virtual on-site process with The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Over the two-day period the assessors were taken on a guided tour of Newington Police Department, conducted multiple interviews with Officers of the department as well as members of the police commission, town selectman and other department heads. During those two-days, there were two public forums held and the department received vast amounts of support from residents and members of the community.

In speaking with the Assessors after completion of the process, they had nothing but positive things to say about the agency and the town. The Assessors relayed that the showing of public support from the town was overwhelmingly positive and something that speaks volumes to the relationship the town, the residents, and the Police Department share.

We would like to take a moment to thank everyone that took the time to either attend one of the zoom meetings or called in to show their support. It truly helped make this assessment successful. I would also like to thank Accreditation Managers Captain Brandon Smart and Keri Wareing for their hard work and dedication they put in over the past ten (10) months to get us to this point. The final step of this process is set to take place in Jacksonville, Florida in November when the team will appear before the CALEA Commission Review Board for final approval.

Many of you know and have had a chance to interact with our Explosive Detection Canine Dog Augie and handler Acting Sergeant Wood. They would be forever grateful if you voted for him to receive a donation from Northeast Credit Union "Love your community" contest. The Newington K-9 Program is strictly donation based and every little bit helps!

Please click on the link and scroll down to Newington Police Department and vote!

<https://thelyc.com/contest/awards/>

As a reminder during warm weather, residents and visitors are out walking, running, and riding bicycles throughout the town. Please remember to move over accordingly to give the necessary amount of room. Use caution when driving and observe and follow all speed limits and traffic postings accordingly. Officers will be out monitoring traffic and enforcing motor vehicle violations. You will start to see the speed trailer around town in higher traffic areas. If you have a specific area of concern that you would like to see the speed trailer set up, please contact the department.

July monthly statistics as of July 27th.

Motor Vehicle Stops	293	Summons/Warnings Issued
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	Reports Taken
Incident Reports/Calls for Service	27	Reports Taken
Arrests	17	Felony/Misdemeanor Offenses
Field Interviews	0	Suspicious Person(s)
Warrants	4	Felony/Misdemeanors

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call 603-431-5461 or send me an email; mbilodeau@newingtonhpd.com

Chief Michael Bilodeau

Highway Department

Crack Sealing **DELAYED** will take place **starting August 9th** on the following roads:

- Beane Lane
- Fox Point Road (From Beane Lane - to dirt portion of road on Point)
- Fox Point Road (Town Hall - PDA)
- Gundalow Landing (Including Brickyard)
- Little Bay (Nimble Hill Road - Fox Point Road)
- Little Bay Extension (All)
- McIntyre Road (End of Fence - DOT State Line)
- Nimble Hill Road (Town Hall - Gate)
- Old Dover Road (#40 - End)
- Welsh Cove

The crew starts at 6:30am through 4:30pm. You may be directed to seek alternate routes during this timeframe.

Newington Fire & Rescue

Happy August to everyone. We hope your summer is going great so far, even though it seems to be flying by. It's crazy to think that the kids will be heading back to school in just a few more weeks. As a reminder, the Sabine Strong 3.3 road race will be happening this year on Sunday, August 15th. The kids dash, main event and virtual event sign ups are all on their website (

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NH/Newington/SabineStrong33KidsDash>). If you are the type of person that



does not like to run, you can still sign up and walk the course. If you are able to volunteer, they are still looking for help and you can check out their website for more info.

Things around the station are still busy with typical day to day activities, calls, training and inspections. We are still actively attempting to go as paperless as possible and we continue to get closer with the continued expansion of new software that was purchased last year to assist with inventory and asset tracking. This software also allows us to perform all of our daily and weekly vehicle and equipment checks which simplifies maintenance tracking and notifications. The software will also allow us to track EMS equipment, supplies and medications. This software helps to streamline, an at times cumbersome process and paperwork nightmare, into a very manageable solution that is user friendly.

In addition to the updates we are continuing to make, our own Lt. John McCooley has recently been certified to check and install child car seats for new and existing parents. If you are a resident and need a seat installed or checked, please call the station to set up an appointment.

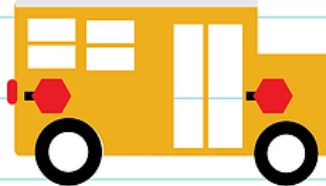
As always, we are here and available if you have any needs or questions. Stay safe.

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

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS



Back-to-school can be chaotic, and it presents new safety challenges. Practicing and preparing children early for school dangers will leave everyone feeling safer and more secure. Teach children about:



TRAFFIC SAFETY

- Walk kids to the bus stop using sidewalks and crosswalks, and obey traffic laws.
- Show children how to get on and off the bus safely.
- Never bend down to pick something up in front of or under the school bus.
- Make sure children walk at least ten feet in front of the bus to cross the street. Kids and bus drivers should always be able to see each other.



WALKING OR BIKING TO SCHOOL

- Walking or Biking to school: Obey traffic laws, always wear a helmet, avoid distracted walking or riding, and never speak to strangers.
- Walkers and bikers should take safe, visible routes to school. Never let children take an alternative route without consent.
- Encourage children to walk together in groups for safety.

See something, say something: If you notice any suspicious individuals or behaviors near school grounds, don't hesitate to call 9-1-1.

Practice emergency preparedness drills: fire, flood, active shooter, and natural disasters.

Children should wear backpacks with two thick straps to evenly distribute weight on their shoulders. Backpacks should not weigh more than 5%-10% of a child's body weight.



DRIVING TO SCHOOL

- Make sure everyone inside the car is safely fastened with seatbelts and car seats.
- Never pull away from school until all children are accounted for and safely entering the building. Make sure everyone knows the designated pick up spot.



PLAYGROUND SAFETY

- Don't ignore playground head injuries! Make sure your child sees a doctor immediately.
- Check the playground: Make sure there are at least 12 inches of mulch, chips, gravel, or safety-tested rubber-like materials for cushioning.
- Bullying: teach children the dangers of bullying. Look out for signs your child may be a victim of bullying.



INSTITUTE FOR
CHILDHOOD PREPAREDNESS
DON'T BE SCARED. BE PREPARED.™

www.childhoodpreparedness.org

Sources:

<https://www.rd.com/advice/parenting/back-to-school-safety-tips/>
<https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/seasonal-safety/back-to-school>

School Funding/Donor Town Issue:

The passage in late June of House Bills 1 and 2, after a Committee of Conference between the House and the Senate, set in place the funding priorities for the State of New Hampshire. With it came the final outcome for school funding plans for the coming year. Although there were changes made to the current funding methodology, none of it resulted in a return of donor or receiver towns funding models. In fact, there was a \$100 million reduction in the statewide education property tax for coming tax year with a hold harmless provision that does not reduce the state's previous support for education, nor result in a possible increase in local education property taxes. This reduction should appear in the 2022 tax bills.

This was a pleasant outcome from a very uncertain legislative session. We thank our local legislators Rep. Dennis Malloy, Rep. Joan Hamblet, and Sen. Rebecca Perkins Kwoka for their contributions toward this result. There will be more work during the remainder of the year in anticipation of the second legislative session starting in January 2022. Several bills dealing with school funding are still being considered during this period, and the issue is still ripe for continued debate during that second session.

Double Utility Poles

You may have noticed earlier in the month of July that Consolidated Communications trucks have been on Nimble Hill Road. They have been moving their existing wires from the old poles to adjacent new poles, which will result in the old double poles finally being removed. This activity is a direct result of a settlement agreement reached with Consolidated in the month of June. Several Seacoast towns/cities jointly filed a complaint in 2020 with the NH Public Utilities Commission about the prevalence of double poles in their communities. Our collection action prompted the settlement agreement where Consolidated has agreed to remove all the noted double poles in these communities within four years. In Newington, this means approximately 28 poles per year will be removed. We are happy to see the fruits of these efforts become a tangible reality thereby improving the safety of our highways and enhancing the beauty of our town.

Odor Complaints

We have seen an uptick in odor complaints received from residents during the warm summer months. However, this year's number of complaints are significantly lower than last year. One can hope this is a positive trend. If you experience an unpleasant odor outside in the areas you frequent in Newington, please go to the Town's website at:

<https://www.newington.nh.us/home/pages/noxious-odor-complaint-form> to register your experience so we can document it. This link is now an automated report form developed in cooperation with Sprague Energy to allow for timely responses to such complaints. It will only take a

few minutes of your time to fill out the form and it could make a significant difference in determining the source of these odors.

Cyber Security Assessment

The town is pursuing an assessment of its cyber security practices by issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP). This RFP will ask internet/computer professionals who specialize in IT security to do an assessment of the town's cyber security practices and provide future recommendations on improving our security efforts. Cyber crimes are on the rise and towns are being targeted. Many towns and cities in New Hampshire have been attacked already causing our insurance rates to increase dramatically. This assessment will ensure that we are doing all that is necessary to provide a safe and secure environment for our residents and employees regarding our internet and network security. No one is immune to cyber-attacks. It is a best management practice to have an outside review of these critical systems and provide employee training to protect from data breaches and ransomware. We value the privacy of our residents and employees and wish to maintain a secure environment for the electronic data that we have on file.

Recreation News! Mark your calendars:

Septemberfest is September 18th!



Looking for a place to hike in Newington?
Remember.....

Not only do we have the beautiful Fox Point trails but also the Great Bay Wildlife Refuge trails
See this link: https://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_bay/

Bird Sightings Great Bay Wildlife Refuge

Grasshopper Sparrow



Horned Lark



Educational Signs & Trail at Great Bay Wildlife Refuge



TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS

Town Clerk's Office Will Reopen on August 10, 2021

August Renewal Letters will be mailed out Aug. 6, 2021.

PFAS Action Act of 2021

On July 21st the House of Representatives passed the PFAS Action Act of 2021 a comprehensive piece of legislation that seeks to limit the impacts of PFAS contamination on our communities and our environment.

The PFAS Action Act contains provisions introduced by Congressman Pappas based on his Clean Water Standards for PFAS Act. These provisions would regulate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) chemicals under the Clean Water Act to finally stop manufacturers and other polluters from contaminating our nation's waterways with toxic levels of PFAS.

"The PFAS Action Act is a landmark bill that will protect millions of Americans from toxic 'forever chemicals.' This is a bipartisan issue and an issue that impacts communities in literally every state. Far too many Americans are drinking contaminated water from water systems and private wells, and far too little has been done by the federal government to address this," said Congressman Pappas. "We can change that by enacting this legislation that will safeguard our water and environment, hold polluters accountable, and protect the health of our families and communities. I am glad that the House has passed this comprehensive bill and hope the Senate will take immediate action."

Specifically, the PFAS Action Act will:

- Minimize PFAS contamination within our communities by limiting the production of new PFAS chemicals, requiring the cleanup of contaminated sites, and setting air emission standards
- Work to better identify the health risks associated with PFAS contamination to help communities that have already been exposed
- Limit further human exposure to PFAS by establishing drinking water standards within two years and providing communities with the resources they need to fix impacted water systems
- Create a voluntary label for PFAS in cookware and other products
- Require the EPA to place discharge limits on industrial releases of PFAS and provide \$200 million annually to upgrade water infrastructure
- Create a voluntary label for PFAS in cookware and other products

The town will be following this act closely and will work to obtain funding for water line hook ups to Portsmouth Water for well owners within Newington for further protection of our residents from potential contamination.

[The Agency for Toxic Substances is continuing the blood testing for residents that have been exposed to drinking water contaminated by PFAS. Call 603-846-6192 to be screened for eligibility.](#)



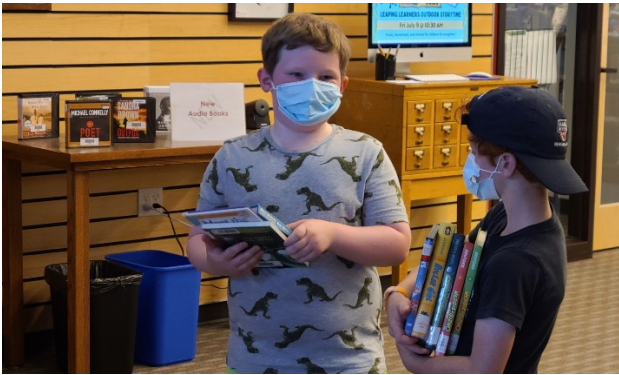
Langdon Library Hours:

Monday and Tuesday, 12 PM to 8 PM

Wednesday 1 PM to 7 PM

Thursday and Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM

Saturday, 10 AM to 2 PM



Noah and Wyatt in line to check out their summer reading books; Camdyn, Rosalie, Eloise and Norah show off the slime they made in Creature Features!

We are greatly enjoying how popular our annual Summer Reading Program is this year. 70 Newington residents or library card holders are signed up and reading, for the chance to win a variety of awesome prizes. All raffle tickets must be in jars by Saturday, August 14. Bring your reading logs (children) and bookmarks (teen/adult) soon to start filling out tickets and picking which jars to put them in! Don't forget, the more you read, the more chances you have to win!

New Teen Advisory Group and programs for teens: This month we held our first Teen Advisory Group meeting and are excited to involve teens in planning and hosting events, for all ages including their own, and other initiatives that will benefit their own age group and the Newington community. The meetings are every Monday night from 6:30 to 7:30 PM, at the library.

Our first teen-led program will take place Monday, August 9 at 6:30 PM, creating Found Poetry. Writers and other creative souls of all ages, will enjoy the practice of finding words and phrases from books, magazines, or even other poems to create new pieces. Some types are [blackout poetry](#) and [magnet poetry](#). You can learn more about found poetry [in this article from Medium](#).

Our second Outdoor Movie this summer is scheduled on **Tuesday, August 3** on the library lawn. Due to licensing restrictions, titles will be available in limited places: [click here to see the title](#):

www.langdonlibrary.org/adult-programs The library is partnering with the Newington Recreation Committee to present this adult-oriented, yet family-friendly movie. Nominated for 3 Academy Awards in 1990 including Best Picture, this feel-good classic about baseball, family and community is the perfect choice to enjoy with other members of the community on a summer night in a field! We had 17 participants join us for our first movie last month, and would love to see even more for the next one. Refreshments will be provided by the Recreation Committee.

NOTE: Masks are still REQUIRED when using the library, due to the high number of patrons too young for the Covid 19 vaccine. Hand sanitizer upon entrance is also required. We are seeing big increases in people using the library. In June, when we were still only open 5 days a week, we checked out a total of 642 items--over 80% of what we normally check out in a month pre-pandemic! It is awesome to see so many of our patrons again, but it does put more people in contact with one another. We ask for your continued cooperation with our safety measures, to protect the youngest and most vulnerable members of our community while they use the library.

We absolutely love seeing so many of you again, at the library.

Lara, Theresa, Amanda and Deb

328 Nimble Hill Road
Newington, NH
603-436-5154
www.langdonlibrary.org

Power Plant Values:

See this article link on the Decline in US Natural Gas Power Generation in 2021:
<https://www.naturalgasintel.com/decline-in-u-s-natural-gas-power-generation-in-2021-marks-first-since-2017-eia-says/>

Just under half of the town's assessed valuation is made up of utility/fossil-fired power plant value. The demand for and value of fossil-fired power plants is declining nationally as solar and wind energy become more prevalent due to regional incentives and mandates. Newington's two power plants- EP Newington and Newington Station have been disputing their assessed values for several years due to this trend. The Newington Station plant was assessed at \$55,000,000 for 2020 which is a decrease of \$17 million. The EP Newington plant, assessed at approximately \$330 million in 2019, decreased to a value of \$290 million in 2020. The Selectmen have been working hard to establish fair and just values for these facilities in response to the changing energy markets in New England, but the owners of these facilities continue to push for lower assessments in response to the lower value of fossil-fired plants in the region. Therefore, the Selectman and Town staff are doing everything they can to minimize the fiscal impact on the Town of lower values, including looking at

upcoming spending and setting aside funds to safeguard our finances in the event a court judgement finds in favor of the power plant owners. However, despite our best efforts the lower value of these power plants will likely impact our tax rate in the years to come.

Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri. 9 - 4:30pm
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Tuesday through Thursday 9am-2pm
Building Dept. - Mon - Thurs 6:30am- 4:30pm
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>
Newington Town Hall 603-436-7640