

# Town of Warner, New Hampshire

## ***NEWS FROM THE TOWN***

Fall 2016

Selectmen's Office  
(603)456-2298 ext. 2  
selectboard@warner.nh.us

Monday - Wednesday - Thursday  
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
www.warner.nh.us

Jim Bingham  
Town Administrator  
(603)456-2298 ext. 1  
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### **Nominating the Warner River to the River Management and Protection Program**

The Warner River Nomination Committee, made up of representatives from Bradford, Warner, Sutton, Webster, Hopkinton, the Warner Energy Committee, NH Fish & Game Department, Basil Woods Trout Unlimited and the Central NH Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) is considering nominating the Warner River to NH's River Management and Protection Program (RMPP), as described by RSA 483. The Warner River would join the Merrimack, Contoocook and sixteen other NH rivers designated as having outstanding natural and cultural resources.

Established in 1988 the RMPP responded to the increasing and competing uses of NH's rivers by giving communities a collective local voice to make recommendations and advise the state on activities that impact rivers running through their communities. Nomination of the Warner River to the RMPP requires the creation of a nomination document describing Warner River characteristics; how historically it powered local mills and factories, the variety of plant and animal life along its banks, the value of recreational opportunities, and the scenic beauty it affords us. Water quality concerns recently reported in some NH towns and a prolonged regional drought have made demands on river resources greater than ever. The Warner River Nomination Committee is convening public information sessions in five towns reaching out to landowners, outdoor enthusiasts, environmentalists and other Warner River stakeholders for feedback and support for the designation of the Warner River into the RMPP.

If the Warner River receives local support from five towns necessary to achieve designated status, the NH legislature and Governor will adopt the Warner River into the RMPP. A Local Advisory Committee (LAC) with volunteers representing a variety of river interests from each community in the watershed will develop a River Corridor Management Plan documenting the river's existing conditions, balancing

competing river interests, and making recommendations to sustain the Warner River for generations to come.

For complete and up to date information on the nomination of the Warner River please visit the WRNC website:

[www.warnerrivernomination.wordpress.com](http://www.warnerrivernomination.wordpress.com)

### **Transfer Station Solar Array Proposal coming in March 2017**



Warner celebrated its first municipal solar array with a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The 100 kWh array, which was approved at annual meeting of the Warner Village Water Precinct in March, is located at the precinct waste treatment plant on West Joppa Road.

The great news for the precinct is that with the help of this summer's sunny weather, the array out performed expectations. Solar energy produced by the array is fed into the electric grid and Eversource purchases the electricity from the precinct. In addition, the precinct receives renewable energy credits, which it will also sell. The net revenue from the array reduces the amount of tax dollars needed to cover precinct energy costs. As the cost of electricity increases, so will the net revenue.

Energy production from the precinct array can be viewed using a link on the town's website. Click on the sun, located at the upper right hand corner of the homepage – [www.warner.nh.us](http://www.warner.nh.us)

Plans for a second 100 KwH municipal solar array to be located at the Transfer Station will be back on the agenda for voter approval in March 2017. The proposal fell just shy of the required 2/3 vote at the last town meeting. The Warner Energy Committee along with the Board of Selectmen hope the success of the first array will help convince voters to go forward with this proposal

### **From the Pillsbury Free Library**

**Building Project Progress:** We are pleased that extensive work has been completed on the old library, including window restoration, new storm windows, resetting of the front steps and railings, and drainage. New copper gutters and heat trace will be completed in November.

Many thanks to the Department of Public Works for installation of new drain basins and pipes, and especially Director Tim Allen for his diligent work on the front steps, which were removed and reset with improved waterproofing and insulation. A small "time capsule" was also inserted in the area above the meeting room ceiling. "Thank You" also to Mark Stock of Multi-Weld for excellent work on the railings, including donation of the cost to reinstall, and to Matt Boyer of Above All Collision for donating the repainting of the railings. They look fantastic. And thank you to Charlie Betz and George Pellettieri for donated time and advice on various parts of the project.

Funding came from a \$50,000 grant from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) awarded in December 2014, from the Library Building Capital Reserve Fund, and from donations and fundraising activities. After the exterior work is completed, then the interior fun begins!

**The Circle of Friends** of Pillsbury Free Library has been planning activities for winter and spring and welcomes new members interested in helping the library to promote and provide Library services. This year's fun includes decorating, program support, and fundraising, and social events. Good energy and good company make this a fun group to participate in. There will be a members wreath-making activity on Tuesday November 29 at 9:30 AM, holiday decorating at the library November 30, a public wine and cheese social March 18, a flea market and plant sale table on April 8, and other events to be announced.

**Children's Library Activities:** After school crafts continue on the third Wednesday of each month through May 2017.

Register promptly to reserve a spot for your child. Weekly preschool Story Time and craft is on Thursdays at 10:30 AM **Congrats** go to preschoolers Sean, Tanner, Julie, Phoebe, Gabby, and Lily who completed their **1000 books before Kindergarten** last summer!! Great job! To register your child, ask Sue.

**The Book Nook Theater group's** next play will be "**The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe**". Parts have been assigned and work starts in the New Year. **SAVE the DATE: Saturday, May 6, 2017!**

The Library Board of Trustees congratulates Nancy Ladd, selected as 2016 NH LIBRARY DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR! Nancy received her award from NH Library Trustees' Association at the Library during a celebration on Saturday, November 12, 2016, during which her 31 years of service as Warner's librarian was also celebrated.

### **From Emergency Management**

The winter season is fast approaching. Are you ready when the power goes out? Do you know what to do when a disaster strikes? Do you have a family emergency plan? Do you have 5-7 days of food, water, and medicine available in the event of a disaster? For more information, visit Warner's web site and the Emergency Management section or you can go to [ReadyNH.gov](http://ReadyNH.gov); or contact me for information.

#### **ReadyNH.gov**

The ReadyNH.gov web site has been updated with more information on emergency planning for families as well as businesses. Are you aware that this web site allows anyone to sign up for **emergency alerts**? You can sign up for NH Alerts notification on the ReadyNH.gov, or download the app on your phone (or both). Additionally, the Pillsbury Free Library has offered to assist anyone in filling out this form .

#### **Emergency Assistance Form**

Do you or someone you know need special assistance during an emergency or disaster? Please complete the questionnaire on the Town's web site, then mail it to Town of Warner – Emergency Management P.O. 265 Warner, NH 03278. The library has offered to provide assistance to anyone in completing this form. **All information received will be confidential.**

#### **Loss of Power**

Are you aware of what actions you should take when your power goes out? Eversource recommends that you notify them of the outage either by phone at 800-662-7764 or by going onto their web site to report the outage. Making the report serves as the quickest way to get your power restored.

Power companies work to repair major outages first and then prioritize from there.

For more information on any of the above topics, please feel free to contact Ed Mical, Director through the Town office or by e-mail at emd@warner.nh.us

### **From the Transfer Station**

**Leave Leaves Here:** Leaves and other lawn and garden wastes go into the compost pile rather than the trash. As trash this can cost the town quite a bit of money, however as compost these wastes can yield a very beneficial product at little or no cost.

**Stove Ash:** Please dispose of stove ash in the metal barrels provided. If barrels are full please notify attendants and they will assist you. Safe and proper disposal of ash at your place and ours is an important fire prevention measure. Keep ash outside in a covered non combustible container away from combustible materials. When cool bring to the facility or consider using clean wood ash in lawn and garden applications as it can be an excellent soil amendment.

It is never too early to start thinking about throwing out your Christmas decorations. Christmas wreaths and roping go into the trash not the brush pile. Christmas trees however may go onto the brush pile so long as they are free of ornamentation and other contaminants. From there the trees will be chipped and incorporated into the compost. On that note: Happy Holidays!

### **Big Savings in Electric Costs for town of Warner**

The Town Administrator announced to the Board of Selectmen that, working with Eversource in an energy reduction grant program, the installation of LED light fixtures in the Town Hall, the Police Station and the Highway Garage is completed. Through an energy audit conducted by Lightec, Inc. these town buildings showed the greatest use of electric energy for lighting, enough to make Warner eligible for a 50:50 grant from Eversource for the cost of installing LED lighting technology. LED lights last at least 13 years, reducing the electric use by nearly 37,800 kW hours each year.

The full installation cost for all three buildings \$37,668, half of which was paid by Eversource. The anticipated savings for the three buildings is \$4,520 per year. The pay-back time is approximately 4.2 years.

### **News from the School Board**

The school year is off to a great start. We have a new Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Michael Bissette. He is doing a very good job interacting with the teaching cadre.

The Board is finishing up its final version of the school budget for the 17-18 school year. The big additions to the budget are the newly negotiated 3 year teachers Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Kearsarge Regional Education Association. We also negotiated a new 3 year contract with the Para Educators (Teachers' Aides).

In addition our Facilities Director has informed the Board that the septic system at the High School is 12 years past it useful life. The Board has decided to put \$350,000 in next year's budget to completely replace this failed septic system. The building known as the 1941 building (the former Middle School Building) is in total disrepair. The Board has decided to demolish the building because it would be too expensive to make it useful. So there are funds in the budget to demolish that building and convert that space to needed parking for the SAU Offices and the New London Elementary School. Ken Bartholomew and I, your Warner School Board Representatives, along with Jim Hand, the Chair of the MBC, made a presentation to the Warner Municipal Budget Committee on November 10<sup>th</sup> relating to them the major points of the new budget. The Board has returned \$1,668,000 reducing the budget expense from the 15-16 school budget year because these funds were not spent during that fiscal year. However, due to an increase in Warner student enrollment by 17 students over last year and the fact that Warner added \$2 million of assessed value to the town assessment, there was an increase in the December school tax bill of \$1.06 per \$1,000. These 2 points increase the portion of the total school budget that is paid for by Warner taxpayers.

Submitted by Joseph Mendola, Warner School Board Representative.

### **Town Share of Tax Bill Lower**

For the second consecutive year the town portion of the Warner tax bill decreased from the prior years amount. The town share of the tax rate decreased from \$9.24 per thousand for 2015 to \$8.87 per thousand for 2016, a savings of \$92.50 in taxes for a \$250,000 home. A number of factors influence the tax rate including changes in the assessed value of the town and amount of appropriations voted at town meeting. A significant factor is the efficiency and frugality of town departments in spending their operating budgets during the year as well as the hard work and productivity of these departments and their staff in meeting the service needs of the town. Experience and hard work of town employees is an asset to the tax payers.

**To the Residents of Warner:**

**Thank you Warner for placing your vote of confidence in me to be your State Representative for District 25, (Andover, Danbury, Salisbury, Warner & Webster).**

**As I am a resident of Warner, having the opportunity to knock on so many doors, was a great way to meet so many new and familiar faces. January, 2017 will begin an exciting new year, and I am proud to be a part of this. I look forward to working with other legislators to address issues that were an important part of my campaign. At the same time, I want to thank David Karrick for his service to Warner and having respect for each other.**

**If at anytime, you would like to reach out to me, my email is [nataliewells4nh@gmail.com](mailto:nataliewells4nh@gmail.com) or at 456-2873.**

**Sincerely,  
Natalie J. Wells**