

TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

7 Mast Road
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(603) 659-5414

July 17, 2020

Lee News & Upcoming
Events

**TODAY IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR
THE NH SELF EMPLOYED LIVELIHOOD FUND. [CLICK HERE](#) for details.**

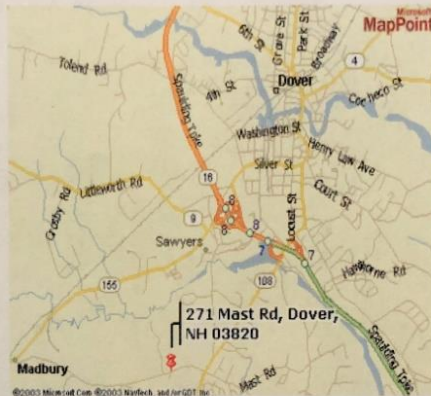
DOVER-ROLLINSFORD-LEE- MADBURY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Saturday, August 22, 2020

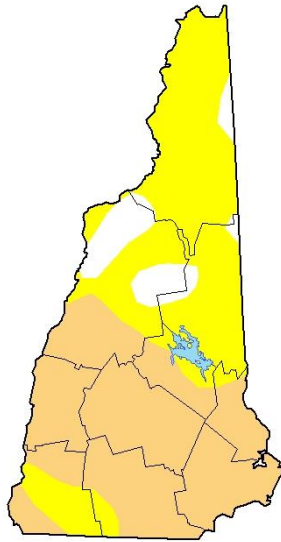
8:30a.m. – 12:30pm

Dover Community Services Garage
271 Mast Road, (603) 516-6073

Participants:
City of Dover
Town of Rollinsford
Town of Lee
Town of Madbury



U.S. Drought Monitor New Hampshire



July 14, 2020
(Released Thursday, Jul. 16, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	7.73	92.27	49.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 07-07-2020	0.04	99.96	56.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 04-14-2020	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-31-2019	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2019	39.87	60.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 07-16-2019	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION & DROUGHT GUIDANCE

The Select Board urges all residents to refrain from watering lawns and washing cars and to conserve water as much as possible.

ELECTION INFORMATION

PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL ELECTION DAY - REGISTER TO VOTE NOW!

Although NH citizens are allowed to register to vote at the polls, it is strongly recommended that you register as soon as possible. How?

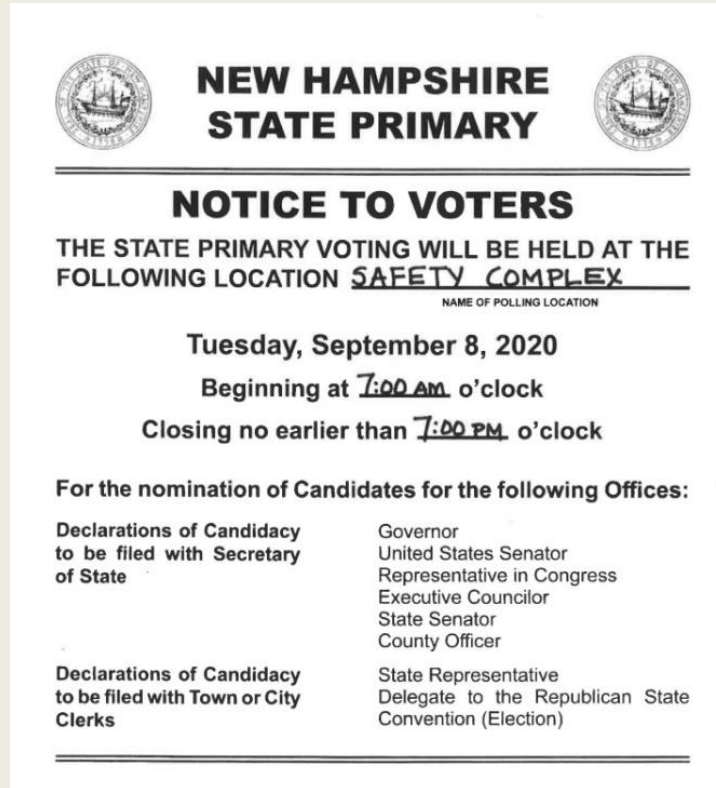
- Make an appointment to see the Town Clerk at the Town Hall walk-up window next to the parking lot by emailing reinhold@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org or by calling 659-2964. Be sure to bring your own pen and proof of age, identity, citizenship, and where you live in Lee. Wear a mask.
- Request that a voter registration packet be mailed to you using the same contact information as above.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A REGISTERED VOTER IN LEE, please consider voting by ABSENTEE BALLOT on September 8th for the State Primary and on November 3rd for the General Election. This year, because of Covid-19, all registered voters can vote by absentee ballot. How?

- Request an absentee ballot application from the Town clerk as early as possible. Contact information is above.
- Or, download an absentee ballot application at <http://sos.nh.gov/ElecForms2.aspx> or on the Town of Lee website at <https://www.leenh.org/home/files/2020-application-state-absentee-ballot>
- Four ways to return your absentee ballot request:
 - Mail application to Town Clerk at 7 Mast Rd., Lee NH 03861
 - Drop in locked box outside rear door of Town Hall
 - Fax to 659-7202
 - Email reinhold@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting Wednesday, July 29th from 9:10 am to 9:40 am to approve additions and/or removals from the official checklist for the town of Lee. Because the Town Hall is currently closed to the public, the call-in number to access this meeting is 701-802-5101 with access code 8767140.



TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NOTICE

The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office is currently experiencing a higher volume of calls than usual, so if your call is not immediately answered, please leave a message or email estone@leenh.org. The office will try to respond to all messages on the same business day if left no later than 3 pm; any messages left after 3 pm will be answered on our next business day.

TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE COVID-19 PROCEDURES COVID-19 HOURS: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 8-4

There is now a walk-up service window located outside the Town Clerk's Office. This does not change the way the office is conducting business while the building is closed. If you cannot conduct your business online or by dropping it off in the box outside then please call the office at 659-2864 to schedule an appointment.

RENEWING VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS:

- If you have a vehicle currently registered in Lee and it is not more than 6 months late, you can register online at www.leenh.org. The registrations and decals are then mailed to you;

- If you have your Lee renewal notice, you can renew by mail or drop it off at the Town Clerk/Tax Collector Lock Box along with a check made out in the correct amount to the Town of Lee. We will then mail you the registrations and decals.

Please note - We always try to send renewal notices. If you are unable to do one of the above options for any reason, please call our office at 659-2964.

NEW VEHICLE OR NEW TO LEE: If you are new to Lee, or if you have a NEW REGISTRATION, please call 659-2964 to make an appointment to come to Town Hall. **Temporary plates issued on or after February 26, 2020 expired on May 31, 2020.**

VITAL RECORDS REQUESTS: These can be done online at www.leenh.org. The directions will indicate that it is required to email your ID in order to complete this request. Please email your ID to estone@leenh.org.

DOG LICENSES:

- If your dog was registered for 2019-2020 and the rabies is still up-to-date, you can renew the registration online.
- If the rabies is not up-to-date, then we need proof from the vet. You can mail it, email it (estone@leenh.org) or fax it (603-659-7202) to us and then you can do it online or through the mail or drop box.
- NEW DOGS cannot be done online. We need owner's birthday, phone number, address, dog's name, breed, and color and proof of rabies from the vet. If they are spayed or neutered we need proof. Altered dogs are \$6.50 and unaltered dogs are \$9. Puppies under 1 year are \$6.50. You can send us via mail or drop box this information with a check in the correct amount to the Town of Lee and we will mail your license.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR LEE PROPERTY TAX BILL

1. **TC/TC Lock Box** – This is labeled and located to the left of the entrance to the Town Hall building. Please leave payment in an envelope with the payment stub.
2. **Mail** - Mail it to our office at 7 Mast Road, Lee, NH 03861. Again, please include the payment stub with your check.
3. **Online** – Go to www.leenh.org. Click on the property taxes button under Town Resource Center. There you may pay via ACH or credit card. There are additional fees associated with this method.

If you want a receipt for any of the above transactions, please include a self- addressed, stamped envelope or include your email address. If you need to meet with us, please call the office 659-2864 to schedule an appointment. Thanks for understanding and stay safe!

Stay at Home Order Expired June 15, 2020

The Stay at Home 2.0 order has been replaced by Safer at Home. Guidelines still must be followed and can be found at <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/>

Town Offices remain closed to the public at this time but we are working on a plan to be able to reopen to the public. Town employees continue to work both remotely and on site and remain committed to ensuring the safety of both employees and the public.

Please stay safe and keep everyone else safe by continuing to follow the CDC's guidelines – limit social contact – wash your hands – stay in if you are sick – clean and sanitize surfaces.

TOWN MUNICIPAL OFFICES RE-OPENING PLANS

Almost as soon as Governor Sununu declared a state of Emergency due to the pandemic, employees have been working on a rotating schedule at Town Hall and the Annex so that only one person at a time is on site while the other employees work remotely. Although the work is still getting done, it is certainly not the most efficient system; and, while the public has been most kind and patient, they, too, are ready for us to get to the next phase of working with Covid-19 as a reality for the foreseeable future.

Although Town Hall is a lovely, historic building, the Select Board has determined, through consultation with architects and engineers, as well as town staff, including the Health Officer and Emergency Management Director that the structure is not conducive to being modified in such a way as to make it safe and effective for both the employees and members of the public.

Therefore, the Select Board, after a number of public discussions, is moving forward with plans to lease an office building on Rte. 125 owned by Daley Realty Trust. Town employees who normally work out of Town Hall and the Annex would move into this building. The target date for this is September 1st, although that requires a lot to happen in a short amount of time.

We are working with Mr. Daley on a lease agreement and with the NH Department of Transportation to ensure a prudent means of ingress and egress off of Rte. 125. We have received quotes for the modifications that will need to be made to the building in order to provide safe spaces for the public and employees to socially distance from each other. Each department will have its own entrance to the building (these entrances already exist) and each entrance has sufficient parking. The Department of Revenue has approved the Select Board's request for an emergency appropriation, with funds to come out of the unassigned fund balance so that no additional taxpayer dollars will be required for the modification costs and twelve months' lease payments. We are confident that some, if not all, of these costs will be reimbursed through the Covid-19 Municipal Relief Fund.

The Select Board has been meeting regularly via the Zoom platform and we invite all members of the public to join us as we continue to discuss this plan. Agendas, minutes and videos of the meetings can be found on the town's website leenh.org.

NH HOUSING RELIEF PROGRAM

As you know, the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) allocated \$35 million from the \$1.25 billion in federal funds that NH received from the CARES Act State-Local Coronavirus Relief Fund towards a new [Housing Relief Program](#) to assist families and individuals facing housing insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program will have two components: 1) one-time grants for households that suffered a limited short-term loss of household income or increased expenses that threaten the family's ability to maintain its housing; and 2) short-term rental assistance program. The GOFERR office will provide the funds to NH DHHS to be distributed to the state's Community Action Program (CAP) agencies who already administer similar assistance programs. Today, CAP agencies released more information about the program. More details, including how to apply to your local CAP, can be found [here](#).

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT WE ARE NOT WIPING DOWN PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, PICNIC BENCHES OR ANY OTHER SURFACES

The Town of Lee urges our residents and visitors to do their part to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. If you go to a park or trail to exercise, use extreme caution. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and others when outside and wear a mask if you cannot maintain this distance. Cookouts are also not permitted in Little River Park, until further notice. Avoid touching surfaces including playground equipment, benches, and other sports equipment that are handled by others.

YARD SALES AND TREE CUTTING NOTICE

Yard Sales are now allowed, but you may only place a sign on your own property or at a friend's house (be sure to get permission first) and remove the signs promptly after the yard sale is over. Signs are not allowed in the Lee triangle (where George Bennett, Mast and Lee Hill Roads meet) or on any other town-owned property, including on the side of both state and town roads. You must follow the guidance for retail establishments as well as the universal guidelines established by the Governor's office found here <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov>

Although it is great to have your trees "removed for free" be sure that the logger follows all of the laws pertaining to tree cutting. As the homeowner, please reach out to Caren Rossi to see what is required, i.e. no-cut buffers, Intent to Cut form, etc. Unfortunately, I have seen many homeowners become a victim of this "offer" and it ends up costing the homeowner more money to fix the problems created by the "free" removal than hiring a company to remove them correctly. Unfortunately, the fault lies with the homeowner and you may have more than just brush to clean up.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

The SBA and Treasury Department have released the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions for the application. [Click here](#) to view the application and instructions. The SBA will be helping businesses with the process along with their partners at SCORE, NH-SBDC, and the CWE. In addition to continued funding available for PPP for anyone that has not applied, they continue to offer forgiveness of 6 months of payments on ALL SBA loans through September 27, 2020.

A few workshops that businesses may be interested in are listed on their web page at www.sba.gov/nh.

Based on the request of Governor Sununu, the SBA has declared a disaster declaration for the entire State of NH based on economic injury due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

All the details including the joint press release, the loan application process, assistance for government contractors, and other resources can be found [here](#).

Small businesses looking for assistance should reach out to one of the following partners for help with things such as filling out paperwork, questions or even advice. These partners include SCORE, NH Small Business Development Center, and the Center for Women & Enterprise (NH's Women Business Center and Veterans Business Outreach Center). You will find links to these partners at www.sba.gov/nh.

Since this is still a developing situation, to keep up to date on all activities effecting NH small businesses, please join our mailing list [click here](#).

NH Department of Health and Human Services Resource Guide and Warm Line to Support Families During COVID-19

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) has developed two new resources to help children, youth, families and caregivers during the COVID-19 emergency.

The first is “[Supporting Child and Family Wellbeing During the COVID-19 Emergency](#),” a new resource guide with practical tips on how we can all support children and families during COVID-19. The guide also provides a list of resources available to families statewide. The second resource is the [Family Support Warm Line](#), a partnership between DHHS and Waypoint. The Family Support Warm Line is a no-cost, confidential phone support line focused on promoting family resiliency. Residents can call 800-640-6486 and speak with family support professionals and parent partners for help with managing family challenges, coping strategies, or emotional support during COVID-19.

“Our data has shown a decline in the number of calls made to DCYF from those community helpers who regularly see kids face to face, but this is continues to be a stressful time for families and our focus has to remain on prevention,” said DCYF Director Joseph Ribsam. “Having resources readily available and a place where parents and caregivers can turn if they need to talk to someone can make a difference for our families and guide them to the services they need to stay strong and healthy, before they reach a tipping point that leads to abuse or neglect.”

The efforts stem from [Emergency Order #22](#), issued by Governor Chris Sununu on April 1, which authorizes emergency funding for critical child protection services to ensure that New Hampshire families continue to receive the right services at the right time during the COVID-19 emergency. In addition to the Family Support Warm Line, the funding will support domestic violence and substance use supports, expansion of the DCYF Strength to Succeed Program, and additional technology support for DCYF-involved families.

March data from the Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) shows a [decrease in referrals](#) to DCYF’s Central Intake, compared to the same time period over the past two years. New child abuse and neglect referrals are down nearly 50% each week overall.

To learn more about recognizing the signs of child abuse and neglect, visit [Know and Tell](#), an education program offered through the Granite State Children’s Alliance, the Chapter Organization for the network of New Hampshire’s Child Advocacy Centers.

The Family Support Warm Line can be reached toll-free at 1-800-640-6486, Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. If you suspect child abuse or neglect, call the DCYF Central Intake line at (603) 271-6562 or toll-free (in state) at (800) 894-5533.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, STATE JOINT INFORMATON CENTER, 603-223-6169 or jic@dos.nh.gov

THE TRANSFER STATION IS OPEN BUT PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

The Swap Shop will remain closed until further notice.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET A TRANSFER STATION STICKER IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE ONE

Stickers are only good for two years!



The easiest way is to get your sticker when you register your car. If you have already done so and still do not have a sticker, they are available at the Transfer Station or at Town Hall. Proof of residency, such as a recent utility bill, lease or rental agreement, or recent tax bill, and your car registration will be required. If you have any questions regarding documentation please contact us at Town Hall or you may refer to the Solid Waste Ordinance, available [HERE](#).

CHANGES TO MIXED PAPER

Mixed paper should now be placed with Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) until further notice. We are doing this to protect our employees, as it takes a great deal of handling and sorting in order to make it recyclable. When we are no longer under the conditions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, we will switch to having residents separate office paper and magazines from other types of paper in order to maximize our recycling revenue.

PLEASE CONTINUE PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING

Both bays remain open as we have seen an improvement in the flow of traffic, but everyone has to maintain the recommended safe distance of 6' while inside. In order for our employees and residents to maintain a safe distance, employees will not be stationed on the wall during this time but will be available to answer questions.

PLEASE KEEP CHILDREN IN YOUR VEHICLE

PLEASE have your child(ren) stay in your vehicle while you are disposing of trash and recyclables. This is for their safety! If they have to be out of the vehicle please keep them next to you at all times and do not let them run through the Transfer Station, roadways or parking areas.

There are several important issues you must be aware of regarding your household trash and recycling disposal if you or anyone in your household has been quarantined for COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19. Your trash and recycling must be handled and disposed of under different rules. Please consult Caren Rossi, Lee's Health Officer to discuss the new steps that must be taken. Email is crossi@leenh.org or phone at 659-6783. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulky items are accepted at the Transfer Station, HOWEVER, payment will be by check only – there will be a drop box available. Employees will **not** be able to assist with removing items from your vehicle but will be available to guide you, weigh items, and answer your questions.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE AND PLACES TO GO: JULY 17th – 20th

Terrestrial

Anytime during the day: Look for cicada pupal shells and maybe even a cicada! The droning, buzz-saw songs of dog day cicadas (*Neotibicen canicularis*) are beginning to fill the air, and this is a great time of year to look for their pupal shells. The Dog day cicada begins its life as an egg laid in a groove made by its mother in the bark or a twig of a tree. After hatching it feeds for a while on tree sap, before dropping to the ground and burrowing down to the tree's roots. There it will spend the next two to five years (some entomologists say four to eight years) as a nymph, sipping sap and occasionally molting as it grows. When it's ready, (and every year there are cicada nymphs that are ready, which is why this species is called an annual cicada) one warm summer evening it will dig its way to the surface, and using the large hooks on its front limbs, begin to haul itself up the tree trunk. Partway up the cicada will rest, then split its exoskeleton along its back and, like a diver doing a backflip, bend itself backwards out of its old skin and emerge as an adult. Just as an emerging butterfly needs time for blood to pump into its wings to have them unfold and straighten, so too, the cicada. This video shows the whole process of emergence: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnaDVwJ0cK4>



Cicada pupal shell on black oak. Photo by C. Fisher

After emergence, the empty shell of the cicada's exoskeleton remains on the tree trunk. Children are exceptionally good at finding them, so if you have a child or a grandchild to walk with, head for a woodland trail and keep an eye on the tree trunks. You'll find the exoskeletons usually about 3-4 feet up the trunk. You might even get lucky and find an adult cicada still resting after the trials of breaking free.

If the cicada that emerges is a male, he will climb to the tree top and begin to sing for a mate. Click here to listen: [http://www.insectsingers.com/100th_meridian_cicadas/songs/03.US.NJ.BCR.C25.Neotibicen canicularis filtered .mp3](http://www.insectsingers.com/100th_meridian_cicadas/songs/03.US.NJ.BCR.C25.Neotibicen_canicularis_filtered.mp3)),

Anytime: Go on a rainbow walk: This is perhaps the most colorful season of the year, and it's fun to see if you can find every color of the rainbow during a walk. Green is easy, of course, but what about purple? And blue (yes, there's that big old sky up above you, but on this walk limit yourself to what's here on Earth. Take several walks in different habitats - are some more color-filled than others? Take pictures, and if you're feeling ambitious, see how many different shades of each color you can find.

Anytime before sunrise: Enjoy the Dawn Chorus: Birdsong will, in a few short weeks, largely come to an end, as the breeding season draws to a close and males no longer have to define the boundaries of their territories with song. So, get up a bit early, put the coffee on, and sit at a window or on your deck and enjoy the show. It's lovely and amazing, that these creatures, with their high metabolic rates, start their day, not with breakfast, but with song.

Anytime after sunset: Enjoy the Evening Chorus: As the days shorten and birdsong begins to wane, the insect song becomes a constant sound of the season. Grasshoppers, field crickets and cicadas sing during the day. At night, tree crickets, field crickets, and katydids begin to sing. Go for a walk and see how many different sounds you can distinguish. This audio recording describes some of what you may hear: <https://www.npr.org/2015/09/08/438473580/insect-sounds-telling-crickets-cicadas-and-katydid-apart>

Bird of the Week - Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*):

For many years I have been collecting what I call “gateway bird stories” in which people tell about the bird species that got them started on the fascinating, gratifying, and often frustrating world of bird-watching. Though quite often it’s not so much a bird, as a parent, teacher, or neighbor who gets a bird-watcher started, and though some folks have more than one seminal bird-moment, for the many folks there’s a particular species responsible for putting them on the birding path. The male scarlet tanager, with his outrageously brilliant plumage, figures in more than one gateway bird narrative.

Though this species wasn’t my gateway bird, my initial encounter with a scarlet tanager was a memorable one. It was early in May, and I was canoeing on the Piscassic with my Dad. We’d put in near Riverside Cemetery and had passed beneath the little railroad trestle just downstream, staying close to the shore, looking for birds. We both saw the flash of scarlet in a

small shrub near the shore. My Dad named the species, but I already knew what it was - I think many a child, perusing her first field guide, lingers on the tanager page, hoping to see one someday, and this was my day. We paddled close to the banking, scanning the bushes, muttering to each other about how impossible it was that anything so brilliant could disappear so quickly, when out popped our guy, alighting most cooperatively on the lower branch of an oak, and gracing us with a long and unimpeded look at a bird so gloriously red that he looked like he belonged in a rainforest, not in chilly New Hampshire. Then as now, I was struck by how his pure black wings and tail seemed to make his scarlet plumage all the more vivid. “What a bird!” my father whispered - a phrase that would be repeated many times over the years whenever our bird-watching gambits produced a sighting of this species. Future tanager encounters rarely were as close and open as this one, however. After a good half a minute of seeming to observe us as attentively as we did him, my first tanager flew across the river, disappearing into the treetops.

Way back then, and until quite recently, scarlet tanagers were grouped in the Thraupidae family, the tanagers, a group 300-400, mainly tropical, gaudily-colored bird species found only in the Americas. In the last decade, however, genetic research has revealed that the four “tanager” species breeding in North America, (hepatic, scarlet, summer, and western), should be classified among Cardinalidae - a family, also exclusive to the Americas and also quite flamboyantly colored, comprised 14 genera and 49 species, including cardinals, rose-breasted grosbeaks, indigo and painted buntings, and dickcissels. Members of Cardinalidae are largely seed-eaters with the massive beaks required for such a diet, but seeds, though occasionally consumed, aren’t a major part of a tanager’s diet, and members of the genus *Piranga* have bills that, while thick, are more rounded, pointed and not nearly as massive as those of many of this family’s members.



Male scarlet tanager, Photo by Andrea LeBlanc

The smallest of the *Pirangas*, and the only member of the genus to breed in New England, the scarlet tanager arrives in New Hampshire in early May, having flown 2700 or more miles from Central or northern South America, including a grueling 600 mile non-stop crossing over the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico. As is the case with so many of our neotropical migrants, the male arrives first and immediately establishes his territory in deciduous or mixed-deciduous forest tracts, showing a particular affinity for oaks. During the breeding season, tanagers are largely insectivorous, and oaks are one of the best places to forage for insects, particularly larvae. To advertise the boundaries of his property as well as his readiness for a mate, he sings constantly. His song rings through the forest; it is a song similar to that of the robin's "cheerily, cheer-up, cheeriiy" only not as fluting and with a buzzy quality to it. It is also quite similar to the song of his relative, the rose-breasted grosbeak, who is arguably the best singer of these three species. The expression goes that the tanager's song sounds like a robin with a cold, while the rose-breasted grosbeak's song sounds like a robin who's taken singing lessons. When he's not singing, the scarlet tanager is likely to be filling the air with his distinctive call, a percussive "chick-burr!" that he repeats over and over. This short youtube video not only has a tanager singing, but in the background you can hear the song of rose-breasted grosbeak for comparison; listen until the very end, and you'll hear the tanager make his "chick-burr" call as he flies away: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kM4tYGQE9XY>

Usually, within a week after the male's arrival, the female scarlet tanager appears on the scene. It has always bemused me that the common names of so many bird species derive from the color of the male and are paradoxical when applied to the female. This is particularly so in the case of the female scarlet tanager, whose feathers are entirely scarlet-free. As this photo by Deborah Powers shows, her yellow-green coloring provides the perfect camouflage for a bird who builds her nest in the upper canopy. Because of this, she is a bird many folks, even those who spend a great deal of time bird-watching, see far less often than her male counterpart.



In my experience the first few weeks in May has been the time when I'm most likely to get a good view of this species, male or female. In early May when the invertebrate life in the canopy has



Male scarlet tanager, Photo by Andrea LeBlanc

yet to explode, tanagers will forage beneath the canopy, often perching on lower branches and swooping down to pick up a moth, earthworm, or other invertebrate. This is particularly true during wet springs when rainfall suppresses the emergence of flying insects. Additionally, when wooing a mate, the male tanager descends to the lower branches in order to display his finery. For these reasons, it's not uncommon that, in early May, one of my Mast Way nature classes gets a good look at a scarlet tanager, and on one memorable occasion, a male landed on a bare sapling just ahead of us on the trail, and stayed there for our viewing pleasure for at least half a minute. Getting twenty-odd nine-year-olds to stand quietly still is no mean feat, but that little tanager pulled it off. The gasps as the children got their first look at this glorious bird took me right back to my own first tanager and were as exciting to me as the bird itself.

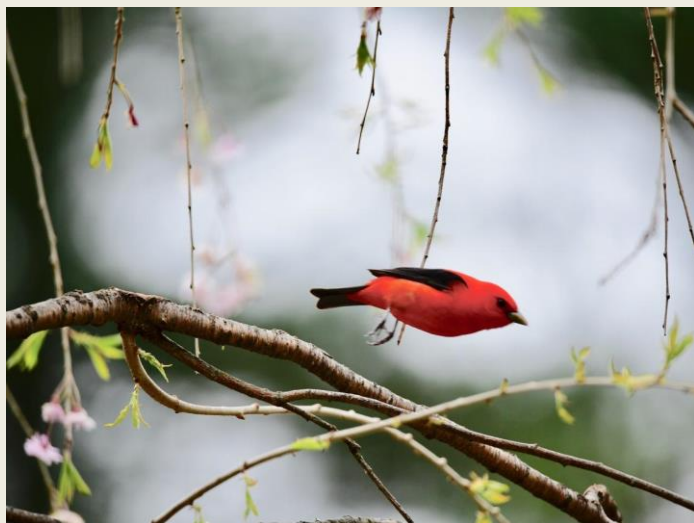
Once a female appears in his territory, the male scarlet tanager devotes all his energy to courtship display. He chooses an open area with bare, often dead, limbs situated one to six feet off the ground. Flying from bare limb to bare limb in a large semicircle, the

male puts his jet black wings and tail great effect as he holds his wings away from his body with the tips below his tail while he stretches his neck forward, thus extending the length of his scarlet back for the viewing pleasure of the female. The combination of the male's movements from limb to limb, his posture, and the contrast between the inky tail and wings framing his scarlet back is apparently irresistible to the female. And who can blame her?

Following courtship and mating, the female begins constructing her nest - usually somewhere within, or close to, the male's displaying grounds. Mature deciduous trees are favored with the nest located anywhere from six to sixty feet above the ground. The nest is a loose and rather jerrybuilt affair, constructed from rootlets, grasses, pine needles, twigs, and stalks gathered from the forest floor. She does this work sporadically during the morning - spending more of her time feeding than constructing. The resulting structure is so flimsy that eggs are often visible from the bottom; consequently, the nest provides little, if any, insulation for nestlings. Usually, four (though clutch size can vary from one egg to six) brown-mottled pale green or blue eggs are laid, with incubation beginning only after the last egg in the clutch is laid. All the incubation is done by the female, with the male staying close by and occasionally giving her a morsel to eat.

Hatching occurs two weeks after the last egg is laid, and the young are born naked, save for some scraps of down on their heads. They are brooded by the female during their first three days after hatching, and during this time the male assumes all the feeding duties. After three days both parents provide food for the young tanagers, which includes larvae, headless and wingless adult insects, whole insects, and berries. Ten to fourteen days after hatching the young have left the nest and are beginning to flutter from nearby branches. They will remain under the care of their parents for two more weeks before dispersing.

Presently, there are tanagers calling and occasionally singing whenever I walk in the Town Forest. We're right in the middle of chick-rearing time. Within a few short weeks, they will have raised their young and left them to



Take off! Photograph by Andrea LeBlanc.

make their own way. Both adults and fledglings must spend the remaining weeks of summer putting on a layer of fat, scarfing down insects and berries as they tank up for the 2700 mile journey back to their wintering grounds. By mid-September they will have left us, winging their way back to Central and South America. They are "coffee birds" neotropical migrants that inhabit the understory layer of high altitude rainforests. Shade coffee bushes are part of this favored habitat. When a brand of coffee is labeled "bird friendly" it indicates that the coffee comes from sustainable, low-impact shade-coffee farms, places where coffee bushes grow in biologically diverse habitats where long-distance migrants such as tanagers, orioles, rose-breasted grosbeaks, and warblers can sustain themselves until February rolls around and it's time to begin, once again, the journey north.

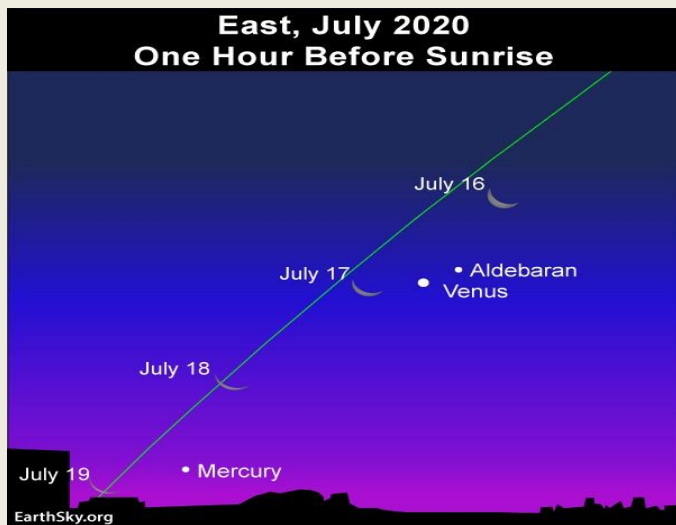
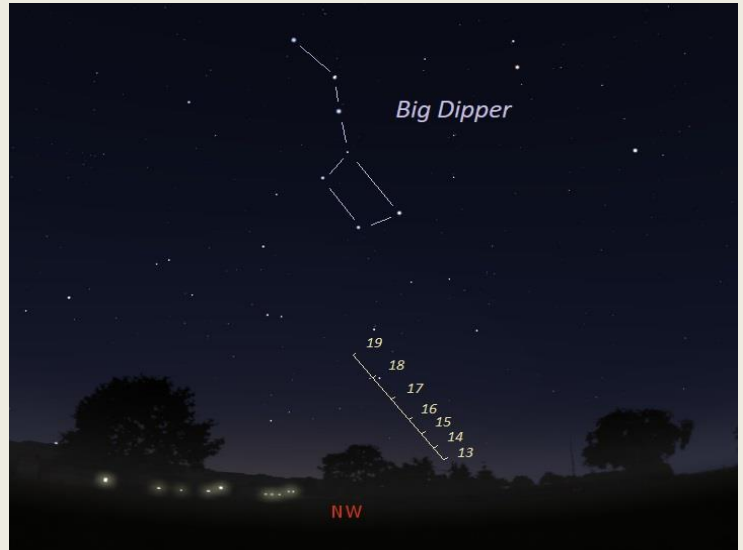
CELESTIAL

July 17-20, facing northwest, after dusk: Comet Neowise! Folks around New Hampshire have been posting some fantastic photos of this beautiful comet, such as the one at right taken by Tom White over the Kancamagus Highway. To see it for yourself, find a fairly clear view of the northwest horizon - one that is relatively free of trees and buildings. You can use the downward facing bowl of the big dipper as a locating aid, as shown below in the graphic by Earth and Sky. As you can see, Neowise will be located higher in the sky with each successive evening.

Though this is a naked-eye comet, it's not a spectacularly bright one, so if you have binoculars, bring them - this is a wonderful binocular comet!

Coming to you from our solar system's distant edge, Comet Neowise has spent most of its life as a frozen chunk of dust, ice, and frozen gas orbiting the sun with other similar chunks in the Oort cloud, where the temperature is absolute zero degrees Celsius - as cold as can be.

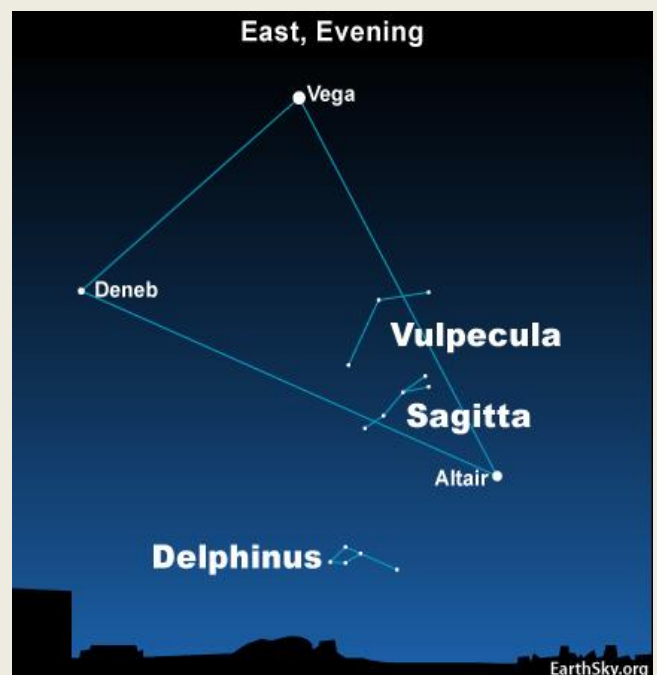
Try to get out and get a look at this lovely celestial object, because Neowise won't pass this way for another 6,800 years.



July 17-20, looking east, one hour before sunrise - Venus and Mercury: Sunrise for these three days occurs at 5:21, 5:22, 5:22, and 5:23, respectively, so we're talking about getting up at around 4:20 a.m. Pretty early, for sure, but Mercury is a tricky planet to see at this time of year. If 4:20 is just too early to contemplate, you can still see Venus just before sunrise on any of these dates. Use Stellarium's interactive graphics (link below) to get a sense of where these planets will be at any given time. A reward for getting up so early: you'll be up before the birds and get to hear the dawn chorus from start to finish. In my yard there's a tufted titmouse and a cardinal who vie for the title of "first singer" each morning.

Throughout this month, looking east in the evening - use the Summer Triangle to find the smallest constellations: We covered the summer triangle earlier this summer. It's not a constellation, but an asterism formed by the stars Vega, Deneb, and Altair - the brightest stars of the constellations Lyra, Cygnus, and Aquila. Once you've located the Summer Triangle, look for the two small constellations inside it: **Vulpecula, the Fox**, is the topmost small constellation, with **Sagitta, the Arrow**, located just below it. The third small constellation, Delphinus, the Dolphin, is located below the Summer Triangle - it appears to be leaping up from the horizon!

While you're searching for these three small constellations, take time to enjoy two planets, Jupiter and Saturn, shining above the horizon, south of Altair.



Don't forget these two online resources to help you and your family explore the night sky:

EarthSky (<https://earthsky.org/>). The EarthSky website provides several weeks' worth of nightly write-ups about what's going on in the night sky, along with a brief daily feature giving more in-depth information about a particular night-sky object. They've very generously given their permission to have their graphics used in this newsletter, and I encourage you and your children to visit their website.

Stellarium (<https://stellarium-web.org/>), has replaced StarAtlas, but remains an interactive map of the night sky. This new incarnation will set itself to your location. You can change the time and date to coincide with when you'll be star-gazing, and the map scrolls in all directions. If, for instance, in your location the best place for viewing the night sky happens to be facing west, just scroll the map to show the stars, planets and satellites that will appear in that part of the sky. Once you have the sky set for viewing time and direction, you can click on objects in the sky and an information box will appear giving the object's name plus information about brightness, type of object, etc. This is a fantastic website.

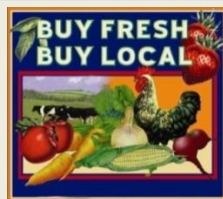
SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM – MONDAY, July 27th 6:00 pm

Meeting ID TBD Password 534667

Please check the website for Agendas and instructions on how to access Zoom meetings

Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar

Meetings can be seen on  at [CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#) for Lee Farmers Market

Facebook Page

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Lee Farms and

Agricultural Brochure

During this time of social distancing and no Farmer's Markets –
Please remember to shop your local farms online, by delivery or pickup

WILKINSON FOOD PANTRY

Lee Church Congregational, 17 Mast Rd

Even though our building is closed, the food pantry is open to any household in Lee, Durham, Madbury, Newmarket, and Nottingham. Delivery is through a walk-up window service to minimize contact during this time. The pantry is open the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month from 6 - 7:00pm. If you have an emergency need for food outside of the normal hours, please call the Church office at 659-2861 or email at leechurchucc@comcast.net. All visits to the pantry are strictly confidential.

LEE TOWN COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Planning Board, Energy, and Sustainability Committees have openings to be filled. If you are interested contact the Town Secretary Denise Duval at 603-659-5414 or email dduval@leenh.org. [CLICK HERE](#) for Application.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

Go to <https://www.leenh.org/calendar>

LIBRARY CALENDAR

Go to <https://www.leenh.org/node/14/events/month/2019-08>



Notice : Change in Services Due to Social Distancing Recommendation

Ready Rides is still operating during this time. We have adjusted our services to reflect the recommendations in place and to protect both our drivers and riders while still remaining available to those most vulnerable without taking them from their homes to incur possible contact with the virus. We are still providing rides to patients who require life sustaining services such as dialysis, blood transfusions, injections etc. We will take each request as they come in and assess the depth of the need. We are suspending all rides to counseling, physical therapy and general health and dental checkups. We recommend you utilize family friends and neighbors who you already have regular contact with to help provide rides during this short suspension.

A service we are adding to our registered riders is pharmacy pickups and food pantry and grocery pickups. If you have placed an order with Walmart.com or Hannaford.com we have volunteers who will pickup these orders and bring them to your door with minimal contact.

If you are unable to order online and you are in desperate need of help with acquiring food or some necessity here are some resources. Currently if you live in the town of Durham call 868-2324 for assistance. If you live in the town of Newfields call 772-9010 and ask for Helping hands for assistance.

Barrington, Lee, Madbury, New Market, Northwood, Barrington, Nottingham and Strafford towns do not directly have things in place yet. Call us here at 244-8719 and we will do our best to find a way to get you the help you need.

What Ready Rides Offers During Normal Operation

Ready Rides provides transportation at no charge for the elderly & disabled residents living in: Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madury, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham and Strafford. Rides are provided by volunteer drivers using their own vehicles. Accessible rides available.

To request information about registering as a rider or becoming a volunteer driver, please email us at info@readyrides.org or call (603) 244-8719. You can find an [Application](#) for riders and a [Volunteer Application](#) can be printed from this website and emailed or mailed to Ready Rides P.O. Box 272 Northwood, NH 03261. Be sure to also print out our service description.

For other transportation options available in the region, please visit ACT's [Community Transportation Directory](#).



Scott M. Nemet
Fire Chief

LEE FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

20 George Bennett Road
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(P): 603.659.5411 (F): 603.659.9611



Jeffery S. Liporto
Deputy Chief

TIMELY TOPICS FOR THE SUMMER SEASON

We are still in the midst of the COVID-19 and therefore still have to operate as such to protect our personnel and the public. We are still fully staffed and operating to protect our community but have had to put a hold on or adjust the way we provide some of our services. The fire department remains closed to all visitors but are working with town officials and the State for recommendations. All official business will continue to be conducted by phone or via email for now. Phone numbers and email addresses are provided on the [Fire Department's web page](#).

Burn permits are still required for all outside burning and all State burning regulations are still in effect. Burning regulations and permits can be obtained at [NH Fire Permit](#). Please check to see what the fire class for the day is prior to lighting any outside fire. Class 3 day or higher, all outside burning is not allowed. You can find out what fire class day it is by visiting the NH Forest and Lands website or look at the road side board at the Lee Public Safety Complex.

All station tours continue to be suspended as are all home visits for wood stove, burn permit and inspection purposes. Furnace installation inspections will be conducted on an emergency basis for emergency replacement only. All furnace replacement work shall be coordinated through the Fire Chief's office before any work is to be done.

Hopefully the virus emergency will be over soon and we can slowly return our operations to a normal level. All inquiries regarding the Town's response and current status for the virus should be made to the Town's Health Officer, Caren Rossi at the Planning Department.

With summer come thunder storms. Some storms can be severe and contain lightning, hail and wind. When lightning is in the area you should seek shelter indoors and away from windows. Do not shelter under trees or near tall objects. Be aware during high winds of trees, branches, power lines and debris being blown down. Occasionally these storms can cause downed power lines and power outages. We would like to remind everyone that we consider all downed lines as "energized" and should never be touched, moved or driven over. That includes cable and phone lines as they could be in contact with power lines at some point in the system. Call the fire department immediately and keep everyone away from the lines until the fire department arrives. With the power outages several people in our community use portable generators to power their homes. When using a portable generator follow all manufacture's safety guidelines for your generator. They should be run at least twenty-five feet from the residence; exhaust should be point away from the residence and away from anything combustible. Never operate a generator in an enclosed space such as a garage or a shed. Generators emit carbon monoxide and can cause serious injury or death if run in-doors and carbon monoxide is allowed to accumulate.

As the water in rivers, ponds and lakes warm up and people begin swimming and boating, please take care and be safe. Be aware that we have had a colder than usual spring and night time temperatures can still drop into the low 40's. This has kept our water temperatures on the cold side. Please be aware that hypothermia is still possible even though air temperatures can be in the 80's and 90's if the water temperature is in the 50's or 60's. This is especially true for the very young and the older population. Use personal floatation devices while boating, water skiing, tubing etc. Never swim alone even if you are a good swimmer. Follow all NH State Boating Regulations while boating on NH waterways.

Use caution while outdoor grilling. Keep grills at a safe distance from the residence or other structures while cooking. Have a hose or dry chemical extinguisher nearby to extinguish any grill fires before they get out of control. Make sure propane tanks are in date for hydrotesting and the gas lines are in good condition and not leaking. Dispose of burned charcoal in a safe manor, preferably in a metal container until cold throughout. Thank you and have a safe and happy summer.



**LEE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT SEEKING CALL
FIREFIGHTERS AND EMTS**

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

BURN PERMIT

[CLICK HERE](#) for NH BURN PERMIT RULES AND REGULATIONS
[CLICK HERE](#) to get a Burn Permit Online

[BACKYARD BURNING QUICK GUIDE](#)

[DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS FIRE PERMIT BROCHURE](#)

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for the Fire Department Fee Schedule

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for the Permitting Checklist and Reference Guide

WHEN SECONDS COUNT... Please take the time NOW to SAVE TIME in an EMERGENCY.



Can the Police, Fire, or Ambulance find your home when you need them for assistance with an emergency? Can they find it at night? Can they find it during a snowstorm?

Having your name and number on a mailbox is just not enough. Some mailboxes are clustered together. The numbers are small and the location may not mark the entrance to your driveway.

The Lee Firemen's Association, in a joint effort with the Lee Fire Department, has a program to install reflective house number signs at driveway entrances to assist all emergency responders in locating your home in a time of need. The cost for each sign with a post is \$35.00 and it will be installed by the Lee Firemen's Association.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form


LEE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION


LAWN SIGN FUNDRAISER



Only a \$15 donation!

LIMITED SUPPLY!

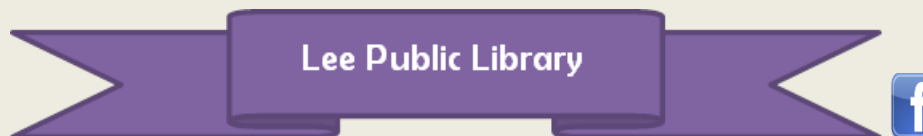
The Lee Fireman's Association of Lee, New Hampshire is conducting a fundraiser to help support local first responders and healthcare workers! We understand this has been an extremely difficult time for everyone and unfortunately first responders and healthcare workers are still dealing with COVID-19 on a daily basis. The Lee Fireman's Association has purchased a limited supply of lawn signs for the residents of Lee to help show their continued appreciation and support of these workers. 100% of your minimum donation of \$15.00 or more will be used to purchase "snack baskets" as a thank you to the Lee Fire & Rescue, Lee Police Department, McGregor Ambulance and Wentworth Douglass Hospital. To have a sign delivered to your house in Lee please follow the information below.

To show your support and have a sign delivered please

<p>Mail all checks to</p> <p>Lee Fireman's Association 20 George Bennett Road Lee, NH 03861</p>	<p>Please make sure to include your NAME, ADDRESS AND A PHONE NUMBER</p>
---	--

All checks made out to "LEE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION"

If you have any questions please email us at
lee-fire-association@gmail.com



NEW HOURS FOR THE LIBRARY

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 11am -7pm

Thursday and Friday 10am – 5pm

Saturday 9am – 12pm

Curbside service remains very popular and will continue as before!

2020 Summer Reading Program - upcoming events



Virtual Drop-In, Meet 'n Greet, Share-a-thon with Judy, Mondays 2:00 Preschool-Kindergarten, 3:00 Elementary, 4:00 Middle School. Stop in; say "hi", share your craft project or special fun thing you have been doing this summer! We will need an email address to send an invitation to this Drop-in. Send your email to Judy at childrenservices@comcast.net. Sessions will run for 30 minutes.

Online story time on Facebook with Judy, **Wednesday, July 22, 10:30 am.**

Chain Reactions and Creative Contraptions - VIRTUAL program, **Thursday, July 23, 10:30 am.** register www.durhampubliclibrary.org.

Summer Reading Finale with Simon Brooks - VIRTUAL program, Friday, July 31, 10:30 am. register www.durhampubliclibrary.org.

Discount Museum Passes

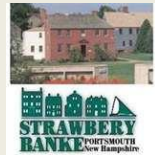
The museums are starting to reopen so time to request your passes! Here is the list of passes available and their scheduled reopening dates. Please check the museum websites for details on how to visit them. Graciously sponsored by the Friends of the Lee Public Library



Currier – August 13 www.currier.org



New England Aquarium – July 16, by timed appointment only www.neaq.org



Strawbery Banke – open now, exterior of buildings and gardens only, recommend reservations www.strawberybanke.org



Museum of Science – July 26, recommend advanced ticket purchase www.mos.org



Peabody
Essex
Museum

Peabody Essex Museum – July 18, Thursday-Sunday only, recommend timed admission www.pem.org



Children's Museum of NH – no date yet www.childrens-museum.org



Museum of Fine Arts – no date yet, possibly in the Fall 2020 www.mfa.org



Seacoast Science Center – open now weekends only. Must make reservation for a day pass for Odiorne State Park with www.NHstateparks.org. Then use discount pass for the museum. www.seacoastsciencecenter.org



Woodman Museum – opens July 1, our pass expired www.woodmanmuseum.org



Regional & State News & Events

GOVERNOR & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, July 15, 2020

[CLICK HERE](#) for the 7/15/2020 Minutes

There is a typo in these minutes; the next meeting is not August 8th but August 5th.

Next Governor & Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 5, 2020 10:00 a.m. at the State House in Concord, NH

NHDOT BEGINS PLANNING FOR 5-DAY SHUTDOWN OF ROUTE 4 AT BUNKER CREEK

Attached below is the US Route 4 detour route for the scheduled road closure commencing Sunday, July 19th at 11 pm, with an anticipated closure duration of 5 days. The signed detour route will be via NH Route 108 and the Spaulding Turnpike. Truck traffic will be encouraged to use NH Route 155 and the Spaulding Turnpike. Only local traffic will be permitted between NH Route 108 (west of Bunker Creek) and Back River Road (east of Bunker Creek) on US Route 4.

Upcoming work:

- **Road closure and bridge replacement schedule to start Sunday Evening July 19th – Friday evening July 24th** [CLICK HERE](#) for map

If you have questions, please contact the Design-Build Team,

Facebook - [NHDOTRte4Durham](#)

Twitter - [@NHDOTRte4Durham](#)

Email - <mailto:nhdotrte4durham@gmail.com>

For project history or background information you can also visit the [NHDOT's Webpage](#)

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS - July 8, 2020

The Superintendent is organizing an ORCSD Antiracism committee. The committee is still being formed, but will include district administrators, 2 school board members, parents, and community members.

The District is developing plans for 3 possible models for the start of school in the fall: Fully remote, hybrid model with some remote and some in-person content, and traditional in-person school. The School Board will be discussing these options with Administrators in a Workshop on July 14th at 7:00pm, which will be live-streamed and recorded (www.orcsd.org/stream). The School Board is expecting to make a decision about how to begin the school year at its August 5th meeting.

The High School schedule will be adjusted so that September 8th will be a fully Remote learning day (regardless of the in person, remote, or hybrid model school begins with), in order for the Town of Durham to utilize the High School gym and adjacent hallways for the primary election that day.

For the 2nd year in a row, Oyster River has been awarded the NHIAA Sportsmanship Award for Division II schools. Congratulations to the student-athletes and coaches across all sports for this recognition!



LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[CLICK HERE](#) for Summer Newsletter

McGregor EMS Volunteers Needed

McGregor EMS is currently seeking both Medical and Non-Medical Volunteers. Those interested may email membership@mcgregorems.org. To learn more about this great service [CLICK HERE](#)!

Help UNH Extension map food-access resources and needs across New Hampshire during COVID-19 – [CLICK HERE](#)

If you are a Lee Resident in need of assistance with a Veteran's issue the Lee Memorial VFW Post 10676 may be able to help.

This post serves the communities of Lee, Durham, Madbury and Newmarket and has Service Officers who can help folks with just about any Veteran's related issue. At the State level they have a seat on the SVAC (State Veterans Advisory Committee) and are linked with tens of other non-profit Veterans organizations that provide a host of services. Please contact Andy Corrow, Commander, VFW Post 10676, at 603-397-9267 or vfwpost10676@yahoo.com for assistance.

ATTENTION!

To receive the E-CRIER via email every week go to www.leenh.org, click on the [Subscribe](#) button under the Town Resource Center section & follow the directions to subscribe.

If you do not have the internet please come to Town Hall for a **printed copy** or go to the Library to view it there. If you cannot leave your home please call Town Secretary Denise Duval at 659-5414 to have it mailed!