

CENTER HARBOR NEWS

FALL 2009

STATE OF THE TOWN FALL 2009

The Town of Center Harbor was very busy in 2009 and completed a number of projects which will improve services or infrastructure within the Town. These projects included:

- Renovation of the Fire Department radio room. This room has had water issues for a number of years and it was renovated to make it a dry usable space for the Fire Department again.
- Final design and construction of the High Haith Bridge. The Town is participating in the State Aid Bridge program, which is being partially funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) monies. While this has pushed back the actual start date of the project due to administrative issues, it will save the Town a significant amount of money on the project.
- Hired a new Parks & Recreation Director. Jody Dickerson started in early winter and has brought a new enthusiasm to the position. We have had many successful programs over the last year..
- Work on the Master Plan. The Town has contracted with the Lakes Region Planning Commission to assist the Planning Board to update the Town Master Plan. The Planning Board is part way through this process.
- The Building Committee has worked diligently to prepare a proposal for a new police facility at the upcoming 2010 Town Meeting. Meetings have been held and a final proposal is almost finished.
- Completed installation and hook up of the fire hydrant located on Main Street. This will provide a good source of water for the downtown area should the need arise.
- Completed the first draft personnel policy for Town employees.
- Worked to establish a new park at the Bandstand property. The Town has explored making the property containing the Bandstand a formal park.

Overall, the Town has had a good year. In the upcoming year, the Board of Selectmen hope to implement a Capital Improvement Program which will give the Town a road map for future large purchases. In addition, the Town has been participating in County meetings to investigate the possibility of obtaining county wide savings on goods and services.

Many thanks go out to all the volunteers who continue to participate in Town activities and make Center Harbor the vibrant community that it is. In addition, the Board would like to thank all the department heads for their diligence and hard work keeping the day to day services of the Town operating in an effective manner.

Charles G. Hanson, Chair

Richard G. Drenkhahn

Randy J. Mattson

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2009 marks a significant year of achievement for the CH Conservation Commission. For the first time in recent years, the Commission is participating in the process of land purchase for conservation. Partnering with the Lakes Region Conservation Trust and the Squam Lakes Conservation Society, the CHCC is working to conserve a 245 acre forested tract of land belonging to the Herbert P. Dane Trust. Besides

permanently protecting outstanding wildlife habitat and water quality, the purchase will provide public access to a network of hiking trails, wood roads and cross country ski trails with trailhead parking areas. This parcel of mixed second generation forest is linked with existing trail networks within the abutting 121 acre Pine Hill Conservation Area and the 47 acre Proctor Sanctuary. This purchased conservation easement by the Town will increase the amount of con-

served land within the Town by 30%. The Commission is also engaged with developing the Natural Resource Inventory for the Town and completion of the Prime Wetlands designation for five separate wetland complexes within the Town. Any residents who would like to volunteer to preserve the rural nature of the Town are encouraged to contact the Town or Bruce Bond, Chairman, at 279-6430.

CENTER HARBOR NEWS

MEET BARBARA LUATERBACH

Barbara Lauterbach is a member of the Center Harbor Planning Board and a Certified Culinary Professional who prepares dinners for the election workers. Barbara has written four cookbooks, is a regular contributor to Cooking Light Magazine and Lakes Region Spirit Magazine, and has written for Yankee Magazine; Fine Cooking, New Hampshire Magazine and the Boston Globe food pages.

She is a Certified Culinary Professional through her asso-

ciation with the International Association of Culinary Professionals, a member of the New England culinary Guild and Les Dames d'Escoffier Internationale. Barbara currently teaches occasionally at the King Arthur Flour Baking Education Center in Vermont, at LaCombe in Perigord, France as well as throughout New England. She was the original Director of the Lazarus Creative Kitchen Cooking School in Cincinnati, Ohio and

has made various TV and radio appearances in Ohio, New England and on TVFN.

Barbara is a graduate of Smith College, studied in France and lived in Europe for 6 years.

The following dish, "Potato, Leek and Ham Gratin" has proved most popular with the election workers.

POTATO, LEEK AND HAM GRATIN

Butter (for the dish)	3 large russet potatoes, peeled and sliced 1/8-inch thick
2 cups heavy cream	1 large Spanish onion, thinly sliced
1 cup milk	Salt and pepper, to taste
1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme	1 pound baked ham, sliced 1/4-inch thick, and diced
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped	8 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
Pinch of nutmeg	

1. Set the oven at 375 degrees. Butter a 9-by-13 inch baking dish.
2. In a large flameproof casserole, bring the cream, milk, thyme, garlic and nutmeg to a boil. Add the potatoes and onions and cook over medium-high heat, stirring gently, for 3 minutes. Cover the pan, turn down the heat to medium-low and cook, stirring occasionally, for 15 minutes.
3. Spoon half the potato, onion, and cream mixture into the baking dish in an even layer. Sprinkle generously with salt and pepper. Add the ham, sprinkling it evenly, then half of the cheese. Cover with the remaining potato, onion and cream mixture, then salt and pepper. Top with the remaining cheese.
4. Cover with foil and bake the casserole for 45 minutes or until the potatoes are tender when pierced with a knife. Remove the foil and bake for 10 to 12 minutes more or until the top is browned.

**MEREDITH ROTARY CLUB GRANT IMPROVES NICHOLS LIBRARY GROUNDS
BY SARAH HEATH**

In June, the Nichols Memorial Library received a Special Projects Grant from the Meredith Rotary Club. This grant was used to make improvements to the library and town grounds. Four benches were purchased to allow additional seating for visitors enjoying the grounds and using the free “wi-fi” from the library. The grant also allowed for the installation of two copper trellises which will be covered in vines and blooms adding to the beauty of the

library and town grounds. Special thanks to Rick Ippolito, Chair of the Special Projects Committee, Anthony Avrutine and Dan Langan who assisted with the application process and kept the library apprised of deadlines and results. Additional thanks go to Tom Fairbrothers of Lakeside Plumbing for construction of the trellises and Laurie Perry of Cackleberries for her assistance with selection and placement of new plantings.

**Nichols Memorial Library
Winter Hours**

Monday, Wednesday and
Friday 10—6

Tuesday, Thursday and
Saturday 10—1

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Energy Committee, working with the Board of Selectmen, generated a Request for Proposal for an energy audit on 3 Town buildings (the Municipal Building, Highway Garage and Library). Three companies responded with proposals and The Jordan Institute was selected to perform this audit and generate a report, which will be available in November. This audit will recommend various measures to reduce energy

costs.

The Energy Committee usually meets the first Thursday of each month. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at the Center Harbor web site. The Energy Committee also has its own web site, <http://www.realitychec.org/>.

Dates to Remember

Budget Hearings:

Saturday, January 23, 2010, 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 3, 2010, 7:15 p.m.

Town Meeting:

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Election of Officers
and Article I Voting

7:00 p.m. Deliberative Session

TAX COLLECTOR

Property owners can take a two percent (2%) discount if their property tax bills are paid within twenty-two (22) days of billing. Property tax bills are due in full thirty (30) days from the date of billing.

2009 tax rate: \$10.22
Town \$ 3.76
County \$ 1.28
State Education \$ 2.10
Local Education \$ 3.08

2008 tax rate: \$10.09
Town \$ 3.98
County \$ 1.21
State Education \$ 1.98
Local Education \$ 2.92

2007 tax rate: \$9.86
Town \$4.04
County \$1.09
State Education \$1.97
Local Education \$2.76

Tax Collector Hours:

Wednesday 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tax Collector Email:

chtaxcollector@metrocast.net

TOWN OF CENTER HARBOR

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Visit the Town's website:
www.centerharbornh.org

Town of Center Harbor Upcoming Holiday Schedule

Veteran's Day:	Wednesday, November 11, 2009
Thanksgiving:	Offices will close at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 25, 2009 and will re-open at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 30, 2009
Christmas:	Offices will close at 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 24, 2009 and will re-open at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 28, 2009
New Year's:	Friday, January 1, 2010
Martin Luther King Jr. Day:	Monday, January 18, 2010
President's Day:	Monday, February 15, 2010

PARKS & RECREATION

SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN!

On Friday, December 4th at 6 p.m. come, enjoy and take part in the lighting of the Town Christmas Tree. This will take place at the bandstand on Main Street overlooking Lake Winnepesaukee. This will sure be a fun event for the entire family. Music will be provided by local students. A call has been made to the North Pole for a special visit by Santa Claus! Refreshments will be served.

WINTER PROGRAM IDEAS

The winter can be a long season here in the Lakes Region. The Parks & Recreation Department is always looking for ideas for the winter season to help with the winter blues. If you have a special talent that you would like to share and teach, please give the Parks & Recreation Department a call at (603) 455-1632.

HELP WANTED

LIFEGUARDS: The Center Harbor Parks & Recreation Department is now accepting applications for Lifeguard positions for the 2010 season (June 15, 2010 through August 31, 2010). Candidates must be Lifeguard, CP and Basic First Aid certified. Lifeguards must be able to work rotating weekends and are employed up to 40 hours per week. For more information, and an application, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (603) 455-1632.

BOAT LAUNCH ATTENDANTS: The Center Harbor Parks & Recreation Department is now accepting applications for Boat Launch Attendants for the 2010 season (Memorial Day—Labor Day). Boat Launch Attendants must be able to work rotating weekends and are employed up to 40 hours per week. For more information, and an application, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (603) 455-1632.