

Our Community Newsletter

BELMONT



Town Administrator's Monthly Report



Town Beach Update

In an effort to respond to the numerous comments we received regarding use of the Town Beach by non-residents, we have arranged for a Police Officer to be in attendance at the beach on Saturdays and Sundays from mid-morning to early afternoon to monitor who is using the beach. New signs will be installed during the first week of July which will remind everyone that beach is for the use and pleasure of Belmont residents and taxpayers. The bathrooms will be open on the weekends while there is an officer on duty.

Update on COVID-19 Activity

The re-opening of Town Hall to the public has gone relatively smoothly, we do want to thank those who have remembered to wear a mask when entering Town Hall and for those who don't have one, we do have them available. They really are an important tool to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Old Home Day as we noted in an earlier newsletter has been cancelled for this year but we'd like everyone to be thinking about next year's event and we'll announce later this year a challenge to all to come up with a great theme.

We continue to express our gratitude to our frontline responders, Police and Fire Departments during these difficult times. We also want to thank all our Town employees who have had to face many changes in how they assist the public. Everyone's efforts are greatly appreciated.

Police Station Project

We are pleased to be working with Bonnette, Page & Stone on the project. Plans for the building are entering final design. We have also secured funding for the project through Northway Bank, a 20-year note at 2.40%. We have had an excellent banking relationship with Northway for several years so we were very pleased that we were able to work with us on this project.

Help Wanted

The Town of Belmont is seeking candidates to fill two vacant positions with the Town; Sewer/Water Laborer and Building and Grounds Laborer. Both positions are fulltime benefited positions. The Town's job application can be found on line at www.belmontnh.org. If you are looking for a fulltime rewarding position with benefits, please contact us the positions will remain open until filled.



Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

We realize there are a lot more people walking about these days so as a reminder if you are walking your dog, please scoop the poop!!



IT is the LAW! (RSA 466:31 II (c))

Our message to all Dog Owners is to remind you of the importance of picking up your dog's waste from property not your own. The town installed at three different locations, dog waste stations where you can obtain a plastic bag to pick up the waste and deposit it in the numerous garbage cans located in the Village.



Following is a link to a video developed by our recycling vendor to help us recycle better. Better recycling leads to lower costs for trash disposal as whatever we can remove from the trash stream reduces the tonnage we pay for. Your help is needed! www.bit.ly/recyclebetter

The Casella site on Route 140 is currently **NOT** open on Saturdays as they had been in the past. We will keep you informed when we here they are reopening for drop off bulky wastes.

What's Flushable or Not



We continue to stress the importance of the **"Not everything is flushable"**, please check out the **"Do Not Flush!"** list to protect your sewer and septic system. A "Flushable" label does not mean it is SAFE for your septic system or the Town's sewer. Please read the brochure we have included on the Town's website at www.belmontnh.org. We need your help to ensure our sewers keep flowing.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Administrator's Office at 267-8300 ext. 124.



Just a reminder that the Town of Belmont is an active member of Lakes Region Public Access Television which can be seen locally on Atlantic Broadband Channels 24, 25, and 26. If you are a camera buff and you have an interest in producing a show to be shown on LRPA, please contact the station at 528-3070 to discuss your idea. LRPA has made significant strides to improve programming this past year and its presence in the Lakes Region; we urge you to check out their website at <http://lrpa.org>.



The Board of Selectmen will meet next on Monday, July 6th at 10 am at the Corner Meeting House. We do continue to follow social distancing policy within the Corner Meeting House so the meeting will be available on Zoom. Please check the "Agenda" page on the Town's website for details of the Zoom meeting.

Town Hall will be closed on Friday July 3, 2020 in celebration of the 4th of July holiday. We will reopen on Monday, July 6th at 7:30 a.m.

We hope you have a Happy 4th, but please remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing, let's do our part to help keep Belmont residents safe.

Town Clerk's Corner

Summer is here and boy are we happy!!

We are now open to the public and so happy to see all the smiling faces of our residents again!!

The first issue 2020 Property taxes are due July 1st this year. They can be paid in person, by mail, placed in the drop box located on the front door of our building or on our Town's website, www.belmontnh.org. We accept cash, check and card, please keep in mind that if you use a card there will be a 2.79% convenience fee added to the total you are paying.

We will be sending out tax lien notices via certified mail this month in preparation for the 2020 Tax Lien. This will include any unpaid amounts from 2019 for property taxes, water and/or sewer payments. If you have any questions regarding this please give our office a call.

If you are in need of an absentee ballot, you may request one at any time for both the September State Primary as well as the November General Election. You can mail in a request or email it to our office at tctc@belmontnh.org. The absentee ballot request form can be found on the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.nh.gov. If you have any questions please reach out to our office.

Dog licenses were due to be renewed by April 30th. We have extended the time that the additional civil forfeiture fee of \$25.00 is added on the cost of a dog license, but please keep in mind that it will be added this month.

While we have been working behind the closed doors of Town Hall since we shut down in March we are very happy to have our doors open! We ask that residents coming to Town Hall enter through the side entrance and we ask that you please wear a face covering and abide by the six feet social distancing guidelines. We are working hard to do our part to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Have a safe and wonderful Fourth of July!!

Cynthia, Jen and Michelle

Police Department News

Belmont Police Department
Captain Richard Mann



THE RENTAL SCAM

It's nice out people want to enjoy their summer now that we have the ability to do so. Imagine locating that "*just right rental*" you pack up, travel there only to discover you have been the victim of a rental scam. You will be really upset and rightfully so.

This is not a rare occurrence we have had one such incident reported already this year regarding a fake lake front property. There are a few telltale signs that the listing you found for your family vacation may not be legitimate.

Look for:

- You are rushed or pressured to put down a deposit.,
- You see typographical errors in the listing.
- The listing photos have an MLS watermark.
- The price is too good to be true.
- The listing details are vague.
- They're ready to make a deal with no background info.
- They're out of the country.
- They want you to sign before seeing anything.
- The asking rent doesn't match up.
- They instruct you to wire money.
- Your social security number or banking are asked for.
- They always have "*a reason*" not to allow a visit to the property.



The biggest flag is when someone asks you to wire money via Western Union, MoneyGram, Prepaid Visa card, iTunes card or Google Play cards. Scammers usually ask for a deposit or first month's rent even before you see the property.

Police Department News (cont.)

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO

Most legitimate renters will ask for a personal check, a cashier's check, or a money order for deposit in exchange for keys to the rental. To avoid rental scams and fraud on Craigslist, **insist on meeting in person** you should only deal with local people you can meet in person. Don't wire transfer money. Guard your money and personal information.

Don't send your personal information off to an email address. Do your research with a critical eye. Remember, scammers are counting on you to not look at the listing closely. This could be a scam just to get your banking or personal information so you must be vigilant.

Research everything the advertisement mentions, including the address and any names. Conduct a reverse image search. Another surefire way to catch cloned listing scams is to right-click the images and select "search Google for image." Doing so will allow you to see if the same pics have been used in postings anywhere else on the web.

You can also **copy and paste some of the phrases used in a suspicious listing** into a search engine. Frequently, scammers will simply copy and paste their work around the Internet. In some cases, you might even find forums and other websites discussing the very scammer you've found.

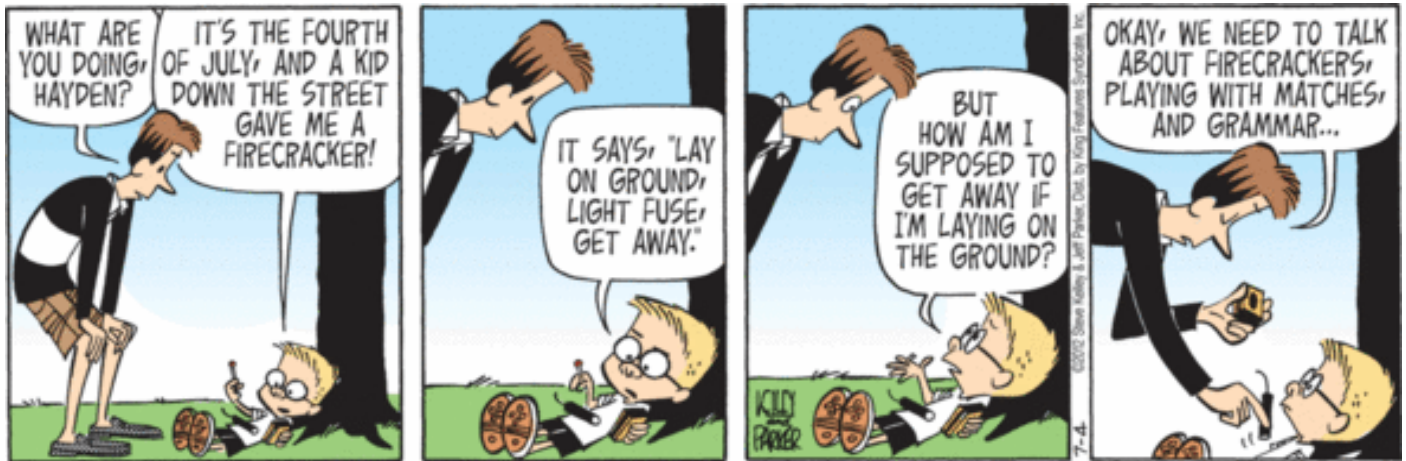
Use a **reputable rental company in the area** you are interested in visiting. Check the local BBB for who is getting rave reviews.

If something seems off, it's in your best interest to let a suspicious rental pass you by—it's easier to find another available unit than it is to say goodbye to the money you'd saved up.





BFD Times



Household Hazardous Waste Day



As of this time, Belmont Household Hazardous Waste Day is still taking place for 2020. Lt. Murphy, Chief Newhall, and the Board of Selectmen are working hard to put together a plan to be able to collect household hazardous waste for our community members while still adhering to health regulations for COVID-19. We are asking residents to check back in with us the first week of July for more information.

Highway Department News

CONSTRUCTION SEASON IS ALWAYS UPON US

Your DPW crew takes pride in maintaining our roadways to be as safe as possible. Please remember in order for them to do their job, right of way should always be given as with any emergency vehicle. It's always wise to slow down, leave a little early and arrive to your destination safely. We thank you all for your cooperation!



Please drive cautiously (SLOW DOWN) as our crews will be out working as well as many private contractors in the area. Take note of all signage and slow down when entering a work zone. Remember to stay off your cell phone. The safety and lives of the many construction workers trying to improve your roads depends on it!!

DRIVEWAY PERMITS REQUIRED



Spring is the time that we remember any problems we have with our drive-way; mud, bumps, drainage. Just a reminder that any work done on that portion of the driveway that meets the Town or State road right-of-way requires a Driveway Permit before the work commences. This includes just paving or re-paving.

Several homeowners have had their driveways accessing town roads re-paved or reconstructed only to learn after the work that it required a permit. Fees are doubled for any permits where the work has already been started. In addition, violations of the Regulations can result in a Violation or Misdemeanor charge.

The Town has requested assistance from paving companies asking for their cooperation in making sure that a valid permit exists before they pave. That obviously is not happening based on information we get from homeowners and the responsibility for the permit ultimately falls to the property owner.

Driveway Permit Applications can be obtained in the Land Use Office or online. Processing applications may take 7-10 business days as the Public Works Department will view the site to make sure that no concerns related to adequate road drainage exist.



Before you dig, remember to call DigSafe
Not only is it safe, **IT'S THE LAW!**



Highway Department News (Cont.)

WE'RE HIRING!

SEWER/WATER DEPARTMENT LABORER

JOB POSTING

The Town of Belmont is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Sewer and Water Department Laborer reporting to the Public Works Director. The successful candidate will perform a variety of routine skilled and unskilled manual laboring duties relating to wastewater pumping stations and wastewater collection systems and will cross train for coverage in the Water Department. The individual chosen for this position must possess a willingness to work with others including the general public. The position shares on-call schedule with the Water Department. Individual will also assist in winter snow removal operations in conjunction with the Highway Department. High School Diploma or equivalent is required; experience with wastewater operations and possession of a Grade 1 Water Distribution license is preferable but not required, must possess a valid NH License and pass a "CDL" physical, drug and alcohol screening and criminal background check as required by the Town.

Please submit letter of interest and application to the Public Works Director, 143 Main Street, PO Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220, by the close of business on Friday, July 3, 2020. The Town of Belmont is an EOE.



DPW workers install a post and plaque on South Road Bridge, in honor of Harold Reed. Harold was the Road Agent for Belmont from 1957-1983.




"We have all played a small part in flattening the curve and slowing the spread of COVID19. We all know you are healthier at home, and that continues to be true, but we are also taking steps to reopen our economy in a smart, step-by-step approach that is supported by facts, science and data."

-Governor Chris Sununu

Visit <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/> for the latest on: [Business Guidance](#), [Recreational and Tourism Guidance](#), [Visitor information](#) and more.

The [Stay at Home 2.0](#) plan, unanimously approved by the Governor's Economic Re-Opening Task-force and approved by the New Hampshire Public Health, allows for the gradual reopening of certain parts of New Hampshire's economy.

The order includes [Universal Guidelines](#) , which serve as the basic minimum standards that businesses must adhere to in order to maintain or begin operations.





Some Helpful Hints to Safely Enjoy Fireworks This Season

Concord – NH State Fire Marshal Paul J. Parisi would like to remind everyone that celebrating safely with fireworks involves the Three B's; Be prepared, Be Safe and Be Responsible. If you plan on using fireworks, please make sure you consider the following;

Fireworks can only be purchased from a licensed retail store in NH

- * Fireworks stores know their products, ask for information about a product if you are unsure of how to light it or to determine what the effect will be
- * You must be 21 years of age to purchase and use fireworks in NH
- * Check with your town to see if a permit is required to use fireworks, the community restrictions list can be found at <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/special-operations/fireworks/documents/fireworks-community-restrictions-list.pdf>
- * Only light fireworks on a hard, flat and level surface
- * Wear eye and ear protection, gloves and clothing that cannot easily ignite
- * Make sure the area is free from overhead obstructions (trees, electrical wires etc.)
- * Do not attempt to re-light a firework that does not go off, wait 15 minutes then douse it in water to make sure that it is inactive
- * You must be the property owner or have written permission from the property owner to light off fireworks
- * NEVER put any part of your body over a firework while attempting to light it and NEVER hold a firework in your hand while attempting to light it
- * Do not change or manipulate a firework in any way and be sure to read the manufactures instructions for use
Don't become a statistic! According to the CPSC 2018 Fireworks Annual Report 9,100 people were treated in US hospital emergency rooms for fireworks related injuries, there were also five deaths nationwide directly related to fireworks.

Visit our website at <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/special-operations/fireworks/index.html>

or call the NH State Fire Marshal's Office-(603) 223-4289, for more information.

Planning and Zoning Committee News



Planning and Zoning News

[Amelia Earhart Day](#)

July 24

[Application Review Committee \(6/25/2020\)](#)

- **Gary Anderson:** Review for operating a solar farm, an automotive dealership, multi-tenant garage bays and storage of surplus material and appliances, and installing a sign, a solar array and a subordinate dwelling unit at 48 Dearborn Street, Industrial District, Tax Lot 123-028-000-000. #04-20R
- **George Condodemetraky:** Review for bringing in fill to level a 4,500 square foot area at 69 Main Street and Laconia Road, Commercial District, Tax Lots 122-053-000-000 & 122-059-000-000. #02-20R
- **Steve and Caroline Anstey:** Review for boundary line adjustment proposal to transfer approximately 0.6 acres from 172 Bean Hill Road to 176 Bean Hill Road, Tax Lots 223-022-000-000 and 223-021-000-000. #08-20R

[Planning Board \(6/22/2020\)](#)

- **Public Hearing – Pike Industries:** Continuation of a request for Earth Excavation approval to increase quarry depth. Property is located at 308 Depot Street, Tax Lots 235-058-000-000, 232-031-000-000 & 236-014-000-000 in the “I” & “R” Zones. PB# 1019P. Continued to 7/27/2020 without deliberation.
- **Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Blue Sky Enterprises Inc.:** Request for Earth Excavation approval to transfer 2007 Earth Excavation approvals to Mountain Made Materials. Property is located at 224 Hurricane Road, Tax Lot 231-014-000-000 in the “R” Zone. PB # 0520P. Continued to 7/27/2020 without deliberation.
- **Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Lakes Region Community Developers:** Request for site plan approval for a Day Care Facility. Property is located on Concord Street, Tax Lot 126-026-001-000 in the “V” Zone. PB # 0620P. Conditional approval granted.
- **Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – BMBH Real Estate Holdings LLC:** Request for Earth Excavation Permit. Property is located at 33 Province Road, Tax Lots 204-028-000-000 & 204-030-000-000 in the “C” Zone. PB # 0720P. Conditional approval granted.
- **Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Fantasy Factory LLC:** Request for site plan approval for a single-family subordinate dwelling unit. Property is located at 48 Dearborn Street, Tax Lot 123-028-000-000 in the “I” Zone. PB # 0820P. Application not accepted as complete.

[Zoning Board of Adjustment \(6/24/2020\)](#)

- **Abutters' Hearing – Tap Public House, Inc.:** Granted requests for:
 1. A Variance of Article 5 Table 2 of the Zoning Ordinance to construct a deck closer (5') to the side property line than allowed (15'). ZBA # 0420Z
 2. A Special Exception of Article 11.A.3.d to construct a deck closer (42.3') to the front property line than allowed (50') but not closer than the existing structure. ZBA # 0520Z

Property is located at 930 Laconia Road in an “C” Zone, Tax Lot 122-057-000-000.

For additional Land Use Information:

Visit www.belmontnh.org

Contact landuse@belmontnh.org

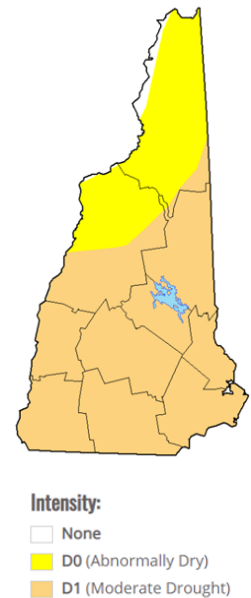
Call 267-8300 x 119

Conservation Commission

Moderate Drought Declared for Part of New Hampshire

Concord, NH - According to today's U.S. Drought Monitor, the southern half of the state has been elevated from "Abnormally Dry" (D01) to "Moderate Drought" (D1), while the remainder of the state continues to experience "Abnormally Dry" (D0) conditions. These conditions, a result of an exceptionally low snowpack this winter and lack of precipitation, have impacted rivers and streams, groundwater, soil moisture, and reservoirs. Due to these conditions the State Drought Management Plan is being implemented. This plan ensures the State develops, coordinates and implements all possible approaches to responding to the drought. One of the first steps, based on the increasing intensity of the drought will be the initial coordination of the State Drought Management Team (DMT), a collaborative team of state, federal, municipal and regional agencies; industry and non-governmental organizations; and academia. Ongoing actions include: assessing reservoir impacts and adjusting operations, working with drinking water systems statewide and ensuring the public is informed of the impacts and conservation measures that should be employed now to avoid serious problems later in the summer.

Earlier this week, NHDES advised public water systems to carefully track water supplies and implement outdoor water use restrictions as needed. The state has requested systems report restrictions to NHDES to be publicized on the Drought Management webpage. Ninety-four systems have reported implementing outdoor usage restrictions.



NHDES is asking the public to abide by restrictions so essential and critical water needs of the community, residents, and businesses are met. NHDES encourages those relying on private residential wells to begin conserving now. Due to COVID-19, people are at home more often, which means a higher than usual demand on residential well supplies. To protect your well supply, it is recommended that outdoor water use be limited and water use be staggered, allowing the well time to recharge between demands.

Lake levels are starting to fall due to low inflows and evaporation. In an effort to slow the fall on the state's largest lakes, releases from the dams that impound those lakes have been reduced to the minimum needed to maintain instream flow needs downstream. As a result, many of the small hydropower projects on the state's tributary rivers are no longer able to generate power, although the hydropower projects on the main stem rivers, such as the Merrimack and Connecticut, continue to operate.

During drought conditions, it is especially important to be vigilant with wildfire prevention, especially making sure all fires are extinguished completely. Doing so can help reduce wildfire incidents and lower the potential for property loss, personal injury and even loss of life.

To view a map of drought conditions, a list of utilities restricting water use, and [drought guidance for private well owners](#), go to the "A-Z list" at www.des.nh.gov and scroll down to Drought Management.

Library News



Reopening Belmont Public Library

Recommendations and guidelines
for using the library during this time

MW 10am–4pm
TTh 12pm–6pm
Saturday 9am–1pm

10 or fewer people in the building

That's five per floor and includes staff.

Signs or library staff will indicate if it's better to wait outside.

Limit the number of family members visiting the building.

Keep visits brief

Wear a mask

Staff are required to wear a mask in the public areas of the building and we strongly request you do too, if you are able.

Return items in the book drop.

Use remote options.

Overdrive or hoopla for ebooks/audio/music/movies.

Curbside Pickup will be offered during open hours.

Call, email, or log in to the catalog to renew items.

Practice social distancing.

Maintain at least 6 feet distance from others where possible.

Hand sanitizer is available for public and staff.

Computer use

WiFi is available in and around the building.

We have reduced the number of library computers to comply with social distance guidelines.

Limited technical assistance.

Belmontpubliclibrary.org

Imagine Your Story

Belmont Public Library Summer Reading 2020

Register/track reading

Register through a browser at
<http://belmontpubliclibrary.readsquared.com/>

OR

Download the READsquared app from the App Store or Google Play and follow the registration process

OR

Pick up a paper reading log from the library

Who can play

Ages 0-4: Log 24 books and receive a prize bag including a book

Ages 7-12: Log 12 books (read by/read to) for a raffle ticket

Ages 13-17: Log 6 books for a raffle ticket

Adult: Log 6 books for a raffle ticket

**All logs must be completed/
returned by August 8, 2020**

Activities

Join NH graphic novelist Marek Bennett's **COMICS WORKSHOP** on a quest to create original comics that **ONLY YOU** can draw...

July 23 1-3pm

ONLINE ONLY

max 20 participants; first come, first served; grades 3-8; email
circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org to register

Weekly story-time grab bags

limited supply; email
circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org to reserve

Remote Book Discussions

July 9 1pm *Tribe* by Sebastian Junger

July 17 10:30am *The Stars are Fire* by Anita Shreve

Contact the library for the link.

Children's Literacy

**Foundation book giveaway
details TBA**

Raffle prizes

- Funspot
- Santa's Village
- Canobie Lake Park
- Burrito Me
- Wayfarer Coffee Roasters

©2020 CLIP



Use the library

- limited public hours
- curbside pickup
- grab and go bags/DIY kits
- downloadable ebooks/audio through **nh.overdrive.com**
- downloadable/streaming ebooks/audio/music/movies through **hoopla digital**

BELMONTPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

Senior Center News

NOTICE

The Belmont Senior Center is no longer operating under the Community Action Program.

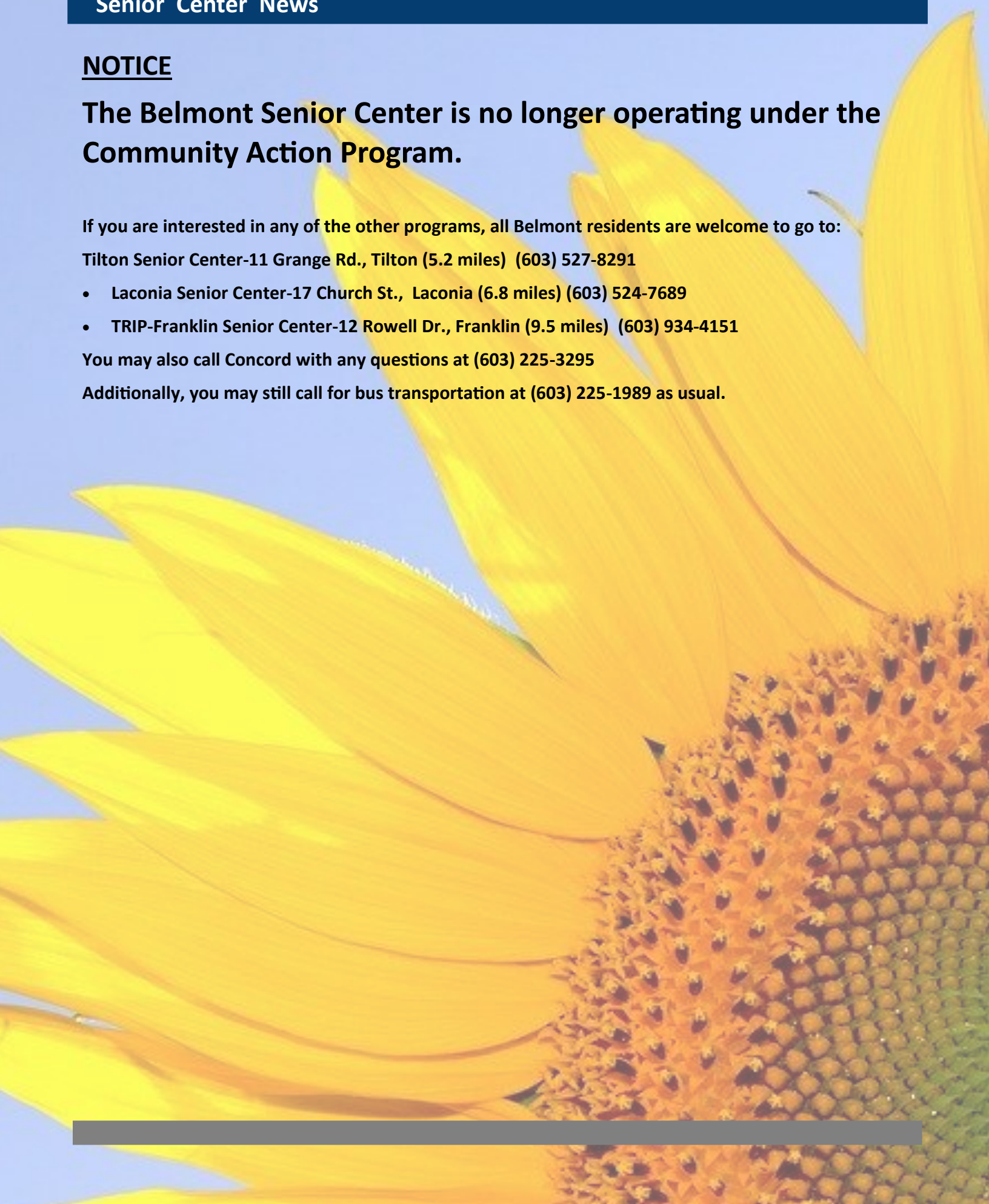
If you are interested in any of the other programs, all Belmont residents are welcome to go to:

Tilton Senior Center-11 Grange Rd., Tilton (5.2 miles) (603) 527-8291

- Laconia Senior Center-17 Church St., Laconia (6.8 miles) (603) 524-7689
- TRIP-Franklin Senior Center-12 Rowell Dr., Franklin (9.5 miles) (603) 934-4151

You may also call Concord with any questions at (603) 225-3295

Additionally, you may still call for bus transportation at (603) 225-1989 as usual.



Letter to the Editor

I recently had a granite bench installed along the Tioga River Trail in remembrance of my husband, Dr Charles “Chuck” Fink. We have lived in Belmont for many years and enjoyed walks along the River Trail with our 2 little dogs, Rusty & Delyla. Chuck would often stop and sit on the old wooden bench to rest and reflect enjoying the sights and sounds of nature.

Those who knew Chuck knew him as a Patriot with a love for God, Country & Family. He was a well known and respected Chiropractor practicing in Laconia for more than 35 years. Chuck was honored to serve as a State Representative during 2013-2014. He was happiest when he could talk politics, sports, and health. He loved to brag about his kids & grandkids and to share his knowledge of gardening and growing things. He was Kind, compassionate and caring in his treatment of family, patients & fellow citizens. *Betty Pike-Fink*



Bench donated by Betty Pike-Fink in memory of Charles Fink

Our Furry Friends



Miss America (white cat) and Bill (black cat) reside at the Mooney residence. Bills owner passed away and the family needed to find a home, so guess what, he came to the Mooney residents. He has such a great personality and is more like a dog than a cat, wherever Ruth is working around the farm you can be assured that Bill is supervising, usually from a nice comfortable shady spot....

Miss America, I guess you could say Ruth saved her from who knows what, she is very independent and any attention is on her terms, but she is a great hunter and a real conversation piece around the farm.



Want to make your pet the Talk of the Town? Just send a photo with a brief introduction to them to townhall@belmontnh.org.