



## Town Administrator's Monthly Report

### Update on COVID-19 Activity

COVID-19 continues to headline the daily news across the country, in New Hampshire we have done a good job maintaining low numbers of infection and we urge everyone to continue to please wear a mask whenever you are in public. Just a reminder that Belmont schools are open, let's all do our part to keep our children and community safe and healthy.



### Town Board and Committee Meeting Space

#### Update

The meeting space on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Belmont Mill has been completely renovated and officially opened to the public for a Selectmen's meeting on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. We have designated the meeting rooms as follows; the room to the right as you enter the lobby from the elevator will be known as the Tioga Meeting Room, the room to the left will be known as the Penstock Meeting Room. The Tioga Meeting room is equipped so that meetings can be televised via Livestream; also coming soon will be equipment to provide a more optimum Zoom Meeting experience.

We encourage anyone not wishing to attend a meeting in person to follow our meeting agendas for Zoom access information. We will continue to make this option available as long as the Governor's Emergency Orders are in place.

The room is also equipped with conference call capabilities. Social distancing policy remain in place and the meeting rooms have been set up accordingly.

Please check the "Agenda" page on the Town's website for upcoming meetings and Zoom access details.

If you cant make it to a meeting please feel free to view the agenda prior to the meeting and email us your questions and the Board will address to the best of their abilities.

The Selectmen's next meeting will be held on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 10:00 am at which time we will hold a public hearing in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #56 which allows following a public hearing, the Selectmen to reduce appropriations for any items necessary to keep total expenditures within our total anticipated revenues. We anticipate a one-time reduction in the Parks and Recreation budget due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the 2020 Summer Camp and other programs, additionally we are reviewing other minor adjustments in the Public Works budget.

In addition to the public hearing on EO #56, the Selectmen will begin reviewing the 2021 proposed budget with Department heads in anticipation that the Budget Committee will begin deliberations in early November. The Budget Committee's meetings will be livestreamed and we will also set up a Zoom connection for anyone wishing to participate without physically attending the meeting.

### Police Station Project

The Police Station project continues to move along smoothly with final plan design underway. The Corner Meeting House was demolished during the week of September 21<sup>st</sup> so that site work for the new Police Station can begin.

# 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.



### Bulky Waste Disposal



Beginning Wednesday, September 2, 2020, and on the 1st Wednesday of each month following, Casella Waste will collect your bulky items curbside. Please note this is for Town of Belmont Residential Customers ONLY; service is not available to commercial property owners.

Piles of debris, trash, yard waste or a single item too large for one person to collect WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. A request for pickup must be made in advance by calling Town Hall at 267-8300, Extension 118 or 124 only. You will be asked to list the items you want picked up, you will be advised what the cost is, and you will need to drop off a check made payable to the Town of Belmont prior to the collection day. Please visit the Town's website at [www.belmontnh.org](http://www.belmontnh.org) for the full details on the new program and a price list.

### Staff Changes

The Town of Belmont is pleased to announce that Russ Wheeler has been hired to fill the vacancy in the Building Inspection/Code Enforcement Office. Russ comes to us with years of experience in the BI/CEO field and we look forward to working with him. We wish Steven Paquin the best in his future endeavors.

In addition, Dan Tousignant, has left the Town's employment to take a position with a neighboring Town, we wish him well in his new position. We have hired Patrick Golden as Building and Grounds Supervisor and along with Kyle Dodge, they will continue to maintain our Buildings and Grounds.

### 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](http://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>.

## Town Clerk's Corner

Fall is in the air and the leaves are on the lawn! It is hard to believe it is October already!

The month of October brings with it the due date of the third issue water/sewer bills, which is October 8<sup>th</sup>. The third issue bill cover the months of June, July and August. As always you can mail your check in with your payment stub, stop by the office to make your payment, drop your payment in the drop box located in our front door or pay using our Town's website, [www.belmontnh.org](http://www.belmontnh.org). We accept cash, check or debit/credit card, please keep in mind that there is a 2.79% convenience fee added to your total if you choose to pay with a card.

We are geared up for the upcoming General Election taking place on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have mailed out a ton of absentee ballots and expect to keep going until just before the election. To request an absentee ballot, you can fill out a request form which can be found on the Secretary of State's website, [www.sos.nh.gov](http://www.sos.nh.gov), on our Town's website [www.belmontnh.org](http://www.belmontnh.org) under the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's page or here in our office. If none of these options works for you please let us know and we will figure out an alternative. A signed request must be submitted before we can mail you your ballot. If you are not registered to vote and wish to be, please stop by our office with your proof of residency and driver's license and fill out the voter registration card. If you can't make it to the Clerk's office by the 28<sup>th</sup> of October bring your license and proof of residency and you may register to vote at the polls on the day of the election. If neither of these options works for you please contact our office and we will discuss other options.

The General Election is our second election with the obstacles Covid-19 has presented to us. We feel we did a great job providing a safe, sanitary, socially-distant space for everyone to vote in at the State Primary election and plan to use the same methods at the General Election. Please keep in mind that when visiting the polls to vote, MASKS ARE REQUIRED. There will be greeters in the vestibule of the high school who will direct you on the process for this election. Wearing clothing and accessories promoting any specific candidate in the polling area on Election Day is prohibited. If you show up wearing any promotional gear, you will be asked to remove or cover it up. This is a State mandate. If you have any questions or concerns about the election process please give us a call or stop by the office and we are happy to chat with you!

We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to everyone who worked together to make the election a success, including our Town Selectmen, the Belmont High School staff and cafeteria workers for providing amazing bag lunches for the election workers, the Town and High School's maintenance teams for their help with setting up the election space to be as safe as possible as well as all the election workers who worked very hard to keep lines moving and people informed.

We all hope that this fall season finds everyone cozy and warm. Stay safe!

## Police Department News

# Let's talk for a minute about your home security

*Belmont Police Department*

*Captain Richard Mann*



Here are some home security statistics that may shock you... And hopefully motivate you to take action

- 2,000,000 home burglaries are reported each year in the United States.
- About 30 percent of all burglaries are through an open or unlocked window or door.
- Nearly 66 percent of all burglaries are residential (home) break-ins.
- Renters are just as likely to be the victims of property crime as homeowners.
- The highest percentage of burglaries occur during the summer months.
- Homes **without security systems are up to 300% more likely to be broken into.**
- According to the FBI, Home Break-In (Burglary) is the most common threat to our home.
- In the U.S. a home burglary occurs every 13 seconds.
- Every 13 seconds a home intrusion is committed.
- 2.5 million+ home intrusions are committed each year.
- Only 17% of the homes in U.S. have a security system.
- 2,500+ cars stolen per day... almost 2 cars a minute.
- One out of three residential assaults are a result of a burglary.
- 85% of break-ins are from non-professionals that are usually more desperate and dangerous.
- Most insurance agencies offer discounts up to 20% for insurance when a home security system is installed.
- Home security statistics tell us that 95% of break-ins needed some amount of force to break-in.
- Thieves prefer easy access, through an unlocked doors or windows.



Home security statistics tell us that the type of tools used to break in are usually simple; a screwdriver, pliers, pries bars, and small hammers are most common.



## Police Department News (Cont.)

Having read the dreary statistics now take a deep breath. You can do some very simple things around your home to make it a harder target for thieves. Leave a light or two and a radio on timers when you leave for work or school. Why you ask, they give the appearance and sound of “*presence*” in the home. Timers are affordable and are available at almost all box stores. Easy to set up and use they can be just as easily shut off when they are not needed. Thieves like empty homes so no one will see them or call the police, they do not like handcuffs apparently.

If you have a slider door have you reinforced it? To strengthen your slider simply lay a board or a piece of metal between the wall and the inside slider cannot be forced open. Measure your windows and you can slide similar pieces of wood flush against the side wall, this prevents the window from being pried open.

To enhance the overall “hold strength” of your entry doors replace the standard lock face screws (the lock face is the part screwed in the wood of the door frame) by replacing those short screws with ones twice their size you have tripled the force now required to kick your door open. Use your powers of observation as you look at your home from a distance. Are bushes or small trees covering your windows, if so you are providing concealment for a burglar, trim them back. Never leave a ladder visible outside your home, it is just like an open invitation to use the upstairs bathroom window to walk right in your home. Move sheds away from homes for the same reason.

Motion lights are a great thing, they only come on when you need them - burglars hate them. It gives away their power of surprise and stealth. Motion sensing lights are easy to replace and can save you money.

Alarms are a great deterrent to burglary but I am going to stay generic on this topic. Yes you can spend top dollar on door, window and motion sensors and then pay a monitoring agency to “watch your system” but where are they? The police station gets calls from as far away as Texas notifying us of an alarm at such and such Belmont address. Please make sure they know the color of your home and which side of the street you are on please.

You can do virtually the same monitoring for yourself by using a Wi-Fi home camera systems which are at all box stores and online. They use your home Wi-Fi and sync to your smart phone or device, they offer live monitoring and can be checked by you at no cost at any time anywhere. Most of these systems feature motion and sound detection and will send you an immediate notification so you determine what course of action to take. Several officers have Wi-Fi systems that allows us to listen and speak through the cameras, we love that feature, our kids not so much.

Use the Belmont Police if you are planning a trip. We have an active House Check Program. The form is at the station just stop by fill out some basic contact information, let us know what vehicles you left at the home, if you have any lights on timers and who we can call in an emergency on your behalf. Our patrol officers add your home to the patrol list of homes to be watched while they are unattended.

Don't forget your neighbors. They will be the ones that see the U Haul unloading your big screens while you are on day three of your cruise. Ask them to keep an eye out for you. If you have questions about our House Check Program or any other information you read here please give us a call at 267-8350. Our officers will also be glad to stop by to discuss home safety with you if you would like



## Fire Department News

### BFD's 2020 SCARECROW CHALLENGE

Last year, the Belmont Fire Department hosted its very first Scarecrow Challenge. With COVID-19 turning 2020 upside down in so many ways, we have decided to make our Scarecrow Challenge even bigger! We want to paint the town in scarecrows! Every road... Every corner... Every business...

**If you are a resident**, consider this your challenge! We know this year has been a drag... Stay at home orders, remote learning, vacations cancelled... We get it! Let's have a little fun and see how creative you can be! We want you to be the Clark Griswold of the town for this fall season! Go big or go home! Get the family together and show this town your scarecrow wonderland. The rules are simple!

- 1) Construct a scarecrow or a scarecrow scene on your Belmont, NH property for the Scarecrow Challenge. There is no theme, just make it awesome! Get creative and have fun! This is a family friendly event, so nothing inappropriate folks!
- 2) Snap **one** photo of your masterpiece without participants in the photo and **one** with participants in the photo, send it to [sweeks@belmontnh.org](mailto:sweeks@belmontnh.org) along with the name of the artist(s), ages if 10 years old or younger, phone number, the address it is located at and a name of your piece of art to best describe what we are looking at. Photos should be taken in the day time or in well lit areas to allow full visibility of your masterpiece. Submissions must be submitted by **Friday, October 16th at 3pm**. Only one submission per person/family will be accepted.

**If you are a business**, we want to see what you've got! COVID-19 has not been kind to businesses, big and small, and we want to put you all on the map! It's a fun way to promote your business. We are a small community, and as a small community, we need to all come together! We want you to help spread a little joy to your community and hopefully have a little fun while doing it! Your rules are slightly different:

- 1) Construct a scarecrow or a scarecrow scene at your Belmont, NH business. Your task is to represent your business in your scarecrow. This is your chance to advertise your business! Make it awesome!
- 2) Snap **one** photo of your masterpiece without your employees in it, and **one** photo with your employees in it, send it to [sweeks@belmontnh.org](mailto:sweeks@belmontnh.org) along with the name of your business, phone number, the address it is located at and a name of your piece of art to best describe what we are looking at. Photos should be taken in the daytime or in well lit areas to allow full visibility of your masterpiece. Submissions must be submitted by **Friday, October 16th at 3pm**. Only one submission per business will be accepted.

On Monday, October 19th, all photos will be uploaded to our Facebook page and we will let the viewers decide who the winners are! We will create an album for residents and we will create an album for businesses to keep the two categories separate. The photo in each category with the most likes will be the winner! Voting will be closed on Monday, October 26th at 3:00pm and likes will be tallied. In addition to those categories, BFD Administration will be choosing the best scarecrow from participants 10 years old and younger. The winners of the challenge will be announced on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### **PRIZES:**

**Best Residential Scarecrow:  
\$50 Gift Certificate to Ninety Nine Restaurant and Pub**

**Best Scarecrow from Participants 10 years old and younger  
(Chosen by Chief Newhall and Assistant Chief Black):  
\$50 Gift Certificate to Funspot**

**Best Business Scarecrow:  
Lunchtime Brookside Pizza Delivery for the Business' Employees**

**[#BFDSCARECROWCHALLENGE](https://www.facebook.com/BFDSCARECROWCHALLENGE)**

# Highway Department News

## WINTER IS COMING.....

As winter approaches now is a good time to make sure that your mailbox is properly installed to meet both the Town and USPS guidelines. If mailboxes are installed properly chances are our plows will not hit them. An improperly installed mailbox is at greater risk of being breakfast to the plow, and as much as we would like to, we do not replace mailboxes that are hit by town plows. If you are a visual person, we have a great display of a properly installed mailbox at the Post Office with instructions (see image below). If you need further assistance please call the Public Works Department and we will gladly come out and give guidance and answer any questions you may have.



### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

#### JOB POSTING

The Town of Belmont is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Highway Department Truck Driver/Laborer reporting to the Public Works Director. The successful candidate will perform a variety of routine skilled and unskilled manual laboring duties. The position requires a NH CDL "B" license with airbrake endorsement. The individual chosen for this position must possess a willingness to work with others including the general public. High School Diploma or equivalent is required; experience with the operation of heavy trucks necessary. Driver's License and Criminal record check required, mandatory participation in the department's Drug/Alcohol Screening Program as required by federal law. This is a full-time Union position subject to a 6-month probationary period.

Applications and a copy of the complete job description are available at the Belmont Town Hall, or send a resume and letter of interest to DPW Director, PO Box 310, Belmont, New Hampshire 03220. Position will remain open until filled. The Town of Belmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

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



# Conservation Commission

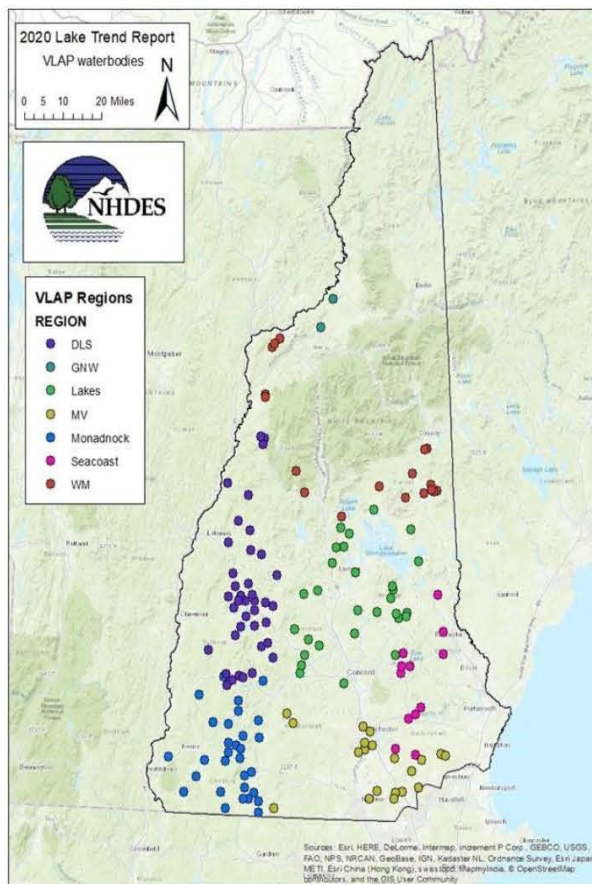
## 2020 New Hampshire Lake Trend Report

### Status and Trends of New Hampshire's Water Quality Indicators



New Hampshire's surface waters are vital natural resources that provide habitat for aquatic life, recreational opportunities, tourism and economic benefits. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the condition of the state's surface waters. The [Water Monitoring Strategy](#), published by NHDES in 2016, details the agency's approach for monitoring the condition of the state's inland surface waters. One component of this strategy is to provide regular reports on the status and trends of water quality conditions, including the Lake Trend Report released in 2020. This document provides a brief summary of that reports' findings. Find the full [2020 Lake Trend Report](#) on our website.

One-hundred-fifty lakes and ponds contributed  $\geq 10$  years of data from 1991 to 2018. A majority of the data were contributed by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP), but in some cases data from additional programs were utilized to evaluate waterbody condition. Data were analyzed to examine current conditions, long-term trends and short-term changes for individual waterbodies. Trophic class and regional trends were also examined.



### Water Quality Indicators

Indicator Parameter	Parameter Description
Alkalinity	A measure of a waterbody's ability to resist acidic inputs, a.k.a. buffering capacity.
Bacteria	A measure of the concentration of E. coli, a common bacterium that is present in the fecal material of warm-blooded animals.
Chlorophyll-a	A photosynthetic pigment found in plants that serves as a measure of the abundance of suspended algae.
Cyanobacteria	Photosynthetic bacteria that are capable of producing toxic blooms. Occurs naturally in waterbodies, but can increase in abundance with excessive nutrients.
Dissolved Oxygen (1-meter below surface)	The concentration of oxygen in water used by plants and animals. Low or highly variable dissolved oxygen concentrations can result from decomposition of organic material.
Ice in/out records	Period of time a waterbody is covered in ice.
Invasive Aquatic Plants	Non-native species that are a threat to ecological, aesthetic, recreational and economic values of freshwater resources.
pH	A measure of the water's acidity.
Secchi Disk Transparency	A measure of water clarity.



## Planning and Zoning Committee News



## Planning and Zoning News

National "I Love Lucy" Day  
October 15

### Application Review Committee (9/24/2020)

- NO CASES IN SEPTEMBER / NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 22, 2020, 8:00 AM

### Planning Board (9/28/2020)

- 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 "T" Zone. PB # 0820P. Continued to 10/26/2020 without deliberation.
- Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Mountain Lake Village, LLC: Request for a one-year extension (8/24/2021) of 18-lot open space single-family subdivision approval and previously granted waivers with internal roads and open space (Zoning Use Open Space Residential Subdivision). Property located at Mile Hill Road, Tax Lots 202-012-000-000, 202-012-001-000, 202-015-000-000 & 202-015-001-000 in the "R" and "RS" Zones. Approved.
- Public Hearing – Mammoth Acquisition Company, LLC: Compliance hearing to change the method of slope stabilization on the southeasterly sidelines of lot 201-029-001-000 and the southwesterly sideline of lot 201-029-000-000. Property located at 73 & 77 Daniel Webster Highway Approved.

### Zoning Board of Adjustment (9/23/2020)

- NO CASES IN SEPTEMBER / NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 28, 2020, 6:00 PM

### NH State Forest Action Plan available for public comment through Oct. 15

The New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands released the [Draft 2020 New Hampshire Forest Action Plan](#). The draft plan is posted on the Forests and Lands' website, [nh.gov/nhdfl](http://nh.gov/nhdfl). Under federal law, a state is required to develop and update every ten years a Forest Action Plan (FAP) in order to be eligible to receive funds under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act.

The State Forest Action Plan is a 10-year strategic plan for New Hampshire's forests that provides long-term, comprehensive and coordinated strategies for addressing the challenges and opportunities facing New Hampshire's forests today.

New Hampshire's 2020 State Forest Action Plan addresses the three national priorities identified by the U.S. Forest Service:

- Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses;
- Protect forests from threats; and
- Enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

The Division is accepting public comment on the draft until October 15. Comments may be directed to:

Susan Francher  
Planning and Community Forestry administrator  
172 Pembroke Road  
Concord, N.H. 03301  
[susan.francher@dncr.nh.gov](mailto:susan.francher@dncr.nh.gov)

For additional Land Use Information:

Visit [www.belmontnh.org](http://www.belmontnh.org)  
Contact [landuse@belmontnh.org](mailto:landuse@belmontnh.org)  
Call 267-8300 x 119



**NEW HOURS**  
**MONDAY 10-5**  
**TUESDAY 10-6**  
**WEDNESDAY 10-6**  
**THURSDAY 10-6**  
**FRIDAY 10-5**  
**SATURDAY 9-1**



**Halloween StoryWalk**

the scariest book ever  
bob abba

October  
26-31

**VIDEO STORYTIME**  
Ladybug Picture Book Award 2020

Sign up for the weekly link. Starting September 9.

Reserve your own FREE kit. Two new options each month.

**Fall Take n'Make**  
 Tweens, Teens, and Adults

**FURIOUS HOURS**  
 MURDER, FRAUD, AND THE LAST TRIAL OF HARPER LEE  
 CASEY CEP

**Online Discussion**  
 October 8, 2020 1pm

Ebook and e-audio via Overdrive. Some physical copies available.

Email the library for the meeting link.  
[circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org](mailto:circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org)

**ONLINE FICTION BOOK GROUP**

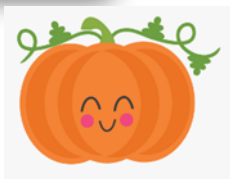
Ebook and e-audio copies available through [nh.overdrive.com](http://nh.overdrive.com). Contact the library for physical copies.

**Dracula**  
 by Bram Stoker

**OCTOBER 16 10:30AM**

Email the library for the meeting link  
[circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org](mailto:circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org)

**Library Closed**  
 October 6 for network upgrade



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## 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**



**Out of an abundance of caution, the Annual LRGH Auxiliary Craft Fair will not be held in October, 2020. This was a difficult decision, however made out of the best interest of our exhibitors, volunteers, and shoppers.**

**As plans for the 2021 LRGH Auxiliary Craft Fair are made, we will keep you informed.**

**Thank you for your ongoing support.**

**Any questions, please contact [lrgauxcraftfair@icloud.com](mailto:lrgauxcraftfair@icloud.com).**

# Our Furry Friends



**Pets of Belmont**



**Meet Norton. Norton is an adorable 16 year old senior. Norton can always been seen asking for a treat. Norton resides with the Naiva family.**

**Want to make your pet the Talk of the Town?** Just send a photo with a brief introduction to them to [administration@belmontnh.org](mailto:administration@belmontnh.org) .