



# Town Talk

Town of Lincoln

August 17, 2009

## Town Manager's Update by Peter Joseph, Town Manager

I want to take this opportunity to make you aware of some of the recent developments at the State level that will be affecting us directly here in Lincoln. This year the New Hampshire Legislature was faced with the difficult task of balancing a budget in today's strained economy. That difficult task was compounded by the fact that the state was looking to do so without instituting a major tax hike. The result is that the budget was balanced by using a complex mix of fee and revenue increases (such as increased car registration fees), spending cuts, use of one-time funding sources, and "creative" financing methods.

One "creative" way that the Legislature managed to balance the budget was by eliminating approximately \$25 million worth of aid it provided to local cities and towns through the revenue sharing program. This program uses a mathematical formula to proportionally distribute income that the State receives to nearly every municipality in the state. This program has been in existence for many years, and the Town of Lincoln typically receives about \$125,000 a year from this source. This money is treated as general fund revenue by the Town of Lincoln, and offsets the amount that needs to be raised through

local property taxes. Given the current property valuation and tax rate in the Town of Lincoln, this \$125,000 offsets approximately 15 cents on the current tax rate.

This action by the State leaves the municipalities of New Hampshire only two options on how to deal with the resulting revenue shortfall. The first is to reduce spending by an amount equivalent to the reduction in funding. In Lincoln this would mean cutting almost 3% of the municipal budget for this year. The second option is to replace the lost revenue with another source of funding. In Lincoln this would mean "finding" \$125,000 in additional revenue from other sources, or raising the money through an additional increase in property taxes on the local level. As I previously mentioned, this could mean an increase of approximately \$0.15 per \$1000 of valuation. The Board of Selectmen and I are currently examining a combination of these two approaches in order to meet the \$125,000 shortfall in the way that is least disruptive to the citizens of Lincoln.

I call this method "creative" financing because it allows the State to hide the true financial impact of its decisions. What essentially happened is that the State was forced to make a difficult

decision to either cut services or raise taxes to pay for the services it currently offers. The legislature took a third path, which was to downshift these costs onto the local government and force each city and town to make the same difficult choice that the legislature wasn't able to. Unfortunately, once that decision gets to the local level we don't have anyone else to pass the buck to. Another way to look at the loss of this revenue is as an indirect statewide property tax. Of course you'll never hear a politician utter those words in Concord! The Board of Selectmen and I feel that the residents of Lincoln should be aware of decisions (or lack thereof) like these being made in Concord that can affect us directly on the local level. Our state legislators (Sen. Gallus, Reps. Gionet and Ford) have been very responsive to our concerns on this issue, but they are only three votes out of 400+. If you feel strongly on the issue, feel free to contact them to express your concerns. If you're concerned about how this decision will affect the Town of Lincoln, as always, I would be glad to talk with you in person at your convenience. I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer in our beautiful mountain town!

Very Truly Yours,  
Peter E Joseph

**Board of Selectmen:**  
Peter Moore, Chairman  
Deanna Huot  
Patricia McTeague

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## Recreation News by Tara Tower, CPRP, Recreation Director

The “Adventure Camp” for campers 10-14 years old, and the “Kanc Kamp”, for 5-9 year olds ran this summer from June 22nd through August 14th. Thanks to the Lincoln-Woodstock Rotary many families have received financial assistance that allows their children to participate in these camps!

The annual **4<sup>th</sup> of July Games and BBQ** were held at the Kanc Recreation Area on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. The BBQ and all of the activities are sponsored and staffed by the Lincoln-Woodstock Friends of Recreation.



The **17<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun Golf Tournament** was held at Maplewood Country Club on Saturday, August

1<sup>st</sup>. Pictures and results are available on our webpage and in the Fall Recreation Newsletter.

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual **Burner Jr. Golf Program** for resident children between the ages of 8 to 14 ran from July 8<sup>th</sup> until August 26<sup>th</sup>. Jim Gagnon runs the program, with the clinics being taught by Charlie Wheeler Managing Pro at the Owl's Nest Golf Course.

The **fall soccer program** is for 4 year olds—6<sup>th</sup> graders and there is no cost to play! The program is separated into age groups. If you are interested in coaching or if you have any questions please call Tara at 745-8673. Everyone will need to fill out a new emergency form for the 2009-2010 school year. Used cleats are available in **MANY** different sizes. **Sign up from now until September**

**2nd! Soccer clinics for 3rd through 6th grade will be held August 26th from 4:30-5:30pm on the high school back field.**



Upcoming fall activities will include: **Fall Swimming Lessons**, Senior Citizen Trips including the **Anheuser-Busch Brewery Trip** (September 22nd), the **Fryeburg Fair trip** (October 6th), and a **Christmas Shopping Trip** (November 17th); **The Friends of Recreation Holiday Craft Fair** (November 14th and 15th), and the **Just for Kids Shopping Event!**

**The After School Program** is for grades K-5, Monday-Friday, 2:30-5:00pm. The first session begins August 31st, but kids can join any time. The cost is \$8/day, \$25/week or \$120/session.

**The Outing Club** is for grades 5-8, runs Tuesdays from 2:30-5:00 pm. There is no registration fee. See the website or Fall Recreation newsletter for a calendar and event costs.

**Gymnastics** will be offered for grades K-5, from 2:30-5:00pm in September and October for \$30 per session.

**Dance** classes will be offered from September 14th-November 9th.



For more information on any of these programs check out the Fall Recreation Newsletter.

### Community Center Update

Since the community center was purchased in August of 2005, we have been busy renovating, expanding, and transitioning programs into the new “Father Roger Bilodeau Community Center”. The goal has always been to have this facility be an inter-generational facility. In 2006 the center added a renovated and expanded wing that is leased by the **Lincoln-Woodstock Community Child Care Center**, with a new entry-way, a new classroom, new windows, and new restrooms. These renovations also brought the kitchen up to state food license standards, provided a new paved walkway to the rear of the building, and a remodeled office space. The kitchen and office space is being leased by the **Grafton County Senior Services** for the Lincoln-Woodstock Senior Meal site. Aside from the leased spaces, there is a “senior citizen room” and a multi-purpose room. The “senior citizen room” that is open for senior citizens that would like to play cards, do a puzzle, read a book, watch a movie, or just relax. This space is dedicated to you, please use it!

In 2007 we constructed a new entry-way into the Multi-Purpose room, installed a new heating system, re-paved the parking lot, and added the last childcare classroom in the “childcare wing” of the building. In 2008 we had the parking lot lines painted, railings installed for the entryway ramp and stairs, and replaced the area heating

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## Library News by Carol Riley, Library Director

We have passes to the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center—Squam Lakes Natural Science Center and Currier Museum of Art, these are provided by the Friend of Lincoln Library.

The Friends of Lincoln Library annual Memorial Day weekend plant sale was a huge success, they raised \$2000.00. The winner of the Jack Richardson framed and matted print was Bob Tully of Lincoln. The Friends want to thank all of the contributors for the success of this fund raiser.

The library addition is under construction, the meeting room will add to the services that the library will be able to provide. We have 5 new computers for patron access, and the wireless connection has proven to be a great asset for our patrons.

Library hours are Monday-Friday 12-8pm and 10-2 on Saturday.



The library phone number is 745-8159 or email at [library@lincolnnh.org](mailto:library@lincolnnh.org)

The Upper Pemigewasset Historical Museum located at 26 Church Street in Lincoln will be open for the season on Wednesday, June 24th. The hours of operation will be Wednesdays from 2pm to 4pm and Saturdays from 6pm to 8pm. Also by appointment. Call 745-8159 for further information.

### Upcoming Library Programs

#### Thursday, September 24 at 6 pm

##### *French-Canadian Music and its cross culture*

Learn more about the migration of French-Canadians and the evolution of their traditional music: its arrival in North America from France; the music's crossing with Indian culture during the evangelization of Acadia and Quebec; its growth alongside English culture after British colonization; and its expansion from Acadia to Louisiana.

Talk and concert with Lucie Therrien



#### Thursday, October 8 at 7 pm

Jack McEnany  
Author of

*Brush Cat: On Trees, the Wood Economy, and the Most Dangerous Job in America*



#### Thursday, October 22 at 7 pm

##### *Baked Beans and Fried Clams: How food defines a region*

Baked beans, Indian pudding, fried clams, and lobster rolls... so many foods are distinctive to New England. Does food have anything to say about who we are as a region, about who we are as New Englanders? Bean-hole beans, johnnycakes, chocolate chip cookies, and pork pies -- you can find them all over the country now, but they all originally came from New England like so many of the customs and mores familiar to all.

Presented by Edie Clark



All programs will take place at the  
Upper Pemigewasset Historical  
Society  
26 Church Street Lincoln  
Call 745-8159 for more information



## Town of Lincoln

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Lincoln, NH 03251

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Fax: 603-745-6743  
E-mail: [townhall@lincolnnh.org](mailto:townhall@lincolnnh.org)

On the web at [www.LincolnNH.org](http://www.LincolnNH.org)



## Summer 2009



### HOURS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Town Manager & Selectmen's Office... Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Planning & Zoning Office..... Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector..... Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Solid Waste Facility..... Every day but Wed. 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Recreation Department..... Mon. - Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Lincoln Public Library..... Mon. - Fri. Noon - 8:00 p.m. and  
Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## TELEPHONE/E-MAIL DIRECTORY

[www.lincolnnh.org](http://www.lincolnnh.org)

**FIRE EMERGENCY 911**  
**AMBULANCE EMERGENCY 911**  
**POLICE EMERGENCY 911**  
**NH POISON CONTROL CENTER 1-800-562-8236**

Selectmen & Admin. Asst.....[townhall@lincolnnh.org](mailto:townhall@lincolnnh.org)..... 745-2757  
Town Manager..... [townmanager@lincolnnh.org](mailto:townmanager@lincolnnh.org) ..... 745-2757  
Fax Number..... 745-6743  
Town Clerk /Tax Collector.....[townclerk@lincolnnh.org](mailto:townclerk@lincolnnh.org) ..... 745-8971  
Planning/Zoning Department [planning@lincolnnh.org](mailto:planning@lincolnnh.org)..... 745-8527  
Communications Center (Dispatch)..... 745-2238  
Police Department (Business Line) [tpsmith@adelphia.net](mailto:tpsmith@adelphia.net) .... 745-2238  
Police Department Admin. Asst..... 745-2238  
Police Department Fax No..... 745-8694  
Fire Department (Business Line)..... 745-2344  
Solid Waste Facility..... 745-6626  
Public Works Garage..... 745-6250  
Water Treatment Plant..... 745-9306  
Wastewater Treatment Plant..... 745-3829  
Lincoln Public Library [library@lincolnnh.org](mailto:library@lincolnnh.org) ..... 745-8159  
Recreation Director's Office [recreation@lincolnnh.org](mailto:recreation@lincolnnh.org) ..... 745-8673  
Kancamagus Recreation Area..... 745-2831  
Father Roger Bilodeau Community Center..... 745-8958

## Recreation News by Tara Tower, CPRP, Recreation Director, cont.

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units. The new heating system, the addition, and the parking lot renovation were made possible by a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Facilities division.

We just received word that we will be receiving another grant from the USDA to replace all of the old window units, and re-insulate the older sec-

tions of the building. This work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2009!

The community center is being used during the day by: The LWCCC, the Lincoln Wood Senior Services, and the Recreation Department's after school, cooking classes, yoga classes, the outing club and adventure camp programs, and the Lincoln-Woodstock Food Pantry. It is also being used in the

evenings for AA Meetings, Jiu-Jitsu classes, Zumba Classes, and many upcoming programs. We look forward to offering something for every resident at this truly community facility!

If you have any questions about any of the above programs, or about receiving a copy of upcoming newsletters, call the Recreation Department today at 745-8673. Have a great summer, and remember to



Use bear-resistant containers and enjoy bears from a distance

take the time to enjoy your local area!

Respectfully submitted,  
*Tara Tower, CPRP*  
Recreation Director