

# CENTER OF GRAVITY GAZETTE

## NEW BOSTON'S SENIOR NEWSLETTER



Sept / Oct  
2025



### A Message from Mike Sindoni

Hello everyone!

I hope you all had a great summer! If you have not heard yet, I am stepping down as Recreation Director. My last day will be Friday, September 26.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the residents of this town for the last 21 years. I have enjoyed many aspects of working here, but the thing I will miss most is my personal interactions with people. New Boston will always hold a special place in my heart. On behalf of my family, thank you for your support and friendship.

All the best ~ Mike

### What's new?

- ♦ **Senior Trip** September 22 to Tuckaway Tavern.
- ♦ **Historical Society Event**—Thursday, September 11, 7pm at the CCNB, “*New Boston in the 1930s*”
- ♦ **Hillsborough County Fair** is Sept 5-7
- ♦ **Red Cross Blood Drive**—Tuesday, Sept. 16, noon—4:30 pm at the Whipple Free Library
- ♦ **WFL annual book sale**—Saturday, September 13 at 9am
- ♦ **Senior Lunch** at NBCS resumes Sept 11. Doors open at 10:50am.
- ♦ **Scarecrow Alley/Trunk or Treat** Registration begins September 19.
- ♦ **Flu Shot Clinic**, Saturday, October 4, 10am to 12pm, Rec Office
- ♦ **Townwide Trick or Treating**, Trunk or Treat and Lighted Pumpkins on the Gazebo, Friday, October 31st, 6-8pm



*Director—Mike Sindoni*  
*Rec Assistant—Sheri “Ree” Moloney*

[www.newbostonnh.gov/recreation](http://www.newbostonnh.gov/recreation) ~ 603-487-2880  
[Recreation@NewBostonNH.gov](mailto:Recreation@NewBostonNH.gov)



“Our mission is to enrich and enhance the lives of the residents of New Boston. We accomplish this by providing safe, welcoming facilities and affordable, diverse recreation and cultural opportunities for people of all ages to play, learn, and build community.”

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“Autumn is a second spring,  
when every leaf is a flower”

~Albert Camus



## “When New Boston Taught School in Chicken Coops”

*by Dan Rothman,  
New Boston Historical Society volunteer,  
for the September/October 2025 issue  
of the Center of Gravity Gazette*



*The white buildings*

In 1934 the last of New Boston’s one-room schoolhouses was closed, and all students were sent to the Village School next to the Community Church. This big school, rebuilt after the Fire of 1887 across the street from the Town Hall, then had twelve grades, with Grades 1 through 6 on the first floor and Grades 7 through 12 on the second.

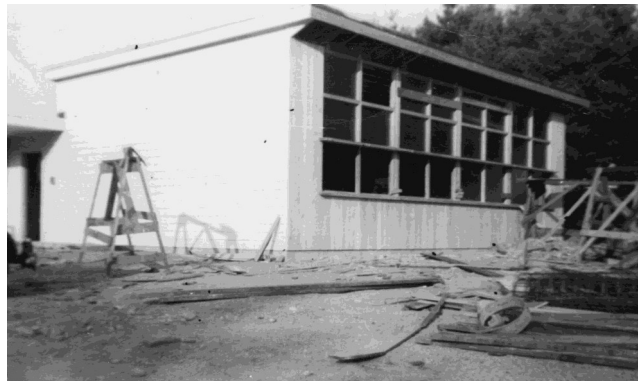
In the 1940s the town debated building a new four-room school, as the Village School was becoming overcrowded. Another idea was to remodel the Valley View Farm’s old Cement Barn for school use, as the cows had moved out in the 1920s!

Since no agreement could be reached for either proposal, in 1950 the townspeople voted to construct four new “school units” somewhere in the village center, one classroom per unit, as this was thought to be the most economical solution. Only two units were actually built, as we’ll discover in a moment. These are the “white buildings” or “chicken coops” that you see to the east of the playground and the ballfield behind the Town Hall. (There never were actual chickens in these chicken coops.)

The School Building Committee originally thought to build the school units on the hillside above the playground but realized that this location would be “rather inconvenient during the winter months.” Until many years later, students had their lunches and gym classes in the Town Hall, and a steep walkway would need to be maintained whenever there was snow on Meetinghouse Hill. By building new classrooms on the same level as the Town Hall it was easier for students to walk to and fro every day. No doubt the fresh air and various kinds of precipitation they experienced were good for their moral fiber. (continued next page)



*Construction in 1950*



*Construction in 1950*



Continued from page 2

Jacki Filiat remembers teaching 6th grade in a chicken coop in the 1980s. On warm days she needed to keep the door open for ventilation, as the big glass windows let in sunshine but not much air. Principal Rick Matthews would go by in his gym-teacher sneakers, leading children from the Central School to the Town Hall. Whenever Jacki's 1st grade daughter spied her mother she'd shout, "Hi, Mommy!" – much to the amusement of Jacki's class.



*The Village School in 1956*

Writing about the chicken coop construction project in the 1951 Town Report, the School Building Committee was proud of its thriftiness. Gravel from some of the lots they'd purchased was being sold to defray expenses, and volunteer labor and services donated at cost also helped reduce taxes. The Committee planned that trees cut on the Town Lot would be milled into lumber for the second unit. They wrote that if the townspeople would vote to build units 3 and 4, students could be sent there from an overflow classroom in the railroad depot, and the town could have its Community Center once again.

You may ask, why was New Boston's school population growing in the 40s and 50s? The New Hampshire Sunday News explained to its readers, "Every time old persons die or move away, they are replaced by a young couple who move out to this suburb with two or three children and proceed to have a couple more."

Did the good citizens of New Boston open their pocketbooks in 1951 to pay for two more chicken coops? Of course they didn't. Under the heading "Argue Two Years," the Sunday News reported that after no fewer than eleven special school district meetings, it was finally decided in 1955 to build a proper school with four classrooms, and that was the beginning of the New Boston Central School we know today. (The final vote was 165 to 1 in favor of a new school; all voters but one were tired of arguing.)

What became of the beautiful 19th-century Village School? While the new brick Central School was growing to accommodate more and more elementary school students, the old school building could not provide high school students with the science labs and other modern facilities needed to prepare young men and women for their careers or further education. Therefore, after many more than eleven special meetings over many more than two years, it was decided at last to send our town's high school students to an area school in Goffstown. New Boston High School graduated its last class in 1965, and in 1971 the building was taken down to make way for a new fire station





## The Historical Society Event

Thursday, September 11, 7pm  
at the New Boston Community Church

*"New Boston in the 1930s"*  
Speakers: Dick & Deb Jardine,  
Historical Society volunteers

The Jardines return with more stories from the diaries of William Fiske, Deb's great-grandfather. New Boston experienced two disastrous floods in the 1930s — one following a hurricane — but there were good times, too.



"I like the concept if we can do it with no new taxes"

## EASIER SUDOKU

		8		5		3	6	1
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5				4			9	
		7	6					
	6	1			8			
				1			8	
	9		5					
	8				3		4	
7	3			2	4			

2								
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			1		8			
	3	9		6			4	
8	4							
		5	4	8		2		
								1

## HARDER SUDOKU



## Library News — [whipplefreelibrary.org](http://whipplefreelibrary.org)

The Library will be closed:

- Saturday, August 30 and Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day
- Monday, October 13 in observance of Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples' Day



**Monday Morning Quilters** — 10am Every Monday



**Friends of the Whipple Free Library** — Tuesday, September 9 and Tuesday, October 14 at 6:30pm



**3rd Tuesdays — Piscataquog Quilters** - September 9 and Tuesday, October 14



**Wednesdays — Cribbage** - 6pm Every Wednesday



**Thursday Knitting** — 10am Every Thursday. All experience levels and types of fiber arts welcome.



**Mahjongg** — 1-3pm Every Friday. All experienced players welcome!



**2nd Fridays — Second Friday Foreign Film.** All are welcome!

- Friday, September 19 at 7pm: *Adrift in Tokyo* (Japan, 2007) **Please note:** September's foreign film is on the third Friday of the month .
- Friday, October 10 at 7pm: *Going Away* (France, 2013)



**Chess Club** - 10am every Saturday

### Book Clubs:

#### Who Dunnit? Book Club

Wednesday, September 3 at 10am – *The Life We Bury* by Allen Eskens

Wednesday, October 1 at 10am – *The Family Upstairs* by Lisa Jewell

#### Wed. Night Book Club

Wednesday, September 10 at 7pm – *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love* by Dani Shapiro

Wednesday, October 8 at 7pm – *Hum If You Don't Know the Words* by Bianca Marais

#### Bon Appetit Cookbook Club

Wednesday, September 17 at 6pm – New Boston Grange cookbook

Wednesday, October 15 at 6pm – *Half Baked Harvest: Quick & Cozy* by Tieghan Gerard

#### Fantasy Book Club

Thursday, September 18 at 6pm – *Somewhere Beyond the Sea* (Cerulean Chronicles #2) by TJ Klune

Thursday, October 16 at 6pm – *The Lie Tree* by Frances Hardinge





### **Craft Swap**

**Friday, September 5 from 10am to 5pm (10am to 12pm for ticket holders only)**

**Saturday, September 6 from 9:30am to 12:30pm**

**Monday, September 8 from 10am to 8pm**

Cozy crafting season is here, and it's time to refresh your supplies! Craft treasures have been rolling into the library for weeks now, but there's still time for a last-minute craft room clean out. Any craft supplies in good condition can be donated to the library until Thursday, September 4. Everyone who donates supplies will be given a ticket. Starting Friday, September 5, it's time to go "shopping"! Doors open at 10am, and the first 2 hours are reserved exclusively for ticket holders. After that, everyone is welcome!

### **Whipple Free Library at New Boston Farmers Market**

**Saturday, September 6 from 10am to 1pm**

Come visit the Library at the Farmers Market! Youth Services Librarian Katie and Adult Programming Librarian Sue will be on hand to discuss our exciting array of fall programming, as well as providing demos of our new website and online reservation system.

### **Friends of the Library Book Sale**

**Saturday, September 13 at 9am**

Nonfiction, fiction, and kids books – Oh My! Whatever your reading tastes, you'll find new treasures to add to your bookshelves at the Friends of the Library's annual book sale. Looking to donate books for the sale? Donations will be accepted at the library starting Wednesday, September 3.

### **Whatcha' Wanna Know Wednesdays**

**September 24 and October 29 from 3pm to 5pm**

Having problems with your tech? Tech Services Librarian Natalie is here to help! Whether you're struggling with smartphones or spreadsheets, drop in and get answers to all your technology questions.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Touch a Truck**

**Saturday, September 27 at 12 noon to 2pm**

**(Quiet hour from 12 noon to 1pm)**

Stop by the New Boston Central School and experience your favorite vehicles up close and personal! This is a hands-on opportunity for children to explore and touch trucks, emergency response vehicles, and other equipment. Have sensitive ears? That's okay! Come to the quiet hour and enjoy all the trucks without the extra noise of horns, sirens, or engines revving.

We're still on the lookout for fun and unusual vehicles of all kinds. If you have one you'd be interested in sharing, please reach out to us by phone at (603) 487-3391 or by email at [circulation@whipplefreelibrary.org](mailto:circulation@whipplefreelibrary.org). [www.whipplefreelibrary.org](http://www.whipplefreelibrary.org). You can also sign up for the library's monthly newsletter on our Home Page.

### **Mythology of Mushrooms**

**Thursday, October 9 at 6pm**

From fairy rings to witches' cauldrons, mushrooms pervade both our real world and our fictional ones. Join us as Susie Spikol explores where science and story meet, revealing how mushrooms influence our worldview and how we, in turn, respond to them in the stories we tell.



### Costume Swap

**Friday, October 10 from 10am to 5pm (10am to 12pm for ticket holders only)**

**Saturday, October 11 from 9:30am to 12:30pm**

Have a closet full of costumes the kids won't wear again? Still searching for this year's perfect Halloween attire? Come to the Costume Swap! Costumes in good condition can be donated to the library starting now – while this swap is primarily geared towards kids' costuming, we are also happy to accept pet costumes and tasteful adult costumes. Everyone who donates costumes will be given a ticket. Doors open for the swap at 10am on Friday, October 10 with the first 2 hours reserved exclusively for ticket holders. After that, everyone is welcome!

### Mushroom Foraging Walk

**Saturday, October 11 at 9am**

Discover the mushrooms all around us! Christine Gagnon from Uncanoonuc Foraging Company will guide us on a foraging walk, introducing us to foraging in general and mushroom foraging specifically. Learn how to look for mushrooms, how to look at the mushrooms you find, and how mushrooms relate to their environment overall.

### Spooky Stories with Simon Brooks

**Monday, October 27 at 6pm**

Get in the Halloween spirit with an evening of spooky stories! Stories will start out appropriate for all ages and grow increasingly scarier the later it gets. All sorts of festive fun will be available in the Children's Room; so when the stories get too scary, the kids can head down the hallway, leaving the adults to experience the truly terrifying tales. Tasty treats and cozy drinks will be available in the Conference Room throughout the evening, so come enjoy a night out at the library!

For all the latest programming information, check out the calendar of events on our new and improved website [www.whipplefreelibrary.org](http://www.whipplefreelibrary.org). While there, you can also register for any of these programs or sign up for the library's monthly newsletter.



Shield yourself with a flu shot!

- Saturday, October 4, 10 am-noon during the Farmers Market in the **Recreation Office**
- Pre-register and select your time slot or just walk in\*

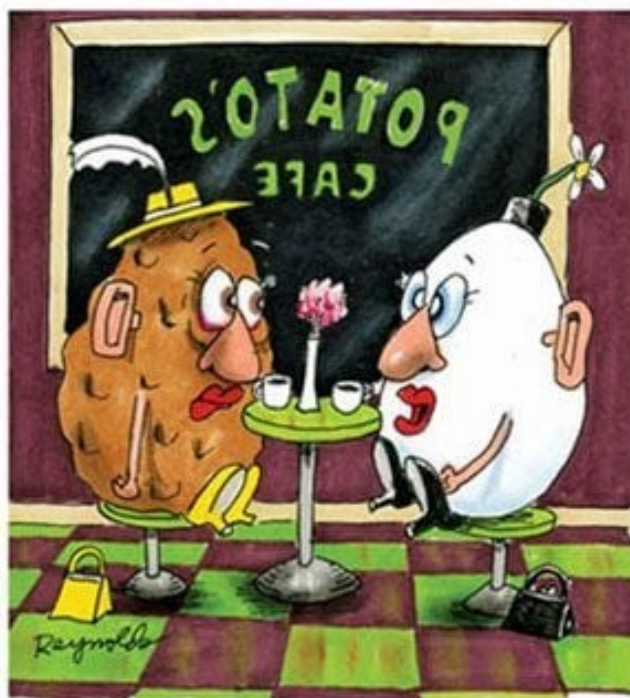


\*As of the date of this publication our online Registration was not up and running. Check our website, call or email our office for updates.



## SEPTEMBER

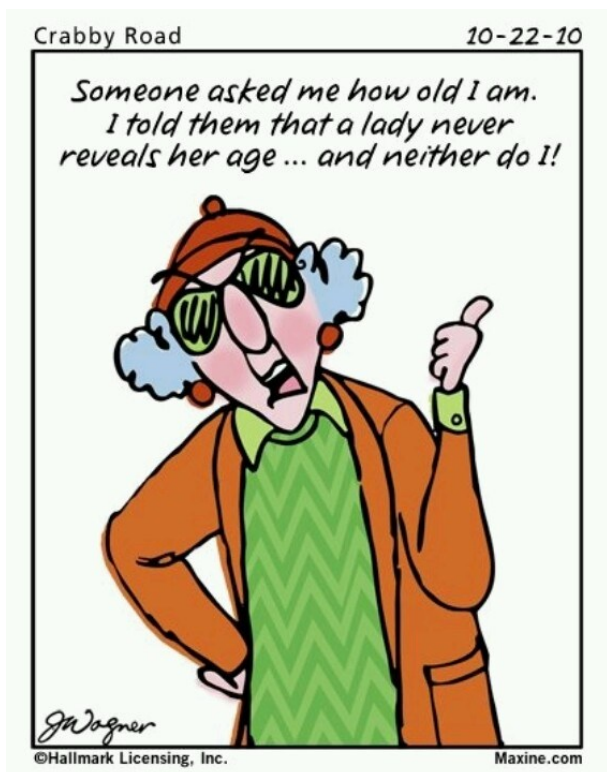
- 1 ~ DOT MARDEN
- 3 ~ SHARON ADLER
- 3 ~ ANNE CHRISTOPH
- 5 ~ MICHAEL SINDONI
- 8 ~ LINDA HOLBROOK
- 8 ~ LINDA YOUNG
- 9 ~ RITA HOUGHTON
- 13 ~ KATHLEEN HOUGHTON
- 18 ~ LORRAINE ROUSSEAU
- 20 ~ SHERI "Ree" MOLONEY
- 20 ~ CORKY TRIMBUR
- 24 ~ IRENE LANNAN
- 28 ~ DAVE HARRIS

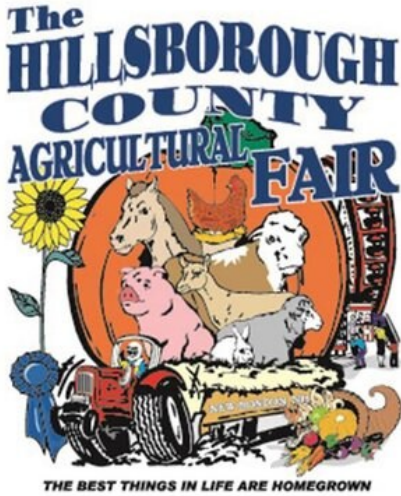


"No, Ida, it wasn't a chemical peel.  
I went under the knife."

## October

- 6 ~ THERESA BERKINS
- 6 ~ DON CHAPMAN
- 13 ~ JOE TRIMBUR
- 23 ~ MARION THOMPSON
- 26 ~ ANDY USERA
- 27 ~ KATRINA MERRON





SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2025

General Admission Prices:

Adults - \$10, Children

\$5, Military Members/Veterans (with ID)

\$5, Seniors 65+ - \$5

General admission is cash only,

Hours:

- Friday 12 pm—9pm
- Sat. and Sun 9 am—9 pm
- Fireworks 9 pm on Sat!

Parking at the event is free.

Overflow parking is available at the New Boston Central School.

Shuttle bus is available Saturday and Sunday.

Handicap parking is available on the grounds.

Pets are NOT allowed on the fairgrounds.



## Tigris says: Thank You

Hello to all my senior friends,

It's me, Tigris—the elegant lady of the Rec office, always ready to greet you with a gentle wag and a curious sniff. I wanted to let you know that I've crossed the Rainbow Bridge. It's peaceful here, with endless soft breezes, sunny spots to nap in, and absolutely no doors being closed on me.

I loved every moment spent with you, whether you were dropping by for Bingo, cards, or getting ready for a trip. You were my people. I made it my job to be your welcoming committee, even if I was just quietly observing from my favorite cool spot under the air conditioner in the summer or basking in a beam of sunshine during the winter.

Though I'd slowed down a bit in recent months, I never slowed down for a treat. I perfected the art of convincing visitors that I was never fed (a total fib), and I was known to deliver a sharp little bark if someone dared close a door in my presence. I probably should've worn a tag that read: "If you can read this, I will lick you."

Thank you for the love, the attention, the treats, and the kindness. You made my days brighter, and I loved every visit, every pat, and every snack you "accidentally" dropped.

With love and a princess wave of my paw,



Tigris





Come down to the village and enjoy the fall sunshine, beautiful golden colors, crisp air and visit with your friends, neighbors, and favorite vendors each Saturday as the market wraps up for the season. The market continues this fall from 10am-1pm on the town common. The final market of the season is Saturday, October 11.

Local farmers and artisans welcome you with their fresh late summer produce, bread and other delicious baked goods, cheese, honey, jams, jewelry, clothing, soaps, home and garden décor, and other wonderfully talented handmade and homegrown products. Music on the gazebo and community guests will continue to provide entertainment and valuable information.



Bring your grandchildren to the market to participate in the weekly activities held under the Youth Activity Tent, sponsored by Roots & Wings School.

## Mark your calendars for these wonderful musicians and community guests in September and October :

**September 6:** Music by Alfredo Benavides  
Community Guest Whipple Free Library & New Boston Rail Trail.

**September 13:** Music by Sharon & Nick.

**September 20:** Music by: New Boston's Elijah Blue  
Community Guest New Boston Historical Society.

**September 27:** Music by Grasmere Junction  
Community Guest David & Candy Woodbury will share their experience visiting Poland on a Global Volunteers mission trip to work with Ukrainian and Polish children.

**October 4:** Music by Arthur James  
Flu Vaccine Clinic, sponsored by New Boston Recreation Department.

**October 11:** Final Market, Music by Mike Barger

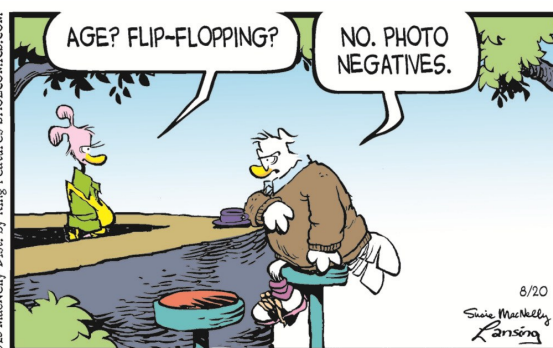
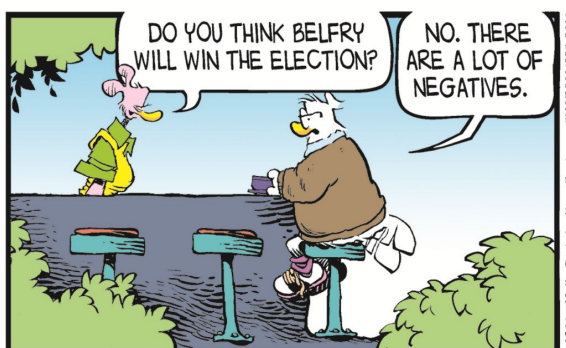
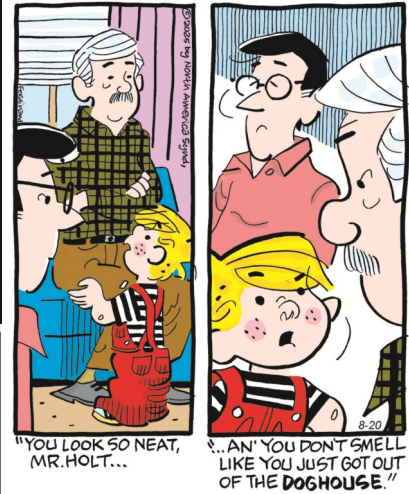
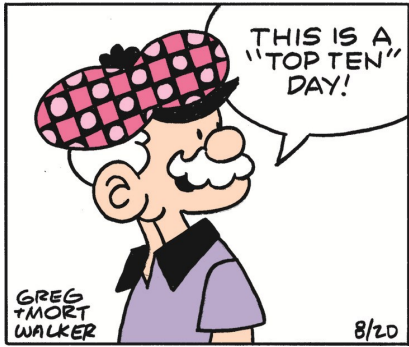


*From Farm Veggies, Baked Goodies, Crafts, and Honey, the market has everything you need to make your Saturday shine! Come listen to our musicians and be greeted by smiles at every tent!*











# TRANSPORTATION

## CONTINUES IN



# NEW BOSTON!

Starting July 1st, 2025, **Community Volunteer Transportation Company** will expand their service area to include the town of New Boston, replacing the MTA Shuttle service.

**Need help getting to appointments?**

**Schedule a free ride with CVTC!**

CVTC provides "no-fee" transportation for those who don't have access to a car due to age, ability, economics, or other circumstances.

Volunteer drivers give rides based on availability to non-emergency medical or social service appointments and to the grocery store, bank, post office, or pharmacy.

**Have a few hours each month to help a neighbor?**

**Become a CVTC Volunteer Driver!**

With their online scheduling tool, you choose which rides you would like to do, based on your availability and area preference.

You'll receive staff-supported enrollment and orientation, calendar reminders via email, monthly mileage reimbursement, and loads of appreciation.

To learn more, visit [cvtc-nh.org](http://cvtc-nh.org), call 603-821-0569, or email [info@cvtc-nh.org](mailto:info@cvtc-nh.org)



Bumper Car Driver's Ed.



with  
support  
from



MONADNOCK REGIONAL COUNCIL  
FOR COMMUNITY  
TRANSPORTATION



## VINYASA FLOW YOGA

Whipple Free Library on **Wed's**, 6-7 pm.

7-week session is \$84 for September 3-October 29 or drop-in for \$15. There is no class on September 17 and October 15.

Please wear comfortable, loose, warm clothing. Bring a mat and small blanket.

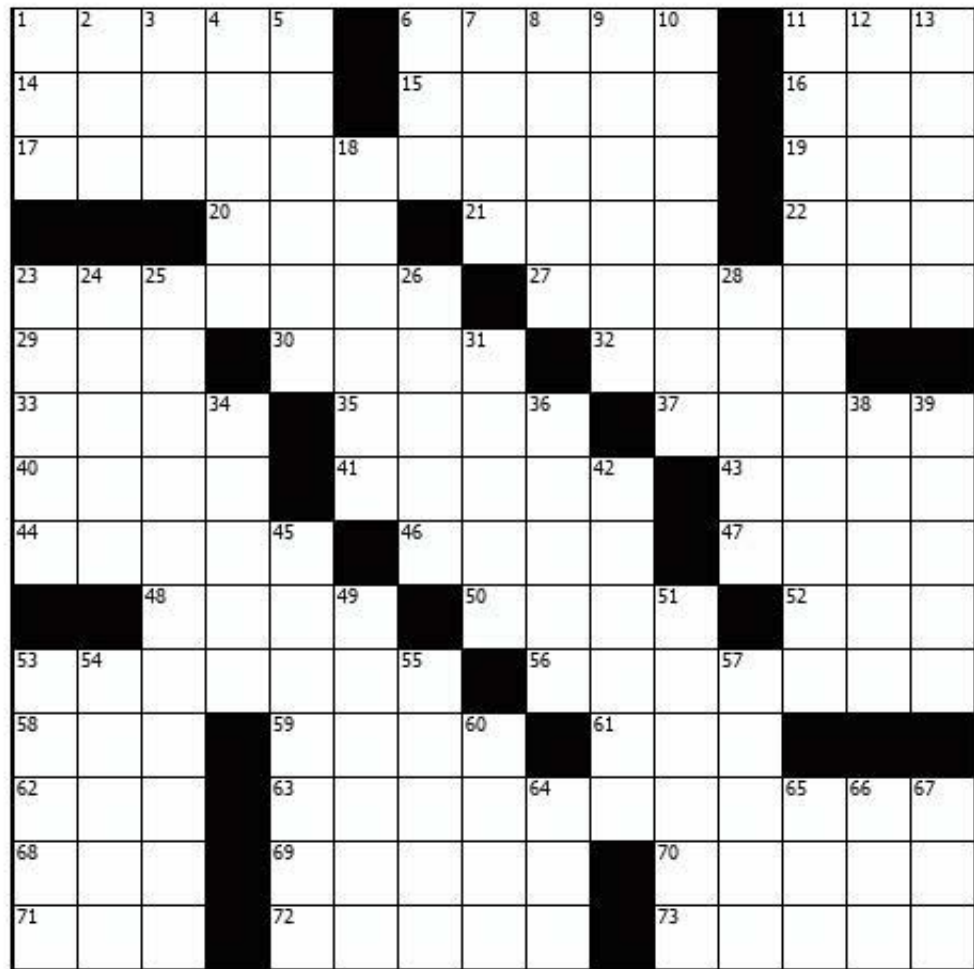


**Starts October 14th!**  
**Free and open to Adults 18+**  
Tuesdays, 7-8:45pm in the NBCS Gym



## Across

1. Needs a masseuse
6. Did a smithy's job
11. Fix a skirt
14. Mushroom seed
15. Plume
16. Yalie
17. Concern of an environmental stylist?
19. She sang "At Seventeen"
20. Thumb-in-the-air call
21. Left at sea
22. Classic Pontiac
23. Team player
27. Not one or the other
29. Bonnet invader
30. Camera part
32. Radiate
33. Word wailed in woe
35. Entranced
37. Actor Hawke
40. Parched
41. Use an S.O.S. pad
43. Reverse, on a PC
44. Sing the praises of
46. Whistler's output
47. Covers some ground
48. Shades
50. Recording medium
52. Pigskin prop
53. Aspirin source
56. Some eBay users
58. Java server
59. Game with Mustard and Plum
61. Hubbub
62. Offshore structure
63. Measure of damage?
68. Gaggle formation
69. Cyberspace epistle
70. Photo tone
71. Pipe joint
72. Kind of putty
73. Spencer or Dick



## Down

1. Hibachi residue
2. Bean counter
3. \_\_\_ polloi
4. First name in swashbuckling
5. "Aliens" is one
6. Wet retreat
7. Butler, maid, etc.
8. Ring source
9. Right to enter
10. Light hours
11. Record of a musician's growth?
12. Make merry
13. Insignificant
18. Gives voice to
23. Dishonor
24. Outdated communication service
25. Fireside song from "The Penguins"?
26. Create a statute
28. It's after the second Timothy
31. Rainwater carrier
34. City east of Incheon
36. Skipjacks and bluefins
38. Terrestrial viper
39. Spots for spectacles
42. Subject of a 1933 Amendment
45. Lascivious ones
49. Something inside a hero, perhaps
51. Primogeniture beneficiary
53. Batter's challenge
54. Bay window
55. Urban antonym
57. Antisocial type
60. Famed runner Zatopek
64. Crafty
65. Transcript fig.
66. Twitch
67. Source of allergens

X	K	F	D	A	F	W	I	G	R	W	K	T	L	P	C	C
F	D	I	N	I	N	G	R	O	O	M	N	R	O	N	H	B
O	J	I	M	O	K	C	C	S	T	E	S	N	V	Y	I	Y
O	C	O	M	F	O	R	T	E	M	S	L	Z	E	K	M	T
R	I	H	T	M	R	A	W	E	O	E	T	S	S	Q	N	F
F	Y	N	M	A	I	E	S	R	O	F	X	E	D	T	E	O
W	I	X	E	R	T	A	P	T	R	B	A	O	S	J	Y	G
T	M	R	W	H	B	T	I	V	G	E	P	M	N	O	A	I
P	R	A	E	I	C	E	I	Z	N	D	N	R	I	R	L	A
L	Y	X	V	P	G	T	P	C	I	R	H	W	D	L	S	C
B	A	T	Q	A	L	A	I	L	V	O	P	E	A	D	Y	P
M	O	O	R	H	T	A	B	K	I	O	N	S	E	L	V	Q
U	W	A	V	I	V	E	C	Y	L	M	C	B	N	Q	B	H
L	G	D	O	F	E	N	C	E	E	S	K	L	S	T	E	P

ATTIC  
 BASEMENT  
 BATHROOM  
 BEDROOMS  
 BEDS  
 CHIMNEY  
 CLOSETS  
 COMFORT

DININGROOM  
 FAMILY  
 FENCE  
 FIREPLACE  
 GARAGE  
 GARDEN  
 KITCHEN  
 LAWN

LIVINGROOM  
 LOVE  
 PATIO  
 PETS  
 ROOF  
 STAIRWAY  
 TREES  
 WARMTH

Thursday Senior Lunch resumes at NBCS on September 11th.  
Seniors play Bingo at noon in the Recreation Office after.

- \* We are ready to great you at the Gym doors at 10:50 AM
- \* Purchase a hot lunch for \$3 or bring your own.
- \* We will provide coffee, tea and water. Hot lunch includes milk
- \* Join us for Nickel ante Bingo and/or UNO after at the Recreation Dept from Noon until 3pm.
- \* We will provide the Bingo supplies, just bring your nickels!

Any questions or need directions?

Call us at 603-487-2880



9/14—**Annual 'Pet Sunday' service**—Our annual Celebration of Pets will be held outside on the side lawn. Bring your pets as we celebrate these great members of our family. The service is at 10 and will be in the Dignard Room if it is raining.

All are welcome.



9/21—Beginning of **Sunday School** during 10am worship

9/20—**Annual 'Chicken BBQ!**, 5-7pm, Dine-in or take-out available. Dinner includes 1/2 or 1/4 chicken, homemade baked beans, coleslaw, and a dessert! DELICIOUS!





## SCENES FROM THE PICNIC BENCH: A FRONT ROW SEAT TO SMALL-TOWN LIFE

Recreation Commissioner and Beacon writer Katie Hawkes recently sat down with Mike at the Rec picnic benches as he reflected on his 21+ years as Recreation Director. Look for Katie's full article in the September Beacon.

Mike, we will miss your good nature, sense of humor, and strong leadership. Wishing you good health, great adventures—and plenty of long, losing seasons for your Yankees!



**DO YOU NEED HELP  
WITH HOME  
REPAIRS AND  
MAINTENANCE?**



The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) provides a **FREE\*** service to homeowners who need assistance in the areas of plumbing, carpentry and electric.

The **RSVP Fix-It Program** is available to seniors over 60 and disabled homeowners in Hillsborough County to enable them to remain safe and secure in their homes.

Some of the services offered by our retired senior volunteers are:

- Installation of grab bars and railings
- Steps and flooring repairs
- Installation of door locks
- Fixing/replacing leaky faucets, toilets
- Installing/replacing light fixtures
- Install and remove air conditioners
- Insulate windows
- Install/change smoke detectors

If you need our services or if you are interested in becoming a Fix-It volunteer, call Chris @ 603-598-9421



\*Homeowners assume the cost of any materials needed and labor is free



## **FEMA FIRE SAFETY FOR SENIORS**

New Boston has had several serious house fires in the past year. Please re-view the do's and don'ts below to refresh yourself on these important Fire Safety Tips! A little preparation and quick thinking can save lives when every second counts.

### **What to do if you have a fire:**

1. Stay calm when the smoke alarm sounds. Get out fast and stay out. Never go back inside for people, pets or things.
2. Feel the doorknob and the cracks around a door before opening. If you feel any heat, leave the door closed, and use your second way out.
3. Close doors as you leave to help stop the spread of the fire.
4. Smoke is poisonous. If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.
5. If you can't get out, keep the door of your room closed, and cover vents and cracks around doors with cloth or tape to keep smoke out.
6. If you can't get out and there is a phone in the room, call 911 or your local emergency number for your fire department. Stay where you are, and signal for help at the window with a light-colored cloth or flashlight.



## Emergency settings on your Smartphones

By EmerTech's Operations Manager—Tania Emerson

### **Emergency Features on Smartphones: Be Prepared, Stay Safe**

Smartphones come with built-in tools that can help you in emergencies whether it's a medical issue, a fall, or needing to contact help quickly. Here are the most useful features to know:

#### **Emergency SOS**

- iPhone: Press and hold the side button + volume button or rapidly press the side button 5 times to call emergency services.
- Android: Press the power button 5 times (varies by model) to activate SOS.
- Enable auto-call and choose emergency contacts in settings.

#### **Location Sharing**

- Share your real-time location with trusted contacts using:
- Google Maps (Android/iPhone): Tap your profile > Location sharing.
- Find My (iPhone): Go to Settings > [Your Name] > Find My > Share My Location.
- Useful for caregivers or family to know where you are in case of emergency.

#### **Medical ID**

- Store important health info like allergies, medications, and emergency contacts.
- iPhone: Health app > Medical ID > Edit.
- Android: Settings > About Phone > Emergency Information.
- Can be accessed from the lock screen by first responders.

#### **Emergency Alerts**

- Phones receive government alerts for severe weather, missing persons (AMBER alerts), and other emergencies.
- Check settings to ensure alerts are enabled:
- iPhone: Settings > Notifications > Government Alerts.
- Android: Settings > Safety & emergency > Wireless emergency alerts.

#### **Safety Check Apps**

- Consider installing apps like:
- Red Cross Emergency App
- Life360 (family location sharing)



## A Readiness in Life by Jerel Speck

*“Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best.” – Bob Talbert*

Some people in town can wait their entire lives for the “New Boston Experience” to finally happen to them, but mine would actually occur when I was still in my mother’s womb!

On June 19, 1975, my mother was about to give birth to me at any moment. She had just got back home, after visiting her friend, and put my sister to bed, and realized that she was going into labor. My father was taking his co-worker to get a shirt and tie for a court appearance straight after work, so he didn’t know what happened and wouldn’t be able to get home in time.

So, my mother called her neighbor, Linda Hersey, to see if she could drive her to the hospital. Their family raised Holstein cows for a dairy farm at Great Meadows on the other end of the road. In fact, the Hersey’s shot-up cow sign that advertised their business at the beginning of Bunker Hill Road used to be one of New Boston’s most iconic, albeit now forgotten landmarks.

Like her mother, Linda’s main profession was that of a teacher, but more importantly to my mother in her current situation, she was a kind lady who would help someone in need at the drop of a hat.

A very game Mrs. Hersey drove her “moo truck” to my parent’s trailer without a second to spare. The green and white Ford pickup was named that because of the word “MOOOO” on her vanity plate. Linda left one of her daughters, Gail, to look after my sister until my grandmother Silver could take over.

From there, the two ladies were off to the races so to speak, with Mrs. Hersey determined to deliver me if she had to, while also hoping that this wouldn’t happen. Regardless, the schoolteacher would reassure my mother that if she could deliver a calf, then a baby certainly wouldn’t be a problem for her. Although it was quite a harrowing journey for both women, the “moo truck” made it there in time, so she dropped my mother off and headed back home.

I would be born a little after 6:30pm, at a weight of 10 ½ lbs., and just a slight issue of asthma that eventually passed. When I was finally let out of the hospital, my mother took me to visit Mrs. Hersey. Out of five beautiful daughters, the dairy farmer’s wife never had any boys of her own, but she always seemed to favor me almost like a son afterwards.

Linda would truly become a second mother to me when I started her Readiness class at New Boston Central School in 1981. I was so nervous about leaving my household and meeting other boys and girls my age, my mother and her friend snuck in back of the school and peaked into one of the windows to make sure that I was all right. And it turned out that I was perfectly fine, because Mrs. Hersey made this scared kid with a speech impediment feel really at home in her classroom of eight children.

I can remember how she taught us her country values, while making our group understand the importance of a proper education, along with all of the reading, writing and arithmetic stuff. No matter how old her students are now, you can still see that little piece of rural goodness that this beloved educator imbued in each and every one of them. And even though Linda left us way too soon, her daughter continues the Hersey legacy as NBCS’s Readiness teacher.

Granted, a lot of people that knew Mrs. Hersey probably have their own stories of how this woman touched their lives, but this was just mine to share about how this wonderful New Boston lady contributed to my arrival in this world over fifty years ago.






## THE FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM

### History buff or just curious?


Did you know that Francestown has their own Historical Society as well as a museum? Our good neighbors have a newsletter too! If you are interested in receiving their newsletter email Bill McAuley at wfm03043@comcast.net. On the right is a sample of the “What’z it?” A feature in each issue they put out! Do you know What’z it? The newsletter also contains interesting stories, facts and community info!

WHAT'Z IT for August



Correct – it is a wooden box. However. It has no visible seams, no latches, no drawer pulls, no hinges, etc. On the bottom it has an inscription:

Henry Franklin Simmons  
A birthday present from  
Grandma Allen  
June 21<sup>st</sup> 1883



The box measures:  
8¾" wide x 11½" long and 3½" high

WHAT IS IT? –Next month we'll look inside



### Senior Trip to Tuckaway Tavern Monday, September 22

A favorite place to dine of Mike's and many of our Seniors! For his last senior trip we let him pick this destination! Tuckerman's is great tavern and butcher shop to visit.

- We leave town hall at 10 am
- Cost is the price of your lunch and any butcher shop purchases
- The bus will fill quickly but you can still join us by driving your own car.
- Call or email to sign up!



### Tai Chi with Theresa Rogers

Discover the calming, revitalizing practice of Tai Chi. Gentle, mindful movements improve balance, flexibility, strength, and mental clarity while easing stress. Safe and adaptable for all abilities.

Starts Sept 10, 2025  
Wednesdays, 10–11 AM  
White Building #2



NEW BOSTON'S SENIOR NEWSLETTER

BLUE MOON CRAZY MBS

HPFMVJIHUCZYYPXR

EEDEGTAJTCSGUICL

RHYMOITYBCIATFMAX

AABJNPWQTRERPENS

LILGUHLILIEPVLP

ORAFODSELGCOSOE

VNKPDESNDSTFTET

GSTUOEPIWDTSRDR

QHZEIENRBSHFUY

SEQTOVYOIUHGKSP

QRWKNOGBOGTGLNXY

URYNOTSEVLAMAGFI

KYMTHESSEYESKSXS

ORANGE GROVE

By Timothy E. Parker

1TESLA

2EPIC

3SETA

4ATEAM

5TACO

6ARAB

7MARMALADE

8COUNTY

9ELAPSE

10BOWTIES

11SUPRA

12LEERS

13BETH

14YOGI

15AROUSERS

16LOITER

17BOWLTREE

18PIPSODA

19ASSAYS

20BOATLOAD

21THUS

22ELMS

23WAIIFS

24ADEPT

25IMMORAL

26IRONIC

27POPSICLE

28PEELADE

29EVES

30HONEY

31AGILE

32DELE

33EWER

34TALES

1	8	3	7	9	4	6	2	5
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6	9	5	3	8	7	1	4	2
3	2	7	1	4	9	8	6	5

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