



ALEXANDRIA TODAY APRIL 2016 EDITION

47 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222 www.alexandrianh.com alexandrianh@metrocast.net 603-744-3220

Selectmen's Office

VOTING RESULTS MARCH 8, 2016:

Selectmen	Robert Piehler
Trustee of Trust Funds	Paula Hall
Trustee of the Cemeteries	Paula Hall
Treasurer	Melanie Marzola
Planning Board (3 year term)	Donna Duquette Harold Platts
Planning Board (2 year term)	Tie: Harold Platts and Fred Platts
Supervisor of the Checklist	George Whittaker
Moderator	Dennis Ford
#2 Operating Budget	Passed (180 Yes, 112 No)
#3 Lease Truck for Highway Department	Passed (207 Yes, 91 No)
#4 Lease Backhoe for Highway Department	Passed (197 Yes, 101 No)
#5 Repair/Maintenance Paved Roads	Passed (245 Yes, 54 No)
#6 Brook Road Bridge	Passed (248 Yes, 50 No)
#7 Make AVFD a Municipal Fire Dept.	Passed (203 Yes, 96 No)
#8 AVFD budget	Passed (267 Yes, 28 No)
#9 Highway Dept. Capital Reserve	Passed (239 Yes, 49 No)
#10 Fire Equipment Capital Reserve	Passed (249 Yes, 48 No)
#11 Establish Official Budget Committee	Passed (169 Yes, 120 No)
#12 Haynes Library Funding	Passed (252 Yes, 46 No)
#13 Abolish Alexandria Police Dept.	Failed (66 Yes, 230 No)

You can obtain a copy of the warrant articles from the Selectmen's Office or online at www.alexandrianh.com.

The 2015 Annual Report is Available on our website at www.alexandrianh.com or a printed copy can be obtained at the Municipal Building.

April 15 is the deadline for submitting applications for elderly and/or disabled exemptions to be reflected on your 2016 tax bills. It is also the deadline to apply for a Veteran's credit. Applications are available in the Selectmen's Office or on our website at www.alexandrianh.com. If you need help filling out the application, please let me know.

Low & Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief Program:

Applications for the Low & Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief Form (DP-8) will be available after May 1, 2016. The Low & Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief program was designed to lessen the economic burden of the State Education Property Tax on certain at-risk taxpayers.

An eligible applicant for the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief is a person who is:

- Single with adjusted gross income equal to or less than \$20,000; or
- Married or head of NH household with adjusted gross income less than or equal to \$40,000; and
- Owns a homestead subject to the State Education Property Tax; and
- Has resided in that homestead on April 1 of the year for which the claim is made.

Applications for the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief are accepted only during the statutory filing period - after May 1, but no later than June 30. The law allows 120 days for processing from the date of receipt of your completed application. For more information, visit <http://www.revenue.nh.gov/assistance/low-moderate.htm>.

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Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DOG LICENSES



All Dog Licenses expire on April 30, 2016
2016 Dog Licenses are NOW AVAILABLE

Dog Fees are as follows:

Puppy (Up to Seven Months)	\$6.50
Spayed or Neutered	\$6.50
Unaltered Male/Female	\$9.00
Senior (Dog owned by Senior Citizen, 1 st dog only)	\$2.00
Group (5 dog minimum)	\$20.00
Mail-In Fee (Per Dog)	\$1.00

Every owner or keeper of a dog 4 months old or older shall register the dog annually with the town clerk. At the time of registration the owner will receive a metal tag with the following information - name of the town, year of the issue of the license and its registered number. This tag is to be affixed to the dog's collar. Regardless of when the license is obtained, it shall be effective from May 1 of each year to April 30 of the subsequent year. To prevent the initiation of a late penalty of \$1.00 per month, please renew your dog license by April 30th. If you wish to license your dog by mail, please send a check payable to: TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA.

Vaccination Required - Before a license is issued the owner or keeper of the dog, must furnish verification that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies. If a valid rabies certificate is on file with the clerk, the owner shall not be required to produce such verification at the time of license.

Information about the AVFD Rabies Clinic is located further down in the newsletter



Recycling Committee 4/16



Recycling is contagious; You set the example, and others will follow

Money in our Pockets

Tony continues working very hard to hammer out the best possible agreements with our hauling contractors for the removal and processing of our recyclable material, and has recently come to a new agreement for hauling our scrap metal. Although this new arrangement will decrease our savings shown as the result of recycling, because the revenue received per ton is slightly lower, that reduction in revenue is more than off-set by the elimination of the hauling fee, resulting in an overall significant saving for the town. Remember, earlier this year, Tony already worked out other agreements that will save our town \$5,500 annually.

As I noted in last month's update, because of the recent changes, it will take a couple of months before the impact of keeping the recyclable material out of the bulk waste can be calculated, but my goal is to have 1st Qtr. saving figures available by the May newsletter. I have some of the January figures, but not all, and can't make any meaningful projections at this point.

Everyone Does Make a Difference

Over the past year or so, packaging and packaging materials have come under closer scrutiny from a recycling standpoint. There has been increased pressure put on manufactures and brand owners to take responsibility for managing disposal of packaging materials after it has served its purpose. Right now, consumer goods companies create a product, package it in any way they choose, and then leave the liability of what to do with that used packaging to local government. Rhode Island legislators have introduced a bill that requires brand owners to nearly double the recycling rate for packaging over the course of two years. The current recycling rate for printed paper and packaging [PPP] in Rhode Island is at 39%; the new bill would raise the rate to 75% over the next 2 years. Making producers responsible for disposal of products and materials after they are no longer functional for their intended use is nothing new to Rhode Island; according to a database compiled by the Product Stewardship Institute, they currently have recycling programs in place for five products, including mattresses and electronics.

Since 2013, several bills in the state aimed at shifting responsibility for the handling spent products and materials have been introduced, but none have passed so far. Jamie Rhodes, program director of UPSTREAM [an extended producer responsibility (EPR) advocacy group], noted that British Columbia's recently enacted programs for packaging disposal have led to significant increases in recovery and sees no reason why Rhode Island should not expect similar results. Meghan Stasz of the Grocery Manufacturers Association, on the other hand, says her group opposes the measure. "We have seen similar proposals for extended producer responsibility (EPR) for packaging before and much like those proposals, we oppose this kind of regulatory scheme for a whole host of reasons, but mostly because there are just much more cost-effective and efficient ways to reduce our overall environmental footprint and increase recycling throughout the U.S. " A hearing on the bill is scheduled for March 24th, but no matter the outcome, we can expect to hear more on this subject from RI and other states in the coming months.

Source: <http://resource-recycling.com/node/7207>; Rhode Island bill would make brands pay for recycling by *Bobby Elliott, Resource Recycling, March 22, 2016*

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Reusing Makes Good t



Use that old plastic Ketchup bottle to hold pancake batter; easy to control the size of your pancake, no spills, and you can store unused batter in the refrigerator in the same container.



Old picture frames make great vanity trays; simply slide a decorative design [or favorite picture] under the glass and reinforce the back with 1/8" plywood or laminate. You can also simply replace the glass with a 1/4" piece of wood; seal the wood to prevent staining.



Plastic shopping bags from the grocery store make great liners for smaller wastebaskets in bathrooms, bedrooms, and family rooms; store them away in an empty Kleenex box.



An old eyeglass case makes an ideal manicure kit.



Plastic bags wrapped around paint brushes or rollers will keep the brush or roller soft overnight, ready to pick-up where you left-off in the morning.



Here are a couple of ideas for reusing toilet paper tubes.



Comments and suggestions are welcome, and can be submitted via email to: steve.whitman@hotmail.com; with the author's permission, comments may be printed in subsequent issues.

Alexandria Conservation Commission

"Stewards of our Planet"

The Conservation Commission would like to thank all of our residents who granted us permission to enter their land(s) for the purpose of completing the Alexandria Natural Resource Inventory. Your interest and cooperation in this effort will ensure that the Alexandria NRI is both accurate and complete – Thank you.



ACC Notebook

This is shaping up to be a very busy month for your Commission. In addition to the election of new officers for the coming year, we will be working on the completion of Barrett Park off Bog Road, working to finalize plans for projects in the town forest, and beginning the final phase of the town's NRI.

The posts are already in for the kiosk at Barrett Park and we hope to complete construction by early summer. Plans at the moment call for protected bulletin board where information highlighting information about the bog including unique characteristics, wildlife and plants in and around the area, and perhaps a 3 dimensional relief map. Nothing has been finalized yet, and we'd love to have your input; contact any member of the Commission, or drop your suggestions off at the town office building. We are also looking for volunteers to help maintain the area.

The final phase of the NRI is already underway. We have received back over 70% of the permission authorization requests we sent to residents in the Fowler and Smith River watersheds in late February, and the support has been very gratifying. We plan to begin the field observation part of the project the end of this month and it will probably run through August. Current plans are for Moosewood Ecological to spend the equivalent of five days in the field; however, that may be expanded based on their findings. Copies of the field notes will be included as part of the NRI, so observations in the Patten Brook, Alexandria Bog, Smith River, and Fowler River areas will each be discussed separately so each area can be easily referenced. I should note here that to protect both the wildlife and the property owner, exact locations and owner information **will not** be revealed; rather, you'll see descriptions like ". in the flood plain areas, along the western portion of the Smith River." The information

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gather during this final phase of the NRI will be incorporated into the existing NRI and a new, updated NRI will be printed and distributed.

The town forest planning is the third major project for 2016. As most of you know the land was surveyed and the boundaries clearly identified last fall. Brochures about the history of the property and Mr. Pitman's life have been updated and are available at the town office building. It has not yet been decided specifically how the property will be used, other than for the enjoyment of all, and we are looking for input from our residents as to what you would like to see done. The Conservation Commission is working with a state forester and a representative from the UNH extension service to help evaluate issues such as timber management, and their suggestions will help guide our ultimate plans; however, your input is also needed; this is your town forest, and you have the ultimate say as to how it will be used. Here again, any suggestions you have can be discussed with any Commission member, or dropped off at the town office.



As the Wind Blows

Rebecca Hanson of the Squam Lakes Association has written an article on hiking during the muddy season that will appear in the *Record Enterprise* in the "Conservation Matters" section in one of this month's weekly editions [the specific week edition is determined by the newspaper based on space availability]. In the article, Rebecca points out several things which many people may not realize when it comes to preserving and respecting hiking trails; I know I didn't, or more to the point, never stopped to think about the impact such things as walking through a muddy patch on the trail rather than around it has on maintaining the integrity of the trail - not staying on the defined trail can widen it, encourage erosion, and destroy protective, bordering vegetation. We are fortunate here in Alexandria not only to have a town forest, but also many properties under conservation where the public is welcome. As guests on these properties, it is our responsibility to be respectful in our use and leave the area as we found it. Please be on the lookout for Rebecca's article in the *Record Enterprise* and take a minute to read it, and perhaps broaden your knowledge of good hiking practices.



Our Feathered Friends

The Barred Owl is a non-migratory raptor common throughout New Hampshire. The adult is 16–25 in long with a 38–49 in wingspan and weighs 1.10 to 2.31 lbs. It has a pale face with dark rings around the eyes, a yellow beak and brown eyes. It is the only typical owl in the eastern United States which has brown eyes; all others have yellow eyes. The upper parts are mottled gray-brown; the under parts are light with markings; the chest is barred horizontally while the belly is streaked vertically (hence its name "barred owl"). The legs and feet are covered in feathers up to the talons. The head is round and lacks ear tufts. Originally found only in the eastern part of the country, despite their generally sedentary nature, during the twentieth century Barred Owls have expanded their range along the northern border to the Pacific Northwest and southward into California where they are displacing and hybridizing with Spotted Owls—which are already threatened from habitat loss. Though their range has expanded, individual owls tend to stay in the immediate area in which they were born. A recent study of 158 birds that were leg banded and later recaptured found that none had strayed more than 6 miles from where they were originally banded.

In our area, the Barred Owl favors mostly dense and thick woods with only scattered clearings; wooded river bottoms and wooded swamps are the ideal habitat. Most common in deciduous or mixed woods in southeast; in the north, it may be found in mature coniferous trees. The Barred Owl hunts at night by waiting on a high perch, or flying through the woods and swooping down on prey. They are generalist predators. The principal prey of this owl is mostly small mammals; mice and other small rodents, also squirrels, rabbits, opossums, and shrews. It also eats various birds, frogs, salamanders, snakes, lizards, and insects; and occasionally may take aquatic creatures such as crayfish, crabs, and fish. Barred Owls are known to be attracted to campfires and lights where they forage for large insects. They usually devoured prey on the spot; however, larger prey is carried to a feeding perch and torn apart before eating.

Barred Owls have a life span of up to 10 years in the wild and 23 years in captivity. They are easiest to find when they are active at night—they're a lot easier to hear than to see. Visit forests near water (big bottomland forest along a river is prime Barred Owl habitat) and listen carefully, paying attention for the species' barking "who cooks for you" call. At great distance, this can sound like a large dog. Try imitating the call with your own voice and then wait quietly. If you're lucky, a territorial Barred Owl will fly in to investigate you. During the daytime, a quiet walk through a mature forest might reveal a roosting Barred Owl if you are very lucky. Barred Owls often take up residence in nest boxes if placed in mature forests. Consider putting up a nest box to attract a breeding pair. Make sure you put it up well before breeding season [in our area breeding season is mid-April]. Attach a guard to keep predators from raiding eggs and the young. Plans for an owl nest box can be found at: <http://nestwatch.org/learn/all-about-birdhouses/birds/barred-owl/>

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The Barred Owl is not considered threatened or endangered; however, in the state of New Hampshire it is a protected species. Alexandria has many habitat areas supportive of the Barred Owl and care should be taken to preserve them.

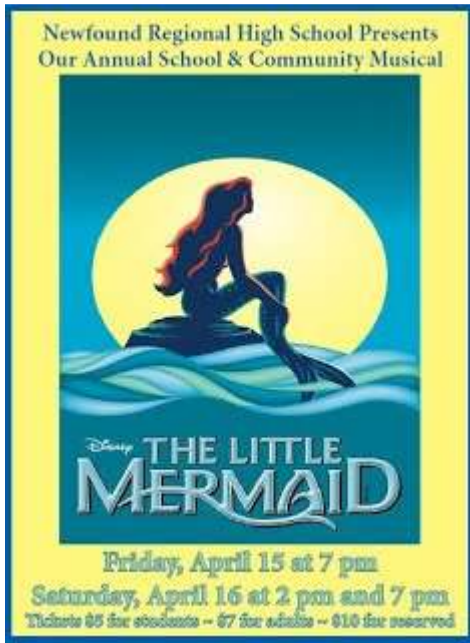
Source: <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/barred-owl>; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barred_owl;
https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Barred_Owl/id



Upcoming Area Events

- Our April meeting will be on April 27th at 6:30pm; at the town municipal building 47 Washburn Rd. Guests are always welcome. Don't forget to visit us on Facebook <https://facebook.com/alexandrianhcc>

Community Events



**GO GRAY IN
MAY 5K**

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 30, 2016**

May is national brain tumor awareness month. In honor of the over 700,000 people in the United States living with a primary brain tumor, several of which have connections to the Newfound area, we are holding a fundraiser 5k to raise money for the National Brain Tumor Society.

Go Gray in May 5k will be held in Kelley Park, Bristol. Registration begins at 8:00 am and race start time will be 9:00 am. Prizes will be awarded to fastest overall male and female. This is a 3.1 mile course that will be timed through Granite State Race Services. Participants can choose to run or walk the event. Participants with dogs and strollers will be asked to start at the back of the runners, and dogs will need to be leashed and in control throughout the event.

Questions? Contact Race Directors:
Karen Schaffner: karen@mrsnh.com OR
Paul Fitzgerald: paul@mrsnh.com



Red Cross Blood Drive

April 6, 2016 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Tappan Thompson Community Center, 10 North Main Street, Bristol, NH

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

The Newfound Area School District will hold its annual Kindergarten Connection for all children who will be entering kindergarten in September 2016 as follows:

- Tuesday, May 10th for children residing in Bristol & Alexandria (744-2761)
- Wednesday, May 11th for children residing in New Hampton (744-3221)
- Thursday, May 12th for children residing in Danbury (768-3434)
- Friday, May 13th for children residing in Bridgewater/Groton/Hebron (744-6969)

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2016, please call the school in the town you reside (phone number provided above). Appointment times and registration packets will be mailed to all parents with kindergarten eligible children.

Note: Children residing in Alexandria will attend either the Bristol Elementary School or the Bridgewater/Hebron Village School. Determination is made according to physical address. You may contact either school for more information.



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ANNUAL ALEXANDRIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT RABIES CLINIC

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Alexandria Fire Station, 158 Washburn Road

\$10 per pet

All cats & dogs over 3 months. Please have pets on leash or otherwise restrained.

Benefit: AVFD John Pyne Memorial Rabies Clinic



Alexandria Historical Society

The first meeting of 2016 for the Alexandria Historical Society will be held on April 6th at 7:00 pm at the Tucker House. All are welcome!



HAYNES LIBRARY

Open on Mondays from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

33 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222 (603) 744-6529

The trustees of the Haynes Library in Alexandria are looking for volunteers who might be interested in helping out at the library. Please contact trustee chair Ruth Harrow at 744-8256. The trustees are hosting a public meeting on Saturday, May 21 at 10:00AM at Old Town Hall. Please join us to help plan the future of the Haynes Library.

Office Hours

Selectmen's Office – 744-3220

Monday: 8 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 11 am to 6 pm
Wednesday: 8 am to 4 pm
Thursday: 8 am to 4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector – 744-3288

Monday: 9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 9 am to 7 pm
Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm
Thursday: 9 am to 4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Transfer Station

Monday: 8 am to 12 pm
Wednesday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm

Police Department 744-6650

Chief Donald Sullivan
When dispatcher picks up, give dispatcher your message. They will page an officer on the radio. Cell phones are not reliable locally.

Highway Department – 744-6516

Jeff Cantara, Road Agent

Planning Board – 744-8986

Deliberative Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm, 6pm during winter months (November thru March)
Open 1 hour prior to meeting .
Chair, Maggie LaBerge
Items to be included on the agenda must be received 21 days prior to the meeting.

Town Committees/Commissions

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission meets the 4th Wednesday of the month in the conference room at the municipal building.

To contact the Conservation Commission:

e-mail: alexandrianh@metrocast.net

Phone: 603-744-3220

Mail: 47 Washburn Road

Alexandria, NH 03222

Recycling Committee

Please send your suggestions, tips, and comments to: steve.whitman@metrocast.net or call 744-3596. Thank you for recycling.

A Reminder: Anyone wishing to receive electronic copies of committee business conducting electronically or meeting minutes can do so by providing me with an email address. Sent to:

alexandrianh@metrocast.net

FIRE PERMITS

Category I & II fire permits can be obtained in the Selectmen's Office (603-744-3220), but you will need to provide a copy of the previous year's permit in order to get a permit for the current year.

All other burn permits are available from the following:

Fire Warden: Mark Chevalier 603-455-1591

Deputy Fire Wardens:

Dave Ogden 603-744-9056

Jeff Cantara 603-744-6516

Tom Moore 603-744-6516

Or contact: Robert Duquette, George Clayman, Fran Butler, Ken Patten, Fred Platts

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