

»» HILLTOP PLACE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ««

HILLTOPPER

HPCA Community Newsletter

THE HISTORY OF HILLTOP...AND HOW IT CAME TO BE

IT WAS LATE FALL, 2025 WHEN I RAN INTO MY GOOD FRIEND JENN LOU TONNER (JL) IN OUR HILLTOP PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD. I ASKED HER A QUESTION, "DO YOU WANT TO GET TOGETHER THIS WINTER AND WRITE THE HISTORY OF HILLTOP PLACE?" HER ANSWER WAS IMMEDIATE. "YES, SHE REPLIED." WE STARTED PLANNING OUR ATTACK. JL KNEW THE HISTORY AND WHERE TO DIG TO FURTHER SUPPORT OUR EFFORT. I KNEW HOW TO SELF-PUBLISH USING AN ONLINE PUBLISHER.



SEPTEMBER 26, 1971 CLUSTER ONE, UNITE 12 AND 13 Photo courtesy of Carol Ostler

WELCOME TO THE MARCH HILLTOPPER

History - con't

Welcome to the March edition of the Hilltopper! Even though the calendar says late March and we have seen the first official days of spring, the weather is still screaming winter! This Hilltopper is truly a community effort. We want to thank everyone who contributed and once again remind the community that this newsletter belongs to all of us. We view this as a community newsletter and a community effort. Please share your thoughts, your writing, your photographs, and any other contributions for future editions. Our next edition will be in June so we hope spring will have arrived and you can share some great vestiges of spring with your neighbors. As always, send your contributions to hilltopnhnewsletter@gmail.com.

JL knew of a man by the name of Verne Edmunds who lived at Hilltop Place in earlier years. In the early 2000s, he wrote a book which would document Hilltop's first 34 years. Verne Edmund's book was printed and sold to Hilltop Place residents in 2004. There are only a few remaining copies of Verne's Book as they have disappeared over the years, but JL found a few copies thanks to Linda Downes.

Bee Holmes was the first person to purchase a unit in Hilltop Place. She was living in Connecticut and was getting ready to retire. Somehow, she got wind about the plans to build the first condo development in New Hampshire and she came north to check it out. She was so excited about the property that she went under contract to purchase the first unit before they broke ground. She continued taking trips to New London over a two-year period and followed the progress. After Bee Holmes died, her photo album made its way to the New London Archives for safe keeping.

THE HISTORY OF HILLTOP

History - con't from Page 1

I started by writing a revised addition of Vern's book, "The (casual) History of Hilltop Place." I then edited Bee Holmes photos and added them to our revised 2nd addition.

JL went on to gather residents who are currently living in the community today and asked them if they would contribute their valuable information, which we were calling "The Next 20 Years (2005 through 2025). Everyone was willing and articles along with photos started flowing in.

Five months later we published one copy to see how it looked in print. We found that the 463 page, black and white hard copy in size 12 font came out well.

We now want to share it with everyone living in Hilltop Place today. We are offering to place a book order for anyone who wants a hardcover copy.

Books are selling for \$42.95, which includes shipping to your door. Please Note: J.L and I are not making a profit, the books are being sold at cost. Please let us know if you are interested and we will be glad to start the order process for you. We hope to see these copies arriving to Hilltop Place by the middle of April.

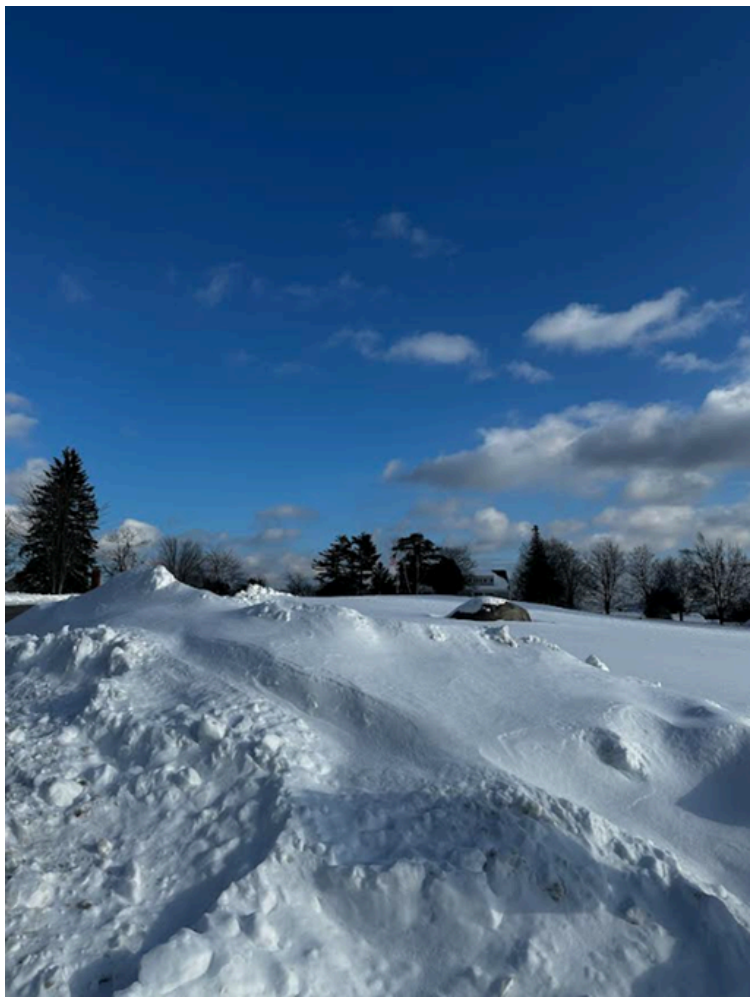
ONE LAST NOTE: For those of you who want to read the book ONLINE, you can now find it on the HILLTOP PLACE WEBSITE in the RESIDENT section of the website. There is also an iMovie of Bee Holmes' photos put to music in the VIDEO section of the resident website. I think you will all enjoy seeing that!

Carol A. Ostler and Jenna Lou Tonner
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802.793.4269

**COMPILED AND SELF PUBLISHED
BY:
VERNE L. EDMUNDS, CAROL A.
OSTLER,
JENNA LOU TONNER
AND
OTHER HILLTOP RESIDENTS**



IT'S BEEN A LONG, COLD, SNOWY, WINTER



PHOTOS
BY
MAE
EDWARDS

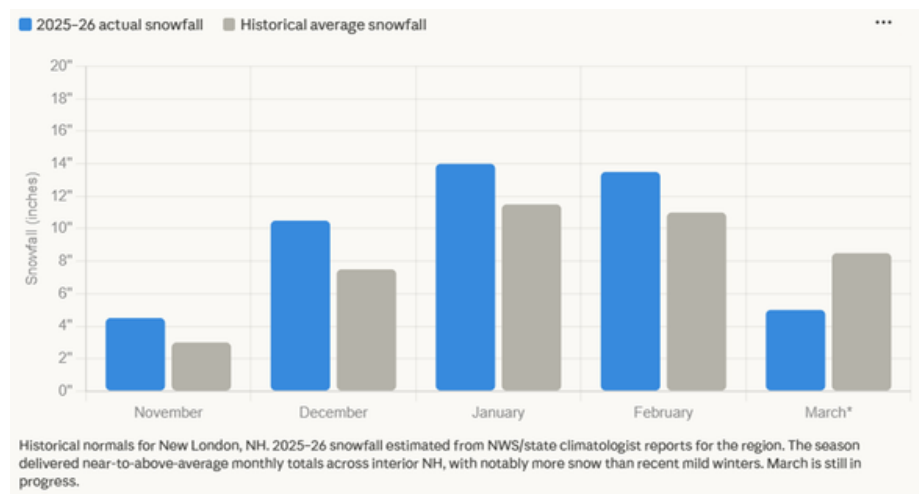
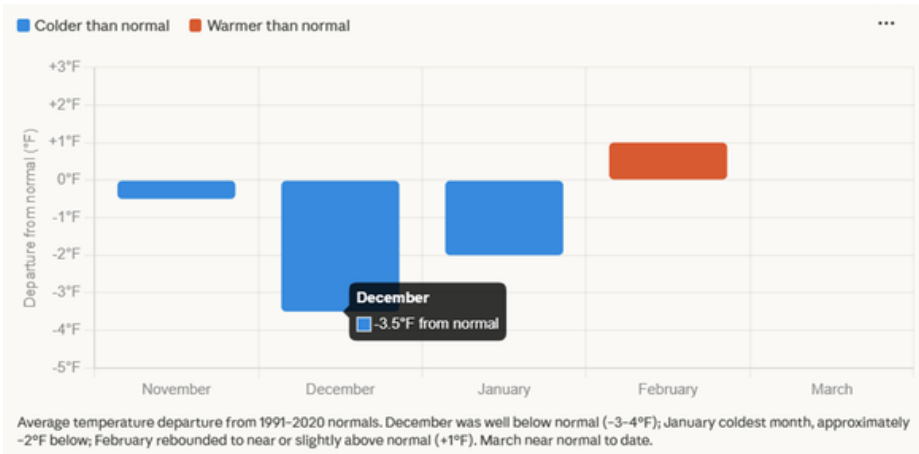
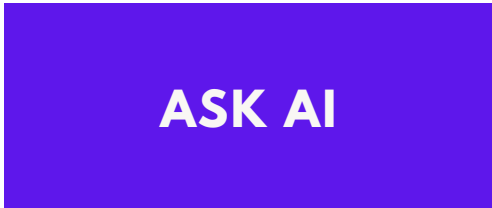


HOW COLD AND SNOWY WAS IT....?

WINTER 2025-26 CONTEXT:

NH STATE CLIMATOLOGIST CONFIRMED THIS WINTER WAS "COLDER THAN NORMAL" WITH MORE SNOWFALL THAN RECENT YEARS; CONCORD RECORDED 48.5" SEASONAL SNOWFALL (NEAR AVERAGE); THE WINTER FELT LIKE A "TRADITIONAL NEW ENGLAND WINTER."

DECEMBER WAS NOTABLY COLDER, JANUARY HAD THE COLDEST SPELL, FEBRUARY WAS MILDER. SNOWFALL WAS NEAR TO ABOVE AVERAGE MONTHLY.



TEMPERATURE COMPARISON: THIS WINTER HAS BEEN COLDER THAN NORMAL IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, GIVING IT THE FEEL OF A TRADITIONAL NEW ENGLAND WINTER WITH REGULAR SNOWFALL AND FROSTY TEMPERATURES. NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC RADIO DECEMBER WAS THE COLDEST DEPARTURE — ROUGHLY 3-4°F BELOW THE HISTORICAL AVERAGE FOR NEW LONDON — WITH JANUARY REMAINING COLD (ABOUT 2°F BELOW), AND FEBRUARY REBOUNDING TO NEAR OR SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL.

SNOWFALL COMPARISON: PRELIMINARY 2025-26 SNOWFALL TOTALS SHOW WIDESPREAD SURPLUSES ACROSS NEW HAMPSHIRE, WITH CONCORD RECORDING 48.5 INCHES (NEAR AVERAGE) AND MANCHESTER AT 57.3 INCHES. COUNTRY HERALD FOR INTERIOR AREAS LIKE NEW LONDON/MERRIMACK VALLEY, MONTHLY SNOWFALL TRACKED ABOVE THE HISTORICAL NORMAL AT EACH POINT IN THE SEASON. THE STATE CURRENTLY HAD SIGNIFICANTLY MORE SNOWPACK ON THE GROUND, EVEN IN THE SOUTHERN PART, THAN IN RECENT YEARS.

A FEW IMPORTANT CAVEATS: NEW LONDON DOESN'T HAVE ITS OWN DEDICATED WEATHER STATION, SO THE HISTORICAL NORMALS ARE DRAWN FROM REGIONAL CLIMATE DATA (1991-2020), AND THE 2025-26 ACTUAL VALUES ARE REGIONAL ESTIMATES SYNTHESIZED FROM NH STATE CLIMATOLOGIST STATEMENTS AND NWS REPORTS.

THERE IS.....
A HILLTOP PRIVATE GROUP - FACEBOOK
PAGE [FACEBOOK PAGE](#)
AND
A WEBSITE THAT BRINGS ALL KEARSARGE
REGION ACTIVITIES TOGETHER IN ONE
PLACE.
[HOME | KEARSARGECALENDAR](#)



HPCA CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 – 4:00
TELEPHONE: 603-526-4244
MANAGER: JEAN MOLLOY
HILLTOPPLACECOMMUNITY@GMAIL.COM
SECRETARY: LINDA DOWNES
HILLTOPPLACE@COMCAST.NET
MAINTENANCE TEAM: KEVIN, ANDY
GROUNDS: JOSH

HILLTOP MAINTENANCE EMERGENCY
TELEPHONE NUMBER- IF YOU HAVE A
MAINTENANCE EMERGENCY, THE HILLTOP
EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER TO CALL IS
603-526-2573.

SUBMIT INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER
TO HILLTOPNHNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM

CHEERS....LET'S PAINT!!!

"THE ARTS COMMITTEE HELD A PAINT'N SIP LED BY PATTI WARREN ON JANUARY 14TH. WE HAD 18 BUDDING ARTISTS. THE SUBJECT MATTER WAS BIRCH TREES IN WINTER AND ALTHOUGH THE LEADER DREW THE IMAGE STEP BY STEP, WE HAD 18 DIFFERENT BUT LOVELY WORKS OF ART. THE MEDIUM WAS WATER COLOR AND THE VARIETY OF HUES DEPICTED MANY DIFFERENT VIEWS. BEVERAGES AND LIGHT SNACKS WERE SERVED BUT THE PARTICIPANTS WERE SO ENGROSSED IN THEIR MASTERPIECES, THAT WE HAD TO HAVE A REAL BREAK FOR "A SIP". IT WAS LOTS OF FUN AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE WILL DEFINITELY REPEAT THIS OFFERING LATER IN THE YEAR."



**PHOTOS
BY
BETSY
ALLEN**



THE WALL-PLUG DEVICE THAT MONITORS YOUR HOME'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM FOR SAFETY.

WHAT THE TING DEVICE IS:

TING IS AN ELECTRICAL MONITORING SENSOR MADE BY WHISKER LABS THAT YOU PLUG INTO A STANDARD THREE-PRONG OUTLET IN YOUR HOME. ONCE INSTALLED AND CONNECTED TO YOUR WI-FI THROUGH THE TING SENSOR APP ON YOUR CELLPHONE/SMARTPHONE, IT CONTINUOUSLY WATCHES YOUR HOME'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM FOR DANGEROUS VOLTAGE PATTERNS, ARCING, AND OTHER EARLY SIGNS OF ELECTRICAL FAULTS THAT CAN LEAD TO FIRES. IT'S DESIGNED TO SPOT SUBTLE ELECTRICAL HAZARDS BEFORE THEY ESCALATE INTO SERIOUS PROBLEMS, HELPING PROTECT YOUR HOME AND FAMILY.



HOW IT WORKS:

TING DETECTS ABNORMAL ELECTRICAL SIGNATURES LIKE ARCING AND VOLTAGE IRREGULARITIES ACROSS YOUR ENTIRE HOME'S WIRING, NOT JUST THE OUTLET IT'S PLUGGED INTO. WHEN TING SEES A POTENTIAL HAZARD, IT SENDS REAL-TIME ALERTS TO YOUR CELLPHONE/SMARTPHONE VIA THE TING SENSOR APP. IF A SERIOUS ISSUE IS FOUND, YOU CAN CONTACT YOUR ELECTRICAL SERVICE PROVIDER OR THE TING'S FIRE SAFETY TEAM CAN COORDINATE WITH A LICENSED ELECTRICIAN TO ADDRESS IT.

AND, IT INCLUDES

**A \$1,000 CREDIT TOWARD LABOR FOR REPAIR WORK IF NEEDED (WITH YOUR APPROVAL).
INSTALLATION & SETUP: PLUG THE TING SENSOR INTO ANY UNUSED INDOOR OUTLET.
DOWNLOAD AND INSTALL THE TING SENSOR APP ON YOUR CELLPHONE/SMARTPHONE FROM THE APPLE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY. THEN, FOLLOW THE SIMPLE IN-APP PROMPTS TO CONNECT THE DEVICE TO YOUR HOME WI-FI AND COMPLETE SETUP.
COST & SUBSCRIPTION: MANY HOMEOWNERS GET TING FOR FREE THROUGH PARTICIPATING INSURANCE PROGRAMS WHICH CAN COVER THE DEVICE AND SERVICE FOR A SET PERIOD. CHECK WITH YOUR HOME INSURANCE COMPANY FOR ELIGIBILITY. THE UPFRONT DEVICE COST IS TYPICALLY AROUND \$99 FOR ONE SENSOR, AND THIS INCLUDES YOUR FIRST 12 MONTHS OF TING SERVICE. NOTE: YOU WOULD ONLY NEED ONE SENSOR. IN RARE CASE WOULD MORE THAN ONE SENSOR BE NEEDED.
ONGOING SERVICE: AFTER THE FIRST YEAR, CONTINUING THE MONITORING SERVICE COSTS ROUGHLY \$49 PER YEAR PER SENSOR (ABOUT \$4 PER MONTH). TING IS A SERVICE-BASED PRODUCT, SO THE SENSOR NEEDS THE SUBSCRIPTION TO FUNCTION AND PROVIDE ALERTS.
MORE INFORMATION & HOW TO SIGN UP: TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TING, CHECK AVAILABILITY, AND SIGN UP ONLINE, VISIT THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.TINGFIRE.COM](https://www.tingfire.com)**

SPRING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

GREENHOUSE REMINDER

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN STORING GARDEN SUPPLIES IN THE GREENHOUSE OVER THE WINTER (I.E. TRELISES, TOMATO CAGES, ETC.), PLEASE REMOVE THEM NO LATER THAN MARCH 25.

YOUR GREENHOUSE COMMITTEE WILL BE ORGANIZING AND STRAIGHTENING IN PREPARATION FOR OPENING DAY.



HOUSE COMMITTEE

DO YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING HOBBY? ARE YOU OPEN TO SHARING AN AREA OF INTEREST? YOUR TRAVELS? YOUR PROFESSION?

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

RESIDENTS WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO DO A PRESENTATION - PLEASE CONTACT BRIAN STILLSON BY EMAIL. BSTILLSON@GMAIL.COM

Celebrating the American Dream

Nowhere to return to at wars end,
My family found themselves in a foreign land.
Together again, after enduring years of uncertainties and strife,
England gave them refuge, and gratefully their lives restarted.

But, encouraged by our grandmother, still searching for that better life,
My parents, expecting twins, reluctantly for America departed.

Sailing on the USS America, arriving in New York,
Greeted by cousins who opened their hearts and doors,
They were offered jobs, a home, and so much more.
Raise your family and stay they said,
Stay in New Hampshire –
Many opportunities lay ahead.

Becoming citizens, here they stayed,
Working hard, buying a home, making their way.
Here, the foundations of my and my sister's lives were laid.
A state where my aunt and grandmother eventually came.
A country of opportunity for all dreaming to live the same.
A time to celebrate freedom, our Founding Father's original aim

BY
BARBARA DZIURA

JAZZ BAND

**INTERESTED IN JOINING A HILLTOP JAZZ BAND? WE'RE TRYING TO START ONE. DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? ALL ABILITIES ARE WELCOME. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL JACK KELLEHER. 603-358-7587
JACKKELLEHER50@GMAIL.COM**



MORE GREENHOUSE NEWS

GARDENING SEASON WILL BE HERE BEFORE WE KNOW IT!

OUR GREENHOUSE WILL BE OPENING ON APRIL 1ST.

PLEASE CONTACT LAURIE BUNDY AT 603-491-2263 OR EMAIL AT DOSCHICKENS@YAHOO.COM AND GIVE ME YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SPACE IN THE GREENHOUSE.

LINDA WILL SEND OUT AN EMAIL WHEN WE'RE CLOSER TO OPENING AS A REMINDER TO SAVE YOUR SPACE.

SEE YOU ALL SOON! LAURIE



VISIT NH | MAPLE SUGARING
WHEN DAYS WARM BUT NIGHTTIME TEMPERATURES STILL PLUMMET, SAP BEGINS TO FLOW IN NEW HAMPSHIRE'S MAPLE TREES, AND MAPLE-SUGARING SEASON GETS UNDERWAY. DURING THIS INTENSE PERIOD OF SIX WEEKS OR SO, MAPLE PRODUCERS MAKE SYRUP AND OTHER MAPLE DELIGHTS, AND PANCAKES TASTE BETTER THAN YOU'VE EVER DREAMED THEY MIGHT. THE STATE CELEBRATES NEW HAMPSHIRE MAPLE WEEKEND EVERY MARCH. MORE THAN 90 SUGARHOUSES IN NEW HAMPSHIRE OPEN THEIR DOORS TO SHOW VISITORS THE MAPLE-SUGARING PROCESS IN FULL SWING. THE NEW HAMPSHIRE MAPLE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION HAS A COMPLETE ONLINE DIRECTORY OF PARTICIPATING SUGARHOUSES AND THEIR OFFERINGS, FROM TASTINGS AND HORSE-DRAWN WAGON RIDES TO PANCAKE BREAKFASTS AND THE CHANCE TO MAKE OLD-FASHIONED SUGAR-ON-SNOW.



DAFFODILS IN DUNBARTON, GOFFSTOWN, WEARE AND NEW BOSTON

LATE APRIL – EARLY MAY

AS THE DAYS GET LONGER AND THE TEMPERATURE TURNS WARMER, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S DAFFODILS BURST INTO BLOOM, PAINTING THE LANDSCAPE WITH BRIGHT YELLOW AND WHITE PETALS. THESE FLOWERS, SYMBOLIZING NEW BEGINNINGS, GREET VISITORS THROUGHOUT THE TOWN OF DUNBARTON. THE STUNNING DISPLAY WAS THE RESULT OF A TEN-YEAR EFFORT BY THE DUNBARTON GARDEN CLUB, WHICH HELPED COORDINATE THE PLANTING OF MORE THAN 100,000 DAFFODILS TO CELEBRATE THE TOWN'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2015. WATCH FOR THEM POPPING UP THIS SPRING ALONG THE JOHN STARK SCENIC BYWAY THROUGH DUNBARTON, GOFFSTOWN, NEW BOSTON AND WEARE.

