>>> HILLTOP PLACE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION <<<

HILLTOPPER

HPCA Community Newsletter



ALMOST SUMMER AT HILLTOP



Welcome to the June - summer edition of the Hilltopper! Although the calendar and the flowers say summer the thermometer still says spring. Hopefully, the calendar and the temperatures will align soon.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to the Hilltopper. We could not do this newsletter alone. It is the product of a wonderful community. This newsletter belongs to all of us. We view this as a community newsletter and a collaborative effort. Please share your thoughts, your writing, your photographs, and any other contributions for future editions. We hope to publish every few months. Send your contributions to hilltopnhnewsletter@gmail.com.

By George Edwards

By Mae Edwards



WELCOME TO THE JUNE HILLTOPPER



A CALL FOR ACTORS

FOR

HILLTOP HOUSE COMMITTEE FALL PLAY READINGS SEPTEMBER 10th, 2025 @ 4 PM

(With Reception to follow!)

If you would like to be one of the readers, please fill out the form below and return it to: BOX 120 By JULY 7th, 2025

There will be approximately two rehearsals for each play between August 25th and Sept 9th. We will not rehearse on Labor Day.

The final play selections will be based on the number of people interested in participating. The total program will last approximately an hour.

WE COULD USE MORE MEN, so that the men that do sign up don't have to be in more than

If you have questions about the program (particularly new residents or those who have not attended in the past), Please call Nancy R Stone, 603-620-1333 or email stonenr65@hotmail.com

Please fill out and tear off the form below this line and return to Box 120. If you know you will be away for all or part of Labor Day weekend, please put that on the form. I will email you when I receive the form below in my box, so you know that I have received it. Thank you.

Nancy

Yes, I would like to participate in the pla	y readings on Sept. 10th
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Name

Phone #:

CORNHOLE ANYONE??

INTEREST HAS BEEN EXPRESSED IN OUTDOOR GAMES SUCH AS BOCCE BALL, CORNHOLE AND CROQUET.

A 1ST ANNUAL CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT IS BEING PROPOSED FOR FRIDAY, JULY 4. CHECK YOUR PERSONAL INBOXES FOR A FLYER TO RESPOND IF INTERESTED.

IT WOULD BE A GREAT WAY TO MEET NEW PEOPLE AND ENJOY A BIT OF FRIENDLY COMPETITION.

LIFE'S REMOTE CONTROL BY BARBARA D.

THE YEARS ARE QUICKLY PROGRESSING.
THE BODY IS QUICKLY REGRESSING.
THE APPEARANCE OF AGING SIGNS AS TIME
STEADILY TICKS,

THE MIND IS PLAYING SUBTLE UNNERVING TRICKS.
THE YOUNGER SELF FOREVER INTERNALLY RESIDES,
WHILE THE EXTERNAL SELF NOT REFLECTING
WHAT'S INSIDE.

SITTING, TAKING THE TIME TO HIT PAUSE, REMEMBERING PIECES OF ALL THAT WAS.

SWITCHING CHANNELS, SOME MEMORIES FADE, BUT NEW ONES ARE SUBCONSCIOUSLY MADE. AWAKING NOT KNOWING HOW YOUR DAY MAY START.

CHANNEL YOUR GUIDE AND FOLLOW YOUR HEART, CHOOSE TO MOVE FORWARD NOT REVERSE AND THE PAST.

KEEP LIVING YOUR LIFE HAVING A BLAST. EACH MOMENT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE PART WE PLAY,

IN NOT ONLY OURS BUT ANOTHER'S DAY.
TO RECORD A LAUGH, AN UNEXPECTED SMILE,
MAKES THE DAY TRULY WORTHWHILE.



MAKE YOUR DAY BLOSSOM - FUN WITH FRIENDS AND FLOWERS

THE ARTS COMMITTEE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN THE ART OF FLOWER ARRANGING.

THIS COURSE WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2025, IN THE GAME ROOM AT THE HILLTOP HOUSE, STARTING AT 10 AM. THIS COURSE IS LED BY SUZANNE STILLSON-STRONG WHO WILL TEACH US BASIC FLOWER ARRANGING TECHNIQUES AND PROVIDE USEFUL GUIDELINES.

WE WILL BEGIN WITH WHY WE LOVE FLOWERS AND A QUICK REVIEW OF VASE AND ARRANGEMENT SHAPES. THEN WE WILL GET RIGHT TO MAKING OUR OWN ARRANGEMENT. PLEASE BRING A MEDIUM-SIZED VASE (NOT TOO TALL OR TOO SHORT) AND GARDEN SHEARS OR SCISSORS.

THIS CLASS IS LIMITED TO 15 PARTICIPANTS SO SIGN UP EARLY BY USING THE SIGNUP SHEET WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE HILLTOP HOUSE POSTAL AREA DESK. THERE WILL BE A NOMINAL COST OF \$25.00 TO COVER THE COST OF THE MATERIALS WHICH WILL BE PROVIDED. WE WILL COLLECT THE FEE ON THE DAY OF THE CLASS. THERE WILL ALSO BE A POWER POINT WHICH WILL BE SENT TO EACH PARTICIPANT AFTER THE CLASS SO YOU WILL HAVE THE DIRECTIONS FOR FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



FLOWER ARRANGING





HILLTOP'S NEWEST RESIDENTS

Photos by Karyn Toy.

IT'S TICK SEASON



FOR MORE INFORMATION TICKFREENH.ORG

What is the best way to protect yourself and those you care about from ticks?

- 1. Prevent them from being on your body.
- 2. **Check** yourself, your children, and pets for ticks after being outside.
- 3. Remove any tick you find using the proper method.

PREVENTION

Wearing tick repellent clothing is the best— and easiest —way for people to prevent tick bites when they venture outdoors. Did you know you can turn your own favorite clothes into tick repellent clothes? Products containing permethrin kill ticks. Permethrin can be used to treat boots, clothing and camping gear and remain protective through several washings.

A study done by the University of Rhode Island showed that subjects wearing shoes treated with permethrin were 73.6 times less likely to have a tick bite than those wearing untreated footwear. Permethrin is safe to touch once dry and effective for up to 6 weeks, depending on the brand.





Cluster 2 Picnic

Photos by Mae Edwards.



A SUMMER TREAT

APRICOT SQUARES
FROM THE KITCHEN OF ANN LINEHAN

INGREDIENTS
2/3 CUP SOFT APRICOTS CHOPPED
1/2 CUP BUTTER
SOFTENED
1/4 CUP WHITE SUGAR
11/3 CUP FLOUR
1/2 TSP. BAKING POWDER
1/4 TSP. SALT
2 EGGS BEATEN
1 CUP BROWN SUGAR
1 TSP. VANILLA
1/2 CUP CHOPPED NUTS

PREHEAT OVER TO 350 DEGREES.

CREAM TOGETHER BUTTER, 1/4 CUP WHITE SUGAR, AND
1 CUP FLOUR—

PRESS INTO 8 X 8 PAN AND BAKE FOR 20 MINUTES.
SIFT 1/3 CUP FLOUR, 1/2 TSP. BAKING POWDER, 1/4
TSP. SALT AND MIX TOGETHER.

BEAT TOGETHER 2 EGGS, 1 CUP BROWN SUGAR PACKED, 1 TSP. VANILLA.

ADD TO FLOUR MIXTURE AND FOLD IN APRICOTS & NUTS.

POUR OVER BAKED LAYER AND CONTINUE TO BAKE FOR AN ADDITIONAL 25 MINUTES.

CLUSTER CHAT

A BIG NOTE OF THANKS TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE CLUSTER TWO MEMORIAL DAY GATHERING ON MAY 26TH

THERE IS NOTHING BETTER THAN SPENDING A SUNNY AFTERNOON WITH GOOD FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS ENJOYING LIVELY CONVERSATION AND DELICIOUS FOOD SHARED ON THE BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS OF HILLTOP.....AND TO HEAR THE CHEERS OF THE WINNING TEAM IN THE CORN HOLE COMPETITION!

A VERY FUN TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!!
CLUSTER TWO IS ALREADY CHATTING ABOUT THEIR NEXT
SUMMER GATHERING.....



Strawberry Fest 2025

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 10-2 PM TOWN GREEN, NEW LONDON



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





GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS....
WE ARE LOOKING FOR HILLTOP RESIDENTS WHO
ARE WILLING TO SHARE THEIR STORY WITH THE
HILLTOP COMMUNITY FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTER
EDITIONS BY DIANA MORRIS. INTERESTED? EMAIL
HILLTOPNHNEWSLETTER

@GMAIL.COM





In this issue, we are going to focus on Emergency Egress Planning: Preparing for Fires and Other Emergencies and Out Door Grills

Important Information for Residents:

The Fire Safety Committee encourages all residents to plan ahead for emergencies, such as fires, by considering secondary means of escape in case your main exit is blocked.

Key Points to Remember:

- Identify a Secondary Exit ahead of time.
- 2. Every bedroom should have a window large enough for:
 - -You to be able to climb out of safely.
 - Firefighters to assist you or enter through if needed.
- If you are a second-floor resident, the deck balcony can serve as your secondary. means of escape. The fire department can safely evacuate you from there.
- Safety Practices:
 - Always close all doors behind you when exiting to help contain the fire and reduce smoke spread.
 - Prioritize your safety: Get out of the building first and then call 911 once you are in a safe location.
 - -Always call 911 first, if exiting to a balcony; await help from the Fire Department to get off from the balcony.
- 5. Plan Ahead:
 - -Familiarize yourself and your household with the layout of your residence, including all potential exits.
 - -Practice emergency drills to ensure everyone knows the plan in case of a real emergency.
 - Remember: hard wired does not mean connected to the fire department.

Stay prepared, stay safe, and remember that quick action can save lives.

Outdoor Grills

As we move into summer and better weather, we are reminding you of the HPCA rules regarding the use of grills. All gas grills MUST be 10' away from your building or awning. The grills may not be used on balconies or decks or under an awning. They should not be stored indirect sunlight, and they should be covered when not in use. Gas tanks are to be disconnected from the grill before storing. It is strongly recommended that you have a fire extinguisher readily available. If you use an electric grill, you are reminded to position them away from the building and unplug them when not in use. Happy Safe Grilling!

Stil have Fire Safety Questions? Contact your Cluster Rep. with any questions or more information. And save the date, July 16th when the New London Fire Department will be here at 10 AM for a Fire Safety demonstration and safety tips

Cluster 1: Jeff Cable; Cluster 2: David Royle; Cluster 3: Jack Kelleher; Cluster 4: Ron Clark; Cluster 5: Biddy Irwin, Linda Cooney; Cluster 6: Marion Skinner.



Submitted by the Fire Safety Committee



TWO LAYER LEMON CAKE BY ELIZABETH LOWELL

INGREDIENTS

CAKE

3 CUPS SIFTED ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR 2 ½ TEASPOONS BAKING POWDER ½ TEASPOON BAKING SODA ½ TEASPOON SALT

1 CUP UNSALTED BUTTER, SOFTENED TO ROOM TEMP 1 ¾ CUPS GRANULATED SUGAR 3 LARGE EGGS, AT ROOM TEMP 2 TEASPOONS VANILLA EXTRACT 1 CUP BUTTERMILK, AT ROOM TEMP 1 HEAPING TEASPOON LEMON ZEST 1/3 CUP FRESH LEMON JUICE (ABOUT TWO LEMONS)

FROSTING

1 CUP UNSALTED BUTTER, AT ROOM TEMP 8 OZ. CREAM CHEESE, AT ROOM TEMP 4 CUPS CONFECTIONER'S SUGAR 2 TABLESPOONS FRESH LEMON JUICE 1 TEASPOON VANILLA EXTRACT PINCH OF SALT, TO TASTE

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. PREHEAT OVEN TO 350. GREASE TWO 9-INCH CAKE PANS, LINE WITH PARCHMENT PAPER, THEN GREASE PARCHMENT PAPER.
- 2. WHISK FLOUR, BAKING POWDER, BAKING SODA, AND SALT TOGETHER. SET ASIDE.
- 3. BEAT BUTTER AND SUGAR TOGETHER AT HIGH SPEED UNTIL SMOOTH AND CREAMY ABOUT THREE MINUTES, SCRAPING DOWN SIDE OF BOWL. BEAT IN EGGS AND VANILLA EXTRACT AT HIGH SPEED. ON LOW SPEED, ADD DRY INGREDIENTS UNTIL JUST COMBINED. STILL ON LOW, ADD BUTTERMILK, LEMON ZEST AND LEMON JUICE. MIX UNTIL JUST COMBINED. YOU MAY NEED TO CHECK TO BE SURE THERE ARE NO LUMPS AT THE BOTTOM. BATTER WILL BE A LITTLE THICK.
- 4. POUR BATTER INTO CAKE PANS AND BAKE 25-30 MINUTES. CHECK WITH TOOTHPICK FOR DONENESS. DO NOT OVERBAKE! COOL CAKES COMPLETELY ON WIRE RACK. THEY MUST BE COMPLETELY COOL BEFORE FROSTING. (IF YOU ARE GOING TO FROST AND SERVE LATER, THESE CAKES FREEZE WELL IN PLASTIC BAGS OR SARAN WRAP.)
- 5. MAKE THE FROSTING. BEAT BUTTER ON MEDIUM SPEED UNTIL CREAMY, ABOUT TWO MINUTES. ADD THE CREAM CHEESE AND BEAT UNTIL COMPLETELY SMOOTH AND COMBINED. ON LOW SPEED, ADD CONFECTIONER'S SUGAR, LEMON JUICE AND VANILLA. IF THIN, ADD MORE SUGAR. IF TOO THICK, ADD MORE LEMON JUICE. ADD A PINCH OF SALT.
- 6. FROST THE BOTTOM LAYER, PUT SECOND LAYER ON TOP AND FROST THAT AND SIDES.
- 7. REFRIGERATE 30-45 MINUTES BEFORE SLICING.
- 8. COVER ANY LEFTOVERS TIGHTLY AND REFRIGERATE FOR UP TO FIVE DAYS.

HILLTOP GARDENERS











WHY WE START PLANTS INDOORS

SPRING HAS SPRUNG AT THE HILLTOP GREENHOUSE AND COMMUNITY GARDEN

- 1. IN FALL SEEDS ARE COLLECTED FROM OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN.
- 2. SEEDS ARE DRIED. THEN PUT INTO STORAGE FOR WINTER.
- 3. SPRING BRINGS NEW LIFE TO THE HILLTOP GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN.
- 4. LAURIE BUNDY MANAGES THE GREENHOUSE AND JAY AND BRAD LEAVITT MANAGE THE COMMUNITY GARDEN.

MANY THANKS TO JL TONNER FOR YEARS OF SERVICE AS SHE MANAGED THE GREENHOUSE FOR HILLTOP GARDENERS.

5. IN NEW LONDON, NH (ZONE 5), THE BEST TIME TO START SEEDS INDOORS IS GENERALLY 6 TO 8 WEEKS BEFORE THE LAST EXPECTED FROST DATE IN SPRING, TYPICALLY AROUND LATE MARCH TO MID-APRIL. HOWEVER, SPECIFIC TIMING WILL DEPEND ON THE TYPE OF PLANT YOU ARE GROWING. FOR EXAMPLE, SOME PLANTS LIKE LEEKS AND CELERY MAY NEED 10-12 WEEKS BEFORE THE LAST FROST.

- 1. YOU GET A HEAD START ON THE GROWING SEASON, WHICH CAN LEAD TO MORE FRUITFUL HARVESTS.
- 2. IT IS TRULY NECESSARY FOR A FEW PLANTS. WARM-SEASON VEGETABLES—SUCH AS TOMATOES, PEPPERS, AND EGGPLANT—THAT CANNOT BE PLANTED TOO EARLY IN THE SPRING, AS THE SOIL IS TOO COOL. IN MANY REGIONS (INCLUDING NEW ENGLAND), THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH GROWING DAYS FOR THOSE PLANTS TO GET TO HARVEST IF THEY ARE STARTED BY SEED OUTSIDE. STARTING SEEDS INDOORS ALLOWS YOU TO GAIN A FEW PRECIOUS WEEKS OF GROWING TIME, WHICH CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
- 3. IF YOU DO NOT START SEEDS INDOORS, YOU WILL NEED TO BUY YOUNG PLANTS CALLED "TRANSPLANTS" OR "STARTS" AT THE GARDEN STORE OR NURSERY. WHILE SOME NURSERY STARTER PLANTS ARE GROWN NICELY, OTHERS MAY BE OF POOR QUALITY AND DO NOT THRIVE ONCE THEY ARRIVE HOME. WHEN YOU PLANT YOUR OWN SEEDS, YOU TEND TO HAVE HEALTHIER STARTS SINCE YOU CAN CARE FOR THEM FROM DAY ONE.
- 4. A MUCH WIDER RANGE OF VARIETIES IS AVAILABLE AS SEEDS—THINGS YOU WOULD NEVER FIND IN A SIX-PACK AT THE LOCAL GARDEN CENTER.
- 5. YOU WILL KNOW HOW THEY HAVE BEEN RAISED—ORGANICALLY IS BEST. YOU CAN TIME THE PLANTS TO BE READY WHEN YOU WANT TO PLANT THEM.
- 6. FINALLY, SEEDS ARE MUCH LESS EXPENSIVE THAN BUYING PLANTS AT THE GARDEN STORE.

This site provides milkweeds, nectar sources, and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America. Certified and registered by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation. CREATE, CONSERVE, & PROTECT MONARCH HABITATS WWW.MONARCHWATCH.ORG Morwarth Witch: Kanasa Biological Burrey | University of Kanasa | 2021 Constitut Ana | Laurence, Kanasa Bioloff

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

- 1. THE HILLTOP GARDENERS ARE PLANNING TO PLANT A POLLINATOR GARDEN IN FRONT OF THE GREENHOUSE AGAIN SURE HOPE IT FLOWERS FOR US AGAIN THIS YEAR.
- 2. WE ALWAYS LIKE TO SHARE VEGETABLES FROM OUR GARDEN. WATCH FOR THESE DONATIONS AT THE HILLTOP HOUSE.

THINK SPRING AND SUMMER AND ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL TREES, SHRUBS, AND GARDENS AROUND HILLTOP PLACE.

MOVING OUT TO THE POLLINATOR GARDEN

A POLLINATOR GARDEN IS A GROUP OF PLANTS GROWN TOGETHER WITH THE INTENTION OF ATTRACTING WILD POLLINATORS. POLLINATION IS THE REPRODUCTIVE PROCESS THAT ENABLES PLANTS TO PRODUCE SEEDS.

WHEN POLLEN FROM THE MALE PART OF ONE FLOWER IS MOVED TO THE FEMALE PART OF ANOTHER FLOWER OF THE SAME SPECIES, FERTILIZATION OCCURS. ONCE FERTILIZED, A FLOWER PRODUCES FRUIT AND SEEDS. SOME PLANTS ARE POLLINATED BY WIND OR WATER, BUT THE MAJORITY ARE POLLINATED BY ANIMALS CALLED POLLINATORS. THESE POLLINATOR SPECIES ARE INSECTS, SUCH AS BEES AND BUTTERFLIES, BUT ANIMAL POLLINATORS CAN ALSO INCLUDE CERTAIN SPECIES OF BIRDS AND MAMMALS.

A POLLINATOR GARDEN IS DESIGNED TO ATTRACT AND SUPPORT POLLINATORS AND HILLTOP GARDENERS AND THOSE WHO LOVE TO VISIT THE GARDEN.

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE ARE A MEMBER OF MONARCHWATCH.ORG ???

WE APPLIED FOR THIS MONARCH WAYSTATION LAST YEAR BECAUSE WE SUPPLY SO MANY MONARCHS IN THE LATE SUMMER WITH LOTS OF NECTAR TO HELP THEM ON THEIR WAY SOUTH. JAY LEAVIT HAS A PICTURE OF ONE OF THE MONARCHS IN OUR GARDEN THAT WAS TAGGED. AS A COMMUNITY WE SHOULD ALL CONSIDER ADDING MILKWEED INTO OUR GARDENS.

Teaching in several places in MA it was easier for Paul to obtain a job, as this was the time when everyone assumed as a newlywed, Ann would be having children. They lived in Hingham, MA where they began to raise their family.

Moving to New Hampshire in 1967, the Linehans became involved in the community. Paul was hired as the assistant principal for the newly established Kearsarge Regional High School, as seven towns were being united into one school district in 1970. Paul was named their first principal. He was innovative and brainstormed with civic and community groups from all seven towns to bring them together. He was responsible for many construction decisions, classroom designs, and purchasing instructional materials. He was accountable as he diligently worked to bring the newly formed district together, which he accomplished.

In 1984, yet another achievement was bestowed to Paul: he was chosen to take the position as assistant superintendent for the

HELLO MY NAME IS

Paul and Ann Linehan by Diana Morris

SAU (school administrative unit) which then included Kearsarge, Newport, Sunapee, Goshen, and Lempster. Paul had both a personal and professional interest in the well-being of the district, as his children attended Kearsarge. Ann, also being an educator, was the co-owner and operator of St. Andrew's Nursery School. The responsibilities of motherhood and raising four children never hindered Ann. She gladly became a substitute teacher, long-term and taught middle school developmental reading. She accepted a permanent teaching job in the Sunapee School District. Ann's reasoning was that she wanted to avoid any concerns about having her children in her classroom.

A few years later, Paul decided to try his hand in the business world and became owner of Colby Real Estate where his accomplishments were immense. Being the united partnership the Linehans possess, Ann earned her



eal estate license and joined Paul at Colby Real Estate where her presence as office manager only impacted the success of the business. They etired from real estate in 2016.

heir contributions to our area are oo numerous to list. Members of Dur lady of Fatima Church, Ann was the Director of Christian Doctrine, as well as teaching Sunday School. Their combined volunteerism, to name a few: New London Hospital, served on the boards for COA (Citizens' Advisory Committee); Planning Board; etc. In 2022, the Linehans were honored by The New London Service Organization in receiving the Third of a Century Award for their outstanding contributions to the town of New London. Their resume is long and their life has been rich and full by their volunteerism and kindness. Ann and Paul have touched the lives of many, including my family.

In addition to enjoying their family, the Linehans still have time to pursue hobbies, both have enjoyed skiing and golfing, and Paul has become quite an accomplished artist, exhibiting at local shows. They enjoy their walks around Hilltop and are always willing to be friendly...we are Blessed to have such goodwill ambassadors in Ann and Paul as our Hilltop neighbors.

My first interview for The Hilltopper was made extremely easy to accomplish because it was basically written by Jill Barrett Feneberg, who was the former Director of the New London Service Organization. Appreciation to Jill for allowing Hilltoppers to enjoy many of her words.