

»» HILLTOP PLACE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ««

HILLTOPPER

HPCA Community Newsletter



FALL SKY OVER HILLTOP

Photo by Jay Leavitt

WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER HILLTOPPER

Welcome to the September - Fall edition of the Hilltopper! What a crazy weather summer it has been. We have had March weather in May and October weather in August. Now a little July weather in September. The lake temperature was still 80 degrees in late August. But overall, a beautiful summer at Hilltop.

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.

Thank you! Mae and George Edwards

THANK YOU

HILLTOPPER ARTICLE IDEAS

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE PEOPLE TO WRITE ARTICLES FOR THE HILLTOPPER. HAVE YOU SEEN A GOOD MOVIE LATELY? MAYBE WRITE A REVIEW. BEEN TO A GREAT RESTAURANT? YOU COULD WRITE A RECOMMENDATION. HAD A TERRIFIC VACATION? YOU COULD SHARE THE LOCATION WITH AN ARTICLE. THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS. INTERESTED? WANT MORE INFORMATION? CONTACT MAE OR GEORGE EDWARDS

HILLTOP STAFF
(WE MISSED YOU JEAN!)



By Mae Edwards



Hilltop House Committee
presents
the Hilltop Play Readers

September 10th, 2025
4:00 PM

Directed by:
Nancy R. Stone



HILLTOP ARTS



Learn to make your own Santa carving!!

A LIMITED opportunity to make your very own Santa carving is being offered here at Hilltop. On October 25th, famed wood carver, Dennis Deapponio will offer a course on wood carving for up to 8 (eight) people. It will be held in The Barn from 10AM to 12PM.

Mr. Deapponio began his carving career 20 years ago. His wife was collecting Santa's so he thought he might give it a try to carve one. Her collection has grown to over 150, all from him.

The carving you will make is called "A Five-Minute Santa" All the material will be provided and the cost will be \$25.00.

Please contact one of the Arts Committee Members if you are interested in taking this course.

Biddy Irwin -603-863-3582
Diana Morris -603-496-5823
Sally Oak - 774-722-9928



CALLING ALL HILLTOP ARTISTS FOR THE FALL EXHIBIT

MIXED MEDIA -A CORNUCOPIA OF ART

Exhibit from October 13 through November, 2025

Submit your work by Saturday, October 11th in the morning. Please label your piece and indicate if it is for sale. All media accepted but no piece larger than 30" x 30".

Exhibit opening will be Monday, October 13th.

Questions?
Biddy Irwin -603-863-3582
Diana Morris -603-496-5823
Sally Oak - 774-722-9928

FLOWER ARRANGING

By Suzanne Stillson-Strong.



**MAKE YOUR
DAY BLOSSOM**

**FUN WITH FRIENDS
AND FLOWERS**

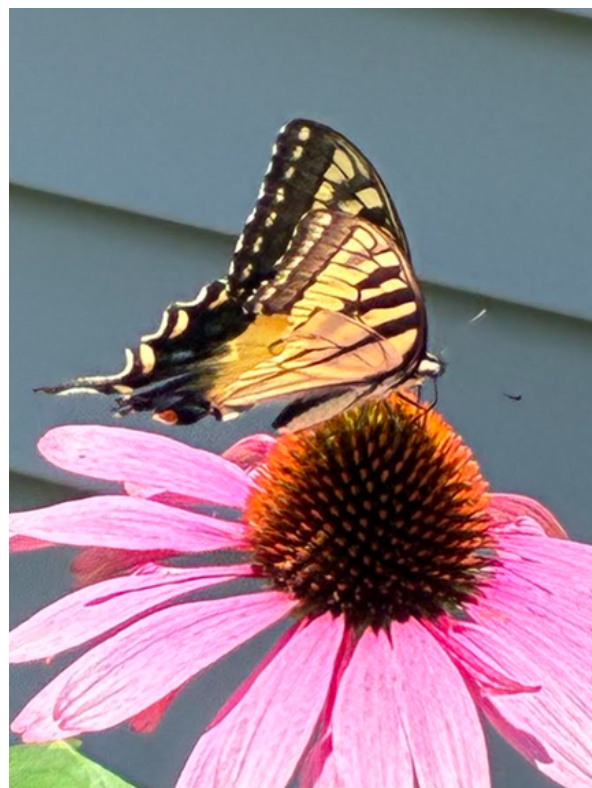


Photo by Karyn Toy.



Photo by Brian Stillson.

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A GARDNER'S YEARLY GIFTS

Spending my time
Nurturing my garden.
Turning the soil,
Loving the toil.

Understanding the pleasures
Of unexpected treasures
Rising from below,
Bursting to grow.

Hummingbirds, insects, bees
Always blessed to see,
Finding their nourishment,
Providing my heart and soul's enjoyment.

Spending my time
Cleaning my garden.
Turning the beds,
Missing the birds that have fled.

Time to ponder
Mother Nature's wonders,
Her beginning to prepare
For next spring's rebirth.

Spending her time
Nurturing the soil
Nursing her seeds

For the plants and weeds; birds and bees; and me.
Barbara Dziura



ENERGY STUDY GROUP

ON BEHALF OF THE ENERGY STUDY GROUP, WE WISH GINNY BLASS ALL THE BEST AS SHE BEGINS A NEW CHAPTER IN HER LIFE'S JOURNEY WITH A NEW HOME IN NORTH CAROLINA.

WE WILL MISS HER AND HER VISIONARY AND ENERGETIC LEADERSHIP AND IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE OF US AT HILLTOP.

THE GROUP IS TAKING A HIATUS AT THIS TIME WHILE A NUMBER OF CRITICAL ISSUES (I.E., DRAINAGE) ARE BEING ADDRESSED; AND HOPE ADVANCEMENTS IN SOLAR AND OTHER ENERGY TECHNOLOGY WILL GIVE US MORE OPTIONS, IN NOT ONLY MONETARY BUT ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS, TO EXPLORE AT A LATER TIME.

HILLTOP ACTIVITIES



Celebration!

*Grab Your Beer and Yodel Your Way Over to
Hilltop House*

Saturday, October 4th, 2025 @ 5:00 PM



Beer & Bratwurst will be provided

Please bring an appetizer or salad to share with others.



If you are not fond of beer, bring a beverage of your choice to enjoy.

Sign-up sheet on desk in Lobby of Hilltop House.

NH SAVES

ENERGY REBATES

REBATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS FROM NH SAVES. EXAMPLES INCLUDE INSULATION AND MINI SPLIT/HEAT PUMP UNITS. FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO [HTTPS://NHSAVES.COM/](https://nhsaves.com/)

MUNICIPAL MATTERS



THE NEW LONDON TOWN NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://WWW.NL-NH.COM/NEWSLETTERS](https://www.nl-nh.com/newsletters)



Mrs. Ruth Pratt is hosting an event for ALL Hilltop members. At the Hilltop House Card Room on September 19th at 4PM-6 PM

Live music will be provided by Sueanne Thayer with a blend of different genres from big band/swing to Motown, blues etc.

Afterwards there will be an ice cream social with light refreshments.

**MONTHLY HPCA BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS
HELD ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
AT 10:00AM**

**ATTEND IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY AT JOIN ZOOM
MEETING**

**[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/85770045528?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85770045528?pwd=CAZAS0IBWWO9B2VQHRXM5CVNMIHB61.1)
[PWD=CAZAS0IBWWO9B2VQHRXM5CVNMIHB61.1](#)**

**MEETING ID: 857 7004 5528
PASSCODE: 301915**

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

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THE BIRCH TREE

THE BIRCH TREE IN MY YARD IS THE BELOVED HEART OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, BUT IT SUFFERED A TERRIBLE INJURY DURING A HARSH WINTER ICE STORM. BY SPRING, IT WAS CLEARLY STRUGGLING — STRESSED AND SHEDDING SO MANY LEAVES IT LOOKED LIKE AUTUMN HAD COME EARLY.

I COULDN'T STAND BY AND DO NOTHING, SO I GAVE IT HORTICULTURAL OIL, DEEP WATERING, AND YES — HUGS AND CONVERSATION. I BELIEVE TREES LISTEN, AND THIS FELT LIKE THE ONLY OPTION LEFT.

THEN ONE DAY, I LOOKED OUT THE KITCHEN WINDOW AND SAW SOMETHING INCREDIBLE: THE TREE HAD BEGUN TO LEAF OUT AGAIN, GROWING STEADILY THROUGH THE SUMMER INTO THE BEAUTIFUL BIRCH WE ALL LOVE. I KEPT WATERING, HUGGING, AND SPEAKING TO IT — LETTING IT KNOW IT WASN'T ALONE ON ITS JOURNEY BACK TO HEALTH.
KELLY MCCUE



THE NEW LONDON FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTED THE ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY DEMONSTRATION ON JULY 16TH AT THE HILLTOP BARN. THEY BROUGHT DEMONSTRATION EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS THEIR 2023 ENGINE 2 WHICH CONTAINS EXTRICATION TOOLS TO REMOVE TRAPPED VICTIMS IN VEHICLE ACCIDENTS.



THERE WERE 42 ATTENDEES IN THE AUDIENCE, 10 ATTENDEES ON ZOOM AND ADDITIONAL INQUIRIES FROM OWNERS WISHING TO WATCH THE VIDEO OF THE DEMONSTRATION (VIDEO1591227115.MP4). TWO ITEMS WERE SHOWN AT THE DEMONSTRATION. FIRST, THERE WAS A THERMAL IMAGING DRONE THAT CAN PERFORM A 360-DEGREE EVALUATION OF A BURNING BUILDING TO ASSIST FIRE FIGHTERS WITH QUICK DECISION MAKING. IT CAN ALSO HELP IN LOCATING LOST HIKERS, MISSING SWIMMERS, AND FOREST FIRES. THE SECOND PIECE OF EQUIPMENT, A LASER TECHNOLOGY SIMULATOR, WAS PURCHASED FOR PUBLIC TRAINING PURPOSES. THE SIMULATOR IS USED TO TEACH HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER PROPERLY IN OUR HOMES AND WAS DEMONSTRATED BY THE NEW LONDON FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AS WELL AS ONE HILLTOP OWNER! WE LEARNED THAT TO EFFECTIVELY USE AN EXTINGUISHER, IT SHOULD BE AIMED AT ABOUT 8 FT FROM A SOURCE OF FIRE. MIKE MATTHY, FIRE SAFETY OFFICER, THANKED THE HILLTOP COMMUNITY FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS TOWARDS PURCHASE OF NEW EQUIPMENT. TWO ADDITIONAL TAKE AWAY TIPS THAT WERE SHARED WERE TO WRITE THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF YOUR SMOKE/CO DETECTOR ON THE SIDE OF THE UNIT WITH A BLACK SHARPY SO THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE TO TAKE THE UNIT DOWN TO CHECK FOR THE EXPIRATION DATE. MANY HAVE A LIFE EXPECTANCY OF 10 YEARS. ALSO, YOUR ELECTRICAL OUTLETS CAN BE TESTED FOR INCORRECT WIRING CONDITIONS WITH AN OUTLET RECEPTACLE TESTER THAT CAN BE PURCHASED INEXPENSIVELY AT A LOCAL HARDWARE STORE. A SIGN-UP SHEET WAS AVAILABLE FOR OWNERS WHO WANTED TO PURCHASE A FIRE BLANKET. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A FIRE BLANKET, PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION COMMITTEE. IT WAS IMPRESSIVE TO NOTE THAT APPROXIMATELY 90% OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE CURRENTLY OWN A FIRE BLANKET. OCTOBER IS THE NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY/PREVENTION MONTH. LOOK FOR OUR EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY AT THE HILLTOP COMMUNITY HOUSE DURING THAT MONTH. ONE YEAR AGO, WHO KNEW. CLEARLY THE EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS OF THE FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION COMMITTEE ARE BEING WELCOMED BY OUR NEIGHBORS.

HPCA FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION COMMITTEE

LACONIA PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025
WHERE: DOWNTOWN IN LACONIA, NH
 GUESTS WILL BE IN AWE OF THE PUMPKIN AND JACK-O-LANTERN TOWER AND ENJOY THE CHILDREN'S COSTUME PARADE, A 5K, VENDORS AND CRAFTERS, FOOD, BEER GARDEN, CHILDREN'S GAMES, PUMPKIN BOWLING, 34' TOWER OF PUMPKINS AND MUCH MORE.

VISIT NHPUMPKINFESTIVAL.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE SANDWICH FAIR

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 THROUGH MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025
WHERE: ROUTE 109 (7 WENTWORTH HILL RD.) IN CENTER SANDWICH, NH
 TRADITIONAL COUNTRY FAIR DATING BACK TO 1887.

VISIT THESANDWICHFAIR.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.



78TH ANNUAL WARNER FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL

WHEN: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025
WHERE: DOWNTOWN (ROUTE 103) IN WARNER, NH
 THE BELOVED, ANNUAL FESTIVAL IS WARNER'S INVITATION TO SHARE THE NATURAL SPLENDOR OF FALL WHILE ENJOYING FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT, CARNIVAL RIDES AND FINE CRAFTS ALONG THE MAIN STREETS OF WARNER.

VISIT WFFF.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.

28TH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL AND CHILI COOK-OFF

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025 | 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.
WHERE: VISITOR CENTER GREEN, CLAREMONT
 ENJOY LIVE MUSIC, 5K AND CHILDREN'S ROAD RACES, VENDORS AND, OF COURSE, A CHILI CONTEST AND TASTING.

VISIT GREATERCLAREMONTNH.ORG FOR MORE FESTIVAL INFORMATION.

148TH ANNUAL DEERFIELD FAIR

WHEN: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – SUNDAY, SEPT 28, 2025
WHERE: DEERFIELD FAIRGROUNDS ON ROUTE 43 IN DEERFIELD, NH
 ONE OF NEW ENGLAND'S MOST BELOVED AND LARGEST AGRICULTURAL FAIRS FEATURING ENDLESS FOOD VENDORS, MULTIPLE ANIMAL AND LIVESTOCK BARN, LARGE CARNIVAL AND MIDWAY AREA AND FOUR DAYS OF LIVE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT.

VISIT DEERFIELDFAIR.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.



HARVEST TIME

THE EARTH, A PATIENT, WATCHFUL SOUL,
HOLDS SECRETS IN ITS QUIET HOLD. WE
PLANT OUR HOPES IN FERTILE GROUND,
WITH PRAYERS FOR JOY THAT WILL
ABOUND.

WE SOW OUR EFFORTS, DAY BY DAY, IN
WORK, IN LOVE, IN EVERY WAY. SOME
SEEDS ARE SOWN IN SUNLIT HOURS, SOME
WATERED DEEP WITH TEAR-FILLED
SHOWERS.

AND AS THE SEASONS TURN AND PASS,
THE TENDER SHOOTS EMERGE FROM GRASS.
A WEED MIGHT SPROUT, A BITTER ROOT,
FROM CARELESS THOUGHTS OR WORDS OF
BRUTE.

BUT NURTURED SEEDS, WITH GENTLE HAND,
WILL BLOSSOM FAIR ACROSS THE LAND. A
KINDNESS SHARED, A TRUTH DECLARED, A
GARDEN OF DEEP LOVE IS SHARED.

SO WHEN THE HARVEST COMES TO CALL,
WE GATHER FRUITS, FOR ONE AND ALL. THE
ECHOES OF THE CHOICES MADE, A
TAPESTRY OF LIFE, DISPLAYED. FOR EVERY
ACT, A SEED TAKES HOLD, A HARVEST IN ITS
STORY TOLD. WE REAP THE HARVEST WE
HAVE SOWN, IN ALL THE SEEDS THAT WE
HAVE GROWN.

Anonymous



Photo by Karyn Toy.

