

»» HILLTOP PLACE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ««

HILLTOPPER

HPCA Community Newsletter



Photo by Brian Stillson

FALL IS COMING TO HILLTOP

WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER HILLTOPPER

By George Edwards

Welcome back! We are so happy to bring you the October edition of the Hilltopper! We received so many wonderful comments after the June edition and we thank you for them. They were very encouraging. We want to thank everyone who contributed to this edition and 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. We hope to publish every few months. Send your contributions to hilltopnhnewsletter@gmail.com.

The annual Oktoberfest Party will be held on Saturday, October 5th at the Hilltop House. Wear your lederhosen and get ready for some oompa music. The party will start at 5:00pm. Hope to see you there!

OCTOBERFEST AT HILLTOP



CHANGE IS GOOD

By Mae Edwards

How many times have we heard someone say these very words? Or maybe, we have tried to encourage and motivate a friend or family member with this familiar phrase in the midst of their experiencing a big move or after a loss of employment. Either way, although change is often quite difficult, it typically will pave the way for clearer vision and a new perspective.....if only we can embrace the possibilities associated with each change that comes our way.

As we age and our adult children make their way in the world, these empty nest years are often marked with significant change.....We watch as our sons and daughters blaze new trails, just as we had always hoped they would. We acknowledge that all the years of guiding and encouraging has led to their burgeoning success—and now we watch as that long hoped for success is drawing them away—albeit bittersweet, we must remind ourselves, “change is good”.

For me, Autumn always points to the necessity for change....nature is constantly reminding us that things must change if they are to grow. Plants wither and fade after a season of colorful blooms—gardens that so generously shared their bounty are now being prepared for cold and frost, and a time of quiet dormancy. We say goodbye to warm sunny days and prepare to turn the soil over and our clocks back.....gaining an extra hour of sleep every autumn, yes, change is indeed good!

With further reflection, I continue to find more beautiful reasons to embrace all the changes that this time in life presents to us....I am reminded of the great truth in one of my mother's favorite sayings, “this too, shall pass”—whether good or bad, happy or sad, painful or joyful, all of life is ever fleeting.

So whether you are enjoying a beautiful autumn day or dealing with an unwanted health issue, or visiting an elderly friend who is ill, take a moment and hold onto this life-giving truth that all of these experiences will last only for a while.

In response to this realization, may we thoughtfully choose to live each moment with great intention & purpose, knowing that the challenges & pain will lessen, the treasured friends are here with us right now and likewise the breathtaking fall colors outside our windows will soon also fade.

So my friend, savor these moments, be grateful for the joys and the sorrows born in each day, noting that every bit of it has merit and value.

And whatever you do, don't ignore or shy away from all that life's changes have to offer....each change will help us to grow and become more of who we are called to be.....and yes, we, too will discover that change is good.

Part of your purpose is enjoying the now. Realizing just how blessed you are. Soaking in all the beauty surrounding you. At one time, your now, was the future you always dreamed of having. Be grateful. Gratitude attracts even more beauty.

-DEUN IVORY



Photo by Mae Edwards

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS AND MUSIC LOVERS

THERE IS A MUSIC GROUP AT HILLTOP THAT MEETS ALMOST EVERY SATURDAY FROM 11 TO 12:30. THEY PLAY MADRIGAL TYPE SONGS AND ANYONE WHO PLAYS AN INSTRUMENT OR WANTS TO SING IS WELCOME TO JOIN. IF YOU HEAR MUSIC EMANATING FROM THE BARN DURING THAT TIME, PLEASE DROP IN AND SEE/HEAR WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.



The Hilltop Summer Party was held on Saturday July 27. The Kearsarge Band played on the Hilltop Patio to over 50 residents. It was a blue sky day with plenty of food and drink for all who attended.



SUMMER PARTY!!



A FALL TREAT IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

APPLE PICKING

KING BLOSSOM - GRANTHAM
[HTTPS://KINGBLOSSOMFARM.COM](https://kingblossomfarm.com)

PATCH ORCHARDS - LEBANON
[HTTPS://PATCHORCHARDS.COM](https://patchorchards.com)

CARDIGAN MOUNTAIN ORCHARD - ALEXANDRIA
[HTTP://WWW.CARDIGANMTNORCHARD.COM/](http://www.cardiganmtnorchard.com/)

CARTER HILL ORCHARD - CONCORD
[HTTPS://WWW.CARTERHILLAPPLES.COM](https://www.carterhillapples.com)

GOULD HILL FARN - CONTOO COOK
[HTTPS://GOULDHILLFARM.COM/](https://gouldhillfarm.com/)



APPLE CRISP

PREP TIME - 25 MINUTES
 COOKING TIME - 30 MINUTES

EASE OF PREPARATION - EASY
 YIELD - 6 SERVINGS

5-6 PEELED, SLICED APPLES
 SUGAR
 1/4 CUP WATER
 1 TEASPOON CINNAMON

1 CUP FIRMLY PACKED BROWN
 SUGAR
 1/2 CUP SOFTENED MARGARINE
 3/4 CUP ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR

ARRANGE APPLES IN A DEEP, BUTTERED, 2-QUART BAKING DISH. ADD WATER AND SET ASIDE. BLEND CINNAMON, FLOUR, BROWN SUGAR AND MARGARINE WITH A FORK UNTIL CRUMBLY. PAT OVER THE APPLES. BAKE AT 350 DEGREES FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES OR UNTIL APPLES ARE TENDER AND CRUST IS BROWN. SERVE WARM. PAIRS ESPECIALLY WITH MAPLE WHISKEY ICE CREAM FROM SANCTUARY FARM.

27th Annual Fall Festival and Chili Cook-Off

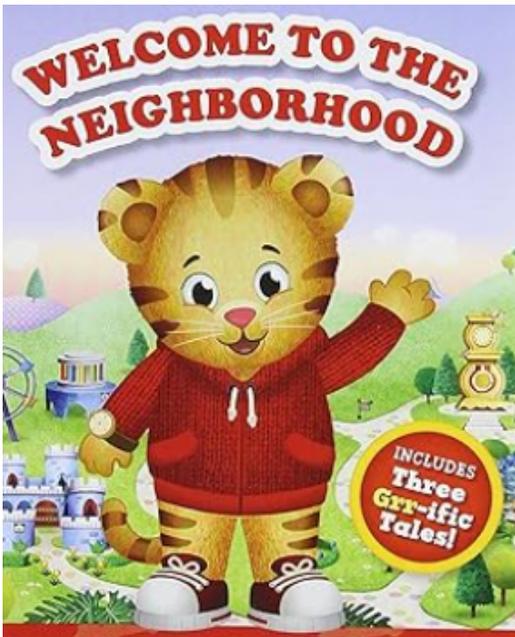
When: Saturday, October 5, 2024 | 10 a.m.-
 3 p.m.

Where: Visitor Center Green, Claremont

Enjoy live music, 5K and children's road races, vendors and, of course, a chili contest and tasting.

Visit greaterclaremonthnh.org for more festival information.





WELCOME TO HILLTOP

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new neighbors to Hilltop.

- George & Mae Edwards # 45
- Peggy Gleckler # 49
- Sarah Chapin # 51
- Janet Howe # 58
- Lois Watts # 60

- Biddy & Peter Irwin # 124
- James Harris # 139

Owners who purchased after June 1, 2024

- Martin & Catherine Michaelwicz # 29
- Cynthia Anthony # 102
- Bill & Gail Wariner # 127
- Joe & Giora Heth # 142
- Gerard & Elaine O'Neill # 145

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

by Jean Molloy

THIS SUMMER HAS BEEN BOTH PRODUCTIVE AND EVENTFUL AT HILLTOP PLACE. AFTER A SLOWER START, WE ARE NOW OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL OWNERS FOR THEIR PATIENCE AS WE COMPLETED THE DRAINAGE WORK IN CLUSTER FOUR. I'M PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THIS PROJECT IS ALMOST FINISHED, WITH ONLY MINOR PAVING WORK REMAINING. AS WE CONTINUE TO ASSESS OUR BUDGET, WE WILL SHIFT FOCUS TO THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN CLUSTER TWO.

COBB HILL IS WORKING HARD TO REMAIN ON SCHEDULE. WITH THE SLAB SUCCESSFULLY POURED, WE ARE NOW MOVING INTO THE FRAMING PHASE, AND TRUSS PACKAGES ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE SHORTLY. THERE IS STILL SIGNIFICANT WORK AHEAD, BUT WE ARE PLEASED TO SEE THIS DEVELOPMENT MOVING FORWARD AS PLANNED.

OUR MAINTENANCE TEAM HAS BEEN DILIGENT IN ADDRESSING VARIOUS TASKS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING MANY WORK ORDERS, WINDOW AND BUILDING REPAIRS, SHRUB AND TREE REMOVAL, AND REGULAR MOWING. THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN RESOLVING ISSUES RELATED TO OUR ONGOING PROJECTS. IN THE COMING WEEKS, THE TEAM WILL TRANSITION TO FALL CLEANUP, AIR CONDITIONER REMOVAL, AND PREPARING FOR THE UPCOMING SNOW SEASON.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE FALL SEASON AND APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AS WE WORK TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE HILLTOP PLACE.



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

Photo by George Edwards

**MY HOME****BY****BARBARA D.**

**WINTER SNOWCAPPED MOUNTAINS WITH SKIERS, HIKERS, CLIMBERS - FEELING FREE;
 SHARING PATHS WITH DEER, MOOSE, RABBITS; FOOTPRINTS CHALLENGING TO KNOW;
 TRAILS WITH SENTINELS OF PRECIOUS WHITE BIRCH TREES,
 COVERED WITH ICE CRYSTALS LIKE DIAMONDS AGLOW.
 LAKES FROZEN WITH FISH SWIMMING BELOW; ANGLERS ABOVE, A LINE IN TOW.**

**SPRING RAINS FOR RAPIDS AND WHITE WATER PADDLERS.
 SHARING RIVERS WITH SALMON, TROUT, BASS – A FISHERMAN CANNOT PASS.
 BUDDING LILAC BUSHES AS THE EARTH RENEWS.
 PURPLE FINCH, CARDINALS, LADYBUGS, KARNER BLUES; BINOCULARS RAISED TO CATCH THE
 VIEWS.**

**SUMMER SUN FOR SWIMMERS, BOATERS - PLAYING ON OUR LAKES AND PONDS;
 SUNBATHERS ON SANDY BEACHES, SURFERS RIDING OCEAN WAVES.
 SHARING WATERS AND SHORES WITH
 LOONS, EAGLES, WHALES, SEALS; SANDPIPERS, PIPING PLOVERS, AND THE GULLS.
 LOOK: A RED SPOTTED NEWT, A BEAVER, AN OTTER, A TURTLE, A FROG.
 PITCHER PLANTS, A TREASURE TO FIND, PRESERVED IN A BOG.**

**AUTUMN BREATHS OF CRISP AIR, A TAPESTRY OF CHANGING LEAVES.
 VISITORS SHARING WOODLANDS, ABLAZE WITH MAGICAL COLORS MOTHER NATURE WEAVES.
 SOME TRAVELING FROM AFAR, NOW ON SCENIC ROADS - DISCOVERING
 COVERED BRIDGES, STONEWALLS, OUR STATE'S HISTORIC LANDMARKS;
 THE MANY ADVENTURES AWAITING ALL OF US WITHIN OUR PARKS.**

**A CANVAS OF BRIGHT RED-ORANGE SUNSETS, GOLDEN SUNRISES, PARRISH BLUE SKIES.
 SEASONS FULL OF SIGHTS, SCENTS, AND TASTES GALORE.
 BEAUTIFUL NEW HAMPSHIRE – OURS TO PROTECT, ENJOY, EXPLORE.**

HILLTOP GARDEN



Hilltop Gardners (L-R) Laurie Bundy, Evelyn Grace, Jay Leavitt, Jodi Demski, Kay Clark, Ron Clark, Joe Lackie, Sue Jaggard, Brad Leavitt, and August the dog



Photo by Mae Edwards

SO MUCH TALENT AT HILLTOP

THE HILLTOP HOUSE COMMITTEE IS WORKING ON PLANS TO RETURN THE WELL RECEIVED ARTISTIC EXHIBITS AT HILLTOP HOUSE IN NOVEMBER, 2024. EXHIBITS WILL REMAIN DISPLAYED FOR FOUR TO EIGHT WEEKS AND THE COMMITTEE IS HOPING TO UTILIZE THE ARTISTIC ENDEAVORS OF HILLTOP RESIDENTS AS WELL AS LOCAL TALENT.

SALLY OAK AND DIANA MORRIS ARE ARRANGING AND COORDINATING THESE DISPLAYS FOR ALL RESIDENTS TO ENJOY. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS ENDEAVOR WITH YOUR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS.



35th Annual Milford Pumpkin Festival

When: Friday, October 11 – Sunday, October 13, 2024

Where: Downtown Milford and the Milford Oval (Route 101) in Milford, NH

Featuring a craft fair, beer and wine tent, talent show, a haunted trail, music, food, the giant pumpkin weigh-in and more. Parking is available at the Milford High School with free shuttle rides to the festival. Don't miss the community pumpkin lighting on Saturday night.

Visit milfordpumpkinfestival.org for more information.



Fall Foliage Fest

When: Saturday, October 11 through Monday, October 12, 2024

Where: Waterville Valley Resort in Waterville Valley, NH

To complement the brilliant fall foliage, Waterville Valley has scheduled a weekend of family activities, free outdoor concerts, merchant tent sales, ski swap, 5K road race and 1.6K fun run, kids games and more. All day in the Town Square.

Visit waterville.com for more information.

77th Annual Warner Fall Foliage Festival

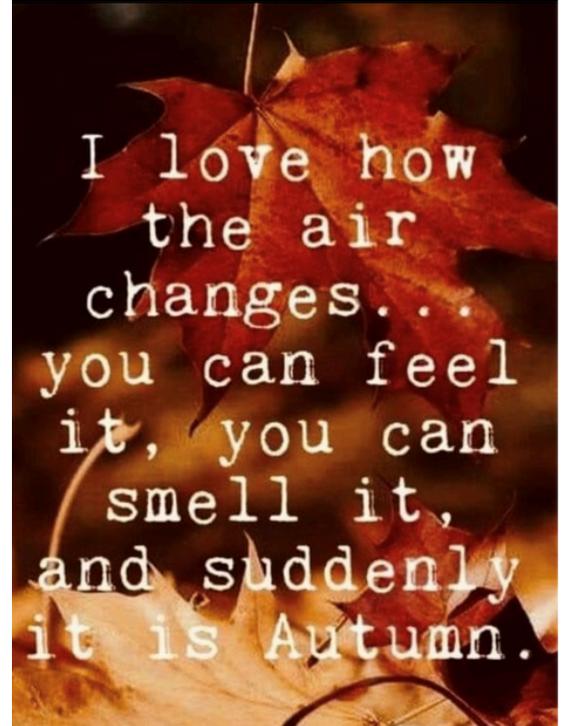
When: Friday, October 11 – Sunday, October 13, 2024

Where: Downtown (Route 103) in Warner, NH

The 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.

FALL IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



New Hampshire Pumpkin Festival

When: Friday, October 25 and Saturday, October 26, 2024

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.

White Mountains Oktoberfest

When: Saturday, October 11 through Monday, October 12, 2024

Where: Loon Mountain Resort in Lincoln, NH

Get a taste of the Bavarian Alps during the area's largest celebration of German food, drink and culture, White Mountain Oktoberfest. This three-day festival perfectly coincides with fall foliage season so you'll enjoy beer and brats alongside stunning views of New Hampshire's White Mountains. Admission is free for all.

Visit loonmtn.com for more information.

The Sandwich Fair

When: Saturday, October 11 through Monday, October 12, 2024

Where: Route 109 (7 Wentworth Hill Rd.) in Center Sandwich, NH

Traditional country fair dating back to 1887.

Visit thesandwichfair.com for more information.

Giant Pumpkin Weigh-off and Regatta

Where: Saturday, October 19 and Sunday, October 20, 2024

Where: Downtown and Main Street in Goffstown, NH

The giant pumpkin weigh-off is day one, followed by the regatta on the following day. Also featuring pumpkin catapults, giant pumpkin drop, races and more.

Visit goffstownmainstreet.org for more information.

Photos by Mae Edwards

WELCOMING HILLTOP FACES



Ron and Kay



Clare and Augusta (with Gracie)



Laura and Marianne



Nina and Karen

HILLTOP PLACE ENTRANCE

THE LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE IS ONCE AGAIN HARD AT WORK TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY MORE WELCOMING AND A TRULY BEAUTIFUL PLACE FOR US ALL. KARYN TOY WAS SPOTTED HARD AT WORK ON THE FIRST PHASE OF SPRUCING UP THE FRONT ENTRANCE AND SHE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS BEING MADE TO THE FRONT ENTRANCE AREA.

PHASE I

THE LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE WAS TASKED WITH CLEANING UP THE FRONT ENTRANCE:

- OLD ROCK GARDEN REMOVED
- FIELDSTONES FOUND IN GARDEN WERE ADDED TO EXTEND THE WALL
- AREAS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE WALL WERE LEVELED AND SEEDED
- DEAD LILAC TREE WAS REMOVED—THE REMAINING STUMP WILL BE FLATTENED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE
- TOPSOIL AND SEED WILL BE ADDED WHEREVER NEEDED

PHASE II (SPRING 2025)

- NO IN GROUND PLANTINGS WILL BE ADDED ALONG THE STONEWALL FOR EASE OF MAINTENANCE & ATTRACTIVENESS
- THREE LARGE FLOWER POTS ARE PLANNED TO BE PLACED UNDER THE SIGN FOR SEASONAL COLOR
- ALSO CONSIDERING THE ADDITION OF A SHRUB TO BE PLANTED AT THE FAR END OF THE STONEWALL

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO LEND A HAND TO MAKE OUR HOME SUCH A LOVELY PLACE TO BE!!!



Photos by George and Mae Edwards



HILLTOP ENERGY STUDY GROUP
"Empowered Together for Our Future"

LATEST UPDATE



"BUTTON UP" PROGRAM AT HILLTOP

Practical ways to stay warm this winter while saving energy and reducing costs!

On Wednesday, September 18th, Andy Ducan, Energy Specialist, offered a 2-hour presentation on how to **save money on energy costs**. The focus was on practical ways to conserve energy and reduce the 'leaking' of energy in our condos. Before the temperature changes and winter arrives, we received comprehensive and practical information on how to reduce energy costs and understand some of the major reasons for higher energy costs!

Additional consult: Phil LaMoreaux from Eversource/NHSaves Residential Energy Efficiency wants attendees to know that they can contact him if they have questions about NHSaves residential energy efficiency programs:

Phil LaMoreaux
 Energy Efficiency Consultant
 Eversource Energy
philip.lamoreaux@eversource.com
 Office: 603-634-2605
 Mobile: 603-731-0522

For anyone who missed the presentation, here is the link to the Button Up PDF on the PAREI web site: <https://plymouthenergy.org/nh-saves-button-up/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: www.nhsaves.com

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the present members of Hilltop's Energy Study Group. Ginny Blass, Coordinator; Ron and Kay Clark; Kevin and Linda Cooney; Cathy Creany; Barbara Dziura; Mandy Johnson; Micheline Lizotte; Jim Ransom; and Jim Flanagan.

