

ISSUE 1 | JULY/AUGUST | 2013

# FORWARD Milford

NEWS AND UPDATES IN PLANNING, BUILDING, THE ECONOMY AND RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Welcome to **FORWARD** Milford

We are pleased to present the first edition of *FORWARD* Milford – a bi-monthly update from the Office of Community Development intended to keep the community and taxpayers informed on current projects, developments, plans, ideas and events. This Office manages planning, zoning, building permits, code enforcement and health and works closely with the Conservation Commission. As you travel about Town and wonder what is under construction at a certain location, or need to know what permits are needed for a project and what the process entails, or are curious about what the Planning Board or Zoning Board are doing – this will be the place. Your feedback is welcome...and thanks for checking us out.

*Bill Parker*

Bill Parker, Community Development Director  
bparker@milford.nh.gov

## MILFORD'S ECONOMY MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

The Economic Development Advisory Council (EDAC) is a 15-member Selectmen-appointed group of business leaders and representatives from the Selectmen, Planning Board, Schools and Conservation Commission supported by the Office of Community Development. The group is charged with advising the Selectmen on policies and actions the Town can take to insure Milford continues to grow and develop in a prosperous, business-friendly way while balancing the community's desire to protect and enhance its quality-of-life.

EDAC is currently undertaking an **Economic Development Community Input** Survey geared to all business-owners, residents, and

taxpayers to identify Milford's strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities as they relate to the local economy and to determine how to stimulate economic development. EDAC's goal is to obtain as much input as possible by mid-July.

Paper copies of the Survey are available in the Lobby of Town Hall, the Office of Community Development and the Wadleigh Memorial Library. You can also take the survey electronically or download a digital copy at [www.milford.nh.gov](http://www.milford.nh.gov). Make your voice heard!



PHOTO BY: AMANDA LODER / STATEIMPACT NEW HAMPSHIRE



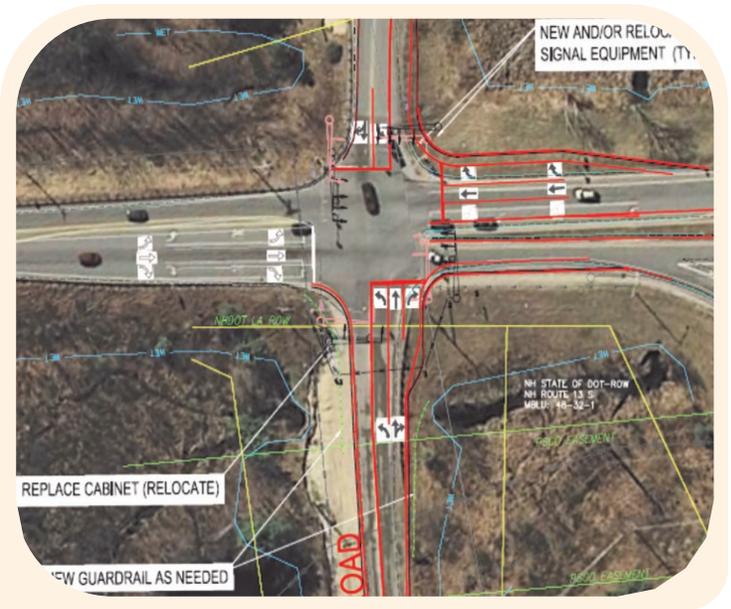
## WHO KNEW?

The Office of Community Development is not located in the library. In 1892 the Town of Milford built a library on the east end of the Town Hall. The library had the town's first full time librarian. In the 1950's a new library building was constructed across the street from Town Hall. However the original stone sign still remains above the OCD entrance on Nashua Street, this often causes confused faces on visitors looking for the library!

# WHATS HAPPENING IN MILFORD?

**The South Street Improvements Project** – This long anticipated project is scheduled for construction in 2014, and will include new sidewalks on most of both sides of South Street from Union Square to the railroad; underground utilities from Union Square to the Christian Science Church; and a gradual widening of South Street on the west side from the parking lots south of Café-on-the-Oval to the Christian Science Church. This safety and enhancement project is complex due to the challenge of undergrounding the utilities that serve neighboring businesses as well as acquiring property easements, and is subject to lengthy reviews and many requirements from the NH Department of Transportation.

**Intersection and Signalization Improvements at Rte. 13/Emerson Road/Armory Road** – The timeframe for construction of added eastbound, westbound, and southbound turning lanes at this congested intersection, with left-turn only signalization from Emerson and Armory Roads, is currently in preliminary design and undergoing various NH Department of Transportation reviews. Construction is anticipated to begin this Fall, and completed in the Spring of 2014.



**PERMITS, PERMITS, PERMITS**  
PERMITS ISSUED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2013

- 35 Commercial Construction
- 6 New Residential Homes
- 4 Town Buildings/Facilities
- 1 Agriculture Construction
- 2 New Units/Apt

- 76 Permits for Miscellaneous Residential Construction
- ⇒ 12 New/Replacement Decks
  - ⇒ 11 New Pools
  - ⇒ 7 Basement remodels
  - ⇒ 5 Replacement windows
  - ⇒ 3 Sheds/outbuildings
  - ⇒ 3 Garages

- 165 Miscellaneous permits issued
- ⇒ 99 Electrical permits
  - ⇒ 40 Plumbing permits
  - ⇒ 18 Sign permits
  - ⇒ 8 Stormwater permits



## SPOTLIGHTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

WELCOME TO TOWN!

**Swirl n' Serve**  
Frozen yogurt shop located at 20 South St

**Our Detailed Men Barber Shop**  
Men's barber shop located at 40 Nashua St

**Better Business...Better Foods**  
**Aka Francestown Village Foods**  
Locally made frozen foods  
Located at Granite Town Plaza (under construction)

- Pizzeria Roma** - *New Location*– Lorden Plaza
- Hair Cottage** - *New Location*– South Street
- Tasty Tobacco** - *New Location*– Granite Town Plaza
- NH Liquor Store** - *New Location*– Market Basket Center (Coming Soon!)
- Kilkenny's Pub** - *Now crafting their own beer!*

- Airmar Technology**- *Under Construction*- Meadowbrook Drive
- Pine Valley Mill Residences**- *Under Construction*- 50 1 & 2 bedroom apartments in historic mill building- Wilton Road



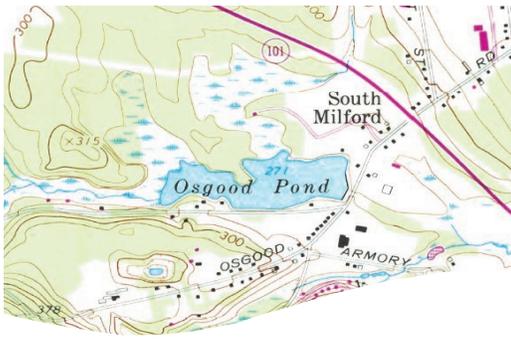
**Granite State Future Project**  
The Granite State Future Project is a statewide project among all of the Regional Planning Commissions coordinated by the Nashua Regional Planning Commission and funded through a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The project will reflect the New Hampshire Livability Principles, a set of concepts which will provide both regional and statewide plans which ad-



dress transportation, land use, economic development, housing, cultural and historic resources, health care and environmental protection.

**Water Infrastructure Workshop**  
Nashua Regional Planning Commission is hosting a workshop on Water Infrastructure on Thursday, July 18 from 11:30AM – 3:00PM @ 9 Executive Park Drive, Merrimack. Please RSVP by July 12 to Karen Baker at karenb@nashuarpc.org or 603-424-2240, ext. 11



# OSGOOD POND HAPPENINGS

If you have the opportunity to spend a few minutes looking at the pond, you will note that the water appears, at least most of the time, to be trickling in a small channel. Where's the pond? The trickle is in what now defines Great Brook. After snowmelt or heavy rains, the pond seems to be back. But that's because there is a limit to the amount of water that can pass through the discharge pipe that penetrates the dam. When it drains down, you will notice that the pond is very shallow, perhaps 5 to 10 feet shallower in places than it once was. For this you can blame the stormwater and runoff that carries soil and other sediments to the pond where it settles out in the slower waters of the pond.

Osgood Pond is one of those often overlooked gems that provides a promise for the future and a link to the past. The pond is the result of historic damming of Great Brook dating back to as early as the late 1700's. The foundation remnants of an historic icehouse can still be found adjacent to the pond. Osgood has a rich history of providing opportunities from peaceful bird watching to canoeing and fishing. However, if you look at the pond today you note that the water level is down and it often appears to be nothing more than a mudflat.

The dam's discharge pipe is open to intentionally drain the pond. While this will help with some of the weeds, the purpose is

mostly to help the sediments dry out. With the proper permits, the pond may be dredged to restore fishing and canoeing. This is an expensive process, as the fees for the NH Department of Environmental services' review and permitting could exceed \$80,000. This year Representative Gary Daniels introduced a bill that would cap the review cost for this type of municipal project at \$10,000. As of this writing, both the NH House and Senate have approved the bill and it is awaiting the signature of the Governor to become law. Until this law is enacted, the Town cannot submit the plan for state review without incurring the full review fee. Hopefully the plan can be submitted and can be reviewed by the state and a permit can be issued in time to begin the dredging process this fall. The intent is for the pond to be back to its historic grandeur by next spring.

## ASK THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

Summer has started and we have already processed over 11 swimming pool permits this season. One of the most commonly asked questions we receive this time of year is what do I need to do to install a pool. The code states that any swimming pool, including hot tubs and spas, that contains water over 24 inches deep requires a building permit.

### What do I need to get a building permit for my pool?

The application process can be very easy and fairly quick to approve. The most important is the plot plan. We require a plot plan (to scale) that shows the size and location of the pool in respect to your home and property line setbacks. We then ask for a brief description of what the pool is made of. Most applicants submit a copy of the pool literature. With just these two items the approval process can be quick as long as the pool is within the property line setbacks. Once approved, the permit must be posted in a visible location along with your electrical permit at the job site until completion.



### My pool is installed, am I done?

Before you can start enjoying that pool, you will need a final inspection. For the final pool inspection some things we will be looking for are pool placement per plan, electrical safety and code compliance, and barrier requirements. The Office of Community Development has the code information used for these inspections and we strive to make sure the occupants of the pool are kept safe as well as keeping access to the pool restricted from accidents. Both the electrical and barrier requirements can be difficult, but are used to ensure safety. This information is available at our office and can easily be emailed to you.

## PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITY

PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITY MAY-JUNE 2013

May 21, 2013

**Kevin Degroot – 30 Union St – Map 25, Lot 53;** Minor site plan to convert a single family residence into a 3-unit residential dwelling. *Application was approved with conditions on 6/4/2013*

June 18, 2013

**Aaron & Jamie Kaplan – 167 Elm St – Map 19, Lot 4;** Public Hearing for a minor site plan to convert a residential property back to a previous mixed use designation, to include a residential apartment and a small commercial business. *Application was approved with conditions on 6/18/2013*

**Mark & Brian Danforth – North River Rd – Map 6, Lot 12;** Discussion for a minor subdivision.

**St. Joseph Hospital – Nashua St – Map 31, Lot 32;** Additional discussion on proposed conceptual design.

# SAVE THE DATE!!!

## PLANNING BOARD OPEN HOUSE CREATING LIVABLE NEIGHBORHOODS

The Planning Board, charged by New Hampshire law with developing and implementing the Milford Master Plan, in 2010 adopted the Housing Chapter. Over the past year and a half, the Board has been working with Community Development staff and the Nashua Regional Planning Commission to review and recommend revisions for public input and prepare revisions to the Zoning Ordinance to make sure the Town's regulations reflect Master Plan goals on housing.

The Planning Board is holding a public open house on Tuesday evening,

July 23rd, 2013, 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium to get citizen input on developing a new "Neighborhood Development Overlay" zoning district. The objective of the new regulation is to ensure that Milford continues to offer a variety of housing options from 'entry-level' to 'aging-in-place', and development incentives that support livability, conservation and open space, and individual mobility and transportation needs.



## FARMERS MARKET

### GRANITE TOWN PLAZA



The Milford Farmer's Market is an annual event held on Saturday mornings June through October at 191 Elm Street in the Plaza. Presented by the Milford Farmer's Market Association, this is the perfect place to stock up with freshly picked home grown fruits, vegetables and flowers, as well as a delicious assortment of baked goods. Special events include NH Farmer's Week and the annual Pie Contest. Make a plan to visit this event and stock up with produce.

Can't Get Enough OCD News?  
Here's a Sneak Peek of Our  
Next Issue...

- 2013-2019 Capital Improvements Plan –
- Using Milford's Geographic Information System
- Economic Development – Where are We Heading?
- Moving on Permit Streamlining
- Stormwater News— Best Management Practices (BMP's)
- Pine Valley Mill Redevelopment Project
- Economic Revitalization Zones (ERZ'S)

## Milford Conservation Commission

### 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Guided Hikes

#### Souhegan River Trail - East

July 27, 2013

9:00am - 11:00am

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!



Join the Milford Conservation Commission and discover the wilderness right in your back yard.

Dogs on leashes are welcome. Parking is available at the Masonic Hall or around the Oval. We will meet in Emerson Park. **Please** dress in light colored clothing to more readily spot any ticks looking for a lift.

For further information and directions call 249.0628 or  
[conservation@milford.nh.gov](mailto:conservation@milford.nh.gov).



Visit us on the web at [www.milford.nh.gov/departments/community-development](http://www.milford.nh.gov/departments/community-development)

or

In person at 1 Union Sq., Milford NH, 03055