

**The Rest ... from page 19**

kWhs expected). The solar system aligns with the needs of the building; in 2021 the building consumed a total of 19,693 kWhs, a bit less than it produced.

In 2021 the energy upgrades and solar panels together saved the Town \$784 in electricity and oil costs. Once the Town owns the solar system, the annual savings will jump dramatically since it will pay nothing for all the power the system generates.

If the Town had already owned the system the total savings would have been over \$3,200. Since going live, the Town Offices solar system has saved over 143,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> from entering the atmosphere, the equivalent of over 1,000 newly planted trees grown for 10 years.

The Town is scheduled to purchase the solar panel system in October 2023. The purchase price is \$17,724, a very substantial discount from the installed value of the system of \$59,081.

The March 2017 Town Meeting approval provided that the Town would set aside one sixth of the \$17,724 purchase price (or \$2,954) every year for six years from the Unassigned Fund Balance to fund the purchase. Because the funds come from the Unassigned Fund Balance there is no tax impact.

Assuming 2022 Town Meeting approval of this year's final \$2,954 installment, the Town will be in position to complete the purchase in October 2023.

**Andover Lions Club**

Formed in November of 1954, the mission of the Andover Lions Club is to provide assistance to people in need, specifically those who are visually or hearing impaired. We sponsor projects that benefit the community and improve the lives of those citizens in need in Andover, Danbury, Salisbury, and Wilmot.

Eye care and hearing aids have been provided to hundreds of people.

Scholarships, emergency funding, and the Andover Food Pantry.

Operation Kidsight, screening children between the ages of one and six years old for amblyopia. Now testing children at the Imagination Inn, the East Andover Village Preschool, and the Wilmot Community Center.

Fundraising includes the Fourth of July pancake breakfast and food sales on the Village Green, Musterfield Farm Days, and Halloween night for the town.

The funds raised are donated to community needs, Lions Clubs International Foundation, Vision Weekend for the blind, surrounding food pantries, food backpacks for school weekend and vacation time, and a trophy for AE/MS Citizen of the Year.

We meet once every other month at 6 PM at the Franklin Pizza Chef and welcome new members. Call 603 735-6140 or 603 768-3838.

**Andover Service Club**

The Andover Service Club is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of (approximately) 50 women from Andover and neighboring communities. Its mission is to be of service to the people of the community and the State and to broaden and strengthen the social and intellectual life of its members.

Although our general monthly meetings and usual fundraising events have been curtailed during the COVID-19 pandemic, members have continued to support our organization. They baked pies for the successful Thanksgiving Pie sale in 2021. The monies raised fund the ASC Merit Scholarship Program, which has benefited hundreds of Andover High School graduates and continuing education college students since 1959. In 2021, four scholarships were awarded.

Proceeds from the updated ASC

Thrift and Gift Shop also support the philanthropic mission of the Club. It sells new and gently used clothing and accessories and has incorporated beautiful, handcrafted articles, made by local craftspeople, some of whom were attracted by the ASC's Jingle Bell Christmas Fair, organized by our former president, Mary Ofenloch.

Throughout the years, the ASC has donated to many other community organizations, but COVID-19 has limited our fundraising opportunities, resulting in the Club having to somewhat curtail these financial contributions. We look forward to a future when we can resume our various community projects.

The ASC general meetings are held at 10 AM on the second Wednesday of the month, September to June, in the Highland Lake Grange Hall in East Andover. To make inquiries about membership write to PO Box 22, Andover NH 03216 or visit the Thrift and Gift Shop. We welcome new members.

**Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners**

Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners (KNP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to building a community where neighbors help each other flourish. Partnering with local entities such as Warner Connects, Kearsarge Regional Ecumenical Ministries (KREM), town welfare offices, Colby-Sawyer College, food resources, the Andover Hub, and the New London Hospital, KNP seeks to address some of the root causes leading people to seek emergency help.

Whether for a day or a year, KNP embraces the power of interpersonal relationships. We are connectors!

KNP helps "weave" a net of local support in the Kearsarge region, matching a list of over 250 committed KNP volunteers with the short and long-term needs of neighbors and organizations in our region. Volunteers may provide a meal or a ride to a medical appoint-

ment, spring-clean a yard, or do a small home repair.

In a more involved situation, a pair of KNP Advocates will meet with a household over time, walking beside people who are facing challenges as they move toward a more stable footing in life.

We continue to work on accessing affordable housing, food security, and transportation. The Tray It Forward program is in its third year, with five local organizations growing and distributing vegetable garden seedlings to help local folks improve their own food security. Kars for Kearsarge is a new KNP/KREM partnership providing repairs and used vehicles to qualified individuals in the region who lack transportation.

To learn about KNP and get a sense of what we do in the region, please visit [KNPnh.org](http://KNPnh.org).

**Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition**

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition (SRKG) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization to promote hiking and land conservation.

The 75-mile SRK Greenway was built to link the most prominent peaks in the area – Mount Sunapee, Ragged Mountain, and Mount Kearsarge. It extends through 10 towns; 9.4 miles of SRKG trails are in Andover.

SRKG Trail #10 enters Andover from Twist Hill Road, comes down Dawes Road, links to Bridge Street, and ends at Proctor Academy near the Field House. There is a delightful 1.6-mile spur trail off Twist Hill Road to Morey Pond.

Trail #9 begins at the Proctor Field House and goes up to the east and west peaks of Ragged Mountain, with a spur to Balancing Rock, before descending into Wilmot at New Canada Road. There is a trailhead kiosk near the Field House with maps of all the SRKG trails and information about the Proctor woodlands.

This second year of COVID brought very heavy use of SRKG trails, with sales of the Greenway trail guide tripling. The SRKG made significant improvements to its trails: new trailhead signs, two new kiosks, new and re-decked bridges, and new drainage ditches.

Between May 2019 and December 2021, 73 hikers obtained certificates and a completion medallion from the SRKG after hiking all 75-miles of the SRKG trails. On January 22 and 23, 2022, the SRKG sponsored its third SOLO Wilderness First Aid course at Colby Sawyer College to encourage safe hiking in all seasons.

To learn more about the SRKG, or to join, visit [SRKG.org](http://SRKG.org) or [Facebook.com/SunapeeRaggedKearsargeGreenwayCoalition](https://www.facebook.com/SunapeeRaggedKearsargeGreenwayCoalition). Thank you for your support, and we hope you enjoy the trails!

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