

Andover's Hersey Farm On LCHIP List

By Chelsea Conaboy
Concord Monitor staff

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Of the 288 projects vying for money from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program this year, only about three will be funded, said Executive Director Rachel Rouillard. The list of projects, [which includes over \$300,000 to help purchase a conservation easement on the Hersey Farm in East Andover.] asks for a total of about \$65.5 million, while the program has just \$750,000 to dole out.

"We can't even begin to scrape the surface on this," Rouillard said.

LCHIP was created in 2001 to help leverage state dollars against private and federal ones to protect natural and cultural resources. The program started with a biennial budget of \$12 million. [\$75,000 of that went to the restoration of the Cilleyville-Bog Bridge in Andover.] Former governor Craig Benson cut that to \$1.5 million in 2003. Gov. John Lynch tried to increase the program's budget again last year, but legislative leaders rejected his efforts.

Rouillard said for every \$1 that LCHIP has invested [in projects], \$5.80 has been donated from other sources, such as federal grants and private fundraising. That does not include non-cash donations or the money saved when landowners sell at discounted prices.

Rep. David Hess of Hooksett [is hoping] to pass a bill that would take money from the general fund and give it to LCHIP. "In a very real sense, it's infrastructure spending because those are the resources that attract tourists here, and tourism is a real cog of our economy," he said.

Another bill would tax beverages other than milk - 2 cents for drinks that are a gallon or less and 5 cents for anything larger. Thirty percent of that revenue would go to LCHIP.

A bill to impose a property tax on high-voltage electrical lines would give \$6 million to LCHIP each year.

Here are a few of the local projects on LCHIP's list:

Andover: \$331,000 to conserve 324 acres of pastures, forest and wetlands on Hersey Farm.

Boscawen: \$272,500 of the \$1.3 million needed to conserve 187 acres of Highway View Farm on River Road, a dairy farm on the Merrimack River.

Concord: \$2 million to conserve 1,600 acres in the Broken Ground area.

Concord: \$40,000 to conserve Dimond Hill Farm, a 107-acre working farm.

Newbury: \$25,000 to perform a historic structures report on the 1825 Center Meeting House. Other applications were submitted to restore the meeting house's foundation, exterior, steeple and belfry.

Warner/Webster: \$500,000 to conserve 950 acres along Schoodac Road.
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Adult Computer Classes At AE/MS

By Chris Connor
AE/MS Technology Teacher

Back by popular demand, AE/MS will be offering adult technology classes starting in February. We will be moving these popular classes from weekday evenings to Saturday mornings.

The following is the current schedule. Please call Gail Parenteau at the school at 735-5494 to register for any class. The cost is \$20 per three-hour class, to be paid on class day. Classes include instruction, hands-on practice, and subject material to take home for future reference.

You must register to attend as we need a minimum of 10 participants to hold the session. Classes will be held in the AE/MS Computer Lab.

Organizing Your Computer
Saturday, February 18, 9 AM to noon

"I can never find anything on my computer! I know I saved my document, but where is it?" Learn what files and folders are, how to find documents and files, create folders, move files into folders, move folders, and find anything on your computer. Learn how to tell what a file is just by looking at its name. If you ever wondered about files and folders and naming things on a computer, you should not miss this class.

Using the Internet to Find Things
Saturday, March 11, 9 AM to noon

With over six billion Web sites on

the Internet, it is overwhelming to look for information. How can I tame this Internet beast? Learn how to find information quickly and easily, how to tell if you have good information, and how to pull information off the Internet to use on your computer. Learn from a research master all the tricks of the trade, including how to find detailed information with little to no reading. If you are interested in finding things quickly on the Internet, you need to attend this class.

Beginning PowerPoint
Saturday, April 8, 9 AM to noon

Ever wonder how to do a professional presentation on the computer, easily and quickly? Learn how to quickly put together a presentation on the computer which will be the envy of your peers. Class will cover:

- Creating slides
- Adding designs and pictures
- Rearranging your slides
- Adding and changing color and word styles
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- Getting pictures off the Internet to use in your presentation

This is an introductory course, but a working knowledge of Microsoft Word or similar word processing software is required as a pre-requisite to this class.

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