

Fourth Of July Committee

By Judy Perreault
Fourth of July Committee

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Andover and friends, the Fourth of July house-to-house fundraiser was a huge success. According to Wanda Smith and Irene Jewett, we equaled or surpassed last year's total. I guess they are still counting.

I asked for cheerful and generous givers, and folks responded. If for some reason you were missed, we are still accepting donations. You can contact Wanda at 735- 5434 or Irene at 735-5471, or mail it to Irene at PO Box 36, East Andover 03231. Names that are too late for the official Fourth of July program will be published in the *Beacon*. Our thanks to all the volunteers who collected the donations!

The big day is almost here, and folks can look forward to a great parade. Uncle Sam (a.k.a. Charlie Darling) will be right up front, the symbol of American freedom, patriotism, and spirit. Marching to honor our troops past and present are several veterans groups.

The New Hampshire Pipes and Drums will be back again this year. In addition to marching they will present a concert on the Village Green. Last year they played some wonderful Scottish music. There was also a demonstration of some Scottish dances. Hopefully the young ladies who performed will be back.

The Bektash Drum and Bugle Corps will also be marching. We are fortunate that they choose to return to Andover each year. Their unique uniforms add a splash of color to our parade.

We all know who is coming when we hear the roar of the cannon – it is Captain Morrill and Company. In colonial times, units like his would be a common sight.

The Concord Coach would also have been a main mode of transportation. It is a pretty smooth ride on today's roads in the Fourth of July parade, but it was pretty bumpy in "The Good Old Days." Leapin' Lena is getting in gear for her "uplifting" performance. Everyone who rides in her is always smiling. I'm sure it's a fun ride.

Made In America

Remember our parade theme – Made In America – and get those floats ready! We have prize money and ribbons in a number of categories. Four prizes are theme-related, plus prizes for Most Unique, Most Decorated, Most Patriotic, and Best Costumes. We hope to see some 70th anniversary entries. Joyce Egge of Equine Homes is once again providing

prize money for the animal entries.

Cars, trucks, tractors, and motorcycles add a lot to the parade. Made in America would be a plus.

Parade registration is at the Proctor Field House. You do not need to pre-register.

The children have a chance to be part of the parade. Meet at the Pro-Claim Building with your decorated carts, carriages, bikes, and costumes. Sara Tracy and her judges will be on hand to award ribbons.

The Andover Lions Club Pancake Breakfast held at AE/MS is a healthy way to start your day. There is a lot going on, and you will need plenty of energy to make it through the day.

Activities on the Village Green include opening ceremonies, Barnyard Bingo, music, games, and a huge flea market. Howard Wilson still has a few spaces available. Give him a call at 735-5427.

In the morning at Blackwater Park on the Rail Trail, the Firecracker 5K footrace commences. This is a professionally-timed race and draws a large number of entrants.

There will be a car show in the parking lot of Pizza Chef. This also begins in the morning. There will be a softball game at AE/MS in the afternoon.

Fireworks will begin at dusk. Atlas Fireworks always provides us with a beautiful display. I think the best view is behind the school, but many enjoy the view from Proctor's Carr Field on Main Street.

Food will be available at the school before the show, and the Andover Service Club and Andover Girl Scouts are planning an ice cream social on the Village Green. Event times will be in the programs and in the July issue of the *Beacon*. Programs are available toward the end of June at the Post Offices, the Town Hall, and at the reviewing stand on the Village Green on the Fourth.

Tickets for the Sweet Liberty quilt, made by Irene Haley of Quilting Corner in Tilton, will be on sale on the Village Green on the Fourth. The red, white, and blue blend perfectly. The quilt is truly a work of art and definitely "Made in America." Proceeds go to the Fourth of July fund.

David Jewett and Bob Ward will be in the reviewing stand keeping everyone informed.

We still need some people to help with parking. If you can help or have any questions, contact Jamie Thompson at 735-5581 or 4thOfJulyCommittee@gmail.net.

SSR from page 2

participate in the plant, plus more than a dozen other communities that agreed to send recyclable materials there. The 47,600-square-foot plant and attached office building would cost an estimated \$15.6 million to build, with the cooperative planning to borrow \$9.2 million and spend about \$6.4 million in cash from its capital reserves.

Presher said last night that the tentative plan was to hold a final joint board meeting in early April and close on the project financing April 13.

But March 22, Concord's Solid Waste Advisory Committee voted to recommend that the city pull out of the project. And the night of April 9, the city council voted unanimously to do just that.

City officials said they were concerned that the co-op had not quite achieved commitments of 25,000 tons of materials a year from participating communities, considered a threshold for the plant to break even on operating costs. The volatile market for recycled commodities over the past few years also caused worry.

The main issue, city officials said, was a change in the financing model for the plant, which meant that if the plant were to fail, Concord would have been responsible for paying back 41.5 percent of the project's loans, or roughly \$4.03 million.

That, they said, posed too much risk.

"I think we're still committed to single-stream as a concept," Ward 7 Councilor Keith Nyhan, who chairs the solid-waste committee, said at the April council meeting. "I think the business model as it was proposed to us years ago, and how it's evolved over time, has brought us to the point where we don't think this particular single-stream project is the right one for the city of Concord at this point in time."

Presher said he met with city officials after the April 9 meeting to discuss a revised project, but Concord said it wasn't interested.

"Concord is very excited about recycling," Chip Chesley, the director of the city's general services department, said at last night's operating committee meeting.

But, he said, "It's a hard decision to make when you have certain wants – you want to promote recycling, it's the right thing to do – but you also need to balance those with fiscal responsibility."

Presher said last night approving the borrowing necessary to build the plant required a two-thirds vote of the co-op's joint board, and Concord plus other co-op communities opposed to the single-stream project had enough votes to block approval.

That led to the votes to cancel the contracts associated with the single-stream plant, in effect killing it.

Laconia Public Works Director Paul Moynihan said last night he was disappointed by Concord's decision to scuttle the project.

"It just seemed like the numbers weren't that frightening," he said.

Leaving The Co-op?

The collapse of the single-stream project comes as Concord continues to signal it could pull out of the co-op entirely in a couple years.

If it did, the city would be following the lead of Hopkinton and Webster, which left in 2010, and Allenstown, which struck a deal this year to exit the co-op at the end of 2014.

The co-op's current contract with Wheelabrator, which operates the Penacook trash incinerator used by co-op members, comes to an end in 2014. Presher said last night negotiations are under way on a new deal that could start as early as 2013.

"Looking forward, it appears that the financial advantage of the attractive solid waste disposal costs that the (co-op) has provided the city for over 20 years is no longer a financial advantage, and the co-op is actually using reserve funds to decrease tipping fees to levels that are more competitive in the general marketplace," City Manager Tom Aspell wrote in a letter to the Concord City Council, dated last Friday, that accompanied his proposed fiscal 2013 budget.

Aspell added, "Strong consideration will need to be given to continue participation in the co-op past 2014."

Ben Leubsdorf can be reached at 369-3307 or bleubsdorf@cmonitor.com or on Twitter @BenLeubsdorf.

Copyright © 2012 Concord Monitor



MIKE CARROLL
P.O. Box 1654
New London, NH 03257
603 748 0518
Residential
Exterior & Interior Painting
Fully Insured
References
Prompt & Reliable
Power Washing

BLACK FOREST NURSERY

120 TYPES HOSTAS... \$3.00 UP
"You'll Love Our Prices and Quality!"



6-pk. Annuals... \$2.59 - Proven Winners... \$3.99
Geraniums...\$3.99 up - Memorial Pans - Peonies
21 Types Lilac - Orange Azaleas - Clematis
Hanging Baskets \$19.99 up - Herb Gardens \$6.99
Qt. Perennials & Herbs... sale... 4 or more... \$3.50
Blue Hydrangeas \$24.99 up - Fruit Trees \$34.99
Delivery And Planting Available - Real Cool Trees!
4 Acres! Biggest & Best Selection!

Join our E-mail Club for Sales, Coupons & Information
www.BlackForestNursery.com
 Open 7 Days 8-7 Rtes. 3 & 4, Boscawen Exit 17 off I-93 796-2756 GIFT CERTIFICATES