

Trash from page 16

Roadside rubbish comes in many forms, and has changed and evolved over the years, especially with the advent of the fast food industry. Years ago, litter primarily consisted of beer and soda cans or bottles, paper items, and cigarette butts. (These I only pick up if they are in my own yard!)

Today, there is a much wider range of objects flying out car windows. While bottles, cans, and butts remain the top offenders, they have been joined by plastic water bottles, ice coffee cups with covers and straws, styrofoam coffee cups, plastic shopping bags, losing lottery tickets, and an array of items left over from a quick stop at Dunkin' Donuts, McDonald's, or a similar fast food or takeout establishment.

Believe it or not, some items are more disgusting to pick up than others; for example, the occasional "used" disposable diaper. Grabbing onto a food container which is loaded with ants always gets my attention. Then there is the smelly, half-filled bottle or can which has become the new home for a family of slugs!

There are some litterbugs who annoy me more than others; for example, the person or persons who routinely toss their bright blue beer cans or their bright yellow twisted lemon iced tea cans. I often wonder why bottling companies don't switch to earth-colored containers which would blend in more instead of cans that stick out like sore thumbs. I suspect it's because they want the brightly colored cans to stand out on the store shelves in order to catch the eye of the buyers.

My all-time least favorite litterbug is the one who throws glass bottles out their car window! The resulting broken glass is a real hazard to other drivers, bicyclists, and walkers, to say nothing

about the people picking up the pieces after them.

Occasionally, unusual items appear beside the road which have not been tossed from car windows, but are actual car parts, left behind following an automobile accident. Last year, much time was spent picking up after two accidents which had occurred on opposite ends of the S-shaped bridge beyond our house.

This year, there were multiple little car pieces near Last Street where a car had hit a deer. A very unusual item found beside the road this year was a nice-looking white coffee maker. The glass coffee container was even there and was unbroken!

Several years ago, I came across my one and only "good" find while in the act of picking up litter. As I was making my way up the road one day, I noticed a white plastic bag which was caught on a branch. It was higher up on the banking than I usually attempt to climb, but seeing it flapping in the breeze made it hard to ignore. I reluctantly climbed the steep banking between the road and the rail trail and plucked the bag from the branch.

While climbing back down, I noticed what I thought was a half-buried glass bottle. After a little digging, I was astonished to pull out an intact glass globe from a railroad lantern! How amazing for this globe to have survived – unbroken – for 50 years or more after the last train had passed through Andover; probably it had been lost or misplaced years before that!

Hopefully, this article will encourage everyone to do their part by not littering and by helping to keep their own neighborhoods litter-free. Parents, let's set a good example for our children and young adults and continue to stress the importance of keeping Andover and America clean and beautiful!

HOME IMPROVEMENTS
WINDOWS+DOORS
DECKS +PORCHES
GENERAL CARPENTRY
FINISH CARPENTRY
20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
STEVEN CASEY



HANDYMAN SERVICE
SIDING
REPAIRS
REMODELING
DRYWALL
PROMPT QUALITY WORK
603-648-2271

J. MAC'S SERVICE & REPAIR LLC Power Equipment Parts and Service

We have parts in stock!
Over 200 V Belts & 75+ Mower Blades in stock!

Also in Stock:

- Carburetor Kits & Gaskets
- Fuel Filters, Fuel Line, Fuel Pumps
- Rewind Springs & Starter Cords
- Air Filters & Oil Filters
- Ignition Parts & Spark Plugs
- Deck Spindles & Casters
- Drive Discs & Shear Pins
- And Other Stuff Too!

If we don't have what you need, we can get it!
Often in 48 hours or less.

32 Cilleyville Road, Andover
Tel.: 748-8451



On a sunny Saturday afternoon in May, local bicyclists took advantage of a chance to get their bikes tuned up, to find a new bike, or to swap an old bike for one of a different size or configuration. The free tune-ups were provided on the Andover Village Green by volunteer mechanics, and area residents donated bikes they no longer needed. The final tally was 60 tune-ups performed and 29 bikes donated, of which 22 found new owners. Sponsoring the event were the Andover Community Association, the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail - Merrimack County, the Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative, and the Proctor Academy Cycling Team. Thanks also go to Jake's Market, Tarte Cafe and Bakery, Naughty Nellie's, and Outdoors New England for donating refreshments and free coupons to those who donated bikes.

Photo: Larry Chase

Wilmot Farmers Market Opening Day is June 25

Fresh food direct
from the farm

Press release

It's June, and that means that the committed Wilmot Farmers Market vendors are in the final steps to help fulfill the needs of the community and shoppers for this coming season. Seeds are being planted or have been planted, with gardeners tending their crops in anticipation of what they will have to offer at the market each week. Supplies are being ordered. Crafters are finishing their projects. Meat supplies are being increased, and the laying hens are searching the grass looking for bugs.

The Wilmot Farmers Market offers a variety of produce, meats, jams and jellies, milk, baked goodies, and food along with some unique handcrafted gifts. Music from local artists adds to the festive flair, whether you are dining at the market for breakfast or meeting a friend there to share a tantalizing treat.

You might ask yourself why you should come to our market. There are numerous reasons to support the

Wilmot Farmers Market. The food is real, fresh, and comes directly from the farm. The market experience gives you the real flavors of freshness. You can connect with the farmers and support their efforts as they work in all kinds of weather and earth to grow good food.

Keeping farms sustainable keeps our communities in open space. Rural areas become less rural with every farm sold into development. Be a good neighbor! Meet your neighbors, and support your neighbors.

Each week our market vendors prepare to bring the best to the Wilmot Farmers Market and enjoy their friendship with you. The market has many seasoned vendors who have continued over numerous years to bring their products to the community and ask for your support again this season.

They look forward to seeing you on opening day, June 25, and every Saturday thereafter through September. The market runs from 9 AM to noon on the Wilmot Town Green at 9 Kearsarge Valley Road, next to the Wilmot Town Offices. For questions, call 744-2244.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BEACON!

For \$30 you can have the Beacon mailed to any US address.



Pizza Chef

Andover's Friendly Place for Great Food!

Visit our other locations in Sunapee, Bradford, Woodstock, Quechee, Windsor, Grantham and at 394 Main St., New London 526-9202

161 Main Street, Andover, NH (603) 735-5002