

FNRT from page 18

\$2,500 to New Hampshire bicycling organizations. Through the efforts of Lindy Heim and Tom Frantz, the FNRT-MC won one of these grants.

It will be used to improve, with lighting and other features, the Lawrence Street tunnel in Andover, which has long been on a wish-list of projects. Tom Frantz will begin discussions with contractors to move the project forward soon.

RTP Grant Application: Jack Shields and Lindy Heim reported on their continuing efforts to assemble an application to the New Hampshire Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for the Eagle Pond culvert project. Long presenting a problem of flooding and erosion, this culvert needs redesign and reconstruction, at significant cost. Various materials are necessary for the application – such as contractors’ bids to estimate design and cost data – and endorsements from various organizations (towns, schools, businesses) that benefit from the Trail are being solicited. With a due date of June 19, Jack and Lindy are confident of an excellent and timely submission.

Summer Maintenance: Chris Norris is deeply involved with contractors and others in planning for the several summer projects that will be undertaken. Once priorities and time-lines are established, work will begin.

Possible Combining of Websites: Alex Bernhard presented the intriguing idea of combining the now-separate websites of the two counties covered by the Northern Rail Trail (Merrimack and Grafton) under one umbrella. He made the point that users of the Trail tend to see it as one 58-mile entity, and that it thus made sense to present in that way on the internet.

With unanimous agreement on these points, Alex was authorized to undertake an assessment, with our website managers, of the feasibility of

this change; and then contact Grafton County individuals, if appropriate.

E-Bike Recharging: Jack Shields displayed the very-attractive e-bike recharging station signs that are ready to be installed at three locations on the Trail: the Homestead Inn in Boscawen, the Highland Lake Inn in East Andover, and the Danbury Country Store. After final consultations with these three businesses, the signs will be installed.

Rail Trail Extension into Concord: Patrice Rasche and Jack Shields reported on the current status of a long-hoped-for extension of the Northern Rail Trail into Concord.

With little movement on this front, the FNRT-MC has focused its efforts anew on the .6-mile section that remains undeveloped in Boscawen. Inclusion of this mileage into the Trail would lead to the Hannah Dustin Memorial – a more natural terminus than the current cornfield!

To this end, Jack Shields, Myra Mayman, and Patrice Rasche developed and sent a letter to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation requesting support for the .6-mile extension.

Volunteer Efforts: With volunteers the lifeblood of FNRT-MC, we are pleased to recognize recent new and ongoing efforts in this regard. For one, Cathe Lisk, our website creator, is now making various updates and improvements, along with new postings.

In addition, the New Hampshire Rail Trails Coalition is in the process of updating its website. FNRT-MC input will be provided by both Cathe and Charles Martin.

Lastly, there has been a major effort, led by Lindy Heim, to keep informational kiosks full of Trail maps. Debbi Miller, Lindy Heim, Myra Mayman, and Nita Tomaszewski have been distributing them.

Next Meeting: We intend to hold a virtual Board Meeting for May using Zoom on Wednesday, May 20, at 5 PM.

Programming for Center for the Arts Moves Online

Enjoy art and performance from home

Press release

The Lake Sunapee Center for the Arts (CFA) is announcing that the following programs have moved online. Please make a note of these times and join from the comfort of your home.

May 1 at 7 PM and May 2 at 4 PM

First Friday Gallery Night Online will be streamed online at Facebook.com/CenterForTheArtsNH and posted on the CFA YouTube channel and website for additional viewing. Get a glimpse of the CFA MicroGalleries current exhibits: Alan Shulman at Blue Loon Gallery, Hugo Anderson at Bar Harbor Bank and Trust, and Proctor Academy Student artwork at Whipple Hall.

May 14 at 7 PM and May 15 at 4 PM

Lake Sunapee Music Fest: From Our Home to Yours! Online

Favorite regional musicians come together for this uplifting At Home event, including Patrick Ross, Tom Pirozzoli, Carl Beverly, Nicole Densmore, Kathy Lowe, Will Ogmundson, Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, and a very special guest. A special event for special times! Visit Facebook.com/CenterForTheArtsNH. All proceeds from this event go directly to the CFA Artist Relief Emergency Fund.

May 15 to 30

Online Silent Auction to benefit the CFA 2020 Scholarship Fund. Bid! Bid! Bid! on restaurant, store, and theater gift certificates, museum vouchers, baskets to entertain you, handmade crafts, original artwork, and a few surprise items! To view and to bid, visit 32Auctions.com/CFA2020. All proceeds go directly to our Scholarship Fund.

May 30 at 7 PM and May 31 at 4 PM

Lake Sunapee’s Got Talent – Online to benefit the CFA Scholarship Fund.

This online show will include all the elements of the live show including Lindsay Lund as MC, Missy Owen, Lara Hyde, and Michael T. Brown III as judges, competing acts of music, dance,

acrobatics, theater, and performance ensembles, as well as your chance to vote online for “The People’s Choice Award.”

Participating this year are Sofia Upton, AcroDance/Contortionist; Lauri Smerald, Jazz Vocalist; The Fern Family Band, Original Music; Renee and Steve Patten, Ballroom Dance; Oliver Andrews, Solo Violinist; Amita Ayer, Solo Pop Vocalist; Kristi and Elizabeth Upton, Contemporary/Modern Dance Pas de Deux; Mac Eldridge, Original Music, Vocalist and Piano; and Zoie The Wonder Dog. The Show will finish with award-winning dance ensembles.

The show will also be aired on YCN and posted on our YouTube Channel. This is the Center for the Arts’ biggest fundraiser of the year for the their Scholarship Program, and because they will be unable to sell tickets to a live event, they hope you will consider purchasing a “virtual ticket” as a donation to this important program at CenterForTheArtsNH.org/got-talent.

Support is needed more than ever, so that they may continue awarding scholarships to the talented students in our region this year. They thank you in advance for donations in any amount! At CenterForTheArtsNH.org/student-scholarships, donations of any size are greatly appreciated!

Please note: May 30 at 7 PM will have an online voting option for the “People’s Choice Award.” May 31 at 4 PM is a re-broadcast and will not have that option.

June 5: First Friday with the New London Barn Playhouse – Online:

Join us as we co-host an entertaining program with the New London Barn Playhouse.

Keith Coughlin and The Barnies are preparing something special for this First Friday, so sit back and enjoy!

Please check the CFA website for up-to-date information about all these programs and more! Visit CenterForTheArtsNH.org or contact us at Info@CenterForTheArtsNH.org. Thank you!

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