

TEMPLE NEWSLETTER

Prepared and edited by the TVFDA

JULY - AUGUST 2008

FREE – At the Library & Temple Store

FREE - Please Take One

Fire Station: 878-1972

Police Station: 878-3474

Emergency: 911

Temple Town Clerk: 878-3873

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 am - 2 pm

Tax Collector: 878-3873

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9 am-2 pm

Secretary to the Selectmen: 878-2536

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 am-12:30 & 1:00-5:00 pm

Selectmen Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tuesday's at 7 pm

Mansfield Library: 878-3100

Monday & Friday 10 am - 4 pm; Tuesday & Thursday 3 - 8 pm; Saturday 10:30 am -1:30 pm

Post Office: 878-1800 Monday thru Friday 7 – 11:30 am & 1 – 4:30 pm; Saturday 7 -11:30 am

Wilton Recycling Center: 654-6150

Tuesday 7:30 am-5 pm; Thursday 1 pm-5 pm; Saturday 9 am-5 pm; Sunday 8 am-12 pm

Snap Shot of Coming Events

July 4 Celebration!!!!

July 6 Con Com Walk

July 7 TVFD Meeting

July 8 Library Trustee Meeting

July 21 Historic District Com

July 21 TVFD Drill

July 27 TVFD Maintenance

July 28 TVFDA Meeting

Aug 1 Community Potluck Supper

Aug 4 TVFD Meeting

Aug 4 Oak Hill Farm Visit

Aug 11 Con Com Meeting

Aug 18 Historic District Com

Aug 18 TVFD Drill

Aug 24 Historical Potluck

Aug 25 TVFDA Meeting

Aug 25 Con Com Meeting

Aug 27 Newsletter deadline

Aug 31 TVFD Maintenance

Newsletter Notes

The **deadline for the September-October issue is August 27th**. Typed or handwritten copy is accepted. Please E-mail an electronic file, saved in any major Windows-based word processing file format, to **maryeamsden@peoplepc.com**, or drop off a typed or handwritten copy at the store. Keep in mind when writing, that it is important for submitted articles to be appropriately written for the public. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information for upcoming events and pertinent information regarding community organizations. While some editing might take place, all items are subject to editing for length (if greater than 250 words) or inappropriate content. In addition, personal or commercial advertising is available for a fee.

Temple Volunteer Fire Department

See you all at the ball park on the 4th of July! The TVFD will be serving up lunch, antique fire truck rides and the Temple Tug- O- War water works. Join the fun and help make some great small town America memories for the next generation of kids.

If you would like to join the TVFD fire and rescue efforts please call Fire Chief Mike Connolly 924-7289.

Interested in learning about the Fire/Rescue Department? Come to our meeting held on the **first Monday** of each month at **7:00 p.m.** at the Fire House. Drills are held on the **third Monday** of the month also at **7:00 p.m.** Maintenance is the **last Sunday** of the month at **8:00 a.m.** at the Fire House.

Fire Chief Michael Connolly 924-7289 or 396-9137 TVFD, P.O. Box 80, Temple NH 03084

Fire Department Auxiliary

The Auxiliary still has copies of our cookbook *Firehouse Favorites* on sale. The books can be purchased at Temple Store, Birchwood Inn & Tavern or by contacting Cindi Connolly at 924-7289. They are \$12.50 a copy and include recipes from your friends and neighbors. They make great gifts for wedding showers, birthdays, Christmas, etc. We will have them on sale at the Ball Field on 4th of July and Temple Harvest Festival as well. The proceeds from our cookbook sales help to support the TVFD.

Our annual **Fall Rummage Sale** is coming up on **October 18, 2008**. It will be at the Temple Fire Station from **9 am to 2 pm**. Buck-a-Bag starts at Noon and everything is free after 1 pm. We have some great stuff this year from toasty sweaters, comfortable pants and lovely dresses to cute kid's clothes, domestics and lots of warm coats and jackets. Prices are reasonable. Stop in to put together a one-of-a-kind Halloween costume for next to nothing.

The Auxiliary is a group of men and women of all ages who are interested in supporting the Fire Department. **You do not need to be related to a firefighter to join.** The Auxiliary supports the Fire Department with fundraisers (Chicken BBQ, Rummage Sale, etc.) and provides support and refreshments at large incident scenes. **The TVFD Auxiliary welcomes new members to join our group.** The Auxiliary holds its monthly meeting on the **fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m.** at the Fire Station. Come join the fun, learn what we are all about and support your local fire department heroes. Any questions, please contact our president, Cindi at 924-7289.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS RENEWAL NOTICE

Newsletter Subscriptions

As many of you know there has been a rate increase in postage and the way mail can be sent. We have found that because of the size of the Newsletter and the postage increase, we will need to increase our rate for a subscription. The Fire Dept. Auxiliary offers subscription service to the newsletter for those who want it sent directly to them or friends or family out of town. Our subscription price is now **\$7.00 per year** to have the newsletter mailed to you. This rate is effective for all new subscriptions and will be the rate for next year as well. If you wish to receive the Newsletter, please mail **\$7.00** for a subscription, along with your name and address to P.O. Box 80, Temple, NH 03084. **All subscriptions expire at year-end.** Make checks payable to the Temple Fire Dept. Auxiliary.

Newsletter Donations

Donations are always needed to help the Temple Newsletter to pay for production costs. Any organization in town that uses the newsletter for communications is asked to consider making a donation. Donations from individuals are also welcome. Please make checks payable to the Temple Fire Auxiliary and mail to P.O. Box 80, Temple NH 03084. Thank you for your support.

Milford Area Mediation Program provides free family mediation services to the residents in the town of Temple. Mediation services focus on preventing family conflict and adolescent risk behavior that leads to an inability for youth to productively participate in the community (due to involvement with the criminal justice

system); mediation is a private and confidential process that brings families together in a neutral location to resolve differences. For more info or assistants call 672-2711 or e-mail mdelaney@milford.nh.gov .

Potluck

The first Friday of each month is POTLUCK NIGHT! Bring a hot dish or a salad, your eating utensils and a hearty appetite and join us for great food and fellowship. This is a community affair and ALL are welcome. Friendship Hall at 6:30 PM.

Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid of the Temple Congregational Church next fundraiser will be on July 4th when we sell ice cream sundaes at 6:00 PM at the band concert on the common.

Our regular meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month starting in September. We continue our Prayer Shawl ministry and a group of us visits the nursing home in Peterborough weekly. If you would like to join us for knitting and good conversation, everyone is most welcome. For further information, you may call the church office at 878-4177, Sandra Benotti at 878-2297 or Lynda Connolly at 924-6030.

Congregational Church

Soon Temple will celebrate 250 years of life on these hills. There will be a field day at the ball field with the Fire Department offering great food. Later there will be a band concert and a parade. There are many benefits to living in a small town, and joining in celebrations is one of the biggest ones. Together we can touch base with the generations who have come and gone before. Look at the faces at the ball field, in the band and in the parade. You are bound to see someone you know. This is great! In a small town, there is the opportunity to know your neighbors, and to get involved in any number of activities. See you there!

On another note, can we possibly imagine the difficulty that the first settlers faced? They left home and heart to come to land that was not cleared. Farming today is hard enough; farming then was infinitely more difficult, even on land that had already been cleared. Chopping down trees and grubbing stumps were only the start of the work. Then, and only then, could the land be plowed, harrowed, seeded, weeded, and harvested. Nothing was easy. Next time you have a bad day at work, perhaps we should remind ourselves of what life was like way back when. It might help us regain our perspective.

See you in Church!

4th of July Recreation Department

July 4th Field Events Day at Memorial Field. Schedule of Events: 10:00 am - Kid's Patriotic Parade = Bring your bike, scooter, or just you decorated in Red, White, and Blue. Ribbons awarded for Most Patriotic, Most Colorful, & Most Original. 10:30 am - Penny Scramble, ages: 1-9. 10:45 am - Races Start (all ages) = 50 Yard Dash, Sack Race, Wheelbarrow Race, 3 Legged Race, Firemen Dress, Egg Toss, as well as Tug of War, Fire Truck Rides, and Penny Candy for sale. Hot dogs & hamburgers, drinks, and snacks will be sold by the Temple Volunteer Fire Department.

Temple Band Concert and Ice cream social on the common at 6pm.

Souhegan Lions Club

Souhegan Lions Club serving the communities of Greenville, Mason, New Ipswich & Temple.

The club presented two Citizenship Awards to high school seniors who are involved in their community.

Our next fundraiser will be the pancake breakfast Harvest Festival.

The Souhegan Lions Club has placed eyeglasses collection boxes in the communities that we serve. Please drop off your used eyeglasses (no loose lenses or cases please). We invite all service minded people to visit us at any one of our meetings to learn what Lionism is all about. For more information, please call Pete Von Sneidern @ 878-2519 or Nancy Woods @ 878-1312.

Mansfield Public Library News

HAPPY SUMMER TO ALL!!!

CLOSED July 4

Trustee Meeting Tuesday, July 8 at 7pm at the library

No Book Group in July

Book Group Tuesday, August 19 7pm "Pick your Own Favorite Book". Location TBA.

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the use of the "Fireplace Room" for story hour and crafts during the summer reading program, the library computer will NOT be available at the following times

Mondays: June 23-August 4, 10:30-12:00 and 2:30-3:30. Fridays: June 27- August 1, 10:30 – 12:00.

Our Treasures and Trinkets Fundraiser was well attended and enjoyed by all! Thanks to the Trustees, Jason Hackler and those who brought in their interesting possessions!

115+ people of all ages attended the free "Eyes on Owls" program on May 17! It was a fantastic event! Thanks to Marcia and Mark Wilson for sharing their owls, to Marty Connolly for his great idea and to the Recreation Department and Bragg Fund for helping the Mansfield Library to bring this exciting event to Temple!

"That's Wicked Old!" Summer Reading Program has begun. Sign up is ongoing, so please feel free to come into the library and get signed up.

If you are already signed up: REMEMBER TO LOOK FOR THE HIDDEN PICTURE, READ BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY, FILL OUT YOUR READING SHEET, GET PRIZES, SIGN UP FOR STORY AND CRAFT HOUR (AGES K-5TH GRADE) OR COME TO STORYTIME (AGES 2-4). Give the library a call if you have any questions!

878-3100

New Adult Books

Careless in Red Elizabeth George

Death and Honor WEB Griffin

Fearless 14 Janet Evanovich

Frugal Living for Dummies Debora Taylor Hough

Harvest for Hope: A Guide to Mindful Eating Jane

Goodall

Loving Frank: A Novel Nancy Horan

Natural Born Charmer Susan Elizabeth Phillips

Sail James Patterson

Steel Wave: A Novel of WW2 Jeff Shaara

Under the Banner of Heaven Jon Krakauer

Vineyard Chill Philip R. Craig

The Other David Guterson

For the Younger Gang

The Man Who Could Call Down Owls Eve

Bunting

Fairy Dust and the Quest for the Egg Gail Carson

Levine

Paddington Here and Now Michael Bond

The House in the Night Susan Marie Swanson

Americana Adventure Michael Garland

Market Day Carol Foskett Cordsen

Timothy and the Strong Pajamas Viviane Schwartz

Once Upon a Time in the North Philip Pullman

Tuko and the Birds Shirley Climo

Smiles to Go Jerry Spinelli

Fancy Nancy and the Boy From Paris Jane

O'Connor

Pirates of the Caribbean: Ghost Ship

Meet the X Men: The Last Stand

Wringer Jerry Spinelli

Away Laughing on a Fast Camel Louise Rennison

Secrets of Droon The Treasure of the Orkins Tony

Abbott

Hogwood Steps Out Howard Mansfield

ALSO:

Remember to check the library link from the Temple Info website for the ongoing new book list.

Temple Historical Society

“Voices from the Past,” the Society’s most recent event in celebration of Temple’s 250th birthday, drew an enthusiastic crowd of nearly 100 on Temple’s Memorial Day. Eleven modern-day Temple men and women donned period costumes to present dramatic impersonations of notable Temple residents who settled the village 250 years ago, and fought for American liberty. Mike Darnell videotaped the event for posterity and gave DVDs to the participants. Many thanks to him and to the actors and actresses – and to Pat Lee and Priscilla Weston, who selected, wrote the scripts, and selected the participants. It was a big success!

The Historical Society’s next “birthday celebration” will be its third annual **AUGUST POTLUCK**, scheduled in Friendship Hall at 6:30pm on Sunday, August 24. Bring a favorite dessert – the more decadent the better! – and a plate and utensils, and enjoy a program about farming in our village over a span of 3 centuries: **“TEMPLE FARMING, THEN & NOW.”**

Priscilla Weston will talk about Temple’s oldest dairy farm, Oak Hill, which has been in the Colburn-Weston family for over 200 years and has been designated a state and national Bicentennial Farm. (Note: On August 4, the Mansfield Public Library will offer a visit to Oak Hill Farm -- read the Library news or call 878-3100 for more details!)

Sandy Benotti will give the history of the Fiske family egg farm in the mid-1800s. We will learn about modern-day Temple farms, including two CSAs, a dairy farm, and two small fruit farms, one of which produces organic vegetables as well.

Lincoln Geiger will talk about Temple's role in the development of Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) in the United States.

If your family farmed in Temple, THS Program Coordinator Honey Hastings would like to hear from you! Please e-mail honeyhastings@earthlink.net, or call her at 878-0862.

The Historical Society’s programs are free and open to all – bring a friend or neighbor! All are welcome, and beverages will be provided.

Temple Business Listing Booklets

PLEASE NOTE --- LAST CHANCE to update or present new information for the Temple Business Booklet...deadline July 9th to give your information by phone or July 10th to leave your TBL form at the store. Don’t delay...please take care of this now. Your business deserves to be included. Thanks for your vigilance in keeping the booklet up to date for everyone in town. Please call Linda at 878-1078.

Friends of the Temple Town Hall

The 4th annual running of Temple’s Half Marathon occurred just about the time the last newsletter went to press. Once again, runners were challenged by Temple’s hilly terrain, and once again, they savored Annie’s beans. Both terrain and beans are becoming famous among marathon participants. If you were there, you know how much fun the event can be, and if you were not, perhaps you would like to volunteer to help in some way next year. At least forty people are needed each year to staff the water stations along the half-marathon course. In addition, organizers of the race can always use help with various tasks, including soliciting sponsors. As always, all proceeds from the race went to the Town Hall restoration project.

If you have peeked into the Town Hall lately, you know a lot is happening quickly. Ingram Construction Company workers have removed the floor, revealing that main structural elements are in surprisingly good condition. Sill inspection disclosed that approximately eight feet of the sill, located in the southwest corner of the building, would have to be replaced. Further sill inspection has not disclosed any additional problems.

Stone was placed in the crawl space, a vapor barrier installed and a two-inch concrete slab poured over that. The granite foundation was pointed, and then sprayed with insulating foam. This will solve a moisture problem under the floor and prevent the waste and water lines from freezing, a long-standing concern. Additional structural elements have been put into place, bringing the floor up to load bearing code requirements and, ultimately, a new floor will be laid.

The bathrooms have been removed, providing space for a new handicap facility. In addition, work on what will become an open balcony has started. The old boiler was taken out and that area is being renovated.

As work proceeds, and Ingram Construction is doing so at a rapid pace, we will keep you informed of progress with the project.

While work is proceeding on the historic portion of the Town Hall, the Annex is getting lots of use. Various town organizations are meeting there on a regular basis, and it looks as though both lower and upper meeting rooms will be in use on some evenings! If you wish to schedule a meeting or event in the Annex, call Deb Harling at 878-2536.

Gala 4th of July Parade

The excitement is building. It's Temple, New Hampshire's 250th Birthday. The parade to celebrate this occasion takes place **July 4th at 3:00 p.m.** in the center of Temple. This parade will include something for everyone. We have plans for farm tractors, the Temple Band, the Milford Drum & Fife Band, fancy sports cars, horses & buggies, hay wagons, the Dept. of Peace Float, antique cars, fire trucks and much more. The judge's stand will read a script of each entity to ensure you understand what you see. This will truly be a great parade and lots of fun. After the parade, at approximately 6:00 p.m., the Ladies Aid serves an ice cream social (\$3.50 per person) on the common and the Temple Band provides a concert (free). You'll have great music, great ice cream and a chance to view the parade entries. Bring the family, lawn chairs, picnics and enjoy the fun.

Adopt-A-Plant-Area Program

Thanks to a tremendous response, we have all of the annually planted areas in town being watered and weeded, as needed, by volunteers. This watering system, new this year, appears to be working well, and the participants deserve a big thank you for their efforts. It is not too late to help with this program. If you are interested in assisting in the care of one of the areas, or providing occasional subbing when caregivers go on vacation, please call Linda (878-1078). To find the caregiver for any given area, please check the chart in the store. Thank you all.

Temple Conservation Commission

Speaker on 11 August

Water - NH State Geologist David Wunsch will speak at the Monday, 11 August Commission meeting (7pm, Town Hall Annex). He will talk about geological structures related to water. This informative presentation will include slides, diagrams, and maps showing where water is and is not. The public is encouraged to attend this talk (and all meetings of the Commission).

Open Space - The Open Space Plan has been presented to the Planning Board, which held a public hearing on it on 18 June. The latest draft of the plan will be voted on at the Planning Board meeting, now scheduled for September. Please review the draft plan (town office & website) and get your comments to the Planning Board or the Commission, or both.

Walks - On Sunday 6 July, the Commission will visit the Weston Farm and walk to the caves. This land is protected by a conservation easement funded in part from the Conservation Fund. Meet at 1 pm at Town Hall. Questions? Contact Sean Radcliffe at 878.1090. In May, the Commission led an outing for the TES 4th grade class to the Glass Works and other historic sites in the area. The next outing after July will be to the Heald Tract on 7 September.

Tapping Trees at Town Forest - The Commission received 2 proposals to tap maple trees at the Town Forest. As the "manager" of the tract, the Commission interviewed and received references from each applicant. The Commission selected the proposal from Ben Fisk, operator of Ben's Sugar Shack on Webster Highway.

Meetings - The Commission is not meeting in July, but otherwise meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, 7 pm at Town Hall Annex. The agenda is posted in advance and minutes are available at the Municipal Building and on www.templenh.info. <<http://www.templenh.info/>.

Good Roads Day ---You made the difference!

Thanks to enthusiastic participation, (108 individuals confirmed); we had full litter pickup along 100 % of the roads in Temple and a complete raking in all of the nooks and crannies around the buildings and throughout the village center and the ball fields.

We heartily thank Niki McGettigan and the staff and families of the Temple Elementary School for providing the lunch and, with it, the opportunity to come together and celebrate a job well done.

At least seventy-two hardy folks worked on the actual designated day of the event, the May 3rd rain date. Fourteen individuals did their GRD community service during the week before the event, and twenty-two volunteers completed their work in the two weeks following the actual designated day. The entire 2008 GRD effort continued throughout the month of May.

Congratulations to all participants! Collection totals were especially impressive this year: 14 truckloads of brush, leaves, and debris were raked and removed and 121 bags of litter were collected and confirmed (54 on the actual day, 8 before, and 59 afterward as part of the follow-up). The litter collected on the designated day was separated and recycled by the Temple Economic Energy Committee and yielded the following count of recyclables: 10 bags aluminum cans, 8 bags plastics, and 11 bags mixed glass. Thanks to the members of TEEC, the recycling effort was particularly efficient this year.

Separate from the Good Roads Day effort, yet equally noteworthy are the Adopt-A-Highway spring cleanup results. The roads covered by this state program include NH Route 45, NH Route 101, and General Miller Highway (a total of about 10.4 miles). Approximately 100 –112 bags were collected as part of this program. Kudos to all of those participants as well.

Our documentation efforts this year surpassed any previous year for a reason. We have applied to the state for the Litter Free NH Program since our town qualifies with an annual Good Roads Day effort and the Adopt-a-Highway effort already in place. If our town is selected, we will receive two 5 to 6-foot blight-resistant American elm trees and free litter collection bags for next year. This application required complete and careful documenting of cleanup times, locations, and collection totals. It was made in response to a special request by the QM Committee (wishing to plant the trees in honor of our 250th) and TEEC (for the bags).

Thank you for making Good Roads Day extra special as we celebrate our 250th.

Whether you provided food, worked outside, helped with logistics, contributed financially, or served in other ways, your caring assistance and devotion to our town is deeply appreciated. Temple has a remarkable community spirit of which we should all be proud. You all truly made the difference!

Board of Selectmen

As a part of the work on the Town Hall, Ted Petro, George Willard and Dan Cournoyer cleaned decade's worth of "treasures" out of the attic space. While the majority of the material was trash, some old chairs may be of sentimental value to residents. Samples can be viewed in the Municipal Building. The Board is considering options regarding what to do with the chairs so let us know your thoughts or if you are interested in purchasing them. Note that the crew also found parts of old benches which we will attempt to restore.

Because of the work on the Town Hall, the election in September will be held in the Fire Station.

The new computer systems are being set up now and we expect to be operational later this summer. This will facilitate better communication all around and allow the Town Clerk to enhance Registry of Motor Vehicle services.

The Town's hazard mitigation plan has just been approved by the federal government and our emergency management plan is in final review locally.

In the interest of promoting local farming, approval has recently been given to tap the town owned maples in the Town Forest and behind the Municipal Building.

All Town boards were recently invited to a presentation by Town Counsel Dwight Sowerby regarding the State Right to Know statutes. A summary of the requirements will now be posted in all meeting rooms.

Report on School Board Activities

Energy costs are very much a concern for the District. For the school year ending now, the District spent \$434,000 on fuel oil, \$215,000 on diesel for the school busses, and \$550,000 on electricity. The budget that passed for next year included a 20% increase in the fuel oil and diesel lines but the actual projected increase now is more like 100%. Electricity alone is likely to meet its projected 5% decrease. I do not know how the District is going to pay for an extra roughly \$600,000 in energy costs. We did get a lower estimate on health insurance and all of the savings there will go to higher energy expenses, but other items may have to be cut as

well. At this moment, there is a great deal of uncertainty. In addition, we do not have a new teacher contract. Here is what I do know. The Buildings & Grounds Staff is making a huge effort on conservation. I am on the new Energy Committee and am encouraged by all the changes, such as energy audits, the most efficient light bulbs, turning off lights, removing some lights entirely, turning down thermostats, being sure that heating ducts are clean and unobstructed, closing doors, replacing leaking windows. An important part of conservation is a change in the culture of the schools, that everyone has to work together to save. Clearly, conservation is the first step. We are also planning to look at the pros and cons of a plant to burn wood chips to produce heat. A plant located between South Meadow School and the High School would be a potential location. Everything has to be on the table.

There may be changes in the number of stops that the school busses will make. Having the busses stop at every house is not efficient. Parents should expect that next year there might be some clustering of stops but be assured that the safety of children is the first concern.

We congratulate all of the Class of 2008, and extend thanks and best wishes to all the teachers and staff. May students have a happy and fruitful summer. Gail Cromwell 878-1284

River Center Information & Assisted Referral

Tammy L. Adams of Peterborough is the new Information and Assisted Referral Specialist at the River Center. Tammy has worked for Monadnock Family Services for the past five years supporting community families. She also has experience with children and adolescents who have special needs.

The River Center: A place for community connections and resources offers Information and Assisted Referral (I & R) services to community members of all ages and abilities living in eastern Monadnock Region towns. If you, or someone you know, would like information about how to access housing, heat, food, jobs, child care, clothing, health insurance, etc., I & R services can help. This service is personal and confidential. Our goal is to ensure that people find the resources and services that they want and are helpful to them. Tammy will help people navigate through barriers that might get in the way of their receiving services. I & R also are available to professionals and concerned citizens who may have questions about available resources and services. There is no fee.

You can reach Tammy at The River Center at 924-6800, by email information@rivercenter.us , or by dropping in at 46 Concord Street, Peterborough.

The Contoocook Valley Transportation Cooperative Update

The CVTC is bursting with activity this spring. At the regional level, we have formed a CVTC Board of Town Transportation Representatives. Our Temple reps are David Osmun, Vivian Nichol and John Kieley. Town reps act as liaisons between CVTC and the municipalities and meet monthly to share ideas.

With technical support from CVTC, volunteer driver networks are forming in the Monadnock area. Individual town representatives put out surveys at town elections and meetings and many people offered their time as volunteer drivers. As this interest is organized in Temple via phone networking, more news will be forthcoming.

In March the board of town reps heard about one expanded networking model from Marcia Nelson of FISH, a volunteer driver/rider network which serves Milford, Amherst, Mount Vernon, Lyndeborough and Wilton. She described their network as having 50 volunteers and a phone answering service and they provide about 1000 rides per year, primarily medical appointments.

CVTC staff and the town group are also working to establish a regional rideshare program. A website rideboard is proposed and rideshare kits will be available containing everything employers will need to make carpooling a success for their company. Transportation options will also be accessible through a toll-free phone number, which will help neighbors when carpooling on errands.

In addition to these methods, CVTC plans to develop new options such as fixed route transit along major routes and to coordinate existing and future transportation means through information sharing. If you would like to join this effort as a volunteer driver or have questions, contact Dave Osmun at 878-4316 or call the CVTC office at 924-2159 or email info@cvtc-nh.org . The CVTC monthly newsletter is also available.

The CVTC steering group is now becoming the Contoocook Valley Regional Coordination Council and will be a part of the statewide coordination network. In its development towards becoming a nonprofit business, CVTC hopes to receive grant approval for start-up funding from NH Endowment for Health. Another state grant and a federal grant are in process as well. Stay informed here.

Temple Historic District Commission

At the April 21st meeting, Mary Nutting and Phyllis Mazza were appointed to the Commission for three-year terms each. There is still a need to appoint another member as an alternate. Officers for the year 2008 – 2009 will be elected at the May meeting.

The HDC meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Temple Town Office Building at 7 p.m. The Commission is grateful for the new ordinance being accepted by the town. A great deal of work went into revisions that were necessary to reflect updates to RSA's and other changes that keep Temple current with other Historic Districts. This year work will be done to collect data and information about buildings and property in the Historic District and create an inventory that will be very useful as a resource and reference in the future.

Temple Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival Committee has been meeting monthly to make plans for this year's Festival. Plans include events celebrating Temple's 250th Birthday celebration. Crafters have already been making reservations for booth space, and some town organizations are well into the planning stages for the day. Surely, it is a date not to miss! Call Christine Mackensen @ 731-1189 for more information about availability of space for either crafters or for representatives of town organizations needing table space.

The special exhibit this year is all about Temple through the centuries and should prove to have some very interesting memorabilia included. If there are any items that you would like to have considered for inclusion in this exhibit, please call Vivian Nicholl @ 878-5033. Ideas and offers are most welcome indeed!

By June, keep tuned in for details and pictures of the Harvest Festival raffle. This is a year of transition from the traditional "Ruthie Quinn Quilt" to a beautiful hand crocheted afghan by resident and crafter Pam Worcester. Her generosity of time, materials, and desire to be a part of this effort is exemplary to say the very least. We welcome and praise her and look forward to more of her fine handcrafted items in years to come.

The committee gratefully accepts interest and help during Harvest Festival day or planning throughout the year. It is this kind of energy that results in a successful event that the entire town not only enjoys but benefits from so greatly.

Please check out our website at www.templeharvestfestival.net to keep abreast of the plans, contact info, and a look back through the years.

Tax Collector

Thank you to Temple's taxpayers for your prompt payment of your taxes. My Tax Deed this year will be for unpaid 2005 Tax Liens. All 2005 liens must be paid by August 14, 2008 to prevent my deeding the property to the Town of Temple. People with 2005 tax liens may make partial payments on the liens but they must be totally paid by that date.