



BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town

Barnstead Parks and Recreation to Build Family Park and Nature Playscape

Barnstead has no town park: no public space where families and children of all ages can gather and share time and play together. The Barnstead Parks and Recreation Commission expects to change that over the next 2 ½ years.

The NH State Parks Division is recommending a \$75,000 federal grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the Barnstead Family Park and Nature Playscape.

The Commission is strongly committed to increasing the opportunities and space for play and recreation because they believe that 1) Individual and group play and exercise nurtures body, mind, soul, creativity, and grit; 2) time in nature feeds a sense of wonder, strengthens body and mental health, calms the soul, and provides unique learning opportunities; and 3) recreational activities help everyone to grow, heal, mature, and experience joy and celebration.

The park and playscape will be located on land lying behind the ice rink and library. The design takes full advantage of the land being a natural “bowl” with the land rising from 6’ - 12’ around two thirds of the site.

The plan is for a “natural playscape” rather than a “playground”. A playground is defined by the amount, size, design, and location of its equipment. A natural playscape is designed to use as many natural elements as possible, use the natural landscape (especially the “bowl”) to maximum advantage, and to make landscaping improvements that create more diversity in the environment.

Just as malls have “anchor tenants” playscapes have “anchor features”. One of the most important anchor features of the Barnstead playscape will be two intersecting hills in the center of bowl that we create, with waterfalls flowing through the intersection of the hills.

There will be nine additional “anchor” features. 1) A community garden; 2) Water splash pads made from a sprinkler on a pole sitting on patio stones; 3) A labyrinth; 4) A slide built into the hill with a rock scramble and a rock staircase on either side; 5) A sand and dirt play area; 6) A picnic pavilion; 7) Moving the existing archery range to a new site in the park; 8) A climbing wall; 9) An amphitheater built into the hillside facing a stage and fire pit; and 10) A hand water pump for water play.

The Parks and Rec Commission will need a full showing of Barnstead’s volunteer and community spirit to bring our vision to fruition.

Look for opportunities to help in the next issue of the Banner, on the Barnstead Parks and Recreation Facebook and web pages, and in the Baysider.

Welcome to the first issue of the Barnstead Banner!

The Banner is produced at the Oscar Foss Memorial Library by a team of dedicated volunteers.

If you would like to submit an article, event or classified to the banner, or if you are interested in advertising with us, please email danielle@oscarfoss.org.

You can find more information online at www.oscarfoss.org/the-barnstead-banner

Farmer's Market News

Summer has been flying by, and if you're anything like me, you've been trying to enjoy all that it has to offer! Between days at the beach, time spent with family and friends and enjoying all of the local events, the Barnstead Farmer's Market is one you certainly don't want to miss!

Back in July, I stopped in to support the Farmer's Market's 2nd annual "Kids Business Day". It's an event where the market supports and encourages young entrepreneurs to host a table of their own goods. There were lots of options, from art to fudge. I eventually found myself at a young man's table filled with all kinds of delectable goodies and I had to share the experience!

OJ's Jammin' Goodz is run by a kind young man who originally got into the canning 5 years ago through his 4-H group. It started as a fun hobby that he would share and gift to family and friends. Everyone has felt the weight of Covid-19, yet this young man decided to fill his time with this hobby and began to grow and build his own business! He offers a variety of jams, from Wild Maine Blueberry Jam, Triple Berry to Orange Marmalade and many more with two size options available making it affordable to support and enjoy!

I personally purchased some Hot Pickle Relish and Sweet Relish and am eager to visit again to add to my collection. However, that is not all he has to offer. There are several other relishes, pickles and occasionally even sweet treats at his stand. At my visit, there were the most adorable unicorn cupcakes for just \$2 each.

I was blown away by how thorough his labels were, his professionalism and all that he had to offer. This young man is certainly someone you don't want to miss! He will be at the Farmer's Market again in August on the 7th and 28th. Be sure to stop by the Farmer's Market some time this month on Saturdays between the hours of 9am and 1pm. Hopefully you will have the opportunity to support and enjoy O.J's Jammin' Goodz, but rest assured, there is much to enjoy around the Market. From tasty foods, wonderful music and lots of creative and welcoming locals. It is certainly an experience you don't want to miss!

Until next time,
Kara Barrett



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Barnstead Historical Society

BARNSTEAD QUIPS

DID YOU KNOW: That in 1727 the Barnstead Charter made it a condition to the proprietors that a house of worship must be built, as specified, in the town within three years?

DID YOU KNOW: That the Suncook is about the only original Native American name that remains in Barnstead?

DID YOU KNOW: That Barnstead had shoe shops, saw mills, brick mills, braid mills, a cotton mill, a grist mill, and a railroad?

DID YOU KNOW: That there were two railroad stations in Barnstead—one at the Parade, which is still there and has been restored, and one in the Center, which is now gone? There is also a turn table.

DID YOU KNOW: That H.H. Young had an undertaker's business in the Center near the Suncook River?

DID YOU KNOW: That there were nine places of worship in Barnstead?

DID YOU KNOW: That the Bosco Bell Hotel was located where the Salty Dog is now?

DID YOU KNOW: That the curtain on the stage in the Town Hall is a painting of Seward's Mill, which was once located on the corner of Maple and Route 126? The mill was washed away in the flood of 1938.

DID YOU KNOW: That in the Parade there were two stores, a post office, the weaving factory, a school, and a lumber mill?

DID YOU KNOW: That there were 18 School Houses in Barnstead?

Well, now you do!

SUMMER/ZUCCHINI SQUASH CASSEROLE

4-6 Summer squash plus 2 Zucchini squash, sliced and cooked, drain well.

In a buttered casserole dish (2-quart dish) sprinkle Italian bread crumbs in bottom of dish, set aside.

To the squash add 1 can of cream of mushroom soup, 1 to 1 ½ cups sour cream, 1 grated carrot, 1 TBSP dry onion, and salt and pepper to taste.

Pour into the dish.

Melt 1 stick butter and mix with 1 ½ cups of the Italian bread crumbs and sprinkle over the squash mixture.

Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. (Or you can also put in a crock pot on high for 45 minutes—saves heating the kitchen up.)

Enjoy! - Jeannie Terry

BARNSTEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Barnstead Historical Society meets four times a year on the 4th Thursday of April, June, August, and October at 7:00pm at the Barnstead Town Hall, unless otherwise notified. All are welcome to attend.

The society has four books available for sale:

Barnstead's Early Families 1727-1979 by
Stuart "Twink" Merrill

Barnstead Fire History by Stuart "Twink"
Merrill

The Last Stories by G. Malcolm Locke

History of Barnstead 1727-1872 by Jeremiah P
Jewett, M.D.

We look forward to seeing you—Let's Keep
Barnstead History Alive!

Library Corner

NEW RELEASES COMING IN AUGUST!

- Call Me Athena: Girl From Detroit by Colby Cedar Smith
- Agatha of Little Neon by Claire Luchette
- Poison for Breakfast by Lemony Snicket
- Feral Creatures by Kira Jane Buxton
- The Women of Troy by Pat Barker
- Build to Belong: Discovering the Power of Community Over Competition by Natalie Franke
- Death and Sensibility: A Jane Austen Society Mystery by Elizabeth Blake
- The Show Girl by Nicola Harrison
- How Moon Fuentes Fell in Love with the Universe by Raquel Vasquez Gilliland
- The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams
- Escape to Witch City by E. Latimer
- Mrs. Rochester's Ghost by Lindsay Marcott
- The Magic of Found Objects by Maddie Dawson
- Class Act by Stuart Woods
- Complications by Danielle Steel
- The Last Chance Library by Freya Sampson
- The Noise by James Patterson
- Viral by Robin Cook
- Vortex by Catherine Coulter



STAFF BOOK PICKS

Kristina Recommends: Library of the Dead by T. L. Huchu

Danielle Recommends: Final Girl Support Group by Grady Hendrix

Jerissa Recomends: Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

Melissa Recommends: Midnight Sun by Stephanie Meyer

Rachael Recommends: This Book Will Make You Kinder by Henry James Garrett

Riley Recommends: Summer of Salt by Katrina Leno

BOOK REVIEW: All the Murmuring Bones by A. G. Slatter

This dark and winding gothic fairytale started out rather slowly for me, or maybe I was just tired or distracted, making it hard for me to concentrate (this happens more often the older I get). Still, the story intrigued me enough to keep going, and I'm so glad I stuck with it.

I enjoyed the feisty heroine, the adventure, the twists at every turn. You end up in an entirely different place from where you started, but it's a worthwhile journey. One of my favorite things about the book is the heroine, and how strong and smart she is. I also enjoyed the juxtaposition of light and dark, which gave the book an otherworldly feel.

The ending was quite satisfying, and while I enjoy a good series, I appreciated that it was a stand-alone. - Kristina Schram



SCHOOL NEWS



At its meeting on June 22, the Barnstead School Board approved the superintendent's proposed "guidelines for 'Stay Open' planning." These guidelines constitute the school administration's goals for Barnstead Elementary School's operations during the fall of 2021. The board will revisit this topic during its August 24 meeting before the beginning of the school year. The guidelines include:

- Unless the public health situation in Barnstead or Belknap County has changed significantly at the end of August, face coverings shall be optional indoors, outdoors, and on school buses. The superintendent is paying close attention to CDC and DHHS reports and advice about the "Delta variant" of COVID-19, but for now, the school's goal is to keep face coverings optional.
- Families will be informed that face coverings are optional by their own choice. While specific documentation will not be required, parents will be asked to advise classroom teachers if they prefer that their younger children continue to wear face coverings.
- Students and/or employees who elect to wear face coverings shall be allowed to do so, and nobody shall be deprived of the rights and privileges conferred by the school because of a personal choice to wear a properly-fitted face covering for the purposes of infection control.
- The school shall continue to provide hand sanitizer at every entrance and in every classroom. Use of hand sanitizer shall be encouraged. Also, signage promoting hand washing and healthy hygiene will remain posted in bathrooms and throughout the school.
- The school plans to operate five days a week, fully in-person, at all grade levels.
- Wednesdays, which have been early release days throughout the 2020-2021 year, have been beneficial for the purpose of common planning by grade-level teams; at the August board meeting, the school administration will propose a monthly or biweekly early release on Wednesdays to facilitate common planning. This schedule, if approved by the board, will be shared with all families in advance so everyone is able to plan accordingly. The Barnstead Adventure Zone (BAZ) after-school program will be expected to run on Wednesdays, including after early releases.
- BES will not plan to offer a separate, remote-only option at any grade level.
- Parents who would like to elect a fully-remote school option may contact Principal Tim Rice's office to learn more about online charter school and homeschool options.
- Vaccination of eligible staff and students is encouraged but shall not be required, nor shall documentation of vaccination, though such evidence may be submitted to the nurse's office at the option of employees and parents/guardians
- The school will continue to make available information regarding availability of vaccines, and if vaccine eligibility is extended to elementary-aged children, the school may work with regional public health officials to host a voluntary vaccination clinic.
- All classes will continue to employ the Google Classroom and SeeSaw platforms, which will allow the school to conduct Remote Days in the event of a weather-related or public health emergency
- The superintendent will determine if weather requires a delayed opening, a Remote Learning (formerly "Blizzard Bag") day, or a traditional snow day
- In the event of a surge in Coronavirus infections (for example, due to the "Delta variant" or other variants of the COVID-19 coronavirus), the school may reinstate a face covering requirement or pivot to remote instructional modes at any time.
- Vaccinated staff and students should be safe from these infections. The current minimum age for vaccination is twelve, but it is possible that younger children will be allowed to receive vaccinations before the fall.
- Any decision to reinstate a face covering requirement would be based on local and regional data along with state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) guidance.

Slow Cooker Mixed Berry Cobbler

Crisps, Pandowdy, Crumble, Buckle, Brown Betty, Cobbler, what do all these have in common?

These are all names given to a simple type of “pie” made with seasonal fruit and berries. According to some food historians, the term “cobbler” comes from the early British-American settlers having to “cobble” the necessary ingredients to make a “pie” since the traditional ingredients and ovens were not readily available. If you are interested in further researching cobbler, check out www.whatscookingamerica.net. Also, if you are interested in an Appalachian version of cobbler, type in “One Cup Cobbler” into your search engine of choice. Enjoy! What I REALLY like about this recipe is THE SLOW COOKER! Who wants to use an oven in the summer? Also, I like the idea of using a boxed cake mix. My mother was the original “semi-homemade” cook! My grandmother, however, was “traditional” all the way. Funny how that happens. When I was younger I preferred traditional home cooked recipes, but the older and busier I get, the more I appreciate “semi-homemade!”

Ingredients:

1 cup raspberries
1 cup blueberries
1 cup blackberries
1 cup strawberries - cut
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 teaspoon sugar
1 package boxed vanilla cake mix
8 tablespoons butter - cut into pieces

1. Butter or use nonstick baking spray inside the slow cooker.
2. Add all the berries and spread evenly.
3. Sprinkle 1 tbsp of cornstarch evenly over the berries and gently mix.
4. Evenly sprinkle 1 tsp of sugar over the mixed berries.
5. Gently pour the dry cake mix evenly to cover the berries.
6. Evenly place the pieces of butter on the top of the dry cake mix and place on the lid to the slow cooker.
7. Cook on high for 2.5-3 hours, until the cobbler is fully cooked.
Serve topped with ice cream or whipped cream, or BOTH!

Enjoy!

BeccaRose and Christine Wenzel



Out and About in Barnstead (and Beyond): A Guide to Fun Places to Visit in Our Community

As a relative newcomer to Barnstead (in New Hampshire that basically makes me a newborn, right?), I'm constantly being surprised by all the unique things there are to do here. During the pandemic, having little else to do, the hubby and I started to explore the area, and we stumbled across some real gems. Of course, whenever I mention said gems to someone who's lived here longer than us, they nod knowingly, like, yeah, been there, done that. Ah, well. So the places I mention here may not be new to you, but maybe my writing about them will remind you of a favorite haunt you've neglected to visit for too long. Or perhaps other newbies will benefit from our meanderings.



So how do I get out and about? Mainly by bike. I loved biking as a kid—it was my favorite way to get around—but biking as an adult wasn't nearly as fun, especially when it came to hills, of which Barnstead has an abundance. Lately I discovered e-bikes, and now I can bike without feeling like I'm going to die. It's a whole new world, baby!

I get to take in the scenery in a way not possible in a car, plus I'm getting exercise. Bonus! While exploring, I've come across a heart-shaped patch of grass, a massive waterfall out in the middle of nowhere, numerous curious horses, and quite a few potholes.

The Barnstead Parks & Rec department recently recommended the Harrison Woods Natural Area off Gilmanton Road as a place to explore, so the hubby and I decided to give it a try. The trail is about a mile long and leads down to Upper Suncook Lake. Bear in mind that this mile, while downhill most of the way, will be uphill on the way back. Once we reached the lake, we sat at a picnic table and enjoyed a snack (we always bring snacks with us on our perambulations). Notable sights on the trail: A tribute to Ernie Locke, Jr., and a cool lean-to entitled Mt. Rush-No-More, complete with a nearby chimney fire pit. It's a peaceful place to visit, and the ride/walk was lovely. So get your family together, pack a picnic and maybe some bug spray, and see what Harrison Woods is all about! - Kristina Schram



Community Events

Story Time at Oscar Foss Memorial Library - Every Wednesday at 10:30am - Join us for stories, songs, dancing and crafts! Ages up to 5yrs.

Yoga at the Library - Beginner Yoga every Tuesday at 4:15PM, Intermediate Yoga every Tuesday at 5:30PM, Senior Yoga every Friday at 3:00PM

Oscar Talks: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humanity with Gordon Unson - 8/5 at 6:30PM at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

Kindergarten Meet and Greet and Ice Cream Social - 8/25 at 1:00PM at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

Teen Advisory Board Meeting - 8/26 at 4:00PM at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

Tie-Dye T-Shirt Day with Barnstead Parks and Recreation - 8/21 from 9:00AM - 1:00PM at the Farmer's Market. Register by 8/10. Suggested donation of \$15, but any amount appreciated.

August is NH Eats Local at the Farmer's Market! 8/21 is Open Farm Day - The Barnstead Farmer's Market will have a Pancake Breakfast provided by Journey's End Maple Farm to start off the day, then visit our beautiful local farms.

If you would like to submit an event or classified for the Barnstead Banner, please email danielle@oscarfoss.org with the details.

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