

Town of Albany

Town Column

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February 6, 2010

Albany Citizens Coming Together met on Thursday evening to discuss the ongoing work of the group and the upcoming agenda at town meeting. There were 23 Albany voters and Julia Ferris, Joe and Laurie's daughter, in attendance. The ACCT group has a core membership of about twenty-five people with a board of seven. Their purpose is to bring the community together through informational meetings and social events. They have established two annual socials: the summer picnic and the Christmas party for children (both of which have been successful). This year they are asking for funding from the town. Laurie Ferris is the chair of the board but finds that her new job necessitates that she step down from the position. ACCT is looking for new members and a new chair. At this meeting drafts of the town budget and warrant articles were distributed and there was time for Q and A. As all three selectmen and Kathy Vizard were in attendance, the questions were answered. The final drafts of both will be available at town hall a week before Town Meeting. Steve Knox was on hand to discuss the land purchase that appears on the warrants (article 3). A new group, the Trust for Public Land (TPL) a non-profit organization whose purpose is to preserve land, has a signed agreement with the Kennett Company for the purpose of buying the property for the Town of Albany. It was decided to hold a public meeting before Town Meeting to explain the proposal. Once the date is established, you can find it in this column or on the town website (www.albanynh.org). Also discussed was the need for townspeople to fill out a survey for the Planning Board with regard to land usage. This will tie into the land purchase as well. Jack Rose spoke about Carroll County's transportation project; the buses that will begin rolling in July. Even though the only portion of the fixed route in Albany will be from the Deli II to Route 113, there will be a way of accessing the bus through a demand service. With a call 24 hours in advance, this service picks you up at your door and drops you off at a regular bus stop and reverses the process. There is a warrant article in support of this project as well.

The Albany School Board will hold a public hearing on the 2010-2011 budget at the town hall on February 9 at 5:30 pm.

Regardless of what the headline in the Sun said last week, Gene Shannon is a local to Albany. Gene and his brother, Kelly, are in Haiti continuing their philanthropic work

there. They have established a non-profit organization called “Valley Fund for Haitian Relief”. You can help with your donations by sending a check to P. O. Box 680, Albany, NH 03818. I believe I heard on the news that all monies sent before March are tax deductible for 2009. Check this out with a tax consultant.

UNH is sponsoring a statewide forum to discuss the merits and risks of Expanded Gambling in New Hampshire. A group will be in Conway on Saturday, February 13 from 9 am to 4 pm. For more information visit the website: www.whatsatstake.unh.edu. Registration is necessary. Check in and refreshments start at 8:30 and lunch will be provided.

On Wednesday, February 10 the Carroll County United Health and Wellness Action Team will meet from 6:30 to 8 pm. Join the group and find out about the progress so far. On Thursday, February 11 the Carroll County United Balancing Economic Development and Environmental Stewardship Action Team will meet from 8-9:30 pm. This team was suggested as a result of significant discussion during the September and November public forums around the mix of jobs available to residents. Earlier that day, the Carroll County United Economic Stability Action Team will meet noon to 1:30 pm. The Carroll County United Aligning Education and Careers Action team will meet from 3-5:30 pm. The Carroll County United Childhood Reading and Success Action team will meet from 6-7:30 pm. All meetings are held at the Tri-Cap Building in Chocorua on Route 16 in the Sununu Room and the facilitator for all meetings is Jay Connor. RSVP for all groups to llenart@tccap.org.

Marguerite Witkop of Bartlett is the artist showing her work at Tin Mountain this month. Marguerite does local landscape pictures that she does from photos she takes. The proceeds from the sale of her work will go to benefit Tin Mountain Conservation Center.

Congratulations to the Kennett Middle School Honor Roll recipients. In grade seven they are Keith Babb, Shelby Beale, Masey Bernier, Greyson Goss-Bianchino, Monica Guptill, Taylor Mathieu, Caitlyn Murphy, Dylan Noyes, Isabella Phipps, Danielle Vizard, Cennedy Warren. Grade eight scholars are Bailey Blake, Jordan Dicey, Greysen Gagne, Tanner George, Cody LeBeau, Emily Mathieu, Teresa Roland and Jennifer Vizard.

Sandy Stowell reports that she has received calls from local people regarding the start up of a branch of “Blue Star Mothers” in this area. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Sandy at 447-2604.

Best wishes and congratulations to Carl and Irene Thibodeau on their sixtieth wedding anniversary which was January 23. Their children surprised them with a party at Banners Restaurant where some 27 people gathered to help them celebrate.

Congratulations to Scott Gormley and Josephine Howland on the birth of their grandson, Connor James Kiesman, born January 20 to Sara Gormley and Corey Kiesman of Glen. Connor weighed in at 6 lb.. 9 oz.

Looks like we will be spared the snowstorm this weekend. Do enjoy yourselves anyway.