MANCHESTER
Weed & Seed Strategy

It takes a community to prevent violence.

Quarterly Newsletter

March 2014

Starting off the new year with new projects!

Feeding a Neighborhood

An afterschool meals program for students began on March 3rd at Gossler Park Elementary School. This new feeding program aims to address food insecurity within the neighborhood by providing nutritious food at no cost to students participating in the 21st Century Afterschool program.. This feeding program is a collaboration with the Manchester School District's 21st Century Community Learning Centers afterschool program and the MSD's Food and Nutrition Director. Implementation of additional afterschool meal programs at the Bakersville Community School and Beech Street School are being developed and are slated to roll out in the Spring.

Why is food insecurity a topic of focus? According to NoKidHungry.org, "that child who doesn't have enough to eat isn't going to do as well in school. And is likely to get sick more often. She's less likely to graduate from high school and go on to college, which will have a negative impact on her economic future. If this happens, then twenty years from now, she's much less likely to be able to earn enough to feed her family."

Beautifying our Space

With help from our friends at Timberland, new murals will soon be adding color and life to our neighborhoods. Murals for the Community Schools are in the works and one has already been installed! A welcoming mural now greets everyone entering the Gossler Park School on the outside of the building. Murals for the Beech Street School will be installed soon, and painting for the Bakersville Community School will start this summer.

Going Green

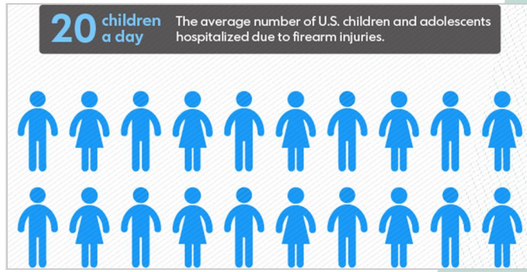
The newly formed Eco Club at the Gossler Park School hosted an Eco Expo and Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday, March 15th. The Gossler Park Eco Club members is comprised of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders who are leading community-based campaigns to educate students, teachers, parents, and neighbors about the importance of preserving natural resources and reducing waste.

The Eco Club sponsored an annual Eco-campaign, Eco-survey, fundraiser and community outreach expo, and Eco-projects. In addition, the school is adopting daily recycling practices and thinking of smart solutions to reduce waste in the school. Keep up the good work, Eco Club!

Manchester Weed & Seed Strategy | City of Manchester Health Department | 1528 Elm Street, Manchester NH 03101
Email: Ktreacy@ManchesterNH.gov | Call: (603) 624-6466 x468 | Visit: ManchesterNH.gov

In The News

Study: 20 young people a day hospitalized for gun injuries



"Almost one child or teen an hour is injured by a firearm seriously enough to require hospitalization, a new analysis finds. Six percent of the 7,391 hospitalizations analyzed in 2009 resulted in a death, says the study in February's Pediatrics, released Monday.

The damage caused by gun-related injuries rarely gets the same attention as fatalities, "but that every day, 20 of our children are hospitalized for firearms injury, often suffering severe and costly injuries, clearly shows that this is a national public health problem," says Robert Sege, director of the Division of Family and Child Advocacy at Boston Medical Center and a co-author of the study."

Read more: http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/01/27/guns-children-hospitalizations/4796999/

N.H. Senate passes 'Joshua's Law' bill making domestic violence a crime

"Joshua's Law would make domestic violence a distinct crime; New Hampshire is one of 15 states that don't have a separate classification for it. Under the bill, domestic violence would include violent actions, threats or stalking by a person's spouse, intimate partner or other household members. By labeling these crimes as domestic violence, police officers and prosecutors will be able to identify patterns by abusers more easily, Sen. Donny Soucy said."

Read more: http://www.concordmonitor.com/news/10681328-95/nh-senate-passes-joshuas-law-bill-making-domestic-violence-a-crime

Spotlight Community Resource

COMMUNITY TOOL BOX

"The Community Tool Box is a free, online resource for those working to build healthier communities and bring about social change. It offers thousands of pages of tips and tools for taking action in communities. Under continuous development since 1994, the Community Tool Box is widely used in teaching, training, and technical support. With more than two million user sessions annually, it has reached those working in over 200 countries around the world. Currently available in English and Spanish, the Arabic version will be online by mid-2013.

The vision behind the Community Tool Box is that people — locally and globally — are better prepared to work together to change conditions that affect their lives. Our mission is to promote community health and development by connecting people, ideas, and resources. With the belief that people can change their communities for the better, partners at the University of Kansas and collaborating organizations developed the Community Tool Box as a public service. Our fervent hope is that these tools can make it easier for people to take action to assure healthier and more just communities throughout the world."

For more information visit: http://ctb.ku.edu/en

Community Policing Update

http://www.manchesternh.gov/Departments/Police/Community-Police-Division

- Officer Paul Rondeau has been working on urban safety for downtown employers while the Manchester Police Department has also been increasing downtown patrols during hours when issues typically spike. The focus is on disruptive behaviors, not homeless people or vagrancy.
- The Manchester Weed & Seed Strategy has been working closely with the Manchester Police Department in regards to burglary prevention and response to property crimes. A financial plan has been developed to secure resources and supplies for Home Safety Kits that will be distributed to residents. These kits include items such as door alarms, window alarms, motion sensor lights, and supplemental locks.
- The Community Policing Division has also developed a new partnership with the Health Department's Environmental Health (EH) Division. EH staff are now equipped with information and resources for business owners and residents who are interested in a burglary prevention assessment.

Numbers to Know:

Manchester Police Department - 603-668-8711

Manchester Crime Line - 603-624-4040

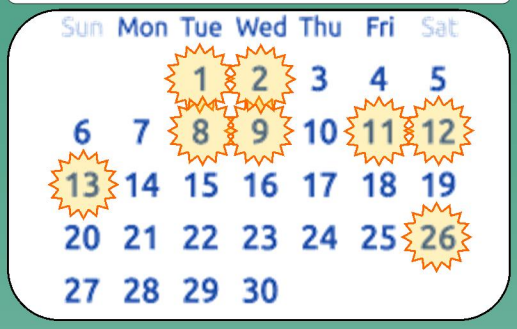
For all emergencies dial 9-1-1

Community Schools Updates

Bakersville School	Beech Street School	Gossler Park School
Implement model mentorship opportunities/programs for students to aid in transition from elementary to middle school.	Reduce barriers to improving employability and financial literacy by developing capacity to coordinate/provide services and programming.	Hold resource fairs to increase awareness of social services, health care, and other programs aimed at helping families.
W&S will: • Develop a model mentorship/transition program based on evidence based models and best practices. Example: school tours, YMCA teen center, etc… • Implementation of a mentorship program (2014-2015 school year).	**W&S will:** • Bring resources focused on employability and financial literacy to Pre-K/K registration (April 2014). • Promote specific opportunities (classes, workshops, open house events, etc…) at existing school based events and groups.	**W&S will:** • Host a community resource fair (Spring 2014). • Potential link with Comcast Cares day of service (April 2014).

What's Coming Up:

APRIL



National Child Abuse Prevention Month

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Sexual Assault Awareness Month

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National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

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National Volunteer Week

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Tuesday 1st - Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service

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Wednesday 2nd - Kindergarten Registration Day at Beech Street School

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Tuesday 8th - Kindergarten Registration Day at Bakersville Community School

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Wednesday 9th - Kindergarten Registration day at Gossler Park School

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Friday 11th - Sunday 13th Global Youth Service Days

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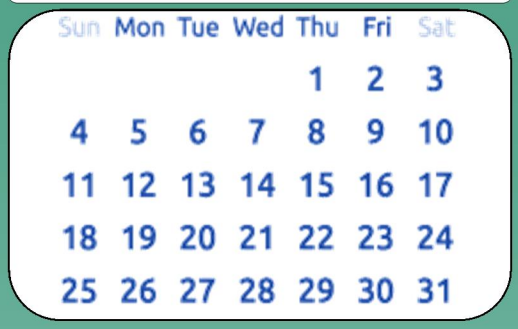
Saturday 26th - Comcast Cares Day of Service at Gossler Park

MAY



Family Support Month

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Helping American Youth Month

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Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

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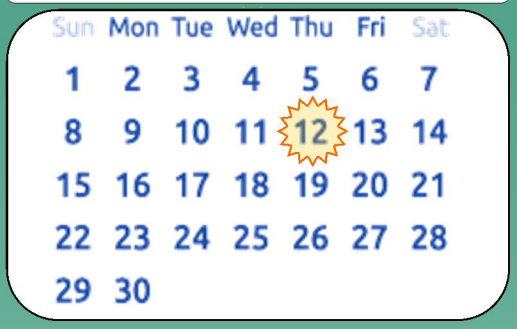
Resident Leadership Series at Beech Street School

JUNE



Student Safety Month

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National Safety Month

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Thursday 12th - Last day of 13-

Join us for a Steering Committee meeting! Meeting are held the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 10am at the Manchester Police Department.

Weed & Seed Wants to Hear from You!

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/CityOfManchesterNHWeedAndSeed

City Website - http://www.manchesternh.gov/Departments/Health/Services/Neighborhood-Health

Email - KTreacy@ManchesterNH.gov

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