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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As this article reaches you I hope we are starting to see some signs of spring, or at least thawing around the state. The NHPA Executive Committee kept busy this winter on a variety of projects to serve you in 2014; from membership renewals, to our new Book Club, the Annual Awards, and planning the NHPA's spring conference.

The NHPA's new Book Club had their first meeting on January 26th with lively discussion on *Death and Life of Great American Cities* by Jane Jacobs. The next book will be *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson. Elizabeth Wood has submitted a piece within this newsletter that will inspire you to read along with us.

Meeting regularly this time of year the Legislative Subcommittee is keeping close tabs on the assortment of bills working their way through the legislature. For a current look at bills the committee is tracking, check out our Legislative Tracker at <http://www.nhplanners.org/legislativetracker.htm>.

The Conference Organizing Group (COG) has set a date for the 2014 NHPA Conference, to be held on June 5th and

6th in Durham at UNH. Get ready to revisit your college memories with two days of excellent professional development opportunities and the adventure staying overnight in the dorms! If you are interested in volunteering or have a session idea for the conference please contact Matt Connors or Mary Friedman. Volunteers are always appreciated; please let us know if you are interested!

Remember that great keynote address by Claudia Folska, Ph.D. with the blind folds at the 2013 NNECAPA Conference in Meredith? Out of that address and Claudia's work *The New American Dream*, NHPA's first full feature length film is under construction. Thank you again for your generous donations to the Kickstarter campaign earlier this year. We will keep you posted on progress and look forward to sharing the end result with all of you!

Lastly, you should have received your annual membership renewal in January. We greatly appreciate all of the timely returns on the annual dues – thank you to all of you who have already responded! Check out the rest of the newsletter for more great news on planning around the State.

by Sarah Marchant, President

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NHPA 2014 CONFERENCE: THE ART OF PLACEMAKING, JUNE 5TH AND 6TH

"Places in the making" will be the keynote topic presented by Susan Silberberg at the NHPA 2014 Conference: The Art of Placemaking, June 5th and 6th at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

An accomplished city planner, urban designer, architect, author and educator, Susan Silberberg is a Lecturer in Urban Design and Planning in the Department of Urban Studies

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and Planning at MIT. She is the Founder and Managing Director of CivicMoxie, LLC, a planning, urban design, real estate advisory and strategic placemaking group with experience in serving municipalities, not for profits, corporations, developers, foundations, and community groups. Susan is lead author of *Places in the Making: How placemaking builds places and communities*. This MIT white paper reveals the importance of the placemaking process in building social capital and restoring local political voices in communities: <http://dusp.mit.edu/cdd/project/placemaking>



Susan Silberberg

“Placemaking supports the mutual stewardship of place and community in a process that could be called the “virtuous cycle of placemaking.” In this mutual relationship, communities transform places, which in turn transform communities, and so on.”

Susan is currently leading the placemaking effort in Santurce, Puerto Rico for the Foundation for Puerto Rico. Her planning, research and academic endeavors at MIT have been supported by national foundations and competitive research grants. In her planning practice, Susan has led two Boston waterfront planning efforts that identify the unique challenges faced by developers and that propose creative solutions for cultural and public uses along the Harborwalk. She has also created master plans for new arts districts and worked with community development corporations. As Associate Director of the MetLife Innovative Space Awards, she worked with over 100 arts and cultural organizations nationwide to identify best practices for affordable artist space development and community engagement. Susan is completing a book on Artists' Engagement with Community with groundbreaking insights for funders, developers, community advocates, arts organizations, and artists.

Susan has served as the Associate Director of the Northeast Mayors' Institute on City Design. She is on the Board of Directors and Program Committee of Historic Boston, Inc., a non-profit developer of endangered historic properties. She also serves on the Board of The Joshua Bates Art Center in the South End of Boston. Susan has a Master in City Planning degree from MIT and a Bachelor of Architecture from Pratt Institute.

The keynote presentation and subsequent discussion on “Places in the Making” will be in a historic building on campus, Huddleston Hall. The conference will also

take place in Holloway Commons on campus to include multiple tracks, panel discussions, food and networking. Tours will be arranged within the town of Durham, on UNH campus, and in Dover. Plenty to do and see so please stay tuned. Registration information is forthcoming.



UNH Huddleston Hall

MORE ON NHPA 2014 CONFERENCE: THE ART OF PLACEMAKING

By Mark Connors, Chair of the Conference Organizing Group for the NHPA 2014 Conference

Few terms in the planning field have become quite as catchy, and quite as trendy, as placemaking has; a quick Google search of the phrase returns 2.2 million hits. But many of the core tenets behind placemaking, including full and inclusive public participation and the fostering of truly engaging and inviting public spaces, remain central to the planning field itself. While New Hampshire is fortunate to maintain a largely engaged citizenry, a vast collection of historic districts and buildings, and a beautiful natural environment, many challenges do remain. Communities commonly wrestle with funding the right balance of historic preservation and new development, easing traffic congestion while improving walkability, and ensuring that new economic opportunities are welcomed while existing community character is strengthened.

In addition to keynote speaker Susan Silberberg, this year's New Hampshire Planners Conference, scheduled for June 5 and 6 at the University of New Hampshire, will explore several topics critical to placemaking in New Hampshire.

Track sessions will include:

Redeveloping Suburban Spaces - With the typical lifespan of retail buildings hovering around 20 years, many old commercial buildings across the state are in need of some investment. Instead of simply demolishing these structures and building anew, the conference will explore strategies to reorient them to meet today's needs while improving their relationship to the public realm around them.

Private Partners in Placemaking - From hosting poetry nights and open mike nights to providing meeting space for local organizations, many small businesses in New Hampshire have made community-building part of their business models. The conference will explore how communities and businesses, including the state's booming microbrewery industry, can partner to promote placemaking.

Capitalizing on Creative Talent - New Hampshire has no shortage of artists, writers, performers and creative thinkers. The conference will explore strategies to incorporate the state's many creative talents into placemaking efforts as well as what some communities are already doing to showcase their residents' creative talents.

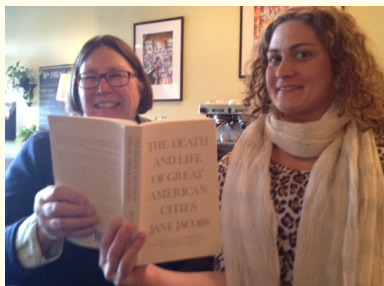
We hope you can join us for this informative and enlightening annual event!

NOTE FROM MATT MONAHAN:

The review process for the 2014 New Hampshire Planners Association is currently underway! We have had several nominations come in and the review will be concluded shortly. Awards will be presented at our annual meeting!

BOOK CLUB KICKS OFF!

The NHPA Book Club kicked off on January 26th at the True Brew Café in Concord with a discussion focused on "**The Death and Life of Great American Cities**", by Jane Jacobs.



The first meeting was attended by a small group—just **Jillian Harris**, of Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, and myself, Community Planner from the

Town of Windham. Given the breadth of the book and interest of other NHPA members in joining at a later date, a second book discussion was extended and Part II of the Book discussion was held on March 16th at Republic Restaurant in Manchester, where I was joined by **Sharon Wason**. Sharon is a veteran NH planner, however she currently serves as Planning Director for Foxborough, MA.

"The Death and Life of Great American Cities" is a classic planning book that most of you have probably heard of, but that few of you have likely read cover-to-cover. If you have studied for the AICP exam, it is near impossible not to find reference to this novel. Published in 1961 by Jane Jacobs, a journalist, wife, mother, and New York City resident; her work is a critique on the planning principles being implemented at the time.

Jacob's is a self proclaimed city lover and her writings focus primarily on planning within and adjacent to major US cities, such as Boston, New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago. Jillian and I were quick to point out that New Hampshire has no mega cities such as those referenced in the book! We questioned whether or not this novel applied to Planning in New Hampshire at all. Perhaps today's New Hampshire medium sized cities are the future mega cities of tomorrow? Will downtown Manchester or Main Street in Portsmouth become the core of a future mega city? It's hard to predict the answer to those questions, but understanding Jacob's principals for sidewalk and street design, mixed uses, diversification of structures, and density might give New Hampshire planners a long term bigger picture on how to build a good structure for success should there ever be a boom in growth.

Regardless of the fact that Concord and Nashua do not come close to matching the population centers critiqued in "The Death and Life of Great American Cities", and regardless of the reality that New Hampshire has no sky scrapers or true intercity slums, Jillian and I, as well as Sharon and I, discussed how some of Jacobs' concepts might apply to what we observed in communities where we live and work.

Parks were one of the aspects we focused on. In her book Jacobs asserts that planners are very good at creating parks, sometimes very attractive ones, but that all too often these parks do not get used for their intended purpose—if they are used at all!

To be a successful city park, Jacobs argues that it must be surrounded by diversified uses, attractive to a diversification of people during different times of the day. It is also helpful if the park is located in a cross ways for getting from one point of interest to another, and high buildings on the south side should be avoided as to allow for good winter sun.

Jillian noted that when her husband and children visit a park in her home community of Derry, it is a planned family event, not a spontaneous occurrence. Her family enjoys the park visits but it isn't convenient to go on a whim. This supports Jacobs' point that if a park isn't in your normal path of everyday activities, you aren't as likely to visit or "happen by". If Jillian's park were located on her walk to work and contained a newsstand, she might sit at the park on a nice day and enjoy her morning coffee while also becoming a spectator to other commuters. After awhile she might get to know the other people who walked through the park on their commute and build a social network of acquaintances that she would come to enjoy and appreciate. Since Jillian has no choice but to drive to work every day, this will never happen and her park visits will remain limited to evenings, holidays and weekends.

When I go to a park, it is usually Mines Falls Park in Nashua. I haven't researched the full history of the park, but by Jane Jacob's standards, it would be hailed as a planning success. The 325 acre park is spread throughout the heart of the city has multiple attractions. It is surrounded by mixed uses and is used different times of the day. Almost every time I visit and during all four seasons, Mines Falls is a fantastic spot for people watching. The park is surrounded by a mix of uses, including office, residential, government, a police station, a YMCA, a High School, and there is downtown access. There are 5 or so entrances to the park and multiple attractions within. There is high use of the athletic fields for soccer, lacrosse, and baseball. Trails for walking, running, and biking circumvent it, and traverse across its many parts. Leisure activities are abound all year long and include fishing, wildlife viewing, snow shoeing and crosscountry skiing. Facilities such as trash cans and portable toilets assist in the upkeep of the park. I can't think of better example of a better planned park, as measured by Jacob's standards, within the City of Nashua—Heck, Mines Falls Park might even be a contender for the "New Hampshire's Best Jane Jacob's Park Award" should such an award exist.

I am a bit baffled because Veterans Park in Manchester, also encompasses many of the aspects that Jane Jacobs suggests are a formula for a good park; however in reality; the park does not produce the desired result. It is an attractive park with monuments, places to sit, and a walking path; however, despite its location near a major events center, flanked with shops, restaurants, and residences, the park is most often vacant or sometimes attractive to vagrants. Festivals and concerts draw in temporary crowds, but they do not seem to have a lasting effect.

Why is Mines Falls Park a homerun success? Is it because Mine Falls follows Jacobs' principles? If so, then why is Veterans

Park, which also follows Jacobs' good park recipe, struggling? Sharon, who resides in Manchester, within walking distance of Veterans Park had one idea. She noted that the majority of the park is surrounded by fencing and that it only has entrances at specific points. Perhaps these access points are not conveniently located and thus prohibitive for visitors?

Sharon also pointed out that Manchester has another nearby park, Stark Park, which doesn't follow Jacob's model for success, yet the park receives a high volume of use. Like Veterans Park, Stark Park has war memorials and walking paths. However it is surrounded by residences, not the mix of uses that Jacob's says is required for a well-planned park.

Why is Jacob's formula for successful parks seemingly hit and miss for New Hampshire Parks?

The short, uncalculated answer to this might be that Jacob's planning formulas are not meant to be applied to New Hampshire's mid sized cities. For some reason I'm not so convinced of this, but to digest why, we'd have to continue the book discussion of "The Death and Life of Great American Cities" to yet another meeting and I'm too eager to get started on our next book.

Join us at the next NHPA Book Club Meeting.

Next Book: *"The Devil in the White City"*, by Erik Larson.

A heated page-turner based on a true story about a serial killer who uses the 1893 Chicago World's Fair as a platform for his crime. This read provides an interesting insight into Daniel Burnham, the "Father of City Planning" and the beginnings of the City Beautiful movement. There is an ironic twist—the serial killer is a New Hampshire Native!

The time and location of the next Book Club Meeting: 3:00pm on May 18th at The Bridge Street Café in Manchester. Contact Elizabeth Wood with questions: elizabethjwood@hotmail.com Hope to see you there!

ATTEND THE DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION CONFERENCE - APRIL 30

Submitted by Pierce Rigrod

Mark your calendars for the NHDES 2014 Drink-ing Water Source Protection Conference on Wednesday, April 30, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Grappone Conference

Center in Concord, N.H. Topics will include NHDES plans to address MtBE contamination, climate change risks and mitigation, developing water monitoring plans, the new EPA MS4 stormwater permit, research concerning the quality of New Hampshire's groundwater, and case studies of successful source water protection projects.

Registration and a full agenda are available at the American Ground Water Trust's website www.agwt.org (click on the "Events" tab at the top of the page). Continuing education credits (5.0 technical credit hours) are being offered through the NHDES Water Works Operator Program.

NRCS and U.S. Forest Service Partner to Improve Forest Health and Water Quality *Betty Anderson, NRCS Public Affairs Specialist*

New Hampshire is one of 13 states that will benefit from a new multi-year partnership announced on February 11 by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). This partnership will invest \$30 million in 13 projects across the country, including \$960,000 in New Hampshire, to help protect water supplies and water quality, mitigate wildfire threats and improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species. The project, called the "Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership" will work to improve the health and resiliency of forest ecosystems where public and private lands meet across the nation.

"Both of these agencies have the same goal – improving the health of our forest lands," said Rick Ellsmore, NRCS New Hampshire State Conservationist. "By combining resources and working in a coordinated fashion, this partnership will restore lands across large landscapes regardless of ownership."

"Habitat quality and water quality don't stop at boundaries between public and private lands," Ellsmore said. "By working together, we can provide more assistance to help public and private landowners and managers put conservation solutions on the ground, providing greater benefits to surrounding communities and habitats, such as improving or restoring riparian buffers or reducing the threats associated with potential drinking water contaminants, as well as aquatic and terrestrial invasive species."

In New Hampshire, projects will be initiated within the Saco and Pemigewasset River watersheds and will build on existing projects with local partnerships already in place. Maps of the study areas are available upon request from NRCS (see map at right). By leveraging technical and financial resources and coordinating activities on adjacent public and private lands, conservation work by NRCS and USFS will be more efficient and effective in these watersheds.

The New Hampshire project will focus on improving drinking water. New Hampshire has the fastest growing population in New England and ranks second in the country for the percentage of people served by private wells. NRCS and USFS will work to provide land-owners access to conservation resources that improve land management and reduce sedimentation in head-water streams on public lands. The project will have a direct impact on drinking water quality for eight New Hampshire communities. Funding for this fiscal year includes \$250,000 from the Forest Service for work on the White Mountain National Forest and \$710,000 from the NRCS.

"We have a long history of working with various federal, state and conservation organizations to implement solutions on the ground," said Tom Wagner, White Mountain National Forest Supervisor. "The Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership is an opportunity for us to pool our resources and really focus on local restoration."

For more information contact Beth Ann Finlay at (603) 353-4651 x106 at the Grafton County Conservation District office, or Nels Liljedahl at (603) 447-2771 x102 at the Carroll County Conservation District office. ☐

The above articles are reprinted courtesy of NH DES (see Pierce Rigrod for more information). You can find the original articles and maps online at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/newsletters/dwgb/documents/2014-spring-supply-lines.pdf>

MAP-21 MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Advocacy Advance – a partnership between the League of American Bicyclists and Alliance for Biking & Walking held a 'Navigating MAP-21' Workshop at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services building in Concord, NH on Thursday, March 20, 2014. The workshop brought together bicycle and walking advocates, government agencies, municipal leaders, and elected officials all with a unified vision of connectivity, safety, creating partnerships and developing/improving infrastructure within our communities. The Keynote speaker was Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter who spoke on the importance of providing safe routes for children and encouraging transportation alternatives for health benefits.

The workshop focused on how to maximize funding and utilize all MAP-21 funding programs for bicycle and pedestrian projects at the state and local levels. Workshop facilitators, Darren Flusche and Christy Kwan encouraged workshop attendees to meet and socialize with one another to learn from the successes and to create grassroots partnerships.

MAP-21 is an acronym that stands for Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century. The bill is a two-year 105 billion dollar surface transportation reauthorization and was signed into law in July of 2012. The bill consolidated several programs for bicycling and walking projects. The primary consolidation was Transportation Enhancements, Safe Routes to School, and Recreational Trails being consolidated into the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). The goal of the consolidation was to focus resources on key national goals and reduce duplicative programs.

Biking and walking projects and programs remain eligible for funding throughout the federal transportation bill with 82 billion dollars of the total 105 billion being authorized for FY2013 and FY2014 for road, bridge, bicycling, and walking improvements. The Transportation Alternatives Program provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives; including on and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trail projects, safe routes to school projects, and other projects related to bicycle and pedestrian planning and facilities.

To learn more about Advocacy Advance, the TAP program and other Map-21 programs please visit (<http://www.advocacyadvance.org/MAP21>)

*Written by: Jodie Levandowski, Town Planner,
Town of Milford, Office of Community Development*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Tim Corwin, Legislative Liaison

The 2014 legislative session has been a relatively quiet one for planners, after several busy sessions spent mostly on the defensive. Nevertheless, there are still hundreds of bills under consideration, and the NHPA Legislative Sub-Committee has identified dozens of bills which we feel may have some impact on planning in New Hampshire. I encourage you to follow the status of the bills we have identified by visiting the NHPA web site and clicking on “Legislation/Law.”

The Legislative Tracker element of the website makes it very easy for planners to quickly find and read bills that may be important to you. All of the bills are hyperlinked for easy access to the text, and hearing dates, status, and sponsors are listed

as well. If you have concerns with any of the positions that the NHPA is taking I would encourage you to contact any member of the Sub-Committee. If there is any legislation that is of particular interest to you and you would be willing to testify on behalf of the NHPA, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the Sub-Committee members to let us know.

Also, please keep in mind that the NHPA will be conducting its second biannual legislative survey in the fall. The first biannual survey was conducted in the fall of 2012 survey, and in contrast to previous surveys regarding positions on specific bills, the biannual survey focused on general planning matters. The results of the 2012 survey have served as the sub-committees guidepost in determining the positions we took on any given bill in the 2013 and 2014 legislative sessions. To ensure that we continue to take positions in the future that are reflective of the positions and priorities of the NHPA membership, the survey will be administered (and updated as needed) on a biannual basis to remain current and relevant. The 2014 survey (to be used by the sub-committee for the 2015 and 2016 legislative sessions) will be ready for distribution in the fall.

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WHY DURHAM FOR OUR NEXT PLANNERS CONFERENCE?

In the Travel section of the Boston Globe last week:
“Durham, N.H., is a great place for the young at heart”
By Diane Bair and Pamela Wright
Boston Globe Correspondents - March 18, 2014
*Diane Bair and Pamela Wright can be reached
at bairwright@gmail.com.*

“This pretty New Hampshire seacoast-area town is consistently ranked as one of the best places to live and to raise a family in the nation; last year CNN Money also rated Durham No. 2 on its list of top places for 20-somethings to call home. No wonder: the friendly, tight-knit community boasts historic homes and buildings, quiet neighborhoods, and plenty of

picturesque places for outdoor adventures. It's also home to the University of New Hampshire, which adds energy, diversity, and creative spirit, along with concerts, lectures, celebrations, and sporting events that you likely won't find in other small towns. Added bonus: the Amtrak Downeaster offers several daily departures to and from downtown Durham and Boston.

STAY

The elegant **Three Chimneys Inn** (17 Newmarket St., 603-868-7800, www.threechimneysinn.com, standard rooms \$119-\$229), located in an historic 1649 Colonial homestead overlooking the Oyster River, is reason enough to visit Durham. The sprawling property, once part of an original settlement at Oyster River Falls, features 23 rooms in the main house and adjoining 1795 carriage house. All have been lovingly and smartly renovated and feature four poster beds, lush linens, period antiques, restored woodwork, and private baths. Some rooms have original wide-pine floors, exposed beams, and gas fireplaces. There's also an elegant restaurant housed in two main first-floor rooms, an outdoor terrace that comes alive in warmer months, and a popular tavern (see below.) The **Holiday Inn Express** (2 Main St., 603-868-1234, www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress, standard rooms around \$90-\$130) is a solid, wallet-pleasing option, with standard, cookie-cutter rooms but an efficient and friendly staff and a convenient location near town. Free WiFi, parking, and breakfast buffet add value.

DINE

Join the locals for breakfast at family-owned **Young's** (48 Main St., 603-868-2688, www.youngsrestaurant.com, breakfast, \$3.50-\$9.50, lunch \$5-\$10.50). The longstanding, casual restaurant is touted for its community involvement, green ethos, and locally sourced ingredients, some from the owners' own gardens. The egg benedict is worth the calorie splurge; try the vegetarian with homemade pesto hollandaise sauce. For high-quality Mexican fare, dine at **Mixteca** (10 Jenkins Ct., 603-868-397-5971, www.mixtecaqueria.com, entrees \$10-\$21), featuring an extensive menu of salsas, freshly prepared guacamoles, and creative enchiladas, rellenos, tacos, and tortas. Our favorites include the spicy carnitas de puerco, with crispy chipotle pork, pickled onions, avocado, and black beans served on a house-made tortilla, and the enchiladas de cangrejo y camarones, with sweet local crab and smoky shrimp in a creamy green chili sauce. We love the cozy, historic atmosphere at **frost Sawyer Tavern at Three Chimneys Inn** (entrees \$15-\$35), with low wood ceilings, massive beams, and the original Colonial fireplace. Start with their signature Jefferson fried chicken appetizer, crispy beer-battered and pecan-crusting chicken strips served with a local maple syrup and bourbon

dipping sauce. Popular entrees include the potato-crusting haddock and the salmon, gently poached in a coconut curry sauce and topped with a lobster tail. For home-style comfort food, head to **Bella's** (5 Mill Road Plaza, 603-868-3377, www.bellascasualdining.com, \$6.99-\$14.99), with sandwiches, salads, and burgers, along with dinner entrees like liver and onions, fish and chips, and creamy pasta alfredo. **Thai Smile** (13 Jenkins Court, 603-868-2772, www.thaismile2nh.com, lunch \$7.95-\$9.95, dinner \$10.95-\$17.95) offers an array of traditional curries, stir fries, and noodle dishes, prepared to varying heat levels. For a quick, healthy sandwich or salad, pop into the **UNH Dairy Bar** (3 Depot Road, 603-862-1006, www.unh.edu/dairy-bar/index.html, \$3.99-\$6.49), located at the Durham train station, where the focus is on sustainable, organic ingredients. They also serve ice cream.

DURING THE DAY

The Town Landing in Durham, which sits along the picturesque Oyster River, which offers access to outdoor activities such as hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing.

Visiting artists' lectures, faculty and student concerts, and UNH Celebrity Series performances, featuring world renowned musicians, are held at the **Paul Creative Arts Center** (30 Academic Way, 603-862-7222, cola.unh.edu/pcac, ticket prices vary). The center also houses the **Museum of Art** (free) with changing exhibits, and a permanent collection of 1,700 works, including nearly 200 Japanese woodblock prints. Stop in **Hayden Sports** (44 Main St., 603-868-2096, www.haydensports.com) for UNH emblazoned sportswear, gear, accessories and gifts, SolSistar (9 Madbury Road, 603-397-5229, www.solsistar.com) for trendy designer fashions, and **The Candy Bar** (44 Main St., 603-397-5154, www.thecandybarnh.com) for gourmet chocolates and candies. There's plenty of outdoor adventure, including hiking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing at **250-acre College Woods**, **334-acre Kingman Farm**, and **nearly 250-acre Thompson Farm** (www.colsa.unh.edu/woodlands/properties); all have extensive trail networks through forests and open fields. Sledding is popular at **Wagon Hill Farm** (www.ci.durham.nh.us/boc_conservation/wagon-hill-farm), as well as hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing through woods to the edge of the Oyster River, with views into Little Bay. Don't miss the trails at **Adams Point Wildlife Management Area**, (www.wildlife.state.nh.us), an 80-acre site at the mouth of Great Bay, where a 1.3-mile trail skirts the rocky Great Bay shoreline with open-water views. If you have time for a longer hike, consider the **Cy and Bobbie Sweet Trail** (www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/newhampshire/placesweprotect/a-sweet-trail-to-a-great-bay.xml). The trail is 4 miles long, one way, stretching from Longmarsh Preserve in Durham to the Great Bay Estuary in Newmarket, traveling through upland forests, freshwater wetlands, and tidal salt marshes.

AFTER DARK

Catch a boisterous UNH hockey game at the 7,500-seat **Whittemore Center** (128 Main St., 862-4000, www.whittcenter.com); family shows, concerts, and other sporting events are also held here throughout the year. Decent food and convivial atmosphere make **Libby's Bar and Grill** (47 Main St., 603-868-5542, www.libbysbarandgrill.com) a popular hangout. The downstairs dance club, with a DJ and laser light show, is always packed on Thursday and Saturday nights. **The Knot** (58A Main St., 603-868-2959) is dark, cramped, and a bit grungy, like all good dive pubs should be. It has live music two or three times a week."



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**VISIT US AT
WWW.NHPLANNERS.ORG**