

The Community Events Committee is made up of members of the community, non-profit organizations, and town staff, who collaboratively work together to provide the events that the Town of Bristol residents enjoy each year. In 2013, the Committee continued their efforts to bring the following events that the Town has come to enjoy:

- February - Winter Fest was held at Kelley Park and the Tapply-Thompson Community Center (TTCC) with over 150 people attending at the two locations. Participants were able to enter into a chili cook off sponsored by Newfound Football, go on wagon rides at Kelley Park, and do many other things throughout the afternoon. For 2014, the Committee has chosen to not hold this event due to the need for more volunteers and activities to make it successful. We are hopeful that we can work to bring this back in the future with the help of the business community and new volunteers.
- The Committee was very excited to produce our first ever Summer Events Brochure with the help of Claire Moorhead of Creative Promotions Network, LLC. It was such a success that we produced a 2nd version with Fall/Winter/Spring activities to keep the Newfound region informed of all the great activities that are offered in our communities.
- July – Kick off of the Annual Summer Concert Series with a “huge” thanks to Greg Gorski, the Bristol Shop N' Save and the townspeople for their continued support. The music and food, provided by different non-profit corporations each week, contributed to a great summer line-up. The weather for the first time in years, wasn't so agreeable though, and forced lower attendance, but that didn't stop the following performances with over 1000 people attending:
 - 6/27 - Uncle Steve's Band – this event was moved to the TTCC due to weather
 - 7/11 – Shana Stack Band
 - 7/18 – Lunch at the Dump – this event was held outside even with the weather
 - 7/25 – Maple Leaf Seven
 - 8/1 – Tom and Annie's Caravan Band – this event was moved to the TTCC due to weather
 - 8/15 – We Are Santa Croce
 - 8/22 – The Bel Airs
- July - 4th of July parade and fireworks event sponsored by the Bristol Lions Club. The Committee participated in the parade, by handing out 750 flags to parade goers who lined the roads and didn't let the Downtown construction or the extreme heat stop them from attending. A movie event was sponsored by the TTCC's Newfound Babe Ruth Commission at Kelley Park. Unfortunately weather was again an issue and forced the cancellation of the movie. The fireworks were held on July 5th and had about 1000 people in attendance for the spectacular show on the Park.
- July – The Kelly Miller Circus sponsored by the Bristol Lions Club was held on Kelley Park. The Circus held two shows on July 7th with close to 2000 people attending. It was the Kelley Miller Circus' birthday event bash and there were great changes from the original show. Attendance was slightly lower than the previous year, which was due to the tremendous heat of the day, but the Circus still put on a great show.

- August - Old Home Day events were kicked off with the last concert on Thursday, August 22nd. On Friday, August 23rd, the Bristol Fire Department held its Annual Spaghetti Supper with about 75 people attending. Then, on Saturday, August 24th, the Annual Old Home Day Event was held with the following activities:
 - 5K Fun Walk to sponsor Friends of Newfound Football
 - Horseshoe Tournament
 - Softball game
 - Health and Fitness Fair – a new addition to the day with about 10 organizations participating, ranging from massage therapy to the American Red Cross. The Committee is hoping to see this portion of the day grow in 2014.
 - Crafters and Vendors
 - The ever popular Kids Obstacle Course and Water Wars
 - Bingo
 - Horse and Pony rides
 - Wagon rides provide by John and Pat Lynch. - It is with heavy heart that the Committee says “good-bye” to John Lynch. He loved providing the wagon rides for Old Home Day and we loved his smiling face and generous heart. He will truly be missed in future Old Home Days.
 - Music throughout the day by: Rainy Tuesday Band, Kid Jazz, New Horizon’s Band and the Peaked Hill Project
 - TTCC Annual Lobster and Chicken Dinner
 - Movie, “Jack the Giant Slayer”, sponsored by TTCC Baseball/Softball Commission
 - Fireworks sponsored by the Town of Bristol Community Events Committee
- October - ‘Lights on Afterschool’ event sponsored by the Newfound Area School District in Kelley Park. There were approximately 400 in attendance. This event is a National celebration of Afterschool Programming and Planning. A great event, with a cake walk, face painting, egg tossing, three legged races, food from the Bristol Lions Club food wagon, s’mores at the fire pit by the Bristol Fire Department and a small parade of kids led by the Bristol Police Department Motorcycle.
- October - Annual Halloween Parade in downtown to kick off Trick or Treating. The ghouls, goblins, witches and more took over the Town from 5 – 8 pm. The Bristol Fire and Police Departments lit up the downtown, handing out candy and glow-necklaces, while the Lions Club food wagon gave out hot chocolate and sold treats. Area businesses and residents gave out candy and opened their doors for events, including the TTCC haunted hallway and the Masonic Lodge’s haunted house. Even with the weather, it was estimated that there were over 600 participants, children and adults alike.
- November – The Committee held its first “business meeting” with area businesses in attendance. Invitations were sent by email and mail to local businesses to participate in a brainstorming event with the hopes of soliciting participation from those businesses moving forward. Discussions took place to get ideas to expand the current events, looking at what the focus should be and how to get more people involved. This first session had approximately 15 businesses in attendance and the Committee is looking forward to expanding as the sessions move forward in 2014.

- November – the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting sponsored by the Bristol Lions Club. A huge thank you for the donation, delivery and set up of the Town's Christmas tree in Downtown Square is owed to Lynn Kenney of Kenney's Kennels, Morrison Construction, the Bristol Highway Department and the Bristol Fire Department. The Lions Club food wagon was set up along the Square, with traffic control and Santa's safe delivery provided by the Bristol Police and Fire Departments. Participants were able to attend the Annual Craft Fair and One Stop Christmas Shop for kids at the TTCC, listen and join in with caroling in the Downtown Square and watch as Santa arrived on the Bristol Ladder Truck to light the tree and visit with children. The bitter cold didn't stop people from attending, with over 100 in attendance.

In 2014, the Committee would like to be able to continue the events of the past years, the ones that the Town and its children have come to love. Without the Town's support and participation it would not be possible. In addition, the Committee is always looking for new volunteers and members. If you would like to help out or become a member, contact the Committee through either the TTCC (744-2713), the Town Offices (744-3354) or via email at bristolevents@townofbristolnh.org.

Respectfully submitted
Community Events Committee
Town of Bristol