

WESCOTT, DYER, FITZGERALD & NICHOLS, PA ATTORNEYS AT LAW 28 BOWMAN STREET • LACONIA • NEW HAMPSHIRE • (603) 524-2166 • www.wdfnlawyers.com	Sound Counsel  since 1927.
---	--

The Laconia Daily Sun

New Agway store on the drawing board in Belmont

By Gail Ober
 Sep 02, 2011 12:00 am

BELMONT — A New Hampshire family has applied to build and operate an Agway Store at the site of the former Gourmet Food Barn at 304 Daniel Webster Highway (Rte. 3).

The proposal by Paul Osborne and design engineer Jon Rokeh was submitted to the Belmont Planning Board and there will be a public hearing at 7 p.m. Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. in the ground floor of the Corner Meeting House.

According to the Osborne Agway website, Paul Osborne is the son of David and Louise Osborne who own Agway franchises in Hookset and Concord. The N.H. Secretary of State's websites list the family as the owner of a third Agway in Pittsfield.

The Osborne family have been farmers in Loudon from 1770 until 1986 when they sold their dairy herd. They opened their first Agway store in Hookset in 1987.

The site, according to the application, was previously permitted for a proposed commercial lot with four buildings and a total footprint of 10,016 square feet with 91 parking stalls.

According to the preliminary site plan, the Agway proposal includes a 4,800 square-foot showroom, two greenhouses totaling 1,920 square feet, office space and a 3,120 square-foot warehouse.

The proposed store came as welcome news to former Hillside Meadow Agway co-owner Lynn Matzke whose husband Thomas and brother-in-law, Phil owned and operated former store on Rte. 3 in Tilton.

She said her family closed their store because the primary store operator, Phil Matzke wanted to retire as did she and her husband Thomas.

She said she knows the Osbornes and considers them to be excellent store owners.

"It'll be nice to have an Agway in that area," she said.

