



# The Greenfield Spirit

Aug-Sep 2021

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28.3

Visit the town website at <http://www.greenfield-nh.gov/> for more information

FREE



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## New DPW Director



The Selectboard would like to welcome Jim Morris aboard as our new DPW Director. Jim is a long time resident of Greenfield. Having graduated from ConVal High school, Jim has worked locally for many years. In addition to his volunteer public service on the Greenfield Volunteer Fire Department, he has extensive experience in the private sector working for a local contractor from 2004-2014. From 2014-2017 Jim worked for the Town of Hancock Highway Department as an equipment operator. Since 2017, he has worked in the Greenfield DPW as an equipment operator, acting foreman and acting supervisor. He has worked hard during his tenure to bring a

team approach to every part of the DPW department's responsibilities, especially during this past 2020-2021 winter and mud season when the department was understaffed. Jim is working to systematically bring 21st century technology and sound organizational practices to our DPW team. His goals are to improve long range planning; vehicle/equipment maintenance; road and building asset management and bring about many other department efficiencies. The Selectboard has been very impressed with Jim's approach and voted unanimously to hire him as the new DPW Director. We're looking forward to many positive changes that will be reflected in improved service to residents of Greenfield.

Taxpayers should know that the Selectboard has tried numerous strategies over the past several years to improve the efficiency of the DPW while containing costs to taxpayers. Since 2009 with the retirement of Duffy Fox, we've gone from a dedicated 4-person department to a three person department and a Buildings & Grounds Manager assigned to town facilities. The Selectboard has been analyzing this arrangement for several years now. While our buildings and facilities received much needed attention, the reduction of manpower on the road crew presented difficulties accomplishing our goals with our largest asset, our roads. The Board reached out to Municipal Resources, Inc., a consulting firm from Meredith NH, to help us assess our department organization and community needs. They issued a report in January 2021. After consideration of their recommendations, the Board decided to reorganize the DPW, bringing all departments under one manager, and sought applicants for a new DPW Director. With the hiring of Mr. Morris, the Board feels that the department will make a difference in the goals we set for our building, facilities and roads. We look forward to many positive returns.

*The Greenfield Selectboard*

**This issue of the Spirit  
Sponsored by the**

**FRIENDS OF THE  
GREENFIELD  
COMMUNITY  
MEETINGHOUSE**

*See Page 9 & Back Cover*

# TOWN DIRECTORY

## TOWN OFFICES

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS**

### **GREENFIELD SELECTBOARD**

Meetings are Thurs. at 5:30 pm every week in the Meeting Room in the Town Office unless otherwise posted.

Selectboard: Robert Marshall Chair, Michael Borden, and Mason Parker  
Town Administrator: Aaron Patt  
Email: greenfieldnhbos@myfairpoint.net  
Check the town website for updates.  
<https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/>

### **Regular Town Office Hours:**

Mon - Thurs 9:00 - 5:00

Fri closed to the public

Office Manager: Catherine Shaw

Tel: 547-3442 Fax: 547-3004

Email: greenfieldnhacct@myfairpoint.net

### **BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTOR**

Inspections by Appt/as needed

Inspector - Mike Borden Tel: 547-0437

Email: mbordenbi@gmail.com

### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Meetings on the 3rd Wed at 7pm at the Town Offices.

Chair: Roger Lessard Tel: 933-3130

Email: mtking@pobox.com

### **PLANNING BOARD**

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Mon. at 6:30 pm At the Town Offices. Normally the 2nd Mon. meeting is for hearings and the 4th Mon. meeting is for other business.

Chair: Robert Walling

Email: greenfieldnhpb@gmail.com

### **TOWN CLERK (Registrations)**

M, W, TH, 3 pm - 5:30 pm

**By mail and by appointment**

Office Tel: 547-2782 Leave message.

Town Clerk: Dorene Adams

Email: greenfielddeputyclerk@gmail.com

Deputy Town Clerk: Ann Setaro

Email: greenfieldtc2@gmail.com

### **TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collector - Wendy Drouin

Tues 1:00 - 7:00pm Thurs 10:00 - 3:00pm

Tel: 547-2782 Fax: 547-2242

Email: greenfieldnhtaxes@myfairpoint.net

### **WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

Welfare Director: Leah Fiasconaro-Conway

Email: greenfieldnhwelfare@gmail.com

Tuesday 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Tel: 339-545-1209

Emergency assist: Call Police at 547-2525

## OTHER DEPARTMENTS

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Jim Morris, DPW Director Tel: 547-3504

Email: greenfield.nh.dpw@myfairpoint.net

### **Buildings & Grounds Manager:**

Rick McQuade Tel: 603-325-7346

Email: dpwbuildings@myfairpoint.net

### **STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Tel: 547-2790

Hours: Tues 2-6, Wed 10-8, Thurs 2-8, Fri 2-6, Sat 10-4

Director: David Bridgewater  
director@stephensonlibrary.org

youth@stephensonlibrary.org

Circulation/General Questions

circulation@stephensonlibrary.org

### **RECYCLING CENTER**

Hours: Tuesday 8:00 am to 4 pm

Thursday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Supervisor: Caleb Hall Tel: 547-8617

Email: greenfieldnhrecycling@myfairpoint.net

### **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

Meetings as needed- Gil Morris, Chair

Please call the Town Office for information

Tel: 547-3442

## OTHER CONTACTS

### **SCHOOL BOARD REP:**

Katherine Heck - 547-3442 x 1

Email: kheck@conval.edu

### **TOWN FORESTER**

NH Licensed Forester

Karla Allen Tel: 662-5646

Email: karla@garlandlumber.net

### **GREENFIELD U.S. POST OFFICE**

Open Hrs: 8-11:30 am & 1-5 pm, Sat. 8-12 pm

Tel: 547-3310

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**QUESTIONS Email:**

**GreenfieldEMRTQuestions@gmail.com**

**Sign up for alerts: ReadyNH.gov**

## **SPIRIT DEADLINES**

**January 1st for the Feb/Mar Issue**

**March 1st for the Apr/May Issue**

**May 1st for the Jun/Jul Issue**

**July 1st for the Aug/Sep Issue**

**September 1st for the Oct/Nov Issue**

**November 1st for the Dec/Jan Issue**

## EMERGENCIES

# DIAL 911

**POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE**

DIAL 911 or 352-1100

## FIRE & POLICE

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief: Rick McQuade

Office Tel: 325-7346

Emergency Dispatch: Tel: 352-1100 or 911

Email: chiefrickmcquade@greenfieldfire.org

Monthly meetings: 1st Mon. at 6:30 pm

### **FIRE BURN PERMITS**

To obtain a Fire Permit, please go to

<https://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net/>

or call one of the following:

### **FIRE WARDENS & TEL NUMBERS**

Eugene Hennessy, Fire Warden 718-3936

David Hall, Deputy FW2 547-2222

Jeff LaCourse, Deputy FW3 582-3289

Michael Borden, Deputy FW 4 547-0437

Chaz Babb, Deputy FW 5 562-0545

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief: Brian Giammarino

Office: Tel: 547-2535 Dispatch: 547-2525

Email: greenfieldnhpolice@myfairpoint.net



## The Greenfield Spirit

The Greenfield Spirit is published 6 times a year by the Town of Greenfield Selectboard's Office, PO Box 256, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Tel: 603-547-3442 Fax: 603-547-3004

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*Printed by the Town Office Staff*

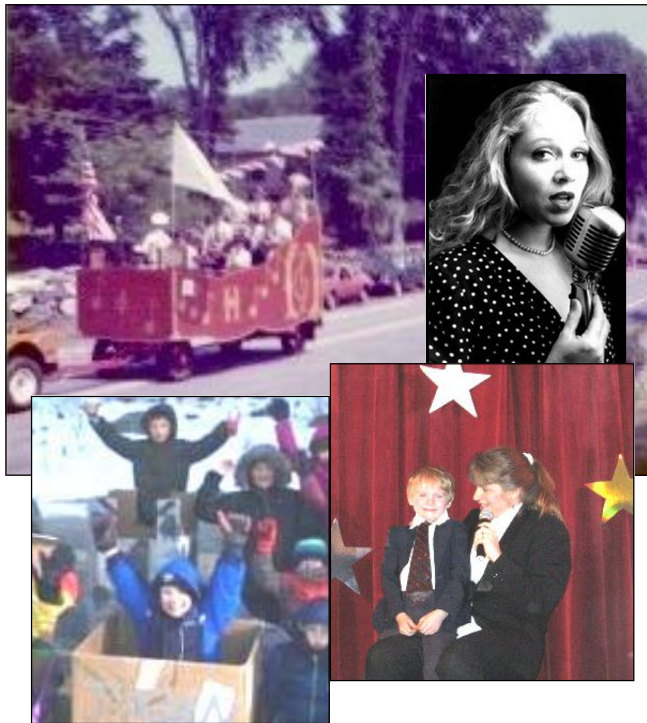
### **To submit articles to the Spirit:**

E-mail text to: GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com, or drop off typed articles to the Town Offices. Also, please send in photos, articles, event announcements, news of the town, poems, drawings, historical info, etc., with the name of the writer and/or photographer. Thanks!

*All opinions in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Selectboard and may not necessarily represent any town official or department.*

## FROM THE SELECTBOARD

The foundation of democracy is the ability of the people to rule over themselves. This requires two things: the will of the people and the work of the people. If there is all will and no work it grows into only empty ideas. If there is all work and no will then democracy itself is lost. Therefore, in order to encourage our local citizens to become invested in their own future, the Selectboard is creating a new section within the Spirit called *The Selectboard Spotlight*. In this section, the Selectboard will highlight a town committee, board, or volunteer opportunity in order to educate the citizens of the many ways which they can engage in civic affairs to advance the collective will and the collective work of the citizens of our town.



### RECREATION

For this issue of the Spirit, the Selectboard has chosen to highlight our need to revitalize our Recreation Department. Our town was once a bustling hub of sporting events, parades, and community events such as The Whing Ding, Blue B Que, Variety Show, and Winter Carnival. Did you know Greenfield once hosted the Hillsborough County Fair and even had horse racing! The Selectboard believes Greenfield can once again be a place where recreation

abounds. However, in order for Greenfield to become such a place again it is going to require the collective will and the collective work of its citizens. With this in mind, the Selectboard has taken an initial step to collect information from you the citizens in order to establish our collective will in the area of recreation. Thanks to some volunteer initiative and work from some local residents, a survey has been developed and will soon be mailed out to everyone. Please take the time to respond with your ideas for recreation in Greenfield. This information is crucial for the Selectboard as they plan for the necessary expenditures in next year's budget. Also, if you have ideas or thoughts on how the town can improve recreation, the Selectboard specially reserves the first 15 minutes of all its meetings for public input. It is a time for the citizens to meet the Selectboard face to face, pitch their ideas and then get scheduled to be at an upcoming meeting to work on their ideas if need so require.

Finally, if you or anyone else you know are interested in working with other volunteers this fall in order to get this initiative off the ground for Town Meeting 2022, please contact Aaron Patt, Town Administrator - 547-3442.

*The Greenfield Selectboard*

**There is also an online version of this survey about Recreation in Greenfield for your convenience.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LLHXCP2>



- Help neighbors with transportation
- Drive when you want
- Mileage reimbursement

Make a difference with each mile you drive  
Become a CVTC Volunteer Driver

**GIVE A RIDE**

877-428-2882 ext. 5

**B•E S•A•F•E**

Covid shots are now available at CVS Pharmacies and RiteAid Pharmacies.

RiteAid in Peterborough 924-3632  
or CVS in Peterborough 924-6397

or look up your local store at [riteaid.com](http://riteaid.com) or [cvs.com](http://cvs.com) to make an appointment.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS



*The Greenfield Historical Society is most appreciative of the support shown by donors to the Society during the twenty-four hour NH GIVES initiative of June 8th & 9th. The support means so much on so many levels. We are eager to begin working on a new "history" ~ the targeted "cause" of this year's campaign.*

#### WHAT'S THAT WORD ?

By Lenny Cornwell

New words are incorporated into our language continually and find their way every year into our dictionaries while other older, terms become obsolete and fall out of people's vocabularies. Below are just a few, fun examples from earlier days reflecting the way of life back then.

A WAINWRIGHT was a wagon maker, working with a WHEELWRIGHT who made the wagon wheels. A SPOKESHAVER was the tool used to fabricate the wagon spokes. The blacksmith was responsible for creating the iron "tires" that covered the outside of the wagon wheel.

A DROVER took farm animals to market. These animals included: cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, geese and turkeys. Another responsibility of the DROVER involved making sure that not too many of the heftier livestock were on a bridge at one time during a crossing. In the case that too many large animals were overloading a bridge, the DROVER was fined. During the onset of railroads, a DROVER on horseback carrying a red flag escorted the trains through a town .

A REEVE was an officer- the forerunner to sheriffs - a man who kept order. Every town had a REEVE whose main duty was to keep livestock from straying or, in the event of loose animals, to order restitution for damage done to someone's property (e.g., fencing, gardens, etc.).

FENCE VIEWERS were the arbitrators of land disputes. On duty, they would have men using a Gunten chain of 100 links to measure distance - sixty-six feet long or four rods. Some local New Hampshire towns still retain this archaic position.

In terms of farm life, a FOG meant not only the moisture in the air, but also referred to the old, uncut grass in a field

from the previous year. The term FROG referred to the interior, soft part of a horse's hoof, or in the case of clothing, a type of button closure. Many homes had walls of HORSEHAIR PLASTER, the wall coating "mud" made by adding real horse hair cut from a horse's tail to the plaster mixture to give it more strength. Many of the older homes in Greenfield still have walls/ceilings of this composition .

Back in the "olden days", boys and girls were dressed alike until they reached the age of five or six. The common attire, known as a PETTICOAT was, in actuality, a dress. Women also donned PETTICOATS, sometimes wearing layers of them. CLOAKS worn by women were almost always red in color.

The breeches or pants worn by men were known as HOSE. Men who couldn't afford boots wore wooden soled clogs over their shoes to walk in mud. Toward the end of the 17th century , loose canvas boots with wooden bottoms called GOLO SHOES appeared. Now, we wear galoshes or boots.

Mealtimes during the colonial period were not seatings of polite decorum. Often, people ate right out of the cooking pot set onto the table. There were no plates. Sometimes, wooden TRENCHERS or boards with a rounded, hollowed out middle were shared by two people. Often, fingers were the only utensils used.

SOURCES: Colonial Living by Edwin Tunis  
Eric Sloan's America  
1861 Webster's Dictionary, unabridged

#### RE-EMERGING INTO A BETTER NORMAL

To check on your membership, simply give Bruce a call at 547-3451.

To donate to the Society, please call Amy at 547-3403.

While shopping on Amazon, just click onto the Amazon Smiles Program to have the company extend a donation to GHS. We have participated in this initiative for several years now, and receive a quarterly check from Amazon for the amount accrued by shoppers who remember to do this.

Dale continues to handle the underwriting of the internet service. This is how many local businesses and donors support GHS.

The Museum has resumed its open hours (10 - 12) on the last Saturday of every month, with the exception of December. To arrange to visit at another time, please contact Lenny at 547-2198.

Even during the "safer at home" stricture of the pandemic, there was still activity behind the scenes at the Museum. Newly acquired acquisitions include a soapstone stove and a portrait of a Greenfield personage in a beautiful frame. Reorganization of the barn contents is also underway.



## THE FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

The Fire Department continues to get back to "business as usual", as we hopefully start to climb out of the pandemic. It's hard to think about normal, it feels so strange walking into a store for the first time without wearing a mask. Almost as awkward as it did the first time walking into a store when the mask mandates were put in place. For the Fire Department, we are still taking the same universal protections on rescue calls. We do this to continue to protect both you and the First Responders.



As part of the "getting back to normal", the Fire Department and Fire Department Auxiliary have started planning a winter community event that we are calling "FIRE & ICE". Planning has started for a parade to kick off the festivities and several events to be held at Oak Park after the parade, such as a Santa Clause visit, possible bonfire/camp fires, Christmas concert, food trucks and other family activities. Our hopes are to bring the small-town charm back to this great little community and what better time to do it, but around the holidays. We have started communications with the Friends of the Greenfield Community Meeting House and hopefully they will be planning an event or events at the Meeting House as well. This event, along with other events that are already planned for this year, are just a great way to bringing our community back together after almost 16 months of isolation.



The parade will probably be the biggest event of the day. The plan currently is to invite our surrounding communities fire departments, businesses, and even the private sector to bring out a piece of equipment or a float and decorate it with Christmas lights or Christmas theme. The plans for this event are now in the infancy, so please monitor the Fire Department's Facebook page and this community newsletter for updates as we continue the planning.

Unfortunately, even though we are trying to creep out of the "Covid-19 woods", Covid is one of the more serious situations that can shut down this event. The Selectboard continues to monitor Covid and if numbers start to creep back up, they have a responsibility to protect the citizens and possibly shut down this event. We understand and respect the hard decisions that the Selectboard has to make with situations like this. With that said, let's all continue to do our part to knock out Covid-19, do your research and if comfortable get vaccinated, wear a mask if conditions warrant, recognize social distancing and wash those hands. Washing your hands continues to be one of the best defenses for stopping the spread of germs and viruses. It's important to remember that the common cold or flu can quickly take over a person with a depressed immune system and can be just as deadly as Covid and the various strains. Please continue to do your part.

*Rick McQuade  
Fire Chief*

**COVID  
IS STILL WITH US  
STAY SAFE**

**FOLLOW THE CDC  
GUIDELINES**

**Masks And Social Distancing Are The Most  
Important Tools You Have**

**BE COURTEOUS TO EACH OTHER**



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Greetings from the DPW:

Summer is with us and we are on course for breaking a century old record for most precipitation in July! At the DPW, we are doing our best to get both paved and gravel roads put back together after the severe downpours we've encountered.

I'm happy to announce that starting in August, the DPW will be fully staffed. After meeting with a great group of applicants, we've decided to bring on John Plourde who has prior municipal experience. This will allow us to hit the ground running in August, starting with our large gravel road reconstruction of Cavender Rd. We will be stockpiling Gravel at Oak Park, so please use caution with trucks entering and exiting the area.

The crew has been very busy on prepping East Rd for its final phase of the base coat paving. Brush has been cut and



ditching is done. We have replaced a 36" culvert that was starting to fail, a big thanks to Mike Merzi for the excavation of that culvert. During the ditching phase, we found an old concrete culvert that hasn't seen the light of day in decades. It was replaced and a catch basin was added. We should be seeing Busby Construction showing up in the beginning of August to do a full depth reclaim of the last stretch of East Rd. This will turn that part dirt for a short time so please drive with care. Within a couple weeks of the reclaim, Brox Paving will lay a 2.5" base coat down, as well as 1.25" overlay on Early American Dr.

*Jim Morris*  
DPW Director



### People Are Encouraged to Consider Wearing Masks

in ALL Town Buildings but they are no longer required. Social distancing is still the best practice in the meeting rooms.

*The Greenfield Selectboard*

### SPIRIT DEADLINE

SEPT 1ST  
FOR THE OCT/NOV ISSUE

*The* **GREENFIELD FOOD PANTRY**  
&  
*The* **GREENFIELD CLOTHES CLOSET**

12 Depot Drive • Off Slip Road • Behind Harvester Market

**HOURS:** Food Pantry: *Saturdays, 9 – 12*  
Clothes Closet: *Fridays & Saturdays, 10 – 12*

These are services of the Greenfield Community Church. Food is available to anyone in need. Great clothes at great prices. (You can donate food at the post office or at Depot Drive, good clean clothes at Depot Drive. We have a drop box.) 🗑️ To our friends who contribute \$\$ to the Food Pantry: **THANK YOU!** You are helping your neighbors more than you may realize!

Serving the Community since 1791  
**GREENFIELD COVENANT CHURCH**

Worship Sundays @ 9:30 or 11 am  
Ministry Center, Depot Drive, Greenfield

547-3626 • [greenfieldchurch.org](http://greenfieldchurch.org)



## RECYCLING CENTER

Hours: Tues 8-4, Thurs 11-6, Sat 8-4

With the approval of the Selectboard and the Emergency Management Response Team, the GRC has begun a phased resumption of normal recycling. On June 26th (Sat.), we distributed flyers explaining the reopening process. For many people who have recently moved to Greenfield, the way we have continued recycling during Covid has become the norm. On Tuesday, July 13th, we returned to using the recycling windows. As an experiment, we are allowing people to put entire bags of sorted recyclables into the appropriate windows. The following, despite their labelling, are not recyclable and belong in the trash: all caps, plastics with a number higher than 2 and any plastic container where the lid is larger than the base (e.g. -fresh salad or cottage cheese containers). A week later, we reopened the Book Nook and Mini Mall. In all instances, we continue to recommend social distancing.

When the severity of the Covid outbreak became apparent, the Selectboard suspended mandatory recycling and adopted a "Throw and Go" policy. For almost the past year and a half, recycling has been voluntary. Despite being voluntary, our patrons continue to recycle nearly 90% of the pre-Covid volume. Beginning Tuesday, August 17th, any recyclable item (cardboard, mixed paper, glass jars and bottles, numbers 1 & 2 plastic, aluminum beverage cans, and steel cans) can no longer be put into the trash and instead need to go into the appropriate windows.

Although items (especially plastics) may have the triangular arrowed recyclable logo, this does not guarantee that it can be recycled. Science News devoted an entire magazine to this issue of what is and isn't recyclable in the real world. The magazine, along with an article from the Wall Street Journal describing how companies are beginning to take responsibility for the downstream waste that they create, are available at the Stephenson Library. Please take a few minutes to read up on this important quality of life issue.

A reminder on US Flag disposal-we have a bin under the battery container for old/worn flags. I prefer that you give them directly to me. The flags are then brought to a VFW drop bin where they are collected and disposed of in a fitting manner.

A note of thanks to Harvester Market (Delay's to us old-timers) for saving beer boxes for the GRC. With their help, we have diverted over 5600 lbs of glass into the Putney Redemption Center in Brattleboro, Vt, where it gets recycled as deposit bottles.

As always-"Keep the Stuff Coming!"

Caleb "C.J." Hall  
Recycling Center Supervisor

## MUSIC ON THE COMMON CONTINUES!!! CELEBRATING OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY WITH 10 BANDS

*(Belated Because of Covid)*



**August 3rd**  
**Brickyard Blues**  
*Blues*

**August 10th**  
**Three for the Taking**  
*Classic Rock*

**August 17th**  
**Dragonfly**  
*Americana*

**August 24th**  
**David Quick**  
*Oldies*



All concerts will be on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm.  
Bring a blanket or a chair to sit on.  
The Fire Department Auxiliary will have  
food and drinks for sale.

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**COME ON DOWN, BRING THE KIDS,**  
**AND ENJOY**  
**MUSIC ON THE COMMON!**



### NOW IS THE TIME!

CVTC riders are booking more rides, and they need you! As the demand for rides is returning to pre-pandemic levels (250-300/month), CVTC has a pressing need for more Volunteer Drivers. When our supply of Volunteer Drivers increases, we can better meet the needs of people requesting rides to essential appointments. Please call 603-821-0569 to speak with a Transportation Coordinator. For details, visit [cvtc-nh.org](http://cvtc-nh.org) or go to Community Volunteer Transportation Company on Facebook to check us out. CVTC, 375 Jaffrey Rd., Suite 3, Peterborough, NH 03458; toll free 1-877-428-2882 ext. 5

### SPIRIT EMAIL ADDRESS

**GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com**

Please send your articles to this address by Sept 1st to be in the Oct/Nov issue.



## DPW BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DIVISION

As many of you are probably aware, Jim Morris has been named the new DPW Director for the Town of Greenfield, and I want to take this opportunity to Congratulate him on his new position. The Building & Grounds Division now reports directly to Jim and Jim is doing everything to ensure that we remain focused on the upkeep and repairs of all of our town buildings and properties. If you see him on the street, congratulate him on his new responsibilities.

For the last two months, Buildings & Grounds main focus has been on assisting the DPW with projects and repairs to the roads from both storm damage and routine maintenance. Flooding over the last two weeks has started to take its toll and having an extra person to drive a dump truck or backhoe to assist with repairs, helps to keep the crews moving around and more efficient.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to fill any of the open life guard positions for Sunset Lake. Sadly, this has prevented us from putting the dock in the water, which we know so many of you enjoy over the hot summer season. Over the last few years, it's been increasingly hard to get lifeguards and this year was no different. I want to assure

you that this is not a "Greenfield problem", but a regional problem as even some of the bigger towns and private beaches/pools are having trouble filling these types of positions. Next year, as we get closer to the summer season, if you know of someone who is either life guard certified or can get their certification, please recommend that they come in and fill out an application for these open positions.

Oak Park truly is one of Greenfield's little gems. So many people that I meet walking the track from other communities say to me "I wish we had such a nice facility in my town". Just a few weeks ago Dave Thimmel, the DPW staff and CIP (Capital Improvements Plan) Chairman Mason Parker met to go over long-term project planning for the Park. Dave Thimmel is currently trying to revive the old Oak Park Committee and with a solid CIP plan for this location, we can slowly start to make some well needed repairs and improvements to the park. However, all of this can't happen without some good old-fashioned community volunteerism. I also want to thank Ashley Wadleigh for purchasing the new soccer nets at the park and Dave Thimmel and Josiah Adams for installing them. I have already witnessed several kids and groups playing soccer on the field, it's a great addition to the facility.

Summer is going fast, let's enjoy the long warm days as we know what's in store for us in the coming months.

*Rick McQuade*  
Building & Grounds Manager

## INDEPENDENT LIVING, ASSISTED LIVING, AND MEMORY CARE

SCHEDULE A TOUR 603-924-3691



Scott-Farrar at Peterborough proudly provides a safe, caring, and friendly community that local seniors call home. Whether it's a sitting down for a cup of coffee with a neighbor, joining a yoga class, or sharing your favorite book during book club, our community offers seniors easy and convenient access to a full social life.

NON-PROFIT 501(C)  
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION



## FRIENDS OF THE GREENFIELD COMMUNITY MEETINGHOUSE NEWS

Hello friends! We would like to express our deep gratitude to everyone who gave to the Friends during NH Gives on June 8-9. This was our first time taking part in this event, and, unlike most of the nonprofits taking part in this fundraiser, we do not have a paid staff-just a handful of volunteers. We are absolutely delighted that our little group not only reached but surpassed our goal-we raised \$10,250 from 25 donors! This money will go directly toward funding the first step in the construction process: the architectural/engineering study, which will give us a plan for construction and enable us to start looking for construction bids. Thank you to all our donors for their generosity-and for caring about our Meeting House! Also in June, we completed our application for a State of NH Conservation and Heritage Program "Moose Plate" Grant to fund repairs to the belfry, which is the most untouched part of the building and currently somewhat unsafe for volunteers or emergency personnel to access. We would like to thank Dave Thimmel, Mike Borden, Aaron Patt and Catherine Shaw for all their help with the application.



Coming Soon: Birthday for the Meeting House. On August 7 from 11-1 pm, bring a picnic and join friends and neighbors for lemonade and cupcakes as we celebrate the 226th Birthday of the Meeting House! We had planned this event last fall when the Meeting House turned 225, but it was canceled due to COVID. The 226th birthday will be just as much fun!



Oktoberfest. We are full steam ahead planning Oktoberfest on October 2! Keep an eye our for ticket tables at Harvester Market and the Recycling Center in September....we are expecting tickets to sell out!! Wood Raffle tickets will also be available wherever Oktoberfest tickets are sold. We will have two different brew pubs this year, and Greenfield's own Folk Soul Duo will be returning to provide music.

Calling all Greenfield businesses! We are looking for Greenfield business owners, artists, and craftspeople to contribute to our Silent Auction at Oktoberfest. If you have a business or sell any kind of product or service, please consider donating an item or a small gift certificate to the silent auction-we'll help you get the word about your products, or get a customer in your door! Please email Sharon Andrews at [andrewssharonlee@gmail.com](mailto:andrewssharonlee@gmail.com) or Adele Hale at [bennybun-ny43@myfairpoint.net](mailto:bennybun-ny43@myfairpoint.net) if you would like to donate your products or services to the auction!

### THE FIREWOOD RAFFLE IS BACK!

**THE LUCKY WINNER WILL RECEIVE ONE CORD OF SEASONED FIREWOOD DONATED BY SPRING POND FARM!!! FREE DELIVERY WITHIN 30 MILES OF GREENFIELD!!! \$5 PER TICKET, 5 FOR \$20.**

**All proceeds benefit the FGCM.**

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## America the Manufacturing Great: a Bucyrus Erie Story

by David Hall

When I was in my middle twenties, my friend Alan Marsh and I worked together and had a little construction business. I was a carpenter and a welder and Alan was a mechanic and heavy equipment guy... and a pretty good carpenter as well. Alan was a funny kid growing up; he was fascinated with heavy equipment from a very early age. By the time he was a teenager; he had already bought an old Autocar truck and gotten it running. The Autocar was a late forties flatbed that had been used as a granite hauler. It was no light duty truck; this thing was massive and heavy duty. It hadn't run in years but Alan got it going.

Then there was an early 60s Army deuce and a half that Alan bought and fixed up as well. That truck got used as a hay truck, his mother had horses. Then Alan decided that he would buy his first real piece of heavy equipment. I say first because this was the beginning of both a career and a collecting hobby that continues to this day where he lives in neighboring Temple. I went with him to Stafford Springs Connecticut to a heavy equipment junkyard where he bought an early 50s Bucyrus Erie 22B crowd shovel. If you're wondering what a crowd shovel is; think steam shovel... but, without the steam. A diesel powered crane. You dig away from you with a bucket on a dipper arm. The bucket has a trap door on the bottom to empty it.

The 22B is a smaller machine with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  yard bucket. It was a very successful machine for Bucyrus Erie, with a long run. They built approximately 19,000 of them (some under the Bucyrus Ruston name) between 1937 and 1976. The 22B could be configured several ways: as a crowd shovel, traditional hoisting crane, a cable backhoe or a dragline. Alan's plan was to turn this machine into a dragline. Draglines look like traditional cranes but there is an extra cable that draws a perforated scoop bucket horizontally towards the crane. Draglines are most commonly used to dredge ponds and clean out swampland. The perforated bucket collects muck but allows water to escape as you "drag".



*Similar Model Setup As A Crowd Shovel*

Alan found a boom, a couple of drag buckets and a fair lead which is a set of guide pulleys attached the base of the crane to guide the drag cable to its drum. I welded the fair lead to the crane, Alan hooked up the rest and we had a dragline.

We were off to the races and started dredging. Now the 22B is an all cable machine with no hydraulics. The operator has an array of levers and pedals to actuate the dragline functions. Operating is a fairly athletic event and quite tiring. Power for the most part is transferred from the diesel engine by means of several swing clutches. The swing clutches are big electric armatures with outside constricting brake bands that when applied capture the power. There were I believe five of these clutches. For the sake of full disclosure, if there are any Erie aficionados reading this, I could be wrong on some of these details. This happened over 40 years ago and whether there are four or five clutches doesn't in any way diminish the importance of this story. So feel free to cut me some slack.

So, one day we were dredging and there was a big snap followed by horrendous screeching and grinding noises. Alan shut the crane down immediately. One of the constricting brake bands had failed... broken in two to be exact. A couple hours later we had the band out and I set off to Needham (just outside Boston) to the local Bucyrus Erie dealer. What happened in the parts department was nothing short of an epiphany and changed my view of the world forever. I've told this story many times across my wide life.



*22B Dragline with Two Swing Clutches Showing*

I marched up to the parts counter and plunked down the broken brake band down in front of a middle aged guy that worked there. "Got one these?" I asked. "Yup" and he disappeared into the backroom. I was very surprised that he didn't ask me anything about what machine it came from. A minute later he reappeared and plunked down the new band. I picked up the two broken pieces and set them on top of the good one to see if they lined up... they did. He added "that's the right one son, don't you worry". I countered with "but you didn't ask me what machine it was from?" He replied "it doesn't matter". "What do you mean it doesn't matter?" He

*Continued on page 13*

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# STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

David Bridgewater, Director

Library Contact: 547-2790, [director@stephensonlibrary.org](mailto:director@stephensonlibrary.org)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - Hours: Tues 2-6, Wed 10-8, Thurs 2-8, Fri 2-6, Sat 10-4

The Stephenson Memorial Library is a not-for-profit public library.



The single most important thing you can do to prepare your child to read is to read to them every day. Research shows that children who hear 1000 books before kindergarten helps them to read independently, increases their vocabulary, and their listening and narrative skills. Reading with your children will also help to instill in them self-awareness, confidence, and an understanding of their place in the world.

Visit the library and register anytime when your child is between birth and five years old.

hundreds. Of course many go straight into the Friends' Book Sale because they are duplicates, or they are 'well used', but the others are frequently ones we wouldn't have thought of buying and they prove to be popular.

## Library Meet-Up Groups

Existing Groups:

- Water color painters
- Knitters
- Adult Book Club
- Quilters
- Pre-School Story Time

Groups being thought about, or planned:

- Mah-jong
- Afternoon tea
- Scrabble

And planned for the Fall:

- Lego
- Ladybug Book Club for 1st and 2nd graders
- Puma Bound Book Club for 3rd and 4th graders
- STEM Club

If you are interested in any of these or have other suggestions for a group, please let us know.



Ukulele Kit to Go

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### Welcome

To our new staff member Brigid Wood.

### Donated Books

A big Thank You to everyone who has donated books to the library over the last twelve or more months. We received

## Don't Forget



*A Bucyrus Erie Story continued from page 10*

explained that it didn't matter because that band fits a long list of machines (which he recited) and of course included the 22B. Undaunted I shot back "yeah, but you didn't ask what year it was!" Again he said "it doesn't matter, this band fits all those machines from 1946 to 1967" Again I may not have the years exactly right, you know the 40 year ago thing, but it was a long stretch of 20 or more years. Battered but not completely down I played my last defiant card "OK, but there's five clutches in that crane... you didn't ask me which one!" He flat out smirked, a devilish smirk that revealed just how much fun he was having with me and said once again "it doesn't matter, because you see, all the clutches are identical" And then, with an evil grin he played his hole card "would you like another one to take along as a spare?" Utterly defeated I stammered "yes sir!" I think my voice may have even cracked. He rang me up with a hugely satisfied look on his face and I skulked out of the dealership.

As I walked to my truck it began to sink in what I had just learned. This crane was a product of mid-century America fresh off the war when America flexed its industrial might the likes of which the world had never seen. America retooled during World War II and produced war goods at a dizzying rate. Henry Ford's Dearborn car and truck plants started building tanks and planes in numbers unimaginable prior to that time. The great shipyards of the east coast produced Liberty Ships, cargo ships in less than a week. If the German U-boats sank ten Liberty Ships in a week, the shipyards built twenty. This was a period of manufacturing excellence. It was a huge factor in winning the war. My head was spinning as I drove back to the jobsite. I could almost hear the kettle drums and rising crescendo of trumpets from Stanley Kubrick's 2001 movie sound track. Bucyrus Erie did it perfectly. Their engineers used one swing clutch over and over again in host of machines. It was a stroke of engineering genius. There were of course other clutches in much bigger machines, but they had a common part for their dealers to stock that had dozens of applications. It even made our life easier in the field. I came back with a spare band which we kept in the crane in case another band let go... and it didn't matter which one.

I don't want to be the old guy that crows "you know, back in the when, we knew how to do it, today everything is crap". But, in sense it feels like there is some truth to that statement. In mid-century America, we made a lot of the best stuff, especially things like heavy equipment. Whoever wanted a bulldozer, no matter where in the world they were; their first choice was an American made machine.

By contrast let me offer an example from the modern world. In the rural fire service we have pagers that we wear on our belts that let us know when there is a call. One of the major pager manufactures releases a next generation pager every five or six years and they announce that they will only support the previous generation pager for another year or two.

The pagers are expensive (around \$500) and an absolute necessity. And here comes the kicker... no parts from the previous generation are compatible with the next. Batteries... absolutely not, they are a different size. The plastic belt clip, we break those all the time... different size. The list goes on and on. This is a cynical marketing plan. Nothing is intergenerational. This is the opposite of what Bucyrus Erie did, and it's a shame. There is very little in the way of common parts today. What happens when your computer printer stops working? Do you take it somewhere to be repaired? Absolutely not, you buy a new one.



*The Author's Working Antiques*

I own three tractors on my modest little homestead, a modern Kubota and a 1946 Farmall and a '38 Allis Chalmers. I use all three of them; the two antiques run just fine. That's what I mean when I say America was the manufacturing great. Let's be honest, an awful lot of us drive cars made by Toyota and Honda. I hear a lot of people talk about the new Kubota or Komatsu excavator they just bought... not so much about Caterpillar. In today's global economy, there is a lot of competition from overseas. In some respects it feels like we have lost our way. But I don't think it has to be like that, we can regain the edge. It seems to me that we don't have to look far for a good solution to be competitive again. It's a question of which direction to look... my suggestion is to look over our shoulders at our own remarkable past.


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*The Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse is a public, community based nonprofit founded in 2019 to raise funds for the repair and restoration of the Greenfield Meeting House in Greenfield, NH. We are a registered 501-c-3 organization. All residents of Greenfield are considered to be members of the Friends!*

*Continued on page 9*

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