



The Greenfield Spirit

DEC-JAN 2023

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 29.5

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

FREE



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SPIRIT DEADLINE

**JANUARY 1ST FOR
THE FEB/MAR ISSUE**

PUBLIC NOTICE WINTER PARKING BAN

By order of the Selectboard, the Town of Greenfield in accordance with Town Ordinance Chapter 1, Section 4, as well as, RSA 105, Sections 6-7-8, no vehicle shall be left standing on any street in said Greenfield between the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Effective November 1, 2022 through April 1, 2023. This is to allow plowing of the streets during snow-storms.

Per order of the *Greenfield Selectboard*

Our Tax Rate

Taxes

Many people are wondering why their taxes increased so much with the December bill, why Greenfield's tax rate is higher than the bills in neighboring towns, and what the town can do about it.

Why Did the Town Portion Increase So Much?

One of the largest drivers of that increase was the conversion of Crotched Mountain from a non-profit entity making a PILOT (Payment In Lieu Of Tax) payment to the for-profit Legacy By Gersh. The payments from Crotched Mountain represented more than \$200,000 in direct revenue to the town's general fund (in addition to the PILOT they were also renting the old town office building). This source of revenue is not tax revenue so it is not split with the schools. As a for-profit entity under Gersh, the property was re-appraised and taxed. Ultimately the Gersh tax bill also came to about \$200,000 so you might wonder why it didn't more or less balance out?

The reason for the imbalance is that for every tax dollar that we raise only about a third of it stays in town. Two thirds of the collected tax dollars are paid to the school and county. So, in order to offset the loss of a PILOT, we need an appraised value high enough to generate about three times the PILOT amount in taxes. In the case of Crotched Mountain transitioning to Legacy By Gersh that would have required an appraised value of about \$20 million dollars. The actual appraised value turned out to be a bit less than \$7M.

At the end of the day the impact from Crotched Mountain closing is about \$1.00 of the tax increase. With Gersh now transitioning to Seven Hills Foundation, which is a non-profit, we hope to be able to return to a strong PILOT program in 2023.

The other significant source of town increases was from the warrant articles that were approved in March. After two years of keeping things in check due to COVID the town voted for a number of warrant articles that will help us in the long run. These include chip sealing roads and equipment for the Fire Department and DPW.

Taken together, the Crotched Mountain change and the Warrant articles represent about \$2.00 in tax increase. The ConVal School district increased \$2.20, which is outside of our control. The State education tax was lower so we did have some welcome reduction there.

Why Is Greenfield's Tax Rate Higher Than Neighboring Towns?

When we look around at neighboring towns such as Hancock, Frankestown, and Dublin we see that they all have similar populations, we share the same school system and the town spending levels are close. So why is Greenfield's tax rate so much higher?

Property valuation is the reason. Greenfield has a much lower total assessed value than our neighbors:

Continued on page 3

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: Mason Parker Chair, Michael Borden, and Tom Bascom
Town Administrator: Aaron Patt
Email: townadministrator@greenfield-nh.gov
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: 603-547-3442 Fax: 603-547-3004
Email: officemanager@greenfield-nh.gov

BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTOR
Inspections by Appt/as needed
Inspector- Mike Borden
Tel: 603-547-0437
Email: mbordenbi@gmail.com

TOWN CLERK (Registrations)
M, W, TH, 3 pm - 5:30 pm
By mail and by appointment
Office Tel: 603-547-2782 Leave message.
Town Clerk: Dorene Adams
Email: townclerk@greenfield-nh.gov
Deputy Town Clerk: Ann Setaro
Email: deputytownclerk@greenfield-nh.gov

TAX COLLECTOR
Tax Collector - Wendy Drouin
Mon 1:00 - 6:00pm, Wed 11:00 - 4:00pm
Tel: 603-547-2782 Fax: 603-547-2242
Email: taxcollector@greenfield-nh.gov

WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Welfare Director: Leah Fiasconaro-Conway
Email: greenfieldnhwelfare@gmail.com
Tuesday 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Tel: 603-547-3442 Ext. 3
Emergency assist: Call 603-547-2525

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meetings on the 3rd Wed at 7pm at the Town Offices.
Chair: Roger Lessard Tel: 603-933-3130
Email: mtking@pobox.com

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Jim Morris, DPW Director
Tel: 603-547-3504
Email: publicworks@greenfield-nh.gov

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

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: 603-547-8617
Email: recyclingcenter@greenfield-nh.gov

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Tel: 603-547-2790
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

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Meetings as needed- Gil Morris, Chair
Email: zba@greenfield-nh.gov
Tel: 603-547-3442

OTHER CONTACTS

CEMETERY TRUSTEES:
Meetings on the 2nd Thurs at 7pm at the Town Offices
Roger Lessard, Chair - 603-933-3130
Email: mtking@pobox.com

OAK PARK COMMITTEE
Meetings at the Oak Park, 5:30 pm Every Thursday. Dave Thimmel Chair
Email: woodshopronin@gmail.com

SCHOOL BOARD REP:

Katherine Heck - 603-547-3442 x 1
Email: kheck@conval.edu

TOWN FORESTER

NH Licensed Forester
Karla Allen Tel: 603-733-7922
Email: Karlaallen367@gmail.com

GREENFIELD U.S. POST OFFICE

Open Hrs: 8-11:30 am & 1-5 pm,
Sat. 8-12 pm
Tel: 603-547-3310

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
Telephone: 603-325-7346
Emergency Dispatch:
Tel: 603-352-1100 or 911
Email: chiefrickmcquade@greenfieldfire.org
Monthly meetings: 1st Tues @ 6:00 pm

FIRE BURN PERMITS

To obtain a Fire Permit, please go to <https://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net/> or call one of the following:

FIRE WARDENS

Eugene Hennessey, F. Warden 603-718-3936
David Hall, Deputy 603-547-2222
Jeff LaCourse, Deputy 603-582-3289
Michael Borden, Deputy 603-547-0437
Chaz Babb, Deputy 603-562-0545

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Dave Martin, Director
Email: emddavemartin@greenfield.org
Sign up for alerts: ReadyNH.gov

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Brian Giammarino
Office: 603-547-2535
Dispatch: 603-547-2525
Email: police@greenfieldnhpd.com



The Greenfield Spirit

The Greenfield Spirit is published 6 times a year by the Town of Greenfield, PO Box 256, Greenfield NH 03047

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To submit articles to the Spirit:
Email 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. All content is printed at the Selectboard's discretion.

Selectboard continued from page 1

	Valuation (1000s)	Compare	Valuation Per Capita
Greenfield	\$181,949	100%	100%
Francestown	\$222,871	122%	137%
Hancock	\$297,290	163%	173%
Dublin	\$280,427	154%	169%

Our neighbors are about the same population but they have significantly higher tax bases than we do. Every dollar that they need to raise through taxes, whether for town or school, is spread across more dollars of valuation so the rate is lower even when they spend more. For instance, Hancock raises \$3.9M for Conval and their Conval tax rate is just \$13.12; while Greenfield raises \$3.1M for Conval but the Greenfield Conval rate is \$17.19 (31% more than Hancock).

As you can see from the table above, if Greenfield had a tax rate of \$1 then the Town would receive \$181,949 in tax revenue. If Hancock had a tax rate of \$1 then the town of Hancock would receive \$297,290 and so on. So when the tax rate is at the same \$1 Hancock, would receive roughly \$115,000 MORE tax revenue than Greenfield. Because their total valuation is so much higher than ours Greenfield will always need a higher tax rate even if we had the exact same budget providing the very same level of services.

What Can The Town Do About It?

In Greenfield we have to be smart about how we spend our money. For instance, we pay very close attention to cash flow in order to avoid borrowing. Right off the bat, this saves the town up to \$50,000 per year in potential interest and fees (or about \$0.20 on your tax rate).

We have also been putting money into our Capital Reserve funds so that we can pay cash for major expenses further reducing borrowing costs.

We are working diligently to find “out of the box” solutions to save money. Sometimes that means a near term expense to realize a long-term benefit. The Chip Sealing project is an example of that sort of prudent spending. By extending the life of recently paved roads we don’t need to pave them as often which will reduce future costs.

As we all know, inflation has been very painful this year. Because we pay very close attention to every dollar as it is being spent, Greenfield recognized the impact that this was going to have on spending very early and we were able to quickly take advantage of the State fuel purchase plan, successfully insulating the town from those price increases.

What Can YOU Do About It?

The town budget process is underway now. We have been meeting with departments and reviewing preliminary budget requests. The dates have not yet been set, but in late January or early February we will be holding budget hearings. These hearings are your best opportunity to influence what will be brought to the floor at Town Meeting in March.

Selectboard meetings are most Thursday nights. They are open to the public and there is always an opportunity to speak your mind, we always keep 5:30 to 5:45 open for unscheduled public comment. If that time won’t work for you or, if you have specific questions that might need some research, contact the Town Administrator and you can get on the agenda for a time that is more to your liking. We welcome any and all ideas that will help the town!

The Greenfield Selectboard



Lenny Retires

A special gathering was held October 2nd at Holly and Willard Williams’ Muzzey Hill Farm for one of Greenfield’s beloved and lifelong residents. Lenny Cornwell was “surprised” with a secret retirement party in recognition of decades of practicing the art of predicting the weather and making hay for numerous farms in Greenfield over the years. The many friends who celebrated with Lenny were treated to delicious nibbles and the most amazing cake from Aesop’s Tables, artfully displayed by Pam Cornwell. An artistic handmade banner stretched across the arches of the indoor area spelling out “HAY LENNY, THANK YOU!!” Mason Bliss showed footage of video from a drone taken as Lenny cut and baled hay on the farm. A highlight of the festivities was Lenny being presented with an original painting by Mary Iselin titled “Loose Hay”, a beautiful depiction of a horse drawn hay wagon overflowing with loose hay from the fields of Muzzey Hill Farm. Lenny then, to the delight of his guests, shared some of the funnier memories he has of haying over the years. The celebration was topped off with a tractor drawn hay ride complete with “Lenny” bales for the younger set of guests. A great time was had by all and we thank everyone who attended this special celebration.

THE TOWN WEBSITE

In many instances, what you are looking for is on the Town Website at:

www.greenfield-nh.gov/

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Stagecoach Drivers- Real Teamwork

By Lenny Cornwell

In perusing the old 1800s to early 1900s Greenfield news articles, two articles about the men who drove stagecoaches through Greenfield surfaced. The teamsters came from various train stations in the surrounding and outlying towns, moving the mail, passengers and some freight through Greenfield.

Roads that got the designation of a "stageline" gave whatever town the stagecoach visited at least one "thoroughfare". These roads were maintained and improved by widening, stump and rock removal, and, in some cases, creating a lesser grade by filling in the lower sections. This helped everyone, but especially the stages that had a timetable.

The arrival of the stage once or a couple of times a week was, for some, a town highlight. A lot of residents would descend on the depot to see who was leaving or coming to town, to wait for letters and packages or to send them. The arrival of the coach provided a cheap form of entertainment, but also created a social event.

Some of the stagecoaches traveling through Greenfield over the years were owned by Peterborough residents. At this time, there was quite a bit of rivalry between the stagecoach system and the railroad. The trains would not wait for a stage. After many years, the dispute was finally settled.

Stages departed for Keene daily from Peterborough. Another stage left Peterborough for Milford. Both routes were a long ride, but offered a connection for the Keene to Milford span. This was a lot of mileage in a day's time covered by horses!

Many of the coach owners and drivers have names familiar to our town's history - Holt, French, Marsh, Cane, Richardson, and Steele. The arrival of the automobile put an end to these "knights of the whips" as a reporter referred to the drivers in one 1889 article.

Source: The Peterborough Transcript

CONNECTING TO THE GHS:

Please refer to our website for information on our Museum open hours, events, your membership and donations at www.greenfieldnhhistoricalsociety.com.

FIRE AND ICE event on Saturday, December 3, 2022:

We are looking forward to joining other town groups and organizations for the Fire Department's awaited FIRE AND ICE event. Visit the Museum that day, between 3 and 6 PM, see the new exhibits in the barn and museum, enjoy light refreshments, and do a bit of gift shopping as well. Look for special raffle and/or silent auction opportunities that afternoon.

Spotlight shining on the GHS in 2023: Look for information in 2023 regarding the 50th anniversary of your historical society. Plans are underway for a special year, especially with the release of our new (not a town) history book, but one filled with all sorts of stories about "our town" and its colorful characters. Stay tuned.

CHANGE TO THE SPIRIT

Starting with the last issue, we will no longer print the tradespeople listing in every issue. The reason is, that for the most part, the listing is pretty much the same each time. Instead, we will put the trades listing on both sides of one sheet and slip it into every other issue. The next one will be in Feb/Mar. Our hope is that you will keep this sheet handy for when you need one of the services listed. In addition, the trades will be online at:

<https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/greenfield-spirit>

Changing the Spirit this way will also allow more space for articles and flyers to be printed in each issue. Please keep sending in your events and articles. Your input helps to build community and makes each issue interesting to all town residents and beyond.

Karen Day
Spirit Editor

**Maybe It's Time To Add A New
Suit To Your Wardrobe.**



Volunteers Needed
Training Provided
Greenfield Fire Department
Call 547-2222





RECYCLING CENTER

Hours: Tues 8-4, Thurs 11-6, Sat 8-4
603-547-8617

We are coming to the end of 2022 and some of the issues that I have alluded to in previous Spirit articles and Town Reports will soon be coming to pass. Our 5-year contract with Monadnock Disposal Service will end beginning January 2023. MDS services our trash compactor container and our demo dumpster. Early this year, I asked Matt at MDS what it looked like the new prices will be. At the time, he guessed they would go up by 30%-from \$100.00/ton to \$130.00/ton. Subsequent conversations indicated that new prices would have to be higher than the \$130.00 guesstimate. In order to put together my upcoming year's budget, Matt was asked to put in a quote. Our new costs will be \$155.00/ton for the trash compactor and \$165.00/ton for demo. These prices include the trucking. Instead of 5 years, this contract will only be good for 1 year. The difference in rates for demo versus trash reflects the fact that the tonnage is usually around half of the amount in the compactor.

There is great uncertainty in the landfill industry. New Hampshire has only one sanitary landfill left. It is privately owned and accepts waste from outside New Hampshire. The rest of New England has next to none. Anything not burned in a trash to energy plant is, for the most part, shipped out of the region. New York and Pennsylvania have been destinations for a while, but they are running out of permitted space. Trash haulers are now looking at shipping refuse by rail to Nevada. Because of their bulk, some places are no longer accepting mattresses and box springs or charging very high disposal fees for taking them. It is currently not a pretty picture out there relating to garbage disposal.

The price of tire disposal increased early in the year, but our fees were kept at the 2021 rate. For 2023, reflecting our increased cost, the fees will go up from \$3.00 per car tire (with or without rims) to \$5.00/tire; truck tires from \$16.00 to \$20.00 per tire. Old tires filled with mud and dirt will be \$8.00/tire. Charges for car tires are disproportionately lower than truck tires because there is a good secondary market for used/unused roadworthy car tires. About 15% of the tires turned in fit this category.

At least for electronics and refrigerator/ac units we should be able to maintain our current fees. Nearly half the cost of disposing of electronics is in transportation.

As disposal costs have gone up, prices for recyclables have gone down. Our light iron went from a high of \$230.00/ton in June to the current price of \$85.00/ton. As you have noticed, shipments of light iron were held back in the hopes of a price recovery. Since that doesn't appear to be

on the near horizon, the light iron is now being shipped out at the \$85.00/ton price. Reflecting how unstable the recycling markets are, the price of light iron has increased to \$93.00/ ton since I started writing this article three days ago.



Photo courtesy of Bill Gaudette.

We are always on the lookout for unusual objects that get dropped off at the GRC. In the photo is a plumbing related contraption that is a tribute to the "Git'er done" philosophy of rural life. We thought one of our frequent patrons, Jarvis Adams, a plumber, might enjoy seeing it. He correctly identified the section as belonging to a sump pump. Over just 20" of tubing 8 hose clamps were used. I hope Edmunds Hardware was having a sale on them that day.

The guys at DPW doing trash collection after the Halloween Party at Oak Park came across a cloth bag containing two baseball gloves. The bag is now awaiting claim at the GRC.

As always, "Keep the Stuff Coming!"

CJ Hall

Recycling Center Supervisor

Spirit Email: GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com

Next deadline: January 1, 2023



WIRED ELECTRIC

Edward Bergeron
Master Electrician

P.O. Box 288
Greenfield NH 03047

Office # 1-603-547-2783
Cell # 1-774-930-4605

Email:
Wireelectricnh@gmail.com

Fully licensed and insured
All major credit cards accepted

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE

Townclerk@Greenfield-nh.gov

1-603-547-2782

Dorene Adams, Town Clerk

Anne Setaro, Deputy Town Clerk

Website: <https://www.greenfield-nh.gov>

OFFICE HOURS

Mon., Wed., Thurs.: 3:00 – 5:30pm

Changes will be posted on the Town Website.

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: Mon, Dec. 26, 2022 & Jan. 2, 2023.

Appointments:

Email or call us to let us know what day and time you want to come in. We will add you to our list! When calling, please note that we only retrieve messages when we are in the office. Making appointments cuts down on your wait time in the office.

NEW: Online Payments via E-Checks

Online payment option for vehicle renewal registrations, dog licenses and vital record requests (Marriage, Birth & Death Certificates). Check out the Town of Greenfield website.

Mail in Renewals:

Residents can mail in renewals or use our drop box outside our office. Please address your envelope to Greenfield Town Clerk, PO Box 256, Greenfield, NH 03047. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for us to return your registration in. Instructions are on your renewal letters. Please include the letter.

Payment Types: Two Checks or Cash

We are a 2 check Town, which means you will write a check to The Town of Greenfield, for the Town portion of the registration and a check to The State of NH-DMV, for the State portion. We do not take cards.

Moving to Greenfield from another state:

A) New residents to NH are required to register their vehicles and obtain a NH driver's license within sixty (60) days of moving to NH. Bring in your Vehicle Title, or Lienholder information, proof of residency (such as a utility bill, pay stub etc), current registration, your drivers license and 2 checks or cash for payment. We will retitle your vehicle to NH and give you a NH new registration.

B) If you have a dog, you need to register your dog with the Town Clerk as well.

New Residents to Greenfield from another Town in NH and Change of Address:

A) Residents who move here from another town in NH must notify the Motor Vehicle Dept. of their new address within ten (10) days of a change. Forms are available at the Town Clerks office. Bring in your ID, proof of residency (such as a utility bill, pay stub etc.) and current registration. We will issue an updated registration.

B) If you have a registered dog, we will transfer that registration to Greenfield.

Dog Licenses: DUE BY APRIL 30TH

New dogs must be registered with the Town Clerk when you get them. All dogs must have renewal registrations done by April 30th. A renewal letter will be sent to you if your dog was registered in Greenfield during the last year. You can pay online, by mail or make an appointment. Current rabies certificate must be on file with the Town Clerk.

Fee Schedule:

Male or Female Dog	9.00
Spayed or Neutered Dog	6.50
Puppy (Under 7 mths)	6.50
1st Dog owned by a Senior (age 65)	2.00
Group Licenses (5-10 dogs)	20.00
Group License (10 or more)	25.00

Failure to license your dog is a violation of State law. In addition to the annual license fee you will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per month, per dog for each month (or part of month) after May 1st. A civil forfeiture fee will also be assessed in the amount of \$25.00, which is payable within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the notice of failure to register your dog (s). If the forfeiture fee is not paid within that time, a summons to appear in court will be issued.

Please notify our office of any name or address changes and if you are moving. This helps us keep our records up to date!

Thank you!

SUPERVISOR'S OF THE CHECKLIST

Linda Dodge, Ellen Sanford, Kathy Seigars

REGISTER TO VOTE

and make name or address corrections

2023 Supervisor Sessions

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Time: 7:00 – 7:30 pm

**Location: Town Offices,
7 Sawmill Rd.**

Saturday, March 4, 2023

Time: 11-11:30am

**Location: Town Offices,
7 Sawmill Rd.**

You can register to VOTE with the Town Clerk, during office hours, M. W. TH, 3-5:30pm, but you will not be officially added to the Voter Checklist until the Supervisors hold their session.

What to bring when registering to VOTE:

- **Proof of identity:** a photo ID such as a driver's license or passport.

- **Proof of age:** an ID with your birth date, as listed above, to prove you are 18 or older.
- **Proof of citizenship:** birth certificate or citizenship papers. Marriage certificate or legal paperwork if you had a name change.
- **Proof of domicile:** such as: a copy of a utility bill showing your name and the physical address; a pay stub showing your name and physical address; your vehicle registration; a notarized letter from your landlord stating you reside at the Greenfield address they rent to you.

Need an absentee ballot?

If you need an absentee ballot, please contact the Town Clerk for an Absentee Ballot Request form or find it on the State of NH, Secretary of State website. You must be a registered voter to receive an absentee ballot. Not sure if you are registered? Contact the Town Clerk’s office at: townclerk@greenfield-nh.gov.

**MARCH TOWN ELECTION
POSITIONS OPEN
You MUST file a Declaration of
Candidacy form between
Jan. 25 – Feb. 3, 2023**

If you are a registered voter and are interested in running for office, please file a Declaration of Candidacy form with the Town Clerk, at 7 Sawmill Road, Greenfield, during office hours, on the following dates between the hours of 3:00 - 5:30pm:

Wed. 1-25-23, Thurs. 1-26-23,
Mon. 1-30-23, Wed. 2-1-23, Thurs. 2-2-23
or on Fri. 2-3-23 between 3-5pm.

The following positions will be up for election. Contact the Town Clerk if you have any questions: townclerk@greenfield-nh.gov

Select Board	1 position	3 yr. Term
Budget Advisory Com.	2 positions	3 yr. Term
Budget Advisory Com.	1 position	2 yr. Term
Budget Advisory Com.	1 position	1 yr. Term
Cemetery Trustee	1 position	3 yr. Term
Library Trustee	1 position	3 yr. Term
Planning Board	2 positions	3 yr. Term
Trustee of Trust Funds	1 position	3 yr. Term

**TOWN ELECTIONS
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
Location: The Meeting House,
at 776 Forest Road**

Time: 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
Want to help count ballots after voting?
Please email or call the Town Clerk.

**TOWN MEETING
Saturday, March 18, 2023
9 am**

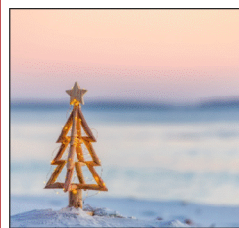


The Friends of the Library is a volunteer nonprofit group that supports our wonderful town library by sponsoring various events and programs. Please consider joining our group! We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Library.



The Friends of the Library had a great time at the 2nd Annual Pumpkin Fest handing out sweet treats and books!

Pictured, Valli Hannings, President of the Friends at Oak Park Trunk or Treat



Please join us for the Annual Town Tree Lighting and Carol Sing 4:30 PM on Saturday December 3rd on the Library Lawn. The Friends will have hot drinks available and holiday gifts for all! The library is a great spot to watch the Fire & Ice parade at 5 pm!



Book Sales are held every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, in the Wensberg Room at the Stephenson Memorial Library. A great selection of books at a great price! Buy a Friend’s bag and fill it for free FOREVER.

*Please note there will be no book sale on December 24th

- President:** Valli Hannings
- Vice President:** Ginni Plourde
- Treasurer:** Clare Delay
- Secretary:** Alyssum Proctor Russell

SOUTHERN NH SERVICES FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Thanks to funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, New Hampshire residents who are elderly, disabled and low-income are provided financial assistance needed to pay for vital heating and utility expenses through the colder months. LIHEAP also offers case management to develop a plan to achieve increased financial self-sufficiency to avoid energy-related emergencies such as running out of heating fuel.

The Fuel Assistance Program provides grant benefits from \$304 to \$3,024 for heating purposes that do not have to be repaid to eligible homeowners and renters for the winter season as follows: The Fuel Assistance Program application deadline is April 30th, 2023.

- If your heat is electric or natural gas, bills from November 1st can be paid until your benefit amount is used up or the program year ends.
 - If your heat is from deliverable fuels, oil, kerosene, propane, wood or coal, deliveries made from October 1st – April 30th can be paid until your benefit amount is used up or the program year ends.
 - If your heat is included in your rent and is NOT subsidized, assistance will be provided in the form of heating vouchers issued in amounts of up to \$504 each month until your benefit amount is used up or the program year ends.
- *If your heat is included in your rent and IS subsidized, you will not qualify for Fuel Assistance but you may qualify for Electric Assistance.

For the 2022-2023 Fuel Assistance Program, pre-applications will be made available to priority families, elderly, disabled and families with young children under 6 after July 1st. All others can pre-apply after September 1st.

Additional Assistance through Weatherization
All Fuel Assistance applicants will be asked if you want to participate in our Weatherization Program. This is an opportunity to have your home or apartment inspected by our trained Energy Auditors to determine if your home can be made more efficient to lower your energy bills. If your living space is drafty, in need of more insulation or has unsafe heating appliances, we will have the work done to make your home or apartment warmer, more comfortable and safer at no cost to you. If you are a renter, we will need permission from the landlord.



Hillsborough Area
(Open by Appointment)
4 Church Street
Hillsborough, NH 03244
(603) 924-2243 or (877) 757-7048

<https://www.snhs.org/services/fuel-assistance>



Oak Park Committee News

The Oak Park Committee is dedicated to the revitalization and improvement of Oak Park, one of Greenfield's treasures. Do you have suggestions as to what you would like to see in the Park? Do you have talents to share? Are you interested in fostering community spirit in Greenfield? Please consider joining the Oak Park Committee! Come to one of meetings to learn more! We need volunteers to help with our events and would welcome new members to the Committee!

The 2nd Annual Oak Park Pumpkin Festival on Saturday October 22nd was a huge success! The weather was perfect, and it was great to see our community come together to enjoy trunk or treat, our 1st costume contest, live music, games, crafts, food, hay rides, bonfires, the performances by the Flying Gravity Circus & HEC & Co. and live music by Larry Gilbert, Suzanne McGettigan, and Ben Perez.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who made this event possible by volunteering their time and talents, we could not have done it without you. And to everyone who came to the Pumpkin Festival THANK YOU! Plans for the 3rd Annual Oak Park Pumpkin Festival are already in the works.

Contact Dave Thimmel, Chair of the Oak Park Committee
at woodshopronin@gmail.com
And join the Greenfield's Oak Park and Community Happenings group on Facebook

POLLINATOR PATHWAY MEETING



Calling all gardeners interested in protecting our pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Since the last issue of the Spirit, we have decided to change the meeting day to **January 21, 2023** and have it at **2pm at the library in the Wensberg Rm** so that no one has to drive in the dark. This meeting is for all those interested in starting a

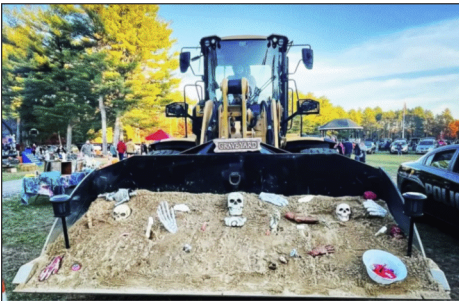
pollinator garden in the spring of 2023. Having this meeting will allow us to get to know one another and answer any questions about the Pollinator Pathway, pollinators in general and the plants they need to survive.

We have lots of ideas for the fun we can have with this project. We will not only end up with beautiful flower gardens but each gardener who is willing to plant a pollinator garden will earn a free sign with the Pollinator Pathway logo on it to identify the garden on Greenfield's part of the Pollinator Pathway. See the sign above.

We look forward to meeting with you.

The Greenfield Conservation Commission

THE 2nd ANNUAL OAK PARK PUMPKIN FESTIVAL



FIRE AND ICE

Fire & Ice is growing! Judging from the interest, we expect more people to participate than last year. This community event starts during the day with lots of things to do. To begin, you might like visiting the Festival of Trees from 2 to 4pm put on by the Friends of the Meeting House or dropping in to the Historical Society to see their displays from 3 to 6pm and at 4:30, you can see the tree lighting on the library lawn, do some caroling, and drink hot cocoa. The biggest event begins at 5pm with the lighted parade that will start coming down Main Street and will go all the way to Oak Park.

At Oak Park we have so much to offer you this year. The Oak Park Committee will be offering food at the kitchen along with hot drinks and we are going to have a beer tent this year. Frog Brewing of Marlborough will be selling beer at \$5 each. Since this is a family event, there will be a strict limit of 2 beers per person.



There will be gas heaters to keep people warm along with bonfires for cooking those smores! We'll have music and hayrides like last year and some mug boards that have been newly designed and painted by local artists so you can all have the fun of taking pictures with them.



We'll also have raffles. There will be a Cord Wood Raffle. Tickets for that will be \$10 each and then there will be another raffle with lots of gift cards & gift baskets. Tickets for that will be \$1 each, \$5 for 6 tickets, or \$10 for 12 tickets. The proceeds for all these items will be donations to the Greenfield Firefighters Association (GFA). This group raises money to support the Fire Department with much needed tools and items not covered by the town budget.

Separate from the GFA raffles, wreaths and kissing balls will be for sale at \$25 and \$35.

And kids, please help us decorate Santa and Mrs. Clause's tree by making your own 3"x 3" ornament to put on it!

Last but not least, if you would like to enter to be in the parade, please email gfdnhfireandice@gmail.com for an entry form.

We look forward to seeing all of you on December 3rd.



Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



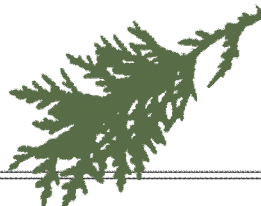
PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! **One** of every four home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Brought to you by the
Greenfield Fire Department



PRESENTED BY 
Gene Haas Foundation

POWER THE FUTURE

In *FIRST*® Robotics Competition, teams of students are challenged to design, build, and program robots and compete for awards, while they also create a team identity, raise funds, hone teamwork skills, and advance respect and appreciation for STEM within the local community.

JOIN OUR TEAM TO:

- Find out what the new energy-inspired game is and brainstorm ideas with your team on how to compete.
- Help design, build, or program a robot.
- Compete at events with teams from across the world.
- Plan outreach events, develop marketing plans, fund-raise, and more!
- Tap into education and scholarship opportunities and career connections.

Innovation can't wait!
Join our team today – no experience needed!

Join Team 17291 We'd love to share our fun with you!
info@team1729.org
603-371-9047, ext 311
IG: [Instagram.com/team_1729](https://www.instagram.com/team_1729)
Facebook: [facebook.com/Team1729](https://www.facebook.com/Team1729)



FIRSTINSPIRES.ORG/ROBOTICS/FRC

Ages 14-18*
*Suggested ages



PRESENTED BY 



Sundays at the Meeting House

Worship Service

10:00AM

Potluck Fellowship After Service



www.greenfieldbiblechurch.org

Greenfield's FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHES CLOSET

**12 DEPOT DRIVE • OFF SLIP ROAD
WATCH FOR SIGNS**

OPEN HOURS

Food Pantry: Saturdays, 9 - 12 Noon

Clothes Closet: Saturdays, 10 - 12 Noon

Both the Food Pantry and the Clothes Closet are ministries of the Greenfield Covenant Church. Food items are available to all who need assistance and there is always an abundance of good, clean clothing at reasonable prices.

Donations of food and clothing are always welcome. (You can donate food items at the Greenfield Post Office or on Saturday mornings at the Food Pantry. Good, clean clothing can be dropped off at the Ministry Center Drop Box or on Saturday mornings at the Clothes Closet. To all of our friends who contribute to our GCC Food Pantry, THANK YOU!! Your contributions go a long way in help those who are experiencing food insecurity.

Greenfield Covenant Church • 12 Depot Drive

*Ministry to Greenfield, the Eastern Monadnock Region
and beyond since 1791*

www.greenfieldchurch.org • 603-547-3626

Worship 10:00 AM on Sundays

INDEPENDENT LIVING, ASSISTED LIVING, AND MEMORY CARE

SCHEDULE A TOUR **603-924-3691**



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AT PETERBOROUGH

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.

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**FRIENDS of the
GREENFIELD COMMUNITY
MEETINGHOUSE
NEWS**



Oktoberfest Report. Totaling up ticket sales, raffle tickets, silent auction sales, and direct donations, our third annual Oktoberfest event raised over \$9000 in profits for the Meetinghouse! This money goes straight into our Building Fund bank account, and all funds will be transferred to the town when construction on the Meetinghouse begins. Our next event, the return of the Holiday Tree Festival, is December 3 from 2-4 pm in the Meetinghouse, during Fire and Ice. We hope to see everyone there!

Design Process Update. The Town of Greenfield is moving forward with the initial design process for the repairs and renovations to the Meetinghouse. Misiaszek Turpin, the architects who completed the Assessment of the Meetinghouse for the town in 2019, have met with the Selectboard and the Friends of the Meetinghouse to learn more about how the Meetinghouse is used as they advance the design from the draft developed as part of the Building Assessment Study. (The Assessment is always available to the public on the Greenfield town website under Departments/Meetinghouse/Assessment Documents.) All residents are invited to PLEASE come meet with the architects at the upcoming design meetings. Stay tuned for meeting dates and times!

Meetinghouse Tours. The Friends of the Meetinghouse offers free tours of the Meetinghouse the last Saturday of every month from 10 am to 12 noon. Stop in and see the entire Meetinghouse, from the basement to the belfry! Many people in town have no idea there is a complete “church” on the second floor. This space, referred to as the Sanctuary, is now wholly owned by the town and no longer sanctified by any specific faith or congregation. (The space, which can be rented by any group when available, is currently used by the Greenfield Bible Church on Sundays.)

According to the Assessment of the Meetinghouse, the Sanctuary space has been altered many times over the years: *In 1867, \$300 was raised, and the Greenfield Meetinghouse was rotated ninety degrees counterclockwise, a new vestibule was added to the south-facing gable end, formerly the west end, beneath the existing bell tower. This major renovation transformed the Federal eighteenth-century meetinghouse to more closely resemble a mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival church (Figure I-8). George Dustin Pollard (ca. 1838- ND) and his assistant Nahum Russell, Jr. (1817-1901), turned the Greenfield Meetinghouse ninety degrees so that the gable end faced south onto the developing Main Street.*

The original windows in the second floor Sanctuary were clear glass, allowing views of Monadnock and Skatutakee to the west, and, according, to the Assessment of the Meetinghouse, “were elongated at one point to let in more light and enhance the spiritual atmosphere.” According to *The History of Greenfield, NH*, by Doris Hopkins, the original clear glass windows were replaced around the turn of the century:

In 1904, the Town held a vote to see if the Ladies’ Circle connected with the Union Congregational Church should be allowed to replace the second-floor windows of the Meetinghouse. The town approved the Article, and the Ladies’ Circle installed stained glass memorial windows in the second floor at no cost to the town. The Ladies’ Circle installed seven memorial windows, with four additional stained-glass windows in the vestibule of the second-floor level. Three memorial windows were installed along each side of the church with a circular window installed at the north end, above the altar.

The round “Rose Window” above the pulpit caused a major feud in town, with one faction insisting a curtain be hung across the window so that churchgoers were not distracted by the brilliance of the window, even though it faces north and gets no direct sunlight. Another faction protested, and “Four times draperies were placed over the window, only to be literally torn down by the family and friends of Caroline Fiske.” It’s hard to imagine a world where people claimed to be driven to distraction by a stained glass window!

It’s also amazing to think that the while the Meetinghouse used to be the focal point of the town, today, many town residents have never set foot inside. The FGCM and the Town are hoping to change that, and to bring this beautiful building back to its full potential. For more information about the Meetinghouse renovation project, please go to [greenfieldmeetinghouse.com](https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/meeting-house) or <https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/meeting-house>. (Source for all information unless otherwise noted: Assessment of the Greenfield Meetinghouse).

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

David Bridgewater, Director

Library Contact: 603-547-2790, 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.



On Friday, 14th October, The library hosted our first Meals on Wheels luncheon in the Wensberg room. Sixteen ‘over 60s’ from Greenfield and the surrounding towns enjoyed a sociable lunch followed by raffle prizes. A good time was had by all.

From November on, the meal will be served at 12 noon on the 2nd Thursday of each month. RSVP 7 days in advance to either 603.424.9967, extension 404 or cmckillip@hcmow.org.

The library’s entry doors, including the Wensberg Room’s, now have automatic door openers. This will make it easier to enter and exit the library while carrying a load or if you have a disability. The library had a Moose Plate grant for this project.

The circulation desk has moved! Not far though. The space behind the desk has always been tight quarters for the staff and also it wasn’t ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant in that there was no access room for a wheelchair. The desk was moved a foot forward and a foot sideways. This was paid for with a Federal grant from the Covid years.

In October, each of the four elementary school classes visited the library for an hour long introduction to the library by our children’s librarian Ella Cademartori.

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

Lady Bug Book Group:

On Friday, 12th December, 3.45 – 4.45, the Bug group reads *A Polar Bear in the Snow* by Mac Barnett, and

On Friday, 13th January, 3.45 – 4.45, the group will read *Change Sings* by Amanda Gorman

Teen Study Night:

Thursday, January 13th, 6.00 – 8.00

Recurring Events:

Tuesdays, 3.30 – 5.00 LEGO Challenge

Wednesdays, 11.00 – 12.00 noon Story Hour

Thursdays, 3.30 – 5.00 LEGO Explore

Our display cabinet hasn’t been displaying much, so we thought it would be good to ask our townsfolk who are professional, or amateur, craft workers, or collectors of something, if they would like to show their work or collection for a month. Come in and talk to us.



We will start in December with some of my own work: 1/6th scale miniature chairs, followed in January by a display of Bev Wakeman’s collection of Russian nesting dolls.

David Bridgewater
SML Director



FIRE & ICE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022

Come Celebrate the Warmth
and Good Cheer of
Our Community and the
Joy of the Holiday Season

2 - 4:00 pm Friends of the Meeting House -
Festival of Trees at the Meeting House

Historical Society - Museum will be open.
from 3 - 6pm

4:30 pm Friends of the Library - Tree Lighting at the
Library with caroling and hot drinks

5:00 pm Fire & Ice Parade down Main Street to Oak Park

Oak Park: Lots of Food, Bonfires, Gas Heaters, Music,
Hay Rides, Beer Tent, Raffles, Mug Boards, Wreathes,
Kissing Balls, and more!

6 - 7:30 - Treats & Pictures for Kids with Santa

8:00 pm Parade Winners Announcement

*A Community Celebration Organized by the Greenfield Fire
Department and the Firefighters' Association. For more
information or to sign up to be included in the parade -
Email gfdnhfireandice@gmail.com, or
call or text 603-831-3745 or Chief Rick McQuade at
603-325-7346. See the Fire Dept facebook page for updates.*

See more on pg 10



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SPONSOR THE SPIRIT

If you'd like to sponsor an issue of the Greenfield Spirit,
please email:

GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com
or call the Town Office at 603-547-3442.

Feb/Mar issue deadline: January 1, 2023

Postal Patron