



# The Greenfield Spirit

FEB-MAR 2023

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 30.1

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

FREE



## Inside this issue

Friends of the Library .....	7
Friends of the Meeting House.....	10
Fuel Assistance .....	14
Generator Safety .....	12
Harris Center Family Programs .....	9
Historical Society .....	8
New Fire Chief .....	3
Recycling Center.....	4
Spirit Deadlines .....	2-14 & back
Stephenson Library .....	15
Town Clerk's Office .....	6
Town Directory.....	2
For the Birds and Salamanders .....	back

## Where Do My Taxes Go?

People often wonder where their tax dollars go, what services does the Town provide with the tax dollars that it collects?

The town sends out tax bills twice a year. The first bill, which is usually due in July, is based on the previous year's tax rate and budget. The impact of Town Meeting and the School District budget are not reflected until the December tax bill. When you get your tax bill you might notice that there are 4 categories of tax rates shown. The current Greenfield breakdown is:

Conval	\$17.19
State Ed	\$1.26
County	\$1.09
Town	\$10.88
=====	
Total Tax Rate:	\$30.42

These rates are the annual rate per \$1,000 of property valuation. (The July bill shows a half year rate.)

In Greenfield the "median" valuation is currently very close to \$230,000. That is, half of properties in town are valued less, half are valued more. So, a typical home in Greenfield, valued at \$230,000, will have an annual tax bill of \$7,000 paid in two installments (one in July, the other in December). Those annual tax

*Continued on page 3*

**SPIRIT DEADLINE**  
**MARCH 1ST FOR**  
**THE APR/MAY ISSUE**

**PUBLIC**  
**BUDGET HEARING**  
**THURSDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

**The Meeting House**  
**at 6:00 pm**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**To view and comment**  
**on the 2023**

**Proposed Town Budget**

## TOWN MEETING

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023**  
**VOTE AT THE MEETING HOUSE**

**10AM - 7PM**

Vote on Town Elections, Zoning Amendments,  
and ConVal School Warrant Articles

## **TOWN MEETING CONTINUED**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023**  
**9 AM AT THE MEETING HOUSE**

Vote on Town Budgets & Warrant Articles  
Town Financial Discussions and More! Come and get involved.

# 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: Jeff LaCourse  
Telephone: 603-582-3289  
Emergency Dispatch:  
Tel: 603-352-1100 or 911  
Email: jlacourse61@msn.com

#### **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

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

Editor & Graphic Designer: Karen Day  
Copy Editors: Mason Parker, Michael Borden, Tom Bascom, Aaron Patt, and Catherine Shaw.

*Printed by Savron Graphics*

To submit articles to the Spirit: Email text to: [GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com](mailto: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*

dollars are then distributed as follows:

Conval	\$3,956
State Ed	\$290
County	\$251
Town	\$2,504

Taxes Paid (\$230,000 valuation):	=====	\$7,000
-----------------------------------	-------	---------

As you can see, only about one-third of that money stays in the town! The vast majority of the tax payment is going to the school system.

So, what does the average household get for that \$2,504? In 2022 the town apportionment from the taxes on a typical \$230,000 home breaks down as follows:

Description (2022 Town Warrant)	
Recycling Center	\$109.75
Used Oil Collection	\$2.01
Capital Reserve Funds	\$145.51
Forest Fire Fund	\$0.42
Air Packs	\$103.22
Fire Department	\$118.07
Police Department	\$233.17
Operation & Maint of the Town	\$905.50
Ambulance	\$83.43
DPW	\$443.39
Road Paving	\$104.84
Gravel Road Repair	\$20.97
Chip Sealing	\$37.74
Loader	\$41.93
Library	\$120.13
Town Clerk	\$33.12
Rec Department	\$0.42
	=====
Town:	\$2,503.62

Each of the categories above is described in detail in the town's Annual Report.

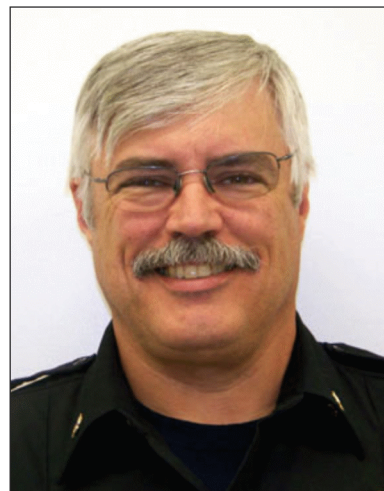
As a category, "Operation and Maintenance of the Town" is the largest, at more than one third of the total, and deserves some additional breakdown and explanation. In the table below "Administration" is the back-office executive, accounting and general support functions (including things like legal counsel and information technology). "Taxes, Insurance and Benefits"

covers the various state and federal payroll taxes, insurance payments and employee benefit programs across all departments. "Boards and Committees" that are not stand-alone departments such as the Building Inspector, Planning Board, Cemeteries, and the ZBA are the next category. "Buildings and Maintenance" is where money for maintaining town buildings and properties comes from. Finally, "Debt" is principal and interest for long term bonds and lease payments.

Operation and Maintenance of The Town	per \$7,000 paid
Administration	\$260.01
Taxes, Insurance and Benefits	\$370.91
Boards and Committees	\$100.78
Buildings and Maintenance	\$86.95
Debt	\$86.85
	=====
	\$905.50

The Town's Annual Report provides the details behind all of this information and quite a lot more – including comparisons to the previous year budget. Copies of the Annual Report will be available in February at many convenient locations in town: the Town Offices, Library, Post Office, and Harvester Market to name a few!

*The Greenfield Selectboard*

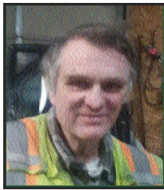


**Jeff LaCourse, Our New Fire Chief**

As many of you may know, our previous chief, Rick McQuade, took a job in Lyndeborough as their full time DPW Manager. He recently resigned as our Fire Chief. The Selectboard appointed long time Fire Dept member and Deputy Chief, Jeff LaCourse, to take his place.

Congratulations Jeff!





## RECYCLING CENTER

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

Since my last Greenfield Spirit article when I projected disposal costs and fees for the upcoming year, new last-minute quotes have come in. In the case of the trash compactor and demo, the news is good - good like Eversource's news of a 10% rate reduction after previously doubling them. Monadnock Disposal Service (MDS) had originally quoted us \$165/ton for demo and \$155/ton for the trash compactor. In the interim, MDS has settled on \$155/ton for demo as well with the stipulation that we continue to use the larger 40-yard dumpster. Since these two items represent our largest disposal costs by far, this news is welcome.

Charges for demo are increasing from 10 cents to 15 cents per lb. We will now be using 15 cents/lb. We compare fee revenue to our actual cost and try to cover 85-90% of those costs. We will monitor our fees versus costs during the year and make any necessary adjustments.

As I have been admonishing everyone to bring their junk tires in before the new year, 2023 brings another, last minute price increase from our vendor. Our tire prices for 2023 will be: passenger tires up to 18"-\$6.00; truck tires 19" & up-\$30.00. Tires filled with dirt and debris: passenger-\$10.00/tire; truck-\$35.00/tire. For tractor and loader tires, please give us the size and we can quote you. So far, we have been the least expensive option.

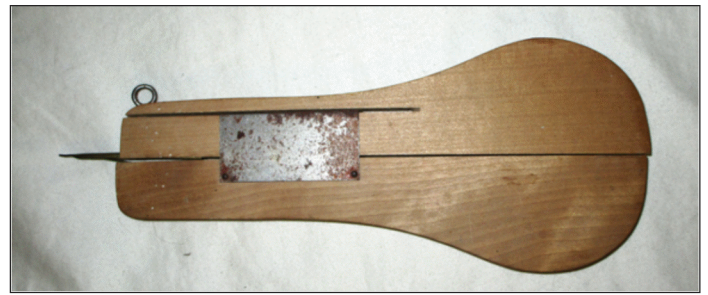
Another bit of good news is that fees for appliances containing refrigerant (AC's etc.) and electronics will remain the same as 2022.

In the face of rising costs, what can we do? For one thing we can throw out less and recycle more. It is no secret that glass/plastic bottles and aluminum cans find their way into the compactor. When these items are thrown into the trash we lose two ways - we incur a \$155/ton disposal cost AND we lose the potential revenue. Did you know that certain bottles and cans generate nearly \$6,000.00/year in money for the town? Maybe improving the recycling rate should make your list of New Year's resolutions.

My apologies to the town resident who put her aluminum cat food cans into the beverage can window and was told by yours truly that they belonged with the tin cans. The sign over the window does not make this clear. For the new year, the signage will be improved.

The GRC's submission to the Festival of Trees tied for second place. Bill and I had fun coming up with recycled items with which to adorn our tree. Thank you for your votes.

Also thank you for all the goodies that we were gifted over the holidays. Starving is definitely not an option.



We had a "whats-it" dropped off recently. Apparently, it belonged to his mom and he had no idea what it was for. The photos show a device manufactured of wood and metal that slides a limited distance past the other section. On the narrow end was a brass point with a hole at the end. The other half had a flat brass spring pusher that ran over the pointed brass piece with the hole as if to advance something a distance of about 1/2". My guess is that it is some kind of shuttle used in the textile industry. Anybody recognize this device? If so, text your answer to the [recyclingcenter@greenfield-nh.gov](mailto:recyclingcenter@greenfield-nh.gov).

As always, "Keep the Stuff Coming."

*CJ Hall*  
*Recycling Center Supervisor*





### Do You Have Time Now and Then to Give Someone A Ride?

The Community Volunteer Transportation Company, or CVTC, is looking for more people to become part of our volunteer driver team. Do you have time on your hands?

Our drivers are all volunteers and use their own vehicles. They receive an optional reimbursement of \$.625 per mile on the trips they provide. CVTC provides transportation for non-emergency medical appointments, social services, grocery shopping, banking, and/or visits to the pharmacy.

Trips needing a driver are listed on our website and each driver can use his/her computer to determine which trips would fit in with their plans. For those drivers who do not use a computer, our staff will help select trips that match time availability and complete a monthly mileage log.

Our volunteers contribute to the health, wellness, dignity and independence for all we serve. Please join us. It's easy and most rewarding.

Give CVTC a call today at 1-877-428-2882, ext. 5. for more information.

CVTC provides no-fee transportation for individuals without access to transportation because of age, ability, income, and/or life circumstance.

**★ Did you know only 18 out of 1 million Lego pieces are defective?**

The molds at the manufacturing plant at Lego are so precise and effective that just 18 out of 1 million are found to be defective. That's out of the 20 billion pieces that are manufactured every year!

**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 snowstorms.

Per order of the *Greenfield Selectboard*

**YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
**ALL TRAINING PROVIDED**  
Greenfield Fire Department  
Call 547-2222

**SPIRIT EMAIL:**  
**GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com**  
**Next deadline: March 1, 2023**

**THE TOWN WEBSITE**

In many instances, what you are looking for is on the Town Website at:  
[www.greenfield-nh.gov/](http://www.greenfield-nh.gov/)

**LIGHT EXCAVATION & SITEWORK**

SPECIALIZING IN DRIVEWAYS,  
DRAINAGE, FIELDS & MORE

**BROADFORK**

603-289-5927  
BROADFORKCO@GMAIL.COM

SANDRI COMPANIES, LLC  
HARRISVILLE, NH

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥

**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.

**OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:**

**Mon. Feb. 20, 2023 for Presidents day.**

**Appointments:** Email or call us with the day and time you want to come in and 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.

**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 retile 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.

**SURPRISE YOUR TOWN CLERK  
RENEW YOUR DOG LICENSE EARLY!**

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. Check your renewal letter for rabies exp. Date.

**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).

**Please notify our office if your dog passes away or if you no longer own the dog, so we can keep our records up to date. Thank you.**

**SUPERVISOR'S OF THE CHECKLIST**

Linda Dodge, Ellen Sanford, Kathy Seigars

**2023 Supervisor Session**

**Saturday, March 4, 2023**

**Time: 11-11:30am**

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

**REGISTER TO VOTE  
and Make Name and/or  
Address Corrections**

*Continued on next page*

You can register to VOTE with the Town Clerk, during of-  
fice 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:**

- 1) **Proof of identity:** a photo ID such as a driver’s license or passport.
- 2) **Proof of age:** an ID with your birth date, as listed above, to prove you are 18 or older.
- 3) **Proof of citizenship:** birth certificate or citizenship papers. Marriage certificate or legal paperwork if you had a name change.
- 4) **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](mailto:townclerk@greenfield-nh.gov) .

**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 continues on March 18th at the  
 Meeting House at 9am

~ SPONSOR ~

**THE GREENFIELD SPIRIT**

If you'd like to sponsor an issue of the Greenfield Spirit, please email [greenfieldspirit@gmail.com](mailto:greenfieldspirit@gmail.com). The cost is low, and it's a great way to get the word out about your business or group, as well as an easy way to support your community.




**Friends of the Stephenson Memorial Library**


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.

**Thank you to all who came to the Annual Town Tree Lighting and Carol Sing on the Library Lawn. It was a great event in spite of the variable weather! Many thanks to Larry, Suzanne, Bonnie and Ray for the beautiful music!**





The Friends are once again selling raffle tickets for our annual National Library Week Raffle Basket Fund-raiser! Winners will be drawn each day of National Library Week, April 23-29. One ticket = 7 chances to win!! Please see a Friend or stop into the library to purchase tickets! Prizes will include a granite welcome sign, a Pollinator Basket, a Reading Basket, a Wine & Booze Basket, a Candy Basket, a Tool Basket and a BBQ Basket! All proceeds raised are used to fund Library events and programming!



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.

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



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

### A Bit of History about the History of the GHS: Celebrating Fifty Years!

News articles were saved and genealogies kept in Greenfield by citizens as far back as the 1800s! We are very fortunate to have had these stewards of the town's history providing a view of life here.

Since March of 1973, when a group of people formally started the Greenfield Historical Society, much has happened. Paperwork was filed with the state and the IRS then to form a 501c3 organization. In the beginning, meetings were held in people's homes. Eventually, an agreement was reached with the town library to hold meetings there as well as to store some items within the library.

We have come a long way from that! Through the generosity of the Blaisdell family we now have our wonderful Museum. Several years later, a barn was added - due to the most generous outpouring of many with in-kind donations as well as financial support under the auspices of Brooks Post and Beam Company and the ConVal Building Trades program. The barn is useful for the storage/ display of larger items. Needless to say, we are the envy of many other regional historical societies.

Throughout 2023, some special events are planned to highlight and celebrate this milestone. One highly anticipated happening will be the publication of our book on some of Greenfield's citizens, past and present. This project has been a fun and educational closer look at "our quiet little town". Hardly (!) as these stories will illustrate to and entertain the readers of our colorful past.

### 1936 - GREENFIELD'S DOUBLE TROUBLE YEAR

By Lenny Cornwell

The winter of 1935-36 brought lots of snow. Elsie Quinn (the author's mother) lived in Temple at the time at the junction of Routes 101 and 45. The wind piled the snow so high that a power shovel was brought in to clear Route 45. Along the roadsides, the snow piles reached upwards to about twenty feet - to the tops of the telephone poles.

Then in March of 1936, a huge rainstorm hit New England, causing massive flooding due to snowmelt and the inches of rain that fell. Due to its location along the Contoocook River, Peterborough suffered major flooding and destruction. Greenfield was more fortunate. Both the covered bridge and railroad tracks were washed out, thereby disrupting rail service for several days. Buses were used to transport passengers to other towns. but freight service was obviously severely impacted. It took about two weeks time to repair the rails, at least into Greenfield.

The flooding moved the covered bridge on Forest Road off

its foundation. The people of both Greenfield and Hancock petitioned the NHDPW & H to replace the bridge as a covered bridge, which it did. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration provided the funds for this project. WPA workers were also utilized. (Look for the WPA in a future article.)

No information about how the town roads were affected has of yet been found. No doubt there must have been flooding and wash-outs on some of them.

Another disastrous event in Greenfield occurred on July 2, 1936. Haying was in full swing at that time in clear, hot weather at the home of Dr. Leroy Miner on Forest Road, at what is now the residence of Bill and Elaine Carrier. The barn had just been filled with fresh hay. In the late afternoon of that day, fire broke out in the barn. Fanned by high winds from the west, the fire travelled up the street. Luckily, it only charred part of the attached barn at neighboring Carrie Gould's place at 717 Forest Road (now Lenny and Pam Cornwell's). Next door to that at what is now Jimmy and Ginni Plourde's, the ell and barn were burned. From there, the fire jumped the roadway and destroyed the home of Charles Hopkins, now site of the rebuilt home owned by Tom and Joanne Fairfield. Continuing on, the Jarvis Adams' barn at Rock Meadow Farm, currently the residence of Jim and Christine Trenz burned, while the neighboring home of Ida and Eva Fletcher managed to be saved.

It was believed that a spark from an engine- perhaps a truck engine or a gas powered "donkey engine" used in barns to power lights, milking machines, hay hoist and water pumps caused the conflagration. This barn, along with another, had been built by brothers George and Charles Peavey for their livestock/ butchering business. Both barns and the ell of the then Miner property were lost in this blaze. This residence had earlier been run as the twenty room Capitol Inn. The Museum has a post card of this inn.

Somehow, no one was badly injured or killed in the fire. A couple of ninety plus years old women had to be carried out of two of the homes. Townspeople and curious onlookers from around the area helped lug furniture from the burning houses. What a site it must have been to see it all happening along the main street!

According to the Peterborough Transcript, damage and losses amounted to between \$30,000 and \$50,000. Most everyone did have insurance. This massive conflagration also meant that a few of the town pools of water were also quickly drained. Fire departments from Milford, Nashua, responded as well as those of the more local towns of Bennington, Peterborough, Francestown, Hancock, Wilton and Lyndeborough.

Afterward, it was suggested to use the CCC to dig more fire ponds and wells around town. We are not sure they were used. Some of these ponds/wells may still be seen on the main street (Forest Road). A lot have been filled in. The one

*Continued on next page*

near Rock Meadow Farm continues to pose a problem with the bubbling up of a spring there freezing in colder weather and icing over the highway even though NHDOT filled in the well during the 1990s.

Sources: The Peterborough Transcript, The Story of a Town-

Greenfield, 1791-1976 by Doris Hopkins, Lenny Cornwell.

**CONTACTING THE GHS**

Information about GHS events, membership, dues, donating, and visiting the Museum may all be found at its website: [www.greenfieldnhhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.greenfieldnhhistoricalsociety.com)

**HARRIS CENTER  
FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**GET OUT AND ENJOY THE OUTDOORS**

**Programs from Harriscenter.org**

**Sunday, February 5**

**Sunset and Full Moon Ramble for Families**

4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Cranberry Meadow Pond Trail

Join Harris Center naturalist Janet Altobello to enjoy the beautiful light of the Sun setting and Moon rising from the open, rolling fields of Peterborough's Lower Cranberry Meadow Pond and Wheeler Trails.

**Tuesday, February 21**

**Babies in Backpacks and Toddlers in Tow in Hancock**

10:00 am to 11:00 am Harris Center

Join Harris Center naturalist Susie Spikol and parent educators from The River Center for a gentle ramble in search of winter's wild things. A perfect hike for little legs – and a great chance to chat about parenting questions as we walk!

**Monday, February 27**

**February Vacation Camp**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm Harris Center (Hancock)

Join Harris Center teacher-naturalists for three active days in the great outdoors! Bring your curiosity and sense of wonder as we explore our favorite trails, giant boulders, and secret dens.

**Tuesday, March 7**

**Sunset and Full Moon Ramble for Families**

5:15 pm to 6:15 pm Cranberry Meadow Pond Trail

Join Harris Center naturalist Janet Altobello to enjoy the light of the Sun setting and the Moon rising from the open, rolling fields of Peterborough's Lower Cranberry Meadow Pond and Wheeler Trails.

**Saturday, March 11**

**Shattuck Winter Wander**

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Shattuck Golf Course (Jaffrey)

Join Harris Center naturalists Jaime Hutchinson and Karen Rent for an afternoon wander along the wild edges of The Shattuck Golf Course in search of winter birds, animal tracks, and more.

**Thursday, March 16**

**Owl Prowl at Beech Hill**

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm Beech Hill

Join Harris Center naturalists and owl lovers Phil Brown and Susie Spikol as we hoot it up in search of owls in the wild woods of Dublin. Adventure awaits on silent wings...

**Saturday, March 18**

**Spring Warm-Up Hike**

10:00 am to 11:00 am Beech Hill

Come along with Harris Center naturalists as we listen to streams swelling, find buds sprouting, and use our senses to search for the first signs of spring in Dublin.

**Tuesday, March 21**

**Babies in Backpacks and Toddlers in Tow in Hancock**

10:00 am to 11:00 am Juggernaut Pond

Join Harris Center naturalist Susie Spikol and parent educators from The Grapevine for a gentle ramble in search of early spring's wild things. A perfect hike for little legs – and a great chance to chat about parenting questions as we walk!

**Friday, March 24**

**Kids Count for Wildlife: Squirrel Survey**

3:30 pm to 4:30 pm Hancock Elementary School

Calling all wildlife lovers ages 9 through 18! Try your hand at field research and develop your naturalist skills by joining Harris Center naturalist Susie Spikol for an afternoon of squirrel searching as part of Project Squirrel.

For more information on any of these events, please contact Susie Spikol at (603) 525-3394 or by email at [spikol@harris-center.org](mailto:spikol@harris-center.org).



**WIRED ELECTRIC**

Edward Bergeron  
Master Electrician

P.O. Box 288  
Greenfield NH 03047

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

Email: [Wiredelectricnh@gmail.com](mailto:Wiredelectricnh@gmail.com)

Fully licensed and insured  
All major credit cards accepted



**KING PINE  
TREE SERVICE**

Removals, Pruning, and Aerial Work

(603) 289-5927 ~ [kingpinetreeservice@gmail.com](mailto:kingpinetreeservice@gmail.com)

Sandri Companies LLC, Harrisville, NH

Seasoned Firewood Available

Ask about our discount for booking your work in winter.

# FRIENDS *of the* GREENFIELD COMMUNITY MEETINGHOUSE NEWS

by Jesseca Timmons, Secretary, FGCM



**Project Update.** The history of the Greenfield Meetinghouse is a history of change: the Meetinghouse has evolved continuously over the last 227 years to meet the needs of our town. It is now time for the Meetinghouse to evolve again...and we need YOU to be a part of this process! Misiaszek Turpin, the architects engaged by the Town of Greenfield to repair and renovate the Meetinghouse, are currently hard at work developing the design plan for the Meetinghouse renovation project. The architects, the Friends of the Meetinghouse, and the Town of Greenfield would like feedback from as many town residents as possible to understand how the Meetinghouse can best serve the people of Greenfield both now and in the years to come. The Meetinghouse is everyone's Meetinghouse!

**Greenfield's pre-history.** The people who lived in Greenfield prior to European settlement were most likely Pennacook, an Abenaki-speaking group that dominated the Merrimack valley. Since the Abenaki left no permanent structures other than rare stone fish weirs, Abenaki place names—including Monadnock, Contoocook, Wapack, and Souhegan—are this people's most lasting legacy. There is no known record of any interaction between Greenfield settlers of European descent and the indigenous Abenaki people. By the 1750's, the Abenaki had been forced out of the Monadnock region by colonization, and their population was nearly wiped out by European diseases for which they had no immunity. About 3,200 Abenaki people currently live in NH, continuing the Abenaki culture, language and values. (Source: Lenny Cornwell, Greenfield Historical Society; Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum. <https://www.indianmuseum.org/about>).

**The original Meetinghouse.** Our current Meetinghouse (which is actually the second Meetinghouse—the first was the house across from the library) originally looked very different from how it looks today. According to Misiaszek Turpin's Assessment of the Meetinghouse, the Greenfield Meetinghouse was constructed in 1794 as a "second period barn Meetinghouse," a style typical during the Revolutionary War era. The design of the original Greenfield Meetinghouse was based on the Meetinghouse in Temple, nine miles away on the south side of North Pack. The original Meetinghouse did not have a vestibule or a bell tower, and the entry doors were set in the long side of the building—not the ends—which, at the time, faced south. Porches at either end of the building covered the exterior stairs leading up to the church on the second floor and the gallery on the third floor. The exterior stairs left more room for the enclosed box pews which were designed to keep families warm during services. Box pews still exist, such as in the Francestown Meetinghouse, but the pews in our current Sanctuary date from around the turn of the century.

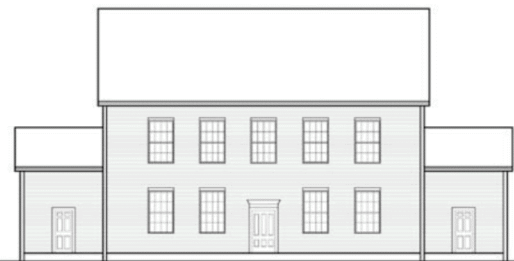


Figure 1-4 Conjectural south (now east) elevation of the Greenfield Meetinghouse in 1795

**First cemeteries.** In 1797, the Meetinghouse cemetery was laid out on the wooded land north of the building, and a resident named William Darrah was paid \$8.83 by the town to clear the land. This was the town's second cemetery—the first was located on land donated by Simeon Fletcher (an ancestor of Jim Fletcher, who created the FGCM's beautiful logo!) at what is now East Road and New Boston Road. If you have not seen the Whittemore cemetery, it is worth visiting to read the historic plaque built by a Greenfield Eagle Scout!

**Thinking ahead.** Some things have changed a lot in two hundred years, while others have not! The role and purpose of the Meetinghouse is the same as it was in 1794: to bring our town together for meetings, for voting, for worship in the Sanctuary rental space, for celebrations, and for memorials. Since our Meetinghouse is on the National Register of Historic Places, the facade of the building and the basic layout will remain unchanged. The planned Meetinghouse renovations and repairs are an opportunity to create a Meetinghouse that will continue to work for the town going forward...and will save the town money in the long term. We all know that smarter choices now are financially more prudent than the "band-aid, kicking the



can down the road” approach. In these tough economic times, financial prudence around the Meetinghouse project is top priority. The Meetinghouse will be repaired only where necessary, brought up to code for safety, made accessible to all, and made energy efficient—but there will be no “fancy extras” or “bells and whistles.” The goal is that after the renovations, the Meetinghouse will be a beautiful, fully updated gathering space available to all town residents, and will bring in some revenue for the town with public rentals and events. To donate to the Meetinghouse repair and renovation project, please go to [greenfieldmeetinghouse.org](http://greenfieldmeetinghouse.org) , or send a check to Kathy Seigars, Treasurer, FGCM, PO Box 214, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Do you have any time to volunteer with the FGCM? Email us at [greenfieldmeetinghouse@gmail.com](mailto:greenfieldmeetinghouse@gmail.com)! The Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse is a registered 501(c)3 organization working in partnership with the Town of Greenfield. All Greenfield historical information is from “The Assessment of the Greenfield Meetinghouse for the Town of Greenfield” by Misiaszek Turpin, 2019, which is available on the town website.

—Jesseca Timmons, Secretary, FGCM.



**Pictures from the  
2022 Festival of Trees**



**Musicians:  
Bonnie Morris,  
Ray Levesque,  
Suzanne McGettigan,  
and Larry Gilbert**

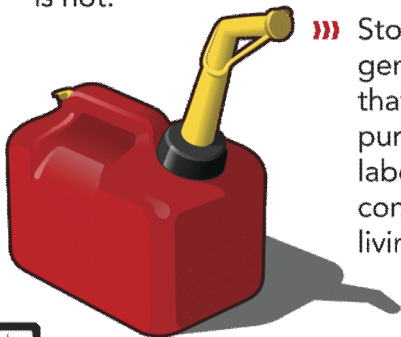






**Downed utility lines, power company blackouts, heavy snow falls or summer storms can all lead to power outages. Many people turn to a portable generator for a temporary solution without knowing the risks.**

- » Generators should be used in well ventilated locations outside away from all doors, windows and vent openings.
- » Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open.
- » Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building.
- » Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home. Follow manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height.
- » Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is hot.



- » Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.

## Just Remember...

When plugging in appliances, make sure they are plugged directly into the generator or a heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cord. The cords should be checked for cuts, tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

If you must connect the generator to the house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install a properly rated transfer switch in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC) and all applicable state and local electrical codes.

## FACT

- ! CO deaths associated with generators have spiked in recent years as generator sales have risen.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Brought to you by the  
Greenfield Fire Department



# Sundays at the Meeting House

**Worship Service**  
**10:00AM**  
**Potluck Fellowship After Service**



[www.greenfieldbiblechurch.org](http://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](http://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**



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



## ATTENTION GREENFIELD CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Do you belong to or run an organization that holds regular meetings in town? Let the rest of Greenfield know! Email [GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com) for more information on using the Spirit to promote your group. If your group is new, please give a brief description of the organization and any other pertinent info.

## SANDRI STONE DRY STONE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Traditional Style Stonewalls, Retaining Walls, Existing Wall Renovations,  
Patios, Walks, Steps, Bridges, Sculptures and More  
DSWA CERTIFIED STONE WALLERS  
[sandristone.com](http://sandristone.com) ~ 603-289-5927 ~ [sandristoneco@gmail.com](mailto:sandristoneco@gmail.com)  
Sandri Companies, LLC. Harrisville, NH

### Winter

Now booking fireplace repointing & other interior mortar work



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

Make a difference  
with each mile you drive

Become a

CVTC Volunteer Driver

SERVING THE MONADNOCK  
REGION SINCE 2008  
877-428-2882 ext. 5

# GIVE A RIDE

## SPIRIT DEADLINES

### 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

January 1st for the Feb/Mar Issue

## 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.snh.org/services/fuel-assistance>

# STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

David Bridgewater, Director

Library Contact: 603-547-2790, [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.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesdays, 3.30-5.00pm First LEGO League Challenge, 9-14 years (Sign up required).



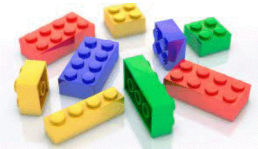
will have a virtual author story time, fun activities, snacks, a book sale, a winter clothing swap and so much more planned in celebration of early literacy and helping foster an early love for books.

**Displays.** In February the display case will be showing Mary Ann Beard's collection of Boyd Bears.



Wednesdays, 10.00 – 11.00am

In March the display will be wrought iron work by Vinnie Anfuso.



Thursdays, 3.30-5.00pm Lego free play in February (No sign up needed).

Art on the walls for February will be paintings by Paula Kerouac of the Dancing Wind Studio in Hillsborough and in March the Monadnock Quilters will give us a showing of their latest quilts.

David Bridgewater, Director, and Ella Cademartori, Children's Librarian.

In March First LEGO League Explore returns, 6-9 years (Sign up required).



Thursday evening, 6.00-8.00 Teen Study Night.

Teens, grades 9-12, are encouraged to come to our study nights. Whether you want to study with friends, want to get your school stuff organized, learn how to make different study tools, just work quietly, or ask for help, SML is the place for you (Please register in advance so that we know what snacks to provide).

The Friends of the Stephenson Memorial Library were busy again this year raising money to support library events.

We offered Brownie Sundaes every Tuesday night at the Concerts on the Common. We offered hot cocoa and free books at the annual town tree lighting in conjunction with the Fire and Ice Parade. We will continue our Spring Raffle with seven individually themed baskets which will be on display at the library. Drawing will be held during Library Week in April. We have also been able to hold our book sales in the Wensberg Room every second and fourth Saturday of each month.

We would like to thank each and every one of you who has supported these events. Your donations allowed us to purchase books, offer free HOOPLA usage to library patrons, pay for Humanities speakers and the Treasure Island play, as well as assist the LEGO League with their tournament entry fees, t-shirts and trophies.

## MONTHLY EVENT



Students K-3 are invited to pick up the Lady Bug Book Club books for February and March, and then discuss them and do fun activities with Ms Cheri, and then have a snack. (Advanced registration requested.)

Friday February 10th, 3.45-4.45 Someone Builds a Dream by Lisa Wheeler.

Friday March 10th, 3.45-4.45 Watercress by Andrea Wang

**BRING YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY!** – Saturday, February 4th during open hours. Celebrate Bring Your Child to the Library Day with us! We

Please consider joining The Friends in our mission to support the Stephenson Memorial Library.

Valli Hannings  
President, Friends of the Stephenson Memorial Library.

# FOR THE BIRDS AND SALAMANDERS

Here are some easy winter projects to pass the time that anyone can do. All four can be accomplished without even stepping outside, especially if the weather is nasty.



**January 1 - March 31** - NH Fish & Game's 2023 Winter Turkey Flock Survey, began on Jan. 1 and continues through Mar. 31. Look out your window. Do you have a flock near you? Observations can be reported from anywhere in NH, not just here in Greenfield. You can find out how to participate in this important project by visiting <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/surveys/turkey.html>.



**February 11 & 12** - NH Audubon's Backyard Winter Bird Survey will take place on the weekend of Feb. 11 and 12. You can count the birds that visit your feeders and/or any that you see overhead, on the ground, and even in the water. Count and record whatever birds you can see from your backyard. This means that you might have a sighting of a bird flying overhead, or swimming in the river bordering your yard. If you can see it while standing in your house or yard, you can report it. Visit <https://nhbirdrecords.org/bwbs-reporting-and-forms/> to obtain the required forms.

**February 17 - 20** - On Feb. 17 through 20, you can help researchers at The National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Birds Canada by taking part in the 26th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). In as little as 15 minutes notice the birds around you. Identify them, count them, and submit them to help scientists better understand and protect birds around the world. Unlike the NH Audubon survey, this one is done in real-time, online. Learn more at [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org).



**March 14** - From 7:00 to 8:30 PM on Mar. 14, the Harris Center for Conservation presents the Salamander Crossing Brigade Workshop on Zoom. Learn how to aid amphibians in crossing well-traveled roads during their spring migration, by scooping them up by hand and depositing them safely on the other side, on one or more "Big Nights". Register for this training at <https://harriscenter.org/events/salamander-crossing-brigade-workshop-2023> or call Brett Amy Thelen at (603) 525-3394 or email to [thelen@harriscenter.org](mailto:thelen@harriscenter.org).



Before you know it, spring will be here and it will be time to plant flowers for the bees and butterflies!

*Brought to you by the Greenfield Conservation Commission*

## SPONSOR THE SPIRIT

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

[GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com)  
or call the Town Office at 603-547-3442.

*Apr/May issue deadline: March 1, 2023*



BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GREENFIELD NH 03047  
PERMIT NO. 3

**Postal Patron**