

The Greenfield Spirit

JUN-JUL 2023

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 30.3 FREE

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

hello summer!

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SPIRIT DEADLINE

JULY 1ST FOR THE AUG/SEPT ISSUE

See the back page for information on

Music
on the
Common!

Starts JUNE 20th

SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION/RECONFIGURATION

After many years of consideration the ConVal School Board has formed a Strategic Organization Committee (SOC) to embark on an open, transparent, community involved review to completely analyze our physical environment. The goal of this committee is to determine the best possible, educationally rich, safe, socially responsive, community sensitive, financially responsible, and organizationally sound physical model while providing for enhanced diversity and cultural understanding in support of our ConVal community and students.

ConVal supports 11 physically separate schools: 8 elementary schools, 2 middle schools and 1 high school. Our school population has been on a steadily decreasing track with ConVal now having approx. 1993 students with a capacity for 3,530 students as of November 2022. Our school capacity far exceeds our current enrollment and enrollment is not expected to significantly increase in the foreseeable future. The latest demographic projections suggest a very small growth in enrollments over the next decade.

We are in the process of selecting an outside organization that is experienced with activities like this from working with other school districts and states. The selected organization will provide their expertise and assist us in this project. We have issued a Request for Information, received replies, selected three organizations to receive our Request for Proposal and will shortly select our partner organization.

The key to this process will be community engagement. We will have as involved partners in our committee: community members, parents and students, Select Board members, School Board members, ConVal District Administration, teachers and staff.

The SOC will be holding Community Forums and individual community meetings to share, discuss and receive input. We will produce a report detailing the committee's work and determined proposals in proposing a redesign for the district.

There can be more than one viable approach recommended. Any change to the number of active elementary schools will require a 2/3 public vote to amend our Articles of Agreement.

We expect this critical activity will take approx. 6 months to complete once we select and engage our partner organization.

It is important to note that we do not enter into this activity with a preconceived notion of what, if anything, should be done. We proceed with open minds fulfilling our mandate to provide the most educationally rich, cost effective, safe and responsive environment for our students and community.

We look forward to everyone's involvement in this critical process and will update the community as more information becomes available!

The ConVal School Board

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 4th Wed at 7pm at the Town Offices.

Chair: Karen Day Tel: 603-547-5606

Email:

greenfieldnhconservationcom@gmail.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: David Thimmel

Email: planningboard@greenfield-nh.gov

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 Wednesday 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://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net/ or call one of the following:

FIRE WARDENS

Eugene Hennessey, F. Warden 603-718-3936 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.

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.

Welcome Summer! We're hoping to see all of the kids for some majorly fun events coming up in the next few months as we head into our "All Together Now" Summer Reading Program!

WEEKLY EVENTS:

TUESDAYS, 3:30-5:00pm LEGO Free Play

WEDNESDAYS, 10:00am-11:00 Story time with special guests!

(**NO STORY TIME** June 7th+14th)

THURSDAYS, 3:30-5:00pm LEGO Free Play

SATURDAYS, 10:00am-11:00am Saturday Morning Story Time

WANT TO GET INVOLVED **AT THE LIBRARY?**

During our **Wednesday Morning Story Times** this summer, we are asking members of the community to come read to our story time crew! Pick 1-3 of your favorite picture books and Cheri and Ella will take care of the rest! Story time dates are June 21st through August 9th. **Email Ella at ellac@stephensonlibrary.org to sign up!****

MONTHLY EVENTS:

TEEN BOOK GROUP:

Teens grades 9-12 are welcome to join Ella for a Teen Book Group on the **last Saturday of the month!** We can discuss the books we read, what our favorite read of the month was, and play games involving books. 11:30-12:30

MEALS ON WHEELS FREE LUNCH AT NOON: 4th Thursday of the Month for Adults 60 and Over RSVP 7 days in Advance

(603) 424-9967 ext. 404 or cmckillip@hcmow.org

SPECIAL EVENTS:

FRIDAY, JUNE 9th:

MESSY ART OUTSIDE: Oobleck

Join Ella on the lawn behind the library to make Oobleck! Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

Please sign up with Ella so we can plan the necessary amount of materials. 3:30-5:30

SUNDAY, JUNE 25th:

SUMMER READING KICKOFF CARNIVAL!

Join us and other community members at Oak Park for a day of carnival games and fun to celebrate the beginning of the Summer Reading Program! This program will feature the Flying High Dogs from Massachusetts and is cosponsored by the G.H. Bixby Library in Francestown. 11:00-2:00

FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd:

MESSY ART OUTSIDE: Action Painting

Join Ella on the lawn behind the library to make an Action Painting! Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty. Please sign up with Ella so we can plan the necessary amount of materials. 3:30-5:30

*TEENS:

Do you want a say in books we add to the collection or the programs we plan?

Consider joining our TEEN ADVISORY BOARD!

Talk to Ella or David for more details.

*FIRST LEGO LEAGUE:

Even though the school year end is approaching, we are planning for the coming school year after school programming.

We are trying to establish community interest in the FIRST LEGO League programs which the library has run for several fall seasons. Please contact Brighid Wood at brighidwood@stephensonlibary.org with any questions or registration.

Grades 4-8

The FIRST LEGO League Challenge program has children from grades 4-8 build several LEGO models, construct and program a LEGO robot and complete a research project. This is a competitive team and so we will expect that both team members and parents will make every effort to have children participate as fully as possible. We are also exploring running the program across the school year, meeting less frequently each month, eliminating the research project portion and not competing.

This program will run beginning in September and running at least through early December, possibly later depending on the format which we choose. We are limited to 10 children so please let us know if your child is interested and which format appeals as soon as possible. Please note: fourth graders will need to have a responsible adult with them.

Grades K-3

FIRST LEGO League Explore is a program that has children *Continued on page 4*

Library continued from page 3

from grades K-3 explore building, teamwork and basic programming through independent and guided LEGO construction, simple programming for their LEGO and participation in an end of season festival. This is a very popular team and so we will expect that both team members and parents will make every effort to have children participate as fully as possible.

This program will run beginning in September through at least November, possibly into January. We are limited to six children so please let us know if your child is interested as soon as possible. Please note: children will need to have a responsible adult with them during each meeting.

This year, the library will buying the LEGO kit and we will be asking the parents to lead the program. Staff will be available for support and will manage the end of season Festival.

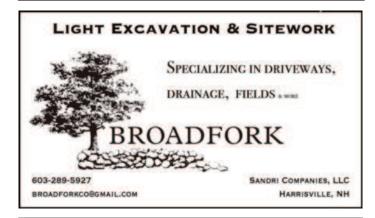
Technology Request

The library's iPad has served the LEGO programs well for a number of years. Unfortunately, it is no longer able to run some software that we need to use. If anyone in town has a tablet (iPad or Android) that they are considering donating, we may be able to make use of it. We are very grateful for all the support that the town has given the library over the years.

SPIRIT EMAIL:

GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com

Next deadline: July 1, 2023







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. Follow us on Facebook!

Greenfield NH Friends of the Library

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PARKS

FREE NH STATE PARK DAY USE PASS

The Friends are pleased to offer a day use pass which offers free admission for 2 adults and up to 4 children and is valid at most of the NH State Parks. Please note Library passes do NOT cover Wallis Sands, Hampton

Beach State Park, Flume Gorge, Cannon Mountain Tramway, camping fees, or metered parking.

This pass must be reserved in advance and is date specific, so please be sure to contact the Library to reserve your date(s)!

NEW LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES IN TOWN!

Keep an eye out for the new green Little Free Library book exchange boxes in town! The Friends have installed Little Free Libraries at Oak Park and at Sunset Lake Beach. These libraries offer free books for adults and children. We hope you will take advantage of these lending libraries. Please spread the love of reading - take a book and pass it on!



BROWNIE ICE CREAM SUNDAES AT MUSIC ON THE COMMON! The

Friends will once again be selling Brownie Ice Cream Sundaes on Tuesday evenings this

summer at the Music on the Common. All proceeds go towards the library. Come out, listen to some great music, eat a yummy sundae, and support your local library! The first concert is Tuesday June 20th!



THANK YOU to everyone who purchased tickets to our National Library Week Raffle Basket Fundraiser and congrats to the winners!! Over \$700 was raised! 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



RECYCLING CENTER

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

The GRC again hosted the annual roadside clean-up this year. A retired couple got started early and were rewarded for their enthusiasm. As they were picking up the trash along the roadside, the husband said to his wife: "I think I see some money down by the brook." Although his wife was doubtful, he climbed down and came back with a \$50 bill. He later found a \$10 bill at Oak Park. Our theory to explain this windfall is that it may have fallen out of the pocket of one of the utility workers working on restoring power after the three-foot, end-of-season, snowstorm. Another gal doing the roadside clean-up separated her aluminum cans from the rest of the trash and brought them in to us. I calculated that the value in that one blue bag to be nearly \$2.50 to the GRC. I encourage everyone to follow her lead. Our thanks to those folks who participated.

While emptying out an ash bucket, I noticed a couple of burned oil filters. As I was removing the filters, I then cut my finger on something sharp. Please remember that the ash buckets are there for burned wood ash, not burned "trash ash."

The contractor that comes and removes the refrigerant from our appliances has been in and we can now begin processing those items for recycling. We remove the compressors, transformers and heat exchanger coils-all of which have a much higher value than light iron. Since holding back our light iron earlier in 2022, the price of light iron has nearly doubled, so we will be filling up the steel dumpster as quickly as we can and getting it shipped out.

As you regular readers know, we are always on the look-out for interesting items that come into the Recycling Center. Lately, a pair of NH license plates caught my attention. The one from 1969 and probably dating back to the invention of the automobile, had the phrase "SCENIC" on it. This motto was probably created by committee after consulting various state agencies and was selected as the "least likely to offend anyone" option. Perhaps in response to (or because of) the liberalism of the 70's, the legislature decided we needed a more jaw-jutting, squinty-eyed expression of the NH spirit and put the state motto dating back to the 1940's of "Live Free Or Die" on the plates. NH apparently ceased being "SCENIC." Nor was the new motto as unoffensive. In fact, the "Free" portion of the motto was contradicted by the legislature in RSA N.H.262:27-c 263:1 when it mandated that the words on the plates could not be obstructed. Some residents found the motto objectionable and blocked them out. In two rulings (State vs Hoskins and State vs Ely) the court ruled the mandate unconstitutional since it infringed on the individual's right of free expression and blocking the motto out did not

affect the intended use of the license plate itself. Since 1972, the motto has become iconic and has been cited by adults as a reason why they shouldn't have to pay taxes (or do just about anything else that they don't want to do) and by children explaining to their parents why they should be able to stay up past their bedtimes. I've heard those children grow up to be successful lawyers.





One afternoon while I was locking up, I found a pair of glasses. The tape on them indicated that they had been broken and repaired. Concluding that the person had probably meant to dispose of them, I thought I had thrown them out. Days later, I got a call from a patron wondering whether we had seen a pair of reading glasses. Regrettably, I answered that they had gone into the trash. Well, just recently I found them. So, dear patron, if you read this article, your glasses are waiting to be claimed.

As always: "Keep the Stuff Coming!"

Caleb "CJ" Hall Recyling Center Supervisor







THE FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

Work continues on our new 2004 Seagrave Fire Engine. The reel is installed and the hose bed reconfigured to hold our hard suction hoses. We are now configuring the compartments to hold our tools. The truck radio has been ordered and due to supply chain issues it will not be in for some time. We will need to operate with our portables until the radio is available. We are also waiting on a date to get the truck into the paint shop. We are anxious to get it into service as Engine 1.

FIRE

On March 30th around 4:00pm we responded to a reported house fire on Forest Road. When we arrived the fire was confirmed. Flames could be seen above the roof line from the fire in the rear of the home. The family was home when the smoke alarms sounded and everyone got out without injuries. The fire was quickly contained and under control thanks to the great response from the members of the Greenfield Fire Department and mutual aid from surrounding towns. There is substantial damage to the second story of the building. After the local and state fire investigators studied the scene, the cause could not be determined but was suspected to be from an electrical arc in an enclosed wall space.

CHIMNEY FIRES

Temperatures were mild this past winter. The cooler temperatures lingered into May. We have responded to two chimney fires recently. The ladder truck was put to good use on one since a free standing ladder and roof ladder would not have provided access to the chimney.

On the second one we used a ladder and a roof ladder to access the chimney since there were wires over the drive way preventing access by Ladder 1. There were no injuries or damage to the structures in both events. It has been a long heating season. Please clean your chimneys.

LOOKING FORWARD

Preparation for the new digital sign in front of the Fire Station is well under way. Hopefully by the time this is published the sign will be in place. The sign will show the current forest fire danger level, other pertinent information, and emergency information from the Emergency Management Team.

We have begun our summer fund raising activity. We will again cut, split and sell campfire wood. If you have pine logs that you would like to get rid of, you can deliver them to the Fire Station and we will dispose of them for you. Please let one of us know what you have so that we can let you know where to place it.

The Firefighters Association will be holding a pancake breakfast at Oak Park on June 4th. There will also be an open house

at the Fire Station, a car wash, and station tours. Stop in and see what we are working on.

We can always use new members and would be happy to speak with anyone interested.

Take care and be safe,

Chief Jeff LaCourse Greenfield Fire Department



GO BATTY THIS SUMMER!

Be the most creative host in your neighborhood – host a bat count this summer! New Hampshire's two most common bat species, the little brown bat and the big brown bat, use buildings as their summer roosts. Abandoned houses, barns, church steeples – and even currently-occupied structures – can provide a summer home to female bats and their young.

Monitoring these "maternity colonies" can give biologists a good idea of how bat populations in an area are doing from year to year. With the occurrence of White Nose Syndrome in New Hampshire, monitoring these colonies is more important than ever. People in states all across eastern US are counting bats this summer. Won't you join them?

Colonies can be monitored by conducting a "bat count" at a summer colony in your area. We ask that you count bats as they exit their summer roost at dusk in June, then again later in the summer to see how the colony has grown as pups begin flying.

Program starts in early June.

Instructions and forms can be found at:

https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/surveys/bats.html

If you need more information please contact: Sandra Houghton at sandra.houghton@wildlife.nh.gov and put "Counting Bats" in the subject or call (603)-271-5679.

This is a Non-game and Endangered Wildlife Program of NH Fish & Game



PICNIC AT OAK PARK

Adults aged 60 & older are welcome to join us!

Wednesday, June 7th Lunch Served at 12:00PM 971 Forest Rd Greenfield

RSVP to Carol McKillip by 5/31/23 cmckillip@hcmow.org | 603-424-9967 x404

Suggested Donation \$3

The Greenfield Firefighters Association's FAMOUS



AT OAK PARK SUNDAY, JUNE 4th 9 to 11am

COME ONE, COME ALL Take Your Breakfast To Go or Eat At The Park!

Breakfast includes pancakes, eggs, bacon, home fries, fruit, coffee, and/or juice.

> Adults: \$10.00 Kids 12 and under: \$5.00 (Seconds free for all!)

There will also be a

SUMMER FUN RAFFLE

Prizes in the raffle include beach towels, beach toys, a gift card, bubbles, a beach bag and more.
\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5

All proceeds go to support the Greenfield Fire Department

OPEN HOUSE SAME DAY AT THE FIRE STATION!

CAR WASH (donations welcome)
STATION TOURS - Come See What
The Department Is Working On!



SAVE THE DATE!



2023

36th ANNUAL TRACTOR SHOW GREENFIELD HARNESS & DRAWBAR CLUB

Oak Park, Greenfield, NH Sat. Sept. 16th & Sun. Sept. 17th 8am-3pm

Fun for the whole family!

Free Admission - Multiple Yard Sale/Flea Market & Farmers Market Vendors
Rain or Shine Event - Food for Sale (breakfast/lunch/snacks) - Music
Raffles, Photo opportunities!
Tractors, tractors, and more tractors!

Displays/Exhibits:

- Old, New & Antique Tractors & Farm Equipment
- Antique & Classic Cars & Trucks
- One lunger engines tractor games



The Club promotes restoration & preservation of antique tractors and farm equipment. It's our history. Come check it out!

You don't have to own a tractor to belong to the club! Join today. Dues is \$10 per year, cash or check, payable before or at the Show. Join today: Mail your check made payable to Greenfield Harness & Drawbar Club, c/o Dorene Adams, PO Box 343, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Accepting participants in:

- Yard Sale/Flea Market/Farmers Market Area (Free No Vendor Fees)
- Animal Exhibits (must bring your own fencing/pen)
- Tractors & Farm Equipment for Exhibit Old, New, Antique
- Antique & Classic Cars & Trucks
- Antique & One Lunger Engines Exhibit
- Harness & Wagons Exhibits







(Camping is available for Exhibitors only)

Participants, please sign up by contacting: Dorene Adams at: call/text 603-562-8910 or Email: Greenfieldtractorclub@gmail.com

Comfort, Clarity And Relief

From This Simple & Affordable Home Maintenance Service

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- ◆ Your Home Will Feel Brighter Beyond Belief
- → You Will Eliminate Your Dirty Window Anxiety
- ◆ That Huge Chore Gets Crossed Off Your List

"I could immediately tell a difference, my windows are not only clean, they shine! I highly recommend them. Very personable, friendly, reliable, showed up on time. I will definitely have them back!" -- Susan Gignac, Greenfield

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Must mention this ad. Subject to minimum charges. Cannot be combined.



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GULF ROAD CONSERVATION AREA

By Tom Bregani, Conservation Commission Member

The Greenfield Gulf natural area is a hidden gem! An outing to this ecologically special destination can be a rewarding adventure. It's a great place for micro-exploring, too.

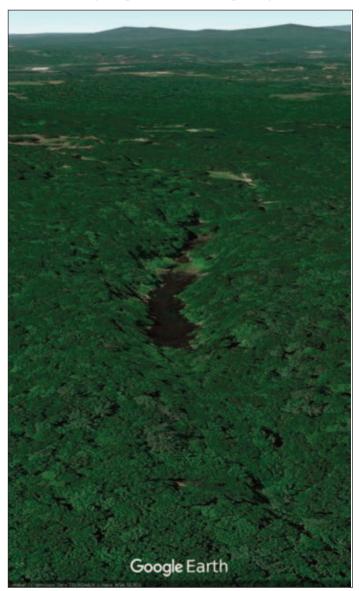


Figure 1 View up The Gulf from the east

To visit, journey down scenic roads to the junction of Slip and Gulf Roads to view our miniature "Grand Canyon" and enjoy "the peace and tranquility of this place." Hike along the Class VI roads, Gulf and Peavy, and their offshoots. Note that you will be in an area of steep slopes with erodible soils. This area drains into the Stony Brook subwatershed of the Souhegan River. You may also want to peek at the wealth of information in our town's Natural Resources Inventory pub-

lished in April 2019 and recently posted to the Town Website on the Conservation Commission page – look on the left side of the page for a green button. A series of informative maps begins on page 81.



Figure 2 Gulf Brook

This Conservation Land is classified as Tier 1 Habitat by NH Fish and Game, along with many conservation partners. This status is the highest relative rank by ecological condition meaning that it's very special. This habitat block is fairly unfragmented as well. You may see a bobcat, signs of deer, a breached beaver dam, woodpeckers, and hear owls calling. Vernal pools along Gulf Road provide habitat for salamanders, frog eggs, tadpoles, and water striders. There are a variety of hemlock, hardwood, and pine trees, some recently downed by winter snow. Invasive plant species are minimally present. Always close by is the steep slope leading down into the chasm below, but also leading to questions about what it is and how did it form? After all there is no real river in the gorge now. The answer is amazing.

The Gulf was created by a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood

A period of glacial cycles began two to four million years ago. During this period continental ice sheets radiating from northern Canada flowed and ebbed across northern North America many times. The latest glaciation covered the landscape with an ice sheet, the Laurentide, perhaps one mile thick, shaping Greenfield's landscape as we see it today.

Gulf continued from page 10

The Laurentide Ice Sheet was a temperate continental glacier meaning that water was present at its base. As it flowed it cut away and incorporated several feet of bedrock. The glacier also plucked or quarried large blocks of rock from the downflow sides of the hills. The ice sheet's basal zone became a mixture of ice and rock in the form of unsorted silt, sand, gravel, and boulders. This erosive process waned between 18,000 and 14,000 years ago due to climatic change. The ice sheet began to waste and recede, at first exposing the high points in our land-scape.

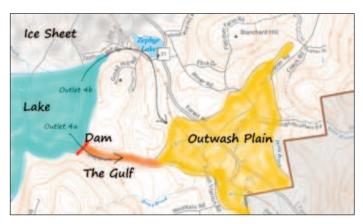
As the ice melted, sediment-laden water began to flow toward the sea. When the meltwater encountered obstacles such as mountains, hills, till dams (moraines) or ice sheet remnants, the water collected in glacial lakes and dropped its suspended load as its velocity slowed. Such was the case for the Contoocook valley or basin. Meltwater could not flow freely away due to barrier hills to the south, west and east and due to the receding ice front to the north. Thus, a series of lakes, named Glacial Lake Contoocook, formed ahead of the ice front.

Glacial Lake Contoocook had 8 stages as determined by each unique outlet. The Stage 4 Lake begins when the outlet moved to the area along Gulf Road by Gould Hill. The lake extended from the ice front, which ran westward across the valley from Gould Hill to as far as south Peterborough. The "shoreline" near this outlet was initially at today's 1030 ft contour line.

As the lake water flowed through the saddle (elevation 940 ft) between the north flank of North Pack Monadnock and Gould Hill (junction of Slip and Gulf Roads) a glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) of abrasive fluid cut into the hard bedrock, creating The Gulf. This feature is 200 feet deep, 200 feet wide and a half mile long. Geologists estimate that the Stage 4 Lake dropped 70 feet from the Stage 3 level.

Later, as the ice front barrier receded further north, the outlet moved east of Gould Hill at which time the Stage 5 Lake begins. The lake level dropped another 140 feet as the new outlet took control.

Watch this video to appreciate the power of a GLOF (www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Iri1Evfies); search the term GLOF at YouTube for more videos.



As the ice front retreated further northward the Stage 5 Lake grew to extend from south Peterborough to the Bradford area, a lake more extensive than today's Lake Winnipesaukee! During this time its outlet alternated between the Rand Brook and Stony Brook stream valleys, finally settling on Rand Brook. Eventually an outlet at an elevation of 525 feet took control in the Weare area and the lake drained from Greenfield, leaving us with a sand plain from the Zephyr/Sunset/ Otter Lake zone northwestward. Following Otter Brook and the Contoocook River traces out this plain. A second smaller plain extends southeasterly in the upper reaches of Stony Brook in south Greenfield.

After the ice completely melted, the entire glaciated region rebounded vertically as the weight of the ice sheet was no longer present. The net effect is that today's elevations are several hundred feet higher than during the glacial lake period.

This interpretation accounts for many of the land features of Greenfield such as the Gulf and Rand Brook gorges, the stratified drift areas (the lake beds - sediments deposited under water), the unstratified drift (till) of the higher elevations, the present lakes, the hills with steep south facing sides, the groundwater supply and the soil types.

Our community is fortunate to have this fine natural feature, a place to connect with the great outdoors (keep in mind that the land is private and we are privileged to have access).





This summary is based largely on the work of the following geologists:

- Warren Upham, among the earliest surficial geologic mappers, 187
- Carol Hildreth, NH State Geologists Office 1993
- Richard Moore, USGS Bow, NH 1993

Tom is a Greenfield resident and a new Conservation Commission member. He can be reached at thregani@hotmail.com.



The Greenfield Conservation Commission is charged with the protection of natural resources and playing a critical role in evaluating and commenting on conservation plans

and wetland permit applications; educating and informing town boards and the public. We work hard to ensure that Greenfield remains a healthy place to live, work, and enjoy all the beautiful natural areas our town has to offer.



Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse News

by Jesseca Timmons, Secretary

The FGCM is taking part in **NH GIVES** again on June 6th-7th! (www.nhgives.org). Along with Oktoberfest, NH Gives is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Last year, we received

an additional \$900 in bonus funds thanks to our high participation rate! Please keep an eye out for FGCM's NH Gives donation link on social media and in emails. Everyone giving a little bit adds up to a LOT...almost \$10,000 last year!

Part of the FGCM's fundraising includes applying for grants, both large and small. We recently received a grant of \$500 for Operating Expenses from the Greater Houston Com-

munity Foundation in Texas! This money will go into our Operating Fund and help pay for things like our insurance, annual registration fees, printing brochures, FGCM logo car magnets, and Oktoberfest expenses, so we can continue to get the word out about the Meetinghouse project. Many thanks to our anonymous benefactor in Houston, who must have a love of New England history and preservation!

The FGCM has been very busy in recent months. On April

1, we hosted a "Lunch With the Architects" with Sonya Misiaszek and Jared Guilmet, the Laconia- based architects hired by the Town of Greenfield to design the Meetinghouse renovation plans. About sixty people attended and enjoyed a delicious lunch made by Sharon Andrews and Warren Aldrich. Sonya and Jared greatly appreciated all the feedback and suggestions from town residents, and they are taking this feedback into account as they revise and finalize the design plans.

On April 27th, we put our cooks to work again for "Dinner and Show" with Greenfield storyteller Sebastian Lockwood. Sebastian is well known for his performance of Homer's Odysseus and other stories. More than seventy people enjoyed Sharon's homemade lasagna and Sebastian's wonderful performance, and we raised \$450 in dinner sales and donations for the Meetinghouse building fund. This event was

sponsored by the NH Humanities Council.

The FGCM's next event, in partnership with Oak Park Committee, is a Reading of the Declaration of Independence by a selection of town residents on July 4, 10 am at the Meetinghouse. This event will kick off the July 4 Oak Park festivities! Please stay tuned for more details. Finally, please save the date for our 4th Annual Oktoberfest, on Saturday, Sept. 24th! We have lined up

Henniker, Post and Beam, Frogg, and Mountain Base breweries so far, as well as Summit Winery!

The FGCM needs YOU! Please follow us on Facebook, Instagram (@FGCM2020), email us at GreenfieldMeetinghouse@gmail.com, or check out our website at Greenfieldmeetinghouse.org. We are always looking for new volunteers! Thank you for supporting the FGCM.



GET A RIDE Community Volunteer Driver Company

Serving those without access to transportation throughout the Monadnock Region.

No-fee rides are available with volunteer drivers for nonemergency medical and social service appointments, pharmacy or grocery shopping. Trips will be posted with five business days prior notice and are fulfilled according to driver availability.

Learn more at www.cvtc-nh.org or call 1-877-428-2882 ext. 5





Green Burial at Greenvale

In recent years, there has been a growing interest nationally in green, or natural burials. Until several years ago, it seems that there were two options; full burial with a casket and vault, and cremation with the choice of placing the ashes (cremains) in an urn for burial or to be scattered somewhere that was special to the deceased.

Green burials are the least impactful on the environment, simply because they involve the least amount of chemicals (embalming) or such materials as silk-lined caskets and concrete vaults. They can range from placing the body in a grave as is, possibly in a shroud, or in a simple, unfinished pine box or wicker, or even corrugated cardboard coffin. The overall concept is to allow the corpse and its container to decompose naturally and literally become one with the surrounding earth.

So far, there has been only one green burial in Greenvale Cemetery. With that precedent already established, Greenvale is classified as a hybrid cemetery.

In order to gauge our community's interest in green burials, the cemetery trustees are hosting a presentation by Threshold Care, "a New England based network of trained practitioners who provide practical and spiritual care before, during, and after death" as quoted from its brochure. The program will occur on Thursday, June 22nd at 7 PM in the Wensberg Meeting Room at the Stephenson Memorial Library.

Copies of Threshold Care's 60 page workbook will be available for purchase at the event, or by visiting www.thresholcare.org or by writing to Threshold Care, PO Box 336, Wilton, NH 03086.

Please note that the Greenfield Cemetery Trustees' interest in green burials is for planning purposes only, and to allow our residents the opportunity to learn more about what is available locally. It neither endorses nor advocates for any services other than to provide sites for natural burials.

The Greenfield Cemetery Trustees



MOOSE in New Hampshire

Ever seen a moose in the wild? Are there any in Greenfield? Please join us on **Thursday, June 15th at the Stephenson Memorial Library in the Wensberg Room at 7pm** for a fun and informative presentation, *The Survival Story of Moose* in New Hampshire by Rich Masters, an environmental educator with New Hampshire Fish and Game and Nashua Community College.

We'll have a look at the natural history of this beautiful and powerful animal, learn about some current research and conservation efforts in New Hampshire, and share stories of personal moose encounters.

This program is free and open to the public. All are welcome. For more information, please call David at (603) 547-9600.

We will need at least 10 attendees to hold this program. Please sign up by going to:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FAEA722A1FDC61-moose

The Greenfield Conservation Commission

SPIRIT DEADLINES

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 March 1st for the Apr/May Issue May 1st for the Jun/Jul Issue





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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1977 - OH, WHAT A YEAR! By Lenny Cornwell

In the last article on the WPA's work in Greenfield, it was noted that the men did help in the control of White Pine Blister Rust. In 1977, the State of NH Division of Forest and Lands declared that this disease affecting white pine trees had been eradicated in the town. However, the agency advised continued monitoring for it.

The disease had entered the country on small seedlings from Europe in the early 1900s. Unbeknownst to all, the origin of the disease was Russia into Europe. Trees were needed in the Northeast of the United States after decades of extensive logging. Millions of white pines had been planted.

White Pine Blister Rust requires a pair of host plants in order to spread. Currants and gooseberry plants were the perfect hosts, disseminating the disease to white pine trees. NH passed a law forbidding currant or gooseberry bushes from being imported into the state or planted here.

The disease killed white pines-a major lumber product of the state of NH. It attacks the needles and turns them yellow, then penetrates the bark on the limb. After several years, the disease affects the trunk and a "blister" of pitch appears, running down the trunk. Eventually, after several years, the tree dies,

A late snowstorm in March of 1977 brought about two feet of heavy, wet snow to the area. This took down trees and power lines. Some lost power for about five days. It took weeks to clean up all of the debris from the fallen trees.

This writer was working as a Part Time Temporary for the NHDPW + H for the winter. Salting from the bed of the dump truck - shoveling salt to the two and a half inch tube that put the salt on the yellow line. The tube was just ahead of the rear dual wheels on the truck. The vinyl "canvas" that pulled up to cover the dump body was normally high enough for a person to stand. However, it had collapsed due to bent over trees.

So, I had to salt by lying on my belly all the way on the run from the junction of Routes 136/202 in Peterborough to the Route 31/101 junction in Wilton. Roger and Sean Magoon, plowing for NHDPW+ H were on a breakfast break in the Greenfield Industries. Someone looked out and said, "Look at that salt cover flat on that truck. Looks so funny." Roger said, "The not-so-funny part is that Lenny Cornwell is in the back, lying flat on his belly shoveling salt." The distance from Zephyr Lake to Russell Station Road was a "tree tunnel" - maple and birch trees hung over the road from both sides.

May of 1977 brought more snow to town. In May of that year, I started my thirty year career at NHPW+H/NHDOT.

Other concerns continued in 1977. Tenneco planned to bring

Other concerns continued in 1977. Tenneco planned to bring a propane gas pipeline through Francestown and Greenfield. After a huge outcry form the citizens of NH, the company and Public Service Company of NH made an agreement to use the

PSNH Rights of Ways to set the pipeline.

According to the proposal, the pipeline would start in Canada, run through Concord, NH, into Greenfield on its way into Massachusetts and into New York state. The company claimed the pipeline was needed due to the decline in natural gas in the United States. In the end, the plan was never implemented.

Sources: UNH Cooperative Extension Service- USOA
The New York Times
Lenny Cornwell

UPCOMING EVENTS...MARK YOUR CALENDAR:



*NH GIVES, JUNE 6-7, 2023

The Greenfield Historical Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary, having been founded by a handful of residents back in 1973. To commemorate this, a weathervane oxen/wagon figure was designed by Bruce Dodge, one of GHS's Board of Di-

rectors. The unique weathervane of steel has already been made, welded and constructed for us at no cost as an in-kind donation from town residents. However, in order to get it mounted properly and protect our barn roof, we need to purchase a large wooden support beam to be added to the inside of the cupola. A steel base and vertical steel mounting post will be attached to this support beam and go up through the cupola roof to hold the spindle and figure in place. Industrial mounting hardware will ensure proper rotation of the weathervane. All of this requires that we hire a licensed contractor with a crane for half of a day. We are seeking \$500 from NH Gives to complete this installation. Once mounted, the unique weathervane will become a central attraction of Greenfield, the pride of the GHS, and a symbol helping us to publicize all of the important work we do in preserving the town's history.

We urge you to please log on to the NH Gives website on June 6th or 7th, locate GHS in the search box and make a donation in any amount to our weathervane project. Your support will be much appreciated.

*Plan to join us Sunday, June 25th at 2 PM at the Museum for a presentation by Kim Varney, author of Covered Bridges of New Hampshire. She will discuss "our" covered bridge, shared with Hancock - county bridge #8. Her book will be for sale, and light refreshments will be offered. Admission is free.

This event is one of those celebrating our 50th year - a banner year. Look for our new banners highlighting our 50th year.

*Historic New England magazine will feature the GHS and its book project, In the Shadow of Crotched Mountain-Revealing Greenfield's Colorful Characters, Past & Present in its fall edition.



Sundays at the Meeting House

Worship Service 10:00AM Potluck Fellowship After Service



www.greenfieldbiblechurch.org

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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.

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Music on the Common This summer in front of the Meeting House. June 20th The Boogie Men Classic Rock June 27th **Off Our Rockers** Classic Rock July 4th The Pop Farmers Classic & Irish Rock July 11th McGettigan & Gilbert Acoustic July 18th **Acoustic Bahgoostyx** Acoustic Rock July 27th The Incidentals Fun-time Covers August 1st **Dragonfly** Acoustic Trio August 8th Eyes of Age

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TUESDAY EVENINGS 6:30 pm

Come and Enjoy a Couple Hours of Great Music

Sing and Dance Or Just Tap Your Toes

Don't Forget to Bring a Blanket or a Chair to Sit on.

Free and Open to the Public

Come on Down, Bring the Kids, Have a Bite to Eat, and Enjoy

Music on the Common!

The Fire Fighters Association will have Food and Drinks For Sale

Adult Meal: \$8.00 Kids Meal: \$5.00 The proceeds support the Fire Department

The Friends of the Library will have Ice Cream Sundaes For Sale

The proceeds support the Stephenson Memorial Library

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