

The Greenfield Spirit

APR-MAY 2024

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 31.1

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

FREE

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This issue sponsored by

Linda Gray Local Associate Broker Perfect Choice Properties

"Where every choice is perfect"



For more information, see the back cover.

Our New Grader



Our new grader was delivered on Wednesday after Town Meeting. Our old grader has gone to Maine to work for a logging outfit. If you have questions or would like to see the new one, contact DPW Director, Jim Morris.

2024 Property Revaluation

It's that time again, NH State law (RSA 75:8-a) requires that every town revalue property at least once every five years and Greenfield's last revaluation was in 2019. As many of you know the property market has been red-hot over the last five years and real estate values have risen dramatically. Across the state homes have nearly doubled in value in that time. As of February 2024, the average home value in NH is \$445,263. Here in Greenfield the NH Department of Revenue (DRA) estimates that our average valuation was approximately 65% of market value as of last fall. As a result, we expect that revalued homes will nearly double in valuation.

You can expect to see the assessor, Avitar, out verifying information on the tax card to ensure consistency throughout town. Notices will be posted to the town website once we have more detailed information about when this will occur.

Not all properties will increase or decrease by the same amount – there are a lot of factors that go into real estate valuations so your property may change differently than others. For instance, small homes vs large homes may have very different levels of appreciation. Newer homes vs older homes are another area where things can be quite different. Even if all else is the same different neighborhoods, such as downtown versus out in the country, or living on a paved road versus a gravel road, will have an impact. Just as all of those factors impact the selling price should you put your property on the market.

TOWN DIRECTORY

TOWN OFFICES

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

Selectboard: Michael Borden Chair, Tom Bascom, and Mason Parker 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 2-5 pm, 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

CEMETERY TRUSTEES:

Mtgs 2nd Wed at 7pm - Town Offices Chair: Roger Lessard Tel: 603-933-3130 Email: mtking@pobox.com

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mtgs 4th Wed at 7pm - Town Offices Chair: Karen Day Tel: 603-547-5606 Email: concom@greenfield-nh.gov

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Jim Morris, DPW Director Tel: 603-547-3504

Email: publicworks@greenfield-nh.gov

PLANNING BOARD

Mtgs: 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: Ella Cademadori

Email: director@stephensonlibrary.org youth@stephensonlibrary.org Circulation/General Questions circulation@stephensonlibrary.org

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Mtgs - as needed Chair: Gil Morris

Email: zba@greenfield-nh.gov

Tel: 603-547-3442

OTHER CONTACTS

OAK PARK COMMITTEE

Mtgs every Thurs at 5:30 pm - Oak Park Chair: Dave Thimmel Email: woodshopronin@gmail.com

SCHOOL BOARD REP:

Katherine Heck Tel: 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: chiefjefflacourse@greenfieldfire.org

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@greenfieldfire.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.



GREENVALE HEIR QUEST

As you may have read in the 2023 Greenfield Town Report, the Cemetery Trustees have entered into an agreement with Chronicle Ltd, a cemetery management software provider, to convert our paper records to a "secure digital database, making it easier to manage and access information". Once completed, the public will have "access to cemetery services, genealogy searches, plot purchasing, life stories, and even self-guided historic walking tours". The quoted language is lifted directly from Chronicle's proposal.

We've spent countless hours in the effort to ensure that the information is as accurate as humanly possible before it gets handed over to the folks at Chronicle. Meticulous and painstaking examination of records dating back to 1881, when Greenvale was first put into use, has revealed that now and again mistakes were made in recording lot sales and interments, as well as in the actual laying out of lots. We're trying very hard to correct, or at least mitigate, those errors to avoid the old garbage-in/garbage-out scenario.

Whenever a cemetery lot is purchased, a deed is created and submitted for approval by the Selectboard members before being issued to the purchaser, and a copy filed with the Town Clerk. Although we refer to these documents as deeds, it would be more accurate to call them 'Rights of Interment' (ROI) since the town does not actually cede ownership of the property. This is explained in the recently revised Greenvale Cemetery rules and regulations, which can be viewed/downloaded at www.greenfield-nh.gov.

Every record of cemetery lot purchase includes the words "...we hereby acknowledge, have given, granted, and conveyed to (Name of Purchaser) his, her, their heirs and assigns forever..." Unfortunately, many of the lot purchasers have since died without having identified their "heirs and assigns". We are trying to remedy that by tracking down the immediate descendants and/or others whom we believe may have knowledge that could lead us to the rightful and current lot owners.

To this end, we have reached out to the Greenfield Historical Society and the Greenfield Covenant Church as two likely sources of valuable information. Yet, we realize that there is probably a trove of information that we may miss by limiting ourselves to those two rich resources.

If you have family or friends whose remains are interred in Greenvale Cemetery, we'd love to speak with you. It only takes a few minutes to jot down the actual missing info, but we love to listen to the stories that inevitably surface when discussing the lives that came before ours and make Greenfield such a wonderful community. You can reach us by calling Roger Lessard at 603-933-3130 or online at cemeterytrustees@greenfield-nh.gov.

We wish to thank outgoing trustee Ray Cilley for his valuable assistance during his three-year term, and welcome newly elected trustee Karen Day to the team, which also benefits from the very talented and insightful participation of Bill Nichols.

Roger Lessard Greenfield Cemetery Trustees Chair

POSITIONS OPEN ON THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There are two positions open on the Budget Advisory Committee.

If you are interested, please make an appointment with the Selectboard and get appointed for 1 year.

And then you can run for the position the following year in March for the remainder of the term.



GREENFIELD'S MEMORIAL DAY
OBSERVANCE WILL BE ON
MAY 26TH AT 1PM IN FRONT OF THE
STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY



RECYCLING CENTER

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

New Hampshire law mandates that every municipality have a recycling center. This has usually meant a facility owned and operated by the town or city. In 2023 the city of Claremont officials decided to turn over the operation of their recycling center to a privately run entity-DeCamp Waste Services. Since most transfer/recycling centers operate at a loss, this contracting out to DeCamp was bound to bring about changes. Your intrepid reporter decided to find out how it was working out. When I called the Claremont City Hall to get information on how the change was working for the city, I was directed to contact the head of the Highway Dept. I left a message about a month ago and have not heard back. When I contacted DeCamp Waste Services, the gal answering the phone said that I needed to speak to Mr. DeCamp who was unavailable since he was driving one of the garbage trucks due to being short-handed. I advised the gal never to get a CDL or she would be out driving a truck. She replied, "Tell me about it-I've already ridden "shotgun" and had to toss the trash bags into the truck!" Mr. DeCamp has yet to call me back as well. From the Keene Sentinel article and DeCamp's website, I have been able to obtain the following information.

Apparently, there was considerable anger from the public due to operational changes and increases in the fee schedule. In fact, some residents behaved rudely aggressive towards the staff, some of whom were just teenagers working part time. In response, DeCamp no longer allows residents to bring household trash to the recycling center. Instead, DeCamp will pick it up curbside in bags that must have town stickers on them. The costs of stickers are \$3.00/13 gal. bag; \$5.00/30 gal. bag and \$9.00/50 gal. bag. The bags also have weight limits. This is known as "Pay as you throw."

For demo and furniture, the website directs you to contact DeCamp and they will determine the best disposal method and fee. Just showing up at the transfer station with these items is not allowed. The website has a four-page, fine print, A-Z list of items: fee/no fee and allowed/not allowed. According to the list, a standard pickup with demo (presumably, sheetrock or shingles) would cost about \$225.00.

As far as recyclables go, the public has two options; Option 1: putting all the recyclables in one bag (single stream), paying the same per bag fee as trash and dropping the bags off at the transfer station. Option 2: Sorting your recyclables into separate bags and dropping them off no charge. The no charge sorted items only include cardboard/boxboard, aluminum cans and glass. For all plastics and mixed paper, the bag fee would apply.

Here are a few items for price comparison: car tires-(De-Camp) \$10.00, add \$2.00 with rim; (GRC) \$6.00 with/with-out rim; brush-(DeCamp) \$20.00/pickup; (GRC) \$0.00; three cushion sofa-(DeCamp) \$45.00; (GRC) \$15.00. The GRC also does not charge for any of the standard recyclable items. DeCamp also retains the revenue from the sale of these items whereas the Town of Greenfield keeps the money.

Claremont's decision to turn over the recycling center to a private operator is an experiment and it seems likely that it will require some fine tuning. Time will tell.

On another note, Greenfield lost another frequent patron and supporter of the GRC, David Bridgewater. He also served as the Stephenson Library Director. For the size of the town, the library is truly outstanding and has benefitted greatly from his selfless management. David was a woodworker and craftsman by trade. My earliest encounters with him go back to my sawmill days when he would come by to purchase lumber either for a town or a private project. The dais that is used at town meetings was crafted by David using a local maple tree. On hot summer afternoons, after a sweaty day at the mill, I would stop by Sunset Lake for a quick refreshing



swim. It would be common to see David there doing the same. The picture shows both the library's (David's) and behind it the GRC's entries into the cardboard and ductape boat race this past summer at Sunset Lake. David launched, paddling furiously and tipping over about eight feet from shore. I remember him laughing during and after the rather short voyage. The empty cardboard "canoe" symbolizes what we lost in David's death. We will all miss him.

It is, as always, for us the living, to carry on and "Keep the stuff coming!"

CJ Hall Recycling Center Supervisor

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Ella Cadematori, 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.

NEW HOURS!

Sunday/Monday: CLOSED Tuesday: 2:00-6:00pm

Wednesday: 10:00am-6:00pm Thursday: 10:00am-6:00pm

Friday: 2:00-6:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am-4:00pm

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Mondays, 1:00pm-4:00 Mah-Jongg

Wednesdays, 10:00am-11:00 Story Time

Wednesdays, 4:00pm-6:00 Watercolor Collaborative

Wednesdays, 7:00pm Line Dancing

Thursdays, 3:30pm-5:15 Happy Crafters Group

Fridays, 3:00pm-4:00 Greenfield Commons Outreach

Saturdays, 10:00am-11:00 Baby Play Group

MONTHLY EVENTS:

Cribbage, Second and fourth Wednesday 1:30pm

Meals on Wheels Luncheon for Ages 60+! Please RSVP a week in advance for lunch in the Wensberg Room, fourth Thursday 12:00pm

Monadnock Quilters Guild, First Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm and the fourth Wednesday, 9:00am-12:00pm

Friends of the Library Book Sale, Second and Fourth Saturday 10:00am-12:00pm

Family Chapter Book Club, Third Saturday of the Month, 11:00am-12:00pm. Students ages 6 and up and their parents are invited to join Ella for a chapter book read aloud and discussion of each month's book.

April 20th: Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White

May 18th: My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

Stem Day with Brighid: one Saturday a month, join Brighid for STEM activities on April 27th and May 25th from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Drop in any time to free build or experiment with FLL Exlpore materials.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Covered Bridges of New Hampshire, Thursday April 4th 7:00pm. Kim Chandler Warren presents on New Hampshire Covered Bridges and introduces her new book. Presentation will be in the Wensberg Room. Sponsored by the Friends of the Stephenson Memorial Library.

Friends of the Stephenson Memorial Library Raffle Basket Drawing!

Satruday, April 6th. Make sure to buy your tickets!

Easter Egg Hunt and Story Time

Saturday, April 6th: Easter Egg Hunt and story time! 10:00-11:00. Find eggs, make a craft, and hear some Easter stories!



Solar Eclipse Glasses: On April 8th, 2024, Greenfield will be in the path of 95.7% coverage of the solar eclipse. Feel free to stop by the library and get Solar Eclipse Glasses! The path of totality will be in the Coös County area.

Town Spelling Bee



The library will be co-sponsoring a townwide spelling bee on May 4th, 2024. Please pre-register at the library and watch for more information on the library website, Facebook page, and the children's newsletter.

Mother's Day Tea and Bench Dedication

Saturday, May 11th, 2:00-4:00pm: Please join us at 2:00pm for the dedication of Mary Ann Grant's Bench and planting flowers in her honor. Mary Ann was a long time Library Trustee and volunteered in many town organizations and loved adding beauty to the town through flowers and her generous smile. After the dedication, we will have a Mother's Day Tea Party in the Wensberg Room to celebrate all the moms and mom figures in our lives! Please register in advance for the Tea Party and let us know of any allergies you may have.

The Tri-Town Book Group

If you have any questions about the Tri-Town Book Group please contact Marcia de Steuben at marciet53@gmail.com.

Thursday, April 18 (Francestown, 6:30): The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

Saturday, May 18th (Greenfield, 3:00): The Greater Journey by David McCullough

Copies are available at the Stephenson Library.

Continued on page 6

Library continued from page 5

Town Survey- At town meeting, the library presented a survey for residents to fill out to let us know how we could better serve you with hours, programming, materials, and more! If you couldn't make it to town meeting, there is a copy on the next pages, and there will be copies available at the library.

The Stephenson Memorial Library would like to thank David Bridgewater for his excellent years of service to us and our community. We send our condolences to his family.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Sheryl Fave Presents: Laura Ingalls Wilder in January! It was a great show.



Sheryl Faye presents Laura Ingalls Wilder 1: Teaching the Audience to Square Dance



In Honor of Mary Ann Grant

The Greenfield Democratic Committee is inspired by Mary Ann Grant's dedication to beautify Greenfield by planting and maintaining flower beds all over

town. To honor her efforts, we plan to plant flowers in the planter boxes on the Greenfield town signs this spring and maintain them throughout the summer.

The Greenfield Democratic Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 in the Wensberg Room at the Stephenson Memorial Library. All Democrats welcome.

For more information, email greenfieldnhdems@gmail.com.



THE 29TH ANNUAL CHILDREN AND THE ARTS **FESTIVAL** IS HAPPENING ON MAY 18TH, 2024 IN PETERBOROUGH. THE THEME THIS YEAR IS "BIRDS OF A FEATHER"

OAK PARK NEWS



Greetings, Greenfield residents!

We are looking forward to another fun year of events at Oak Park. Of course, opening with the Annual Easter Egg Hunt in conjunction with members of the Fire Department and Fire Fighters Association, Saturday, March 30th.

On May 11th, we are doing our Annual Spring Park Cleanup which comes along with a potluck for anybody who wants to bring something and we provide burgers and hotdogs. With this year's spring cleanup, we will also be beginning the planting of the Oak Park Pollinator Garden, a project we have been coordinating with the Conservation Commission that will add some color and life to the park.

July 4th, we host a barbecue and a number of kids activities, including tie-dye T-shirts to include adults as well. There's secret talk about trying to do a morning parade but we haven't quite figured that one out yet. This year's Farmers Market starts in mid May and will continue every Sunday from 10 AM until one through to September. Always one of our favorites, we will close the year with the Pumpkinfest.

In meetings, we have discussed the possibility of trying to combine a smaller scale event, similar to the blueberry jamboree, and an evening with music and food, though definitely not to the scale of the Blue-b-Que. Also, in open discussion is the possibility of doing movies during the kid's school vacation under the pavilion.

Our biggest hurdle for adding new activities and events is manpower. Period. While we wholeheartedly understand that most people's schedules don't allow for regular meetings, anybody that is interested in helping bring any of the new events to reality, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks.

Dave Thimmel

Oak Park Committee Email: woodshopronin@gmail.com

Text: 603-268-1044

LIBRARY PATRON SATISFACTION SURVEY



Please help us improve our library by completing this survey. We value you as a patron and would appreciate your feedback.

	uvenile Fiction oung Adult				iction ○Board ○ Adult Fiction	
	dult Non-Fiction Adult/Juvenile/Young Adult Graphic Novels (Circle Relevant Age Groups)					
Juvenile/Adult Audi (Circle Relevant Ag						
low do you find out ab		grams and even Flyers/Word				
Are you satisfied with						
Very Unsatisfied		○ Neutral	Satisf	ied O Ve	ry Satisfied	
Please rate your satisf	Very Unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	
Physical Collection						
Customer Service						
Hours	\bigcirc			\circ		
Ease of Locating Item	ns O					
Overall Library Experie	ence					
What was your favorit	e program ir	2023?				

Do you utilize Libby and/or Hoopla?	
What kinds of programs would you like to see at the library?	
What types of materials would you like more of in the library?	is h

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!



Ella Cademartori

The Stephenson Memorial Library (SML) Board of Trustees is proud to announce the appointment of our new Library Director, Ella Cademartori. She began her role on Feb 13, 2024.

Ella has been on staff at SML since July 2022 leading our children's programming; she has served as interim Director for the last several months. Ella brings 5+ years of experience in library studies and service as she's served on staff at many nearby town libraries including Warner, Dublin, Stoddard and Fitzwilliam.

Ella received her MEd in Library Media Studies from Plymouth State University and completed her practicum in the ConVal High School Library. She and her family live in Antrim.

The Board of Trustees is confident that Ella is a great fit for Greenfield; she will ably guide the Library and engage our community for years to come. We are fortunate to have such a highly qualified internal candidate here at SML.

Please join us in congratulating Ella on her new position!

Sincerely,

The Stephenson Memorial Library Board of Trustees

SPIRIT DEADLINES

MAY 1ST FOR THE JUN/JUL ISSUE

July 1st for the Aug/Sep Issue September 1st for the Oct/Nov Issue October 1st for the Nov/Dec Issue January 1st for the Feb/Mar Issue May 1st for the Jun/Jul Issue



THE FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

At our February department staff meeting, annual service awards were presented for 2023. I enjoy taking time out of our regular agenda to recognize the efforts of these members. These awards are major milestones for our volunteers and are presented in five year increments. This year, Firefighter Rob Wachenfeld and Firefighter Scott Martin were presented with five year service awards. Captain Chaz Babb was presented with a ten year service award.

We then moved on to present our Member of the Year award. Making the choice each year is a difficult decision. Each department member is deserving in many ways. Senior officers work to narrow the field and in the end, there can be only one so we choose the member we find most deserving. This year's award went to Firefighter Scott Martin. We thank him for his efforts and dedication.

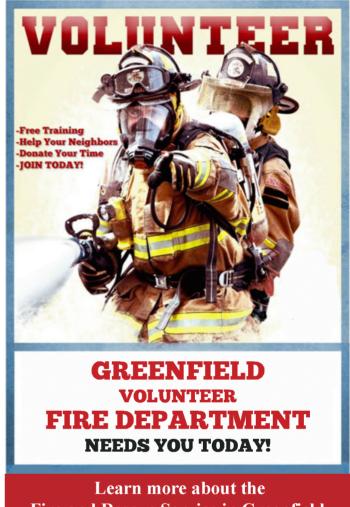
It is interesting that both Captain Babb, then Firefighter Babb, and Firefighter Wachenfeld are both previous recipients of this award. Rob has also received the Member of the Year award from the Greenfield Firefighters Association.

On Saturday, March 2nd, seven of our members attended "Role of the Junior Fire Officer" class in Temple. Captain Chaz Babb, Fire Warden Gene Hennessy, and Captain Mike Hoiriis are veteran officers and attended in support of Fire-fighter/EMR Tom Cove, Firefighter/EMT Mike Heddy, Fire-fighter Nate Iverson, and Firefighter Sam Tarplin. Their training will help lead the department in years to come.

We had a mild winter and the snow is now gone. This is great for heating bills but not so nice for the wildland fire risk. Texas right now is experiencing that state's largest wildfire ever. At this time, it has burned over 1,900 square miles of land and continues to burn. In March of 2023, we had a wildland fire that burned 12 acres here in Greenfield Fortunately, we were able to contain it and put it out. No structures were damaged and no one got hurt.

We still have a long time before our wildland fire risk drops. When the snow goes away early there is a long time before the ground and trees green up to help prevent these fires from rapidly spreading. Please be extra careful when emptying the ashes from your wood stove or fireplace, disposing of cigarette butts, or anything else that could potentially start the woods on fire. Thank you.

Chief Jeff LaCourse Greenfield Fire Department



Learn more about the Fire and Rescue Service in Greenfield Call 603-582-3289

THE TOWN WEBSITE

In many instances, what you are looking for is on the Town Website at: **www.greenfield-nh.gov/**



GREENFIELD ANNUAL ROADSIDE ROUND-UP

in honor of Earth Day

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH

RAIN OR SHINE!



Grab your blue bags from the Recycling Center, Stephenson Memorial Library, Greenfield Post Office, or Harvester Market any time during the week before the 27th or on that day.

Clean up any trash you see along our town roads then bring your bags to the Recycling Center on or before April 27th and throw them in the trash dumpster.





Buzzy Bee says while you're there, visit the Conservation Commission table between 11 am and 3 pm for free pollinator garden seeds, snacks, and drinks. PLUS - if you sign up to be on our special events email list you'll be entered into our raffle to win one of many gift cards!

(No need to be present to win)

Join us for this Community Clean-Up Day

Organized & sponsored by the Greenfield Conservation Commission

For any questions please call Karen at 603-547-5606



SPIRIT EMAIL

GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Why should we place birdhouses around our homes?

Many of our local birds are



Source: Naturally Curious Day by Day, by Mary Holland, Stackpole Books, 2016.

benefit of attracting hole nesters into your yard!



Primary Care for all ages. A small, personalized and affordable practice. We take TIME to treat you well and get to know vou! Our providers are in direct contact with patients via phone, messaging and text. Unmatched care without insurance limiting our interaction. Transparent monthly pricing and no surprise bills. providers live in Monadnock community. Taking new patients now.

> (603) 312-1600 DPC.Hearthsidefamily.com

SAME FACES



Jax & Cory

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- Residential/Commercial Pumping
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- **Filter Maintenance**
- Camera/Locating
- **High Pressure Water Jetting**
- **Baffle Installation**

Cory Lawrence Owner/Operator corysseptic@gmail.com 603-831-0236

DIFFERENT NAME



Comfort Clarity & Relief

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Professionally cleaned windows provide long-lasting benefits:

- → Your home will become brighter beyond belief
- → You'll save hours of labor and stay off ladders
- → Your dirty window anxiety will melt away
- → Cross that huge chore off your to-do list
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NEW CLIENT SPECIAL:

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Must Schedule Prior To May 31



Subject to minimum charges.

Must mention this ad. Cannot be combined.

All **5 Star**Google Reviews



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(603) 265-2346

MonadnockWindowCleaning.com

We Re-Mesh Screens Too!

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Townclerk@Greenfield-nh.gov 1-603-547-2782

Dorene Adams, Town Clerk Anne Setaro, Deputy Town Clerk Website: https://www.greenfield-nh.gov

WE HAVE A NEW OFFICE

Our office is now located in the old Police Dept., downstairs in the Town Office Building. Look for signs!

OFFICE HOURS BY APT PLEASE:

Mon. 2:00 - 5:00pm

Wed & Thurs. 3:00 - 5:30pm.

Changes will be posted on the Town Website.
Call or email us and tell us the day and time you plan to come in and we will put you on the list. Making appointments cuts down on your wait time in the office.

Office will be closed:

Mon. MAY 27TH, 2024 for MEMORIAL DAY.

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 <u>Greenfield Town Clerk</u>, PO Box 256, Greenfield, NH 03047. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for us to return your registration in. Instructions are on your renewal letters. Please include the letter.

Payment Types: Two Checks or Cash

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

Moving to Greenfield from another state:

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

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

1) 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.

2) 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 <u>renewal registrations done by April 30th.</u>

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. Rabies certificate must be up to date. Check your renewal letter for rabies expiration 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.

REGISTERING TO VOTE

You can register to VOTE with the Town Clerk, during office hours, before Sat. March 2nd, but you will not be officially added to the Voter Checklist until the Supervisors hold their session.

What to bring when registering to VOTE:

- **Proof of identity:** a photo ID such as a driver's license or passport.
- **Proof of age:** an ID with your birth date, as listed above, to prove you are 18 or older.
- **Proof of citizenship:** birth certificate or citizenship papers. Marriage certificate or legal paperwork if you had a name change.
- **Proof of domicile:** such as: an ID, a utility bill, a pay stub, or current registration, showing your name and physical address.

THE GREENFIELD NH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Alan Easton, President

Membership questions: 603-547-5170

GreenfieldNHHistoricalSociety.com

Open Hours: Last Saturday of each month except December from 10 am to 12 pm

Happenings at the Historical Society

by Alan Easton

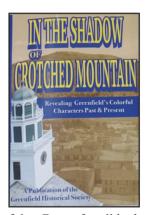
Many of you have congratulated me on my elevated position here at the GHS. Thank you for your support. Becoming President of the GHS is a task that I do not feel worthy of. It seems like some large boots to fill. Mostly by example of Mr. Lenny Cornwell! Lenny has served as our President for 16 years. Thankfully he is remaining on the Board of Directors. Lenny is an invaluable asset to our team and our town history. If you know Lenny you know what I mean. His knowledge of town history is enormous. Furthermore he can recall this information almost as if it were right on the tip of his tongue. Please join me in thanking Lenny for all he has done and continues to do as a member of the GHS Board of Directors! Personally I would not be able to attempt this position if not for Lenny. I continually rely upon his vast knowledge of our Greenfield history.

How many of you have read our Greenfield history book? The Story of a Town 1791-1976 by Doris Hopkins. If you've not read the book we still have some copies available at the society for purchase. A great read about 2 centuries of our existence and founding here in the shadows of Crotched Mountain. As we approached our 50th anniversay of founding the society the GHS Board of Directors began a discussion about the history book. It's been 50 years (almost) since 1976. A lot has happened since then. Almost 50 years of history remains unwritten. And thus, our latest endeavor began. Let's write a book.

Before I go too far into our new book, which many of you have undoubtedly heard about, let's first think about all the technological changes the past 50 years have brought to each of us. Our original book was typed on a typewriter. Reasearch was conducted by reading archived town reports and newspaper articles. Traveling to the Registry of Deeds and making notes in pencil, on a 3x5 index card or scribbled on the back of an old photograph. Lastly by word of mouth. Much of our history was

shared by old timers who knew previous generations and they shared stories.

I'm going to guess that some of you folks don't know what a typewriter is or an index card. Much of our research was done on computer (a what?). Now your mobile phone (a what?) has more power and capability than the first personal computers. Imagine a world where people don't share stories or talk with each other because they don't need to, instead they have some social media thing. Profound, when you consider the changes technology has made in our lives. I find this fascinating but I digress...



Technology has allowed GHS to selfpublish our latest book. It has allowed us to type at home and conduct research from home. Share ideas, make plans, edits and corrections. But technology has its challenges as well. We had planned to get our new book printed and into your hands for the Christmas season. Technology had another plan. A major system crash! That caused Bruce Dodge (and others) many hours of recreating. We are so thank-

ful to Bruce for all he has done. The book looks amazing and by the time you are reading this many of you will own one of your very own. The GHS Board of Directors hopes to bring you more books like these in the future. For now please enjoy this book, it is our history and it has been a long time in the making. They are available for purchase at the society and any of upcoming events. We are open the last Saturday of each month from 10:00am to 12:00pm (except December).

Embracing technology is what we are really in need of at the society. Personally, one of my goals is to electronically catalog all the documents we have at the society. We are a volunteer board dedicated to preserving Greenfield NH history. We could use some help.

Upcoming event at GHS: May 11th at 11:00am.

A great unveiling...(stay tuned) Food will be available.

Greenfield NH Historical Society 828 Forest Road P.O. Box 316 Greenfield NH 03047 For Membership questions call: 603-547-5071 GreenfieldNHhistoricalsociety.com



FRIENDS OF THE GREENFIELD COMMUNITY MEETINGHOUSE NEWS

By Jesseca Timmons, Secretary

The FGCM is very happy to report that we grossed almost \$16,000 through our partnership with NH Charitable Gaming! After fees were subtracted, we took home almost \$15,000 for the Meetinghouse project. Many thanks to District 9 State Senator Denise Ricciardi, who represents Greenfield, who told us about this opportunity and helped us with the application process. We are over the moon... and apparently, we can sign up again, which we will do as soon as possible!

The FGCM is very excited to be sponsoring a town spelling bee on May 4th! Many thanks to Billie-Jean Greene for approaching the FGCM and asking if we would sponsor this exciting event, along with the Stephenson Memorial Library. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m., and the Bee will run from 10:00 am to noon. Please email GreenfieldNHSpellingBee@gmail.com for more information. Children age 7-14 years can register at Stephenson Memorial Library by April 20th. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2d and 3rd places. Registration fee is \$10, \$5 per additional child per family. We will be collecting donations for the Meetinghouse Building Fund.

As the Spirit went to press, we were still waiting to hear back from the CDFA (the Community Development Finance Authority) on the town's grant application. The FGCM had applied for the initial round of this grant back in May and did not qualify in that round. The application process was definitely a stretch for our small group, and Todd Horner, a grantwriter from Southwestern Regional Planning Commission, worked many long days (and nights!) helping us get it done. After many discussions with Todd, Aaron Patt, our Town Administrator, and the Selectboard, we all decided it made more sense for the town to apply for the second round of this very large federal grant (in the form of a forgivable loan) for \$1M for Meetinghouse repairs.

Throughout October and November, Aaron Pat, Todd Horner, our FGCM board, Town Treasurer Katherine Heck, and the Selectboard worked long hours completing this application. More than 60 town residents, business owners, and volunteer leaders stepped up to help, writing letters of recommendation and sign-

ing Memorandums of Understanding committing to using our Meetinghouse once it is renovated. These letters truly represent our town, from brand-new residents hoping to teach a class or a workshop at the Meetinghouse, to people who remember playing in the basement during Town Meeting 50 years ago. There are too many groups to list—from the ConCom to the Sportsman's Club, and from snowboarding class to yoga—but it was a massive, all-town effort. These letters and MOU's were an absolutely essential part of the application, because they demonstrate that our Meetinghouse is truly our town's only Community Center. Keep your fingers crossed, everyone!

It is a little challenging to find grants that match our project. Because the Meetinghouse is owned by the town, the project is not eligible for the many grants intended for nonprofits that own buildings. Because it is not a strict historic preservation project—the interior represents two centuries of random updates, ranging from Colonial to Victorian to 1970's—we are not eligible for historic preservation grants. Because the sanctuary space is no longer owned by a religious organization, we are not eligible for "sacred space" grants. However, we know there is funding out there, and we know we will find it! Our Meetinghouse is very special—it is the oldest Meetinghouse in New Hampshire used by both church and state—and we know that even way beyond New Hampshire, people care about saving pieces of American history like our Meetinghouse.

For this reason, the FGCM's goal for 2024 is to hire a professional grant writer to find grants that the town would not be eligible for, but that the FGCM, as a 501(c)3, would be eligible for. At the same time, we will continue to partner with the town and help with municipal grant applications any way we can. Please contact the FGCM if you would like to help in any way!

The FGCM is always looking for volunteers to help with events and fundraising.

Please email us at greenfieldmeetinghouse@gmail.com or check our our website, greenfieldmeetinghouse.org, for more information!

The Friends of the Community Meetinghouse Board is Sheldon Pennoyer, Kenny Finn, Kathy Seigars, Jesseca Timmons, Carele Mayer, Lenny Cornwell, Greg Austin.





THE

1st Annual

Greenfield SPELLING BEE



Saturday, May 4th, 2024

Doors open at 9:30 A.M. Bee will buzz from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

The Greenfield Meetinghouse

Registration fee is \$10

\$5 for each additional child for families

Open to children 7 - 14 years

Four Age Groups — 7 & 8 9 & 10 11 & 12 13 & 14

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places

Pre-register at the

Stephenson Memorial Library 761 Forest Rd, Greenfield, NH 03047

by April 20th

Sponsored by:

The Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse
Stephenson Memorial Library

Contact: GreenfieldNHSpellingBee@gmail.com



THE TRI-TOWN BOOK CLUB



The Tri-Town Book Group is well underway! Our first discussion took place on February 22nd at the George Bixby Library in Francestown.

Members were very enthusiastic about the book *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. We are looking forward to our discussion of *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann on

March 23rd at the Stephenson Memorial Library in Greenfield. Upcoming book titles include *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes on April 18th in Francestown, and *The Greater Journey* by David McCullough on May 18th in Greenfield.

Although the group is made up of people from Greenfield, Francestown, and Bennington, we also welcome members from other surrounding towns. Francestown gatherings meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays, and in Greenfield at 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

If you are interested in joining the Tri-Town Book Group, email the coordinator, Marcia de Steuben, at marciet53@gmail.com. We hope to see you there. Happy reading!



EVERY THURSDAY MORNING 10:00-11:30 A.M.

At The Greenfield Covenant Church Ministry Center 12 Depot Drive, (1st Right Off Slip Road)

This is a great opportunity to come together as neighbors and friends to enjoy conversation and fellowship with one another. Come have coffee, tea, hot chocolate and some delicious snacks.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

For more information, call Reverend Dan at 603-547-3626 www.greenfieldchurch.org pastor@greenfieldchurch.org

Reevaluation continued from page 1

If you have been looking into your home's market value be aware that the assessed value and the market value are not exactly the same thing. A real estate agent or an online valuation tool has a different set of criteria and incentives and they may not have all of the same information available. While they might be close, they will not be the same and such numbers cannot be used as justification for an adjustment or abatement.

The Department of Revenue will monitor the process to ensure equitable treatment of all Greenfield taxpayers. As part of this process DRA requires the town to be between 95% and 110% of market value and will randomly select properties for a detailed analysis to verify that the revaluation has been done properly and to the standards required.

Once the initial town-wide revaluation is complete a mailing with the preliminary values will go out and, if you spot any problems or have any questions, you can setup an appoint to talk with the assessor.

It is important to note that the percentage increase in your assessment is NOT the same as an expected change in your tax bill. If all of the town, school, and county budgets were unchanged from year to year and if all properties stayed proportionally the same then there would be no change in the ultimate tax amount for a property even if the valuation goes up. But the reality is that those budgets do change and individual properties do not all change at the same rate so there will be some change in the tax due.

In a somewhat simplified version of the rate setting process, once all of the properties in town are revalued, we then take the "amount to be raised by taxation" and divide it into the total value of the town. This then becomes the tax rate. Since values are going to go up quite a lot we expect that the **rate** will go down. That new rate multiplied by your new valuation is where the tax **amount** on your tax bill will come from. We do not yet know what those figures will be because all of the parameters that will be plugged into those formulas are changing quite dramatically.

The Selectboard expects that this process will be complete by October 1st so that we can set the tax rate for December's bills. We hope to have the new tax rate in early November.

The Greenfield Selectboard





Sundays at the Meeting House

Worship Service 10:00AM Potluck Fellowship After Service



www.greenfieldbiblechurch.org

~ SPONSOR ~ THE GREENFIELD SPIRIT

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

WIRED ELECTRIC

Edward Bergeron
Master Electrician

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Greenfield's

FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHES CLOSET

12 DEPOT DRIVE • OFF SLIP ROAD WATCH FOR SIGNS

OPEN HOURS

Food Pantry: Saturdays, 9 - 12 Noon Clothes Closet: Saturdays, 10 - 12 Noon

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

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

Greenfield Covenant Church • 12 Depot Drive

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

www.greenfieldchurch.org • 603-547-3626 Worship 10:00 AM on Sundays



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

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CVTC Volunteer Driver

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603-801-8002 Cell
Linda@lindagraynhrealtor.com E-mail



I have lived in Greenfield since 2005, and it has been a very welcoming experience. From meeting new people who are now very good friends and clients who also become friends, it truly has been an honor to live and work in this great town. My knowledge of the Real Estate Market stems from working in the Monadnock Region for over 40 years as an appraiser and 25 years as a real estate broker. Where else do you get mountains, back country roads, wildlife and nature while doing the best job you can. It is always a pleasure to help someone achieve their goals. Whether they are purchasing their first home, or selling and purchasing their second and third home, or business. I am happy to help anyone. Call, Text or email for help with your real estate needs.

PERFECTCHOICEPROPERTIESINC.COM



SPONSOR THE SPIRIT

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

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

Jun-Jul issue deadline: May 1, 2024



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

Postal Patron