

News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



April 14, 2023



CITY OF DOVER, NH

288 Central Avenue Dover, NH 03820 603-516-6000

City Hall hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



'Distinctly Dover' seeks feedback on draft Community Vision at drop-in events

On Tuesday, April 18, representatives from Distinctly Dover, the Master Plan's Vision Chapter update project, will hold drop-in events throughout Dover to showcase the draft community vision. At each location, background information on the project and the input from Dover residents that have shaped the project will be shared with attendees. Those attending will also be able to provide additional feedback on the current direction of the Vision Chapter update of the city's Master Plan.

Nearly 400 residents so far have provided input on their vision for the future of Dover, and this will be the first opportunity to see how that input is helping shape the updated Vision Chapter. Recycling Center hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The April 18 drop-in sessions will be held at the following locations:

- 9 to 10 a.m., **Dover Community Senior Center**
- 11 to 12 p.m., Dover City Hall, Customer Service Center
- 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Dover Public Library
- 2:30 to 4 p.m., Seymour Osman Community Center
- 5 to 6 p.m., City Hall, Council Chambers

For questions about Distinctly Dover or the drop-in events, please email Erin Bassegio at <u>e.bassegio@dover.nh.gov</u>.

For more information, please visit the Distinctly Dover <u>project</u> <u>webpage</u>.

Tax bills to be mailed soon

The City Clerk and Tax Collector's Office will mail tax bills to all property owners the week of April 24, with all tax bills arriving by Monday, May 1, 2023.

It's the second half of the annual tax bill, which is due Thursday, June 1, 2023. As calculated and certified by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration, the City of Dover's property tax rate for fiscal year 2023 (tax year 2022) is \$19.84 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

In addition to mail, property tax payments can be paid online by clicking the "Pay My Bill" button on the home page of the City's website at <u>www.dover.nh.gov</u>. Payment of property tax bills is only available for current year tax bills and is not available for properties with a prior year's tax lien. There are online payment transaction fees collected by the payment processing company.

For more information, contact the City Clerk and Tax Collector's Office at 603-516-6018. The City Clerk and Tax Collector's Office, located at City Hall at 288 Central Ave., is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Assistance available for past-due property taxes for financial hardship due to COVID-19

New Hampshire Homeowner Assistance Fund Program can provide up to \$40,000 per household for past-due property taxes due to financial hardship experienced because of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Assistance can also be used for mortgage reinstatement and/or utility payments; only past-due expenses are covered.

The program assists New Hampshire homeowners who have been affected in any way by an increase in expenses or a reduction in income due to COVID-19. It is federally funded through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the New Hampshire Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery. New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority administers the program.

To be eligible, homeowners must:

- Have experienced a COVID-related reduction in income or increase in household expenses after January 21, 2020;
- Own and occupy the property as their primary residence;
- Have incomes of less than 125% of the area median income. According to the NH Homeowner Assistance Fund online calculator, the gross annual income limit for a family of four in Dover is \$145,500.

For more information and to apply, visit https://homehelpnh.org/.



Mayor Robert Carrier unveiled at this week's City Council meeting the new commemorative Dover400 license plates now available for sale at the City Clerk's Office.

Commemorative Dover400 front license plates available for purchase

The City Clerk's Office has commemorative Dover400 license plates available for purchase for \$25. All proceeds will benefit the non-profit Dover400 Committee and help defray expenses related to celebrating the city's 400th anniversary.

Mayor Robert Carrier gave a glimpse of the plates during his Mayor's Report at the April 12 City Council meeting. "It really represents us well," said Carrier, who is a member of the Dover400 Committee. "They did a very nice job on them."

A valid vehicle registration is required for purchase. The commemorative plates may be used in place of their vehicle's front license plate through the end of 2023. Beginning in 2024, the regular front license plate must be returned to the vehicle.

"The Dover 400th Anniversary Committee is very excited about releasing license plates to commemorate the city's anniversary celebration," said Sam Allen, the committee's vice president. "We want to thank Sue Mistretta and Chris Parker for their support in making this happen. Supply is limited to 200 plates so people should get them soon. We can't wait to see the plates on cars all over the city and beyond."

For more information on upcoming Dover400 events, please visit https://www.dover400.org.

City Council honors Dover volunteers with proclamation

Mayor Robert Carrier, at the April 12 City Council, honored Dover citizens who serve the

community to make it a better place. He read a proclamation declaring next week as Volunteer Week in Dover, which coincides with National Volunteer Week. The proclamation reads:

WHEREAS: The City of Dover is fortunate to have a group of dedicated volunteers who generously give their time, energy, and talents to help make our community a better place; and

WHEREAS: National Volunteer Week, enacted in 1974 by President Richard Nixon, celebrates the spirit of volunteerism, urging all Americans to seek opportunities to provide service to their community; and

WHEREAS: The work of these volunteers is often behind the scenes, but their efforts contribute to the quality of life in Dover in countless ways, preserving our history and natural resources, enhancing our parks and public spaces, and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS: These volunteers serve on a variety of boards and committees, including but not limited to the Dover Business and Industrial Development Authority, Recreation Advisory Board, Planning Board, Arts Commission, Conservation Commission, and Library Board of Trustees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT CARRIER, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 16 THROUGH 22, 2023 AS:

VOLUNTEER WEEK

AND CALL UPON ALL CITIZENS TO JOIN ME IN EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CITY COMMITTEES FOR THEIR TIRELESS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY.

Road closures and traffic restrictions in place Saturday for Red's Race

Dover Police Chief William Breault announces the following road closures for the 40th annual Red's Shoe Barn Race for a Better Community on Saturday, April 15.

The third event of the 2023 Dover Race Series includes a 5-mile timed run and a 2.4-mile untimed walking course, held simultaneously. The event is organized by and benefits several local non-profit organizations that provide services in Strafford County. More information, including how to register, is available at <u>https://reds-race.com/</u>.

The event begins at 9 a.m. in front of Dover City Hall at 288 Central Ave. and concludes at Henry Law Park.

Road closures

The following roads will be closed to accommodate the event:

From 8:45 to 10:30 a.m.

- Henry Law Avenue, from Washington Street to Hanson Street
- Washington Street, from Main Street to River Street
- River Street

From 8:45 to 9:15 a.m.

• Both directions of Central Avenue, from Silver Street to Washington Street

From 9 to 10:30 a.m., motorists should anticipate brief closures or delays on:

- Court Street
- Middle Road

- Back Road
- Henry Law Avenue

Parking restrictions

Parking will be restricted from 6 to 11 a.m. on:

• Henry Law Avenue, from Washington Street to River Street

Event participants may parkin on other downtown streets, municipal lots, or the Orchard Street municipal parking. <u>Click here</u> for a map of municipal parking areas. Metered parking is in effect on Saturdays.

For questions about traffic, contact Dover Police Lt. Marn Speidel at 603-742-4646.

Storm debris cleanup continues

City public works crews continue to remove woody debris left from the January winter storm.

The work is expected to take several more weeks to finish, as weather conditions and work priorities allow. Crews are not accepting new work orders for debris pickup.

Residents are encouraged to bring woody debris to the Recycling Center for free disposal. It is open Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Community Services at 603-516-6450.

Upcoming Meetings:

Graffiti Management Committee , April 15, 10 a.m.

The Graffiti Management Committee will hold a special meeting on Saturday, April 15, 2023, beginning at 10 a.m., at the Dover Transportation Center, located at 33 Chestnut St.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

Dover Utilities Commission, April 17, 6 p.m.

The Dover Utilities Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, April 17, 2023, beginning at 6 p.m., at Community Services, 271 Mast Road.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

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On the Agenda: Zoning Board of Adjustment, 4/20/2023

In a video released this week, Zoning Administrator Natasha Kypfer reviews what's on the agenda at the next Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023. The video can be viewed by clicking the image above or at <u>https://dovernh.viebit.com/player.php?</u> <u>hash=bv4NrtWYPAzD</u>.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Want to keep up on other projects and planning and community development initiatives in the City of Dover? Subscribe to the Planning Department's newsletter, the Dover Planning Review. To sign up, visit <u>bit.ly/doverdownload</u> and select Dover Planning Review.

Energy Commission, April 19, 5:30 p.m.

The Energy Commission will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

Zoning Board, April 20, 7 p.m.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

For a complete list of upcoming meetings, visit <u>https://www.dover.nh.gov/go</u> <u>vernment/open-</u> <u>government/public-</u> <u>meetings/</u>.

Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

Don't forget: If you missed the live City Council, School Board or Planning Board meetings on Channels 22 and 95, you can catch them again, online and on demand.

Simply visit

www.dovernh.viebit.com to begin watching meetings on demand. Online meetings are organized by agenda item for convenience.

Dover Download podcast: Your guide to what's happening this week

In addition to each week's email edition of Dover Download, the City of Dover offers a weekly podcast. The podcast is hosted by Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker, who chats each week about the city's programs, services, public bodies and projects. Each episode also takes a brief detour to the past



with a look back at the week in Dover's history.

The podcast is available wherever you get your podcasts, including Spotify and Apple Podcasts, and at <u>https://anchor.fm/cityofdovernh</u>.



Do your part and 'scoop the poop'

Pet waste runoff can pollute waterways and harm public health. It's crucial to prevent it from entering our water systems and recreational areas. Besides water contamination, pet waste carries disease-causing organisms like Giardia and Salmonella, posing risks to people and pets alike.

Picking up after your pet is not only an environmentally responsible action, it's also the law.

Join the Every Drop Counts initiative by pledging to clean up after your dog at <u>stateofourestuaries.org/everydrop/petpledge</u>.

Visit the City of Dover's <u>pet waste page</u> for more information and tips.



The following events are from a variety of historical records, sources, and texts about the history of Dover.

For more on the history of Dover, visit the Dover Public Library, Locust Street, and the Woodman Museum on Central Avenue. The Public Library also maintains an online collection of historical information <u>located here</u>.

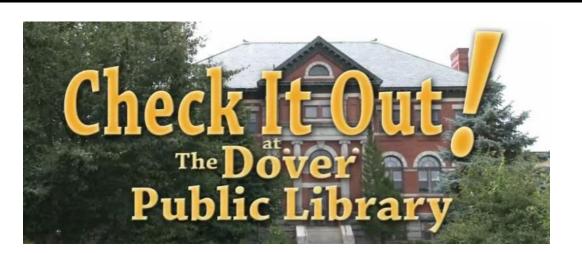
April 18, 1836 — Smallpox was prevalent in Dover this year, causing a number of deaths.

April 19, 1856 — The salaries of City officers were established as follows: Mayor, \$200; City Clerk, \$200 and fees; City Marshal, \$100; Assistant, \$50; Treasurer, \$50. The city's total valuation was \$3,562,978. The tax rate was set at 88 cents per \$100 valuation.

April 17, 1862 — The ice went out of the Cochecho last week and the Portsmouth Journal announced the first arrival of the season from upriver — "Lalla Rookh, Freeman, Dover. Now that navigation is reopened the two cities will be 50 or 100 miles nearer each other and doubtless better acquainted for a season." (Dover Enquirer)

April 18, 1865 — The City Council held a special meeting and passed a series of resolutions to honor the life and character of Abraham Lincoln. The City Council also appropriated funds for observing the funeral ceremonies on Wednesday, April, 19, conforming to the request of Acting Secretary of State Robert M. T. Hunter in Washington, and New Hampshire Gov. Joseph Gilmore. A resolution was also passed appointing a committee to invite an appropriate person to deliver a eulogy for the late President.

April 19, 1865 — Bells were tolled throughout the day for President Abraham Lincoln, who was assassinated on April 15, 1865. Guns were fired every 30 minutes from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Flags draped in mourning were displayed throughout the city. Services were held at the Unitarian, Congregational, Belknap, Episcopal and Calvin Baptist churches.



McManus to share 'Dover: Stories of Our Past' at the Public Library

For years, Anthony McManus served as a Trustee for the Woodman Museum. Despite all of his time being around the history of Dover, he never really had a chance to explore it until 2018. That was the year he was approached by a friend at Foster's Daily Democrat who asked if he would be interested in writing a column for the newspaper focused on the yesteryears of the city.

On Thursday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m., McManus will share some of these tales in "Dover: Stories of Our Past" at the Dover Public Library. The



event will take place in person, with an option to watch virtually from home. Those wishing to view online will need to sign up through the library's website to access a link to the program.

McManus's column, titled "Historically Speaking," continues to this day. In honor of the 400th anniversary of Dover, a collection of three years' worth of his articles was published as a book. The book, which has the same title as the presentation, will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

McManus's column chronicles the day-to-day life, events, and families that shaped the Dover community. Much of his research was done by exploring Pine Hill Cemetery and exploring the shelves of the Dover Public Library's Historical Room.

McManus is a native of Dover, attending St. Mary Academy and Dover High School. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and received a degree from Boston College law before becoming a public defender in Boston. In 1966, he returned to Dover, eventually opening up his own office. From 1967 to 1973, he served as Dover's City Attorney.

He has long been involved in the government and community life of Dover including as a member of the city's Planning Board, Parking Commission, and City Council, and serving on the board of Dover Main Street. Throughout the 1970s, he served in the NH House of Representatives. He continued to practice law until 2001 when he was named Executive Secretary of the NH Judicial Conduct Committee, a position he held until 2008.

This program is free and open to the public.

For more information or to sign up to watch online, visit the library's website at <u>library.dover.nh.gov</u> or call (603) 516-6050.

This Week at the Library

21st Annual Poetry Contest March 15 - April 19

Contest open to seacoast area residents ages 5 and up. Prizes will be awarded in seven different categories: Grades K-2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6, 7 & 8, 9 & 10, 11 & 12, and adults ages 18 & older. Poems judged on originality, style, and creativity. Deadline for entry is April 19th. Information about the contest available at the Dover Public Library or <u>online</u>.

April VIRTUAL Cookbook Club

Join us for a virtual exploration of *Saladish* by llene Rosen. Throughout the month of April, send in pictures of your dishes created with recipes from the book and a small description of your cooking process, how you felt about the recipe, and/or your thoughts on the book. Copies of the book will be available to check out at the main circulation desk. We will share your Tuesday, April 18, 6 to 8 p.m. Dungeons & Dragons: Adult Group Drop in and play Dungeons & Dragons with Game Master Dave. This 18 & older group is for new and veteran role-playing gamers to join us in the library for adventure, imagination, and strategy. The group will meet every Tuesday night, though you do not need to have attended previous sessions to enjoy your first game. No experience or materials are required, and all skill levels are welcome to play.

Wednesday, April 19, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Adult Knitting Group

Knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us with their projects for an in-person crafting circle. All levels welcome.

Wednesday, April 19, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Library Pop-Up Event at Flight Coffee Community members are invited to stop by creations on our social media pages. Photos can be sent to Emily at <u>e.ainaire@dover.nh.gov</u>, or tag us on Instagram @doverpubliclibrary.

Monday, April 17, 3 to 4 p.m. Monday Afternoon Book Group

Join in-person or virtually to discuss *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro. Copies of the book are available for borrowing at the library. *Register if you would like to attend remotely.*

Monday, April 17, 6 to 8 p.m. Dungeons & Dragons: Adults

Drop in and play Dungeons & Dragons with Game Master Brandon. This 18 & older group is for new and veteran role-playing gamers to join us in the library for adventure, imagination, and strategy. The group will meet every other Monday night, though you do not need to have attended previous sessions to enjoy your first game. No experience or materials are required and all skill levels are welcome to play.

Monday, April 17, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday Evening Book Group

Join in-person or virtually to discuss *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro. Copies of the book are available for borrowing at the library. *Register if you would like to attend remotely.*

Tuesday, April 18, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Series of the Month Book Club 2nd and 3rd Graders

Are you a fan of the Good Dog series by Cam Higgins? If you are in 2nd or 3rd grade and have read one or more books in the Good Dog series come meet with other fans to talk about these popular books. You will also make a craft related to the series. *Registration required.* Flight Coffee, located at 478 Central Ave., and record themselves reading a favorite poem out loud for our social media accounts in honor of Dover Public Library's 21st Annual Poetry Contest and National Poetry Month.

Wednesday, April 19, 10:30 to 11:45 am Caregiver Café

Dover area family caregivers are invited to join Cornerstone VNA for a morning of support, education and conversation.

Wednesday, April 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All Abilities Club: Wednesday Morning Movie

Come for a showing of A Street Cat Named Bob. Based on the international best-selling book, A Street Cat Named Bob is a moving and uplifting feel-good true story.

Wednesday, April 19, 6 to 8 p.m. Family Game Night

Join the library on the third Wednesday of every month to play a fun selection of card and board games, and meet other board game enthusiasts in the community! All ages welcome!

Saturday, April 22, 10 to 11 a.m. Music, Art and Mindfulness

Slow down and tune into the messages of the body and the authentic self. Come for an hour of guided meditation, imagery, and music led by the expressive therapists of The Wild Expanse Retreat. *Limited to adults. Registration required.*

Saturday, April 22, 2 to 3 p.m. STEM Saturday: Dover Shockwave Robotics

The Dover Shockwave Robotics Team will be in the Lecture Hall to introduce us to two of their robots. They will tell us about their team and the process that was used to design and build the robot. They will also demonstrate how the robot works!





The mother-and-daughter team behind Hello Sunshine Cookie was able to raise \$500 for SEED through their local cookie business.

More sponsors on board for SEED fundraiser

Seacoast Endowment for Education in Dover ("SEED"), a nonprofit organization dedicated to lifting academic excellence in Dover schools, is pleased to announce several new sponsors for its online auction and spring social to be held today, Friday, April 14, 2023, at the Cochecho Country Club in Dover.

Wysteria Design, Bellamy Watson, John Flynn Insurance, The Law Offices of Burns, Bryant, Cox, Rockefeller, and Durkin, Air Vacuum, and Hello Sunshine Cookie Co have joined other locals businesses to underwrite the academic fundraiser.

Hello Sunshine Cookie founder Stacey Angers and her daughter Molly, a 12-year-old at Dover Middle School, started off making sugar cookies as a fun way to spend time together. The endeavor gained momentum and they started selling goods locally. The pair decided to prepare Easter cookie packages and sell them to raise money for SEED. They set a goal of \$500 and achieved it.

"I expected maybe \$50-\$100 dollars, but once I shared that we were donating the money to SEED, we got a ton of orders," said Angers "It was so awesome for my daughter to experience this and how good it feels to work hard and give back to the community."

Fellow sponsors include Jewelry Creations, Great Island Realty, Cinco de Mayo, RW Health & Employee Benefits, Scrubbed Clean, and Luminate Home Loans.

The online auction has hundreds of quality items including local gift cards, a paddle board, a boat cruise, local art, electronics, sports memorabilia, and plenty of experiences.

All bidding will close today, Friday, April 14, promptly at 9 p.m. Tickets for the social are \$75 per person and can be <u>purchased here</u>.

Since its inception, SEED has contributed more than \$300,000 to Dover public school teachers

and administrators.

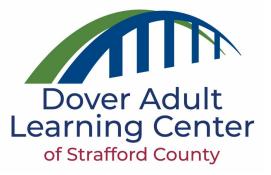
To participate in the auction, please visit SEED Auction Website. To learn more about available sponsorships, please visit <u>www.DoverSEED.org</u>.

Coming up at Dover Adult Learning Center

The Enrichment program is winding down at Dover Adult Learning Center, but there are still some great classes on offer.

Learn the ins and outs of Medicare in DALC's Medicare Basics workshop on May 3, from 6 to 7 p.m. Register at <u>https://tinyurl.com/39e4mrkh</u>.

Want to learn to play the ukulele (or brush up on your skills)? Join DALC's four-week class, starting on May 2, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., here: <u>https://tinyurl.com/yjmfh5d6</u>.



Enjoy the spring weather with two great offerings. Join DALC's Nordic Walking class beginning May 4 at <u>https://tinyurl.com/kpxxj6nx</u> or get out and paint landscapes with our Outdoor Painting for Beginners class starting May at <u>https://tinyurl.com/44mzd7ap</u>.

Volunteer boards help keep Dover vibrant

The City of Dover is a vibrant community due in large part to the significant energy and talent of citizen participation on the city's many boards, committees, and commissions. Input from these boards, committees, and commissions helps guide Dover's policy decisions.

Want to get involved? There are currently committees seeking members to fill regular and alternate member vacancies, including the:

- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Energy Commission
- Pool Advisory Committee
- Committee for Racial Equity and Inclusion
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Utilities Commission

The complete list of boards and committees can be found at www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/

To apply, complete an application, <u>available here</u> and at the City Clerk's Office, and either drop it off at the Clerk's Office or email it to City Clerk Susan Mistretta at <u>s.mistretta@dover.nh.gov</u>. Applicants are welcome to apply to any board or commission. Applications are kept on file for one year.

The City Council appoints citizens to boards and commissions from recommendations of its Appointments Committee, which meets regularly to review applications.

City of Dover employment opportunities

Want to work for the City of Dover? The City's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and a downloadable application for employment. The City of Dover is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- Public Safety Dispatcher
- Police Officer
- Lifeguard
- Swim Instructor I
- City Planner
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic/Automotive Technician
- Utility Systems IT Administrator
- Summer Camp Supervisor
- Summer Camp Counselor
- Police Systems IT Technician
- Truck Driver -- Streets
- Working Foreman -- Water and Sewer Pump Stations
- Heavy Equipment Operator -- Utilities
- Laborer -- Public Works, Streets, and Stormwater
- Laborer I

For more information about these positions or employment opportunities with the City of Dover, <u>click here</u>.

Dover School District employment opportunities

Want to work for the Dover School District? The District's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and online applications. The District is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- Dean of Students
- English Teacher
- Physical Education/Wellness Teacher
- Science Teacher
- School Psychologist
- DALC Adult High School Math Teacher
- Child Care Coordinator-Dover Adult Learning Center (DALC)
- DALC Teacher-Spanish Literacy and HiSET Prep in corrections facility
- Special Education Paraprofessionals
- Noon Aide/Recess Moniter
- Sub-Varsity High School Boys Soccer Coach

For more information about these positions, click here.

CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE | www.dover.nh.gov

