

DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



December 16, 2022



**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.

**Recycling
Center hours:**

**Tuesday,
Thursday,**



Chestnut Street bridge work begins next month

**Bridge to close through May; sign up for
project updates**

The City Council this week awarded a \$2.1 million bid for the rehabilitation of the Chestnut Street bridge to New England Infrastructures, LLC.

The project consists of removing the pavement, membrane and sidewalks on the bridge, repairing deteriorated concrete in the bridge deck, cold-planing of the pavement, reconstructing the bridge sidewalks, and installing new bridge membrane, new bridge pavement and new wearing-course pavement.

Saturday:
8:30 a.m. to 3:30
p.m.

Work on the project is expected to begin next month, and the contractor is authorized to close the bridge to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic through May to complete the work. The Transportation Advisory Commission reviewed and approved the closure plan at its May 23, 2022, meeting.

More details of the project schedule will be posted next week after a preconstruction meeting with the contractor.

Sign-up for email alerts

The project will significantly affect traffic, and the City of Dover will release regular updates about the project and related traffic impacts. To sign-up for these updates, visit <https://bit.ly/dovernewsletters> and add "Project update: Chestnut Street bridge repairs" to your current email subscription list.

Project documents and updates will be posted to the dedicated project page available at <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/community-services/current-projects/chestnut-street-bridge-repairs/>. For more information, contact Community Services at 603-516-6450.

School Board continues budget deliberations on Monday

The School Board will meet for a budget workshop this Monday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. in School Board Chambers, Room 306 of the McConnell Center.

At the workshop, the School Board will review its fiscal year 2024 budget and may make its final decisions on its FY2024 budget priorities.

Business Administrator Michael Limanni provided the School Board with updated budget documents at the board's Dec. 12 meeting. That and other budget documents provided to the board are posted on the [FY 2024 Budget Revealed webpage](#).

School Board agendas for this and previous meetings and workshops are [posted here](#).

The School Board will next meet on Monday, Jan. 9, for a regular meeting where the board may adopt the FY2024 budget, with a fallback adoption date the following week.



City Council proclamation recognizes first women's strike in United States

The City Council this week issued a proclamation to recognize the first all-female strike in America, which took place in Dover in December 1828.

The women workers organized the strike in response to new rules for mill employees, which included docking employee pay for being late by even one minute, blacklisting to prevent fired women from finding employment in any New England factory, and forbidding any talking between employees while at work. After more than 600 "mill girls" met the weekend before the strike to discuss their demands, they walked out of work on Dec. 30, 1828. However, in spite of the protest, the Dover mill girls ended the "turn out" when the mill owners began advertising for replacement workers. Striking workers returned to work January 1, 1829 at reduced wages. Although the strike proved unsuccessful for the women, their efforts and initiative became the first in a movement that would build momentum rapidly and eventually benefit women workers everywhere.

Mayor Robert Carrier presented the proclamation to City Councilor At-Large Linnea Nemeth, who accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee.

The proclamation, which can also be found on the [city's website](#), reads as follows:

WHEREAS: On December 26, 1828, about half of the 800 "Mill Girls" – women employed at the Cocheco Manufacturing Company engaged in a "Turn-Out," walking out of the factory to protest their harsh working conditions and poor treatment by mill ownership; and

WHEREAS: Taking place right here in Dover, this protest marked the first strike by working women in the United States. The Mill Girls paraded around the mill quadrangle, with a demonstration that included banners, signs, martial music, artillery, and speeches; and

WHEREAS: The general response within the community was not very sympathetic. The Dover Enquirer called the turn-out "one of the most disgusting scenes ever witnessed" and claimed

that the girls walked out over "some imaginary grievance."; and

WHEREAS: Although the job action was unsuccessful and the girls returned to work three days later, no better off than before, the spirit of the protest spread through the local boarding houses and helped to inspire future actions. A subsequent turn-out in 1834 led to the resignation of Cocheco Manufacturing's factory agent, James Curtis, who was known as a harsh taskmaster with little consideration for the women in his employ; and

WHEREAS: In general, mill work was harsh and unforgiving. The hours were long and conditions were hazardous. Head and eye injuries from flying shuttles were frequent. Light was insufficient and the machinery noise was deafening. Mill windows were kept closed to promote humidity, stuffy lint-filled air heightened the likelihood of respiratory diseases and lung infections and

WHEREAS: Despite these conditions, factory work was considered a very respectable job, the first profession in which a woman could achieve some degree of financial independence. Mill work had a great degree of sociability with new friends, an opportunity for further education, an honorable way to earn a dowry, and a dignified way to be self-supporting. These advantages helped women move forward in society through their own hard work and dedication; and


WHEREAS: As a heroic first step in this journey, the actions of the Mill Girls helped inspire their peers as well as future generations of working women. Their actions are remembered, recognized and celebrated as an important part of the history of both Dover and the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT CARRIER, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE, DO HEREBY RECOGNIZE DECEMBER 26, 2022 AS:

DOVER MILL GIRLS RECOGNITION DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dover to be affixed this 14th Day of December, 2022.


For more information about the strike, visit the Dover Public Library's history section here:
<https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/library/research-learn/history/strike-of-the-mill-girls/>



Be fire smart


with electricity in your home.

Did you know?


45, 


There are approximately **45,000** home electrical fires each year.

Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance directly into a wall outlet at a time.




Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.






U.S. Fire Administration



Fire is Everyone's Right



NFPA

Put a freeze on winter fires

Dover Fire and Rescue reminds residents to be mindful of fire

dangers this holiday season

Heating, holiday decorations, winter storms and candles contribute to an increased fire risk during the winter months. It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase the risks of home fires. Dover Fire and Rescue Chief Michael McShane reminds residents that as you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

- Half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles;
- Candles start more than one-third of home decoration fires;
- Christmas is the peak day for candle fires;
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns;
- A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast – make sure yours is well watered;
- More than one in every five Christmas tree fires was caused by a heat source too close to the tree;
- Read the manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect;
- Ensure your tree is at least three feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits;
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.

In addition to holiday decorations, cooking is often the leading cause of home fires and the second leading cause of home fire deaths annually. In 2019, Thanksgiving was the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

"Many simple measures can be taken to significantly decrease the risk of fire hazards and enhance your safety while enjoying this holiday season," McShane said. "The key is being aware and mindful of the lurking dangers."

For more information, visit the National Fire Protection Association website <https://nfpa.org>, or contact Dover Fire and Rescue at 603-516-6148.



Don't Trash Dover to hold next Litter Collection Walk on Saturday at the Dover Arena

Join Don't Trash Dover on Saturday, Dec. 17, for a one-hour Litter Collection Walk, beginning

at 9:30 a.m. Participants will meet at the main entrance of the Dover Arena, 160 Portland Ave. The group departs at 9:30 a.m. sharp and returns to same location at 10:30 a.m. sharp with litter collected for a group photo.

The Litter Collection Walk is open to all and is a great way to get some exercise and meet new people, while helping out the community.

Don't Trash Dover provides the bags and has litter grabbers and safety vests available to loan, if needed. Those with their own litter grabbers are encouraged to bring them. Gloves are recommended.

For more information, including a decision to postpone the event due to the weather, visit <https://fb.me/e/1ORuUQE2j>.

Tax bills mailed this week

The City Clerk's Office has mailed property tax bills this week. The first half of the tax bill will be due Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023, and the second half will be due Thursday, June 1, 2023.

The mailing of the tax bills comes about a week after the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) certified the City of Dover's property tax rate for fiscal year 2023 (tax year 2022) at \$19.84 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The average residential property is now assessed at \$418,706 (\$368,141 last year), which includes all single-family, multi-family units, condos and manufactured housing, with a tax bill increase of \$318 or 4.0%. The average single-family residential property assessed at \$471,406 (\$413,518 last year) has a total tax bill of \$9,353, an increase of \$379 or 4.2%.

There are four components of the tax rate: the city portion, local education portion, state education, and Strafford County. The tax rate of \$19.84 is broken down as follows:

- **City:** \$7.22, a decrease of 80 cents over the previous year;
- **Local education:** \$9.66, a decrease of 27 cents over the previous year;
- **County:** \$1.94, a decrease of 19 cents over the previous year;
- **State education:** \$1.02, a decrease of 60 cents.

For more information, contact the Finance Department at 603-516-6030.

Upcoming Meetings:

Conservation Commission, December 19, 5:30 p.m.

The Conservation Commission Forest Management Subcommittee will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Dec. 19, 2022, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Utilities Commission, December 19, 6 p.m.

Upcoming Christmas holiday hours for City facilities, services

City administrative offices, including **City Hall**, will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, for the Christmas holiday. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Dec. 27.

The **Public Library** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24; Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25; and Monday, Dec. 26.

The **Dover Ice Arena** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Dec. 25.

The **McConnell Center Recreation facilities** will close at 12 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24, and will be closed on Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25.

The **Dover Community Senior Center** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24; Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25; and Monday, Dec. 26.

The Utilities Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Dec. 19, 2022, beginning at 6 p.m., at 271 Mast Road, Dover.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

School Board, December 19, 6 p.m.

The School Board will hold a workshop on Monday, Dec. 19, 2022, beginning at 6 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Planning Board Technical Review Committee, Dec. 22, 10:30 a.m.

The Planning Technical Review Committee will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 22, 2022, beginning at 10:30 a.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

For a complete list of upcoming meetings, visit <https://www.dovernh.gov/government/open-government/public-meetings/>.

The **Dover Indoor Pool** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25.

The **Recycling Center** on Mast Road will close at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 24.

Because Christmas falls on a Sunday, there is no delay for curbside trash and recycling pickup.



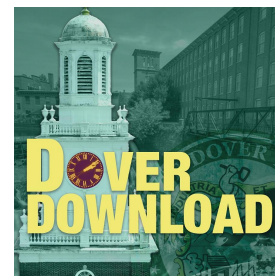
Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

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 <https://anchor.fm/cityofdovernh>.



Salted sand available to residents

The city provides free salted sand to residents of Dover. The salted sand is located at the intersection of Piscataqua and Drew roads.

Residents must bring their own supplies, such as buckets, bags and shovels.

Please note that when temperatures are below freezing, the pile can harden and be more difficult to work with.

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



Warming Center open overnight tonight

The Warming Center of Strafford County at 30 Willand Drive in Somersworth will activate at 5 p.m. tonight, Friday, Dec. 16 and remain open until 9 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 17. To receive text alerts when the Warming Center is activated, text "Willand" to 855-970-3280.

Access Willand Drive via Route 108 (New Rochester Road) or Commercial Drive from High Street in Somersworth. The two nearest COAST bus stops are High Street: Holy Trinity Church/Bernier Street (Route 1) and Midway Buick/Coastal Neurology (Route 12). Tickets/bus passes required. Free bus tickets are available at SOS Recovery Organization's 4 Broadway, Dover and 14 Signal St., Rochester locations. Since COAST Bus does not provide service on Sundays, SOS will run a transportation shuttle Sunday from 5 to 8 p.m. from the Dover Transportation Center and the bus stop in front of the Rochester Library to the Warming Center beginning at 5 p.m. Sunday. People who need help getting to the Warming Center can always call 603-742-2709 between 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. for assistance when the center is activated.

Contact the Warming Center at 603-742-2709, 603-969-1305 or via direct message to the Warming Center of Strafford County Facebook page www.facebook.com/warmingcenterofsc. The Facebook page also includes ways for the community to assist, including items needed to operate the warming center and volunteer opportunities.

Want to learn more about the warming center? The warming center is the topic of this week's Dover Download podcast, where Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker discusses the Willand Warming Center with Tory Jennison, Strafford County's Population Health Systems Chief; and John Burns, the director of SOS Recovery Community Organization. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <https://bit.ly/3BvZWk1>.



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 [located here](#).

Dec. 17, 1803 — Notice is given of the organization of the Strafford Bank, the first bank established in Dover. Subscribers to the stock were notified by William King Atkinson, bank president, that \$100 on each share would become due on the fourth Tuesday of January, and that "one fourth part at least, and as much more as may be convenient, will be expected in gold and silver, and the residue in bills of the banks of Massachusetts."

Dec. 16, 1835 — The coldest day on record for many years was recorded this day. The thermometer at noon was 13 degrees below zero.

Dec. 17, 1914 — Dover Fire Lt. Patrick Bradley was injured while fighting a fire at a First Street lodging house and dry goods store owned by Joseph Nossiff. Firefighters lost sight of Bradley when he entered the building, which was engulfed in thick, black smoke. Bradley was eventually located and found to have a deep cut on the head. He was taken to a local physician to be treated. The blaze was determined to have been caused by an overheated stove in the basement. The damage was estimated at \$800 and covered by insurance.

Dec. 18, 1996 — The City of Dover prepares to move the fourth of eight homes on Sixth Street to Wilbrod Avenue, part of a plan to provide low- to moderate-income housing for first-time home buyers. The homes were part of the city-owned Alder Meadows subdivision. The houses

were given to the city by Liberty Mutual, which was then developing the land where the homes stood. At the time, first-time Dover home-buyers were able to buy a home in the subdivision for \$45,000 to \$55,000. Funding for the project was made available through the city's Community Development Block Grant program, with additional funding from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority.

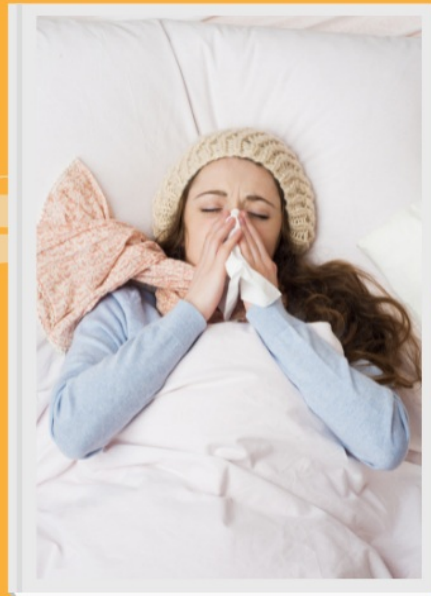
Dec. 17, 2001 — Construction of the Alternative School building on Alumni Drive was completed this day, two weeks earlier than anticipated. The school would open its doors to students in January 2002. The budget for the school was \$1 million.



GET WELL SOON!

REMEMBER DURING THIS COLD AND FLU SEASON:

- **GET PLENTY OF REST**
- **DRINK LOTS OF WATER**
- **REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT**
- **AND STAY HOME IF YOU
DON'T FEEL WELL.**



Dover Board of Health



Santa's Castle opens today

Dover Youth to Youth will host its 15th annual Santa's Castle at the McConnell Center in downtown Dover for three days during the Christmas season. Each night children and their families will be able to tour several rooms in Santa's Castle and meet Santa and many of his elves.

During the first weekend, the event will be held on Friday, Dec. 16 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 17 between the hours of 2 and 6:30 p.m. The Castle will conclude on Friday, Dec. 23, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

During the tour, students from Youth to Youth, acting as elves will guide visitors through Rudolph's stable, Santa's toy room, Mrs. Claus's Kitchen and other parts of the Castle. The tour culminates with a visit with Santa. Along the tour, children will be entertained by the elves and will collect small gifts in each room. Families are welcome to bring a camera and take pictures or video during the tour and with Santa.

Pre-registration is required. Groups making a reservation must be no larger than six people and include family members only. To insure the safety of all guests and performers, the tour will be spaced out more than in the past.

To make a reservation, visit <http://dovery2y.org/newsevents/santas-castle/>.

Santa's Castle is designed for children ages 9 and under, but the whole family is invited. The cost is a flat fee of \$25 per reservation.

Entrance to Santa's Castle will be from the Saint Thomas Street side of the McConnell Center (Door #7). Parking is available in the parking lot located behind the Dover Public Library and on the street by the Dover District Court.

For additional information, go to the Dover Santa's Castle Facebook page, Youth to Youth's web site at www.DoverY2Y.org or call the Dover Police Department's Community Outreach Bureau at 603-516-1501.

Proceeds support the drug and alcohol prevention activities of Dover Youth to Youth. Dover Youth to Youth is an organization made up of middle and high school students who meet after school to conduct activities and events that promote a drug-free life style. Youth to Youth is coordinated by the Dover Police Department with support from the Wentworth-Douglass



The Week at the Library

Monday, December 19, 3 to 4 p.m.

Monday Afternoon Book Group

Join us in-person or virtually to discuss *Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George. Copies of the book are available for borrowing at the library. Please register if you would like to attend remotely.

Monday, December 19, 6 to 8 p.m.

Teen Movie Night: Nightmare Before Christmas

Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a showing of Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (rated PG)! Themed snacks and drinks will be provided.

Monday, December 19, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Monday Evening Book Group

Join us in-person or virtually to discuss *Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George. Copies of the book are available for borrowing at the library. Please register if you would like to attend remotely.

Tuesday, December 20, 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, Dec. 21, 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, Dec. 21, 10:30 to 11:45 a.m.

Caregiver Café

Join Cornerstone VNA as they introduce their newest monthly Caregiver Café to support Dover area family caregivers. Come for a morning of support, education and conversation.

Wednesday, December 21, 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!

Thursday, December 22, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cocheco River Writers

Join a community of local writers on the fourth Thursday of every month. Discuss ideas, get tips, and share your work with others in a low-key, inviting atmosphere. Whether you want to write creatively for fun or for publication, this group is a great way to hone your craft!

**Saturday through Monday,
December 24-26
Library closed for Holiday**



BE INFORMED

**Sign up for
parking ban
alerts today**

Text DoverNH to 99411 to receive parking ban alerts

Sign up for text alerts at bit.ly/dovercodered

Sign up for e-mail alerts at bit.ly/doverdownload

Current ban status: bit.ly/doverban or 516-PARK



CodeRED™

DOVER TURNS 400 IN 2023

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
KICK OFF THE YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION AT THE

FIRST OF THE 4th GALA EVENT

DECEMBER 31, 2022

6:30PM - MIDNIGHT

9:00PM FIREWORKS

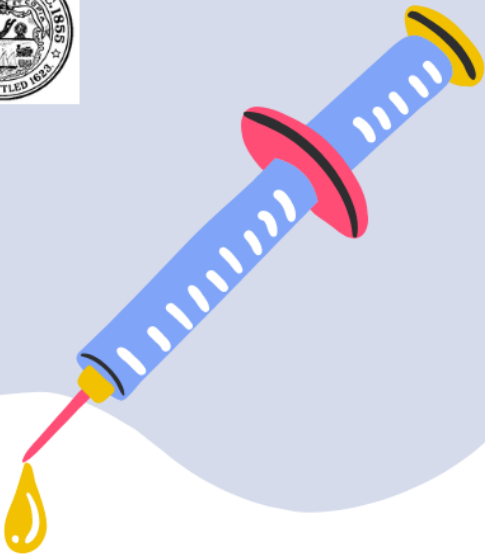
CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT

HORS D'OEUVRES BY MEZZANINE CATERING

DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY TO
THE BLACK AGNES BAND

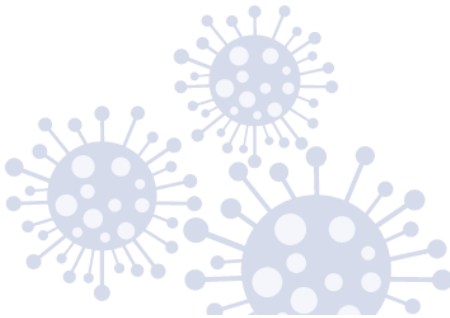
[CLICK HERE TO ORDER TICKETS.](#)

BLACK TIE OPTIONAL.



GET YOUR BOOSTER

FIND OUT WHERE YOU
CAN GET YOUR BOOSTER
SHOT NEAR YOUR AREA:



DOVER BOARD OF HEALTH

Ring in the New Year with the Children's Museum of New Hampshire

Join the Children's Museum of New Hampshire on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. for a family friendly New Year's Eve Celebration and ring in the New Year before bedtime.

Enjoy "countdowns to midnight" at 10:30 a.m. during the morning play session (9 a.m. to noon), or at 2 p.m. during the afternoon play session (12:30 to 3:30 p.m.). The museum will lower a glittery disco ball, confetti will fly through the air, and wish blimps made by visitors will gently fall to the ground — it's always a festive and fun environment that is reminiscent of Times Square.

Visitors can make sparkly recycled paper hats throughout the event and enjoy a fun New Year photo booth. All activities are included in regular museum admission and free for members.

The Museum closes early at 3:30pm on Dec. 31 and will be closed on New Year's Day. The event is sponsored by the UNIQUE College Investing Plan and Kennebunk Savings Bank. Reservations and pre-payment are required.

Visit www.childrens-museum.org for more info.

Celebrate with us!

Family New Year's Eve Party:

Saturday 12/31,

9-12pm OR 12:30-3:30pm



View festive ball drops during countdowns to "midnight," make sparkly recycled paper hats and more!

★ The ★
UNIQUE
College Investing PlanSM
brought to you by the State of New Hampshire

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:

- Special Education Teacher – Dover High School
- Special Education Paraeducators – Dover High School
- STEM Teacher – Dover Middle School
- Special Education Paraeducators - Dover Middle School
- Special Education Teachers – Dover Middle School
- Lunch Supervisors- Dover Middle School
- Special Education Teacher – Garrison Elementary School
- Special Education Paraeducator – Garrison Elementary School
- Special Education Paraeducator – Frances G. Hopkins Elementary School
- STEM teacher – Dover Middle School
- Custodian
- Nurse-RN (floating position)

For more information about these positions, [click here](#).

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:

- **Police Officer**
- **Public Safety Dispatcher**
- **Firefighter / EMT**
- **Maintenance Mechanic - Utilities**
- **Heavy Equipment Mechanic / Automotive Technician**
- **Lifeguard**
- **Swim Instructor I**
- **City Planner**
- **Arena Attendant**
- **Utility Systems IT Administrator**
- **Public Safety Systems IT Administrator**
- **Community Housing Navigator**

For more information about these positions or employment opportunities with the City of Dover, [click here](#).

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

