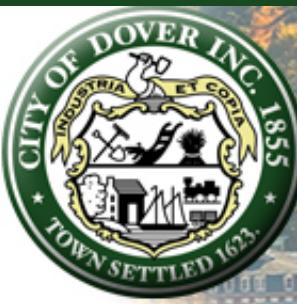


# DOVER DOWNLOAD



## News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



January 9, 2026



### 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,  
Saturday:

## School Board budget vote slated for Monday

The School Board plans to adopt the School Department budget at its [regular meeting](#) on Monday, Jan. 12. Before the meeting, the School Board [will hold its](#) sixth budget workshop.

The School Board met on Tuesday for its fifth budget workshop, the first for the newly seated School Board members who were sworn in on Monday.

Video recordings of all School Board budget meetings and workshops are posted to the [FY2027 Budget Revealed](#) online resource, along with presented budget documents.

Superintendent Christine Boston and Chief Financial Officer Michael Limanni have reviewed the major revenue and expenditure changes with the School Board, including increases to wages and benefits, special education transportation and debt service costs, and decreases in building aid and the statewide education tax.

The proposed FY2027 budget would raise \$69,825,409 from property taxes, a \$6.4 million increase, and about \$3.5 million above the estimated tax cap. Through the workshops, Superintendent Boston discussed budget scenarios, including a tax-capped budget and one that is \$1.7 million above the tax cap. Boston said a tax-capped budget would require the loss of 20 full-time teaching positions and administrative reductions. If the budget were \$1.7 million

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

Sunday (through Dec. 7):  
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

above the tax cap, it would require a reduction of 8 full-time teachers and administrative reductions, Boston said.

The [workshop](#) and [meeting](#) will be held in City Hall's Council Chambers. The workshop begins at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. They will be televised on DoverTV and [online](#).



## Central Avenue water main replacement before Council Wednesday

### City Council to hold special meeting on 2026-2027 Council Rules

The City Council will consider awarding a \$7,375,450 bid for the upgrade of a critical water main along Central Avenue at its first regular meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 14.

The new water main would replace the current 1888-vintage main from the Garrison Hill storage tank to Central Avenue via Abbey Sawyer Memorial Drive, and then continue south on Central Avenue to Broadway. The project cost would be offset by \$4.3 million in grants. The Council will also consider an accompanying resolution to authorize construction oversight for \$434,900.

Also on the agenda is a resolution that would authorize up to \$60,000 to match donations for the 9/11 Memorial planned for the Cochecho Courtyards downtown. This topic [was discussed](#) at the City Council's Jan. 7 workshop.

The Council will also consider:

- Awarding a bid to repair and refurbish the city's athletic courts for \$586,800;
- Accepting and expending a preservation grant for the Lowell Avenue historic Waterworks building, and an exotic aquatic plant control grant;
- Approving a license agreement for Airey Row on Central LLC to use parking spaces in the municipal garage;
- Authorizing the purchase of computer equipment through a state contract; and
- Authorizing the disposal of surplus property in exchange for EMS training.

Find the [complete agenda online](#).

Before the regular meeting, the City Council will hold a [special meeting](#) to adopt its Council Rules for the 2026-2027 term.

The special meeting begins at 6 p.m., with the regular meeting starting at 7 p.m. Both will be televised on DoverTV and [online](#).



## **City Council, School Board take oath of office at inaugural ceremony**

Newly elected members of the Dover City Council and School Board were sworn into office this week during an inauguration ceremony at City Hall, formally beginning their 2026–27 terms.

During an organizational meeting prior to the Jan. 5 ceremony, the City Council selected At-Large Councilor Lindsey Williams to serve as deputy mayor. The council also made committee appointments, adopted procedural rules for the new term and took the oath of office.

The School Board met earlier in the evening and voted to elect Robin Trefethen as chair. The board also selected officers and voted on School Board bylaws.

The public inauguration ceremony, held in the City Hall auditorium, was led by master of ceremonies Don Briand and included the swearing-in of elected officials. The ceremony can be viewed here: <https://dovernh.viebit.com/watch?hash=NdZQJCExmX93kY7p>

Those sworn in to serve on the City Council are Mayor Dennis Shanahan; at-large councilors Lindsey Williams and Bret Carmichael; and ward councilors S. April Richer (Ward 1), Lucas Veitch (Ward 2), Anthony “Tony” Retrosi (Ward 3), Timothy Granfield (Ward 4), Richard L. Robison Jr. (Ward 5), and Fergus Cullen (Ward 6).

School Board members sworn in are at-large member Robin Trefethen and ward representatives Maggie Fogarty (Ward 1), Elizabeth Goldman (Ward 2), Seana Hallberg (Ward 3), Micaela Demeter (Ward 4), Craig Flynn (Ward 5), and Michelle Clancy (Ward 6).

The ceremony marked the official start of the new governing term for both boards.

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## **Cook for the Books fundraiser to support Dover Public Library**

Does Chef Evan Hennessey have what it takes to turn mystery ingredients into an extraordinary three-course meal?

Find out Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m. during Cook for the Books, a fundraiser sponsored by the Friends of the Dover Public Library to support the library's ongoing renovation.

During the live cooking event, three-time Chopped champion Chef Evan Hennessey will prepare original dishes at his restaurant, Stages, using ingredients selected by public vote.

A watch party will take place from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at Chapel + Main, 83 Main St., Dover, with the live stream beginning at 6:30 p.m. The event will include appetizers, a light buffet, one cocktail or mocktail, raffles and a silent auction. A meet-and-greet with Hennessey will follow the cooking challenge at approximately 8:30 p.m.

[Watch party tickets](#) are \$75 and may be purchased by cash or check at the Dover Public Library's temporary location at the McConnell Center or online at [galabid.com/cook-for-the-books](http://galabid.com/cook-for-the-books). Event sponsors and donors include Kennebunk Bank, Chinburg Properties, The Truette and Brady-Sullivan Properties.

All proceeds will go toward furnishing the newly renovated library spaces. Donations are also welcome and may be made through the Friends of the Dover Library's GoFundMe page at [friendsofthedoverlibrary.org](http://friendsofthedoverlibrary.org).

Hennessey, a Dover native, first competed on the television series Chopped in 2018. He opened Stages in 2012, serving progressive New England cuisine made with locally and regionally sourced ingredients. His honors include being named a James Beard Award semifinalist for Best Chef: Northeast and receiving the Award of Excellence from the Chaine des Rotisseurs for outstanding food and service. Stages has been named one of the top 100 best restaurants in North America by Opinionated About Dining for eight consecutive years.

For more information, visit [library.dover.nh.gov](http://library.dover.nh.gov) or call 603-516-6050. The library has temporarily relocated to the McConnell Center during the renovation of its main building. The Children's Room is located in Room 305, while adult and teen services are available in the McConnell Center cafeteria. Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

To hear more about the event and learn more about Evan Hennessey, tune in to next week's [Dover Download podcast](#), where Deputy Manager Christopher Parker chats with Hennessey about his local roots, his career, and the upcoming Library fundraiser.



## Community Power rates increase Feb. 1

The Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire's (CPCNH) default "Granite Basic" residential electricity supply rate for Dover customers will be 14.663 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), effective Feb. 1, 2026, through July 31, 2026. The new rate is a 1.244-cent increase above current kWh rates.

The coalition's board of directors adopted the new rates at its Dec. 18 meeting based on CPCNH's cost of service, which includes a community reserve adder sufficient to retire financing obligations in 2026, CPCNH announced in a press release.

Eversource's [petition](#) to adjust its electricity supply rate for the same period was approved by the New Hampshire Public Utility Commission. Eversource's default supply rate will increase 0.107 cents to 11.303 per kWh.

In addition to electricity supply rates, there is an electricity delivery rate component that is charged to all energy customers by the utility provider, regardless of a customer's energy supplier. Eversource is the utility provider for Dover residents and businesses.

Dover's energy customers may choose which firm supplies their electricity, including Dover Community Power, third-party options, and the utility provider, Eversource. The New Hampshire Department of Energy [has a webpage](#) to help customers shop for competitive energy power suppliers.

To opt in, out, or select a Community Power option with more renewable energy content, customers can:

- Use Community Power's [online portal](#)
- Call [1-866-603-7697](tel:1-866-603-7697) (POWR) or email [Info@CommunityPowerNH.gov](mailto:Info@CommunityPowerNH.gov)

Please note that it may take one to two billing cycles to reflect the change. To complete the change, customers will need their Eversource account number

#### **About Community Power**

The Community Power program is authorized under state law RSA 53:E. It allows municipalities and counties to aggregate retail electric customers to "access to competitive markets for supplies of electricity and related energy services" on a voluntary basis. The program is self-funded through revenues generated by participating customers and does not use taxpayer funds to cover program expenses.

Since launching in early 2023, Community Power has introduced more competition and product options to an increasing number of electric customers in New Hampshire. Customers can easily choose from options including 33%, 50%, or 100% renewable energy on a month-to-month basis and can move between Community Power, utility supply options, and third-party providers.

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## **Planning Board to review, potentially adopt draft Land Use Analysis Master Plan chapter update**

The Planning Board will review and potentially adopt the updated Land Use Analysis Chapter of the city's Master Plan [at its meeting](#) on Tuesday, Jan. 13. The Planning Board will receive a presentation on the chapter update, hold a public hearing, and provide final feedback before considering its adoption.

Throughout 2025, the Planning Department, in collaboration with a project Steering Committee and consultant Resilience Planning & Design, developed the chapter update for the Planning Board's consideration. [Last adopted in 2015](#), the chapter serves as a roadmap to guide Dover's growth over the next decade in ways that reflect community values.

Dover is a growing city, encompassing nearly 17,000 acres of land, with a mix of historic downtown areas, emerging mixed-use districts, surrounding neighborhoods, large tracts of open space, and conserved land. The update examines current land use trends, community input, and development pressures facing Dover, and outlines a future land use strategy, map, and action items to support livability, economic resilience, and environmental stewardship.

Residents are encouraged to [review the draft chapter](#) and provide feedback at the public hearing. Feedback and questions about the chapter update can also be [emailed to](#) City Planner Erin Bassegio or by calling the Planning Department at 603-516-6008.

The [meeting](#) begins at 7 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers. It will be televised on DoverTV and [online](#).

## Upcoming Meetings:

## Conservation Commission, Jan. 12, 5:30 p.m.

The Conservation Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

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

## Recreation Advisory Board, Jan. 12, 6 p.m.

The Recreation Advisory Board will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, beginning at 6 p.m., at the McConnell Center, Room 224.

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

## School Board, Jan. 12, 6 p.m.

The School Board will hold a workshop session at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

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

## Planning Board, Jan. 13, 5:30 p.m.

The Planning Board will hold a workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Auditorium, followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers.

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

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



DONNA BENTON

## PLANNING DIRECTOR

# On the Agenda: Planning Board, 1/13/2026

In this video, Director of Planning and Community Development Donna Benton reviews what's on the agenda at the next Planning Board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026. The video can be viewed by clicking the image above or at <https://dovernh.viebit.com/watch?hash=6m1YS0jKuAI7qfJm>

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting will be broadcast live on DNTV and streamed live online.

Want to keep up on other 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 [bit.ly/doverdownload](http://bit.ly/doverdownload) and select Dover Planning Review.

The image shows the agenda for the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting on June 1, 2010. It includes the agenda, minutes from the previous meeting, and a zoning map of the area. The agenda items include: 1. ATTENDANCE, 2. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES, 3. HEARINGS, and 4. OTHER BUSINESS. The minutes show the Board approved the minutes from the previous meeting and the zoning map. The hearing agenda includes applications for variances, special use permits, and site plan approvals. The map shows the location of the applications and the boundaries of the zoning districts.



PAUL CROISIER

NING ADMINISTRATOR

# On the Agenda: Zoning Board of Adjustment, 1/15/2026

In this video, Zoning Administrator Paul Crouser reviews what's on the agenda at the next Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting on

## **Joint Building Committee, Athletic Complex, Jan. 14, 5 p.m.**

The Joint Building Committee for the Dover High School Athletic Complex will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, beginning at 5 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

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

## **City Council, Jan. 14, 6 p.m.**

The City Council will hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

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

## **Zoning Board, Jan. 15, 7 p.m.**

The Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

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

## **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

Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026. The video can be viewed by clicking the image above or at <https://dovernh.viebit.com/watch?hash=lWIAQlss9sDmLvuN>

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting will be broadcast live on DNTV and streamed live online.

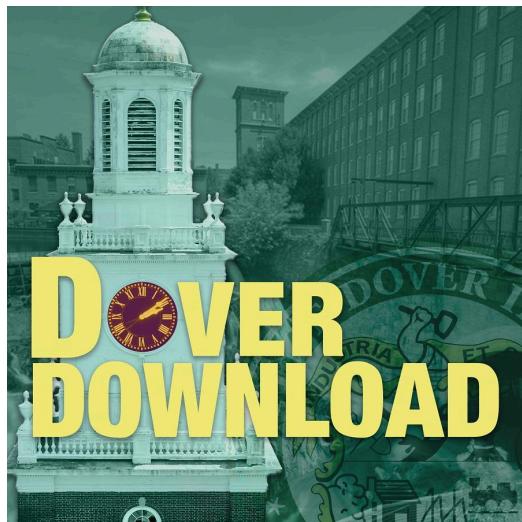
## **Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover**

The City of Dover is currently accepting bids for the following projects:

- [Professional Consulting Services - Transportation Chapter of the Master Plan](#)
- [Dispatch Alarm Modernization](#)

Current bid documents can be accessed on the Finance Department's [bid page](#). Vendors can also join the City's bid list by visiting the site.

For more information, contact the Finance and Purchasing Office at 603-516-6030.



## **No Wrong Door: How CAP Serves Dover and Beyond**

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Betsey Andrews Parker, Chief Executive Officer of Community Action Partnership of Strafford County. This episode kicks off the podcast's special focus this season on nonprofits serving the Dover and

members to fill regular and alternate member vacancies, including:

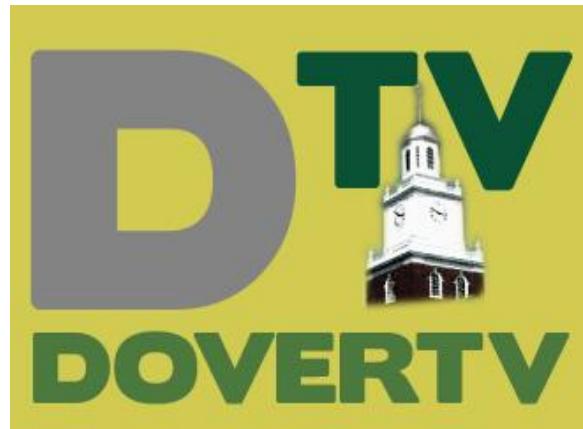
- Conservation Commission
- Downtown Dover TIF
- Open Lands Committee
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Waterfront TIF
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

The complete list of boards and committees can be found at [www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/](http://www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/)

To apply, complete an application, [available here](#) and at the City Clerk's Office, and either drop it off at the Clerk's Office or email it to City Clerk Jerrica Vanslyvong-Bizier at [j.bizier@dover.nh.gov](mailto:j.bizier@dover.nh.gov). 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.

Seacoast area. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <https://bit.ly/3L8GW3k>



## Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

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

Simply visit [dovernh.viebit.com](http://dovernh.viebit.com) to begin watching meetings on demand. Online meetings are organized by agenda item for convenience.

## Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

We want to hear from you. In each edition of Dover Download, we're looking for your response to our question of the week. A new poll will appear each week in Dover Download, along with the results for the previous week. Participating is easy. Click on the link below to cast your vote.

This week's question:

**"Have you ever used either of Dover's public swimming pools?"**

Let us know here: <https://polco.us/mvyedr>

*Please note that if you don't already have an account with Polco, the city's polling system, you will be asked to create one. Responses are anonymous.*

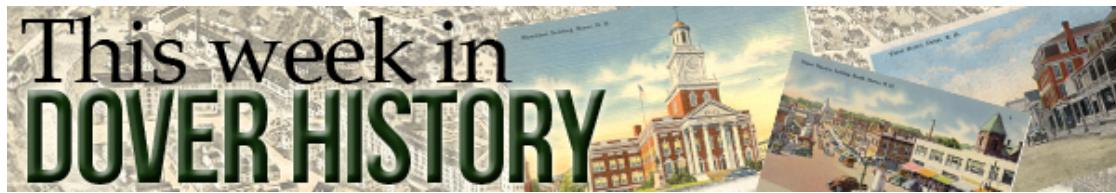
Here are the results from last week's poll, which asked, **"What city service do you rely on the most in your daily life?"**

Here are the top responses:

- Drinking water
- Municipal water and sewer
- Public Library

- Recycling Center
- Curbside trash and recycling pick-up
- Plowing of city streets
- Streets and sidewalks maintenance
- Public safety (police and fire)

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

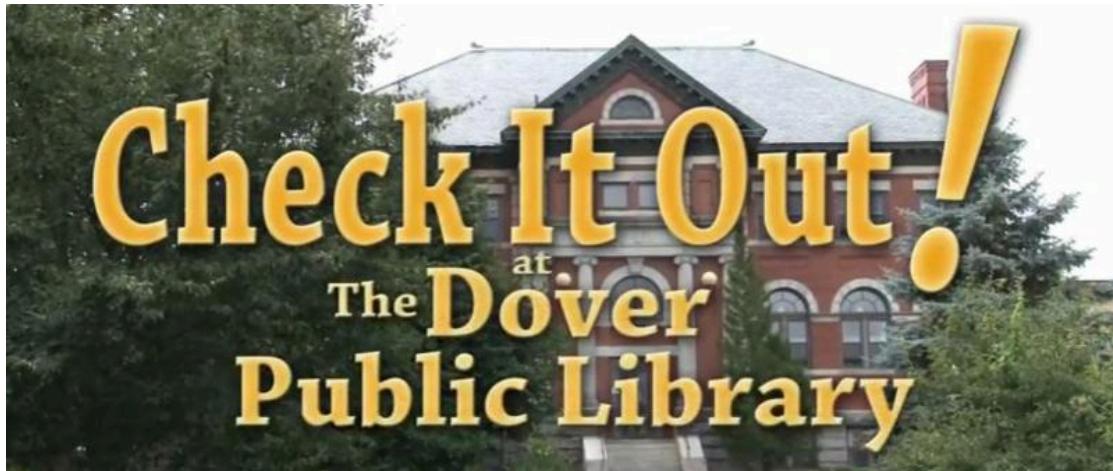
For more on the history of Dover, visit the Dover Public Library, Locust Street, and the Woodman Museum on Central Avenue. The Public Library also maintains an online collection of historical information [located here](#).

**Jan. 10, 1656** — Dover's town leaders took steps to bring order and consistency to how land was distributed in the growing colonial settlement. At a town meeting, residents agreed to halt all new land grants, both to current inhabitants and to newcomers, until all previously approved grants were formally surveyed and clearly marked with boundaries. The town also agreed that each inhabitant should receive a defined share of common land, known as "commonage," in the areas where they lived. The town further decided that no new land grants could be made without the consent of every inhabitant. As a temporary measure, the selectmen were authorized to make limited additional accommodations for residents who requested them, but only until the end of February. After that point, the new rules would be fully ratified and enforced. However, the town's careful attention to fairness and consent applied only among colonial settlers. The meeting records make no mention of the Indigenous peoples who had lived on and used the same land for generations, nor do they recognize Indigenous systems of land stewardship or ownership. Like many New England towns in the 17th century, Dover operated under the colonial assumption that land could be claimed, divided, and governed without Indigenous consent or involvement.

**Jan. 12, 1856** — Dover was hit by one of the most severe snowstorms residents had experienced in many years. Nearly two feet of snow blanketed the ground, and fierce winds piled it into massive drifts, some reaching five to six feet deep in places. The storm brought daily life to a near standstill. Railroad service, which had become a vital link for travel, mail, and commerce, was thrown into chaos. Trains were delayed or halted entirely, and movement in and out of the region was heavily restricted. Roads were difficult to pass, and snow removal relied almost entirely on manual labor, horse-drawn plows, and the sheer persistence of residents.

**Jan. 14, 1884** — The Dover Public Library opens to the residents of Dover with 4,508 volumes and an author and title catalog. The librarian, Miss Garland, recalled opening day, "The work had been carried on incessantly up to within a few minutes of the hour of opening; but about five minutes before two, she sat down in a great depression of mind. Had it been worthwhile, and would anybody come? The clock struck two and the door creaked open. Three high school boys rushed up the stairs. Following them was a woman who had been sent by her sick son at home. Close behind her were more high school boys and some men. Then came a few ladies who had not wanted to push. In a few seconds the room was full. With very unsteady knees she rose to her work. "Ivanhoe" was the first book wanted. The mother of the sick boy went home with "Adventures of a Young Naturalist". Thus did the Library begin its ministry to the sick." There were 180 people registered and 160 took books that first day. A rousing success, the Dover Public Library recorded 2,300 borrowers during that first year and in its first decade of operation circulated over half a million volumes.

**Jan. 10, 2002** — The City Council voted unanimously to authorize the demolition of the former River Street Public Works complex along the Cochecho River. The council approved a \$60,000 purchase order for equipment rental and labor, with Community Services staff assisting to keep costs down. At the time, councilors described the vote as historic. Councilor Parks Christenbury called the demolition “the linchpin” of the long-envisioned waterfront project, while others noted that removing the outdated complex had been a long-standing priority. The demolition cleared the way for redevelopment of the city’s 33-acre waterfront parcel.



## Learn how librarians became the unlikely spies of WWII

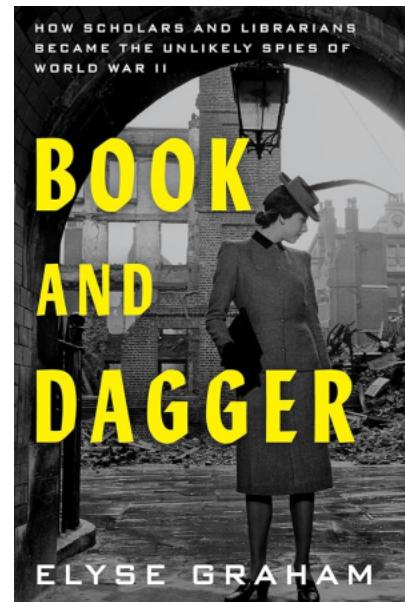
When you think about librarians it's usually in a quiet setting with a book in hand and an occasional "Shush!" as a warning. But that subdued stereotype and knack for finding information is exactly what made librarians excellent spies.

Author Elyse Graham will discuss her new book, "Book and Dagger: How Scholars and Librarians Became the Unlikely Spies of World War II", virtually at the Dover Public Library on Wednesday, January 21 at 7 p.m. The program is in partnership with Tewksbury Public Library. [Register](#) to receive a link to the live stream.

In her presentation, Graham will share the true, untold story of the academics who became Office of Strategic Services (OSS) spies, invented modern spycraft, and helped turn the tide of the war to defeat the Nazis.

At the start of World War II, the United States found itself in desperate need of an intelligence agency. The OSS, a precursor to today's CIA, was quickly formed—and, in an effort to fill its ranks with experts, they turned to academia for recruits. Suddenly, literature professors, librarians, and historians were training to perform undercover operations and investigative work—and these surprising spies would go on to profoundly shape both the course of the war and our cultural institutions with their efforts.

Graham is a historian, professor at Stony Brook University, and the author of three books: "You Talkin' to Me?", "A Unified Theory of Cats on the Internet", and "The Republic of Games".



This event is free and open to the public. For more information or to sign up, visit the library's [website](#) or call (603) 516-6050. If unable to attend, the program will be recorded and sent via email within 48 hours of the live stream.

# This Week at the Library

**Monday, January 12, 10 to 10:45 a.m.**

**STEM Storytime**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Children aged 3-5 are invited to participate in a science storytime this winter. Each week, children will discover a winter theme, utilizing stories, songs, and games, and highlighting a STEM activity. *Registration required.*

**Monday, January 12, 2 to 4 p.m.**

**Mindful Journaling and Doodling Class**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Join for some mindful creative community time. You'll learn a couple of mindful writing and drawing techniques. No art skill is needed and no other experience is needed either. Just bring yourself and an open mind. Every student will get a journal and a set of exercises to take home with them. This class will involve some mindful breathing exercises and some journaling and doodling. Please wear clothing you feel comfortable in so you're able to relax. *Registration required.*

**Monday, Nov. 17, 3 to 4:30 p.m.**

**Monday Afternoon Book Group**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Join the Monday Evening Book Group to discuss *I Have Some Questions for You* by Rebecca Makkai. Copies of the books will be available at the adult circulation desk in the McConnell Center.

**Monday, Nov. 17, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Monday Evening Book Group**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Join the Monday Evening Book Group to discuss *I Have Some Questions for You* by Rebecca Makkai. Copies of the books will be available at the adult circulation desk in the McConnell Center.

**Monday, Nov. 17, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Author Talk: Heather B. Moore; "Julia"**

**Register: <https://low.ly/ewhQ50XSLEG>**

Join for a discussion with author Heather B. Moore about her recent release, "Julia", the untold story of Julia Child before she became a worldwide cooking sensation! We'll chat with Heather about the book, her writing and research process, and if she found any surprises when looking into the iconic Julia!

**Tuesday, January 13, 10 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday, Jan. 14, 10 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Family Storytime**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Children of all ages with caregivers are invited to attend this program with stories, fingerplays, songs, and puppets.

**Wednesday, Jan. 14, 11 am to 12 pm**

**All Abilities Club: Art for All**

**Great Bay Services**

This inclusive program for adults welcomes those with disabilities as we create art and craft projects. Each session of this hands-on program will feature a different art exploration.

**Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2 to 3 p.m.**

**Matter of Fact: Non-Fiction Book Club**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

This book group is dedicated to non-fiction, exploring history, science, essays, and biography. This month's book is *Lost and Found* by Kathryn Schulz.

**Wednesday, Jan. 14, 3:30 to 4:30 pm**

**Drop-In Open Art Lab for Kids**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Kids of all ages are invited to bring their imagination and creativity to the Drop-In Open Art Lab. We will have a variety of supplies available for you to use to create artwork of your own design.

**Thursday, January 15, 10 to 10:45 a.m.**

**Arts and Crafts Storytime**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Arts and Crafts Storytime is for children ages 3-5 who are ready to attend storytime independently, without a caregiver. Each session will focus on a different theme. Books, songs, rhymes, and an art activity will all be part of the fun. *Registration required.*

**Thursday, January 15, 6 to 8 p.m.**

**Mindful Journaling and**

**Doodling Class**

**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Join for some mindful creative community time. You'll learn a couple of mindful writing and drawing techniques. No art skill is needed and no other experience is needed either. Just bring yourself and an open mind. Every student will get a journal and a set of exercises to take home with them. This class will involve some mindful breathing exercises and some journaling and doodling. Please

## Baby Storytime

### McConnell Center, Room 306

For babies 0-24 months with caregiver. Join for songs, movement, rhymes, and stories.

### Tuesday, January 13, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friends of the Dover Public Library

#### McConnell Center, Room 306

As a member of this group, as an active participant, or as a leader you can support this group which supports our library. Become a member of the Friends for as little as \$20 per year. This organization funds all the museum passes the library offers, a large portion of our summer reading activities, as well as cultural events for the community.

### Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6 to 7 p.m. Learn to Use Libby: Drop In Session

#### McConnell Center, Room 306

Discover Free Audiobooks & Ebooks with Libby! This easy-to-use app lets you borrow thousands of audiobooks and ebooks straight to your phone, tablet, or laptop — all with your Dover resident library card. Drop by our casual help session with Nick and Rachel, who'll walk you through getting Libby set up on your device. No registration, no stress — just bring your device, your library card and we'll handle the rest.

wear clothing you feel comfortable in so you're able to relax. *Registration required.*

### Friday, January 16, 10 to 11 a.m.

#### Family Place Workshop

#### City Hall Auditorium

Spend time together, play, make friends and talk one-on-one with specialists on child development during this enjoyable 5-week workshop series. For caregivers and children one to four years old. Topics include early literacy, child development, speech, hearing and language, nutrition, and music, play and health.

*Registration required.*

### Friday, January 16, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

#### Block Printed Tote Bags for Teens with Arts In Reach

#### McConnell Center, Room 306

Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to a free block printing workshop with Arts in Reach! All supplies will be provided.

*Registration is required.*

### Saturday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Winter STEM Event

#### McConnell Center, Room 306

Join us for an afternoon filled with fun, snow, and science as we explore some hands-on, frosty science and engineering activities, focusing on Winter. This STEM adventure event is best enjoyed by kids aged 3-12, with caregivers.



## Dover Rotary partners with Seacoast Sweet Stitches for January Mitten Workshop

The Rotary Club of Dover is once again partnering with Seacoast Sweet Stitches to provide fleece mittens for individuals in need during the winter season. Community members are invited to volunteer at the Mitten Workshop on Saturday, January 24, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the first-floor conference room at 121 Broadway. No prior experience is required, and all supplies will be provided.

In December, more than 30 volunteers joined Dover Rotarians for a successful mitten-making workshop held on Saturday, Dec. 13, in collaboration with Abby Lamothe, founder of Seacoast Sweet Stitches. Donated materials included fleece fabric, a die-cutting system, and sewing machines for participants with sewing experience.

Remaining fleece materials from the project will be repurposed by volunteers at the Hope Memorial Shelter to create dog beds, ensuring that nothing goes to waste.

Rotary  
Dover, NH



*Mitten*  
**WORKSHOP**

**SATURDAY,  
January 24, 2026**



Dover Rotary and Seacoast Sweet Stitches invites you!

No experience needed.

All supplies provided.

Benefits our unhoused neighbors.

**9 AM - 12 PM**

121 Broadway  
Dover, NH 03820

**All invited!**

**Doing Good ... in Dover & the World!**  
[doverrotary.com](http://doverrotary.com)

## **NHDES offers emergency drought assistance**

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) will reopen a program to help low-income homeowners experiencing water supply issues resulting from the ongoing drought. During this historic drought, nearly 250 residents have reported dry wells causing insufficient drinking water in their homes. In response to these widespread reports of dry wells, the Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission voted in November to approve a \$1,500,000 grant from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) to re-establish the Emergency Drought Assistance Program (EDAP).

Following the driest summer on record, all of New Hampshire has been experiencing drought since August 2025, with several counties declared in extreme drought. Neither short- or long-term precipitation outlooks indicate drought relief in the coming months.

Drilling a new bedrock well can be very costly, creating a barrier for low-income households to access clean and safe drinking water when their wells are dry. Depending on household income and family size, EDAP will cover up to 100% of the total costs to mitigate drought impacts and provide reliable drinking water to qualifying residents.

Eligible costs under the program include rehabilitation or replacement of a residential well that is dry from drought, or, if feasible, the cost to connect the home to a nearby existing community water system.

To qualify for the program, applicants must provide income information and verification by a licensed New Hampshire well driller or pump installer that the well has experienced irreversible water supply issues due to drought. More information is available on the EDAP website. Private well-owners are encouraged to self-screen eligibility using the income limits provided in the application.

For more information, email [edap@des.nh.gov](mailto:edap@des.nh.gov) or call Marysa Boire at (603) 271-1355.

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## Dover Chamber accepting 2026 Annual Award nominations

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce (GDCC) is now accepting nominations for its Annual Awards in the following categories: Citizen of the Year, David K. Bamford Educator of the Year, Business of the Year, and Nonprofit of the Year. The GDCC also awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a local area student pursuing higher education.

These awards provide an opportunity for GDCC member businesses to celebrate excellence in their companies and to recognize individuals and non-profits who have made a lasting impact in the Greater Dover community. All awards will be presented at the GDCC's Annual Awards Gala, scheduled for Thursday, Feb 12, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Regatta Banquet and Conference Center in Eliot, Maine. The 2026 Annual Awards Gala will be underwritten by Newburyport Bank.

The GDCC encourages businesses and residents to reflect on individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the community and consider [nominating them](#) for one of the Chamber awards. All nominations are due by Jan. 27 at 5 p.m. The deadline for student scholarship applications is March 10.

“Our educators, advocates, dedicated residents, nonprofit organizations, and businesses are true assets of our community,” said Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce President Margaret Joyce. “If you know or have observed an outstanding individual, business, or nonprofit organization that deserves to be honored by the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce this year, please let us know by submitting a nomination.”

To nominate a candidate, visit [www.dovernh.org/awards](http://www.dovernh.org/awards).

For details on Dover Chamber membership and other programs, or for a schedule of activities, call 603-742-2218 or visit [www.dovernh.org](http://www.dovernh.org).

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## Critical need for blood donors

Every day, thousands of patients rely on lifesaving blood donations. The need for blood is constant.



**American  
Red Cross**

More donors, especially those with type O blood, are needed to ensure that patients have lifesaving blood products available for emergencies and regular medical treatments, including for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer.

Schedule a blood donation appointment through the [Red Cross Blood Donor App](#), visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). [Learn more about](#)

the donation process.

## Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Dover

- Saturday, Jan. 10, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., [The Praxeum](#), 97 Piscataqua Road
- Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1 to 5:30 p.m., [Langdon Place](#), 60 Middle Road
- Thursday, Jan. 15, 12:30 to 5 p.m., [Dover Baptist Church](#), 151 Washington St.
- Tuesday, Jan. 20, 12 to 5 p.m., [Dover Moose Hall](#), 45 Chestnut St.

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## Recycling Center accepting Christmas trees

The City of Dover Recycling Center on Mast Road is now accepting natural Christmas trees during regular hours.

Trees must be free of all ornaments, lights, tinsel, tree bags, and tree stands, or they will not be accepted.

Trees can be placed in the brush pile.

Artificial trees are not accepted in the brush pile and should be discarded as regular trash.

The Recycling Center is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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

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## 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**
- **Swim Instructor, Part-Time**
- **Lifeguard I, Part-Time**
- **Fire Fighter/AEMT**
- **Diesel Mechanic**
- **Heavy Equipment Mechanic**
- **Utilities Laborer**
- **Truck Driver - Utilities**
- **Heavy Equipment Operator I-Utilities**
- **Seasonal Snow Plow Driver, Part-Time**
- **Lab Technician - Water Resources**
- **Utilities Supervisor**
- **Engineering Secretary**
- **Health/Fire Life Safety Officer**
- **Municipal Construction Project Administrator**
- **Prevention Programmer**
- **WWTP Operator 1**
- **Custodian, Part-Time**
- **Laborer - Public Works Streets & Stormwater**
- **Truck Driver - Streets**
- **Maintenance Specialist - Utilities**

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

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# 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:

- Credit Recovery Proctor
- DALC Teacher-English for Speakers of other Languages (ESL)
- Dean's Office Student Support Specialist
- ESOL - Newcomer Interventionist (One Year Only)
- Long Term Substitute - Anticipated Speech Language Assistant
- Long Term Substitute - Speech Language Pathologist
- Long Term Substitute Grade 7 Special Education
- Noon Aide
- Noon Supervisor
- Paraprofessionals- Special Education
- Special Education Teacher/Case Manager
- Summer School Proctor

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

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CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE | [www.dover.nh.gov](http://www.dover.nh.gov)



City of Dover | 288 Central Avenue | Dover, NH 03820 US

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