

DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



March 19, 2021



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:

DOVER CITY COUNCIL

ON THE AGENDA

Coming up at the next City Council meeting

Community Development Block Grants before Council

The City Council is scheduled to hold two public hearings at its March 24 meeting related to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) designates the City of Dover as an "Entitlement Community," which allows the City to apply for funds directly from HUD rather than applying to the state for CDBG funds.

These funds may only be used to address one of HUD's three national objectives:

- Benefit low and moderate-income persons
- Prevent or eliminate blight
- Meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose.

The City of Dover has traditionally used CDBG funding to address the first national objective listed above.

Tuesday,
Thursday,
Saturday:
8:30 a.m. to 3:30
p.m.

The first public hearing at the Council meeting is on the annual CDBG Action Plan for fiscal year 2022. The second public hearing is on the CDBG Citizen Participation Plan Amendment. Both plans also received a review by the Planning Board last month, which also held public hearings. You can find more information about the proposed plans in this week's agenda materials or the [Community Development webpage](#).

Other items on the agenda include:

- Authorization for additional scope of work for design consulting related to the Lower Central Avenue improvement project

In June 2020, the City Council authorized contracting with Sebago Technics, Inc. for \$316,000 for design consulting services to the planned reconstruction of the section of Central Avenue from Stark Avenue to Silver Street. In addition to needed utility work, design work on the roadway portion is focused on making it a Complete Streets project that takes into consideration bus stops, bicycle lanes and safe pedestrian passage in addition to vehicular traffic. The Council on Wednesday will be asked to authorize spending \$25,726 for Sebago Technics to perform an additional scope of work related to the project. Community Services seeks to have design work complete and be "shovel-ready" in the event federal stimulus dollars become available. If federal dollars become available, the project could start as early as this calendar year. If not, the project would not begin until the 2022 calendar year at the earliest.

- Authorization to enter into a contract for Stark Avenue and Downtown Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase A

The City Council will be asked to approve a resolution that would authorize \$742,640 for construction services for Phase A of a larger project to upgrade and rehabilitate the sewer line in the downtown area. Phase A is related to replacing a sewer pipe that's underneath the Spaulding Turnpike. The new sewer line would connect from the Eliot Park area off Stark Avenue to Mill Street on the other side of the highway. At its March 10 meeting, the City Council authorized \$120,000 for design engineering for Phase A.

The full agenda for the March 24 meeting are [available here](#). The meeting will be held in the Council Conference Room at City Hall and is open to the public. It will be broadcast live on Channel 22 and available on-demand at <https://dovernh.viebit.com/index.php>.



Survey results for Central Avenue corridor signal timing project

The City of Dover recently solicited feedback about upgrades to five traffic signal subsystems, part of a federal grant administered by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to install innovative technologies at 17 intersections within the Central Avenue corridor.

The technology allows the collection of real-time traffic data and the ability to adjust traffic signal timing based on current conditions. The City is working with traffic engineers at Sebago Technics to install and to deploy the technology and is using the feedback from the initial survey to prioritize the five subsystems along the Central Avenue corridor being upgraded. [Click here](#) for more background of the project, including a video.

The traffic engineering team will be soliciting additional feedback as adjustments are made to signal timing. If you would like to receive email updates about the project and receive the survey in the future click this link, <https://bit.ly/dovernewsletters>, and check “Traffic AID signalization upgrades.”

The survey collected responses throughout the month of February and yielded 386 responses with 153 specific comments and suggestions. The summary of results and comments are listed below.

One comment that did come up is the reduction of traffic volumes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The project team will be continuously monitoring these conditions in the coming months to ensure that changes made to signal timings are done in a manner that is responsive to the current traffic volumes and adjusted as traffic demand returns pre-pandemic volumes.

Summary of survey responses

The geographical representation of the 386 respondents broke down as follows:

Dover	76%
Rochester	3%
Somersworth	3%
Other	18%

The age breakdown was as follows:

20 and younger	1%
21-30	8%
31-45	23%
45-65	52%
66 and older	16%

The responses make clear the project is focusing on many of the troublesome traffic-related locations throughout the City. All four systems received a strong showing on the scale of general frustration (either Strongly Agree or Agree):

Weeks Crossing	63%
Durham Road/Central Avenue	58%
North Central Avenue	58%
Silver Street	21%

Of the 386 respondents, roughly 40 percent offered specific comments or suggestions. By far, the most comments were about the Durham Road/Central Avenue subsystem with a total of 59 comments. The specific breakdown was as follows:

Durham Road/Central Avenue	59
Weeks Crossing	14
North Central Avenue	13
Silver Street	6

The following are other problem intersections that were mentioned but not included in the current project:

- Lower Square (Central Avenue at Washington Street)
- Washington Street at Chestnut Street
- First Street at Chestnut Street
- Durham Road at Mast Road
- Jenness Street at Central Avenue and Stark Avenue
- Bellamy Road at Knox Marsh Road (Route 155)
- Indian Brook at Sixth Street
- Sixth Street at Whittier Street
- Indian Brook Drive at the Exit 9 interchange
- Several locations along Dover Point Road

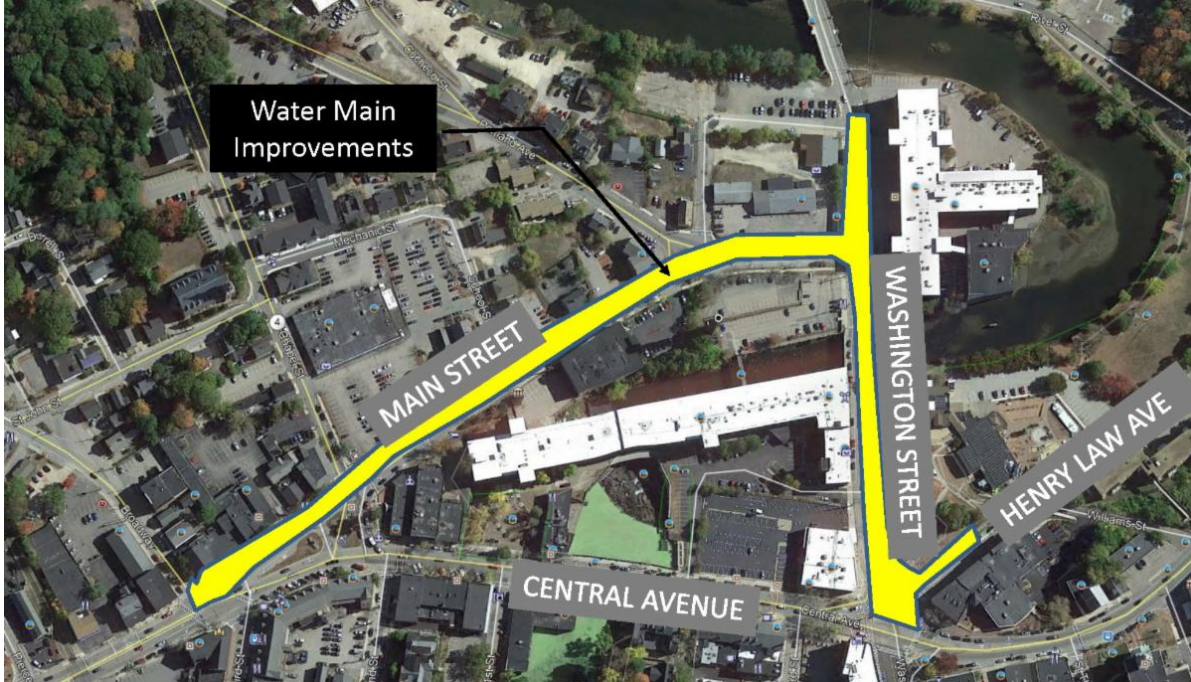
In addition, respondents also mentioned other relevant items unrelated to traffic signal timings for vehicles. These include:

- Expanding public transportation
- Speeding along Horne, Glenwood, Stark and Silver streets
- Upgrading crosswalks and pedestrian signal equipment to be more responsive to elderly or visually impaired residents

What's next

Based on the feedback, initial attention is being directed to the Durham Road/Central Avenue signal system, which includes the five traffic signals from Central Avenue at Stark Avenue to Durham Road at Back River Road. The new data collection equipment for this system is operational and is currently receiving its final testing to be accepted by the City. This work should be completed in the next two weeks. Ongoing acceptance testing of new management software is also ongoing and should be completed shortly. Once these tasks are complete, work will begin to fine tune corridor signal timings. This activity is expected to commence by early April. Advance notice of these changes will be given to allow motorist reaction.

To receive email updates about this project, visit <https://bit.ly/dovernewsletters> and check "Traffic AID signalization upgrades."



Downtown water main work begins Monday

The downtown infrastructure project to replace 125-year-old water pipes along Washington Street and Main Street is scheduled to begin this Monday, March 22, with mobilization to the worksite. The six-month project is expected to have traffic impacts and limited durations of water shutoff as infrastructure is replaced.

This project will replace 3,000 feet of some of the oldest water distribution pipes in the downtown area with a new ductile iron pipe that will provide reliable water service for the next 100-plus years. This work will include street excavation, lane closures, and evening water shutoffs in the downtown area. See the map above for the project area, or [click here](#) for the project page for project maps.



The City encourages pedestrians and motorists to be vigilant while moving throughout the downtown area and look for signs providing information about the project and sections of streets and sidewalks closed for construction. Uneven road conditions and sidewalks are likely to occur, so please use caution driving, riding bikes and walking in the area.

Latest updates

Week of March 22: The contractor N. Granese & Sons is anticipated to mobilize to the worksite with its heavy equipment, set-up traffic control devices and install construction signage. No water shutoffs are anticipated.

Week of March 29: The contractor anticipates beginning work on daytime excavations, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., locating the existing water main. During the overnight, from 8:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m., the contractor would install isolations valves. **Overnight water shutoffs are expected** and are anticipated to last a maximum of eight to nine hours. However, **residents are encouraged to have bottled water on hand throughout the construction project in case of an emergency unplanned water shutoff.**

The City will notify areas where water will be turned off through these regular project email updates, the [dedicated project page](#), and door hangers to individual properties. The installation of isolation valves is anticipated to last two to three weeks.

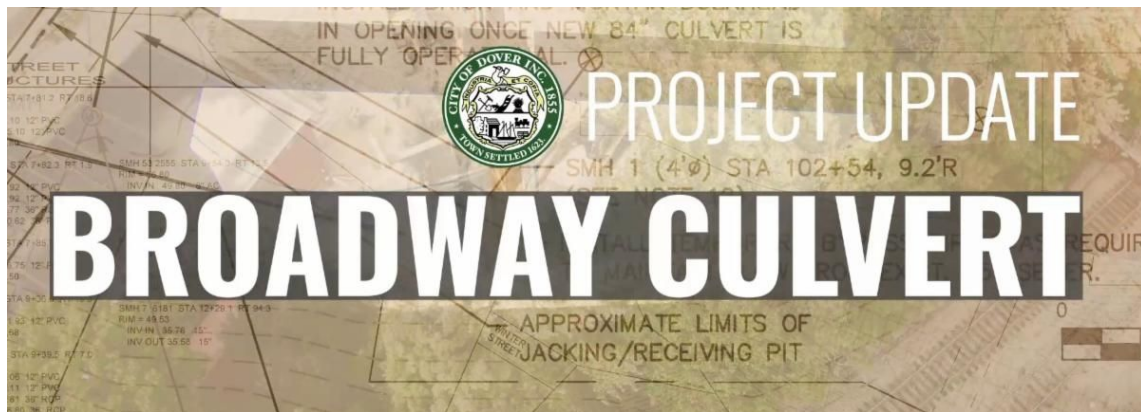
The contractor will first install isolation valves on side streets adjacent to Main Street and Washington Street. These streets include Central Avenue, Broadway, Chapel Street, School

Street, Portland Avenue, Young Street and Henry Law Avenue. Isolation valves are necessary for the contractor to replace the water main along Washington Street and Main Street. The valves allow for the installation of the temporary water line that will provide a constant source of drinking water as the water main is replaced.

To receive email updates about the project, visit bit.ly/doverdownload and select "Project updates: Washington and Main Water Improvements."

Contact City about specific water shutoff concerns

The City aims to keep water shutoffs to a minimum and is cognizant of its inconveniences. While shutoffs are scheduled for weekday overnights from 8:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m., there may be options to postpone a shutoff until later in the night or to specific nights of the week to lessen impacts. Contact City of Dover Assistant City Engineer Max Kenney at m.kenney@dover.nh.gov or 516-1915 to discuss options.



Broadway culvert work enters final phase

Work continues on the drainage project on Broadway that is scheduled for completion this summer. Daytime road closures on Broadway are anticipated to continue throughout April to allow the contractor to install new drainage piping along the road. During off-construction hours, a single lane is open through the construction area alternated by a temporary signal. New York Street remains closed at Broadway.

The contractor recently completed the installation of 100 feet of new 72-inch diameter pipe north on Broadway 20 feet below the surface that connects to existing stormwater piping. The contractor is now working to install a 30-inch diameter pipe from the junction at Broadway at New York Street that will run 220 feet to the south on Broadway. This piping will also connect with existing stormwater drainage. This work is anticipated to take three weeks to complete, with many buried utility and other obstacles along the way. The contractor will then fill the old box culvert underneath the railroad and grade and pave all disturbed areas.

The contractor, George Cairns and Sons, Inc., completed the installation of the new culvert last fall, which is now operational. The new culvert is seven feet in diameter and 220 feet in length that had to be bored underneath the rail line 25 feet underground.

The City of Dover is undertaking the project to improve long-standing drainage issues in the area prone to significant flooding during heavy rain events. Stormwater drains to the low point by Red's Shoe Barn on Broadway from upstream neighborhoods that stretch up to Oak Street and Garrison Hill and traverses through a culvert underneath the railbed. The current project replaces a stone box culvert that was undersized, partially blocked and could not provide adequate drainage. The stone box culvert was installed when the rail line was built more than 120 years ago.

The construction cost is \$7.4 million, which has increased from the original project cost of \$4.7 million. There have been numerous challenges throughout the project. One significant challenge was finding ledge while boring underneath the rail line. Removing ledge increased the project cost significantly and also delayed it. There have also been challenges with

underground utilities not being in their expected place, which can slow the project's pace and increase its cost.

Once the Broadway section is finished, further drainage work is planned in future years to fix drainage issues in the upstream neighborhoods. New drainage trunk lines will be installed that connect to the drainage work at Broadway. Community Services Director John Storer explains the current and future projects in a [recent video](#).

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



Recreation programming takes shape for spring

There are numerous spring recreational activities available through leagues affiliated with the Recreation Department. The Recreation Department's summer programming is still being worked out, as guidance from the Governor's Office has recently changed. [Information](#) should be available about summer programs in early April.

Spring recreation activities

Spring 2021 swim lessons for pre-school, toddler and infant: Registration opens for Dover residents Tuesday, March 23 at 10 a.m. [See here](#) for more details.

Outdoor Pickleball courts behind Garrison Elementary School are open; however, no drop-in play is allowed due to the pandemic. To play, you must have your own group.

Tennis courts at Woodman Park Elementary School are open and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Recreation-affiliated youth leagues

Dover Baseball has programs from tee-ball to Babe Ruth. Registration open now. [See here](#) for more details.

Dover Youth Softball is open to players ages four to 16. Registration is open now. [See here](#) for more details.

Garrison City F.C. (formerly Dover Soccer Association) is open to youth three years old and up.

City boards provide many ways to let your voice be heard

Tuesday, March 23, 2021, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Conference Room at City Hall. To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

City Council, March 24, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Conference Room at 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/>.

The City of Dover reminds residents that it is easy to participate in public meetings without attending in person. Public participation is vital for City of Dover operations and future planning.

Dover residents, business owners and property owners may contact any public board or commission, such as the City Council or School Board, by utilizing specific email addresses or contact information that reaches all members at once. People can also call 516-MEET (6338) and leave a message that will be forwarded to the appropriate public body. To be heard ahead of a particular meeting, call or email at least two hours before the meeting begins.

As with speaking at a public hearing or Citizens' Forum, phone messages and emails sent to all board members will be retained as part of the meeting minutes and are subject to New Hampshire's Right to Know law, RSA 91:A.

City Council, School Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment meetings and workshops are televised live on Channel 22 and available for on-demand viewing at <https://dovernh.viebit.com/>.

To see all of the City's boards, commissions and committees, [click here](#).

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 516-6018.

DID YOU KNOW



Taxes, utility bills can be paid online

Did you know property taxes and utility bills can now be paid online? Simply use the "Pay My Bill" button on the homepage of the City's website to pay property taxes, utility bills and miscellaneous bills via credit card or by electronic check. Learn more: <https://www.dover.nh.gov/services/online-services/payment/>



Great Bay Rain Barrel Project seeking rain barrel orders

Collect water for your garden and help protect the Great Bay by harvesting stormwater that can carry excess nitrogen into our rivers and our Great Bay.

Rain barrels are one way to help us collect rainwater that naturally contains nutrients to keep plants vigorous and may help reduce your water bill this summer, all while reducing harmful runoff.

Volunteers from the Great Bay Rain Barrel Project have teamed up with The Great American Rain Barrel Company that sells repurposed, food-grade, BPA-free barrels with spigots, screened tops and an overflow connector.



“Implementation of rain barrels helps support the City of Dover’s overall efforts of enhancing stormwater treatment and responsible use of water while we remain in a drought situation,” said Director of Community Services John Storer.

Community bulk discount cost: \$70-\$79, depending on color. Orders can be made directly on The Great American Rain Barrel Company webpage: <https://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/>. Use this link for the discounted price and to find helpful “How to” videos and frequently asked questions (FAQ) page.

The deadline to order and pay for the barrel is Saturday, April 11.

Rain barrel pickup will be from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, April 16, at St. John’s United Methodist Church, 28 Cataract Ave., in Dover. Volunteers will put it in your car.

Who is The Great Bay Rain Barrel Project? We are volunteers from Dover, Durham and other towns in the Great Bay watershed area. This is not a fundraiser. We do this because we care.

For more information, ask us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/getGreatBayRainBarrel/>



State launches new vaccine registration system, begins Phase 2A scheduling

The State of New Hampshire this week launched the Vaccine & Immunization Network Interface (VINI), the state’s new COVID-19 vaccine scheduling and appointment management website, as Phase 2A scheduling begins for

Statewide mask mandate

A statewide mask mandate remains in effect through March 26, 2021.

Per the order, everyone over

state-managed fixed sites.

As New Hampshire's vaccination effort remains ahead of schedule, appointments at state-managed fixed sites for Phase 2A began on Thursday, March 18. Previously, appointments at fixed-sites for Phase 2A were not expected to begin until Monday, March 22.

Since vaccination clinics with school districts and Regional Public Health Networks began on March 12, thousands of individuals eligible under Phase 2A have been vaccinated through closed clinics.

The new VINI platform is a state-managed site, which transitions New Hampshire away from reliance on the federally managed VAMS platform, allowing the state to make real-time adjustments and efficiencies to the VINI platform.

In the previous VAMS system, individuals were required to cancel their existing appointment prior to rescheduling to a new appointment time. The new VINI system ensures that individuals' existing appointment time is cancelled only once a new appointment time has been confirmed. Additionally, the move to VINI allows 2-1-1 call-takers to directly schedule, reschedule, or verify appointments for individuals experiencing difficulties, a functionality unavailable under the federal system.

The fastest way to schedule an appointment is through vaccines.nh.gov. An extremely high call volume to 2-1-1 is anticipated. Wait times may be long, but every call will be answered by a live person.

[A step-by-step video overview of VINI can be viewed here.](#)

All staff working in New Hampshire in the following settings are eligible for vaccination under Phase 2A:

- K-12 schools
- Licensed child care settings
- License-exempt settings enrolled with the NH DHHS – Bureau of Child Development
- Municipal or other recreation programs providing before and/or after school, vacation, or summer youth programming
- Head Start and Early Head Start Programs
- Licensed youth camps

Updated FAQ documents, tip sheets, and video resources will be available at vaccines.nh.gov.

The population size for Phase 2A is estimated to be 55,000 eligible individuals.

Registration for individuals between 50 and 64 years of age will begin on Monday, March 22 at 8 a.m. under Phase 2B, with appointments beginning on Thursday, March 25.

the age of 5 in New Hampshire must wear mask or cloth face coverings over their noses and mouths when in public spaces, indoors or outdoors, when unable to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from persons outside their own households.

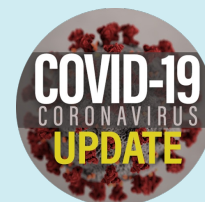
The entire order, including exceptions and exclusions, [can be viewed here.](#)

COVID-19 updates

Want to receive the latest information about the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic and how it affects your community? Sign up for the City of Dover's email updates and you'll receive helpful information from local and state health officials about the pandemic, including how you can protect yourself and others, how to safely enjoy the holidays, what to consider before traveling, and much more.

To start receiving the email updates, visit bit.ly/doverdownload and select COVID-19 updates from the list of city newsletters.

For more information, visit the City's COVID-19 [online resource here.](#)



What you should know about COVID-19

COVID-19 can present with a wide range of symptoms including fever, chills, cough, shortness

of breath, runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste or smell. Any person who develops new symptoms should stay home, limit their contact with others, immediately contact their healthcare provider and get tested for COVID-19. [Guidance for self-quarantine is available here.](#)

Whether or not you are experiencing symptoms, multiple testing options throughout the State are available to potentially exposed individuals. For persons without health insurance or a primary care provider, testing is available and can be scheduled by calling (603) 271-5980 or through completing the online form at business.nh.gov/DOS_COVID19Testing. Other options can be found here: www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/testing-guidance.htm.

COVID-19 continues to circulate in our communities, so all people need to protect themselves and help prevent further community spread, by:

- [Stay at least 6 feet away from others](#), whenever possible. This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.
- [Cover your mouth and nose with a mask](#) when around others. This helps reduce the risk of spread both by close contact and by airborne transmission.
- [Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- [Avoid crowded indoor spaces](#) and [ensure indoor spaces are properly ventilated](#) by bringing in outdoor air as much as possible. In general, being outdoors and in spaces with good ventilation reduces the risk of exposure to infectious respiratory droplets.
- [Stay home and isolate](#) from others when sick.
- [Routinely clean and disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces.

For more information on COVID-19 in NH, please visit www.nh.gov/covid19/.

Source: New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services



The following events are recorded in "Notable Events in the History of Dover, New Hampshire: From the First Settlement in 1623 to 1865," by George Wadleigh, and several other historical sources.

For more on the history of Dover, settled in 1623 and the oldest European permanent settlement in New Hampshire and seventh oldest in the country, visit the Dover Public Library, Locust Street; and the Woodman Museum, Central Avenue. The Public Library also maintains an online collection of historical information, [located here](#).

March 22, 1683 — A prodigious tide, rising some feet higher than the observation of the oldest settlers in this place, did great damage to wharves and warehouses from Dover to Boston.

March 25-29, 1699 — A severe storm bears down on Dover, delivering five days of constant snow, rain, hail, thunder and extreme wind. It began with snow and ended with snow.

March 23, 1793 — "Died in this town Mr. Benjamin Deane, in the 31st year of his age — a useful and active citizen. During the late Revolution, he was captured, while in the service of his country, and was confined in Forton prison for the space of eighteen months: during which he four times with others effected his escape from the prison, by digging beneath the walls, but unfortunately was retaken before he could get without the realms of despotism. He has left a wife and two small children to bemoan his loss.

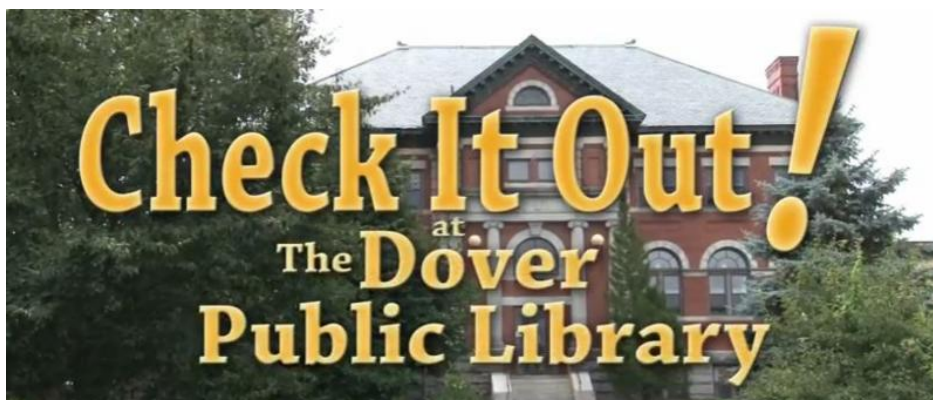
March 23, 1903 — It is revealed by a trustee of the Wentworth Home for the Aged (now the Wentworth Home), that the last will and testament of Arioch Wentworth of Boston leaves \$100,000 for the endowment of a hospital in Dover. Wentworth's previous gifts to the

Wentworth Home had already reached \$100,000. The hospital would be founded the next year, on March 15, 1904, and planned as a 30-bed hospital to be called "The Wentworth." The hospital opened in August 1906, and today, Wentworth-Douglass Hospital is now licensed for 178 beds.

March, 1912 — Col. Daniel Hall is awarded a contract to erect a Soldiers and Sailors Civil War Monument, which he proposed be presented to the City of Dover and placed on the lawn between the Public Library and high school at the time (now the McConnell Center). The eventual completion of the monument in October 1912, followed several years of community efforts to memorialize those who had served during the Civil War. Col. Hall, a veteran and resident of Summer Street in Dover, donated the funds for the statue. The monument was designed by Lewis J. White of Quincy, Mass., and made with 60 tons of granite from Barre, Vermont. According to some reports, a small, copper time capsule of various artifacts was placed behind the second and third stones behind the letter "V" in Dover. The monument was dedicated in October, 1912, to great fanfare. In 2012, a wreath ceremony was held to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the monument. The ceremony can be viewed [here](#).



Dover Public Library photo



What is it worth? Join the Public Library for a virtual appraisal program

Are you a fan of Antiques Roadshow on PBS? Do you think you might have some antique or collectible treasures lying around your house gathering dust when they could be adding to your bank account? This program sponsored by the Dover Public Library, will be held on Monday, March 29, from 6-8 p.m., and gives you the chance to "bring" an item to the virtual event and have it appraised online by professional appraiser Mike Ivankovich. You must register to receive the link for this program. You can register through the library's website library.dover.nh.gov/events.



The first 25 registrants will be able to present an item to Mike Ivankovich through the camera on their computer for his appraisal. Throughout the program Mike will talk about buying, selling tips and strategies and will give an overview of value for antiques and collectibles. If any of the first 25 registrants don't end up attending, those down the line may be able to step in with an item to be appraised. All attendees should have an item ready just in case he has extra time or attendance is lighter than expected. Larger items that feature less detail will make the online appraisal easier. But if you have a really fine item we can give it a try. Just plan to have another item you'd like appraised just in case. We still have plenty of spots and even after we fill the appraisal spots you can still sign up and learn a lot about valuing collectibles and antiques and gain some handy tips from a professional.

Ivankovich has been involved in some phase of the auction, antiques and collectibles business for more than 35 years. He is a frequent lecturer and spoken before groups too numerous to list. He has authored more than 20 books and e-books in his areas of specialty, has written articles and columns for most major national trade papers, has appeared on various radio and television programs, is frequently consulted by antique columnists from throughout the country, and serves as a contributing advisor within his specialty areas to all major Antiques & Collectibles Price Guides.

Ivankovich is a home downsizing specialist and author based in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. His primary role is to guide clients through the entire home downsizing process, helping them understand the value of their personal property assets, helping them determine whether they have any valuable hidden treasures, and helping them dispose of their excess personal property assets for the greatest amount of cash, with the least amount of work, in the shortest amount of time. His book, *Home Downsizing in Four Easy Steps*, can be found on Amazon.com. His two latest books, "Fundraising Auction Secrets" and "Jump Start Your Fundraising Auction" are also available. His website is michaelivankovichappraisals.com.

The program is free and open to the public.

For more information call the Library at 603-516-6050.

The Week at the Library

March VIRTUAL Cookbook Club

Join us for a virtual exploration of *Plenty* by Yotam Ottolenghi. Throughout the month of

March, send in pictures of your dishes created with recipes from the books and a small description of your cooking process, how you felt about the recipe, and/or your thoughts on the books. We will share your creations on our social media pages throughout the month. Photos can be sent to Emily at e.fortin@dover.nh.gov, or tag us on Instagram @doverpubliclibrary.

Monday, March 15 - Wednesday, April 21

reading! Once you register we will be in touch with you by Tuesday evening to schedule a time that works best for your schedule between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. This program is best for Toddlers/Preschooler through age 9.

Wednesday, March 24, 4 to 4:45 p.m. Online Storytime

Check out a new session of Miss Tina's storytime. This storytime and all previous recordings may be viewed at: <https://bit.ly/2z4EDcp>

19th Annual Poetry Contest

The Dover Public Library is pleased to announce the 19th Annual Dover Public Library Poetry contest for 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 and older. Poems will be judged on originality, style and creativity. Deadline for entry is Wednesday, April 21. Students may pick up information about the contest at the Dover Public Library, any Dover school library, or at our website at library.dover.nh.gov. For more information about the contest please contact Emily Fortin at 516-6082.

Tuesday, March 23, 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Family Storytime in the Lecture Hall

Families are invited to join us for storytime in the Lecture Hall. Kids of all ages with an adult will enjoy stories, songs, and rhymes. A craft will be available to take home.

Please register for this event since attendance is limited to 5 groups. Groups will be appropriately distanced and please wear a mask.

Tuesday, March 23, 6 to 8 p.m. Dungeons & Dragons: 18 and older in the Lecture Hall

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 two hours of 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. Sessions will be socially distant indoors in the Lecture Hall. Please ensure at least six feet of space between yourself and other attendees and that you wear a mask while in the library.

Wednesday, March 24, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Read WITH a Librarian

Sign up to have a librarian read with your child! Depending on your child's age and reading ability your child might want to only be read to OR they may read to us! Either way this a great opportunity to gain reading confidence and encourage a love for

Wednesday, March 24, 6 to 8 p.m.

Online Organic Gardening II

Learn about organic gardening from the comfort of your own home in this comprehensive three-part course on consecutive Wednesday nights, March 17, 24 and 31, from 6-8 p.m. online. The course will included practical tips on how to create a new garden, soil preparation, seed starting, planting techniques, cultural techniques during the growing season (such as watering, fertilizing, and pest and weed control), how plants and soil interact, succession planting, planting multiple crops in the same space at the same time, how to compost, crop rotation, cover cropping, and mycorrhizobials. Registration required.

Thursday, March 25, 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Family Storytime in the Lecture Hall

Families are invited to join us for storytime in the Lecture Hall. Kids of all ages with an adult will enjoy stories, songs, and rhymes. A craft will be available to take home.

Please register for this event since attendance is limited to 5 groups. Groups will be appropriately distanced and please wear a mask.

Friday, March 26, 10 to 10:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL Mother Goose on the Loose

Mother Goose On the Loose is back! Please join Miss JoJo for lots of songs, rhymes, stories and silliness! This program is for babies through Pre-K, siblings are always welcome. You will be required to submit your library card information upon registering as this program is for patrons of DPL only. Once you are approved, you will be provided with a secure link to our virtual session via Ring Central

Friday, March 26, 4 to 5 p.m.

Global Poetry Society in the Lecture Hall

The Global Poetry Society is dedicated to exploring poetry from around the world. Run by Shane Morin, his goal is to help our community learn about great poets from Asia, Africa, South America, Native Peoples, and more. Between sessions, registrants will be emailed a reading list of freely accessible poems that will introduce the works to be discussed at the next meeting. Meetings will be held every other Friday morning. Registration is required.





Use extreme caution on the ice as spring approaches

With fluctuating and unpredictable temperatures commonplace throughout the month of March in the Granite State, Dover Fire and Rescue and New Hampshire Fish and Game Department officials urge outdoor enthusiasts to exercise extreme caution when enjoying late-winter activities on or near the ice. Ice anglers are advised to plan ahead for bobhouse removal; all bobhouses must be removed from waterbodies and private property by April 1, 2021.

“Caution is in order for those going out onto any ice, especially following this winter’s changeable weather,” said NH Fish and Game Colonel Kevin Jordan. “With erratic temperatures, some areas of ice may look safe, but may not be. We are urging people to check the ice thickness before going out onto any frozen waterbody.”

“Because of changeable ice conditions, it is never advisable to drive vehicles onto the ice,” Jordan said. Those on foot should carefully assess ice safety before venturing out by using an ice chisel or auger to determine ice thickness and condition. Continue to do this as you get further out onto the ice because the thickness of the ice will not be uniform over the entire waterbody. Snow-covered ice can be deceiving and should always be inspected carefully.

Though all ice is potentially dangerous, the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research & Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, NH, offers this advice on ice thickness: There should be a minimum of 6 inches of hard ice before individual foot travel, and 8–10 inches of hard ice for snow machine or Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle travel.

Keep in mind that thick ice does not always mean safe ice. It is possible for ice to be thick, but not strong, because of varying weather conditions. Weak ice forms when warming trends break down the ice, then the surface re-freezes. Be especially careful of areas with current, such as inlets, outlets, and spring holes, where the ice can be dangerously thin.

Tips for staying safe on the ice include:

- It is never advisable to drive vehicles onto the ice.
- Don’t venture onto any ice during thaws.
- Stay off the ice along the shoreline if it is cracked or squishy. Docks, rocks, and downed trees absorb the sun’s heat and can cause the ice around them to be thin.
- Watch out for thin, clear, or honeycombed ice. Dark snow and ice may also indicate weak spots.
- Small bodies of water tend to freeze thicker. Rivers and lakes are more prone to wind, currents, and wave action that weaken ice.
- Never gather in large groups on less than 8–10 inches of hard ice.
- Always bring along a rescue rope, ice picks, and a personal flotation device such as a float coat or life preserver.

- If you do break through the ice, stay calm. Move or swim back to where you fell in, where you know the ice was solid. Lay both arms on the unbroken ice and kick hard. This will help lift your body onto the ice. A set of ice picks can help you pull yourself out; wear them around your neck or put them in an easily accessible pocket. Once out of the water, roll away from the hole until you reach solid ice.
- If someone you are with breaks through the ice, don't rush over to the hole—keep yourself safe. Look for something to throw or to use to reach out to the person such as a rope, tree branch, or ice spud. Lie down flat and reach out with your tool. After securing the person, do not stand—wiggle backwards on the solid ice pulling the person with you.

Ice safety is also very important for snowmobilers. Don't assume a trail is safe just because it exists; check out trail conditions before you go at

<http://www.nhstateparks.org/activities/snowmobiling/trail-information.aspx>.

To watch a short video on how to correctly check ice thickness visit www.wildnh.com/outdoor-recreation/ice-safety.html.

SEED virtual fundraiser kicks off March 22

Seacoast Endowment for Education in Dover ("SEED"), a nonprofit organization dedicated to lifting academic excellence in Dover schools, is hosting its annual fundraiser, Bid for a Brighter Future. The online auction and virtual fundraiser is set to start March 22 and will run until April 2, 2021. All proceeds will be used to underwrite 21st Century learning skills and ground-breaking curriculum in Dover public school classrooms.

In the past, SEED relied on the generosity of local small businesses to provide gift cards, services and retail items for its auction. This year, the group shifted its approach and used sponsor dollars to purchase auction items from local shops and restaurants in greater Dover and encourage foot traffic in downtown businesses. "By bidding on the items in our auction, you are supporting our schools and the many businesses in our town," said Natalie Koellmer, SEED Board Chair. "It's a win-win for everyone!"

SEED's annual fundraiser is a key factor in its ability to fund grant requests twice annually. In November, SEED provided nearly \$30,000 to support curriculum, professional development, and technology improvements for teachers and students. Bid for a Brighter Future will directly support SEED's spring grant cycle, awards are expected to be delivered in May 2021. "This year especially, your donation will truly make a difference in our community," continued Koellmer.

Through the pandemic, SEED continued to provide private funding to Dover educators to implement innovative learning experiences, access additional resources, attend training, and purchase classroom equipment. To participate in the auction, please visit Dover SEED 2021 Online Auction for more information about SEED, please visit www.DoverSEED.org.

Upcoming American Red Cross blood drives

Every day thousands of patients rely on lifesaving blood donations. The need for blood is constant. 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. Schedule a blood donation appointment through the [Red Cross Blood Donor App](#), visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Red Cross requests donors to schedule an appointment instead of dropping in.



**American
Red Cross**

All Red Cross blood drives follow the highest standards of safety and infection control with additional COVID-19 implemented precautions – including temperature checks, social

distancing and face coverings for donors and staff. The Red Cross tests blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies, provided to the donor when available. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether an individual developed COVID-19 symptoms. Testing may also identify the presence of antibodies developed after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Blood donation opportunities in Dover, March 19-31

- Friday, March 19, from 12 to 6 p.m., at Bill Dube Ford/Toyota, 40 Dover Point Road
- Saturday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Praxeum, 97 Piscataqua Road
- Tuesday, March 23, from 12 to 5 p.m., at the Dover Moose Hall, 45 Chestnut St.
- Wednesday, March 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Mary Church, 25 Chestnut St.
- Monday, March 29, from 12 to 5 p.m., at Dover Baptist Church, 151 Washington St.

Strafford Regional Planning Commission wants residents' input on communities for Healthy Aging Transitions Project

[Strafford Regional Planning Commission \(SRPC\)](#) is partnering with [Strafford County Public Health Network](#) on a new project called [Communities for Healthy Aging Transitions \(CHAT\)](#). This project

seeks to identify strengths towards and opportunities for each community in the region providing an inclusive, welcoming, supportive, and healthy environment for people of all ages.

To accomplish this, many different outreach approaches have been prepared including [a survey that was launched on Feb. 12](#). The survey will allow the CHAT team to hear from the people that know their communities best, those who live and work there.

In addition to the survey, the CHAT team is also preparing to launch a postcard art activity. This is a more creative method to gather input via printed postcards which will be delivered and handed out across the region. If you have a group interested in completing the activity SRPC staff can coordinate delivery of copies, and can even provide pre-postaged versions to be mailed back. The postcard template is also available [online](#) for digital submissions, or to print. Digital submissions can be emailed to srpc@strafford.org.

The CHAT team is also scheduling community Zoom forums in the region, so stay tuned to the [event section on their homepage](#) or the [CHAT project page](#).

Learn more about the project in [SRPC's introductory video \[5 min\]](#). SRPC looks forward to CHATting with you.

Virtual community forum seeks feedback from residents about community values, opportunities

Join Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) as they partner with the City of Dover on a community Zoom forum to gather feedback on their [Communities for Healthy Aging Transitions \(CHAT\) project](#). This project seeks to identify strengths towards and opportunities for each regional community providing an inclusive, welcoming, supportive, and healthy environment for people of all ages.

To accomplish this SRPC wants to hear from the people that know Dover best, those who live and work in town. Using virtual public engagement tools like Zoom's breakout rooms and live interactive polling, SRPC will lead a discussion to best understand what Dover residents value about their community, and opportunities for making it even better. The feedback gathered will



complement extensive input already gathered by the City as part of its designation as an AARP age-friendly community.

Please join this interactive opportunity for providing input on Thursday, March 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The best part – you don't even have to leave your house-and you can still participate and share your thoughts.

SRPC looks forward to CHATting with you. Register [online](#), and contact communications and outreach planner Shayna Sylvia at ssylvia@strafford.org with any questions.

Can't wait to share your thoughts or won't be able to make the session? Take the online [CHAT survey](#).

Dover Chamber accepting nominations for 2021 Annual Awards Gala

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations for its Annual Awards Gala, in which awards will be given out to the citizen, volunteer, educator, business and non-profit of the year. The Chamber also awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a local area student pursuing higher education.

These awards provide an opportunity for 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 Annual Awards Gala, held on Friday, June 4, 2021. The format of the event is to be determined.

The GDCC encourages businesses and residents to think about individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the community and consider nominating them for one of the Chamber awards. To submit award nominations, visit www.dovernh.org/awards. Nominations for business, volunteer, non-profit, and citizen of the year are due April 9 by 4 p.m. Nominations for educator of the year and student scholarship applications are due May 3 by 4 p.m.

"Our volunteers, advocates, dedicated residents, and businesses are true assets of our community," says GDCC 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."

The Annual Awards Gala serves as a sponsorship opportunity for local businesses. For information about potential sponsorships in connection with the Annual Awards Gala, email Community Events Manager Morgan Faustino at events@dovernh.org.

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit association of businesses, professionals, individuals, and organizations working together to advance the economic well-being of its members and the community. For information on programs, please call the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce at 603-742-2218, email info@dovernh.org, or visit www.dovernh.org.

A guide to solid waste and curbside recycling

Don't let your recycling be rejected

Is your trash or recycling not getting picked up? It may be because it does not conform to the City of Dover's recycling and solid waste rules.

Dover's Community Services Director John Storer requests that curbside customers ensure the items placed in recycling containers are recyclable consistent with local guidelines and that bulky items are correctly tagged.

What's acceptable for curbside recycling in Dover?

- **Plastic:** #1, #2 and #5, provided the items are bottles, tubs and jugs. Rinse and dry. Bottle caps can be recycled if removed, washed, and placed back on the bottle. Loose caps, which fall through processing screens, cannot be recycled.
- **Glass:** only bottles and jars. Rinse and dry.
- **Cardboard, cartons and paper:** Newspaper, magazines, office paper and junk mail only. Flatten all boxes, then place them into recycling bins, paper bags, or bundle and tie. When flattened, cardboard dimensions must not exceed two feet by two feet. Pizza boxes with grease must be thrown away as the oil contaminates the other recyclables.
- **No styrofoam is accepted**, even with a recycling symbol on the packing.
- **No plastic bags** are accepted.



Plastics that are not accepted include plastic bags, plastic utensils, straws, plastic wrap, tarps and colored cups. Recycling bins that contain non-recyclable items may not be picked up or flagged with a warning sticker. See full details of [Waste Management's curbside pickup here](#).

"The state of single-stream recycling has changed on a global basis," Storer said. "There is a dwindling market for single-stream recycling, so in order to keep to keep recycling fiscally viable, we need cooperation from residents in what gets placed for collection."

On July 1, 2020, Waste Management took over as the City of Dover's recycling and solid waste vendor. The City Council approved the new five-year contract in February, following a five-year contract with Pinard Waste Services. Recycling accounts for \$600,000 of the \$1 million increase in waste collection costs due to changes in the recycling market and challenges dealing with contaminated recycling.

Nationwide, Waste Management estimates that 25 percent of items placed in recycling bins are actually trash. This 25 percent of trash can contaminate the good recycling commingled with it.

"Recycling contamination happens when trash ruins otherwise good recyclables," says Waste Management in their [Recycling 101 webpage](#).

For example, food or liquid placed recycling that saturates paper and cardboard can contaminate it. "Once contaminated, these recyclables can no longer be recycled. They become trash."

Bulky trash items

For large, non-metal trash items, such as beds, couches, toilets, sinks, carpets, and furniture, residents must purchase a "Bulky Item Tag" for each bulky trash item to be picked up. A bulky item tag costs \$10 and is available at most places where Dover trash bags can be purchased. See the Community Services' [Bag and Tag webpage](#) for a list of locations.

Please note, televisions, computer monitors, microwaves and other metal objects are not accepted for bulky item pickup.

Items left on the curb without a tag may be turned over to the City's health officer to see whether the items can be traced to a property.

All recycling and trash, including bulky tag items, should still be placed curbside by 7 a.m. on the designated collection day or as early as 4 p.m. the day before.

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

City's boards and commissions seek to fill several vacancies

The City of Dover is a vibrant community due in large part to the energy and talent of citizen participation on boards and commissions.

The City's boards and commissions encourage public participation and are seeking new members to fill several vacant positions.

Joining one of the City's numerous boards commissions not only offers a chance to give back to the community, it can be a rewarding and valuable experience, and helps shape the City's future.

For a complete list of the City's boards and commissions, as well as more information about vacancies and how to apply, [click here](#).

To download an application for board and commissions, [click here](#).

Completed forms should be returned to the City Clerk's Office in person, by mail, or by email. Committee application forms are kept on file for one year from date of submission.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 516-6018.

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 the following positions:

- **Police Officer**
- **Summer day camp counselor**
- **Lifeguard**
- **Seasonal maintenance worker**
- **Truck drivers**
- **Parking Enforcement Officer**

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

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.

