

March 8, 2024



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:

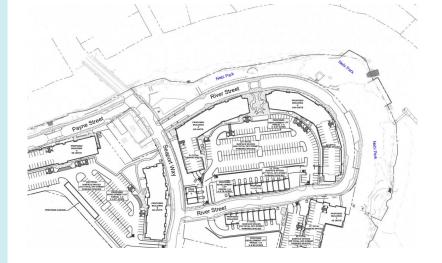
ON THE AGENDA Coming up at the next City Council meeting

City Council to name streets at waterfront development

Council also to consider eliminating Pool Advisory Committee, merging with Recreation Advisory Board

The City Council will consider naming the streets of the Waterfront development at its meeting on Wednesday, March 13. The pending resolution would also rename River Street to Payne Street, in honor of William Payne, the president of the Dover Manufacturing Company. River Street is proposed to become the name of the loop street within the new development. The road that connects to Washington Street and the Makem Bridge would be named Seaport Way. The new public park would be named Nebi Park. Nebi is the Abenaki name for river/water and represents the heritage of the parcel. The Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee endorsed the names at its January meeting.

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



A map showing the site of the ongoing waterfront development and proposed street names before the City Council next week.

The City Council will hold also a public hearing on a proposed ordinance resolution that would eliminate the Pool Advisory Committee and increase the number of positions on the Recreation Advisory Board. The consolidating of the committee is part of the City Council's ongoing effort to reorganize and streamline city boards and commissions.

Another public hearing is on a pending resolution to accept and expend a New Hampshire Charitable Foundation grant of \$228,400 to be used for designing, engineering and permitting for the replacement of the Bellamy Road Bridge that conveys the Bellamy River. This grant will supplement a \$421,600 grant from the Federal Highway Administration for the same project.

At every meeting, the Council holds a public forum that allows any resident, business owner or taxpayer to speak to the City Council about any item. While there are no budget discussions planned for the meeting, members of the public are encouraged to voice their opinions on the proposed FY2025 budget. On Wednesday, March 20, the City Council will formally hold a public hearing on the city portion of the budget.

Other agenda items include:

- Approving a purchase and sale agreement with Mezzanine Catering, LLC, for a 2.6-acre parcel in Enterprise Park;
- Authorizing an additional scope of work for Underwood Engineers for construction oversight of the composite elevated water storage tank on Webb Place for \$150,000. This would reduce the project's contingency to \$150,000. The city is also requesting a \$1616 credit from the project contractor, which has exceeded the contracted completion dates.

<u>Click here</u> for the complete agenda. The meeting will be held in City Hall's Council Chambers beginning at 7 p.m. It will be televised on Channel 22 and online at https://dovernh.viebit.com



City Council budget sessions continue in coming weeks

The City Council held its third budget workshop this week, on Wednesday, March 6, where it received departmental budget presentations from Police, Fire and Rescue, and Planning and Community Development. A video recording of the workshop and related budget materials are posted to the <u>FY2025 Budget Revealed</u> online resource page.

The next budget meeting will be on Wednesday, March 20. The City Council will hold a special meeting at 7 p.m. for a public hearing on all aspects of the proposed FY2025 budget, except for public education. Following the special meeting, the City Council will hold a workshop to receive the final departmental budget presentations from Community Services, Recreation and Parking Bureau.

Upcoming budget meetings and workshops

Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.

City Council special meeting
City budget public hearing
City Council workshop to follow the special meeting
Budget review: Parking, Community Services and Recreation budgets

Wednesday, April 3, 6 p.m.

City Council workshop General budget review

Following workshop: City Council special meeting for budget adoption

Wednesday, April 10, 7 p.m.

City Council regular meeting Fallback budget adoption date

Sign up for the Budget Revealed newsletter

The City Manager releases a weekly newsletter, Budget Revealed, which provides a host of information about the FY2025 budget process, including a recap of any budget presentations that week and a preview of what will occur the following week. Sign up for the newsletter here: https://bit.ly/doverdownload. Select "Budget Revealed" from the list of newsletters.

The newsletters are posted to the FY2025 Budget Revealed page once published.



Daylight Saving Time a reminder for fire safety and prevention

As clocks spring forward for Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 2 a.m., fire safety experts emphasize the importance of using this annual event as a reminder to check smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Dover Fire and Rescue encourages residents to take a simple step that could save lives by replacing batteries in smoke detectors and testing the devices during the time change. Officials also advise reminding relatives, friends, and neighbors to follow this safety practice.

"A staggering 80 percent of child fire fatalities happen in homes lacking functional smoke alarms," said Dover Fire Chief Michael McShane. "This heartbreaking statistic underscores why it's crucial to have an adequate number of smoke detectors installed and make changing the batteries a routine when you adjust your clocks. For hardwired units, swapping batteries periodically ensures they remain operational during potential power outages year-round."

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 71 percent of smoke alarms failed to activate due to missing, disconnected, or depleted batteries. Regularly changing batteries at least annually, testing the alarms, and encouraging others to do so are among the easiest yet most effective methods to prevent tragic fire deaths and injuries.

"The highest risk for home fire fatalities falls between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep," McShane stated. "Maintaining smoke detectors is a straightforward way to dramatically reduce these devastating incidents. Children and seniors are especially vulnerable, and functional alarms can provide them with precious extra seconds to safely evacuate."

Working smoke detectors double the chance of surviving a residential fire.

For more fire safety information, contact Dover Fire and Rescue at 603-516-6148.

River Street to be closed starting next month through summer

Closure related to utility, roadway work for waterfront project

River Street will be closed to through traffic 24 hours a day beginning in April and continuing through the summer. Currently, the target closing date is Monday, April 8, which is anticipated to last at least through Labor Day in September 2024.

The closure will allow contractors to install a new water main, stormwater drainage, and electrical duct bank related to the waterfront project and complete other roadway work. There is also work to repair the Cochecho River shoreline next to River Street which was damaged from recent storms.

When the River Street is closed, public parking will also be prohibited on the street. Public parking is available nearby, such as on Henry Law Avenue.

More information about the closure and any detours will be posted later this month.

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

Ward 4 state representative special election is Tuesday

A special election will be held to fill the Strafford District 11 state representative seat on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. District 11 represents Dover Ward 4, Lee and Madbury.

The polling place for Ward 4 is Garrison Elementary School at 50 Garrison Road. Polling hours will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Need an absentee ballot? Click here for an application or visit the Dover City Clerk's Office in City Hall's Customer Service Center, located on the ground floor.



The two candidates on the ballot are Democrat Erik Johnson of Lee, and Republican Joseph E. Bazo of Madbury. <u>Click here</u> for a sample ballot. A special primary election was held on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024.

The special election will fill the seat that became vacant after the death of Rep. Hoy Robert Menear of Lee in November 2023.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 603-516-6018, visit the city's dedicated <u>election webpage</u>, or the New Hampshire Secretary of State's <u>election webpage</u>.

City Hall financial system offline afternoon of Tuesday, March 19

Most services still available, except for information on property taxes, water/sewer billing

Due to the planned maintenance of the City Hall's networking infrastructure, the financial system will be offline on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, starting at 3 p.m. The system will be back online when City Hall reopens at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 20.

When the system is offline, customers not be able to pay their property taxes and water/sewer bills; City Hall employees will also not be able to tell customers what their balances are due for these items. However, the City Clerk's Office will still be able to process motor vehicle registrations, dog licensing, vital records requests, and voter registrations.

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

Upcoming Meetings:

Conservation Commission, March 11, 5:30 p.m.

The Conservation Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, March 11, 2024, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

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

School Board, March 11, 7 p.m.

The School Board will hold a regular meeting on Monday, March 11, 2024, beginning at 7 p.m., in Room 306, School Board Chambers, at the McConnell Center.

To view the meeting agenda, click here.

Planning Board, March 12, 7 p.m.

The Planning Board will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

City Council, March 13, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

Planning Board Technical Review Committee, March 14, 10:30 a.m.

The Planning Technical Review Committee will hold a regular



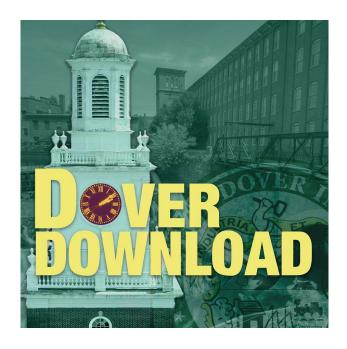


On the Agenda: Planning Board, 3/12/2024

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, March 12, 2024. The video can be viewed by clicking the image above or https://dovernh.viebit.com/player.php? hash=towBMi1UUcmREfV5.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting will be broadcast live on Channel 22 and streamed live online.

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



Public meetings spotlight: February roundup

meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2024, beginning at 10:30 a.m., in Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, click here.

Solid Waste Advisory Commission, March 14, 6 p.m.

The Solid Waste Advisory Commission will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2024, beginning at 6 p.m., at Community Services, 271 Mast Road.

To view the meeting agenda, click here.

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

In the latest episode of Dover Download, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Brian Early from Media Services and Erin Bassegio from the Planning Department to discuss recent updates and activities for Dover's public boards, commissions and committees. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at https://bit.ly/48DF74a.



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

Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

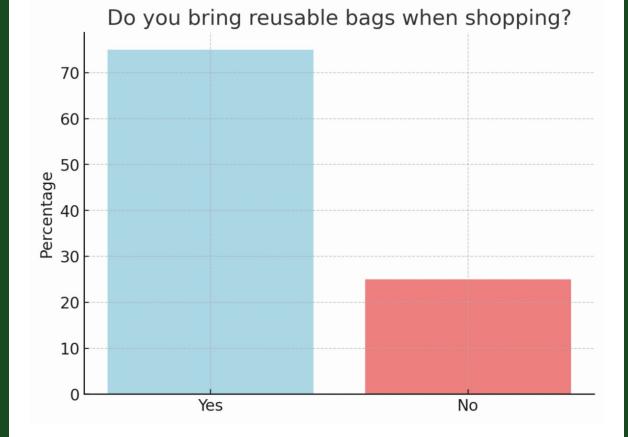
We want to hear from you! In each edition of Dover Download, we're looking for your response to our question of the week. A new poll will appear each week in Dover Download, along with the previous week's results. Participating is easy – just click on the link below to cast your vote.

This week's question: "What is your favorite place to take visitors in Dover?"

Let us know here: https://polco.us/fsuzzs.

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.

Here are the top five results from last week's poll, which asked, "Do you bring reusable bags when shopping?"





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 <u>located here</u>.

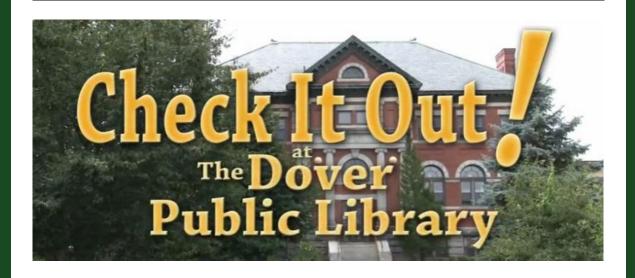
March 14, 1768 — The town voted that there was no objection to the Parish of Madbury being set off as a town, as petitioned to the Governor, Council, and Assembly.

March 11, 1806 — The town votes to give a premium of 10 cents to any person killing a crow within the town's limits.

March 9, 1842 — John B.H. Odiorne died at age 50 on this day. Odiorne was a well-known business owner in Dover. He was in Dartmoor prison in England at the time of the massacre of American prisoners in the War of 1812.

March 14, 1918 — An immense sheet of ice from Great Bay swept away the old Dover Point Bridge. Over 700 Dover residents, mostly Shipyard workers, are stranded in Newington as a result. The following day, a sheet of ice 11 acres wide and four feet thick damages the bridge further. It is estimated the bridge would not be repaired and open again until late summer of that year. In the meantime, the new route for summer tourists was reported to be from Newburyport, Mass., through Salisbury Beach, Hampton, Rockingham Junction, Newmarket, Durham, and along Durham Road to Dover.

March 10, 1999 — Peter Schmidt was sworn in on this day as the new Ward 2 city councilor, filling a vacancy left by James Jalbert in January of that year.



Spring seed swap set for March 16

The Piscataqua Seed Project and Seacoast NH Permaculture are holding a spring seed swap on March 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dover Public Library's Lecture Hall.

The seed project will have seeds available, and attendees are encouraged to bring seeds saved from their gardens or unused purchased seeds. Extra seeds will become part of the community seed bank for local growers and gardeners.

The seeds are free, but donations will be accepted to support the seed bank.

The Piscataqua Seed Project empowers people to grow food locally and save heirloom seeds for future generations, sharing skills and knowledge. It believes a healthy food system creates resilient communities and connects people to cultural heritage.

The swap is the final event in a January-March library program series co-sponsored with Seacoast NH Permaculture. Through March, a permaculture quilt made by group members is displayed near the magazine section.

The free public event's details are available by calling the library at 603-516-6050.

Library hours are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

This Week at the Library

Sunday, March 10, 1:30 to 4:45 p.m. Silent Reading Group

It's a book club with no assigned reading, no expectations, and no rules. Share light discussion on the book you brought and enjoy the quiet, productive space of the library. Bring a snack.

Bring a friend. Come read!

Monday, March 11, 4 to 4:45 p.m. Big Kids Storytime

Kids in grades K-2 are invited to join us for a storytime with more in-depth, challenging picture books. Registration required.

Wednesday, March 13, 2 to 3 p.m. Matter of Fact: Non-Fiction Book Club

This book group is dedicated to nonfiction, exploring history, science, essays, and biography. This month's book will be *Forensics* by Val McDermid. Pick up a copy at the front desk.

Wednesday, March 13, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Elementary Exploration Kids in grades K - 4 are invited to join us after school for a fun, engaging STEM

experiment! Registration required.

Wednesday, March 13, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Monday, March 11, 6 to 7 p.m. Quiet time: A Group for Parents and Caregivers of Young Children

Parents and caregivers of young children are invited to this relaxed, open forum community group. We'll discuss a variety of topics, from navigating childcare to going back to work. Feel free to bring a light snack along with you to enjoy, and we'll provide tea. Lap children are welcome, but we kindly ask that older children stay at home.

Monday, March 11, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Library Budget Revealed

Library Director Denise LaFrance will answer questions regarding the library budget for fiscal FY2024/2025.

Tuesday, March 12, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Mother Goose on the Loose

For babies through 2 years and parent/caregiver, Mother Goose on the Loose is a 30-minute program with nursery rhymes, songs, puppets, and short stories. A joyful and fun gathering that promotes early literacy skills.

Tuesday, March 12, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Series of the Month Book Club for 2nd and 3rd Graders

Are you a fan of the *Magic Bone* series by Nancy Krulik? If you are in 2nd or 3rd grade and have read one or more books in the *Magic Bone* series come meet with other fans to talk about these popular books. There will also be a related craft. *Registration required*.

Tuesday, March 12, 6 to 8 p.m. Dungeons & Dragons: Adult Group

Drop in and play Dungeons & Dragons with Game Master Dave. This 18 and older group is for new and veteran role-playing gamers to join us in the library for adventure, strategy, and imagination. The group will meet every Tuesday night; come when you can. No experience or materials are required.

Tuesday, March 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Friends of the Dover Public Library

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

Weds., March 13 - Weds., April 17

Mush! Noggin the Sled Dog (and her Human)

What does it feel like to ride the runners behind a team of dogs, steering a loaded sled through mountainous terrain, crossing the vast Alaskan tundra, hugging the shoreline of the great Bering Sea? What does it take to care for a team of Alaskan huskies? Could my dog be a sled dog, too? Musher, Karen Land, and Noggin, the Alaskan husky, will answer these questions and more!

Wednesday, March 13, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Chess Group

Adults and teens are invited to drop in to play a game or two and meet other folks interested in all things chess. Please bring a chess set if you have one!

Thursday, March 14, 10 am to 12 pm Piece by Piece Puzzle Club

What can improve your memory, reduce stress and help you make new friends? Cooperative puzzling. Come to relax, chat with fellow puzzlers and of course make the puzzle Piece by Piece.

Thursday, March 14, 10 to 10:45 am Arts and Crafts Storytime

Arts and Crafts Storytime is for children ages 3-6. 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, March 14, 4 to 5 p.m. Multilingual Book Group

Educators from the UNH Community
Literacy Center lead this group that
features a different language each week.
There will also be an art activity based on
the theme. This program is geared
towards students in grades kindergarten
through 3 (other ages OK).

Thursday, March 14, 5 to 8 p.m. Magic the Gathering

Join every Thursday to play Magic the Gathering. Collect cards, build decks, and duel other players. All ages and skill levels welcome. No materials required.

Thursday, March 14, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Bottle Cap Pies

Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to celebrate Pi Day with us by crafting mini pies using bottle caps! All supplies will be provided.

Thursday, March 14, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Reading Rainbow Book Group Join Reading Rainbow Dover Public

Join Reading Rainbow, Dover Public Library's Queer book group to discuss

22nd Annual Poetry Contest

The Dover Public Library is pleased to announce the 22nd Annual Dover Public Library Poetry contest for seacoast area residents ages 5 and up. Prizes will be awarded in seven different categories: Grades K-2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6, 7 & 8, 9 & 10, 11 & 12, and adults ages 18 & older. Poems will be judged on originality, style, and creativity. Deadline for entry is April 17. Students may pick up information about the contest at the Dover Public Library or online at library.dover.nh.gov.

Weds., March 13, 10 to 10:30 a.m.
Family Storytime-Field Trip Edition
Come on a field trip with us to Riverside
Rest Home for a multi-generational
Family Storytime. Children of all ages
with caregivers are invited to attend this
program which includes stories,
fingerplays, songs, and puppets.

Wednesday, March 13, 11 am to 12 pm
All Abilities Club: Art for All
This inclusive program for adults

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.

The Empress of Salt and Fortune by Nghi Vo. Copies of the books will be available to borrow from the library and some through Hoopla or Libby. All are welcome at this inclusive book group.

Thursday, March 14, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Meditation Class

Try this free meditation series to learn how to be more relaxed and mindful. The Lift Method, created by Dover resident, Thomas McGreavey, is an enhancement to traditional mindfulness meditation that can soothe anxiety and ease the flight/fight/freeze response on the spot.

Saturday, March 16, 1 to 3 p.m. Seed Swap Event with Piscataqua Seed Project and Seacoast NH Permaculture

Spring is coming! Get your garden started early by starting some seeds indoors this year! PSP will have seeds available and attendees are encouraged to bring seeds saved from their own garden or unused seeds they have purchased. Any extra seeds will become part of the PSP community seed bank and made available to growers and gardeners throughout the Seacoast.



Dover High School Film Festival showcases student filmmakers

Dover High School will host its annual Independent Film Festival tonight, Friday, March 8, featuring over 20 student-produced films and raising funds for the Nathan Tooch Memorial Scholarship.

The festival's red carpet opens at 6:30 p.m., with films beginning at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium. Admission is \$4.

In addition to the lineup of short films made by Dover High students and community members, the festival will screen "Fight or Flight," a documentary short about the journey of 1999 Dover High graduate Denise Joi Locke.

Proceeds from the \$4 admission fee will benefit the Nathan Tooch Memorial Scholarship fund.

Dover High School is located at 25 Alumni Drive.

For more information about the film festival, call 603-516-6900.



Dover Community Gardens now accepting new member sign-ups

Dover Community Gardens announced this week that new member sign-ups for the upcoming growing season are now open. Community members interested in securing a garden plot can sign up at Dover Community Gardens. Plots are available at Garrison Hill Park for \$50 for the season and on County Farm Road next to the courthouse for \$20 for the season.

Assignments of garden plots will be done on a first-come, first-served basis. This initiative offers residents of Dover an excellent opportunity to grow their own food, engage with the community, and enjoy the benefits of outdoor activities.

Dover Community Gardens is a grassroots, all-volunteer group that launched with the support of the Dover City Council, Dover's Conservation Commission and the Strafford County Commission.

For additional information or queries, potential members are encouraged to visit https://dovercommunitygarden.wordpress.com/ or reach out via email at dover.growfood@gmail.com.



Join the Joe B. Parks Riverwalk garden team

The Joe B. Parks Riverwalk Public Gardens seeks individuals to help maintain individual plots or work on special projects during 2024. No gardening experience or green thumb is needed.

Volunteers may select a garden bed or task. Gardening tools are available onsite in the shed, and free two-hour parking is available near the Dover Post Office.

Email contact@joeparksgarden.org or call 603-817-1843 to discuss opportunities.



Batteries: Knowledge Is Power



Recycle all:

- Rechargeable
- Lithium
- Automobile
- Boat
- Motorcycle
- Lawn tractor

Place in the battery bin at the Recycling Center.

Brought to you by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Ever wonder what to do with used batteries? Rechargeable (AA, AAA, C, D, 9V (Ni-cad)), lithium (come in a variety of household sizes), and any automobile, boat, motorcycle, or lawn tractor are all hazardous! These go into the battery bin at the Recycling Center located in the building right before the single stream recycling container.

Single use, alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9V) are non-hazardous and may go in the trash.

Learn more about solid waste and recycling.





Cider Flights, Tasty Bites feature North Country Hard Cider

Grown-ups can join the Children's Museum of New Hampshire for an evening of hard cider sampling and tasty nibbles on Saturday, March 23, 2024, from 7-9 p.m., with 6:30 p.m. VIP entrance.

This 21-and-over event will feature tastings of five all-natural hard ciders provided by North Country Hard Cider, based in Dover. Included in the ticket price are 4-ounce pours of cider paired with tasty bites from local restaurants and activities. Participating businesses include Fat Dog Kitchen, Ohana Kitchen, Stalk Restaurant, HiFi Burritos, Flight Coffee, Lindt Chocolate and Sweetened Memories Bakery, with more to come.

A portion of each ticket sold supports the museum's exhibits and programs. VIP tickets cost \$50 per person or \$35 per person for designated drivers, including early access at 6:30 p.m. and one extra cider pour (six total). VIP tickets will not be sold at the door.

General admission tickets cost \$35 per person or \$25 per person for designated drivers, including entry at 7 p.m. and five cider pours. If tickets remain, they will be available at the door for \$40 per person for general admission or \$30 per person for designated drivers.

The event has sold out in past years, so get tickets early online at www.childrens-museum.org.



Nature as muse with Center for Wildlife

Let nature be your guide.

Visit the Children's Museum of New Hampshire during the 10 a.m.-noon play session this Saturday, March 9, to learn about wild animals with The Center for Wildlife and their animal ambassadors.

A center educator will answer questions and teach visitors about the ambassadors. Take inspiration from nature to create artwork to take home.

To join, reserve spots for the 9 a.m.-noon play session, included with museum admission and free for members, at www.childrens-museum.org. Arrive by 10 a.m. to meet the animals.

This special visit is part of the museum's Performance Series, sponsored by The Fuller Foundation, TD Charitable Foundation, Abbie F. Moseley Charitable Trust and the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts.



Newsweek names Wentworth-Douglass among best hospitals in U.S.

Wentworth-Douglass Hospital has been named among the best hospitals in the United States for the fourth straight year, according to Newsweek's 2024 "World's Best Hospitals" rankings published Wednesday.

Wentworth-Douglass was ranked 180th of the 412 American hospitals rated on the publication's US-based list – its highest ranking ever. The hospital was ranked 189th in 2023, 191st in 2022, 217th in 2021, and 196th in 2020. Wentworth-Douglass was the only Seacoast hospital on the list and one of just two in the state of New Hampshire. According to the American Hospital Association, there are currently 6,129 hospitals in the USA.

"We are deeply honored to find ourselves among Newsweek's Top 200 yet again," said Darin Roark, president and chief operating officer, "Every accolade we receive is a tribute to the unwavering dedication of our staff to our patients and community. Their steadfast commitment deserves every bit of acclaim they receive, and I couldn't be prouder of their achievements."

The rankings, which debuted in 2019, were compiled by market and consumer data company Statista. The company says the hospital quality metrics used for the USA ranking are part of the Medicare "Hospital Compare" dataset, published by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The aim is to generate a comprehensive representation of the overall quality that patients and consumers can interpret but also to identify performance categories within a large number of hospitals in the US.

"Each hospital's score is based on an online survey of more than 85,000 medical experts and public data from post-hospitalization patient surveys on their general satisfaction," said Nancy Cooper, global editor-in-chief of Newsweek on the publication's website. "There aren't many decisions more important than choosing the right hospital to provide care for yourself or a loved one."

You can see the full rankings online: https://www.newsweek.com/rankings/worlds-best-hospitals-2024/united-states.

Deadline for Dover Chamber annual award nominations is March 18

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.



All awards will be presented at the GDCC's Annual Awards Gala, scheduled for May 9.

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. To submit a nomination, visit www.dovernh.org/awards. All nominations are due by March 18 at 5 p.m.

Volunteer boards help keep Dover vibrant

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

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

- Arena Commission
- Energy Commission
- Committee for Racial Equity and Inclusion
- McConnell Center Advisory Committee
- Planning Board
- · Pool Advisory Committee
- · Recreation Advisory Board
- Utilities Commission

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

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

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

City of Dover employment opportunities

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

- Firefighter/EMT
- Police Officer
- Public Safety Dispatcher
- Lifeguard
- Swim Instructor
- Planning Division Supervisor
- Camera Operator
- Water Treatment Operator
- Heavy Equipment Operator, Utilities
- Water Exercise Instructor
- Account Clerk
- · Laborer, Utilities
- Truck Driver, Utilities
- Fire/Life Safety Inspector
- Summer Day Camp Counselor
- Summer Camp Supervisor
- Director of Recreation

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

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:

- Speech Language Pathologist Assistant Long Term Substitute
- Traveling Tales
- SOCC Summer Tutors
- Physical Education/Wellness Teacher
- 5th Grade Teacher
- Long Term Sub Language Arts Teacher
- Special Education Paraprofessionals
- District School Psychologists
- DALC Administrative Assistant
- Dover High School JV Field Hockey Coach
- Elementary 3rd grade Teacher
- Coach Girls JV Lacrosse Coach
- Special Education Teacher Case Manager
- Paraprofessionals
- Day Porter at Dover High School Facilities
- Substitute Teachers
- Dover Middle School Girls Head Lacrosse Coach

For more information about these positions, click here.

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





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