

News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire

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Meetings this week:

School Board, August 24, 6:30 p.m.

The School Board will hold a special session on

Friday, August 21, 2015

City of Dover files suit to recover state education funding shortfall

City Manager J. Michael Joyal, Jr. announced Thursday the City is suing the state of New Hampshire to claim more than \$14 million in education adequacy funding not provided to the City of Dover over several years. A petition for declaratory judgment was filed in Strafford County Superior Court on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2015. The City is represented by Attorney Andru Volinsky.

The petition for declaratory judgment can be viewed here.

Dover Mayor Karen Weston released a letter to Dover citizens, explaining why the City has chosen to pursue action against the state and recover years of state funding shortfalls.

Her letter follows:

A letter to Dover citizens from Mayor Karen Weston

I am writing this to explain to the citizens of Dover why we have decided to file a lawsuit against the State of New Monday, Aug. 24, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in School Board Chambers at the McConnell Center.

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

Planning Board, August 25, 7 p.m.

The Planning Board will hold a regular meeting, on Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2015, at 7 p.m. in Room 306 at the McConnell Center.

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

City Council, August 26, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold a regular meeting, on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015, at 7 p.m. in Room 306 at the McConnell Center.

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

To view televised meetings online, on demand, visit www.dover.nh.gov/dntv.

For a complete list of upcoming meetings visit the meeting calendar page.

Hampshire concerning its educational funding system, and what this lawsuit means.

In the landmark Claremont education funding case decided by our state's Supreme Court, the primary principle established is that the state must fund a constitutionally adequate education for each and every child in our public schools. Over the years since Claremont was decided, the state accomplished this promise by adopting a formula that defines and pays the costs of a constitutional education on a per pupil basis. The educational funding follows the student. If the student moves from one school district to another, the funding moves with him or her, with one exception.

Pursuant to a state law, first adopted in 2009, the amount that the state payment can grow from year to year is capped at eight percent. This cap exists without regard to the number of students who move into a school district or first become of age to attend school. Currently, state statute caps the education payments that a school district may receive from the state at 108%, regardless of whether the district's growth is 110%, 120% or more.

We should be proud that Dover is a vibrant, growing and healthy community. We are thriving and businesses and individuals alike are choosing to come here because of who we are and how we do business. Yet the current state law penalizes Dover schools and the Dover taxpayer for our success because state payments are arbitrarily limited. Since 2009, the state has underpaid Dover - and other similarly growing communities - each and every year. This fiscal year alone, Dover will lose over \$1.4 million in state constitutional aid because of the arbitrary cap.

The City Council and I voted to act quickly to hire experienced attorneys to challenge this arbitrary cap on educational funding, not only because it's the right and fiscally prudent thing to do for Dover and our residents, but because complex constitutional considerations make it difficult to win back payments from the state that should have been made in the past. We likely can only work to fix the problem of an arbitrary cap going forward. The first of



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.

Recycling Center hours:

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

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four constitutional education payments from the state this fiscal year is due on Sept. 1 and this payment will be hundreds of thousands of dollars short. If we do not act now, this shortfall will be difficult to recoup.

Our city is a great and wonderful place, and it is an honor to serve as your mayor, alongside our dedicated City Council. We have strong schools led by talented teachers and great administrators. We did not undertake this decision lightly. Our intention is to support the Dover School Board in providing an adequate education for our students. We know that we will incur some expense by commencing this suit and that we may bear some risk by undertaking this effort. However, we believe that Dover's children and taxpayers are well worth the fight. We hope to resolve the dispute as quickly as possible and will do all that we can to work with critical decision makers to find an acceptable legal remedy as soon as possible.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mayor Karen Weston can be reached at k.weston@dover.nh.gov and at 603-743-6894.

Karen Weston, Mayor



New documents available for High School and CTC building project

The Joint Building Committee overseeing the high school and Career Technical Center construction project released a series of new, consolidated and detailed documents that provide an overview of the process that led to the committee's building option selection, as well as hundreds of pages of supporting documentation.

The documents can be accessed on the <u>main project</u> <u>page here</u>, as well as on the project document <u>archive</u> <u>page here</u>. The four documents are all titled "Feasibility Study, August 2015," followed by a volume number.

The Dover School Board passed a resolution to support the construction of a new high school and Career Technical Center. The City Council is scheduled to vote on final funding for the project at its Aug. 26 regular meeting.

More information about the high school and CTC building project, including the most recent cost estimates, can be found at the project's <u>online resource here</u>.



Did you know? City Hall now open Fridays

City Hall offices are now open Monday through Friday.

City Hall is open Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m, and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In May, the City Council adopted a fiscal year 2016 budget that included funding for the additional hours at City Hall.



Cochecho Arts Festival wraps up 29th season this weekend

Final show moves to Dover High School due to weather forecast

The Cochecho Arts Festival wraps up its current season this weekend. The annual festival, now in its 29th year, concludes Friday with its signature Headliner Series performance at 6 p.m.

The final show features The Soggy Po Boys, sponsored by Dover Rotary, and opening act Swing Rocket, sponsored by Convenient MD.

Due to the weather, tonight's show will move from the Rotary Arts Pavilion to the Dover High School auditorium.

All Cochecho Arts Festival events are free to attend and open to the public.

The festival is organized by the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, click here.



Bus routes available for Dover

public schools

The Dover School District recently released school bus routes for all Dover public schools.

The bus routes can be viewed at the SAU 11 <u>website</u> here.

The bus route page also includes the school district's transportation policies and bus provider contact information.



Public Library unveils new website

The Dover Public Library this week unveiled its new website. The new website, which has been in the works for several months, features a fresh, new look and many new features.

In addition to library resources patrons already enjoy, what else can you find at the new site?

- Book reviews;
- Reading suggestions;
- 24/7 access to over two dozen databases for research and online learning;
- Library events calendar;
- Access to downloadable media (eBooks, audiobooks, music, movies, TV shows, documentaries, and more);
- Access to library catalog and ability to place holds, renew items;
- Ability to reserve date-specific museum passes;
- Ask a question of librarians;
- Get latest issues of library's newsletters;
- Clickable links to library on social media, such as

Facebook, twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, and the library's blog;

- Mobile-friendly site;
- Dover history and historical images.

Check it out now (along with a good book) at <u>library.dover.nh.gov</u>.

Or, for more information, call the Dover Public Library at 603-516-6050.

Library hours are Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

NHDOT to hold Dover info session on Spaulding Turnpike widening

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) has scheduled an Aug. 25 public update on the overall status of design and construction for the widening of a 3.5-mile section of the Spaulding Turnpike (New Hampshire Route 16), beginning north of Exit 1 in Newington and running northerly to the Dover Toll Plaza, just north of Exit 6 (US Route 4) in Dover.

The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2015 at 7 p.m., in the auditorium at Dover City Hall, 288 Central Ave.

The session will include an overview of the Department's continued engineering evaluation and solicitation of public input to comply with the requirements of section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 for the Gen. Sullivan Bridge. NHDOT will also provide an overview of two supplemental projects that are planned in the area; one involving a new Turnpike Maintenance Facility in Newington, and a second involving an upgrade of the Dover tolls to incorporate open-road tolling.

The purpose of this meeting is to present citizens and public officials with information regarding the proposed

project and to solicit public input in order to ensure that project decisions meet public transportation needs, community goals, and protect and enhance the environment. NHDOT acknowledges the General Sullivan Bridge is eligible for listing in the national register of historic places. To comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, input on impacts to this resource will be solicited. Accordingly, NHDOT assures that this project will be administered according to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all related statutes to ensure nondiscrimination.

Any individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication equipment due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Bureau of Right-of-Way, NHDOT, PO Box 483, Concord, NH 03302-0483, or call 603-271-3222 - TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964. Notification for the need of assistance should be made at the earliest convenience.

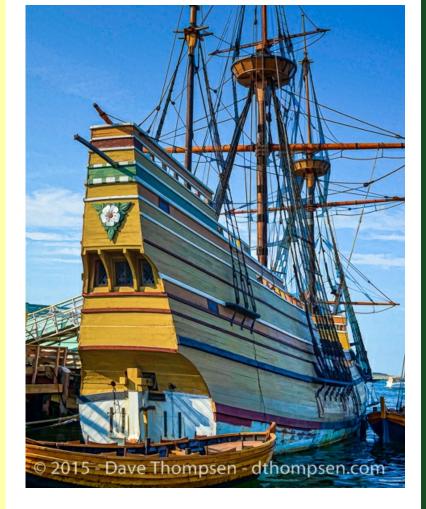
Governor, Executive Council to meet in Dover Aug. 26

The Governor and Executive Council will hold their next scheduled meeting in Dover on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

The meeting will begin with a breakfast session at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St. The breakfast session is open to the public.

The regular meeting of the Governor and Executive Council will begin at 10 a.m. at 7th Settlement, 47 Washington St.

For more information, visit www.nh.gov/council/index.html.



'Stamp Treks' exhibit at Dover Library in September

"Stamp Treks", a photography exhibition by Dave Thompsen, will be on view during the month of September at the Dover Public Library. Featured are selected works that celebrate the famous people, places, and events depicted on our nation's postage stamps.

This exhibit focuses on subjects with New England ties - literary greats such as Nathaniel Hawthorne from Massachusetts, artist Winslow Homer from Maine, events such as the landing of the Mayflower in Plymouth, and iconic sites like New Hampshire's Old Man of the Mountain. The exhibit is designed to give viewers of all ages an appreciation for New England's rich heritage. The companion web site at dthompsen.com encourages viewers to dig deeper into these intriguing subjects.

The framed works are not typical photographs - they are digital images enhanced by artistic filters or High Dynamic

Range (HDR) processing to yield a unique, "painterly" look. Each image is accompanied by the stamp that inspired it.

An opening presentation will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 7 p.m. at the library. The slideshow will describe the Stamp Treks series, the photographic techniques used, some basic stamp collecting tips, and projected images of each of the works in the exhibition along with high-resolution scans of the postage stamps that inspired them.

Dave Thompsen is a fine art photographer living in Dover, New Hampshire. He developed his photography skills as president of the Seacoast Camera Club and enjoys sharing his artistic talents as a member of the New Hampshire Art and Seacoast Artist Associations. Dave leverages his background in software engineering to explore High Dynamic Range and artistic filter techniques to emphasize key forms in his works. He's passionate about creating unique works that blend travel, technology, and photography.

The program is free and open to the public.

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

Library hours are Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Library will be closed Labor Day weekend, from Sept. 5 to 7.



Apple Harvest Day 5K registration now open

Registration for the Apple Harvest Day 5K is now open.

The first 250 registrants receive a free T-shirt.

This year's Apple Harvest Day is Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015. For the seventh year in a row, the Apple Harvest Day 5K, underwritten by Seacoast Orthopedics and Medicine, will kick off Apple Harvest Day at 8:30 a.m.

For more information, visit the Greater Dover Chamber Commerce website, email info@dovernh.org, or call 603-742-2218.

City of Dover and surrounding towns to hold Hazardous Waste Collection Day

The City of Dover, along with the towns of Rollinsford, Lee and Madbury, will hold a Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the City's Community Services facility, 271 Mast Road.

The goal of Hazardous Waste Collection Day is to allow for the proper disposal of household hazardous materials. Residents of the four communities can bring household hazardous waste to Community Services for safe disposal.

The following household waste will be accepted: fertilizer with acids; bathroom cleaners; brush cleaner; pesticides car waxes/polish; disinfectants; corrosives; fungicides; creosote; furniture polish paint/stain/finish; insect spray; driveway sealers/tar; metal polish (lead and oil based); lighter fluid; flea powder; mothballs; rust preventative; pest strips/traps; gasoline; oven cleaner; solvents; pesticides; radiator flush; photo chemicals; thinner/turpentine; poisons; roofing tar; rug cleaner; wood preservatives; pool chemicals; and wood strippers.

Empty containers are not hazardous. Please dispose of them in your regular trash.

Explosives, asbestos, latex paint, oil (new or used) and

antifreeze will not be accepted.

Hazardous Waste Collection Day in Dover is for household residents only. Proof of residency is required.

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

Dover Community Senior Center kicks off month-long celebration

The Dover Community Senior Center kicks off a month-long celebration in September with singer and songwriter Jim Barnes on Thursday, Sept. 3, at 2 p.m., at the Senior Center.



Humor is a big part of Barnes' music. He has a tale to tell with just about every song. Barnes began writing his New Hampshire-flavored music in 2007, and now has over 40 New Hampshire flavored songs relating the rich story of life in New Hampshire, its history, rural setting, politics, weather and the tourist trade. Songs such as The Parable of the Peach and Apple Pickin' Time take the listener right along on a trip around the state, while others, such as Fees! Fees! Fees! poke fun at the state Legislature. Flatlanders and Trouble at the Dump tickle the ribs of listeners everywhere.

This performance is free and open to anyone over 50. Donations are welcome but not required.

The Dover Community Senior Center is located in Dover at the McConnell Center, 61 Locust St., Door #1.

For more information, contact the Dover Community Senior Center at 603-516-6420.



Lincoln Street utility work expected to resume next week

Utility work that closed Lincoln Street on Thursday is expected to resume next week. Utility crews are replacing a natural gas main on Chestnut Street, between Fifth and Sixth streets. When work resumes next week, likely on Monday, the road will be closed from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

To accommodate lane shifts, on-street parking in the work area on Chestnut Street will be restricted during ongoing work hours.

For more information, contact the Parking Bureau at 516-6132.

Silver Street open to one-way traffic

Silver Street (NH Route 9) will be a one-way street, inbound (easterly) only, from the intersection with Arch Street and Towle Avenue to the intersection with Central Avenue (NH Route 108). This pattern will be in effect at all times of the day, every day, through at least the end of September.

The suggested detour route for passenger cars from downtown will be via Washington Street to Arch Street. The intersection of Washington/Arch Streets will be converted to a three-way stop during this project in order to help safely process the extra traffic. The secondary detour (truck route) will be via Central Avenue to the Spaulding Turnpike.

For more information, visit the Silver Street Reconstruction Project page <u>here</u> or contact Community Services at 516-6450.



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, "Historic Rambles About Dover," by Robert A. Whitehouse, "Port of Dover: Two Centuries of Shipping on the Cochecho" by Robert A. Whitehouse and Cathleen C. Beaudoin, and several other historical sources.

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

http://www.dover.lib.nh.us/DoverHistory/cityof.htm.



Aug. 27, 1724 - The house of John Hanson, at Nock's Marsh, was attacked by the Indians, two of his children killed, and his wife, maid servant and four children carried into captivity. Being a Friend he refused to leave his exposed position, as advised by his neighbors in the more compact part of the settlement. Thirteen Indians and French Mohawks lay for several days near his house in ambush waiting until Hanson and his men were away. When he had gone to the weekday meeting and two sons were at work at some distance the Indians entered the house. Mrs. Hanson with the servant and four children were in the house, of which one child the Indians immediately killed to terrify the others; two other children were at play in the orchard and would have escaped but that just as the Indians had finished rifling the house the two came in sight and made such noise that the Indians killed the youngest boy to stop the alarm. They then started for Canada, with Mrs. Hanson (who had been confined but two weeks previously,) her babe, a boy of six years, and two daughters of 14 and 16 years, and the servant girl. They all reached Canada and Mr. Hanson, soon after the attack, went there to ransom them. This he succeeded in doing, with the exception of his daughter of 16, whose ransom he was unable to obtain, as the Indians would not release her on any terms. Mr. Hanson got home Sept. 1, 1725, but he could not content himself while his

daughter was in bondage, and about the 19th April 1727 started in company with a kinsman who with his wife was bound on a similarly sad errand to redeem children; but he was taken sick and died on the journey.



Aug. 26, 1750 - A singular and splendid appearance in the heavens was noticed at this time which is thus described by one who witnessed it. "This evening I was suddenly surprised by an explosion in the air. It was a quarter after nine, and the sky as free from clouds and thick of stars as I ever saw it. It appeared as if the sky opened in the south about half way from the horizon, as large as the broadside of a house, and the flame as deep a color as any fire I ever saw. It closed up gradually, and was near two minutes before it disappeared."



Aug. 25, 1822- Died at Wolfeboro, Rev. Robert Gray, aged 61; a Revolutionary pensioner and pastor of the Congregational Church in Dover from 1787 to 1805.



Aug. 25, 1846 - A smart shock of an earthquake was felt in many places. To those within doors it sounded like a carriage driven violently over the ground, or the departure of a heavy train of railroad cars, for which it was at the time by many mistaken.

CITY OF DOVER SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay informed with City of Dover special announcements

Want up-to-date information about road work, emergencies, special projects, and other important information? <u>Sign up now</u> to receive special announcements via email.

In addition to Dover Download, the City of Dover offers a variety of e-mail updates, including emergency and road closure information, Police Facility and Parking Garage updates, Silver Street reconstruction news, news from the Public Library, waterfront development, and more.

To sign up for one or all of the City's updates, <u>click here</u>. An e-mail address is required to access the special announcement mailing lists.

DID YOU KNOW?

Dover Chamber kicks off new season of historic walking tours

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce will offer guided walking tours of historic Dover on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. this summer. The tours will be held through September.



Tours will depart from the Chamber, 550 Central Ave., and will travel downtown. Attendees will learn about the rise and fall of Dover's textile industry, "Dover's Black Day" and famous visitors to Dover.

Dover is New Hampshire's oldest, continuos settlement.

Tours are \$8 per person, or \$5 per person for a family of four or more, with a maximum of \$20. These tours last approximately 90 minutes. A water bottle and sneakers are recommended.

New this year is an architectural tour, and returning for its second year is a tour of Pine Hill cemetery. The architectural tour meets at the Locust Street parking lot for St. Joseph's Church. The cost of this tour is also \$8 per person, or \$5 per person for a family of four or more, with a maximum of \$20.

The Pine Hill Cemetery tour must be reserved in advance. The cost of the cemetery tour is \$10 and meets at the Pine Hill Cemetery.

For more information or to make reservations, call (603) 742-2218.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS

City of Dover employment opportunities

Want to work for the City of Dover? The City's website offers an updated list of open postions, including job descriptions and a downloadable application for employment.

To see what positions the City is seeking to fill, <u>click here</u>.

Time to register your vehicle? Save time, register online

Did you know you can save yourself time and a trip to City Hall by registering your vehicle online?

Online vehicle registration renewal is easy, safe and secure. You can register online by providing a PIN number or your license plate number. Your PIN number is provided by the City of Dover and can be found on your renewal notice.

For your convenience, you can now pay for motor vehicle registration by credit card.

For more information on the E-registration process, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

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

Simply visit the City's website at www.dover.nh.gov/dntv

to begin watching meetings on demand. Online meetings are organized by agenda item for convenience.

Catch Channel 22 live, on the go

Dover's governmental access television channel, Channel 22, is now available as a <u>live stream</u>. The live stream allows anyone to view live programming from Channel 22 on a computer or a variety of <u>mobile devices</u>. The live stream can be <u>accessed here</u> on the City's website. This page also includes a programming guide for the day.

In addition to live streaming, the City continues to offer ondemand viewing of programming from Channels 22 and 95. All of the City's on-demand content can be found on the page above or by <u>clicking here</u>.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Want to stay up to speed on exciting events and activities in Dover? Sign up for the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce's weekly newsletter, Peek at the Week, for upto-date information on what's happening in Dover.

Whether it's the schedule for the Cochecho Arts Festival, art exhibits or where to shop for local products, sign up for

Peek at the Week, and you'll be ready for the week ahead.

You can sign up to receive the Chamber's Peek at the Week by e-mail <u>here</u>.