

# DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



December 15, 2023



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

## **Council adopts FY2025-30 CIP**

### **Vote follows Planning Board OK, public hearings**

At its meeting on Dec. 13, the City Council approved three resolutions to adopt the FY2025-2030 Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The CIP was first presented to the City Council and Planning Board in November. Following a public hearing, the Planning Board adopted the CIP on Dec. 12, recommending the proposal to the City Council. The City Council held a public hearing on the CIP on Dec. 6.

The CIP prioritizes all capital spending of \$25,000 or more for items with a useful life of three years or longer. Based on the City Council financial policies, funding for these items includes bonding, the annual operating budget, or other types of financing, such as grant financing. This six-year program links infrastructure spending to the goals and values outlined in the city's Master Plan. Through this process, the city identifies projects within the six-year timeline based on the priorities established in the city's Master Plan.

The first year of the adopted CIP will be included in the proposed citywide operating budget, which will be presented to the City Council in February. As part of the CIP, the City Council authorized bonding \$20,825,000 for debt-service projects beginning in FY2025. Some of the projects are multi-year projects, and the issuance of bonds will be done based on cash flow requirements per the projects' proposed

segments, as presented in the FY2025-2030 CIP. The City Council also authorized appropriating \$3,812,694 for FY2025 non-debt financed projects and authorizing the transfer of capital reserve funds in the same amount to fund these projects.

More information about the CIP can be found on a special section of the city's website devoted to the program, accessible at <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning/special-projects/cip/>.

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## Council rejects stormwater utility

The City Council voted down a proposed ordinance that would have established a stormwater and flood resilience utility at its [Dec. 13 regular meeting](#). Councilors Dennis Shanahan, Lindsey Williams and Deborah Thibodeaux voted in favor of the proposed Municipal Stormwater Utility ordinance, which did not pass on a 3-6 vote.

The Dec. 13 City Council meeting can be [viewed here](#) and on Channel 22.

The vote on the ordinance stems from the passing of a Feb. 23, 2022 City Council resolution [stating the Council's intent](#) to form a stormwater utility by ordinance; it passed on a 6-3 vote, with Councilors Michelle Muffett-Lipinski, Robert Warach and Fergus Cullen voting against. The same resolution also accepted its Ad-Hoc Committee to Study Stormwater and Flood Resilience Funding [unanimous recommendation](#) of funding stormwater infrastructure and maintenance through a stormwater utility.

The City Council established the [ad hoc committee](#) at its Aug. 12, 2020 meeting, charging it "to investigate, study, and identify and make recommendations to the City Council concerning various funding opportunities that may exist with respect to existing needs and future stormwater and flood resilience management planning." The committee held [14 monthly public meetings](#) as it studied the issue. Its establishment followed an Aug. 5, 2020 [City Council workshop](#) with staff from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership, during which the organizations outlined the need for Seacoast communities to explore funding for the present and future management of stormwater and planning/responses to coastal flooding.

Following the City Council's intent to create the utility, the Council's Ordinance Committee worked with city staff, consultants and the Dover Utilities Commission to draft the ordinance; regular updates were provided at public meetings. In addition, city staff and consultants held public workshops that included presentations, discussions, and the opportunity to submit questions about how the utility would affect them and receive written responses from the city.

The public process lasted more than three years and included more than 20 public meetings, including six in the last seven months. Documents related to the creation of the stormwater utility are posted on the city's [Stormwater Management webpage](#), which also includes video recordings of meetings and workshops, presentation slides, responses to submitted questions, and the report on the findings and recommendations of the ad hoc committee. Find the webpage at <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/community-services/stormwater-management/>.

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## Jewish community joins Mayor Carrier to light menorah at City Hall for Hanukkah

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, members of the Seacoast Jewish community, led by Rabbi Berel Slavaticki of the Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center, were joined by Mayor Robert Carrier for the ceremonial lighting of a menorah in Council Chambers at City Hall to mark the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah.

Mayor Carrier lent his hand to Rabbi Slavaticki in lighting the shamash ("attendant") candle and reciting the traditional blessings during the lighting at City Hall. He was then presented with the menorah upon which his name is inscribed.

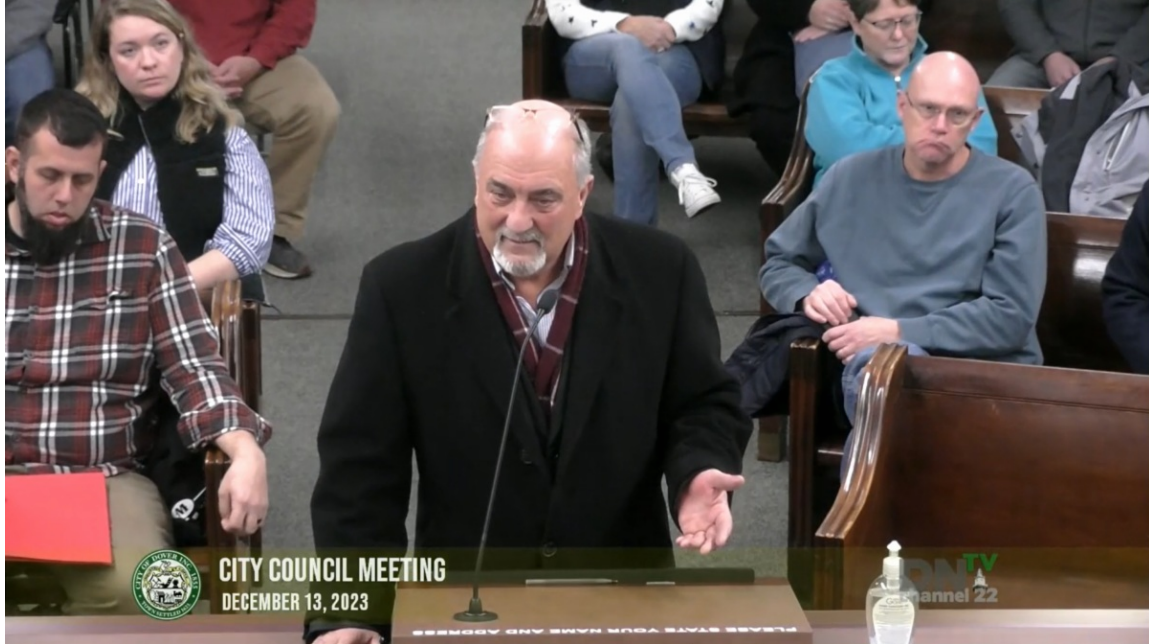
"It was an honor to join Rabbi Slavaticki and members of the Jewish community to light the menorah for this important holiday," said Mayor Carrier. "Hanukkah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over religious oppression and the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The menorah lighting upholds this powerful tradition, which reminds us of the triumph of light over darkness, especially during these difficult times in the world today."

Rabbi Slavaticki also provided the mayor with doughnuts from a New York deli. The doughnuts were among more than 500 "treat boxes" distributed by the Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center throughout the region.

Hanukkah is an eight-day Jewish holiday celebrating the triumph of light over darkness and faith over oppression. Jews light a nine-branched candelabrum called a menorah each night of the holiday, adding one candle per night.

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## County delegation to vote on authorizing bonding for new nursing home

County Commissioner George Maglaras [spoke to the City Council](#) on Dec. 13 about the upcoming vote on the Commissioner's plan to build a new nursing home.

The Strafford County Legislative Delegation is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m., with a snow date of Thursday, Dec. 21, at the county complex, 259 County Farm Road, Dover. The delegation will receive a presentation on the new nursing home construction plans and vote to authorize \$163,738,816 in bonds to fund the construction. The meeting will also include a public hearing.

Maglaras, chair of the County Commission, said the nursing home would turn a profit within three years of operation, and the bonding would not impact property taxes.

"We are in desperate need of a new facility," Maglaras said.

For more information, including the Dec. 20 meeting agenda, visit <https://www.co.strafford.nh.us/>.

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## Election workers needed for January's Presidential Primary Election

The City Clerk's Office is seeking election workers in all six wards to help staff Dover's polling places during the upcoming Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024.

Election workers are paid positions, and the City Clerk's office provides necessary training. The only requirements are that election workers must be at least 18 years old and a Dover resident. Election workers assist with various duties on election day, including aiding voters, maintaining order, opening and closing the polls, and processing the vote counts.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 603-516-6018 or email City Clerk Jerrica Vansylvong-Bizier at [j.bizier@dover.nh.gov](mailto:j.bizier@dover.nh.gov).

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## Tri-City mayors release holiday message with 'Santa' story time

The mayors of Dover, Somersworth and Rochester have released a joint holiday video message for their communities.

Mayors Robert Carrier of Dover, Dana Hilliard of Somersworth, and Paul Callaghan of Rochester took turns reading from the children's book "If I Were a Saint Nick: A Christmas Story by the Cat in the Hat."

In the 5-minute video, the mayors playfully imagine what they would do if they were Santa Claus. Ideas include covering buildings in tinsel, making toys from children's letters to Santa, and using giant candy canes as Christmas decorations.

"The holiday season is a time for community, family, and celebrating the most important gifts — the gift of life and our connection to each other," said Hilliard in the introduction.

The mayors closed by wishing viewers a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays on behalf of their cities.

The video reading is an annual tradition for the mayors. Last year's book was "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" by Dr. Seuss.

The video, which was produced by the City of Somersworth, [can be viewed online here](#), and is playing on community access television in all three communities.

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## Santa's Castle opens doors today

Dover Youth to Youth will host its 16th annual Santa's Castle at the McConnell Center in downtown Dover for four days during the Christmas season. Each night, children and their families can walk through several rooms in Santa's Castle and meet Santa and many of his elves.

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



During the first weekend, the event will be held on Friday, Dec. 15, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 16, between 2 and 6:30 p.m. The Castle will continue on Thursday, Dec. 21, and Friday, Dec. 22, from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

To attend, pre-registration is required. Groups making a reservation must be no larger than six people and include family members only.

To make a reservation, visit <https://dover2y.org/santas-castle-2023/>

Santa's Castle is designed for children ages nine and under, but the whole family is invited. The cost is a flat fee of \$25 per reservation. Proceeds support the drug and alcohol prevention activities of Dover Youth to Youth.

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

For additional information, go to the Dover Santa's Castle [Facebook page](#), Youth to Youth's website at [www.DoverY2Y.org](http://www.DoverY2Y.org), or call the Dover Police Department's Community Outreach Bureau at 603-516-3274.

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

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## ***Keeping Crosby Road clean***



Welch Fluorocarbon, Inc., of Dover held a community "Give Back" day on Dec. 7, where 16 employees volunteered to pick up trash on Crosby Road near their office, collecting 18 garbage bags. Pictured clockwise from left: Bryan Adie, Nate McFarland, Kevin Wiley, Robert Correa, Andy

Don't forget: If you missed the live City Council, School Board or Planning Board meetings on



**Committee, Dec. 19,  
5:30 p.m.**

The Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in Room 305 at the McConnell Center.

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

**Planning Technical  
Review, Dec. 21,  
10:30 a.m.**

The Planning Board's Planning Technical Review Committee will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023, beginning at 10:30 a.m., in the Council Conference Room at City Hall.

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

**Zoning Board, Dec. 21,  
7 p.m.**

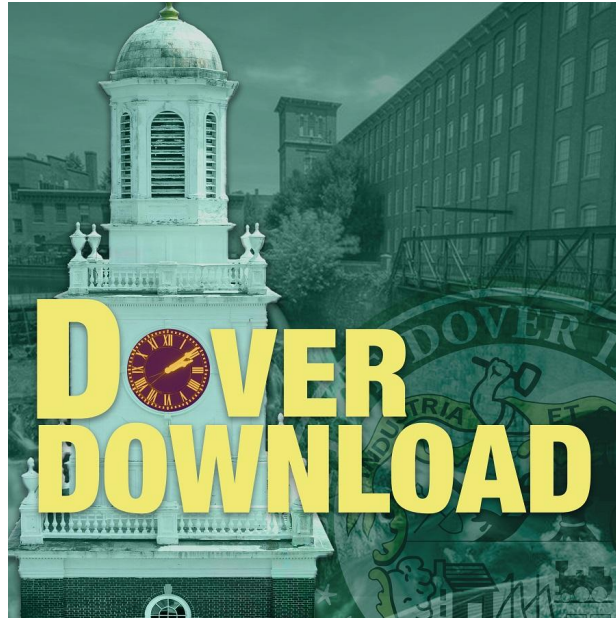
The Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

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

Channels 22 and 95, you can catch them again, online and on demand.

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



**Dover's Policymakers Through the  
Decades: The 2000s**

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Jason Hindle, who served on the Dover City Council from 2000-2008. Hindle reflects on major events and policy decisions during his tenure, including the city's response to 9/11, transportation and infrastructure investments, zoning changes to enable future development, the creation of the McConnell Center, and new fire and school facilities. Hindle explains why transparency and staff support are critical for good governance. He decided not to run again in 2008 due to career demands but applies lessons from his council service in his current federal government role. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <https://bit.ly/3Ni1i88>.

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## **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: **If you live in Dover, do you rent or do you own a home?**

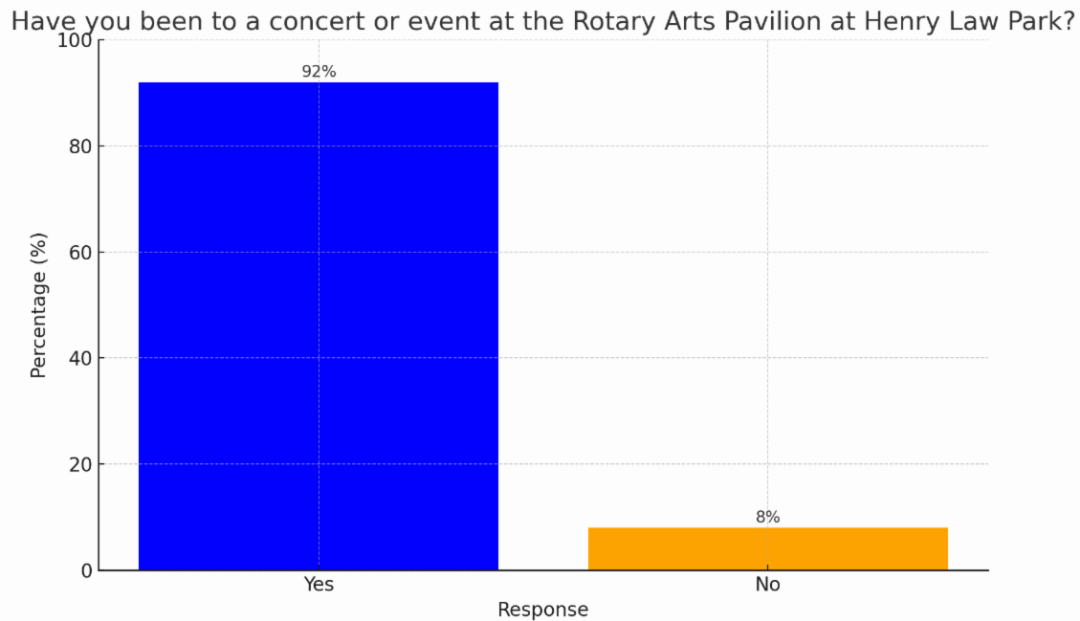
Let us know here: <https://polco.us/m356fe>.

*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 results from last week's poll, which asked, "Have you been to a concert or event at the Rotary Arts Pavilion at Henry Law Park?"



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

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

**Dec. 21, 1676** — "Mr. John Rayner, Jr., minister of Dover, died of a cold and fever that he took in the field among the soldiers." The soldiers composed the expedition which arrived in Dover Sept. 6, and those under the command of Major Waldron, who joined them in Dover. Mr. Rayner was likely serving as chaplain while the soldiers were in service and on a march eastward.

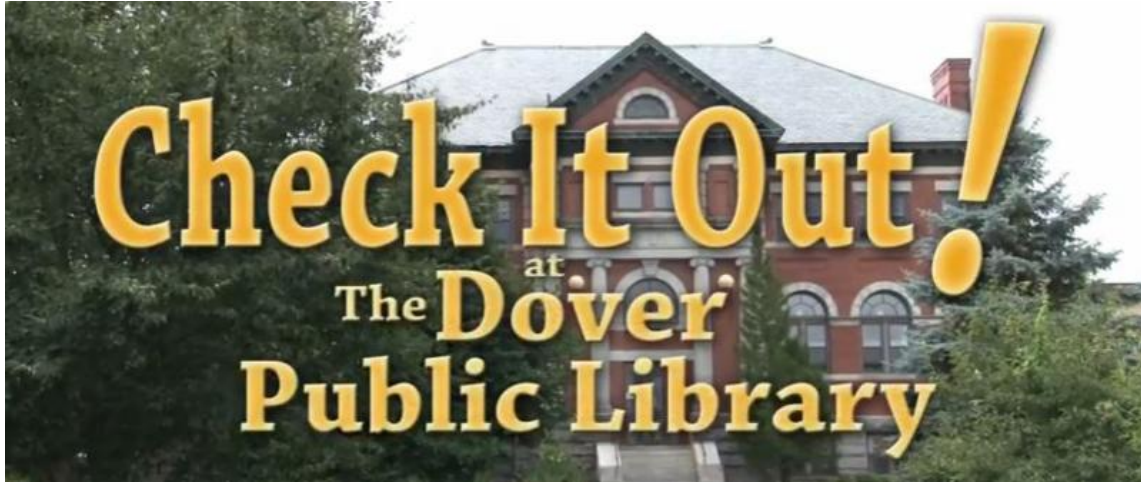
**Dec. 17, 1803** — Notice is given of the organization of the Strafford Bank, the first established in town. Subscribers to the stock are notified by William King Atkinson, president, that \$100 on each share will become due on the fourth Tuesday of January, and that "one fourth part at least, and as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

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

**Dec. 16, 1997** — Dover-based glassblower George Cirocco, a partner in the former Salamandra Glass at One Washington Center, was invited by the White House to create an ornament for its 1997 Christmas tree to be displayed in the Blue Room. Cirocco, at that time, had over 20 years of experience working with glass, creating windows, vases, bowls, and his signature "rondels," which are hanging glass discs. Salamandra Glass closed in 2009.

**Dec. 18, 1997** — The Dover City Council approved purchasing 20 acres of land for \$320,000 to build a new middle school, despite some councilors opposing the price increase from an initial offer of \$300,000. The land, located behind the South End Fire Station and next to the former Dover High School, is now home to the current Dover Middle School. After the vote in 1997, a Joint Building Committee was formed to oversee the construction of the new school, which opened its doors in January 2000. The former middle school is now the McConnell Center.

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## **This Week at the Library**

### **All Ages Events**

#### **Clothing Library (In-Person) Monday, Dec. 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

The Clothing Library provides clothing to borrow for free, just like a traditional library, but instead of books, you can check out fashion! Partnering with the Dover Public Library as their pilot, the Clothing Library serves the community's unique needs and aims to address the negative ecological and social impacts of overproduction of the fashion industry by keeping existing clothing circulation longer. Less is more, so borrow, not buy.

#### **Drop-In Gift Wrapping Party (In-Person) Monday, Dec. 18, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

The library will be hosting a gift-wrapping gathering for anyone who has gifts for the holidays to wrap. Paper, tape, scissors, and ribbons will be provided. All you have to bring is your gifts ready to be wrapped in your own boxes. And bring a festive attitude to chat with others while wrapping. We will play holiday music to enhance the mood.

### **Adult Events**

#### **Afternoon/Evening Book Group (In-Person) Monday, Dec. 18 at 3 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.**

Join us to discuss "Heart of the Deal" by Lindsay MacMillan. Copies of the books are available for borrowing at the adult circulation desk.

#### **Dungeons and Dragons for Adults (In-Person) Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.**

Ages 18 and older can drop in and play Dungeons and Dragons every Tuesday night at the library. You do not need to have attended previous sessions to enjoy the game. No experience or materials are required and all skill levels are welcome.

#### **Adult Knitting Group (In-Person) Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 9:30 a.m.**

Knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us in the Library's Makerspace with their projects for an in-person crafting circle. All levels are welcome.

#### **Caregiver Cafe (In-Person) Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Family Game Night (In-Person)**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m.**

Join us the third Wednesday of every month to play a fun selection of card and board games, and meet other board game enthusiasts in the community! You're also welcome to bring your own games. All ages are welcome.

**Magic the Gathering (In-Person)**  
**Thursday, Dec. 21 at 5 p.m.**

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

**Teen Events**

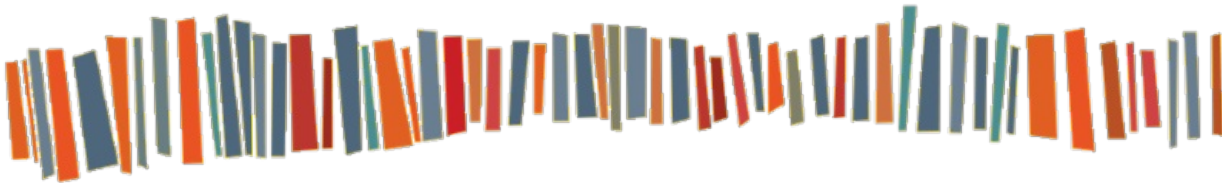
**Fun Friday (In-Person)**  
**Friday, Dec. 22 at 3 p.m.**

Tweens and teens in grades 5-12 are welcome to join us after school on Fridays for hot chocolate, snacks, and gaming.

Join Cornerstone VNA for our monthly Caregiver Café to support Dover area family caregivers. Come for a morning of support, education, and conversation. Loved ones are welcome.

**All Abilities Club: Video Gaming (In-Person)**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 11 a.m.**

Join the All Abilities Club. These weekly programs are geared towards adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their caregivers. Adults with disabilities are invited for an hour of Nintendo Switch gaming action. Just Dance, Wii Sports, Mario Kart, and more. Everyone will get a chance to play, and activities will be provided for the downtime between turns.





# CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

of NEW HAMPSHIRE

Buy a membership this  
December and get One  
Guest Option FREE!

## HOLIDAY MEMBERSHIP

Members play for  
free ALL YEAR!



# Sale

## Free Workshop & Water Testing for Dover Private Well Users



**The Seacoast Private Well Initiative**  
invites residential private well users in Dover to register for:

### Dover Private Well Workshop

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024 @ 6:00PM**

Dover City Hall Auditorium  
288 Central Ave, Dover

## Dover residents invited to free workshop on private well water safety

The Seacoast Private Well Initiative invites residential private well users in Dover to a free workshop and water testing event. Aimed at educating homeowners on the health risks associated with common well water contaminants, this event is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the Dover City Hall Auditorium, located at 288 Central Ave.

Participants will learn about contaminants that may affect their well water, such as radon, arsenic, lead, and PFAS, and the importance of regular water testing. The workshop will cover the types of contaminants to test for, reasons for testing, and the process of collecting water samples. In addition, attendees will receive guidance on selecting the appropriate water treatment solutions if contaminants are found.

The event is part of an ongoing effort to ensure the safety and health of the community's drinking water. Experts will be on hand to explain the testing process, and private well attendees will leave with a test kit and instructions for returning filled bottles for analysis.

Please register for the workshop by sending an email to confirm attendance to Amy Hudnor, Private Well Coordinator for the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, at [welltest@des.nh.gov](mailto:welltest@des.nh.gov).

The Seacoast Private Well Initiative, supported by NHDES, the New Hampshire Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund, and the Seacoast Commission on Drinking Water, encourages all private well users in Dover to take advantage of this opportunity.

For further information, please contact Amy Hudnor at (603) 271-5986 or via the [provided email address](#).

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## 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 the:

- Energy Commission
- Pool Advisory Committee
- Committee for Racial Equity and Inclusion
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Arena Commission
- Open Lands Committee
- Utilities Commission
- Committee to Address Community Housing Needs

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

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

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

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## City of Dover employment opportunities

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

- **Police Officer**
- **Firefighter/EMT**
- **Public Safety Dispatcher**
- **Enterprise Systems IT Administrator**
- **Custodian - City Hall**
- **Custodian - McConnell Center**
- **Environmental Projects Manager**
- **Wastewater Pump Station Operator**

- **Truck Driver, Streets**
- **Truck Driver, Utilities**
- **Laborer**
- **Utility Laborer**
- **Arena Attendant**
- **Water Treatment Operator**
- **Camera Operator**
- **Planning Division Supervisor**
- **Prevention Programmer**
- **Maintenance Mechanic, Streets**
- **Lifeguard I**
- **Swim Instructor I**
- **Foreman, Wastewater Treatment Facility and Sewer Pump Stations**
- **WWTF/WWPS Chief Operator**

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

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## Dover School District employment opportunities

Want to work for the Dover School District? The District's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and online applications. The District is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- **Student Specific Nurse**
- **ELL Tutors**
- **Long Term Substitute Math Teacher**
- **Literacy Intervention Specialist**
- **Special Education Teacher - Autism Support**
- **Noon Aide/Recess Monitor**
- **Preschool Aide**
- **Head Coach Girls Lacrosse**
- **Special Education Teacher Case Manager**
- **Cleaner for 2nd shift for C&W Services**
- **Paraprofessional**
- **Speech and Language Assistant**
- **Coach Girls JV Lacrosse**
- **Substitute Teacher**

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

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



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

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