

DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



March 28, 2025



**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.

BUDGET Revealed

**YOUR GUIDE TO THE
FY2026 BUDGET**

City Council begins final budget deliberations

The City Council will hold a workshop on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 for general budget review. The workshop provides a forum for the City Council to seek additional information and shape the budget into its final form. The workshop, which will be held in Council Chambers at City Hall, begins at 6 p.m.

Council members will discuss what aspects of the proposed budget they want to keep, add to, and/or remove.

Following the workshop, if it is ready, the City Council will call a special meeting for a budget adoption vote. The Council may also opt to defer adoption to its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 9. City ordinance requires the City Council to adopt the city's budget annually by April 15, which goes into effect on July 1.

The workshop and special meeting follow nearly two months of budget meetings, workshops and public hearings.

Ways to provide budget input

Members of the public can continue to provide input during the Public Forum section of meetings and workshops, or by emailing the City Council at CityCouncil-All@dover.nh.gov.

Budget Meeting Schedule

All budget meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- Wednesday, April 2 – 6 p.m. Workshop: General Budget Review
- Wednesday, April 2 – Special Meeting: Budget Adoption (immediately following the workshop)
- Wednesday, April 9 – Regular Meeting: Fallback budget adoption date

Budget presentations and associated documents are posted on the [FY2026 Budget Revealed online resource](#).

City Manager J. Michael Joyal, Jr. sends a weekly newsletter that recaps any budget-related presentations and a look ahead to what will occur the following week. Sign up for the newsletter at bit.ly/doverdownload, and select "Budget Revealed" from the list of newsletters.



Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker shows an image of the waterfront development from earlier this week during the annual State of the City, held Thursday, March 27.

Dover's waterfront development takes center stage at State of City forum

City officials and developers shared progress on the "Waterfront District" project at Thursday's State of the City forum, highlighting a decades-long vision now coming to fruition along the Cochecho River. The event was held at 121 Broadway in Dover.

Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker provided the historical context for the 29-acre waterfront redevelopment, which has evolved from an industrial site and public works facility to what will soon become an extension of downtown.

"This site is our future," Parker said at the event. "This site shows how this community continues to evolve and grow."

Jackie Huber, director of asset management with Cathartes, revealed that the first phase of apartments and townhouses, called "The Truette," is expected to be completed this winter. The development will include 197 apartments, 23 townhouses, co-working space, and over 10,000 square feet of commercial space.

Chef Evan Hennessey announced he will open a new restaurant called "Topolino," meaning "little mouse" in Italian, at the development. Unlike his fine dining establishment, Stages, Hennessey described the new venture as "casual Mediterranean, very community-based."

The project will also feature Nebi Park, which Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee Chair Norm Fracassa said will be larger than Henry Law Park. The park is named 'Nebi' to honor the area's indigenous heritage. The park will include a pavilion building scheduled for completion by December.

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce event was underwritten by Eversource with additional sponsorship from Breezeline and Kennebunk Savings. The event space was made available by Summit Land Development.

The complete State of the City forum is [available to stream](#) on the city's website and is currently playing on DTV, Dover's cable access channels.



Paul Barns was awarded the 2024 Heyliger Volunteer of the Year for his commitment and dedication to youth sports. He is pictured with Recreation Advisory Board Chair Heather Twombly, Deputy Recreation Director Ricky Conway, and Recreation Director Kevin Hebert.

26th Heyliger Awards honor those bettering city's youth sports

Garrison City F.C.'s Paul Barns named 2024 Volunteer of the

Year

The Dover Recreation Department and the Recreation Advisory Board held their 26th Don Heyliger Awards Ceremony on March 25, celebrating the excellence, dedication, outstanding achievements and perseverance of individuals who have made remarkable contributions to Dover's youth organizations.

Sponsored by Dover Recreation and the Recreation Advisory Board, the event unites the city's youth organizations to honor the individuals, groups, and businesses whose time and resources sustain these programs, enhancing Dover's quality of life.

The Heyliger Awards honor Don Heyliger, Dover's beloved Recreation Director, who served the community with great dedication for 10 years before his sudden death in 1988. Award recipients possess the same high-quality traits: treating players with respect, ensuring every child participates, motivating with praise, building confidence, showing compassion, supporting the disadvantaged, and being fun to be around.

The Recreation Advisory Board honored volunteers from each youth sports organization: Paul Barns (Garrison City F.C.), David Devoy (Dover Football League), Cam Paquette and Camden Barrett (Dover Youth Basketball), Josh Hersey (Dover Youth Hockey), Jamie Stevens (Dover Youth Softball), Tim Pine (Dover Baseball), The Merrill Family (Cocheco Lacrosse), and Melissa Chandler (Dover Little Green Cheerleading).

After careful consideration, the Recreation Advisory Board awarded Garrison City F.C.'s Paul Barns with the Heyliger's marquee "Volunteer of the Year" award. The youth soccer organization applauded the recognition.

"Paul is the first person to raise his hand when there is a job that needs to be done," Garrison City F.C. posted on their Facebook page. "Whether it's helping the club make a tough decision, coaching a group of children, or going out to the fields alone on a blistering summer day to make sure the fields are lined for game day, Paul is an indispensable reason why kids in Dover are able to play soccer at all."

The event was held at Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #443, which generously donated its banquet hall. The evening underscored the vital role of community spirit and volunteerism in shaping Dover's youth and future.



Dover High School basketball star Lilly Nossiff, third from left, is pictured with her father, former mayor Alex Nossiff, her mother Stephanie, and Mayor Robert Carrier after receiving a proclamation recognizing her achievement of scoring 1,000 career points.

Dover Mayor, Council honor local athletic achievements with proclamations

Mayor Robert Carrier and the Dover City Council recognized three outstanding athletic achievements this week during the March 26 council meeting.

Lilly Nossiff, a Dover High School basketball standout, was honored for scoring her 1,000th career point in a December game against Nashua High School. Standing 6-foot-2, Nossiff has played varsity since her freshman year, wearing jersey number 54 — the same number worn by her coach's daughter who also achieved the 1,000-point milestone at Dover High.

Nossiff has excelled both athletically and academically. In fall 2025, she will attend St. Anselm College to play Division II basketball while pursuing an education degree.

The St. Thomas Boys Varsity Hockey Team received recognition for winning the Division 2 State Hockey Championship, the program's fourth title since its establishment in 1980. The Saints finished with an impressive 17-4 record after failing to qualify for playoffs the previous season.

Senior co-captains and 2025 All-State players Jackson Estes and Garrett Aceto led the team's offense, which averaged more than 6.5 goals per game. The championship journey included a dramatic semifinal comeback before a decisive 4-2 victory over Merrimack in the title game.

The St. Thomas Aquinas High School Girls Basketball Team completed a perfect 22-0 season to capture their second state championship in school history and first since 1981. Under Coach Kevin Giannino's leadership, the team dominated opponents with an average victory margin exceeding 25 points.

Senior Genna Bolduc was named Division 3 Player of the Year and received First Team All-State honors and the Jack Ford Award. Senior Emilie Von Der Linden earned First Team and All-Defensive Team selections, while junior Emma Toriello was named to the Second Team All-State.

The full text of all proclamations is available on the city's website [here](#).



Above, the undefeated St. Thomas Aquinas High School Girls Basketball Team members receive a proclamation from Mayor Robert Carrier recognizing their 22-0 season and Division 3 State Championship. The proclamation was presented at the March 26 City Council meeting. Below, Mayor Carrier presents a proclamation to members of the St. Thomas Boys Varsity Hockey Team, honoring their Division 2 State Hockey Championship victory.



Time to renew dog licenses

Dog licenses for 2025 are now available. All dogs must be licensed by April 30, 2025 to avoid a late fee. The cost for a male or female dog is \$10, a neutered male or spayed female dog is \$7.50 and puppies (3-7 months) are \$7.50 for first licensing.

Residents 65 years of age or older may license one dog for \$3 per household. Additional licenses require regular fees.

The City Clerk's office requires proof of rabies information and a certificate of spaying or neutering sent by email to Dover-TaxClerk@dover.nh.gov or by mail to City of Dover, City Clerk's Office, 288 Central Ave., Dover, NH 03820.

Late fees of \$1 a month begin June 1, 2025.

Dog licenses can be renewed at the City Clerk's office at City Hall, by mail or [online](#).

To ensure privacy, dog owners must provide the dog's tag number.

To renew online, click [here](#).

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 603-516-6018.



City's annual street sweeping underway

The city of Dover began its annual street sweeping operations this week, starting with cleaning sidewalks using blowers and brooms.

The Community Services Department will conduct the work through early June, with downtown streets scheduled for cleaning first before moving to the rest of the city.

Street sweeping operations typically begin at 3 a.m. and may require temporary parking restrictions. The city will provide advanced notice of these restrictions through signage, email and social media. Residents can sign up for these and other alerts by adding "Dover Alert: public safety alerts and special announcements" to their email subscription list at <https://bit.ly/dovernewsletters>.

The annual cleaning not only beautifies the city but also helps reduce pollutants entering the stormwater system. The city estimates street sweeping reduces the annual nitrogen load flowing into the Great Bay Estuary by 43 pounds.

The work this week is focused specifically on sidewalks, utilizing a combination of machine work and hand work with blowers and brooms. Street sweeping with vehicles is expected to begin next week, weather permitting. Overnight temperatures near or below freezing may delay street sweeping operations as the vehicles spray water for dust control.

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



Crews to demo, rebuild Central Avenue median at Fifth Street

Motorists should anticipate lane shifts and intermittent delays on Central Avenue at the Fifth Street intersection when crews demo and rebuild the median island. Parking will also be restricted in the immediate area when work occurs.

The demolition work is scheduled to occur on Monday, March 31. The rebuilding work is slated to begin Thursday, April 3.

The median island and crosswalk on Central Avenue at the Fifth Street intersection will be relocated northward by approximately 20 to 30 feet. This will also require relocation of the Central Avenue sidewalk tip-downs to ensure the crosswalk remains compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The work is necessary to improve the turning radius for traffic making a left turn from Fifth Street onto Central Avenue. The median serves as a traffic safety device that allows drivers to better see pedestrians seeking to use this crosswalk. The work will also slightly shorten the length of the northbound turning lane for Sixth Street, but is not expected to adversely affect traffic flow.

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

City warns of 'utility refund' scam

The City of Dover's Water and Sewer Billing Office warns of a utility refund scam and urges the public to be cautious of letters or emails promising refunds, especially if they request sensitive information like banking or credit card details. The City of Dover would never request sensitive banking or other private information to process a refund.

This week, a Dover resident reported receiving a mailed scam letter claiming the resident overpaid their utility bill by \$100, and urged the resident to call a 1-800 phone number with alleged refund instructions. Smartly, the resident identified the letter as a scam, which the resident said looked professionally made, and shredded it.

If a utility overpayment occurs, City of Dover staff would mail the customer a check. City staff would never ask for sensitive banking information to process a refund.

Have a question about your Water/Sewer bills or account balance? Contact the Water and Sewer Billing Office at 603-516-6028.



Dover's first female mayor: Geraldine Sylvester broke barriers, built legacy

Throughout Women's History Month, the City of Dover proudly celebrates local women whose achievements have helped shape our community. This week, we honor Geraldine Sylvester, whose election as Dover's first female mayor in 1974 marked just one chapter in a remarkable life of public service.

Sylvester's political journey began in 1970 when she became the first woman elected to Dover's City Council. After serving as mayor pro tem, she secured the mayoral position in 1974 following a decisive electoral victory in which she was the top vote-getter across all wards.

Beyond her seven consecutive terms on the City Council, Sylvester established a legacy that extended far beyond politics. In 1971, she and her husband Robert founded GFS Manufacturing from their garage, a company that would grow to employ hundreds of local residents.

Perhaps most remarkably, between 1969 and 1981, the Sylvesters welcomed more than 200 troubled children into their Cocheco Street home, providing stability and care alongside their own seven children.

Following her council service, Sylvester was appointed Director of the Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention by Gov. John Sununu in 1983, a position she held for 13 years under three governors.

Her contributions earned numerous accolades, including honorary doctorates and recognition as Citizen of the Year by the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce in 1978.

After retiring, Sylvester authored three books, including her autobiography "Windy Hill," documenting her extraordinary journey from Milton, New Hampshire, to becoming one of Dover's most influential citizens before her passing in 2017 at age 86.



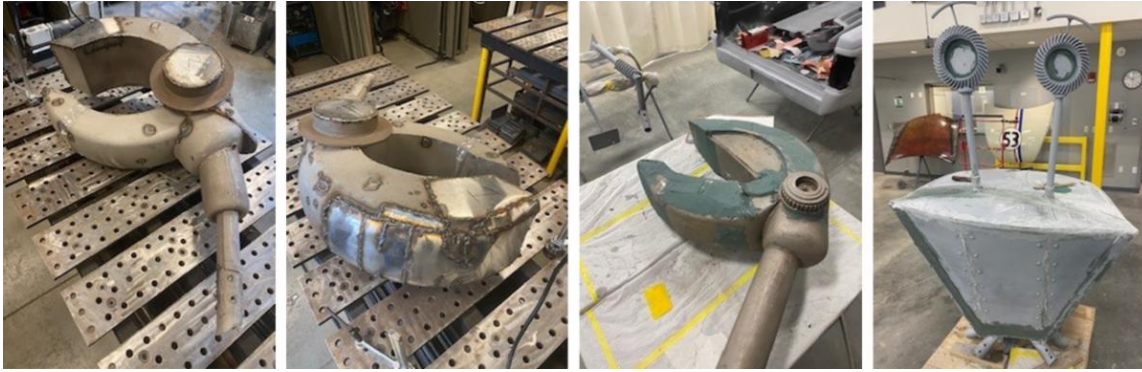
In this photo from last year, a Community Services crew removes the blue crab from its perch in front of the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, beginning a journey to Dover High School for some much-needed rehabilitation.

Donations sought to fund downtown's beloved blue crab repainting

Downtown businesses are seeking donations to help fund the repainting of the blue crab metal sculpture that has been a fixture of Henry Law Park since 2011.

The crab was removed last year to allow Dover High School's welding and automotive painting students to gain experience and learn skills while refurbishing the whimsical welded metal sculpture created by artist Nathan Walker with scrap metal. The crab was stripped of paint, repaired and rewelded. The final step is to repaint the crab with two coats of blue paint, pinstriping, and a protective clear coat. The painting costs are estimated at \$3,400.

Once finished, the crab will be remounted in its spot in Henry Law Park, welcoming those to the park and the Children's Museum of New Hampshire.



Upcoming Meetings:

Joint Building Committee, High School Athletic Complex, March 31, 5:30 p.m.

The Joint Building Committee for the Dover High School Athletic Complex will hold a regular meeting on Monday, March 31, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., the First Floor Conference Room at City Hall.

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

City Council, April 2, 6 p.m.

The City Council will hold a workshop session on Wednesday, April 2, beginning at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. The workshop will be followed by a special meeting.

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

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

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

Volunteer boards help keep Dover vibrant

The City of Dover is a vibrant community due in large part to the significant energy and talent of

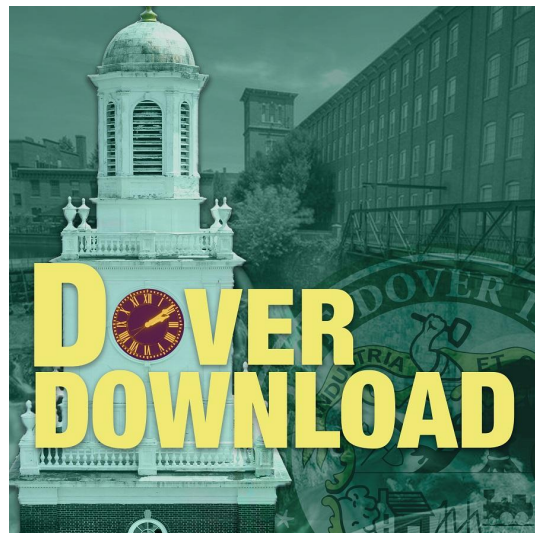
Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover

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

- [Energy Performance Contracting Services](#)
- [Organic Turf Treatment and Mowing Services](#)
- [WWTF Secondary Clarifier No. 3](#)
- [Municipal Facilities Wiring](#)
- [Court and Union Streets Reconstruction Project](#)
- [Traffic Control Flagging Services](#)

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

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



Breaking Down Dover's Budget: Community Services,

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:

- Recreation Advisory Board
- Planning Board
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Utilities Commission
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

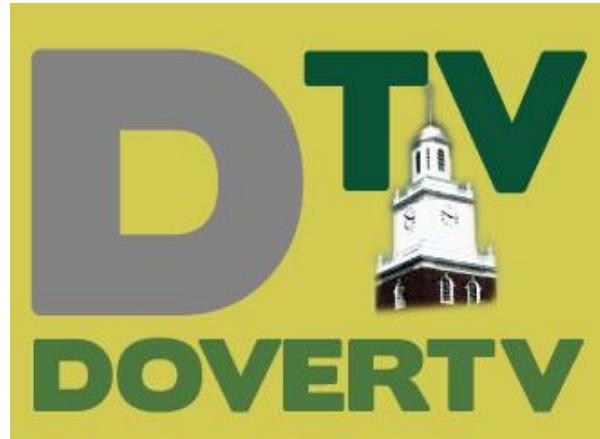
The complete list of boards and committees can be found at www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/

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 Vansylvong-Bizier at 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.

Public Library, and Information Technology

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Community Services Director John Storer, Library Director Denise LaFrance, and Information Technology Director Annie Dove about the proposed FY26 budget. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <https://bit.ly/4iBVbZT>.



Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

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

Simply visit www.dovernh.viebit.com to begin watching meetings on demand. Online meetings are organized by agenda item for convenience

Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

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

This week's question:

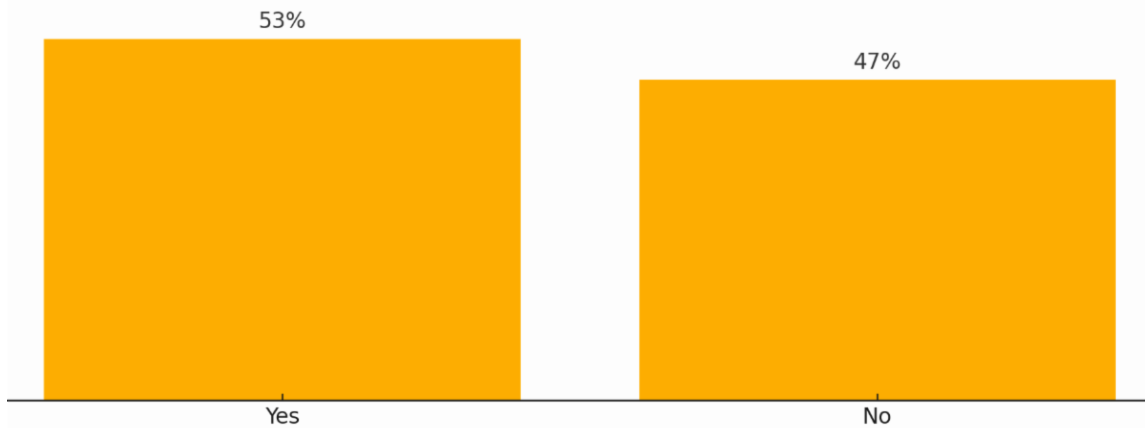
"Do you use the Dover Public Library's digital services (e-books, audiobooks, research databases)?"

Let us know here: <https://polco.us/mmt68s>.

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

Here are the results from last week's poll, which asked, **"Have you visited Hilton Park in**

the past year?"



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](#).

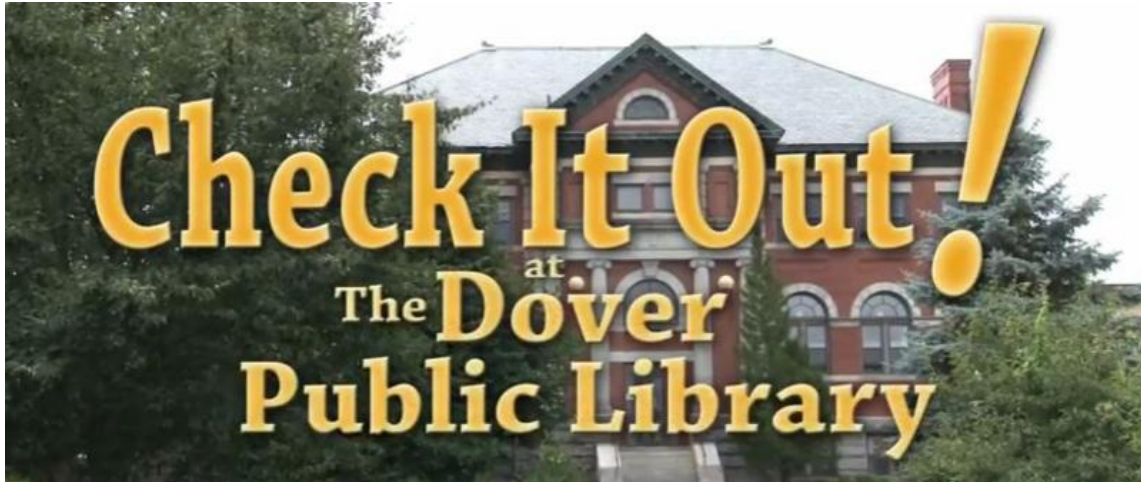
March 28, 1724 — The selectmen of Dover met and realized there was no official record of a public road connecting what was called the Cochecho area of Dover to Dover Neck, despite its frequent use. Recognizing its importance, they formally established this roadway. The designated route began at the main country road crossing the Bellamy River, west of the meeting house at Cochecho. From there, it extended along Dover Neck, passing near a spring close to Captain Millet's house, continuing between the properties of Captain Millet and Captain John Tuttle, and finally ending at Hilton's Point. The selectmen specified that the road should maintain a width of four rods (approximately 66 feet), with additional width allowed in areas where the terrain made travel difficult.

April 3, 1785 — Thomas Westbrooke Waldron died on this day. Born on July 26, 1721, Waldron was the great-grandson of Major Richard Waldron, a prominent figure in early colonial New Hampshire. Thomas Waldron inherited significant land holdings from his family, making him one of Dover's most influential citizens during the mid-18th century. Waldron notably served as a Captain during the Siege of Louisbourg in 1745, a critical battle during King George's War. This successful campaign, led by Sir William Pepperell, was a pivotal moment in colonial military history, showcasing the growing strength and resolve of New England colonists. Beyond his military service, Waldron played a vital civic role. He represented the province at an important conference in Albany, served as a Provincial Representative, and was appointed to the Governor's Council. Following New Hampshire's transition from colonial rule to statehood after the American Revolution, he continued to serve in various town and county positions, further shaping Dover's early governance and development.

March 28, 1847 — The residents of Dover organized a public meeting to aid the people of Ireland who were suffering from the devastating effects of the Great Irish Famine (1845–1852). This famine was primarily caused by a potato blight—a disease that destroyed potato crops, which were the staple food source for much of the Irish population. During the meeting, a committee was formed to coordinate relief efforts, successfully raising approximately \$2,500 through donations, along with substantial amounts of food and

clothing.

March 31, 1942 — David McIntosh, who operated the former McIntosh Business College on Washington Street with his brother Edward, died on this day. David McIntosh, who was also the president of the Eastern Commercial Teachers Association, had moved to Dover from Ontario, Canada, where he was born, and remained in Dover for 45 years until his death. McIntosh purchased the former Dover Business College in 1902, changing the name to McIntosh Business College. The original building that housed the college was demolished during Urban Renewal.



Library poetry contest opens April 2

The Dover Public Library is pleased to announce the 23rd Annual Dover Public Library Poetry Contest for grades K-12 and adults 18 and up. Prizes will be awarded in seven categories: grades K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and adults.

Poems will be judged on originality, style and creativity. The contest begins Wednesday, April 2, and the deadline for entry is Wednesday, April 23.

Students and adults may pick up information about the contest at the Dover Public Library, Dover school libraries or on the website at library.dover.nh.gov starting April 2.

All participants are invited to attend an "Evening of Poetry" Monday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. Participants may read their poetry at this event, but reading is voluntary.

For more information about the contest, contact Emily Ainaire at 603-516-6082.

National Public Health Week: Dover Library offers expert insight on bird flu outbreak

Over the last few months, grocery stores have had limited egg supplies and prices of the breakfast staple have risen. The two-word reason: bird flu.

Join the Dover Public Library virtually on Monday, April 7, at 7 p.m. for a more in-depth look at avian influenza and how it has affected everyday life.

In "Behind the Headlines: Understanding the Bird Flu," Dr. Catherine Brown, Massachusetts state epidemiologist and public health veterinarian, will provide a clear and authoritative overview of the nation's current situation and the risk that avian influenza presents.

The talk is in partnership with the Tewksbury Public Library and the Public Health Museum in recognition of National Public Health Week. Registration is required to receive a link to the livestream. Register on the Dover Public Library's event calendar through its [website](#).

Dr. Brown is the current president of the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. She plays a key role at the state and national level in monitoring and responding to infectious disease threats and has been involved with avian influenza for over 20 years.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information or to register, visit the library's website at library.dover.nh.gov or call 603-516-6050.

The library has temporarily relocated to the McConnell Center for up to a year while the main building undergoes renovation. The Children's Room is in Room 305, while Adult and Teen services are located in the McConnell Center's cafeteria.

This Week at the Library

Monday, March 31, 10 to 10:45 a.m.
Preschool STEM Storytime
McConnell Center, Room 306

Join us for a new Spring session of STEM storytimes for kids aged 3-5. We will explore the science of mud and wind, and discover some of the furry spring animals who share this Earth with us.

Registration required.

Monday, March 31, 6 to 8 p.m.
Teen Dungeons & Dragons
McConnell Center, Room 306

Do you love the idea of exploring fantastical worlds? Do you have a love of collaborative gameplay and an active imagination? Then Dungeons and Dragons is for you! Join Dungeon Master Michael for this beginner series, where you will create your own character, play in a story campaign, and learn the basics of D&D 5th Edition. This program is for teens entering grades 6-12 only, and all supplies will be provided.

Monday, March 31, 7 to 8 p.m.
Virtual: A History of Guinness Beer
A chat with Mike Reardon, a Guinness Ambassador, highly trained beer expert, and storyteller who captivates Guinness lovers and audiences with the beer, culinary, and cultural history of this fantastic beer. *Register at:*
<https://ow.ly/eOc550VouuU>

Tuesday, April 1, 9:30 to 11:30 am
Adult Knitting Group
McConnell Center, Room 323
Knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us with their projects for an in-person crafting circle. All levels welcome.

Tuesday, April 1, 10 to 10:30 a.m.
Baby Storytime

Wednesday, April 2, 10 to 10:30 a.m.
Family Storytime
McConnell Center, Room 306

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

Wednesday, April 2, 6:30 to 8 pm
Chess Group
McConnell Cafeteria

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!

Wednesday, April 2, 7 to 8 p.m.
Virtual Author Hour: Marie Benedict
Bestselling author Marie Benedict will discuss her new historical fiction mystery, *The Queens of Crime*, in this installment of "Author Hour in Massachusetts."
Sign up to receive a link to the live stream: <https://ow.ly/64ZT50Voxun>

Thursday, April 3, 10 to 11 a.m.
Cover 2 Cover Book Group
Residence at Silver Square
Join us on the first Thursday of every month to discuss a book. April's selection is *Confederates in the Attic* by Tony Horwitz. Copies of the book can be borrowed at the Adult Circulation Desk.
New members welcome.

Thursday, April 3, 10 to 10:45 a.m.
Arts and Crafts Storytime
McConnell Center, Room 306
Arts and Crafts Storytime is for children ages 3-5 who are ready to attend storytime independently, without a caregiver. Each session will focus on a different theme. Books, songs, rhymes, and an art activity will all be part of the

McConnell Center, Room 306

For babies 0-24 months with caregiver. A joyful, half-hour lap sit story time with books, songs, movement, and rhyme.

Tuesday, April 1, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Genealogy Group**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Whether you're new to genealogical research or a seasoned pro, this group is a great way to meet others who share the same passion, can give you advice in your research, and listen to your newly-discovered family histories.

**Weds. April 3 - Weds. April 23, All Day
23rd Annual Poetry Contest**

The Dover Public Library is pleased to announce the 23rd 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 23. Students may pick up contest rules & information at the Dover Public Library or on our website at library.dover.nh.gov.

fun. *Registration required.*

Friday, April 4, 10 to 11 a.m.

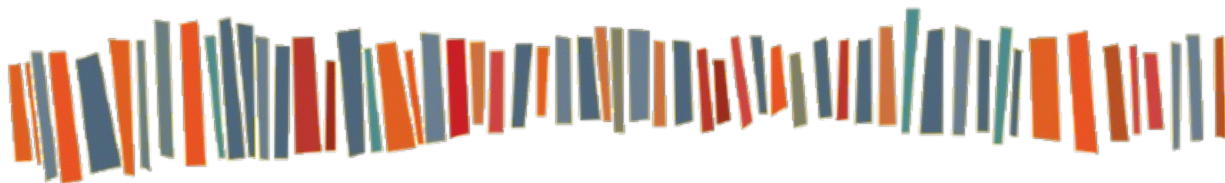
Family Place Workshop**City Hall Auditorium**

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

Saturday, April 5, 10 to 11 a.m.

Trash to Tunes**McConnell Center, Room 306**

Kids in grades 2-5 are invited to come turn trash into tunes! Inspired by the Cateura Orchestra of Recycled Instruments, we'll be turning boxes, paper towel tubes, tin cans, and more into musical instruments!



Dover Arts Commission announces applications open for 2025-2027 Literary Laureate

The Dover Arts Commission has announced that applications for the position of Dover Literary Laureate for the 2025-2027 term are now being accepted. The position, which begins July 1, 2025, and runs through June 30, 2027, is designed to broaden community involvement in literary expression.

The Literary Laureate serves as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Dover Arts Commission and is tasked with developing and implementing projects that enrich the quality of life for Dover citizens through literary arts.

"The Literary Laureate program has become an integral part of Dover's vibrant arts community since its establishment in 2020," said Jane Hamor, chair of the Dover Arts Commission. "We're looking forward to reviewing applications and finding our next ambassador who will continue to build on the strong foundation of literary engagement in our city."

Steve Bargdill, who currently serves as Dover's Literary Laureate, will complete his term on June 30, 2025.

Eligible projects for the laureate may include performances, workshops, exhibits, poetry readings, and writing programs for both adults and youth. Project grants of up to \$1,000

per fiscal year are available, depending on funding.

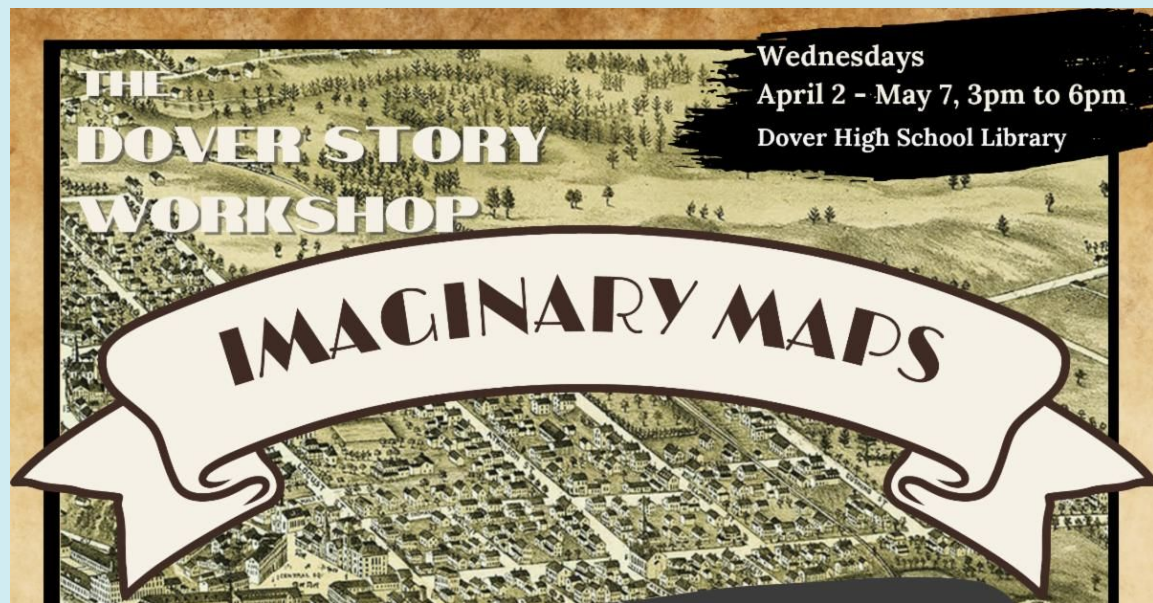
Applicants must be residents of or work in Dover and have published literary works. The selection process involves evaluation by independent judges chosen by the Dover Arts Commission, with final approval from the Dover City Council.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on April 30, 2025. Interested individuals can submit applications by mail to Paul Crouser, City Hall Planning Office, 288 Central Avenue, Dover, New Hampshire 03820-4169, or by email to p.crouser@dover.nh.gov with the subject line "City Literary Laureate Grants, 2025 APPLICATION."

The position will be awarded no later than June 15, 2025.

The application form can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/DoverLL2025>.

For more information about the application process, contact Arts Commission Vice Chair Cliff Blake at c.blake@dover.nh.gov.



Dover Story Workshop creative writing class seeks high school students

Dover's Literary Laureate Steve Bardgill is launching a free six-week creative writing class for freshman and sophomore high school students. The program is designed to sharpen their writing skills while immersing them in Dover's rich history and culture.

"The Dover Story Workshop: Imaginary Maps" is designed to help students craft their own short stories while exploring the landmarks, history, and hidden narratives of Dover. This workshop is ideal for students who love storytelling, history, or creative expression.

The workshop will be at the Dover High School Library on Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. from April 2 to May 7. A public reading and celebration will occur on May 17.

During the workshop classes, students will:

- Learn essential storytelling techniques, from character development to crafting compelling endings.
- Explore Dover through a self-guided walking tour, drawing inspiration from local landmarks.
- Receive mentorship from professional authors.
- Work with community beta readers to receive meaningful feedback.
- Share their work in a public reading & celebration at the end of the program.

Bargill, a published author who is the former creative writing professor at Great Bay Community College, will lead the class with the help of the following published authors:

- Linnea Hartsuyker (The Half-Drowned King) – Historical fiction & research-based storytelling
- Dakota Barrows – Poetry, lyrical prose, and thematic storytelling
- Adi Rule (The Hidden Twin, Strange Sweet Song) – Editing, revision, and young adult fiction

To sign up, students should send a writing sample (does not have to be creative) and a brief note explaining why they want to join the class, along with their name, grade, and school, their parent/guardian's name, and their best contact email and phone number to s.bargdill@dover.nh.gov. Contact the same email address with any questions.

SEED's spring fundraiser April 11 with mentalist Christopher Grace

The Seacoast Educational Endowment for Dover (SEED) will host its fundraising gala, "Cognition – A Night of Mental Mystery," on Friday, April 11, at the Cochecho Country Club.

SEED is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing academic excellence in Dover's public schools by funding innovative and transformative projects that exceed traditional public-school budgets. All proceeds from the gala will directly support grants for Dover educators, empowering them to create a richer, more dynamic learning environment for students.

This year's event features award-winning mentalist Christopher Grace, who uses a mix of mind-reading, mentalism, and interactive entertainment to bring the audience together in an exciting, engaging, and memorable way. Grace has been featured on the "Penn & Teller: Fool Us" television series.

In addition to the live performance, an online auction fundraiser that starts Friday, April 4, will feature exciting items and experiences. All money raised will support innovation in Dover classrooms.

For more information and to purchase tickets, <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cognition-a-night-of-mental-mystery>.

Power of an Hour city-wide litter clean up to be held on April 26

Join Don't Trash Dover for its second annual Power-of-an-Hour city-wide litter clean up in honor of Earth Day on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., with organized litter collections in each of Dover's six wards.

Volunteers will be provided trash bags to pick up as much trash as they can, followed by a group photo of the trash collected.

The litter collections will begin and end at:

- Ward 1: Frances G. Hopkins Elementary School, 78 Horne St.
- Ward 2: Dover Ice Arena, 110 Portland Ave.
- Ward 3 Woodman Park Elementary School, 11 Towle Ave.
- Ward 4 Garrison School, 50 Garrison Road
- Ward 5: Dover Middle School, 16 Daley Dr.
- Ward 6 Hellenic Center, 219 Long Hill Road

Please wear a safety vest or bright clothing. Bring gloves, appropriate walking shoes, and, if you have them, a litter collection tool and/or wagon.

The City of Dover requests new volunteers to complete a [Volunteer Service Agreement](#). If you've already filled one out for a previous Don't Trash Dover event, you don't need to complete a new one.

For more information, visit Don't Trash Dover's Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/201985717259565>.

Event organizer Deb Clough will be a guest on the Dover Download podcast on Tuesday, April 1, where she will discuss the event in more detail. The Dover Download podcast can be found [here](#), or wherever you get your podcasts.



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:

- **Secretary Community Services, Part Time**
- **Police Officer**
- **Water Exercise Instructor II, Part-Time**
- **Swim Instructor, Part-Time**
- **Lifeguard I, Part-Time**
- **Heavy Equipment Mechanic**
- **Diesel Mechanic**
- **Custodian - McConnell Center, Part-Time**
- **Public Safety Systems IT Technician**
- **City Attorney**
- **Data Collection Technician**

- **Account Clerk Library - Part-Time**
- **Water Treatment Operator**
- **Police Social Worker**
- **Summer Day Camp Counselor**
- **Fire/Life Safety Inspector, Part-Time**
- **Utility Systems IT Administrator**
- **Facilities, Grounds & Cemetery Secretary**
- **Maintenance Specialist-Meters & Backflow**

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:

- **JV Girls Lacrosse Coach**
- **District School Psychologist - Dover High School**
- **Mathematics Teacher**
- **Science Teacher**
- **Paraprofessionals**
- **Noon Supervisor**
- **Substitute Teachers**
- **Art Teacher**
- **School Counselor**
- **DHS Ski Team**
- **MTSS Building Coordinator**
- **Boys JV Baseball Coach**
- **Long Term Substitute 6th Grade Special Education Teacher/Case Manager**
- **Family Services Counselor**
- **Boys JV Soccer Coach**
- **Boys Varsity Soccer Coach**

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

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



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