



AUBURN VILLAGE CRIER

2024
EDITION



Monday

12- Dollars for Scholars Meeting at 6:15 pm, page 11



Tuesday

5- Friends of Library Meeting, page 13

13- Galentine's Day

Story Time at 11:00 am, page 12



Wednesday

7- Massabesic Garden Club Meeting, page 14

14- Evening Book Club at 6:30 pm, page 13

14- Valentine's Day

Crochet Social Hour at 7:00 pm, page 7

Thursday

1- Camp Adventure Registration opens at 8:00 am, page 6

Friday

Story Time at 1:00 pm, page 12

Knitting Club at 10:30 am, page 13

Saturday

3- Deliberative Session at 9:00 am, page 2

10- Longmeadow Community Breakfast page 16

17- Auburn Historical Association Open House, 1:00-3:00 pm

17- Puzzle Swap, 10-2, page 13

24- P&R Senior Tea, page 8



Sunday



This calendar highlights special events and meetings happening this month

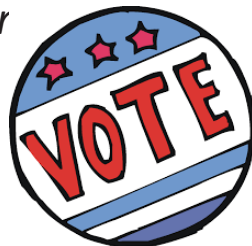
Please read all article for MANY more important events, activities and meetings!

Note: Please check with event/project coordinators first for dates, times and cancellations.



Mark your calendars.....

- *Deliberative Session*
February 3, 2024
- *Voting Day*
March 12, 2024



Sign Up for the Parks & Rec Email Newsletter

Don't miss out on any Parks & Rec programs or events... Sign up for our new email newsletter. Just scan the QR code and enter your email address. It's that easy.



Editor: Santee Guide

603-483-5052 ext. 103

Crier email

townhall@townofauburnnh.com



Auburn Town Hall News



With the presidential primary behind us, attention at town hall returns to local affairs with the annual election of officers and Town Meeting. Please join us for the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting on February 3 at Auburn Village School at 9am. The town portion will commence at the end of the Auburn School District meeting.

Most articles on this year's town meeting warrant will look familiar. The town's operating budget and several reserve fund deposits are proposed. The final proposal from the Budget Committee is a town operating budget that increases by less than three percent.

Two new items will be considered. First, a capital reserve fund is proposed for a future library expansion and community center. Planning for an expansion has been underway for a couple of years. The Library Board of Trustees suggested this article as a way to gauge public support for the concept, as well as to support private fundraising and grant-seeking for the project.

Second, the Board of Selectmen have been in negotiations to purchase a parcel of land in the Auburn village. A portion of 32 Hooksett Rd., behind the day care center, has frontage by the school along Eaton Hall Rd. Safe pedestrian travel from the school to the library would finally be possible with a purchase of an acre of that land. Additional parking for the school or an expended library/ community center would also become possible. The warrant article asks voters for permission and funds to make the purchase.

Beyond financial articles, a large number of amendments to the zoning ordinance have been proposed. The Planning Board has recommended five, and petitioners have placed another dozen on the warrant. Additional information will be provided for all the warrant articles at the deliberative session and in the annual voter guide, which will be mailed to all residents next month.

We encourage all Auburn voters to participate in the governance of our community by casting their votes at both the Deliberative Session and the ballot session of Town Meeting in March.



Keith Leclair Michael Rolfe Tom Carroll
Auburn Board of Selectmen



2024 NOTICE FROM THE TOWN CLERK AND SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

The following positions will be up for election at the Town and School District Voting to be held on **Tuesday, March 12, 2024**. The filing period runs from **January 24, 2024 through February 2, 2024**. You may file for any of these positions at the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours. The Town Clerk's Office will remain open for filings from 3:00pm until 5:00pm on Friday, February 2, 2024.

| OFFICE | INCUMBENT |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| SELECTMAN – 3 YEARS | KEITH LECLAIR |
| MODERATOR – 2 YEARS | THOMAS LACROIX |
| SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST – 6 YEARS | JOANNE T. LINXWEILER |
| LIBRARY TRUSTEE – 3 YEARS | NANCY J. MAYLAND |
| CEMETERY TRUSTEE – 3 YEARS | DAVID ZALESKI |
| TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS – 3 YEARS | DEBRA ASQUITH |
| POLICE COMMISSION – 3 YEARS | PATRICK BERGERON |
| PLANNING BOARD – 3 YEARS | JILL DROSS |
| PLANNING BOARD – 3 YEARS | RONALD POLTAK |
| SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER – 3 YEARS | DEREK BERGER |
| SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER – 3 YEARS | ADRIAN NEWTON |

The School District Deliberative Session will be held **Saturday, February 3, 2024 at 9:00 AM** at the Auburn Village School, with a snow date of Saturday, February 10, 2024. The Deliberative Session of the Annual Town Meeting will be held immediately following the school session.



TOWN OF AUBURN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Fire Department

Community CPR/AED Class

March 9, 2024 @ The Auburn Safety Complex

Class Time: 0900-1100



The Auburn Fire Department is offering a community CPR/AED awareness class to Auburn Residents. This is a great way of learning both CPR and how an AED works. Please RSVP at 603-483-8141 if you plan on attending, class space is limited.



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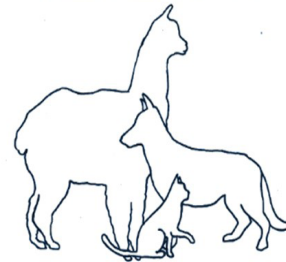
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AUBURN POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Hello Auburn Residents,

We hope everyone is able to stay healthy and safe through these chilly winter months. Just a reminder while we head into these last few months of winter:

Parking During Snowstorms

- A. From November 2nd to April 1st each year no person shall park any motor vehicle on any public way between the hours of 11PM and 8AM or at any time in such manner as to impede snow removal operations.
- B. Any vehicle parking in violation of this may be towed by the road agent, the Chief of Police or their agents or by independent contractors engaged by the road agent or Chief of Police; any vehicles so towed shall be stored and released to the owner only upon payment of the cost of towing and storage by the owner.
- C. Any person violating Section A hereof shall be subject to a penalty not to exceed twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars for each offense.

The police department closed out the year with 10,756 calls for service in 2023, almost 1,000 more calls for service compared to 2022. This included:

5,541 business and property checks
462 directed patrols
2,090 motor vehicle stops
250 suspicious activity checks
227 offense reports
And
129 arrests

While we do have officers on duty 24-hours a day, 7 days a week we would like to take the time to thank the Auburn Community for continuing to be safe and reporting suspicious activity to our officers. It is with your help that the crime in Auburn continues to be very low.

We would also like to take a moment to remind everyone that package thefts, identity fraud and phishing/scam calls and emails are still very common calls we receive.

PACKAGES AND DELIVERIES:

- ❖ Just a reminder; we now have an amazon delivery box that is secure here at the Safety Complex. If you cannot be home when a package is being delivered, this might be a good option for your package.
- ❖ Keep an eye out for friends and neighbors. Watch for vehicles that look like they could be following a delivery truck; and never hesitate to contact the police department if you see a suspicious vehicle or activity in your area. We want to keep our residents safe and will check the area for you to verify that there is no criminal activity afoot.

IDENTITY FRAUD AND THEFT:

- ❖ Never respond to calls, emails or text messages from anyone claiming to be from the IRS, Social Security or Medicare looking for information, offering you a refund or asking you to click on a link. These agencies will most often only contact you by mail.
- ❖ Monitor your credit report to look for signs of unusual activity that you don't recognize.
- ❖ AI voice cloning is being used to contact people claiming to be a friend or relative who is in trouble. Never give information or money in response to such a call. Hang up and contact that person directly or another friend or relative if necessary to confirm or negate the authenticity of the call.
- ❖ Avoid posting sensitive information such as past and current addresses, phone numbers, birthdates, workplaces, passports, drivers licenses, etc... on your social media accounts. Monitor your social media accounts for any postings that are not yours.
- ❖ Avoid romance scams. Scammers often reach out to singles, widows, etc... pretending to have a romantic interest. They attempt to gain your trust or compassion and then ask you for money. They can be very convincing but please don't comply.
- ❖ Inform your senior friends and relatives of potential scams and share with them how to protect themselves.
- ❖ If you are ever unsure if a call, letter or email is legitimate please contact the police department and we will do our best to help you figure it out. (603)483-2134.



RachNH
REALTYGROUP
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ADD SOME *Romance* TO YOUR HOME

Romantic home improvement ideas can enhance the overall ambiance and appeal of a home, potentially adding value. Here are some suggestions:

01

Fire Pit or Fireplace: Consider adding a fire pit or an outdoor fireplace to create a cozy and romantic setting. This feature not only adds warmth but also serves as a focal point for gatherings.

02

Spa-like Bathroom: Upgrade the bathroom with features that evoke a spa-like experience. Consider a rainfall showerhead, a soaking tub, and soft, ambient lighting to create a relaxing and romantic atmosphere.

03

Built-in Bookshelves with Reading Nook: Create a romantic reading nook by adding built-in bookshelves with soft lighting. Include comfortable seating, plush cushions, and a selection of romantic literature.

Remember, the key is to create an atmosphere that feels comfortable, inviting, and tailored to the preferences of potential buyers. These improvements can appeal to a broad audience and may contribute to the overall value of the home.

PLANNING ON MAKING A MOVE, WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Rachael Farley, Realtor
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RachNH.com



Hunter Butler, Relationship Manager
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CohenClosing.com

SCAN TO CHECK YOUR HOMES VALUE



Parks & Recreation News

auburnparksandrec.com

AUBURN PARKS & RECREATION

2024

CAMP ADVENTURE

The always popular Camp Adventure is back again for another year of friends and fun! This year we're adding another week!! Auburn Parks & Rec is offering a full day summer camp that will travel to exciting destinations throughout the state. We will hit the beach, lakes, waterpark and other locations full of adventure.

Due to high demand last summer, we are happy to offer **FOUR WEEKS** this summer to accommodate all that want to participate. You can sign up for multiple weeks however some of the field trips will repeat each week. This camp does fill up fast so don't wait to register..

Camp Dates:

Week 1- Monday, July 8 through Friday, July 12, 2024

Week 2- Monday, July 15 through Friday, July 19, 2024

Week 3- Monday, July 22 through Friday, July 26, 2024

Week 4- Monday, July 29 through Friday, August 2, 2024

Camp Hours: Meeting at the Safety Complex at 8:30 am and returning at 4:30 pm

Ages: For students entering grades 5-8 in the 2024-2025 school year.

Registration Dates: Begin February 1 for Auburn residents, May 1 non-residents

Fee: \$325 per week (full payment is due at the time of registration)



REGISTER ONLINE AT AUBURNPARKSANDREC.COM

OR

DROP OFF THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO PARKS & REC

Camp Adventure Registration (circle your choices).... Week 1 Week 2 Week 3 Week 4

Camper's Name: _____ grade (24-25 school year): _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

You can register online at auburnparksandrec.com or this form can be returned to Parks & Recreation at the Auburn Town Hall, 47 Chester Road. Checks are made payable to the Town of Auburn.

If you have any questions, please call the Parks and Rec at 483-5052 x101 or
email recreation@townofauburnNH.com

Basketball Camp

Basketball Camp, for grades 5-8, has tentatively been set for August 14-18, 2024. More details and registration information should be available in the next Crier.

Babysitter Training

This BLAST! (Babysitter Lessons & Safety Training) class, from the American Academy of Pediatrics, will teach potential babysitters how to handle the basics of infant and childcare. Participants will gain knowledge in many basic childcare skills, as well as the fundamentals of emergency care. The training will include pediatric first aid, household safety and fundamentals of childcare.

This class is open to students in grades 5-8. Participants receive a certificate of completion, easy to follow first aid instructions and a sitter checklist to copy for each job. Participants should bring a drink and lunch to class. Blast! Babysitter Training will be held on Saturday, February 3 at 10:00 am through 1:30 pm at the Severance School. The fee for the program is \$65 for Auburn Residents and \$78 for non-residents.

Charcuterie Class

Join us for our first charcuterie class where you will design and build your own board to take home to share with friends and family. You will learn how to build a beautiful presentation through the selections of a variety of meats, cheeses, fruits, nuts and other accompaniments.

The Charcuterie class will be held on Friday, February 9 at 6:00 pm at the Severance School. The fee for the class is \$59 for Auburn residents or \$69 for non-residents. The price includes meats, cheeses, garnishes for a completed board for two, program instruction and your very own, locally made wooden charcuterie board. Your registration can be for one person or shared between two.

Cookie Decorating

Join us for a new session of the always popular Cookie Decorating class with a Valentine's Day theme. In this class, that is open to beginners and experienced cookie decorators, each participant will learn the basics of royal icing including how to handle a piping bag, pressure, and piping techniques. Using these skills, participants will then decorate 6 valentine themed cookies with demonstrations throughout and get to take home their delicious masterpieces!

February's Cookie Decorating Class will be held on Thursday, February 8 at 6:00 pm. The fee for the class is \$52 for Auburn residents and \$62 non-residents). If the class is full, please add your name to the waiting list. If there are enough additional people, a second night will be added.

Crochet Social Hour

(If you are an experienced crocheter, even "new experienced" crocheters, drop-in to the new crochet social hour on Wednesdays, between 7:00-8:00 pm at the Severance School Community Center. There will be no instruction but more experience people may help others who need help. There is no fee to join this group but please register on our website at auburnparksandrec.com so we know how many people to expect.

Skating Rinks Updates

For updates and conditions of the skating rink next to the Safety Complex, please visit auburnNH.us/parks-and-recreation under the tab "Skating Rink Status".



Crafts with Kelley- Custom Wood Sign

Create your own custom wooden family sign in our monthly Crafts with Kelley class. You pick the paint colors and the words to make the sign that fits with your style. The instructor will reach out to you before the class to help you design your sign and prepare all supplies for you.

This Crafts with Kelley class will be held on Thursday, February 22 at 6:00 pm at the Severance School. The fee is \$59 for Auburn residents (\$70 for non-residents) and includes all supplies.



Senior Tea

"Count Down to Spring"

All Auburn Seniors, ages 65+ are invited to the new Senior Tea on Saturday, February 24 with the "Count Down to Spring" theme. Join us for handmade desserts, catching up with old and new friends and of course, tea. This event will be held at the Severance School starting at 1:00 pm.

Although there is no fee for this event, due to space limitations, everyone MUST call to register for this event. Please call Parks & Rec at 603-483-5052 x101 before Friday, February 16 to be added to the list. A second time seating will be added if the first time fills up.

In Next Issue...

Pot O'Gold Scavenger Hunt- March 16
Build Your Own Leprechaun Trap- March 16
Bunny Brunch- March 30
Early Spring Sessions of

- Yoga
- Tai Chi
- Strength Training for Active Seniors
- Jumping Beans
- You & Me Art Class
- Resistance Training
- Learn to Crochet Lessons



More programs are being added all the time. To keep up with the most updated information on Parks & Rec activities, follow us on Facebook or Instagram at [auburnNHparksandrec](https://www.facebook.com/auburnNHparksandrec). Information will also be added to our registration website at [auburnparksandrec.com](https://www.auburnparksandrec.com)

How to register for Parks & Rec Programs

You can register online for all Parks & Rec programs at [auburnparksandrec.com](https://www.auburnparksandrec.com). You will be able to pay for your programs on this website with credit card. There is an additional 3% (or minimum of \$2) fee per transaction that is paid directly to the credit card processing company. (This fee is non-refundable.)

If you'd prefer to pay by check or cash, you can stop by Parks & Rec in person.

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Some units in this subdivision have not yet been registered with the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office. Until such a time as registration has been issued, only non-binding reservation agreements may be accepted.

Auburn Village School News

Adopt A Family Update

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Adopt A Family fundraiser. We collected \$225 from AVS staff and \$2500 from the Massabesic Yacht Club. This year we were able to provide 9 families with a \$250 gift card to Hannaford and a gift for each child. Your contribution made a difference and brightened many families' holidays. We help families throughout the year, so if you notice a student/family has a need, please reach out to us. We will help in any way we can. Thank you to Melissa Prunier and Jane Gilon for spearheading this initiative.

Community Involvement Invitation

Community involvement in schools holds significant benefits for students. Students can get access to experts in the field instead of leafing through pages in a textbook. They can learn from the world around them and see how their work impacts the community. It is a real level of empowerment for students. With that in mind, AVS has **three** opportunities for the community to participate in school activities.

Invention Convention

The first is our Invention Convention Program. Every 8th grade student will learn about the invention process by identifying a real-world problem and creating an invention to solve the problem. Invention categories may include: environmental, disability awareness, medical, and fun and leisure time. The special theme category for this year is "Creature Comforts." Inventions will also be judged on their practicality, marketability, and uniqueness. Please note that there are no weapon inventions allowed at the AVS Invention Convention. If any community members would like to take part in the judging of this event on Tuesday, February 20th, please contact Lori Collins, School Principal at lcollins@sau15.net. Please keep in mind that judges will have to commit 3 hours from (8:30 am-11:30 am) to score the projects.

Wellness Fair

Our second opportunity is our biannual Wellness Fair for grades 4-8. Every other year we put together a Wellness Fair for students in grades 4-8. Vendors participate in this activity and historically have included organizations such as: Stonyfield Yogurt, a local dentist, vision providers, Karate/Tai Kwon Do, Safe Sports Network, EMS/CPR trainer, and Breathe NH.

We thought we would reach out to our community to see if there are parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, or friends who may have a business or be employed by an organization who might be interested in participating in this fair. The goal is to teach children about general health and wellness. The date will be Friday, April 12th. The time has not been decided yet, but typically about 4 hours in total during the school day. If you, or someone you know of might be interested, please contact Dr. Lori Collins, Principal at lcollins@sau15.net.

Earth Day

The third opportunity is our annual Earth Day celebration that is planned for May 9th from 9 am until noon with a rain date of May 17th. In the past community members have made and served healthy smoothies, provided Zumba, and showcased their mini horses and ducks! Are you an environmental engineer, beekeeper or a composter? We are looking for Auburn Community members to showcase any environmentally friendly hobbies, careers or crafts! If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to head up a "center" please contact Lori Collins at lcollins@sau15.net.

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Great news from Girl Scout Troop 59007 - Cookies are almost here!!

Our troop of 5th graders will be reaching out in February to see if you'd like to get some of our delicious Girl Scout Cookies. We have 9 cookie flavors this year and due to costs rising everywhere, cookies are now \$6 per box. We hope you'll support your neighborhood or family Girl Scout this season as the funds we raise help us to participate in many fun activities. If you don't have a Girl Scout connection, please reach out to troop leader Jennifer Anderson at girlscoutsjen@gmail.com and we would be happy to help you with your cookie needs!

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News From Auburn Dollars for Scholars

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE OPEN!

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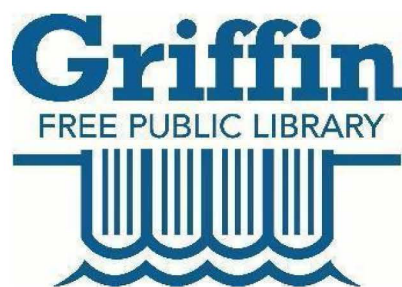
Any Auburn residents attending a post secondary institute in the Fall of 2024 are eligible!

We are currently looking for additional board members to join our organization.

Our next meeting is Monday, February 12th at 6:15 in the Auburn Historical building.

Scholarships close April 30th.

Thank You and Stay Safe,
 Mary Hrubiec, president



Dan Szczesny, Library Director

22 Hooksett Road / PO Box 308

Auburn, NH 03032

(603) 483-5374

director@griffinfree.org

www.griffinfree.org



Winter Is Upon Us!

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD: Thanks to all your amazing support, the library ended 2023 with its best circulation, digital and patron usage in our history!

Talk about growth!

We saw not just increases, but record breaking numbers in the areas of circulation, in digital usage and in patrons coming to the building. For example, 10,035 patrons walked through our doors over 2023, both the first time the library broke 5 figures in usage but also more than 11 percent better than 2022.

In the summer of 2023, Auburn (mostly) kids read nearly 95,000 pages during our summer reading program!

For the smallest library per capita in New Hampshire, those numbers make it clear that our tiny historic library is heading toward inevitable expansion.

As we move toward Town Meeting, we're so grateful for the community support as we continue to receive donations and kind words.

Big things are going to happen in 2024 and we can't wait. We'll see you all at our town deliberative session on Feb. 3rd and then on to the vote in March.

News and Notes

February (and beyond) on Beanstack

The library always has reading challenges and fun for patrons up on our Beanstack. Simply register at

griffinfree.beanstack.org or sign in to your Beanstack account, check out what the monthly challenge is and start tracking your books! At the end of the month, kids 5 to 15 who have completed the challenge will win book prizes!

February Beanstack Reading challenges will be "Door Stops" for 15 years to adult: Read the Biggest Book You Can! Also, children ages 5-15 can take part on our "Love Your Library" challenge where you read books about libraries!

Here's a look at all the wonderful events and programming coming in January:

Kids and Teen Programming

Sat., Feb. 10, 12-2pm, Saturday STEM: Join us for our popular Saturday STEM program. For this program, we'll be making edible books. That's right, eat your books! All supplies will be provided. The more the merrier, bring your friends. Registration is required. Ages 4-8.

Sat., Feb. 24, 12-2pm, Saturday STEM: Join us for our popular Saturday STEM program. For this program, sugar cube igloos! Create an igloo with sugar cubes and frosting! This project is geared for 6-12 year-olds. All supplies will be provided. The more the merrier, bring your friends. Registration is required. Ages 2-6.

REGULAR STORY TIMES: Join Miss Mary for regular Story Times in February on **Tuesdays at 11 AM or Fridays at 1 PM**. Free coloring pages for the kids are always available. No registration needed!

Adult Programming

Sat., Feb. 10, 10am-12pm, Grant's Games Presents the Art of Tabletop Gaming: Join us for a morning of game play. Ages ten years plus. Registration is required and parents please stay with their gamers!

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6-8pm, Paper Quilling Adult

Crafting Night: Join us at Griffin Free for another Valentine's Day themed paper quilling class with Laura Carignan. All supplies are supplied and the class is free and open to the public. Reservation are required!

Saturday, Feb. 17, All Day 10am-2pm, Puzzle Swap

Day: Calling all puzzle enthusiasts! Join us at Griffin Free and bring in your extra/completed puzzles to swap with other members of the community. It will be a great way to find new puzzles without spending any money. Bring a puzzle, take a puzzle and maybe make a few new friends while you're at it.

The Knitting Club will meet every Friday at 10:30am in February!

The Evening Book Club will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 6:30pm. The book for February will be "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

Special Events to Remember

Town Deliberative Session on Saturday, Feb. 3: A special warrant, Number 20, will be highlighted and discussed pertaining to library expansion and we hope to see library supporters come out!

February School Vacation Week, the week of Feb.

26: Stop by the library anytime during that week for fun, games, crafts and reading!

February Updates: The Friends of the Library

Congratulations to the hardworking Griffin Library Staff who welcomed over 10,000 patrons in 2023! We're thrilled so many of you are visiting the library and look forward to another great year!

2024 Goal: Record-Breaking Museum Visits

The Friends of the Library proudly fund passes to the following museums, providing Auburn residents with discounted or free admission rates:

- Aviation Museum
- Bedrock Gardens
- Boston Museum of Science
- Currier Museum of Art
- McAuliffe -Shepard Discovery Center
- New England Aquarium
- SEE Science Center
- Squam Lake Natural Science Center

Our goal is to make 2024 a record-breaking year for pass usage! Please support us by visiting GriffenFree.org to learn more and check each museum's website to confirm seasonal schedules.

Feeling Crafty?

Fresh for 2024, the Friends are thrilled to fund a membership to Creativebug, an easy-to-use, high-quality online art and craft education resource. The membership offers unlimited access to "1000+ award-winning HD instructional videos on drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, baking, holidays, parties, and more." All classes are taught by experts and new classes are added daily.

Sign-up information will be available on the library website soon.

*Questions or interest in joining the Friends? Reach us at griffinlibraryfriends@gmail.com or stop by one of our meetings. Our next meeting will take place at 7:00 at the library on **Monday, February 5th.***



February notes from the Massabesic Garden Club

It's seed and plant catalog time for gardeners in the colder climates, unless you attended our January hands on Winter sowing workshop! Under the guidance of members Patti Elwell and Stephanie Hanson, we learned two different methods for winter sowing seeds, so if you see milk jugs or plant pots sitting outside around town , that may be a garden club member who is waiting patiently until the seeds sprout in warmer weather . Seeds that are cold stratified in this manner could have better germination rates as critters are blocked from eating the seeds, and can develop very strong root systems to give the seedlings the best start when transplanting, Plus, its a fun way to get some gardening in during the winter months. During this meeting, we also had a lovely slide show which showcased our progress last year on our Barn Garden Project. Thank you to Silvana Demers for putting that together!

Upcoming member meetings include:

February 7th : Ayn Whytemare from Found Well Farm *** please note this is the first Wednesday instead of the second. The topic is: "Gardening for the Cheap and Lazy"

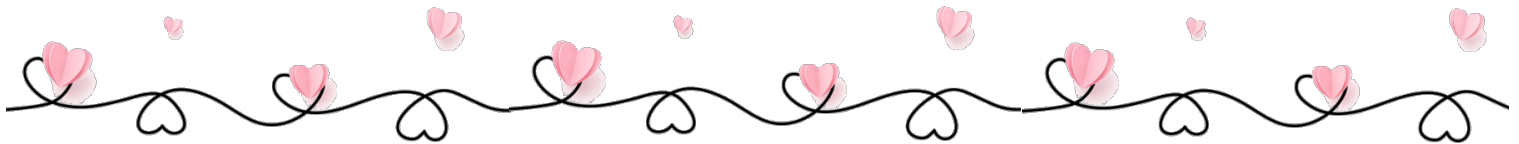
March 13th : Tina from Busy Beezzzz in Hooksett will be discussing bees, gardening adventures and soil blocks . She will also have her delicious honey and honey products for sale.

April 10th: NH Audubon will be speaking on the topic of NH backyard birds.

In May, we will have our annual member party . We will also be participating with the Friends of the Library on the annual plant sale fundraiser. As you are doing spring cleaning, please consider donating gardening books or pots that you are longer use- these were a big hit last year!

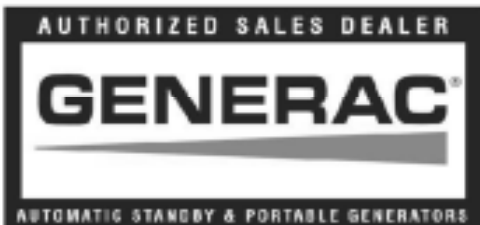
We will also continue to work on the Barn Garden that we have 'adopted' at the Massabesic Audubon Center. Please email us if you would like to participate in this project. We will meet several times for planning in this winter/early spring and then are typically out there twice per month in the warmer months. The feed back from the members of this committee is that it is a fun way to get outside, meet new friends and get some exercise no matter what your mobility , or garden ability is. Feel free to just come keep us company too! We welcome photographs of the site. Please feel free to snap photos during the growing season and send them to us !

We are also collecting member dues for 2024 at this time. Dues are optional for under age 18 and 70+. For more information on the Massabesic Garden Club, including the calendar of events and member info , please see our website www.massabesicgc.org. We can also be found on Facebook.



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UPCOMING BIRDING WALKS WITH NH AUDUBON



All ages and skill levels of birders are welcome. If you are new to birding, come and learn the basics! If you are an avid birder, come to learn new techniques, network with other birders, or share your expertise with the group.

- FEB. 3, 8-9:30am at the McLane Center in Concord
- FEB. 10, 8:30-10am at the Massabesic Center in Auburn
- FEB. 17, 8:30-10am at the Hoyt Wildlife Sanctuary in East Madison
- FEB. 24, 8:30-10am at the Ponemah Bog Sanctuary in Amherst
- MAR. 9, 9:30-10am at the Chase Wildlife Sanctuary in Hopkinton
- MAR 23, 8:30-10am at the Massabesic Center in Auburn

Tickets are \$8/Members, \$10/Non-members. Binocular rental is included in ticket cost. See more information and reserve tickets by going to our Events Calendar: nhaudubon.org/events

THIS FEBRUARY: WINTER WONDERS CAMP

This winter, come participate in the New Hampshire Audubon Winter Wonders Vacation Camp! From February 26-March 1, NH Audubon will be hosting day camp sessions at both the McLane Center and in Concord and the Massabesic Center in Auburn. Vacation camp is the perfect way to enjoy the cold and snow through outdoor exploration and discovery. Each day is designed to build the skills of budding naturalists through hands-on activities, storytelling, crafts, games, outdoor exploration, and live animal observation. Learn about how our native species endure the winter weather, go snowshoeing or hiking on the trails, and discover the science of snow!

Registration is open on NH Audubon's website. If you have any questions, please email Claire Adams at cadams@nhaudubon.org.



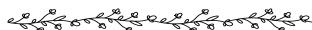
CAMP OPEN HOUSE: FEB 8, 5-7PM at the Massabesic Center

Join Camp Administrator, Claire Adams to learn more about the upcoming camp season. She will present a slide show about the camp philosophy, program, schedule, and staff. A panel of NH Audubon education staff and the Community and Education Manager from Media Power Youth will be on hand to answer questions and facilitate activities. Bring the kids.

RSVP on our Events Calendar: nhaudubon.org/events

GARDEN STRONG – HOW TO STAY HEALTHY AS A GARDENER: FEB. 17

With NH Audubon and UNH Extension Master Gardeners



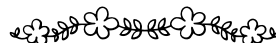
Are you a gardener who spends so much time digging, weeding, watering, and hauling mulch that you are sore and tired at the end of the day? Learn some simple and important techniques for reducing stress on your body so you can garden without pain or injury. You'll also be introduced to some adaptive tools that will make gardening easier for anyone.

Visit our Event Calendar to register by Feb. 15 - \$10/NH Audubon members & Extension Master Gardeners or \$15/non-members.

EVENTS

BLOSSOMING BEYOND ART EXHIBIT

With NH Audubon, Queerlective, and local artists



NH Audubon is thrilled to be partnering with Queerlective to provide a space to showcase their "Blossoming Beyond: Celebrating Queerness in Nature" exhibit. Explore the profound connection between queerness and nature in this exhibit. It showcases work that embodies the resilience, strength, and beauty of both the natural world and the LGBTQ+ community.

Visit during open hours to enjoy the exhibit, which will be showcased through March! Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm.

Visit us Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-5pm! Come explore the Center, meet our Animal Ambassadors, and pick up a souvenir from the Nature Shop. We are located at 26 Audubon Way in Auburn. Please follow Leave No Trace ethics and remember that dogs are not allowed on the Massabesic Center property. As a courtesy, our parking lot provides access to alternate dog-friendly trails on either end of Audubon Way.

| 26 Audubon Way, Auburn, NH | 603-668-2045/mac@nhaudubon.org | Open Tues-Sat 11am-5pm |

Longmeadow Serves!

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15: 13).

With the arrival of the new year, we of the Longmeadow Congregational Church UCC in Auburn, place our hope in the one who is beyond the divisions of our world and binds us together. We move forward into the future with thankfulness for all this community has done for each other and for those in greatest need. With all the hardships of the pandemic we give thanks for the positive learning we experienced during it, the foremost being the adoption and embrace of technology as a ministry tool that has allowed us to widen our welcome. Because of this we are able to gather for worship in three ways each Sunday, even on days when we have a snowstorm as we did last month:. In person worship is at 9:30, on-line worship services, using Zoom is at 11:00 and you can find pre-recorded services on YouTube. You may contact the church (483-2907) to ask any questions.

Although it feels as if we just celebrated Christmas, we are already looking toward the beginning of the season of Lent, beginning the contemplative road to Easter with an Ash Wednesday on February 14th at a 7:00 service. Come as you are, all are welcome.

Have you been to one of the monthly Community Breakfasts we host on the second Saturday of each month at Longmeadow? Not only will you receive an abundant, all-you-can-eat meal at the best price around (\$8.00 for adults, \$5 for children and those under 5 eat for free) but it is the best place to enjoy time with

your neighbors, friends, and family. We are also happy to now be providing little activity grab-and-go bags for children that they can work on while you enjoy your meal or bring home. You will find these bags, created by our Christian Education team members on a table near the entrance.

The Save our Steeple campaign is progressing well, thanks to the generosity of many of our neighbors and we are getting close to our \$60,000 goal. If you would like to contribute you can use the QR Code below or send a donation to the address provided.

We of the Longmeadow Congregational Church, UCC wish to all of our Auburn friends the ability to stay warm this winter and seek to serve where we can, following with gratitude and trust in where God will lead us. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. If you are seeking a community for worship, we invite you to join us. If you have any questions, please contact our Pastor, Rev. Ruth Gallot at 483-2907.



Since 1857 Longmeadow Congregational Church has been a beacon of light and hope, lovingly serving our Auburn neighbors and the surrounding communities. We have found our Church is in need of some critical repairs including some reconstruction of its iconic steeple. Our goal is almost \$60,000 and we are asking for your help to complete this project. No donation is too small and can be mailed in to: LCC-SOS, PO Box 356, Auburn, NH 03032-0356.

Thanks very much and God Bless

Save Our Steeple Campaign



Donations also accepted by Venmo
@Longmeadow Congregational Church
(comment: Steeple)



(Photo courtesy of Jean Wozniak)

St. Peter Roman Catholic Church

Fr. Michael Gendron, Pastor
Fr. Rory Traynor, Parochial Vicar
Dcn. Sean C Magee, Sr., Permanent Deacon
567 Manchester Rd.
603-623-5429

www.stpeteraub.org

Mass Schedule:

Sat – 4:00 p.m.
Sun – 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Mon, Tues, Fri – 7:00 a.m.
Wed – 7:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday, February 2nd from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the church

Wednesdays in February from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the church



Baptism or Marriage

For information on scheduling a Baptism or Marriage, please contact
Fr. Michael Gendron at 603-623-5429, ext. 1.



Interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a ministry to adults who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, and growing in their relationship with God. If you have never been baptized, have been baptized in another Christian tradition, or were baptized Catholic but have not received the sacraments of First Eucharist and/or Confirmation, and are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact Jake Linxweiler, Director of RCIA at 483-5571, or the parish office at stpeteraub@comcast.net.

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News from the Auburn Historical Association

An Auburn Hero - John Newell Brown

Written by Dan Carpenter, Researched by Jim Thompson



Above: The Brown Homestead was just south of Deerneck bridge on the Londonderry Turnpike in Auburn.

FIRE!! 19th century Americans, especially urban city dwellers, were petrified of building fires—and with good reason! The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 when Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over the kerosene lantern left 90,000 people homeless and burned down 1/3 of the city. Large swaths of Portsmouth burned in 1802, 1806, and again in 1813. Wooden houses built too close together with wood sheds, shops, barns, and outhouses filling up the backyards were a recipe for fire disaster. The entire city of Manchester was owned by the Amoskeag Corporate made up of Boston investors. They laid out a grid work of streets and left spaces for churches, schools, and parks. To mitigate the fire danger, the Amoskeag put their cotton warehouses on the West side of the Merrimack River and moved the cotton over specifically built bridges to the mills.

In the Front Room of Griffin Free Library is a framed poem entitled "An Auburn Hero".
(Without regard for poetic license, it is abbreviated from 48 to 19 lines.)

Fair Auburn is a Town just over the line
That's turned out great men, with records that shine;
Who by dint of hard work have made a mark in the world
And whose fame will long linger when their bodies are cold.

Take, for instant, John Brown; he hailed from that place.
With his long, waving curtains of Irish Point Lace (beard)
When John's at his work, he is a fire engineer
And performs all his work without any fear.

The call went out from Box 53
Wallace sawmill was burning free.
Among the first there was the Machine and Old John,
The suction line blew off, John ran it back through his legs.

All this while he was tugging with might and with main,
And yelling blue blazes, like a man that's insane.
'Till at last other firemen arrived on the ground,
And at once Old John's praises they loudly did sound.

And to John Brown of Auburn, belongs all the praise
Of stopping that fire. "Three cheers for Old John."
One of the bravest of men that ever was born.

News from the Auburn Historical Association



Above Left: John Newell Brown in a group photo. Above Right: Closeup from same picture

continued...

The Wallace sawmill, lumber yard was located on the West side of Manchester near the Piscataquog River. Still today, sawmills with heavy machinery, lubricants, and ready made fuel, saw dust, that can be impossible to extinguish once it gets going, are at a high risk of fire.

According to the poem, the alarm was sounded from Fire Box 53 which is on the West side. Brown took a steam fired pumper to the fire by himself. He got the suction line set up singlehanded but then adversity struck. He is close to putting water on the fire when the suction line comes undone. With a great effort, Brown reattached the line and attacks the fire as other firemen start to arrive. Because J Newell Brown got the steam pumper set up and ready to fight the fire, the firemen saved the Wallace sawmill. If they had failed, the Wallace fire endangered the entire West side of Manchester.

Thoughts on J Newell Brown and the poem: the author of this poem is unknown but the Manchester detail indicates a connection to the City and probably the Manchester Fire Department. The poet does not know John Newell Brown personally. He went by "Newell" his entire life. He was probably born in 1838 and grew up on his father's farm just South of Deerneck Bridge. He attended Auburn Schoolhouse No 8, the Fox School on the Londonderry Turnpike. Did he spend 4 years working on the family farm? In 1856 at age 18, he attended Chester Academy for one semester.

The 1860 Census finds Newell working in Boston. Four years later, he is in Manchester working at the Amoskeag Steam Fire Engine Co. Newell marries childhood neighbor Juliette Colby and they have 2 children. The Browns owned a house on Arlington St in Manchester where they spent the rest of their lives. Both die of kidney disease - Juliette in 1892 and Newell in 1919.

The family homestead, just south of Deerneck Bridge was sold to Manchester Water Works in 1889 and was torn down soon afterward.

Back to the poem. How old is 'Old John Brown'? Average life expectancy for men in 1890 was 42 years. If the sawmill fire occurred then, Newell was 52 and certainly qualifies as 'old'. Initial research hit many dead ends. There are many 'Brown' families in Auburn and 'John' is a common name. When permission was given to remove the poem from its frame, "J Newell Brown" was written on the back ending the mystery.

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Submissions for the Auburn Village Crier

Submissions for the Crier must be received by the 15th of every month, unless otherwise stated.

Please send all articles in a word document, e-mail attachment to: townhall@townofauburnnh.com

603-483-5052 Ext.102
Auburn Village Crier
c/o Sandee Guide
PO Box 146
Auburn, NH 03032

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