



AUBURN VILLAGE CRIER



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- May 5th Cinco De Mayo
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COVID-19 info

Save the Date – Shred Day now on September 12th

One of the changes for the Town of Auburn with the issues surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic is the re-scheduling of the annual paper shredding event for any resident who has documents they wish to have shredded and disposed.

Initially planned for May 9th, the vendor who manages this event had cancelled all of the public events like Auburns until the fall.

The Shred Day event will be held on Saturday, September 12th from 9 AM until Noon in the parking lot of the Town Hall. This is the same day as the 28th Annual Duck Race sponsored by the Auburn Historical Association which kicks off at 10 AM.

A Word About The May Plant Sale

Spring is here, and many of us were looking forward to spectacular blooms and colors of many variations of flowers and plants from our area. Unfortunately because of the Covid Virus, The Friends of the Library and the Auburn Historical Association will need to cancel all of the plans for our May plant sale.

We are sure that next spring the sale will return, much like the daffodils and tulips in the spring.

Meanwhile stay well, stay strong, and be kind to one another.



Editor: Patricia Rousseau

603-483-5052 ext.100

Crier e-mail: townhall@townofauburnnh.com



Auburn Responds to Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has dominated the news across the globe during the past month, and the Town of Auburn has been no exception.

As you are aware, a number of services were curtailed, group meetings have generally been suspended and the overall conducting of the Town's business has been altered during the course of the Governor's State of Emergency declaration and "Stay at Home" order.

Initially, the Auburn Village School was closed, and remote learning became the way the school year was to progress. In close progression, the Griffin Free Public Library also closed, and the Circle of Fun Playground and the Eddows Recreational Fields were also closed in an effort to reduce access to surfaces and ma-

terials where the virus could linger and to ensure social distancing was managed. All of the various programs organized by the Parks and Recreation Department for April and May was also cancelled.

Operations at the Town Hall initially remained business as usual, but quickly moved towards providing as much service as possible through online services including motor vehicle registrations, dog licenses and building permits. There is some service by appointment only, and residents are encouraged to call first as the Town works to ensure there are nine or fewer individuals in the Town Hall at any one time.

Auburn's emergency services departments have more than met the ever-changing needs of the community

during this time, while taking steps to reduce some general contact with the public in order to minimize the potential of exposure to the virus. They have done well in managing the personnel protective equipment between the two departments to ensure that our law enforcement, firefighters and EMS personnel are as up to date on conditions and best practices to help keep the community and themselves safe.

Elsewhere in this edition of The Auburn Village Crier, you will find specific information on Covid-19, temporary changes in how to access services at the Town Hall, and other information on adjustments made as Auburn and the State deal with this situation.

Board of Selectmen Organization

At the first Board meeting following the March elections, the Board of Selectmen elected Keith Leclair to serve as Selectmen Chair, while Todd Bedard was elected as Vice Chair.

The Board also designated its ex-officio committee assignments by selecting Keith Leclair as the Selectmen's representative to the Budget Committee and to the Town's Emergency Response Covid-19 Team. Todd Bedard will continue to serve

as the Selectmen's representative to the Parks & Recreation Commission and will also join the Highway Safety Committee, while Michael Rolfe will serve as the Selectmen's representative to the Planning Board.

Town Boards and Committees

As a new year gets underway following the Town Meeting and elections, a number of Auburn residents have been appointed by the Board of Selectmen to various town positions, boards and committees.

Paula Wright was reappointed as Deputy Town Clerk for a three-year term to coincide with Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia's new term of office, while Walter Milne has been reap-

pointed as Deputy Tax Collector following Tax Collector Susan Jenkins' reelection.

Reappointed to the Highway Safety Committee for one-year terms were Dan Carpenter, Mike DiPietro and Dennis Vieira, while Jeffrey Porter and Edward Fehrenbach were re-appointed to three-year terms on the Conservation Commission. Stephanie Hanson has also been re-

appointed as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission.

Michael DiPietro and Kevin Stuart were re-appointed to three-year terms on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Patrick Kelley and Patricia Rousseau were re-appointed to three-year terms on the Parks & Recreation Commission.



The Selectmen also had noted there would be a vacancy on the Auburn Police Commission with the pending resignation of Michael Rolfe due to

his election to the Board of Selectmen. The Board has received expressions of interest from 10 Auburn residents and will be considering who

to appoint to fill the one-year left on the term of office for this position.

Tower Hill a Popular Location

As the good weather moved in last month and individuals were anxious to get out of their homes in some fashion, there was a large number of people who ventured out to the Tower Hill Pond area of Auburn. For several weekend days, parking on Tower Hill Road was jammed packed on both sides of the road with what seemed like hundreds of

vehicles. If needed, it would have been difficult to nearly impossible to get an ambulance or fire truck through the area.

Not wanting to prohibit individuals from an opportunity to get out and enjoy the trails and acreage in the area, the Auburn Police Department with the assistance of the Auburn

Road Agent, have temporarily blocked off an area around the access point to Tower Hill Pond and prohibited parking on one side of the road.

It is hoped this will help manage the parking in a safe manner while still allowing access to the area.

Kudos for Rolling Birthday Parades and Easter Bunny

Not everything is bad news. We want to acknowledge the efforts of several individuals in our community who have tried to provide a positive activity for many individuals, most notably for our younger residents who are home and maybe not fully understanding why they can't be together with their friends for this extended period of time.

With efforts organized by Shawn Matte, there have been a number of birthday parades held with as many as a dozen vehicles decorated in varying degrees to offer birthday wishes with lights, horns and shouts as they parade past the residences. For most of these parades, Mort Ailing of the Auburn Fire Department worked to have a fire truck as part of the parade

for, frankly, what is a parade without a fire truck!!! The squeals of delight and smiles of the birthday children have been priceless.

Not to be out done, the Easter Bunny made a parade throughout the Town on Easter Sunday to brighten everyone's day.

Being Smart, Together We Will

As we write this, the Governor's current State of Emergency order is in place until April 25th. But there are initial indications and expectations that it will be renewed into May. And the "Stay at Home" order is currently effective through May 4th, but it is also expected to be renewed for a period of time as well.

We fully understand these are extremely difficult times for people everywhere. By all accounts, the social distancing efforts and "Stay at Home" practice is working and having a positive effect in bending the curve of the overall expectations for the intensity and duration of the

Covid-19 pandemic. We are not out of the woods yet, but we are all making progress together.

Please, stay safe and follow the directions to stay home as much as you possibly can. We are all in this together, and together we will come out.



**AUBURN TOWN HALL CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC;
OPERATING IN VIRTUAL MANNER DURING “STAY AT HOME” ORDER**

Governor Sununu issued a state of emergency for the State of New Hampshire on March 13th due to COVID-19. By March 15th, the Governor directed all schools to close and provide remote learning at least until May 4th. On March 23rd, the Governor prohibited public gatherings of 10 or more people, and on March 26th he ordered individuals to stay at home and ordered the closing of all non-essential businesses.

These efforts of containment are all part of an attempt to minimize the spreading of COVID-19 through community-based transmission of the virus.

Auburn town officials have been actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation, which is rapidly evolving at the local, state and national level. The Town is committed to the continued health and optimal safety of our residents, as well as our officials and employees, and we intend to do our part to “flatten the curve” of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To that end, in consultation with our Emergency Management Director, neighboring communities and state officials, we have decided that **effective Tuesday March 24, 2020, the Auburn Town Hall will be closed to the public until further notice.**

However, we will still be working to serve the residents of Auburn. We intend to do our best to operate as a “VIRTUAL TOWN HALL”. In today's world, most of the transactions of our residents can be done online or arranged via phone, emails or drop box. Resident questions can and will be answered via phone or email. And, as a last resort, you may schedule an appointment in Town Hall with the appropriate Town personnel to complete your transaction. Appointments will be made to keep the number of people in the building as limited as possible in order to comply with CDC recommendations for social distancing.

Please see the following pages for how we intend to operate our VIRTUAL TOWN HALL.

“HOW TO” COMPLETE TOWN HALL TRANSACTIONS

WEBSITE: The Town website address is www.auburnnh.us, and we encourage you to visit the website frequently for new information and updates.

TOWN HALL MAILING ADDRESS: Should you need to mail anything to Town Hall, the address is as follows:

Town of Auburn, PO Box 309, Auburn, NH 03032

TOWN HALL GENERAL TELEPHONE NUMBER: (603) 483-5052 (See contacts below for direct numbers and specific extensions).

TRANSACTIONS: The following is a list of the transactions most often performed for our residents in Town Hall, and directions as to how each may be accomplished until the COVID-19 crisis passes and we can safely re-open our doors:

- **Notary Services:** The Auburn Town Offices has suspended Notary Services indefinitely.



- **Renewal of Vehicle Registrations:** Should be done online via our website portal:

www.auburnnh.us and click on the orange & white "E-Reg" icon on the home page.

- **Registration and Title Transfers of a newly purchased vehicle:** On March 17th, NH Director of Motor Vehicles Elizabeth Bielecki announced for new transactions, the Governor has authorized the NHDMV to extend all temporary plates issued after March 1st until April 30, 2020. We encourage residents to delay their registration effort for new vehicles until April.

We are working on preparations for NEW registration, titles and transfers to be done in person only by appointment.

- **Copies of vital records (birth, death or marriage certificates):** Contact Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia at townclerk@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-2281.
- **Dog Licensing:** Renewals can be done online via our website portal: www.auburnnh.us and click on the blue & white "Dog Licensing" icon on the home page. Registration of new dogs will be by appointment only. Contact Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia at townclerk@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-2281.
- **Boat Registrations:** Registrations can be done by mail or by appointment only. More information can be found on the NH DMV website at: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/dmv/registration/boat.htm>
- **Transfer Station Permit:** Contact Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia at townclerk@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-2281.
- **Voter Registration:** Contact Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia at townclerk@townofauburnnh.com or 603-483-2281.

Questions about vehicle registrations, vital records, dog licensing, boat registrations, or marriage licenses should be directed to Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia, townclerk@townofauburnnh.com or 603-483-2281.

- **Tax Payments:** Can be made in one of two ways: (1) via mail (checks ONLY and postmark dates will be honored as the date of payment); or (2) by appointment only. Contact Tax Collector Susan Jenkins with questions, towntax@townofauburnnh.com or 603-483-2281.
- **Property Assessment Records, Deeds and Tax Maps:** Most of this material can be viewed online. **Property assessment records** can be viewed online via our web portal: www.auburnnh.us and click on the green & white "Assessment Data Review Online" icon on the home page. **Tax maps** can be viewed online via our web portal: www.auburnnh.us and click on the blue & white "CAI Technologies" icon on the home page.

Some documents, including septic plans, building permits and sales data is not available online, but most documents can be scanned and emailed. Contact Land Use Administrator Denise Royce at planning@townofauburnnh.com or 603-483-5052.

- **Filing for and renewals of Property Tax Exemptions and Credits, etc.:** Information for verification or renewal can be sent by mail or can be delivered by appointment. Questions can be directed to Land Use Administrator Denise Royce at planning@townofauburnnh.com or 603-483-5052.

The following forms should be filed with the Selectmen's Office by the following date:

Form	Deadline to File
Elderly Exemptions	April 15
Veterans Tax Credits	April 15
Tax Deferrals	April 15
Current Use Applications	April 15
Exempt Property Applications (Charitable, Religious, Educational)	April 15
Timber Intents	None
Gravel Intents	None

If you need application forms, questions can be directed to Land Use Administrator Denise Royce at planning@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-5052.

- **Home and Building Inspections:** As long as construction proceeds, inspections will reasonably continue. Some communities are limiting inspections to only emergencies, exterior projects or rough inspections in open structures. For Auburn, the Building Inspector will use her judgement concerning inspections into any occupied buildings, especially homes or businesses where contagious people could be. Please contact Building Inspector Carrie Rouleau-Cote at bldginsp@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-5052, ext. 3
- **Building Permits:** Permit applications can be completed and submitted online via the Town website portal: www.auburnnh.com and click on the blue, green & white "e-Permit" icon on the home page. For further information, please contact Building Inspector Carrie Rouleau-Cote at bldginsp@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-5052, ext. 3
- **Building Plan Reviews:** Will be accepted by email or mail. If necessary, we will meet individuals by appointment only to go over plan questions. Please contact Building Inspector Carrie Rouleau-Cote at bldginsp@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-5052, ext. 3
- **Burial Plot Sales or Internments:** Contact Cemetery Trustee Chair Jim Thompson at 603-483-5627
- **Burn Permits:** Burn permits are only available at this time online through the following web location: <https://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net/>



- **Land Use Board Submissions** (including Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment) or to review site plans, subdivision plans, etc., please contact Land Use Administrator Denise Royce at planning@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-5052.
- **Recreation Programming:** Information is available online at: <https://www.auburnnh.us/parks-and-recreation> or on Facebook at: Or contact Recreation Coordinator Amy Lachance at recreation@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-5052.
- **Road Issues or Questions:** Contact Road Agent Mike Dross at 603-303-4223.
- **Wetlands Permit and Shoreland Protection Applications** for review by the Conservation Commission can be filed by mail. If you have any questions about filing contact Town Clerk Kathleen Sylvia at townclerk@townofauburnnh.com or call 603-483-2281.

Appointments at Town Hall: In order to be as protective as possible of the health, safety and welfare of the public, as well as the Town Hall staff, the Board of Selectmen are directing that for the initial time of this process, no more than three members of the public will be allowed in the Town Hall for business purposes at a time. This will allow for the CDC's recommended "social distancing".

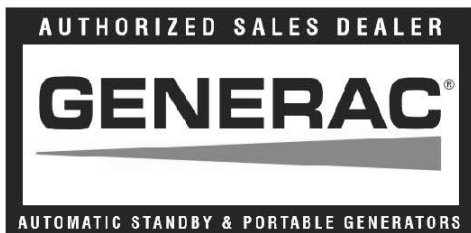
People needing to meet with any of the individuals in the Town Hall should call first to schedule an appointment with that individual. Upon your arrival in the parking lot of the Town Hall, call that individual to let them know you have arrived. You will need to remain outside until the individual you are here to meet indicates you can come in and they open the front door for you.

If you are waiting outside instead of in your car, please practice good safety protocol and maintain a safe distance from other individuals who may also be on the site.



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- Service panels/upgrades
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Notice to Auburn NH Residents

Waste Management of New Hampshire (WMNH), in consultation with the Town of Auburn, will be limiting the materials accepted at the Residential Drop Off Area to improve social distancing during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's "Stay at Home" order.

EFFECTIVE FRIDAY APRIL 10, 2020 THE RESIDENTIAL DROP OFF AREA WILL ONLY ACCEPT:

- BAGGED SOLID WASTE WHICH GOES INTO THE COMPACTOR
- RECYCLABLE BOTTLES, CANS, PAPER AND CARDBOARD
- Please make every attempt to limit each visit to no more than 3 bags of waste and 3 bags of recyclables.

The Residential Drop Off Area will **NOT ACCEPT** BULKY WASTE, CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE, SCRAP METAL, YARD WASTE, APPLIANCES OR TIRES.

These measures are intended to reduce the time residents are at the Residential Drop Off Area thereby improving social distancing. This will remain in effect during the Governor's Stay at Home order. Please consult the Auburn Town web site for any updates.

Residents may contact Waste Management with any questions at 668-6441.

Griffin Free Public Library Volunteer Opportunity

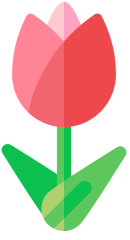
Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity? Do you love your library? The Griffin Free Public Library Board of Trustees is looking for candidates to be an Alternate Trustee on the Board.

The Library is governed by a team of the Library Director, three Elected Trustees and two Alternate Trustees and we would like to add one more Alternate Trustee to the Board. The Board is responsible for the custody and management of the library, and we select a Director who is the administrator of the day-to-day operations. We are responsible for the budget and all financial decisions. Alternate Trustees should attend and participate in all meetings as they have voting rights when filling in for an absent Elected Trustee.

If you are interested in what a board meeting is like, you're welcome to join us on the second Monday of any month at 6:30 in the library. You can also go to the town website and review the minutes from previous meetings. If you would like to speak with a Board Member please leave your information at the library and someone will get back to you.



Girl Scouts



Your local Girl Scouts missed getting to see you at all the cookie booths they had planned! 1st grade troop 59007 still has over 100 boxes available to sell so if you didn't get your fill of cookies yet, please reach out to troop leader Jennifer Anderson at girlscoutsjen@gmail.com and let us know what you'd like. Once the stay-at-home order is lifted we will happily deliver to you. Our troop was able to get together in early

March to use some of their cookie and fall product proceeds to enjoy a Build a Bear experience. Even during this pandemic, the girls are meeting via zoom and working on fun activities to stay connected. Thanks to all who support Girl Scouts in our town! And a special shout out to all the volunteer leaders in town who help girls learn new skills. April is Volunteer Appreciation Month and we couldn't do it with all of you!



Boy Scout Troop 127

By: Benjamin Wallin

Hello Auburn, Troop 127 has been adjusting to life distantly at home very well, having virtual meetings over the last few weeks. We are still meeting weekly on Mondays and have used a few different group talk formats to make sure that our Troop is enjoying their time together. Last week we had a scavenger hunt through-out our homes to find important items that we might need in the case of an emergency. We are actively discussion internet safety and responsible on-line behavior to keep us safe during these very difficult times.

We are hoping for the end of social distancing soon so that we can do more exciting activities together in the great outdoors. Currently, we are still planning to attend Scout Camp this summer and have already paid the deposits for the wonderful adventure outside.

Watch the Auburn Community Group on Facebook and future Crier articles for upcoming events Please visit our website if you are interested in coming to a meeting. <http://auburn127.mytroop.us>



Rec News

Auburn Parks and Recreation

Recreation@TownofAuburnNH.com

603-483-5052 x101

Spring Programs Cancelled Due to COVID-19

Our jobs in Parks and Recreation is to bring fun and happiness to the residents of Auburn. Never did we expect to be spending so much time cancelling programs and events as well as closing our parks and playgrounds. Please know that none of the closings or cancellations are decisions we take lightly. If you have any questions, please contact Amy at Parks & Rec.

Here is a list of programs affected by COVID-19 along with their status....

- **Archery**- Spring session cancelled. New session to start in the fall.
- **Jumping Beans**- Current session is cancelled. New session to start asap.
- **Junior Chef**- May class cancelled. New classes to start again in the fall
- **Senior Trip**- On hold until further notice. Next scheduled trip will be posted in the Crier.
- **Town-Wide Yard Sale**- Cancelled.
- **Tai Chi for Seniors**- Next session planned to start June 5. Contact Parks and Rec for more information.
- **Old Home Day & Fireworks**- Cancelled

Please also note that the **Circle of Fun Playground**, **Appletree Park** and **Wayne Eddows Memorial Fields** are temporarily closed. At this point we are planning to re-open sometime in May. This timeframe could get extended so please check our Facebook page (@AuburnNHParksandRec), call or email us before heading out to the parks.

All the Parks & Rec programs and events on the following pages are still on as scheduled. However, all events are subject to cancellation due to COVID-19. Updates will be posted on our Facebook page, Instagram page and the website (AuburnNH.us/parks-and-recreation) if anything changes. Any registered participants will be contacted directly if there are changes. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this challenging time



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram at **AuburnNHparksandrec**



Summer Concerts in the Park

After the crazy spring we've had, we are all looking forward to warm summer nights at the park for the summer concerts. This summer we are excited to offer 3 concerts, one each month of the summer. Mark your calendars for free family entertainment with live music. We will be serving hot dogs and hamburgers at the first concert only as a kickoff to summer. (New this year, dinner will not be served at all 3 concerts. Only the first.) Bring the kids to enjoy the playground and sit back and relax to the music. All concerts are held at the Circle of Fun playground starting at 6:00 pm.



June 18- Blacklite Band July 23- The Raging Rockaholics August 20- The Bob Pratte Band

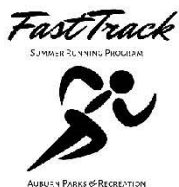
Playdate in the Park

Parents/caregivers and their little ones are invited to meet at the Circle of Fun playground this summer to let your kids play together while we get to know each other. Playdate at the Park will be held on select Wednesdays at 10:00 am throughout the summer. This summer's schedule... Stories with Miss Mary from the Griffin Library on July 22nd, Fire Truck and Police Car on July 29th and Back to School with AVS Kindergarten staff on August 19th.



Fast Track Summer Running Program

The Fast Track Summer Running Program, led by AVS Cross Country Head Coach and 8th grade teacher, Tim Hamilton, is designed to give student athletes a leg up in all areas of fitness and health for fall sports. This program is designed to boost endurance and provide an opportunity to enter fall season in prime condition so all athletes can excel on the course or on the field. The workouts will be comprised of stretching and flexibility work, conditioning drills, strength training, nutrition information, running workouts, and active games.



This program is for students entering grades 5-8 and will be held at 8:00 to 10:30 am on August 4, 6*, 11, 13*, 18*, 19 and 20. Fast Track will meet at the Auburn Safety Complex Field except August 6 & 18 at the track at Livingston Park in Manchester and August 13 at Derryfield Park in Manchester. Early bird price of \$99 before June 1st. \$129 after that date. This price includes instruction and Auburn Fast Track tech wick t-shirt. Registration form can be found online or on the following page.

Tai Chi for Seniors

Tai Chi is a mind-body exercise from China. It has roots in martial arts, philosophy and Traditional Chinese Medicine. The Tai Chi forms are slow, gentle choreographed movements that gracefully flow from one to the next like a dance. More and more seniors are doing Tai Chi to improve their health and reduce their risk of falling. The next 10-week session will start on **Friday, June 5 at 11:00 am at the Safety Complex** and runs through August 14 (no class July 3). The cost for the program is \$59. To register for the 10-week program, please use the form on the following page and return to Parks and Recreation



Basketball Camp



There is still space available in both weeks of the summer Basketball Camp. This camp is lead by AVS Basketball Coach and Teacher, Coach DeGraffe along with Coach Howell. It is a weeklong co-ed basketball camp where players will have the ability to work on ball handling and defensive skills as well as learn about how to move and handle themselves on the court. The basketball style that is the foundation of this camp is to teach players how to make choices on the court that maximizes their own set of skills. This style teaches players the basics "rules" for an offence and lets the player use their own creativity on the court to make decisions at game speed.

NEW THIS SUMMER>>>> We now offer 2 different weeks of basketball camp. **July 13-17 is open to students who will be entering 5th and 6th grade** and **July 20-24 will be for students entering grades 7 & 8**. Both camps will be held at the Tower Hill Church from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm with a fee of \$175 for the full week.

Parks & Recreation Program Registration Form



Participant's Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

For youth Programs...

Parent's Name: _____

Participant's Age: _____

(For summer camps) Grade Entering in Sept. 2020 _____

I would like to register for (please circle) ...

Tai Chi

Basketball Camp Grade 5 & 6

Basketball Camp Grades 7 & 8

Fast Track Summer Running

Please return this form to Auburn Parks and Recreation, PO Box 309, Auburn, NH 03032. Checks can be made payable to the Town of Auburn. Please call the Parks and Recreation office at 483-5052 x101 or email Recreation@townofauburnNH.com with any questions. If you need an additional form, you can find one on the town website at AuburnNH.us/parks-and-recreation under "Rec Forms".

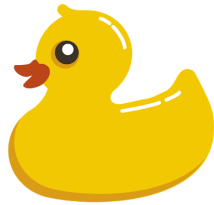


Duck Race Application

As I sit here today “social distancing”, I’m looking forward to all of Auburn getting together to celebrate Auburn’s 175th Anniversary at the Auburn Day Duck Race on September 12, 2020. We’re looking for private and non-profit vendors for the celebration.

A 12’ by 12’ space is \$40 for individuals and free for non-profits here in Auburn. If you are interested please contact Pat Clement at pclement60@yahoo.com and I will get an application and more details to you.

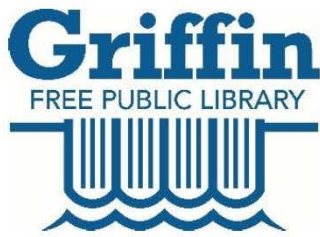
Let’s make this year one that we will always remember for the good things we have here in Auburn.



Office Locations :
254 Rockingham Road Auburn, NH 03032
510 Christian Lane Berlin, CT 06037

design build • commercial fit-up • building expansion

www.jlncontracting.com | (877) 209-1713



Kathy Growney, Library Director

(603) 483-5374

director@griffinfree.org

www.griffinfree.org



Collection Highlights

The Library Trustees and staff hope that you and your loved ones are well during this unprecedented time!

Although the library building closed on March 17 to the public, the staff have been working to build up our online resources. This has included increased funding to **New Hampshire Downloadable Books** (Overdrive/Libby; <https://nh.overdrive.com>) that has helped support the increased demand in eBooks and streaming audiobooks. In fact, the NHDB circulation statistics reached a new high a few days ago with 4,650 checkouts in a single day. Wow, does NH like to read! We are seeing more demand not only from our adult readers, but from our young readers as well.

Many of you have noticed that we have also increased your monthly checkout allowance in **hoopladigital.com** from 4 to 5 checkouts a month. Enjoy!

While the building is closed, the vendor that owns Ancestry Library Edition, is allowing our patrons to access our library subscription to Ancestry from home! You will need an active Griffin Free Public Library to access all of these resources. Don't have one or need help? Email director@griffinfree.org or give us a call.

Programming Highlights

Although all of our in-person programming is suspended for the time being to help slow the spread of COVID-19, we are investigating ways to bring you library programming online. Keep watch of our website and Facebook pages for future developments.

As of this writing, the Library Trustees and staff are working with local, state and national library groups and associations to begin planning on when and how to reopen physical library services. Updates will be posted to our website and Facebook pages as this situation evolves.

In the meantime, on behalf of the Trustees and staff, please stay safe and be well.





Longmeadow Serves!



As one of my colleagues said to me recently ... "that was the Lentiest Lent I have ever Lented! But as a result, it was also one of the Holiest Holy Weeks I have ever Holied!"

The physical distancing required of this pandemic has taken its toll on everyone. Whether it was over taxed medical and emergency workers, teachers shifting in the blink of an eye to use new technology to continue educating out young people, families suddenly become home-schoolers, people learning new technology to work from home, courageous heroes continuing their essential occupations of keeping the flow of needed supplies available in stores and restaurants, manufacturing companies shirting their product line to provide necessary medical supplies or home sewers creating thousands of re-usable face masks, our community, nation and world has pulled together in ways that we have not seen before. None of it has been easy and we have all made mistakes, but we are continuing to come together in new ways that reflect who God has created us to be,



Here at Longmeadow Congregational Church, UCC we, too, have been shifting how we do things and have found joy in the sacredness of discovering new ways to BE THE CHURCH. We have shifted our worship services to be on-line exclusively, using both YouTube and Zoom interactive platforms. The sad reality of hackers has meant that we can not post links on public social media platforms. However, if you



would like to join in any of our worship services, please call the church at 483-2907 for more information.

We will continue following the recommendations of the CDC and the Governor regarding public gatherings for worship but look forward with great hope and joy to the day we can once again gather together in our church building to worship our Savior, welcome you all back to our church breakfasts and reschedule the events we have planned.

No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, there is always a place for you here, whether in the building or on-line. At Longmeadow Congregational Church, we seek not just to go to church but to BE THE CHURCH! If you have any questions, please contact our Pastor, Rev. Ruth Gallot at 483-2907. Friend us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Longmeadow/>



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News from the Auburn Historical Association

"The Dearborn Mill"

Are you tired of being cooped up? Are you looking for a scenic spot close to home? Check out one of Auburn's most interesting landmarks –the location of the Dearborn Mill. This is located at the foot of Dearborn Hill where Preston Brook crosses the road—approximately 100 feet from the entry to Gospel Path.



Above: Gospel Path off Dearborn Road



Above: The Dearborn Mill site today

In 1751, Thomas Dearborn, and six other investors, decided to put in a mill. To get to the site, they built a road from the corner of Rt 121 and Bunker Hill Rd (the Chester end of Bunker Hill Road) that stayed close to the swamp and avoided going over the hill. This road went past the mill site and continued onto the old Dearborn Road. It was over two miles long.

After passing the mill, the old road went straight up Sand Hill, past two foundations, and came back down onto the present road where Stoney Brook crosses Dearborn Rd. This was the original Dearborn Road. One of the two foundations on Sand Hill across from the mill was a small house that was built for the workers since the commute back to 'civilization' was too long.

Dearborn and the other investors then built the 75 foot long dam and the 10 foot high heavy foundation wall for the mill. The dam, along with the bridge was just behind the mill. This dam held back the water in Spruce Swamp which extends into Chester and is over 500 acres in area. (Bird or animal activity is usually evident around the dam—this is right next to the mill and a pretty area to check out.)

They were now ready to put in an up-and-down saw mill. All of this was accomplished by strong backs and patient oxen. It was hard physical labor using picks, shovels, and axes. The sawing season lasted about 50 days, the length of the spring runoff. So, one share was worth about 3 days of sawing. That short timeframe meant that the mill could not be operated commercially. It would work for neighborhood farmers who needed a few boards for use around the farm.

During the snow melt, it was important to keep the mill running. Water, the source of power is a finite resource. If it's weight is not used to generate power, to keep the mill running, its value is lost to the sawyers. So, when the water was available, they ran the mill around the clock. One man could load a log on the carriage and then he could move the log over every 10 minutes or so to cut another board by himself. One man could do the work but it was difficult working in pitch blackness with only a lantern, miles from any human habitation, with the creek murmuring and the machinery groaning.



News from the Auburn Historical Association

"The Dearborn Mill"

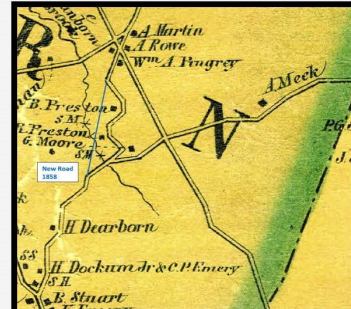
And it wasn't just his imagination that could keep a sawyer on edge all through the night. Moose, deer, bear, bobcat and coyote have their own highway system that follows the creek beds. Still to this day, creatures come down from Bear Brook Park, over Tower Hill and Clark's Pond, across Little Massabesic Pond and on to Spruce Swamp and Cohas Brook. What was that strange sound? Was it the mill? The brook? Some living nightmare? Or the log itself?

This was Henry David Thoreau's description of the sounds of a sawmill at night (Heart Of Thoreau's Journals, 1927, p. 134). "I hear Barrett's sawmill running by night...It is a hollow, galloping sound; makes tearing work, taming timber, preparing it for dwellings of men and musical instruments. I can imagine the sawyer, with his lantern and his bar in hand, standing by, amid the shadows cast by his light. There is a sonorous vibration and ring to it, as if from the nerves of a tortured log. Tearing its entrails."



Left: Foundation remains of the workers' house on Sand Hill across from the mill.

Right: The straight line shows Dearborn Road as it is now. To the right is the original road that avoided the large hill.



In 1843, Dearborn's up-and-Down sawmill was completely rebuilt. The straight blade, like a handsaw, only cuts on the down stroke. The up stroke while preparing for the next cut is a waste of time and water. Within a decade of rebuilding the mill, new technology brought out the circular saw which cuts continually. This advancement made the up-and-down saw obsolete. As the value of the mill decreased, William A. Pingrey, one of the shareholders, eventually owned 13 of the 16 shares. He kept the mill going as a hobby until his death in 1909 and the property went to his son Alvin Pingrey.

Alvin Pingrey owned the mill below Dearborn Rd which eventually went to his grandson Merton Grant. In the 1930's, Merton Grant sold his land, the mill on Pingrey Pond, and his 13 shares in the old Dearborn Mill to the Manchester Water Works. The hurricane of 1938 scattered pieces of the old mill down Preston Brook. Today, the brook still murmurs as it makes its way through the foundation stones but the mill itself is long silent.

The May 9th plant sale has been cancelled but you can still order a hanging basket! The price is \$30 each or 2 for \$50. Members of the AHA will deliver the baskets to your home. If interested, please email us at info@auburnhistorical.org. We will be in touch as to the choices of flowers. All proceeds benefit the AHA.



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Remote Learning Update

AVS staff, students and parents have been involved in remote learning since March 13th. The first three weeks were geared toward review and supporting student skills so that they remained sharp and engaged. Once the governor made the announcement to extend to May 3rd, the school realized that we needed to move the learning forward and begin to teach new concepts. Week 4 brought us into the “Zoom” world where teachers teach live lessons and support students' questions. AVS has an educational account with Zoom that includes a host of additional protections for students and AVS employees. These include automated settings that allow only the host (generally a teacher or other administrator) to begin the meeting, admit students, share screens or other utilities, and / or to record the session. It is important to note that the majority of issues that have been reported with Zoom involve Individual or Business accounts. Aside from learning new concepts, the students love to use the tool to show off their pets and socialize with their classmates.



Lastly, after much careful consideration, AVS has decided to revise our grading practices and move toward passing with distinction, passing, and incomplete for assignments and final grades. We feel that this is the most appropriate course of action to support our students, parents, and staff during these challenging times by reducing the stress for everyone.

We are grateful for our parents' patience and understanding as we continually modify and fine tune our instruction. Our parents and students are moving mountains to keep learning going during this time, as are the more than 90 dedicated educators and staff at AVS. We are grateful for everyone's hard work. These are disruptive and stressful times that have already come with many challenges and a constantly evolving landscape.

Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Contest Winners

Congratulations to Kaye Daley (Grade 3) and Colton Laroche (Grade 2) who have been named Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest State Winners! The Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest rewards outstanding manuscript and cursive skills among students in grades K–8 and recognizes the teachers who understand the importance of handwriting for developing literacy in all students.

Casella Art Contest

Congratulations to Camden Xintaras who was one of 13 New Hampshire students who will be featured in the 2021 Casella calendar. His entry was chosen from 256 other students in the State of NH. The theme of the contest was environment, recycling, the re-use of materials, reduction of waste landfills or trash and recycling trucks.



8th Annual Fire and Life Safety Poster Contest!

Congratulations to Ella Piascik for winning the 8th Annual Fire and Life Safety poster contest. Ella's artwork will represent the month of August.

Town Art Contest

Many of you have already recognized the fine artwork of Paige Sullivan, Mia Paglierani, Sophie Hayes and Anna Stanton in the Auburn Town Report. Paige, Mia, Sophie, and Anna place first, second, third, and fourth respectively in the annual town art contest.

Spring Exhibition of Learning

Our annual Spring Exhibition of Learning is one of the highlights for our arts integration at Auburn Village School, where we celebrate student learning across the core curriculum, through the arts. This Spring, we will showcase our first student led EOL. This team of dedicated students is composed of Ava Audet, Ava Triplett, Gracie Knudsen, Ashley Surrette, Riley Kelly, Sadie Fortune, Molly Keuhl and Paige Sullivan. These student leaders are curating an online Exhibition which both embraces the times and celebrates the learning that our students are accomplishing remotely. They have selected the theme "WONDER" which was inspired by the current educational climate. The online format will allow this to be our first whole school EOL which will share our 'Wonder-Works' (the name the team has dubbed the exhibition pieces) from all grade levels and will reach a wide audience due to its accessibility. The Exhibition will go live on May 28, 2020 on the AVS website. You won't want to miss this incredible Exhibition of Learning!

3rd Grade Market Day



The 3rd graders collected \$1,344.50 on Market Day. A family of a third grade student also matched what was earned and donated another \$1,344.50 to this activity/cause! The students have chosen to donate this money (\$2,689.00) to the Australian Veterinarian hospitals to help burned koalas, kangaroos and other animals rescued from the wildfires. The 3rd graders first became involved in this cause during our MLK Outreach Activity. We are excited to send this money to help the injured animals. Thank you ALL for your support in this adventure. We truly appreciate your shopping.

AVS Students Receive Recognition at PTA State Reflections Art Exhibit



AVS had great success at the state level of the Reflections Art Contest held on Wednesday, March 11 at Hood Middle School in Derry, NH. Four entries were awarded first place and will advance to the national competition. All student entries who moved on to states were recognized at the State Reflections Art Exhibit. Congratulations to all students who participated in this PTA sponsored contest!

Congratulations to our first place finishers - whose entries will go on to nationals:

Eloise Koestner - 1st Place - Primary Dance Choreography
 Siddharth Krishna - 1st Place - Intermediate Literature
 Grace Gauthier - 1st Place - Primary Photography
 Isabella Falcone - 1st Place - Middle Visual Arts

Congratulations to the following students who also placed at the state level:

Delaney Petri - 2nd Place - Middle Dance Choreography
 Grace Gauthier - 3rd Place - Primary Photography
 Andrew Newton - Honorable Mention - Primary Literature
 Patti Anderson - 2nd Place - Primary Music Composition



News from Auburn Dollars for Scholars

SCHOLARSHIPS are closed!

Thank you to all the students who have completed the application!

Please check your "student profile" often for scholarship notifications and acceptance.

Our volunteer chapter has been supporting Auburn students for more than 30 years. We are a non-profit chapter of the national organization, Scholarship America®

If you wish to join our group or make a tax free donation to our Auburn scholarships, visit our web site:

Auburn.dollarsforscholars.org

Or contact us at:

Auburn Dollars for Scholars

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Thank You,

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NEWS FROM AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD

At an emergency meeting on Saturday, March 14, the Auburn School Board approved a plan to move to remote learning in order to slow down the spread of COVID-19 and keep our educational team and students safe. Over the 12 days leading up to that date, our administrators, teachers, technology staff, food services team, and others came together and figured out a way to teach, counsel, and feed students from a distance. Let's pause for a minute to think about that. *From March 2 to March 13, Auburn's educational team developed a plan to transform how kids learn, leaving white boards, science labs, and classroom desks behind and embracing paper packets, Chromebooks, WiFi, videos, and email.* If you happened to talk with anyone in town that weekend, it was palpable that Auburn was entering a new educational realm.

The Auburn Village School team used the March 14-15 weekend to get paper packets to the parents of our kindergarten through grade 3 students and Chromebooks to our students in grades 4-8 who didn't already have them. Our team also reached out to families to make sure they had home-based internet access – and if they didn't, connected them to an internet service provider offering free home-based access for 60 days. With several emails to parents outlining how remote learning would work and many tests to make sure hardware and software were functional, remote learning officially kicked off on Monday, March 16.

Day 1 launched according to plan, with our teachers acclimating to a new way of teaching and students to a new way of learning. Younger students worked on their packets and older grades watched pre-recorded videos of their teachers describing the day's online assignments. To flatten the remote learning *learning curve*, the first couple weeks focused on the reinforcement of concepts already taught in our brick and mortar classrooms. But knowing we needed to introduce new concepts soon and needed more dynamic interaction between teachers and students to do so, our educators began exploring the further use of technology to create as much of the live classroom experience as possible.

Enter remote learning phase two. Two weeks after the initial remote learning launch, our younger students are now viewing pre-recorded video lessons, and their parents are scanning or taking pictures of paper-based assignments to upload to the school portal for their teachers to review. Older students are engaging in live math lessons, reading groups, and classes and are together again, reunited with their classmates and teachers online.

The past several weeks have been truly remarkable in many ways. Faced with a challenge none of us has ever experienced, our educators took the proverbial bull by the horns and demonstrated their profound commitment to our young residents through their planning and dogged execution of remote learning. Parents leaned in to pick up materials for their kids, create classrooms at home, kick their home-based internet up a notch, re-learn math and vocab long forgotten, and connect with teachers and administrators when they ran into problems with technology or their kids' adjustment. Our food services team made sure the food we had in the school didn't go to waste and arranged to use it to feed kids and families in need. Our maintenance team super-cleaned the school with the hope that our learning community can return to it. And our police department has gotten in on the action, delivering new Chromebooks to kids in town when they ran into technology snafus.

While we don't know when the COVID-19 curve will be sufficiently flat to return to the way of life we had, Auburn should pause and take a moment to reflect on the educational transformation that's occurred over the last couple months. While the AVS building is vacant and quiet, there has been a whirlwind of activity and a small army of people who have gone above and beyond to see that our young minds get the best education possible given our collective circumstances. When we're back together, be sure to thank our superintendent and his team, our principal and her team, a teacher, our technology director, a parent, a janitor, a food service worker, a police officer, and others who have done their part in making remote learning happen. They've been busy, they're likely pretty tired, and they truly deserve our thanks.

Hope everyone is staying safe.



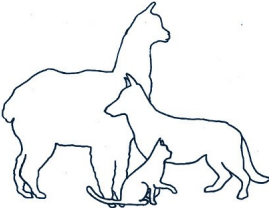
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From the desk of the Town Clerk:

How to Renew your Vehicle Online

1. Go to :
www.auburnnh.us
2. On Home Page, Click on:
Orange E-Reg Button



3. Scroll to the bottom of the page, Click on:
Orange E-Reg Button AGAIN



4. On the following page, Click on:

Renew by Plate

5. Follow the tabs and enter the required info:

Enter the information below for the vehicle you wish to register.

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6. If any questions or issues please contact the Town Clerk:

Kathleen A. Sylvia

Town Clerk

townclerk@townofauburnnh.com

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Auburn Police Department

Hello Auburn Residents,

What a strange spring it has become. We first want to say, we are so proud of how the community is handling the many changes that have now become a part of daily life. So many people following the recommended precautions to stay safe during this pandemic.

We are incredibly grateful for the many donations that we have been receiving from residents to help keep officers safe.

As the restrictions, social distancing, and discussion of stimulus checks coming, we have also noticed a lot of information about new changes to phone scams. Please, never give your banking or personal information to anyone. Should you have questions about a call you have received, please feel free to contact us, and we can help you look into the call further.



You will start seeing a new face in town. We would like to introduce our newest full-time officer, Matthew Webber. Officer Webber grew up in Auburn, attending Auburn Village School and graduating Pinkerton Academy in 2016. He is attending Unity College in Maine to study Conservation Law Enforcement, and will be graduating in May. Prior to the Auburn Police Department, Officer Webber worked for the Old Orchard Beach Police Department, in Maine. He is an avid outdoorsman, loves fishing, hunting and overall being outside. He recently moved back to the area, after becoming engaged. Officer Webber has said, "I love this town, and I am very happy that I have received the opportunity to begin my full-time law enforcement career with the Auburn Police Department. Please be sure to wave when you see Officer Webber out

AUBURN FLAG FRIDAY

Given our nation's current circumstances, the police department is SO proud to see so many flags going up around town. From now until Memorial Day we will be posting a new video of "Flag Friday", showcasing the many flags displayed in our town. You can email us your own photo, or your address and while keeping our social distance we will stop by to take a photo for you. police@townofauburnnh.com

Be sure to check out the new video we post each Friday and see if you recognize your flag!! Videos will be posted on our youtube.com channel. You can search www.youtube.com for Auburn NH Police Department to find our site.





TOWN OF AUBURN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Fire Department
55 Eaton Hill Road
Auburn, NH 03032
(603) 483-8141



Fire Permits and Brush Burning Information

- Seasonal permits are available for category 1 and 2 fires only and are issued on an annual basis expiring December 31st. To obtain a seasonal permit please call the fire station @ 603-483-8141 for the day crew to inspect the burn site prior to issuing the permit.
- Fire permits will not be issued on class 4 fire danger days and higher (Very High, Color orange) or on Red flag warning days. The Class fire danger days can be obtained by calling 1-866-643-4737 or @ www.nhdfi.org/community/daily-fire-danger if you have a 7 day burn permit it is your responsibility to obtain the class day each day of your permit, this is to ensure burning is still allowed, you cannot burn in Auburn on Class 4 fire danger days or higher, (Color orange Very High).
- Online burn permits are available @ nhfirepermit.com, there is a \$3.00 convenience fee which goes directly to the online company, free burn permits can still be obtained at the fire station during the listed hours..

Category I Fire Permit: (Will be issued for 7 days)

Means a small controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, **not greater than 2 feet in diameter contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace** except for public and private campgrounds or picnic sites. **The fire shall be at least 25 feet from any structure.** A Category I fire, conditions permitting, may be kindled with a permit at any time of day whether raining or not.

Category II Fire Permit: (Will be issued for 7 days)

Means a controlled fire, such as a camp or cooking fire, **not greater than 4 feet in diameter contained within a ring of fire resistive material or in a portable fireplace.** **The fire shall be at least 50 feet from any structure.** A category II fire permit, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. unless it is actually raining.

Category III Fire Permit: (Will be issued for 7 days)

Means any other fire, not a category I or II fire or a **fire greater than 4 feet in diameter or a fire not contained within a ring of fire resistive material.** **The fire shall be at least 50 feet from any structure.** A category III fire, conditions permitting, may only be kindled with a permit between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. unless it is actually raining

Online Burn permitting is now available in Auburn, Please see the N.H. press release below:

The New Hampshire Forests and Lands Division is pleased to offer citizens the option to purchase open burning permits online! Through our easy online process, you will be able to purchase an open burning permit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing permits are being issued at the time. Although online burn permits can be purchased at any time, open burning can only be conducted after 5pm and before 9am. The only exception to the allowable burning times occurs if you have purchased a permit and there is a steady rain, or the ground is completely covered with snow. Depending on what town you are burning in, there are some variances to these times. Please read the minimum requirements on your permit carefully and make sure you have selected the proper location before starting your fire. Permits purchased for the wrong location are considered invalid. The online service is easy and payment by credit card (Mastercard, Visa, Discover) is quick and secure. You will be able to print your permit at the end of the online process. The small processing fee of \$3.00 is non-refundable, even in the event of weather condition changes deeming the permit invalid. The credit card charge will appear on your statement as "S3 NHFIS, Smyrna TN" (they are the third-party vendor holding the NH contract for this system).

To purchase a burn permit, go to:

WWW.nhfirepermit.com

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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.100

Auburn Village Crier
c/o Patricia Rousseau
PO Box 146
Auburn, NH 03002



Editorial Policy

The AUBURN VILLAGE CRIER is a monthly newsletter (11 issues/year) published by the Town of Auburn. It is intended to serve the community by providing information of interest to Auburn residents. As a monthly publication, the newsletter is not a forum to air opinions as it is not able to provide equal time standards. With a diversity of views and opinions among the residents of the Town, it is the policy of the AUBURN VILLAGE CRIER not to publish editorials or letters to the editor that advocate any political or policy viewpoint.

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