

# The Fitzwilliam Newsletter

*published by volunteers for the benefit of the town*



Vol. XLVI N0.536



**JANUARY 2026**

## **WEEKLY MEETINGS & EVENTS**

AA Meeting Fitzwilliam Community Church - 7 pm

**2026**  
*Happy  
New Year!*



## **JANUARY EVENTS**

Thu. 1            **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Sat. 3            Troy Sr. Citizens Breakfast – Sam Paul Memorial Ctr. - Troy - 7 - 10 am  
Read to Milo – Library 10 am

MON. 5            MONADNOCK SCHOOL DISTRICT – RETURN TO SCHOOL FOLLOWING HOLIDAY BREAK  
Economic Committee - Town Hall - 7 pm  
Historical Society - Blake House - 5:30 pm  
Library Trustees - 5:30 pm

Tue. 6            Planning Board - Town Hall - 7 pm  
Bible Study – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 10:30 am (see article)

Wed. 7            VFW Auxiliary - VFW Post Home Winchester - 6:30 pm

Thu. 8            Recreation Commission - Library - 7 pm  
Historic District Commission - Town Hall – 4 pm

Mon. 12           Water District - Town Hall - 7 pm  
Book Group – Library – 7 pm

Tue. 13           Board of Adjustment - Town Hall - 7 pm  
Community Luncheon – Fitzwilliam Community Church – Noon – 1:30 pm

Wed. 14           Fitzwilliam Fire Dept. - Fire Station - 6:30 pm  
VFW - VFW Post Home Winchester - 7 pm  
Family Bingo Night – Library – 6:30 pm

Sat. 17            Read to Milo – Library – 10 am

Mon. 19           CIVIL RIGHTS DAY – Town Offices & Schools Close

Tue. 20            Planning Board – Town Hall – 7 pm

Wed. 21            Associated Sportsman Club – 7 pm

Mon. 26            Novel Tea Book Group – Library – 6:30 pm  
American Legion Post 38 – Library – 6:30 pm  
Water Commission – Library – 6pm

Wed. 28            FREMS – Depot 7 pm  
Tweens & Teens – DIY Sharpie Dolls – 6:30 pm

Thu. 29            Homeschool Open House – 11 am – Library



**UPCOMING FEBRUARY EVENTS**

Fri 6 Start of Winter Olympics  
 Sun 8 Superbowl Sunday  
 Sat 14 Valentines Day  
 Monday 16 Presidents Day (Washington's Birthday)  
 Tues 17 Mardi Gras

# JANUARY

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**NOTES FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR**

Normally, December tax bills get mailed mid-November. This year the tax rate was delayed in getting set by the state. Hopefully you have already received your bill or will be receiving it soon. We thank you for your patience. Payments are due within 30 days and are accepted by mail, online, and in person by cash or check. If paying in person, please bring your entire bill. To pay online, visit [nhtaxkiosk.com](http://nhtaxkiosk.com) where you can make a full or partial payment.

Marion Wheeler, Tax Collector

603-585-7791

[Fitztax@fitzwilliam-nh.gov](mailto:Fitztax@fitzwilliam-nh.gov)

Mon 9am-12pm Tue & Thu 1pm-4pm  
 Wed 6pm-8pm Fri closed

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*Valentine's Dinner*  
 Thursday, February 12, 6:00 pm  
*Celebrate early!*

**Appetizers**

Fresh Baked Bread Homemade Soup  
 Garden Salad Fritter with Maple Syrup

**Four Entree Choices**

Tenderloin Medallions Baked Scallops  
 Chicken Cordon Bleu Stuffed Portobello Mushroom

**Three Dessert Choices**

Strawberry Chiffon Pie Caramel Brownie Sundae  
 Coconut Cream Pie

Reservations required. BYOB.

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## LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWS

January, the beginning of a new year, invites us to re-evaluate our behaviors and commitments, and, to make changes that we hope will improve our lives. This is also a good time to scrutinize our commitment to the world around us. Let's look at Laurel Lake. It is one of the most pristine lakes in New Hampshire. Its water is clear, and supports a variety of wildlife from eagles and loons to fish, turtles, dragon flies, and many, many other species. We also know that many other lakes in New Hampshire are rife with invasive species, bacterial and chemical contamination, smothering milfoil, or combinations of the above.

So, why is Laurel Lake in such good shape? Well, here comes the pitch...The Laurel Lake Association works hard to keep it healthy and clear. We have a Lake Host program that monitors boats before they enter the water making sure that they aren't carrying unwanted, potentially dangerous, vegetation from other water bodies into "our" Lake. The Association's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee has volunteers who monitor the perimeter of the lake each summer month to check for suspicious growths that may have been introduced or started to grow. The Water Testing team regularly checks the Lake's waters for clarity and turbidity and brings samples of water to the DES in Concord for testing.

The Laurel Lake Association's Annual Meeting is held at White's Field in July. Each year a speaker is invited to focus on and educate members on topics of interest about our environment or our past. As you consider your commitments for 2026, whether you live near Laurel Lake or in the town, please consider a membership in the Laurel Lake Association. Become a member by joining on our website

at [www.laurellakeassn.com](http://www.laurellakeassn.com). Membership dues are \$15 for individual adults and \$5 for children under 18. Join today and become part of this worthwhile organization!

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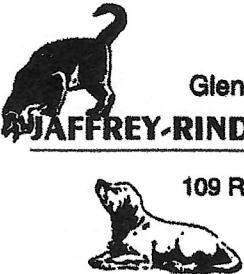


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**MANY, MANY THANKS!**

The Fitzwilliam District Nursing Association would like to thank our friends throughout the Fitzwilliam neighborhoods for their contributions and volunteer work that helped support our Holiday Remembrance Program. The food drives were amazing! The participation was exceptional! The cookies were delicious, of course! The books were delightful! Thank you for bringing light into homes around town. Happy New Year Everyone!

**Edward Jones** Member SIPC

**Beth Lorenz, CFP®, CEPA®**  
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# FITZWILLIAM TOWN LIBRARY

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<http://fitzlib.org> [info@fitzlib.org](mailto:info@fitzlib.org)

## For Kids

**Preschool (Ages 3-5) Storytime at 10:30am:**  
Come read, craft, learn and have fun with Ms. Veronika weekly. Please register in advance.

**Storytime for Big Kids (K-2) Tuesdays, 3:30pm:** Get your passport ready to explore with Ms. Boo. Please register in advance.

**Thursday Afternoons at the Library at 3:30pm for Grades 1-6:** Take the bus! Register ahead of time.

Jan. 8 – Bean Art Animal Portraits  
Jan. 15 – Cheese Quesadillas  
Jan. 22 – Jigsaw Puzzle Race  
Jan 29 – Legos

**Sat, Jan. 3 & 17, 10am: Read to Milo!** Kids can practice their reading skills by reading to a dog! No registration required.

## For Tweens & Teens

**Wed, Jan. 28, 6:30pm:** DIY Sharpie Mug! Kids in grades 5-9. Please register in advance.

## For Everyone

**Wed, Jan 14, 6:30pm: Family BINGO Night**  
Register to play BINGO and win prizes.

**Thurs, Jan 29, 11am: Homeschool Open House:** Gather with homeschool families, play, craft, socialize and hang out! Open to all ages.

## For Adults

**Mon, Jan 12, 7pm: Book Group – Rough Sleepers by Tracy Kidder** Copies are available.

**Wed, Jan. 21, 6:30pm: Novel-Tea Book Group – The American Heiress by Daisy Goodwin.** Copies are available.

**Sat, Jan. 24, 10am: Friends of the Library “Thank You” Breakfast** – The Friends wish to show gratitude for community and patron support by hosting a pancake breakfast.

**Sat, Jan 31, 11am: Cooking the Book - New England Brunch by Tammy Donroe Inman.** Borrow the book, pick a recipe, make it to share pot-luck style at our group meeting. Copies available.

**“Stitch and B#%&!” at 6pm:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

**Coffee Hour:** Every Sat. at 10:30

**Home Delivery:** Homebound (long or short term) and can't get to the Library? We can deliver. Contact for info.

**\*The Library will be closed Thurs, Jan. 1 for New Years Day and Mon, Jan. 19 in honor of Martin Luther King Day.\***

**New Library hours beginning January 2026:** Mon. 2-8pm, Tues. 2-6pm, Wed. 10am-12pm & 2-8pm, Thurs. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-12pm

## Selected Kids Books

If I Built a Town/Van Dusen  
Don't Trust Fish/Sharpson  
WinterFrost/Houts  
Guiness Book of World Records  
Broken/Fang  
I Want to Go to the Moon/Zhang  
A Waffle Lot of Love/Clanton  
A Porcupine Wedding/Rylant  
Plenty of Pancakes/Farley  
Alice With a Why/James

## Selected New Fiction

The Land in Winter/Miller  
House of Day, House of Night/Tokarczuk  
Evensong/O'Nan  
Tailored Realities/Sanderson  
Evil Bones/Reich  
I, Medusa/Gray  
Circle of Days/Follett  
Missing Same/Umrigar

## Selected Non-Fiction

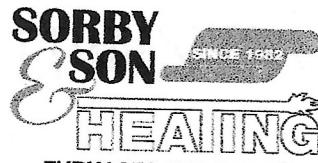
The Greatest Sentence Ever Written/Isaacson  
This Way Up/Cooper-Jones  
Breath of Gods/Winchester  
Nations Apart/Woodard  
New England Brunch/Inman  
And many more...

**FITZWILLIAM COMMUNITY CHURCH'S  
COMMUNITY LUNCHEON: TUESDAY  
JANUARY 13, 12:00 – 1:30 PM**

Come enjoy some delicious food and good conversation with your neighbors. Our drop-in luncheon on Tuesday, January 13th at noon is just the place to warm up with a bowl of soup and good company. We offer several different kinds of hearty homemade soups, with breads, desserts, and beverages. We invite everyone in the community to join us. The event is free; we gratefully accept donations. If you cannot get out, a meal can be delivered to you. If you do not have a ride, someone can pick you up. Call the church at 603-585-3352 and leave a message for a delivery or ride. Join us!

**BIBLE STUDY, TUESDAYS AT 10:30 AM**

Starting on January 6, we will be holding a Bible Study group at the church. Our text will center on the lectionary reading for that week. You're welcome whether you know a little or a lot, or if you have never done Bible Study before. Join us for this informal gathering of fellow seekers.



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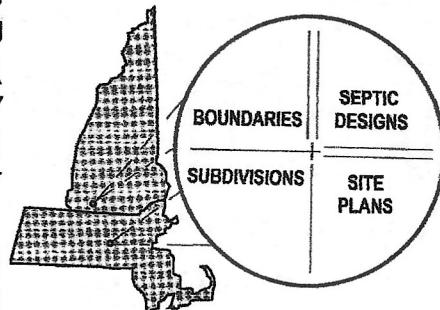
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## LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Have you ever wondered what the fish in Laurel Lake do in the winter? How do they stay alive and keep from freezing or dying without food? We thought you might like to know more about their life in the frozen lake.

First, ponds or lakes that are more than 10 ft. deep do not usually freeze completely. Laurel lake is about 50ft. deep. There is an area below the ice coverage that does not freeze, although the temperature does drop. Fish head for these deeper areas and adapt to the cold by going into a state of torpor, where they become less active, and need less food while their metabolism drops. Some fish cluster together for warmth, while others may bury themselves in the mud.

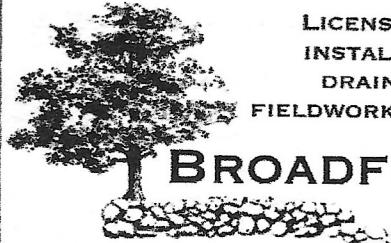
Because light penetrates the ice, underwater plants continue the process of photosynthesis, providing food and oxygen for fish. If you would like more information about fish in winter, these are some web-sites you might explore:

<https://iere.org/do-fish-freeze-when-lakes-freeze/>  
<https://fishingandfish.com/how-are-fish-able-to-live-in-a-frozen-lake-3/>

Best wishes for a happy holiday season!



Some people are so nervous they keep coffee awake.



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 1 cup granulated sugar

Slice the ends off of the orange, just until you see the flesh. Leave the rest of the skin on the orange and slice into 8 wedges.

Add fresh cranberries, orange wedges and sugar to a food processor and process until smooth (or until no large chunks remain).

Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving (or up to 1-2 weeks).



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[nhlutherans@gmail.com](mailto:nhlutherans@gmail.com)

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**FROM THE SELECTMEN'S OFFICE****TOWN COMMON LIGHTS**

We hope you have all noticed the new lights that have been installed on the town common. We were approached by the owner of PLP Composites, who generously donated eight lights. We worked in conjunction with the Common Committee and the Historic District Commission to determine the best placement throughout the common. It was agreed that two additional lights should be installed. The town utilized a trust fund that had been earmarked for use on the town common to purchase these additional two lights.

We are very grateful to PLP Composites for their generosity. We feel these lights fit in perfectly with our historic common and are a wonderful enhancement.

**SNOW OBSTRUCTION ON ROADS**

Any person who shall put or place, or cause to be put or placed, any snow or ice upon the surface of the traveled portion of any road or town maintained portion of any road for any purpose, except as provided under RSA 236:20, shall be guilty of a violation.

The provisions of this section shall not apply where snow or ice is pushed across the traveled surface of said roadway for the purpose of snow removal from land adjoining said road, as long as said snow or ice is completely removed from the roadway.

Anyone violating this ordinance shall be guilty of a violation and fined not less than \$30.00, and the fine for subsequent offenses shall be \$50.00.

**TOWN OF FITZWILLIAM -PUBLIC NOTICE – WARNING**

To all car owners and motor vehicle operators in the Town of Fitzwilliam:  
Effective November 1, 2025 to April 15, 2026, in accordance with Chapter 41-11 RSA State of New Hampshire, notice is hereby given that all motor vehicles parked on the streets or public ways in the Town of Fitzwilliam between the hours of 12:01 AM and 6:30 AM or that interfere with snow removal operations at any time will be towed away at the owner's risk and expense.

**PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION**

Municipalities (the Board of Selectmen) may abate taxes "for good cause shown" RSA 76:16. Good cause is generally established by showing an error in the assessment calculation or a disproportionate assessment. Good cause can also be established by showing poverty and inability to pay the tax.

Property owners wishing to apply to the Board of Selectmen for abatement, must submit the Abatement Application to the selectmen's office no later than March 1, 2026.

. You may obtain the application by going to the State of NH DRA website here:  
<http://www.nh.gov/btla/forms/documents/2009AbatementForWeb.pdf>

Or you can call the selectmen's office at 585-7723 and we will be happy to mail the application to you. Our staff can answer any questions you have – just give us a call.

**UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**File for Candidate for Town Elections** – Wednesday – January 21, 2026

**Last Day to File for Candidacy** – Friday - January 30, 2026

**Last Day to submit a petition warrant article** – Tuesday – February 3, 2026

**Town Budget Public Hearing** – Thursday – February 6, 2026 – 7:00 pm

**Last Day to File for Property Tax Abatement** – Sunday – March 1, 2026

**Town Voting** – Tuesday March 10, 2026 – 11:00 am – 7:00 pm

**Town Meeting** – Tuesday – March 10, 2026 7:00 pm

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## TOWN CLERK NEWS

Happy New Year! We begin the Year with good health and happy hearts.

We are now licensing dogs for 2026. If you decide to renew your license online remember to add the year (25-) before the license number. You can always renew with us in the office.

The time to put in your declaration papers for Local Election is January 21, 2026 thru January 30, 2026. The filing deadline is 5 o'clock on the 30<sup>th</sup>. The Town Clerk's office will be open for 3-5 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. If you will be away on March 10<sup>th</sup> (Election Day) you can submit an Absentee Voter application. You can either get it online at the Secretary of States website or here in the office.

We are processing registrations for car/truck, trailer, boats etc. Remember, you can renew 4 month early with no extra fees (so we are processing April now).

Heidi L. Wood, Town Clerk  
[fitzclerk@fitzwilliam-nh.gov](mailto:fitzclerk@fitzwilliam-nh.gov)  
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 And other contributing friends & neighbors  
**Mail ALL PAYMENTS to Fitzwilliam Newsletter - PO Box 551 - Fitzwilliam, NH 03447**  
**Send News articles to our PO box or to fitznewsdesk@gmail.com or drop off in the news box at 64 Lower Troy Road**  
**Mail advertisements (with enclosed payment) to our PO Box or email them to fitznewsadvertising@gmail.com**  
**Deadline: All news and ads - 15th of each month.**  
**OUT OF TOWN SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
 Are no longer available. You can view the current newsletter online free of charge. Go to this website to view our newsletter online.  
[www.fitzNHcommunity.org](http://www.fitzNHcommunity.org)

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The Fitzwilliam  
 Newsletter  
 PO Box 551

VITAL STATISTICSBIRTH

None to report

DEATH

None to report

MARRIAGE

None to report

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**SPICED NUTS**

1 egg white  
 1 tablespoon cold water  
 1 cup granulated sugar  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1/2 teaspoon each cinnamon, cloves, allspice, nutmeg, and mace  
 2 cups walnut halves (or other nut of preference)  
 2 cups pecan halves (or other nut of preference)

Preheat oven to 250 degrees F. Beat the egg white with the cold water. Sift the sugar and spices into the egg mixture, then toss nuts in this.

Spread the coated nuts onto oiled cookie sheets and bake for at least 1 hour. Cool, then turn onto waxed paper, spreading them out to dry separately. Store in glass jars.

