

The Fitzwilliam

Newsletter

published by volunteers for the benefit of the town



Vol. XLVI NO. 539

APRIL 2025

WEEKLY MEETINGS & EVENTS

AA Meeting Fitzwilliam Community Church – 7 pm

APRIL EVENTS

- Tue. 1 **APRIL FOOLS DAY**
Planning Board – Town Hall – 7 pm
- Wed. 2 VFW Auxiliary – VFW Post Home Winchester – 6:30 pm
- Thu. 3 Lenten Pot Luck Supper & Devotional – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 5:30 – 7 pm
Gap Mt. Lions Club – Village Pond Community Ctr Troy – 6:30 pm
- Sat. 5 Rummage Sale – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 9 am – 1 pm (see article)
Troy Sr. Citizens Breakfast – Sam Paul Memorial Ctr. Troy – 7 – 10 am
- Mon. 7 Economic Development Committee – Town Hall – 7 pm
Library Trustees – 5:30 pm
Historical Society – Blake House – 5:30 pm
- Tue. 8 Community Luncheon – Fitzwilliam Community Church – Noon (see article)
Board of Adjustment – Town Hall – 7 pm
- Wed. 9 Fitzwilliam Fire Dept. – Fire Station – 6:30 pm
VFW – VFW Post Home Winchester – 7 pm
- Thu. 10 Lenten Pot Luck Supper – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 5:30 pm
Recreation Commission – Library – 7 pm
- Fri. 11 Agricultural commission – Town Hall – 10 am
- Sat. 12 **PASSOVER**
- Tue. 15 Planning Board – Town Hall – 7 pm
- Wed. 16 Associated Sportsman Club – 7 pm
- Thu. 17 Maundy Thursday Service – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 7 pm
- Fri. 18 **GOOD FRIDAY**
Silent Prayer and meditation – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 2 pm – 7 pm
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – MONADNOCK DISTRICT – SPRING BREAK
- Sun. 20 **EASTER SUNDAY**
Easter Sunday Service – Fitzwilliam Community Church – 10 am
- Mon. 21 Conservation Commission – Town Hall – 7 pm
- Tue. 22 **EARTH DAY**
- Mon. 28 American Legion – Post 38 – Library – 6:30 pm
MONADNOCK SCHOOL DISTRICT – BACK TO SCHOOL FROM SPRING BREAK
- Wed. 30 Fitzwilliam Fire Dept. – Fire Station – 7 pm
FREMS – Depot – 7 pm



Upcoming May Events

Thu. 1 – MAY DAY

Sun. 11 MOTHERS DAY

Sat. 17 – Farmers Market

Mon. 26 – MEMORIAL DAY

**NEW Fitzwilliam Community website!**

www.fitzNHcommunity.org

Email us at fitznhcommunity@gmail.com

If you would like your business shown here and you are a newsletter advertiser, please contact the newsletter advertising team fitznewsadvertising@gmail.com to have your business added!

This site contains electronic versions of The Fitzwilliam Newsletter, a calendar of Fitzwilliam events, a detailed listing of local events that you can add to your calendar (more details to come)!

If there's something you'd like to see added, please give us some feedback!

**VISIT US!****FITZWILLIAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Fitzwilliam Historical Society and the Amos J Blake Fitzwilliam Museum would like to thank

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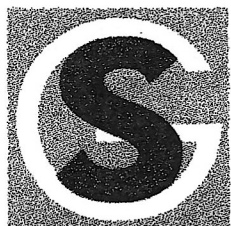
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Robert Crowley

Thank you to everyone who came to support FHS at the Town Meeting on March 11. We've received several questions regarding why we chose to postpone our petitioned Warrant Article. We'd like to answer those questions based on what we know and what we've learned since Town Meeting.

The confusion surrounding the article was in reference to the phrase "percentage of assets." 24 hours before Town Meeting, we were informed by town officials that we could not proceed with the article as written as it did not specify a specific amount to be transferred, and exactly how that money would be transferred into a Town Expendable Trust. Therefore, we chose to postpone the vote until such time as we can work alongside the town to figure out exactly how (or if) we can go about transferring ownership of the Blake House to the town.

Another important question on everyone's mind was "How much would a taxpayer pay per year to preserve the Fitzwilliam Museum if the town agreed to acquire the building?"

The answer would vary by the size of the property you own. However, the cost on average is \$4 for every \$100,000 of assessed value. For example, if your property is assessed at \$400,000, your tax would be approximately \$16/ year to preserve the history of Fitzwilliam.

That said, we want to again thank everyone who has been involved in this petition from the very beginning, and for your continued support of the Fitzwilliam Historical Society. We don't know what the future holds for us, but we can hope that the town sees enough value in our mission to help us continue our work.

REMINDER! DEPOT DAY IS MAY 31!

That's right! Depot Day and the Cheshire Rail Trail Fun Run will be happening in May this year! We're once again partnering with our friends at the Troy Historical Society to bring our communities together for a fun day honoring the history of our famous depots. Come out for games, food, historic games, and craft vendors!

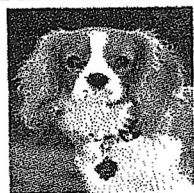
Runners looking to register for the fun run can do so by visiting our website: fitzhistoric.org

Stay tuned for more news and fascinating Fitzwilliam history in the coming months! Thank you all, as always, for your support! Please follow us on social media for the most up to date FHS happenings!

Sincerely,

The Fitzwilliam Historical Society





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LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Spring is officially here and many of you may be looking forward to another summer season at Laurel Lake. Before the black flies make you crazy, think about some things you can do to help protect the lake. Top priority – before you start having guests – is get your septic pumped if it's been a while. Septic seepage is nasty and unnecessary. And, now that we're coming out of Mud Season, take a look at the signs of drainage and water flow across your property. Are there ruts of dirt heading into the lake or piling up on other parts of your yard? Now is a great time to put in some native plants which can reduce stormwater runoff and beautify your property. Low maintenance, attractive plants include low bush blueberries, ferns, Joe Pie Weed, Buttonbush, Elderberry. You don't need to re-landscape your yard – even one shrub can make a difference.

If you're looking for advice on how to reduce runoff on your yard and what to plant, NH LAKES has a Lake Smart program with great online tools and they can provide a FREE in person consultation. This is a great service which several lake front owners have taken advantage of and you can see the attractive results from the road and lake sides of their properties.

We're happy to say that the kick-off meeting for our Watershed Management Plan was held March 4 and the consultant is being hired to start the evaluation of watershed activity around the lake. This is a long-range program but we are thrilled to have gotten funding to help us (the Association and the Town) identify risks to the lake and develop action plans to address them. Updates on this program will be posted to our website www.LaurelLakeAssn.com.

STRAWBERRY VINAIGRETTE

1 cup strawberries with tops cut off
2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper

Make the dressing by blending all the ingredients in a blender or food processor. Refrigerate dressing until ready to serve. Add dressing to the salad right before serving.



Susan Silverman
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SATURDAY APRIL 19 FROM 9AM - NOON

At Fitzwilliam Community Church
 Easter Egg dying & a movie
 Plus a Visit from the **Easter Bunny**
Fitzwilliam Community Church
& Fitzwilliam Historical Society

TOWN CLERK NEWS

The Local/MRSD Election was held on Tuesday, March 11. The polls opened at 11am with a line of voters waiting to vote. William Pine was the first voter to use the new vote tabulator from VotingWorks. We finished voting with 460 people casting their ballot. It was a very good turnout for a Local Election. We registered 6 new voters. Please remember if registering to vote we now need a birth certificate (and if married/name change since birth a marriage license) or a US passport to complete your registration. The results from the Election are posted in the Town Hall or located on the Town's website.

We are now licensing dogs for the year 2025. All renewals can be completed online if you like, just remember to add 24- to the license number (example: 24-001 would be the license number for 001). The renewal period is from January 1-April 30. There is the month of May to get your license done without late fees. After May 31 there is a \$1.00 per month late fee and around August 15th I will start the Civil Forfeiture procedure. (Tentatively issuing around Sept. 1). Please license your dog! The end is fast approaching (April 30th).

We are also registering BOATS for 2025. You can renew or do New for 2025 now. We do not offer online renewals for boats. Please bring your prior registration when renewing your boat (vehicles too).

Heidi L. Wood, Town Clerk
fitzclerk@fitzwilliam-nh.gov
 603-585-7214

FITZWILLIAM FARMERS' MARKET

The 2025 Fitzwilliam Farmers' Market season will begin on Saturday May 17 from 9am-1pm on the Fitzwilliam common.

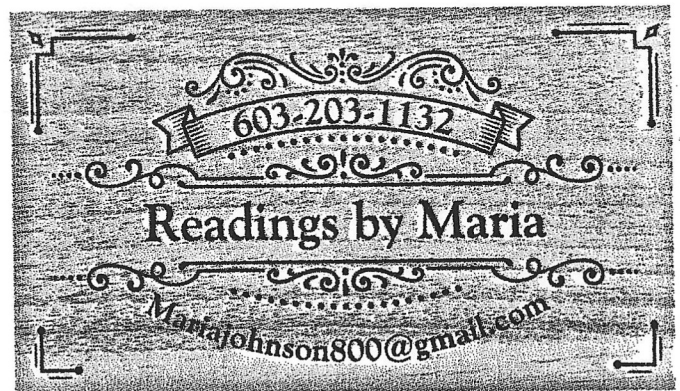
Anyone who grows, produces, or creates handmade items can join, even if not a resident of Fitzwilliam. To sign up to be a vendor contact us at fitzfarmersmarket@gmail.com. If you know someone who might be interested, please pass our email address along to them.

Our food contests this year will be on the 1st Saturday market of the month beginning in June and ending with the famous Chili contest on October 4th. We have decided on what the other food contests will be; ideas include cookies, cupcakes, mac & cheese or pies; send an email if you have ideas or any questions.

Invite your family and friends to meet up and enjoy all of the festivities. Bring chairs if you want to hang out and listen to the music. We have a great lineup of Musicians that include Rik Ekstrom, Gustav Fagerstrom, Brandon O'Neill, Mike Spencer and Gary Girouard.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Visit us on Facebook **Fitzwilliam Farmers Market!**

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For Kids

Preschool (Ages 3-5) Storytime at 10:30:

Come read, craft, learn and have fun with Ms. Veronika weekly. Please register in advance.

Storytime for Big Kids (K-2) Tuesdays, 3:45-4:30:

Come listen to a longer story or two and make a craft or play a game. Take the bus! Please sign up in advance.

Wed. Afternoons at the Library at 3:45:

Take the bus! Register ahead of time.

Apr. 2 – All About Frogs.

Apr. 9 – Bunny & Chick Cupcakes.

Apr. 16 – Cardboard Rabbit Portraits.

Apr. 30 – Chickens.

Read to Milo! 1st and 3rd Sat. of the month

at 10am Kids can practice their reading skills by reading to a dog! No registration required.

For Tweens & Teens

Wed, Apr. 23 at 6:30– Crochet a Chicken

Kids in grades 5-9. Please register in advance.

For Everyone

Peep Diorama Contest “Peep Show”

Make a book-themed Peep Diorama for the chance to win a prize! Please, no bigger than a shoebox. Drop off your dioramas Apr. 7th-14th. Winners announced on the 19th.

Seed Library: We are excited to introduce a Seed Library sometime this month. Please stop by the Library or call for details!

For Adults

Wed, Apr. 9 at 7pm – Bio-Coloration: Animal coloration patterns are more than just

camouflage with Dan Bisaccio. Explore the physics of light as it interplays with animal coloration patterns.

Mon, Apr. 14 at 7pm –Book Group: James by Percival Everett. Copies now available.

Wed, Apr. 16 at 6pm – Pysanky with Kate Thomas. Learn the art of decorating Ukrainian Easter Eggs. Please register.

Mon, Apr. 21 at 7pm Learn about the

Monarch: Join Emily Wrubel and Judy Fink. They'll share knowledge of the amazing monarch life cycle, and let you know how you can get involved in conserving this fragile species.

Mon, Apr. 28 at 6pm – Cribbage! Fun for all levels of play-no experience necessary. Bring a board if you have one.

“Stitch and Bitch” at 6pm—Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday

Sat. 10am: Coffee Hour

Home Delivery

Are you homebound (long or short term) and can't get to the Library? We deliver books once bi-weekly to those who cannot access our collection. Call (603-585-6503) or email us (info@fitzlib.org) for more information.

Selected Kids' Books

Mr. Norton's New Hat/ Jones
Away /Freeman
Bunny Made Tea/ Fuller
Gift of the Great Buffalo/
Lindstrom
Will the Pigeon Graduate?/
Willems
Shark Girl/Beaton
Who Ate Steve?/ Hindley

Selected New Fiction

Are We There Yet?/ McAnulty
Beach Vibes/ Mallery
Every Tom, Dick, and Harry/
Lipman
Pamona Afton Can Solve a Murder/
Ross
The Summer guests/ Gerritsen
Show Don't Tell /Sittenfield
The Girl From Greenwich Street/
Willig

Selected Non-Fiction

A Life in the Garden/ Damrosch
Red Scare /Risen
Garden to the Max/ Woodard
Looking at Women Looking at War/
Amelina
Jesus Wept/ Shannon
And many more books....

PLANNING BOARD UPDATE

The Planning Board would like to thank the residents of Fitzwilliam for their support and approval of the Board supported zoning ordinances by ballot vote on March 11. The Board and the Housing Working Group worked throughout the year, hosting three public forums and several public hearings, to review the proposed ordinance changes. Our goal is to allow more housing opportunities without affecting the rural character which is so valued by the townspeople.

Throughout 2025, the Planning Board will continue to review ordinances to ensure that they are equitable and continue to serve the residents of Fitzwilliam. We welcome your input and constructive feedback. We invite you to join us at any of our meetings which are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7 PM in Town Hall.

For further information, contact Lori Nolan in the Land Use office at 603-585-9119.



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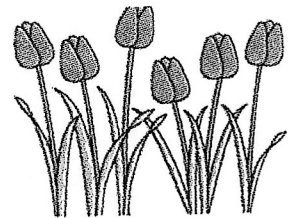
A reminder from the Town Clerk's Office

LICENSE DOGS BY APRIL 30TH
IF DOG IS OVER 4 MONTHS OLD

Owner over 65 \$2.00 (1st dog only)
MALE/FEMALE \$10.00
NEUTERED MALE \$7.50
SPAYED FEMALE \$7.50

WARNING—failure to comply will make
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TOWN OF FITZWILLIAM, NH PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to RSA 231:191, no motor vehicle having a gross weight of five (5) tons or greater shall operate on town roads effective March 1, 2025 through May 15, 2025.

PER ORDER
Board of Selectmen


2025 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Board of Selectmen wishes to thank all who attended the 2025 Annual Town Meeting. We would also like to thank all involved in helping make this important event happen this year. Town Meeting is an opportunity for all who live in town to have their voice heard with respect to the budget and warrant articles for the ensuing year. The results of this year's election and warrant articles are posted on the town website fitzwilliam-nh.gov. If you haven't already picked up your annual town report there are still plenty available at the Transfer Station, Library and Town Hall. These reports include the operating budget, which was approved at Town Meeting, and the warrant articles that were voted on.

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

We'd like to remind you that construction permits are required for all new construction, additions to and renovations of any building or building system, both interior and exterior, within the town. If you are unsure of whether or not your project requires a construction permit, please call Rhonda Sheats in the Board of Selectmen Office at 585-7723. Construction permit applications and instructions can be picked up during regular open hours and are also available on the town website: fitzwilliam-nh.gov.

Board of Selectmen



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FITZWILLIAM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Plenty is going on at the Fitzwilliam Community Church in April!

Looking for a new outfit or a new jacket? Stop by the Fitzwilliam Community Church's Annual **Spring Rummage Sale Saturday, April 5** from 9am to 1pm. After 12 noon, fill a bag for a donation to the church. If you would like to donate good clean clothes, they may be dropped off at the church Monday, March 31 through Friday, April 4 from 9am – 6pm. We will only accept clothing items, in good condition: clean, no smoking or odors.

Community Luncheon will take place again this month on **Tues. April 8** starting at noon. It is always free and come-as-you-are. Enjoy some fellowship and nourishing soup with your neighbors. We can deliver food for those who can't make it, and we also offer rides for those who would like to join us. Call the church at 603-585-3352 if you need a hand.

Holy Week begins on **April 13 with Palm Sunday**. Come sing "Hosanna!" with us at 10am. **Maundy Thursday service will be April 17 at 7:00pm** as we strip the altar and prepare for the solemnity of Good Friday. On Friday April 18 the sanctuary will be left open for silent prayer and meditation from 2pm until 7pm. Then joy comes again in the morning on **Easter Sunday: come celebrate with us April 20 at 10:00am**.

We wish all our neighbors a Holy Lent and a joyous Eastertide!

Sunday Supper

Sunday, April 13

5:00 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres, live fiddle music by Randy Miller, and the silent auction to benefit MRHS softball

5:30 p.m.

Pot Roast & Baked Haddock Supper

Reservations required, call today!



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FITZWILLIAM GARDEN CLUB

The Fitzwilliam Garden Club held a program on March 11 presented by District III Director and Master Gardener Dian Mathews. Dian talked about the importance of using non-GMO (genetically modified) seeds and how important it is to be aware of foods that contain bioengineered ingredients. Plants that are grown using GMO seeds have been created using high tech engineering to modify the plant's biology in order to present specific characteristics. It is important to purchase non-GMO seeds from a reliable source and to buy native plants to include in our gardens to benefit pollinators.

On April 30, we will hold a potluck dinner with speaker Amber Dewey who is a member of the Monadnock Beekeepers Asssocation. She will discuss pollinator bees and wasps native to New Hampshire and how we can act to support them as their populations are declining.

In May we plan to visit the Native Plant Trust in Massachusetts during Trillium Week. It will be a good opportunity for members to learn about these plants and purchase some for our own gardens.

Our garden club will hold its spring plant and bake sale on Saturday May 24, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. We will sell perennials from our gardens, some purchased from local nurseries, annuals and baked goods. Check our Facebook page for more details as we get closer to that day.

The Garden Club always welcomes new members, and many of our meetings are held later in the day. Come join us! Email us at fitzwilliamgardenclub@gmail.com if you would like more information.

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VITAL STATISTICS**BIRTH**

Feb. 27 Arthur Thomas to
Arthur Thomas Marcotte Jr. and
Koleen Marcotte

DEATH

Feb. 17 Adam Borowski
Mar. 3 Robert H. Courtemanche Jr.

MARRIAGE

None to Report

VEGETABLE CHARCUTERIE BOARD

Radicchio, leaves
Watermelon radishes, sliced
Cherry tomatoes
Carrot sticks, baby carrots with the stems still on them.
Green beans
Mini cucumbers, sliced
Mini bell peppers
Snap peas
Broccoli Florets
Cauliflower florets
baguette slices, or pita wedges for serving
Dried Nuts such as pistachios or Marcona almonds
Your favorite dips – Great choices include:,
hummus, spinach dip, salsa, or whipped feta dip

Fill some small bowls with dips of your choice.
Around the dip place the remaining ingredients.
Place on large 20 inch board

NEWSLETTER STAFF

G. Hagstrom (advertising) 585-6884
T. Robbitts (informational contributions)
D. & R Tremblay (record keeping & subscriptions)
J. Wilkinson (calendar & articles) 585-7146
B. Young (informational contributions)
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
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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
(expire in November)
Send \$25 for 12 issues to: Fitzwilliam Newsletter - PO Box 551 - Fitzwilliam, NH 03447

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