

# The Fitzwilliam

# Newsletter

*published by volunteers for the benefit of the town*



Vol. XLVI No. 537

## FEBRUARY 2025

### WEEKLY MEETINGS & EVENTS

AA Meeting Fitzwilliam Community Church - 7 pm

#### FEBRUARY EVENTS

Sat. 1 Troy Sr Citizens Breakfast - Sam Paul Memorial Ctr - 7 - 10 am  
Take Your Child to the Library Day/Milo's Birthday Party - 10 am

Sun. 2 GROUNDHOG DAY

Mon. 3 Library Trustees - 5:30 PM  
Economic Committee - Town Hall - 7 pm  
Historical Society - Blake House - 5:30 pm

Tue. 4 Planning Board - Town Hall o 7 pm

Wed. 5 VFW Auxiliary - VFW Post Home Winchester - 6:30 pm

Thu. 6 Gap Mt Lions Club - Village Pond Community Ctr Troy - 6:30 pm

Sat. 8 Meatball Madness - Fitzwilliam Community Church 5 - 6 pm  
Library Open House - Noon  
Read to Milo - Library - 10 am

Sun. 9 SUPERBOWL SUNDAY

Mon. 10 Water District - Town Hall - 7 pm

Tue. 11 Book Group - Library - 7 pm  
Board of Adjustment - Town Hall - 7 pm  
Community Luncheon - Fitzwilliam Community Church - NOON

Wed. 12 Fitzwilliam Fire Dept. - Fire Station - 6:30 pm  
VFW - VFW Post Home - Winchester - 7 pm

Thu. 13 Recreation Commission - Library - 7pm  
Historic District Commission - Town Hall - 4 pm

Fri. 14 ST. VALENTINES DAY

Mon. 17 PRESIDENTS DAY municipal offices closed

Tue. 18 Planning Board - Town Hall - 7 pm

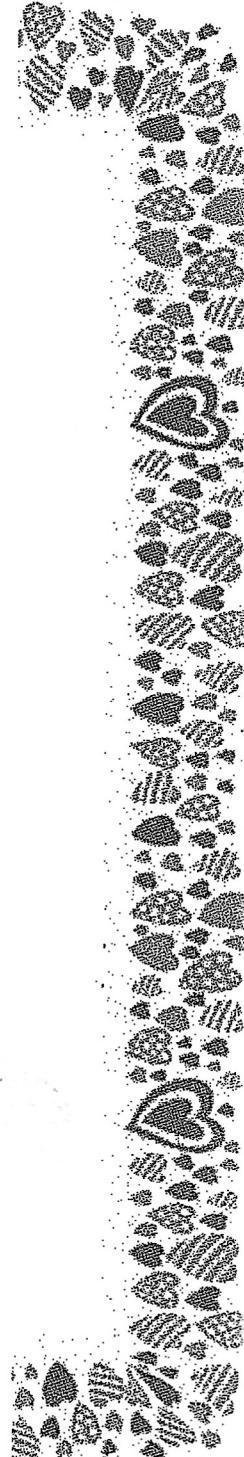
Wed. 19 Associated Sportsman Club - 7 pm  
Higge Night - Library - 6:30 pm

Mon. 24 MONADNOCK SCHOOL DISTRICT - WINTER BREAK

Tue. 25 Cribbage - Library - 6pm

Wed. 26 Fitzwilliam Fire Dept. - Fire Station - 7 pm  
FREMS - Depot - 7 pm  
Zentangle - Library - *6 PM*

Thu. 27 Cooking the Book - Library - *6:30 PM*



February is Black History Month

Upcoming March Events

March 3 – Monadnock School District – Back to school from winter break

March 9 Daylight Saving Time begins

MARCH 11 Town Meeting day

March 17 St. Patricks Day

March 20 First Day of Spring

WINTER



Emerson PTCO are in need of volunteers for the following events :

Book Fair - February 5, 6, 7

Loved Ones Dance - TBD

Email : [emersonptco@mrsd.org](mailto:emersonptco@mrsd.org)

Next meeting February 12 at 5pm

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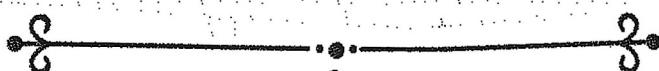
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Readings by Maria

[marajohnson800@gmail.com](mailto:marajohnson800@gmail.com)



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## TOWN CLERK NEWS

Filing for Local Office has passed, now we get ready for the Election and Town Meeting. The Local/MRSD Election will take place on Tuesday, March 11. Polls will be open 11a-7p. The Town Meeting will follow the closing of the polls at 7pm

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 15<sup>th</sup> I will start the Civil Forfeiture procedure . (Tentatively issuing around Sept. 1). Please license your dog!

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).

The Town Clerk's office will be CLOSED Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> for President's Day.

Heidi L. Wood, Town Clerk  
[fitzclerk@fitzwilliam-nh.gov](mailto:fitzclerk@fitzwilliam-nh.gov)  
603-585-7214

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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

You are hereby notified that the 2024 Budget Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Lower Meeting Hall of the Town Hall in Fitzwilliam, N.H. Immediately following the Public Hearing, the Budget Committee will meet for a budget work session. In case of inclement weather and this meeting has to be canceled, an additional hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 7:00pm. If you require any special accommodations, please call 24 hours in advance at (603)585-7723.

### **APPLICATIONS FOR CURRENT USE, VETERANS CREDIT, ELDERLY AND DISABLED, BLIND EXEMPTION**

**The deadline to submit applications for Current Use and all credits and exemptions is April 15<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for the Elderly or Disabled Tax Deferral is March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

There are income and asset criteria for both the disabled and elderly exemptions as follows:

- Total income, including social security can't exceed \$25,000 per year for a single person and \$35,000 for a married couple. Total assets, excluding your residence and 3 acres of land can't exceed \$60,000.
- A person applying for the disabled exemption must have a letter from social security showing that they are 100% disabled and been a resident of the State of New Hampshire for at least 5 consecutive years as of April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A person applying for the elderly exemption must be at least age 65 by April 15<sup>th</sup> and been a resident of the State of New Hampshire for 3 consecutive years.

A person applying for the veteran's credit must have been a resident of the State of New Hampshire for a least one year as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions regarding any of these applications, please contact the selectmen's office.

### **ARPA Funds**

The selectmen have completed the expenditure of ARPA funds. We feel that we have been judicious and prudent with these "build back better funds". These funds were used for many maintenance projects on town buildings. Some of the larger projects include:

- \$25,000 toward the purchase of a police cruiser
- \$20,150 Public Safety Building heating/cooling system
- \$16,431 Water Treatment System – Public Safety building
- \$12,581 Flooring at public safety building
- \$27,455 Roof Repairs at town hall
- \$2,300 removal of tree on common
- \$20,795 Town Hall Plaster Repair
- \$22,700 Paint town hall
- \$24,963 Street Lights changing to LED
- \$20,390 Fire Radios
- \$18,890 Library Roof
- \$9,914 Fire Gear
- \$17,098 Police Radios
- \$10,000 Library building
- \$3,500 Voting Machine
- \$10,000 Repairs to Town Hall steps



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[nhlutherans@gmail.com](mailto:nhlutherans@gmail.com)  
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## LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWS

We are pleased to announce that the Laurel Lake Association and the Town of Fitzwilliam have received a grant from EPA's Clean Water Act via NH Dept. of Environmental Services to develop a watershed protection plan for Laurel Lake! Former resident & LLA Board member Barbara Green has driven the grant proposal for the past 3 years and it was finally approved by the Governor & Executive Council in December.

NH's Southwest Region Planning Commission will administer the grant and perform most of the work which involves evaluating the physical area around the lake, identifying sources of potential or current runoff which can negatively impact the quality of the lake's water and wildlife and developing a plan to mitigate those problem areas. Work will be starting shortly on this.

The Association, its members and the Town actively worked on 3 major projects in 2023 and 2024 to fix sources of runoff pollution into the lake and this grant allows us to look beyond the obvious to identify other risk areas. Laurel Lake's water quality is above average for the state and these grants have typically gone to lakes/ponds which have serious issues.

NHDES now allocates some funding to those lakes with good water quality in order to ensure they stay that way. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to get help in maintaining and improving our beautiful lake. Your membership in the Association and participation in its programs also help with this mission.

Information on the Association and its programs are on our website: [LaurelLakeAssn.com](http://LaurelLakeAssn.com).

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FAX: 603 585-6884

## FEBRUARY EVENTS AT FITZWILLIAM COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Fitzwilliam Community Church Annual Meatball Madness will take place on Saturday, February 8, 2025 as a Take Out only event. Selections are Italian, Swedish, and Italian Turkey Meatballs. Prices are \$12.00 per quart and \$8.00 per pint.

Please place orders by Tuesday, February 4 by calling Roberta at 603 585-3407 between 9 AM and 6 PM. If no answer, please leave a message for a call back or email [fcchn@yahoo.com](mailto:fcchn@yahoo.com). Pickup is Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 5PM to 6PM at the Church at 85 Route 119 West, Fitzwilliam.

On Tuesday, February 11, the church will hold our community lunch at noon. We will have a large selection of soups and desserts. This is a great opportunity to socialize with neighbors and friends. Call 603 585 3352 and leave a message if you are unable to get out and want a delivery.



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

## 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.  
Feb. 5 – Make a bird feeder.  
Feb. 12 -Yummy Fruit Pizzas!  
Feb. 19 – Design a clay cow & eat yogurt parfait cups.

**TYCLD! Take Your Child to the Library Day! Sat, Feb. 1 with Read to Milo! at 10:00**  
Come for a fun craft, some birthday cake and read a book with Milo - he's 14!! Learn about what your local library has to offer. Get a card (if you don't already have one) and enter to win an awesome prize. Milo will also be here Feb. 8 and kids can read to him then.

## For Tweens & Teens

**Wed, Feb. 12 – Fruit Pizzas & Valentines!**  
Please register in advance.

## 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](mailto:info@fitzlib.org)) for more information.

## Selected Kids' Books

Lefty/Willems  
Power to the Parasites!/Wood  
I Survived the Black Death/Tarshis  
Stop That Mop!/Fenske  
The Boy and the Elephant/Blackwood  
Axolotl/Whited  
See How They Hide/Brennan  
Taylor Swift's The Eras Tour Encyclopedia/Bolte

...and many, many more!

## Selected New Fiction

Wind and Truth/Sanderson  
Pony Confidential/Lynch  
Extinction/Preston  
Colored Television/Senna  
All Fours/July  
The Resurrectionist/Dunlap  
The House of Cross/Patterson  
The Big Empty/Crais  
Trouble Island/Short  
Morning and Evening/Fosse

...and many, many more!

## For Adults

**Mon, Feb. 10 at 7pm – Book Group** The Bee Sting by Paul Murray

**Wed, Feb. 19, 6:30-8:00pm – Hygge Night**  
Partake in a night of "everything cozy". Food, crafts, warm drinks and fun inspired by the Danish practice called "Hygge".

**Mon, Feb. 24 at 6pm – Cribbage!** No experience necessary - you can learn here. Have fun playing cribbage with neighbors.

**Wed, Feb. 26 – Adult Craft: Zentangle** Register to try Zentangle, a form of meditative art involving intricate designs and patterns

**Thurs, Feb 27 – Cooking the Book: Soups!**  
Check out the cookbook, make a recipe, & bring it to book group to share.

**Wed. 6pm: "Stitch and Bitch"**  
**Sat. 10am: Coffee Hour**

**Library Open House: Sat, Feb. 8, 12:00-2:00pm** Celebrate with us! Let's honor Kate Thomas as she steps into retirement. She's been Director for over 13 years and Librarian for more than 3 decades. Simultaneously, we can welcome Cindi Beede as the new Director of the Fitzwilliam Town Library!

**\*\*Please Note\*\* The Library will be closed**  
**Mon, Feb. 17, Presidents Day**

## Selected Non-Fiction

The Cure for Women/Reeder  
Salty, Cheesy, Herby, Crispy, Snackable Bakes/Sheehan  
Blue Sky Through the Window of a Moving Car/Bolton  
Caribbean/DK Travel  
Offshore/Harrington  
The Oathbreakers/Gabriele  
The Let Them Theory/Robbins

... and many, many more!

## A REMINDER FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**LICENSE DOGS BY APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>  
IF DOG IS OVER 4 MONTHS OLD**

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

**WARNING - failure to comply will make  
you liable to a FINE OF \$50.00 if not  
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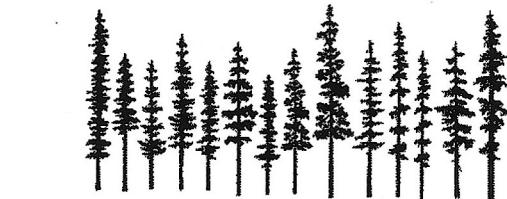
## SPECIAL BAKED POTATOES

3 tablespoons mayonnaise  
2 cloves garlic, crushed  
1 teaspoon dried oregano  
salt and pepper to taste  
5 potatoes, quartered

In a small bowl, mix mayonnaise, garlic, oregano, salt, and pepper. Set aside.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add potatoes, and cook until almost done, about 10 minutes. Don't overcook otherwise the potatoes will break apart. Drain, and cool.

Preheat oven broiler. Line a baking tray with aluminum foil, and lightly grease the aluminum foil. Arrange potatoes in the prepared baking tray. Spoon the mayonnaise mixture over the potatoes. Place on the prepared grill, and cook until potatoes are tender and mayonnaise mixture is lightly browned, about 10 minutes.



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## BROCCOLI CHEESE SOUP

3/4 cup butter  
 3/4 cup all-purpose flour  
 9 cups chicken stock  
 9 cups milk  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1 1/2 teaspoons white pepper  
 5 cups fresh broccoli florets  
 1 1/2 pounds processed cheese, shredded  
 3 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Melt the butter in a large pot over medium heat, and mix in the flour. Reduce heat to low, and cook, stirring constantly, about 2 minutes. Mix in the chicken stock and milk, and season with salt and white pepper. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, and simmer about 10 minutes.

Bring a pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Place the broccoli in the boiling water, and cook 2 minutes, or until just tender. Remove from heat, drain, and set aside.

Gradually mix the processed cheese and Cheddar cheese into the large pot until melted. Mix in the broccoli. Continue cooking about 5 minutes.

**A BELATED HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL OF US AT FHS!**

2025 is going to be quite the year! We have some truly exciting events in the works that we are really anxious to share with you all! We're still working out the details, so stay tuned for more of those in the coming months.

Meanwhile, remember that the Blake House Museum is open for tours upon request, and that we are still accepting any historic items for our collection that are *specifically* related to Fitzwilliam history.

Also, thanks to everyone who signed our petition. We can now put forward a Warrant Article for the Annual Town Meeting in March. If you'd like more information on that, please attend our next meeting on Monday Feb. 3 at 5:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

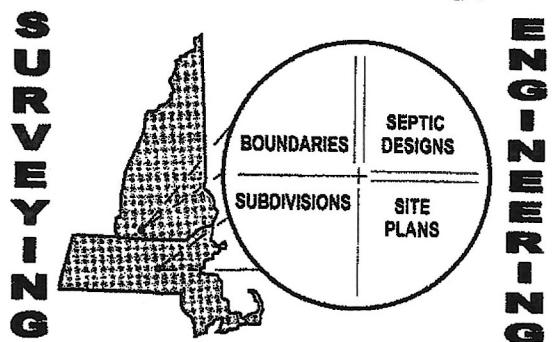
The Fitzwilliam Historical Society

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## DOWN EAST CLAM CHOWDER

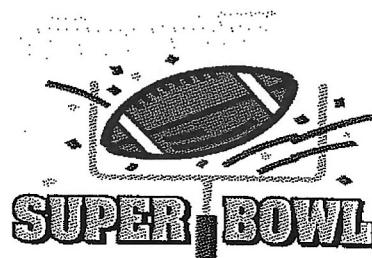
4 dozen hard-shell clams, scrubbed, or 1 quart shucked cooked clams with their broth  
 1/4 pound cubed salt pork or 6 slices bacon  
 1 onion, coarsely chopped  
 6 medium potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch cubes  
 2 cups milk  
 2 cups half-and-half or evaporated milk  
 6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) unsalted butter  
 salt  
 freshly ground pepper

Pour clams into a large pot with 1 cup water. Cover, bring to a boil, and cook until shells open, about 10 minutes. Allow to cool, then shuck clams and set aside. Pour off broth and reserve, taking care not to disturb any sediment in the bottom of the pan.

Cook salt pork in a large saucepan over medium heat until the fat runs. Add onion and cook, stirring, until tender. Pour off half the fat.

Add potatoes to the pan and stir well. Add clam broth and just enough water to cover the potatoes. Simmer until potatoes are tender.

Add milk and half-and-half; bring to a simmer. Add clams and butter; simmer a few minutes until clams are heated through and butter is melted. (Do not boil or clams will be tough.) Season with salt and pepper.



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# Valentine's Dinner

Thursday, February 13, 6:00 pm  
*Celebrate a day 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

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## FITZWILLIAM GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2025

The Fitzwilliam Garden Club is pleased that we can once again offer one or more scholarships to graduating seniors or others pursuing post-high school study. Those who wish to apply must be residents of Fitzwilliam, NH. The FGC scholarship is awarded in recognition of academic excellence, leadership and community engagement. We invite anyone interested to apply.

Applications are available at Monadnock Regional High School, the Fitzwilliam Town Library and Fitzwilliam Town Hall. They must be submitted by March 28. The FGC has awarded scholarships for many years to well deserving applicants and we are pleased to continue the tradition. If you have any questions, contact Gail Hagstrom at 603-585-6884 or email [fitzwilliamgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:fitzwilliamgardenclub@gmail.com).

The Fitzwilliam Garden Club is a member of the NH Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and the National Garden Clubs Inc. Visit us on Facebook.



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## OATMEAL CHOCOLATE CHIP CAKE

1-3/4 cups boiling water  
1 cup old-fashioned oats  
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 cup granulated sugar  
2 eggs  
1-3/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour  
1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 package (12 ounces) semisweet chocolate chips  
3/4 cup chopped nuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

In a bowl, pour boiling water over oats and let stand for 10 minutes. Add butter and stir until melted. Add sugars and eggs and stir until well combined.

In a separate bowl, sift together flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt. Add to oat mixture and mix well. Pour into baking pan and sprinkle with chocolate chips and nuts, if using. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes. Cool completely before serving.





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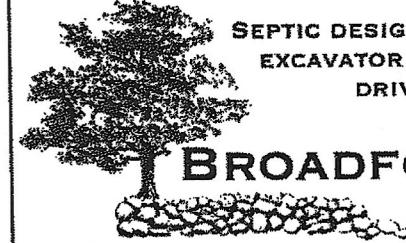


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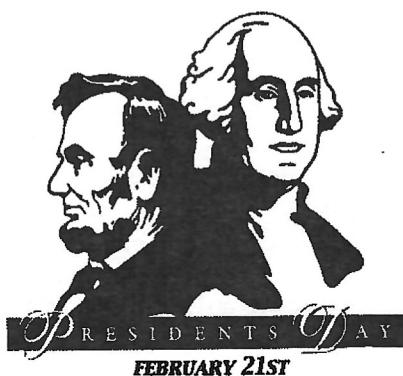
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## CAKE MIX COOKIES

1 (18.25 oz) package chocolate cake mix  
 ½ cup butter softened  
 2 eggs  
 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.  
 In a medium bowl, stir together the cake mix, butter and eggs until smooth and well blended. Mix in the chocolate chips. Drop by spoonfuls onto ungreased baking sheets.

Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven.

Allow cookies to cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.



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## FITZWILLIAM RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

**FREEZE FEST:** Get ready for an afternoon of winter fun at the ski hill on February 15th from 1:00-4:00PM. Enjoy sledding, games, and more – it's a FREE event for the whole family!

**SAFE SITTER COURSE:** Safe Sitter® is a program designed to prepare students in grades 6-8 to feel confident and safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. Don't miss this chance to learn valuable skills! The class happens on March 1st from 9 am to 3 pm and is limited to the first 12 registrants. Secure your spot today at: [fitzwilliam-nh.gov/parks-recreation](http://fitzwilliam-nh.gov/parks-recreation)

**ADULT BASKETBALL:** Free winter pickup league: Mondays 7-9pm at Emerson Gym. All adults welcome, no signup!

**YOUTH BASKETBALL:** Youth basketball is currently underway with 54 kids registered! A big thank you to our Coordinator, Megan Conversano, all of our volunteer coaches, and our generous sponsors: KG Performance Solutions, Troy Recreation Dept., and Savings Bank of Walpole.

**ICE RINK:** The ice rink at the pole barn next to Emerson School will be opening soon. Follow us on Facebook for exciting updates and the official opening date!

**HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF RECREATION:** Take our quick Fitzwilliam Recreation Program Interest Survey and let us know what programs you'd love to see offered. It only takes a few minutes: [fitzwilliam-nh.gov/parks-recreation](http://fitzwilliam-nh.gov/parks-recreation)

*Thank you to everyone who made our first Puzzle Palooza and Ice Fishing Derby a success! We're especially grateful to the Gap Mountain Lions Club for their generous donation, which allowed us to offer fantastic prizes and make the derby accessible to all families at no cost.*

**STAY IN THE LOOP!** Sign up for our E-newsletter to stay up to date with all of our events and programs: [fitzwilliam-nh.gov/parks-recreation](http://fitzwilliam-nh.gov/parks-recreation). You can also find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FitzRec](http://www.facebook.com/FitzRec)

**QUESTIONS?** Contact us at: email:

[Fitzrec@fitzwilliam-nh.gov](mailto:Fitzrec@fitzwilliam-nh.gov), phone: 603-585-7270 or talk to Fallon in person at the Rec Office (Town Hall) on Wednesdays, 4-5 PM or by appointment!



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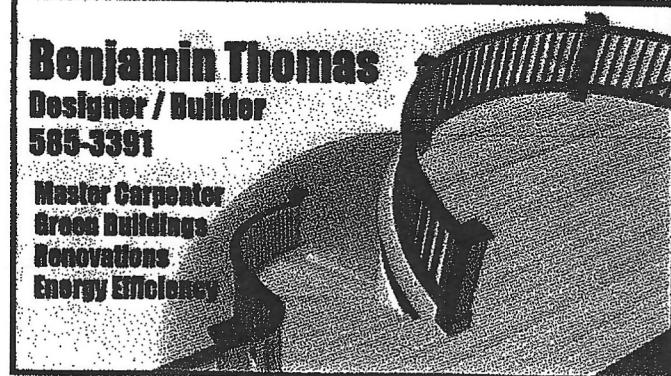
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 D. & R Tremblay (record keeping & subscriptions)  
 J. Wilkinson (calendar & articles) 585-7146  
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**Mail advertisements (with enclosed payment) to our PO Box or email them to fitznewsadvertising@gmail.com**  
**Deadline: All news and ads - 15th of each month.**  
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**ADVERTISING RATES**

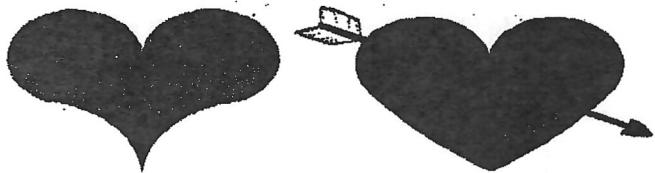
\$7 per column inch + \$1 set up

inches in height	3 1/2"	8"
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2	\$22	\$43
3	\$29	\$57
4	\$36	\$71
(1/4 or 1/2 page)		
5	\$36	\$71
(1/2 or full page)		
10	\$71	\$141

Mail ads (with enclosed payment) to our PO Box or  
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 questions.

**Vital Statistics**

There are no vital statistics to report this month.



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