

Canterbury Community Newsletter

Published for the community by the Canterbury United Community Church ~ March 2024

This year for Easter ...

Join us for the annual Easter Breakfast



What: Breakfast, buffet style

When: Easter Sunday, March 31

Where: Parish House, in the Center

Time: 7 am to 9:30 am

Cost:

- Children 5 and under FREE
- Seniors and kids ages 6-11: \$6
- Adults 12-64: \$10
- Families (immediate): \$25

Everyone is invited to the annual community breakfast on Easter morning. We welcome one and all no matter how you are choosing to celebrate on this morning, and hope that you will invite a friend. Buffet-style breakfast includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, potatoes and more!

If you are interested in helping out in any way for this event (food prep, donating groceries or money, clean up, etc..) please give Polly Camire a call. 603-848-1862 (before 9 pm please.) Proceeds go to the CUCC.

~ Polly Camire

Just for the kids: the Easter Egg hunt!

The annual Canterbury Rascals 4H Easter Egg Hunt is almost here! The egg hunt will be Saturday, March 23, at 10 am, at Canterbury Elementary School, rain, snow, or shine. This fun event is for Canterbury residents only, ages 11 and under. Bring your own basket for egg collecting! If you have questions, please contact Emily Perlet at emilyperlet@gmail.com.



All are welcome to join in Easter services!

The **Canterbury United Community Church** (CUCC) in the Center is offering a Maundy Thursday service at 6:45 pm, a Good Friday service at 7 pm, and two Easter services: a sunrise service at 6 am at the Shaker Village and Easter morning worship at 10 am. You can also order Easter flowers! The deadline is Sunday, March 17. *You'll find a flower order coupon, the monthly message from Pastor Becky, and more service details on Page 3.*

Here's your Town Meeting guide!

Tuesday, March 12, is Election Day. Ballot voting for town and school board seats as well as the 2024-2025 Shaker Regional School District budget. Voting is at the Canterbury Town Hall, 1 Old Tilton Road, from 7 am to 7 pm.

Friday, March 15, is the in-person deliberative session of Town Meeting at the Canterbury Elementary School, 15 Baptist Road, at 7 pm. *Warrant articles listed, Page 9.*

Meet the town and school candidates on Friday, March 8. *Details, Page 5.*

The two candidates for the Board of Selectmen introduce themselves. *Page 5.*

The six candidates for the Planning Board introduce themselves. *Pages 6-7.*

The two candidates for Trustee of the Trust Funds introduce themselves, *Page 7.*

Absentee voting information. *Page 5.*

Where to get your town report. *Page 9.*

~ More Things To Know! ~

Monday, March 4: Fire Department annual recognition ceremony, with special honoree Geoff "Hubbs" Hubble. *Page 9.*

Wednesday, March 6: Irish Pub Night featuring Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, Town Hall. (Complete with gardening raffle!) *Page 11.*

Thursday, March 7: Canterbury Garden Club, Parish House, presentations on four different types of gardening. *Page 10.*

Thursday, March 21: The NH Primary presented by long-time Associated Press reporter David Tirrell-Wysocki, Town Hall. *Page 11.*

Thursday, March 21: Your Medicare questions answered, Elkins Public Library. *Page 11.*

Thursday, March 28, or Saturday, March 30: Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt, Elkins Public Library. *Page 11.*

Friday, March 29: Fire Department Open House, honoring longtime firefighter/EMT Dave Nelson. *Page 9.*

Local Folks, Here to Serve You ...

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HUTCHINSON FAMILY SUGARHOUSE has free tours and samples March weekends, 10 am-4 pm. Sustainable, traditional maple syrup, cream, & candy plus frappes, doughnuts, and ice-cream from the kitchen! 270 Hackleboro Rd. Call 603-783-4691.

COLD GARDEN SPIRITS: Winter hours tastings and sales by appointment or online sales at coldgardenspirits.com or text 603-491-4400. New releases: High Rye, High Proof Straight Bourbon, Pommeau aged 5 years. Thanks to Canterbury for a great yeast!

NORTH FAMILY FARM'S 2023 organic maple syrup is available at local stores, the Canterbury Farmers Market or by appointment at the farm. Thank you for your business! Check our website for more information: www.northfamilyfarm.com or call Jill or Tim at 783-4712.

MAQ DESIGN: quality custom upholstery, slipcovers, and window coverings — curtains, valances, shades, and blinds. Fabric, foam, and upholstery supplies. 603-783-9640, maryann@maqdesign.net, maqdesign.net.

CANTERBURY WHOLE CHILD CENTER is accepting waitlist applications for children 3-12 yrs to nature/art based preschool & before/after school care. 603-783-4370 or CanterburyWholeChildCenter@gmail.com for more information.

BROOKFORD FARM: Farm store is open daily from 7 am to 7 pm. Pre-order for pickup Tuesday-Sunday. CSA subscriptions and bulk meat orders available too. Organic vegetables, krauts, aged meats, 100 percent grass-fed beef and dairy, pastured chicken, eggs, pork and lamb. brookfordfarm.com.

JOEL'S OIL: Our goal is to keep you warm at an affordable price! Compare and save at newenglandoil.com. Current price is \$3.60 per gallon. Call or text 603-892-5505.

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Easter Month at Canterbury's Community Church!

Dear Friends,

Even though it's 25 degrees as I write, and in church we've just entered the season of Lent, I can't escape a familiar creeping giddiness. The sap is running, the pussy willows are peeking out, and colorful seed packets are blossoming in the hardware store and the mailbox. Yet, even as the sunlight lengthens both ends of the day, some of us may not feel that spring energy. We may be weighed down by issues beyond Canterbury's garden beds and frost heaves. We may hunger for signs of healing in our nation and peace beyond our borders, but the news is so bleak. Good people, good citizens feel the urge to withdraw, to stay home, to keep hibernating. The problems are so big, so deep, so dangerous that we may think, what's the point? These days it's just so easy for people who care to fall prey to fear and cynicism about life and our life together.

But now we're in March, and this March ends in Easter for many of us. So with that in mind, perhaps we can help each other resist our impulse to hide away. March is an in-between month, part sleet and part crocuses. If past years are any guide (I hope they are), we still have at least one more blizzard to shovel out from, and still we'll manage to stomp through the new snow to harvest branches and force some forsythia and crabapple on the kitchen table. Now is the time to let hope be nurtured by neighbors and friends. We can help each other make it to spring. Easter reminds us that even in the face of great evil, life persists, not just for some but for all, and together we can know liberation and hope. And we New Englanders know something about hopeful waiting: even in the grip of spring fever, somehow we manage to wait to start our seeds!

In Peace,
Becky Josephson

Easter month at the church

SPECIAL SERVICES AND EVENTS

Thursday, March 28, 6:45 pm: Tenebrae in the Parish House

Friday, March 29, 7 pm in the church, Good Friday Meditation

Sunday, March 31: EASTER!

- **Sunrise Service**, 6 am at Shaker Village
- **Easter Breakfast**, 7-9:30 am in the Parish House. See *Page 1 for details!*
- **Easter Morning Worship**, 10 am in the church. Children (of all ages) welcome!

ONGOING

Sunday Worship, 10 am, all are welcome!

- **Children's Church**, 9:45 in the Parish House
- **Fellowship**, 11 am in the Parish House

Strength & Stretch Class, Mondays and Thursdays, 9-10 am, free, ongoing, in the Parish House

Walkin' Wednesdays, 9 am, meet at the Gazebo, all abilities welcome.

Stillness in the Center, Wednesdays, 7 pm in the sanctuary, quiet candlelight, prayer, and meditation.

Easter Flower Order Form ~ *Order deadline: Sunday, March 17*

Easter Lily _____ Hyacinth _____ Tulip _____ Daffodil _____

~ **All prices: \$12.95 per plant!** ~

Make checks payable to Donna Miller. Mail them to her at 126 Baptist Road, Canterbury, NH 03224

Please check one of the options →

_____	I will pick up my plant after Easter service
_____	I would like my plant delivered to me after Easter service
_____	I would like the flower committee to deliver my plant to someone in the community

Order placed by (your name): _____

Given in memory of: _____

Your Guide to Town and School Voting Choices

Two important days in March: Ballot voting and Town Meeting

Voters — that's you! — will make key decisions about town and school matters for the next year in what are technically called the two sessions of town meeting.

Ballot voting

Ballot voting for town offices, a series of zoning ordinance changes, as well as open school board seats and the 2024-2025 Shaker Regional School District budget will be held on Tuesday, March 12, at the Canterbury Town Hall, 1 Old Tilton Road, from 7 am to 7 pm. This is technically the First Session of Town Meeting.

You'll find statements from the school district's budget advisory committee, candidates for contested town offices as well as summaries from the Planning Board of the proposed Zoning Ordinance changes beginning on this page and continuing through Page 8.

Deliberative session

The in-person, deliberative session of Town Meeting will be held on Friday, March 15, at the Canterbury Elementary School, 15 Baptist Road, beginning at 7 pm. This is officially called the Second Session.

You'll find a summary of the budget-related matters to be decided at this session on Page 9.

School committee urges budget support

As members of the Shaker Regional School District Budget Advisory Committee, we are asking voters of Belmont and Canterbury to support the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

Given that the base adequacy rate (the minimum amount of money the state sends to public schools for each student) directly impacts the budget, the Advisory Committee followed the ConVal school funding lawsuit and the New Hampshire Superior Court's ruling that the current levels of base adequacy are too low and unconstitutional. The court wrote that while it is up to the Legislature to determine the cost of base adequacy it can be no less than \$7356.01. The current base adequacy is only \$4,100 per pupil per year, while the actual average cost of educating a New Hampshire student is \$19,400 per year. This is pending action by the state Legislature and, unfortunately, will not benefit the 2024-2025 budget.

For the SRSD 2024-2025 budget, the School Board committed hours of discussion and difficult decisions, always with taxpayers, students, and district employees in mind. The budget was scrutinized to look for savings that would not directly impact the quality of education.

Supporting quality education and preparing students for the changing world is a fundamental responsibility of our communities. We feel the proposed budget is fiscally responsible and supports appropriate funding for all programs benefiting the students.

~ Heidi Chaney, Andrew Fournier and Jay Grafton

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Ballot Voting: Candidates for Selectman

We asked the two candidates for a single open seat on the town's Board of Selectmen to introduce themselves to voters. Here's what they had to say. The winner of voting on Tuesday, March 12, will serve a three-year term.

Beth Blair

My name is Beth Blair. I am running for the Board of Selectmen because I love this town and believe volunteer leadership is crucial to the strength of our community. Since building a home here in 1990 with my husband Christopher, I have actively contributed to town life by:

- Serving on the Municipal Building Committee (2 years), which oversaw the creation of the new municipal complex on Baptist Road, as well as the re-invention of the old fire/highway buildings into our current Elkins Public Library.
 - Serving as a Board Member and publicity manager for the Canterbury Community Farmer's Market (13 years).
 - Editing and producing the town newsletter (11 years).
 - Filling many roles with the Canterbury Fair (20+ years) including managing the Chicken BBQ, Squire to the Morris Dance Team, publicity, and signage.
 - Co-leading the Canterbury Halloween extravaganza hosted at Shaker Village (7 years), plus working several more years transitioning the event to the town center.
- By profession, I am a graphic artist and designer, have co-owned two children's health publishing businesses, and co-written and illustrated the "Everything Kids" series of puzzle books. Attention to detail and deadline was a requirement to ensure these ventures were successful.

The skills I've gained professionally and through community work have prepared me to work well as part of the town management team. I ask many questions, listen carefully and have great respect for Canterbury and its history. I am not afraid of long hours and am highly motivated to keep things neighborly!

Thank you for considering me for the Board of Selectmen. I welcome questions: 603-783-4333 or bethblairnh@gmail.com.

Calvin Todd

I'm Calvin Todd – a name you are probably familiar with, as this is not my first time running for Selectboard. I hope that speaks to how passionate I am about serving Canterbury residents. Service is a hallmark of my life. After serving in Afghanistan, I was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medal with Valor. A lifelong New Hampshireer, my wife Alice and I put down roots in Canterbury ten years ago, and I made a commitment to serve my community the way I have served and protected my country.

Meet the candidates on Friday, March 8

Come hear from your candidates for town offices and the Shaker Regional School Board on Friday, March 8, at 7 pm at the Canterbury Town Hall.

You can also participate via Zoom. To receive the Zoom link email dorishampton38@gmail.com before 6 pm on March 8.

A recording will be available later in the day on March 9 at <https://www.youtube.com/@libertadpressne>.

~ Sponsored by Canterbury Citizens for Democracy

I am currently a member of the Zoning Board and the Budget Committee. I recently served as a member of the Canterbury School Withdrawal Study Committee. I have experience and deep knowledge of how the Town of Canterbury works. I'm running for the Board of Selectmen with a pledge to be open-minded, fair, impartial and transparent in addressing the town's needs. I believe that every resident deserves a voice and I commit to ensuring yours is always heard. As a younger candidate, I also hope to form a bridge between our long-time and new residents. Through responsible spending, strategic growth, and inclusion, Canterbury can continue to be the community we all know and love.

The depth of my community involvement, a lifetime of service, and independence from any conflicts of interest make me well suited to represent the interests of Canterbury residents on the Selectboard. While I might not be the most polished candidate, I am dependable, thorough, trustworthy and I care about our town. I ask for your support in helping Canterbury thrive. Feel free to reach me at calvintodd10@gmail.com or 603-370-1861.

Can't make it to the polls?

Individuals who qualify for absentee voting for the Shaker Regional School District may contact the SAU office at 603-267-9223.

The application for an absentee town ballot can be found on the town website under Town Clerk-Tax Collector: canterbury-nh.org/town-clerk-tax-collector. Please call 603-783-0153 with any questions. The Town Clerk's office will be closed on March 12 for the town election. The Town Clerk-Tax Collector's office will be open on Monday March 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. to receive any last-minute absentee ballot requests.

Ballot Voting: Planning Board

We asked the six candidates for two seats on the town's Planning Board to introduce themselves to voters. Here's what each of them had to say. The winners of voting on Tuesday, March 12, will serve three-year terms.

Nate Bragdon

Hi, my name is Nate Bragdon and I am running for the town planning board. I have lived in New Hampshire my entire life and in the Lakes Region for the past 20 years with my wife and four kids.

Since we moved to Canterbury in 2020, I have appreciated the strong community mindset that makes our beautiful town unique.

I want to see our town continue to thrive while preserving the beauty and uniqueness we value.

As an engineer, I love to solve complex problems and work to solutions. I frequently work with government documents and I'm familiar with treading through the often complex maze of state and local regulations.

If elected, I believe I will be a valuable member to the board as I work to balance the changing times while protecting the rural character and slower pace of life that defines Canterbury.

Free free to reach out to me at nathaniel.bragdon@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Tom Franco

Do you want a Planning Board member who listens to people, is unbiased and will be focused on maintaining the historic, cultural, and aesthetic values of our town?

I am running because I want to serve my community.

For almost five years, my wife, Cheryl, and I have lived here, and we love it. We have six grown children and eight grandchildren. I want to offer my help and be part of the preservation and future planning of this town.

The skills I would bring to the board stem from my Electronic Engineering/Product Development background. This enables me to analyze and dig deep into issues and gather quality data for decision making. I have volunteered on other town boards, such as the Electric Subcommittee in Bedford, NH, and volunteered as an assistant lacrosse coach. Most recently, I have assisted with painting and roofing on the remodel of The Canterbury Country Store.

With my building knowledge, open-mindedness, objective view and listening skills, and my love and concern for the cultural, historic, aesthetic preservation and planning of this town, I am hopeful you will consider me for this position.

I am open to listening to your goals and concerns and can be reached at tomfrancojr2@gmail.com or 603-714-0962

Greg Meeh

I am the current chair of the Canterbury Planning Board, leading the hard-working and thoughtful volunteer board members. For the last few years, in addition to overseeing site plan reviews and other regular board business, we have been updating Canterbury's Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

NH state law mandates that towns have a regularly updated Master Plan to outline the town's vision for the future. Since it has been more than ten years since Canterbury's Plan for Tomorrow was last updated, this work is a board priority. To that end, we have conducted both a survey and many public forums, through which we learned that town residents believe our Master Plan needs tweaking, not a major overhaul. The main takeaway: Canterbury residents like the quiet, rural nature of our town, and want it to stay that way.

The Plan for Tomorrow is implemented through zoning regulations. As development pressure increases, it is essential that our Ordinance be updated to protect Canterbury's rural character. Furthermore, to be legally defensible our Ordinance must be updated to comply with state and federal law.

To help with this work, we secured \$15,000 in grants for professional assistance. We have also begun to write a handbook to help residents understand our regulations.

There's a steep learning curve to becoming a good Planning Board Chair. I hope to be re-elected to finalize the Plan for Tomorrow, to continue much needed Zoning Ordinance updates, and to complete the Planning Board Handbook.

Brendan O'Donnell

My name is Brendan O'Donnell. I previously served as an alternate on the Canterbury Planning Board in 2019 and 2020, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the board again. I am an attorney with prior experience representing municipalities and applicants in planning and zoning matters, including in superior court and supreme court appeals.

I have lived in New Hampshire my whole life. For the past seven years, my family and I have lived in Canterbury.

Megan Portnoy

I'm Megan Portnoy – a wife, mother, doctoral student and three-year Canterbury resident. Yes, I am new. Very new. I know I cannot know Canterbury like most of you. However, you and I are likely not so different in many of the reasons we love it here; the rural integrity, small farm culture, the nature, safety and peaceful quietude, the resourceful sensibility of the people ...

Megan's introduction continues on the next page!

Ballot Voting: Planning Board, Trustee of Trust Funds

... Megan Portnoy's introduction, continued!

and their rich expertise and the depth of care for the community – just to name a few. Canterbury has charm in spades, and I'd like to keep it that way. This is why I am running for planning board.

I have extensive experience in civic engagement, including a degree in political science. I've advised federal, state, and local government agencies in strategic planning and change management, and I served on two boards of directors for neighborhoods in Chicago. My vision for the future balances historic preservation with innovation that meets our modern needs, and prioritizes long-term investment over short-term gains. I believe that any growth or development should be slow, sustainable and highly conscious of the impact on our environment, infrastructure and people. Town planning is a dynamic process, and I will be adaptive and responsive to the evolving needs of residents, not outside interests. I am committed to being transparent, reasonable, honest, and an advocate for the voice of all Canterburians in shaping our town's future.

I kindly ask for your vote. Get in touch with me:
megan4canterbury@gmail.com

Jonas Sanborn

My name is Jonas Sanborn and I'm putting my name in for the town planning board. I have lived in Canterbury, within the Sherwood Forest, for over 10 years. I've been the president of the association for over 3 years and have had to dive into the world of Home Owners Associations, or HOAs. If I were to be voted into the board, it would allow the town to have a subject matter expert in HOAs and give a better look into that world. It's important for the residents to understand what it takes to form, develop and maintain such an organization. Every resident in town, regardless if you live in a private neighborhood or not, should have representation within the town and I would be honored to be that person for the Sherwood Forest and future residents who may live within cluster housing and HOAs. You can find me on Facebook.

<p>We are a local family run business and we offer septic and camera inspections. We also perform septic, pump station repair and new pump installation.</p> <p>EDR & Family Septic Inspections LLC Edward DAN Reyes Owner/Lead Inspector 603.290.0153 www.edrseptic.com edrseptic@gmail.com <small>Follow us on Facebook and Instagram</small></p>	
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Trustee of Trust Funds: 2 candidates, 1 seat

The winner of this vote will serve a three-year term.

Tom Franco

I am running for Trustee of the Trust Fund because I want to serve my community.

I want to assist and be part of upholding the integrity and fiduciary responsibilities of this position. For almost five years, my wife, Cheryl, and I have lived here, and we love it. We have six adult children and eight grandchildren.

The skills I would bring as a trustee stem from my Electronic Engineering/Product Development background where I had budget responsibilities near \$30 million at times. I have had two successful businesses in the past, and I hold a Utility Patent on comprehensive monitoring that helps older adults aging in place. I have also volunteered on other town boards, such as the Electric Subcommittee in Bedford, NH, and volunteered as an assistant lacrosse coach. Most recently, I have volunteered by assisting with painting and roofing on the remodel of the Canterbury Country Store.

With my business financial background, open-mindedness, objective view and listening skills and my love and support of this town, I would like you to consider giving me your vote.

I am very open to listening to your goals and concerns and can be reached at tomfrancojr2@gmail.com or 603-714-0962

Silvia Styles

My name is Silvia Styles. I am running for Trustee of the Trust Funds. I believe I have the skills, the time and the sense of duty to fulfill this important position.

I have over 20 years experience as a CPA and 10 years as a CFP in an investment advisory firm. I have been a trustee of private funds and a treasurer of two non-profit organizations. After retiring and moving to Canterbury in 2013, my community involvement has included Treasurer for the Canterbury Community Farmers Market and for the Canterbury Fair. My experience in managing funds and the required reporting obligations has given me the skills to help the trustees ensure funds will be available to meet future needs.

Over the years, I have spent time on investment policy statements, investment risks and returns, and working with trust documents. I am used to working in a regulated environment. I am organized and effective in administration, capable with technology, and confident acting in a fiduciary role.

I would like very much to continue to share my skills with this community. I look forward to being an addition to the team and appreciate your vote. Contact me at 401-644-8186 or silviastyles@gmail.com.

Ballot Voting: Zoning Ordinance Changes

The chair and members of the Planning Board wish to thank all town residents who have participated in public meetings and hearings in recent months regarding the Master Plan update. The board unanimously voted to bring forward the proposals below for a vote by ballot in the First Session of Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 12, recognizing that the Zoning Ordinance is never set in stone and there is more work to do to prepare the town for limited development that will respect the rural character of Canterbury.

The actual warrant articles are available on the town website, canterbury-nh.org. Click on Boards & Committees and then Planning Board to access them. On the left-hand side, you can click on the Full Texts document, the Summaries, which also includes a YouTube video made by board member Joshua Gordon, and the Final Ballot Language. If you want to see the original tracked versions, they are listed in the Jan. 18 agenda. Hard copies of these documents are available to view at the Town Office, the Country Store and Elkins Library, and will be available at the Town Hall on voting day.

What follows are summaries of the purposes of each article.

Ballot Article 2 - Accessory Dwelling Units: This would clarify Canterbury's existing ordinance on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). ADUs that are attached to the main dwelling would be by right, with a building permit, in all zones except the Industrial Zone. Detached ADUs would be allowed by Conditional Use Permit in all zones except the Industrial and Commercial zones. Other changes include clarifying existing ADU requirements and establishing application requirements and standards for Conditional Use Permits. It would also move the existing language regarding ADUs attached to businesses from Article 2 to Article 18.

Ballot Article 3 - Flagpole Height Ordinance: This is an addition to Article 5.2 of the Zoning Ordinance, Establishment of Minimum Lot Standards, and will limit flagpole height to 30 feet (the height of the Center flagpole) to preserve the town's historic and rural character.

Ballot Article 4 - Height Ordinance: This is an addition to Zoning Ordinance Article 2, General Provisions, to ensure structures do not exceed the height of safe emergency services without expensive upgrades to emergency service equipment.

Ballot Article 5 - Cluster Neighborhoods: Currently, Cluster Neighborhoods are an Allowed use in Residential, Rural zones and the Center and Shaker Village Historic Districts. Public notification is not required for a building permit to be issued. The change to Article 5 of the Zoning Ordinance would require all Cluster Neighborhoods to apply for a Conditional Use Permit. This change at Article 6 of the Zoning Ordinance will ensure abutter notification and an opportunity for the public to participate in the permitting process. It would provide more flexibility in the Planning Board review process, offer design incentives to better protect the town's historic and rural character and to preserve open space. It would also require an

owners' association to maintain interior private roads to control town costs. It would add definitions to Article 3 of the Zoning Ordinance for "Designated Open Space," "Residents' Common Area" and "Commercial Common Area" to the Zoning Ordinances.

Ballot Article 6 - Short Term Rentals: This amendment to Article 2.11 of the Zoning Ordinance clarifies that where a short-term rental is permitted, only one rental unit is allowed. A short-term rental permit is good for two years. The maximum occupancy for a short-term rental will be determined by septic loading. Inspections will be required when safety concerns are reported to the town.

Ballot Article 7 - Number of Residential Building Permits: The current ordinance makes multifamily cluster development more practical than single family. This change to Zoning Ordinance Article 11 corrects that bias in the ordinance to make single-family construction more practical. It would clarify that the 3% annual building permit limitation is based on the number of year-round dwelling units, including accessory dwelling units, and extend the building permit limitation until March 31, 2025. State law requires that the town renew the limitation every year and provide an annually updated robust Capital Improvement Plan to justify the restriction. It would also clarify that the limit allowed for a single applicant during the year is based on the number of dwelling units.

Ballot Article 8 – Table of Uses and Residential Uses in Commercial Zone, Zoning Ordinance Article 5: This would permit limited residential use in the Commercial Zone.

Ballot Article 9 - Floodplain Ordinance: This would make terminology revisions based on changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and upcoming updates to the Merrimack River watershed Flood insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). This is required for residents to qualify for FEMA disaster relief and flood insurance.

Ballot Article 10 – Historic Districts to be defined by official zoning map: This amendment clarifies the boundaries of the Center Historic District and the Shaker Historic Overlay District by replacing the current narrative descriptions with reference to the boundaries set forth on the Official Zoning Map of the town.

Ballot Article 11 – Waiver Permission for certain applications: The amendment to Article 13.5(A) of the Zoning Ordinance would permit a waiver of the current requirement for a public hearing on all applications in situations when the application is not contrary to the spirit of the ordinance, does not impact any abutter and is not visible from a public way. In these instances, the Chair of the HDC in consultation with the Select Board Representative may waive the requirement for a public hearing. Before granting a waiver, a complete application must be filed and approved for completeness. The applicant would still meet all other provisions of the ordinance but would avoid paying for the filing fee and abutter notifications. An administrative fee for processing applications may be imposed.

Deliberative Session ... and More Town News!

The in-person, deliberative session of Town Meeting will be held on Friday, March 15, at the Canterbury Elementary School, 15 Baptist Road, beginning at 7 pm. This is officially called the Second Session.

Voters will take up 13 warrant articles, all related to town spending. In addition to the town operating budget for the coming year, the articles would appropriate money for:

- Making the first year's payment on a seven-year lease/purchase agreement of a new backhoe;
- Buying a new road grader;
- Putting money into seven capital reserve funds;
- Making the payment on the Gold Star Bond;
- Preparing new lots at the Maple Grove Cemetery;
- Installing a ductless AC and heating unit for the Canterbury Historical Society archives storage room;
- A contract to upgrade the town website;
- Buying a steam cleaner for the Highway Department;
- Buying a folder/insert for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office;
- Replacing and repairing hand rails at the Town Gazebo;
- Installing gutters for the Meeting House; and
- Accepting the forced distribution of money from the Sam Lake Trust Fund for the town.

In some cases, the costs would be covered in whole or in part by money withdrawn from capital reserve funds.



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Here's where to get your Town Report

The 2023 Town Report and sample ballots are on the town website at Canterbury-nh.org.

Copies of the Town Report are available at the Town Office, Municipal Safety Complex, Transfer Station, Elkins Library and Country Store. Thank you to the Board of Selectmen and the staff at the town office for all the hard work that goes into putting the report together.

Two longtime firefighters to be honored

The Canterbury Fire Department will host its annual Recognition Ceremony on Monday, March 4, at 6:30 pm at the Canterbury Fire Station. Special honoree will be **Geoff "Hubbs" Hubbell**, who has served for 25 years.

The Fire Department will also host an Open House all day on Friday, March 29, in honor of **FF/EMT Dave Nelson** who is retiring from his full-time position that he has held since 2009. Come wish Dave a happy and healthy retirement on his last day as a full-time employee! Dave will remain on the call department.

April is the beginning of the new tax year. Any tax exemption or discount applications are due to the assessor by April 15. The assessor will be visiting properties to review completed work based on building permits that have been issued in the past year.

~ Ken Folsom, Town Administrator

Energy Committee introduces WindowDressers

The Canterbury Energy Committee is bringing WindowDressers to Canterbury. This is a program that allows participants to build affordable, removable window inserts that will let in light but keep heat inside. We need volunteers to help with all parts of the process from measuring your windows to assembling the inserts. Check out the windows at Town Meeting and sign up for more info.

~ Claudia Leidinger

A sign of spring: Townwide Roadside Cleanup!

It's never too soon to think spring, which means it's never too soon to sign up for the Townwide Roadside Cleanup. It's happening on Saturday April 13! The rules are the same as last year, but it's always helpful if you sign up for your favorite stretch of road by contacting Patrice Rasche at mattieandriley@yahoo.com or 603-783-9360. The blue bags specially designated for use in the roadside cleanup can be picked up at the Transfer Station.

~ Patrice Rasche

How Many Libraries Do You Know That Are This Lively?

We would like to thank you in advance for your support of the Elkins Public Library budget at Town Meeting. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, I invite you to my office for a full review of our budget.

~ Rachel Baker, library director

We are so pleased to announce the opening of the Elkins Public Library Seed Library! Come in and get your seed for free. You don't have to have a library card to take what you need. We are cultivating community! Thank you to Doneta Fischer and the Canterbury Garden Club for this amazing project.

Did you know that you can get text messages and alerts on your phone from the library? Let us know that you prefer SMS correspondence the next time you are in and we will update your record.

We are now offering transaction receipts at the Circulation Desk. They are a great way to keep track of the books you have out and they also work well as a bookmark!

The next meeting of Elkins Public Library Board of Trustees is on Monday, March 18, at 6 pm. Looking to make a donation? Keep your favorite library in mind. We are a tax exempt organization.

Programs

Story Time: March 5 and 12. Join us Tuesday mornings at 10 for stories, songs and a craft. This program is perfect for infants through kindergarten. Come to the library and meet your children's future classmates while fostering a love of reading.

Tunes, Tales and Tumbles: March 7 and 14. Join us Thursday mornings at 10 for songs, stretching, stories and more! This program is perfect for our youngest patrons, infants through preschool. Come enjoy this active and music-filled program and help your children nurture their love for the library, books and their community. **Note:** *There will be no TTT on March 21 and 28.*

LEGO club: Join us Tuesday, March 19 and 26, from 10 am to noon for LEGO club! We will have DUPLOs out for our youngest patrons.

Egg Hunt: Stop in on Thursday, March 28, or Saturday, March 30, for an Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt. Pick up your scavenger instructions at the main circulation desk. This is a drop-in program, so feel free to stop in any time during library hours.

Teen Night: Join us on Tuesday, March 26, at 5 pm for our monthly get-together.

The Old Man Boring Book Club: This group reads and reports on favorite nonfiction titles. Join them on Thursday, March 6, at 6 pm back by the fireplace.

Really? An Irish Pub Night? YES!

The Elkins Public Library Speaker Series presents:

Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki on Wednesday, March 6, at 6 pm in the Town Hall for Irish Pub Night. Hosted by the Friends of Elkins Public Library. Come join the festivities, enjoy some traditional pub munchies and kick off your shoes and dance a little if you like. There will also be a raffle drawing. This is absolutely the event of the year!

David Tirrell- Wysocki on Thursday, March 21, at 6 pm in the Town Hall for The NH Primary: A Dream and \$1000, You're on the Ballot. Join long-time Associated Press reporter David Tirrell-Wysocki for a light-hearted look at the lesser-known candidates, the longshots, the oddly ambitious.

Save The Dates!

Mapping Canterbury Throughout the Centuries: A Historical Presentation of Luther Cody by Belmont High School senior Evan Christensen. Wednesday, April 10, at 6 pm in the Town Hall.

Steve Taylor presents New Hampshire's One-Room Rural Schools: The Romance and the Reality on Thursday, April 25, at 6 pm in the Town Hall. Presented by the Canterbury Historical Society.

Elkins Cafe: On Thursday, March 7, at 2 pm we will get out the fancy pencils and work on our coloring pages. On Thursday, March 21, at 2 pm Alison Ferland from Wellsense will be here to answer all of your Medicare questions. Find out about the different parts of Medicare, if you are eligible and when you should enroll. All ages welcome!

Evening Book Group: In March we will read *Memorial Drive* by Natasha Trethewey. We meet for discussion by the fireplace on Wednesday, March 20, at 6 p.m. Copies are available at the circulation desk or on Libby or Hoopla.

Murder, Mayhem and Misadventure: This month we will watch the movie *The Maltese Falcon* with Humphrey Bogart. Because of the length of the movie, we will start at 2 on Tuesday, March 26. A short discussion will follow. Join us!

Free Tech Help: Thursdays from 4 to 6 pm, in half-hour time slots, Kal McKay offers free tech support. Please schedule an appointment and give a brief description of the nature of the issue. Kal's appointments fill up quickly so be sure to sign up.

Pins and Needles: We meet by the fireplace every Wednesday at 2 pm. Bring your latest work in progress; all levels are welcome! We have enjoyed many new participants -- welcome!

All Around Our Happening Town!

Rec committee aims to add offerings

With the success of the Soccer Program and the Halloween event in Canterbury Center, the Canterbury Recreation Committee is looking to provide more to the community.

To do this, we are exploring a low-to-no-cost activity for the spring (ultimate frisbee/frisbee golf for the youth of Canterbury) and are also looking for feedback from the community on what else you would like to see. While the events the Canterbury Recreation Committee has done in the past have been family and kid focus we do want to meet the needs of Canterbury residents of all ages.

Please take a moment to fill out this survey and let us know your thoughts on the direction of Canterbury Recreation. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NP9DPMK>. Thank you.

~ Danielle Krautmann



Polished Silver's first event draws crowd!

A beautiful time was had by all at the first (ever) Polished Silver luncheon. Polished Silver is a new social group for Canterbury's seniors. Guests were serenaded with sweet Valentines by four members from the Concord Coachmen Chorus. Soup, salad and a plethora of delicious desserts were on the menu. Special thanks to the K-2 children and teachers of Canterbury Elementary School for their beautiful Valentine's Day cards. Be on the lookout for the next gathering of Polished Silver!

Library Friends hold gardening raffle

The Friends of Elkins Public Library (FOEPL) will be raffling off a basket of items to help you get ready for spring gardening on Wednesday, March 6, beginning at 6 pm, during Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki's night of Celtic music at the Town Hall. (See *Page 10 for details on that!*) All proceeds from the raffle will be used for library programming. The basket is on display at the library and raffle tickets will be on sale there until March 5. Tickets will also be available at the Irish Pub Night, where the drawing will take place. You do not have to be present to win.

What is FOEPL, anyway? FOEPL is a registered 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to support Elkins Public Library. We raise funds through membership dues and fundraising campaigns and then vote on purchase requests presented by library staff. At our January meeting we voted to give the library a total of \$2,456 for a variety of library programs including the new telescope and binocular lending program and the seed library. Beyond fundraising, members of FOEPL support the library by maintaining the garden, placing seasonal decorations inside and outside the Elkins building, and supplying refreshments for events upon request. If you are interested in joining us, please pick up a registration form at the library.

~ Pam Smarling

Card of thanks

Our family would like to thank the community of Canterbury for the many gestures of kindness and neighborly affection in the form of flowers and cards that we have been the recipients of during our recent bereavement.

~ Kelly, Sam and Nina Papps, Peter and Tabitha Sheedy

"....how does YOUR garden grow?"

The Canterbury Garden Club will be meeting on March 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House!

We will be hearing from four presenters about different types of gardens and how to create/grow our own. From a beautiful crescent garden to hugelkultur gardening, pollinators to starting from scratch, there will be something to learn for everyone. For more information, please email canterburynhgardenclub@gmail.com or just come!

~ Mindy Beltramo

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Introducing Canterbury Elementary's Top Spellers!

Congratulations to our Canterbury Elementary School spelling bee winners! Here are the winners by class:

Mrs. McCauley: **Madeline Treadway**

Mrs. Perlet: **Gigi Allen**

Mrs. Whitney: **Charlotte Archer**

Mrs. Briggs: **Timothy Slayton**

Ms. Currier: **Jamie Taylor**

Mrs. Baldi: **Liam Treadway**; Runner Up: **Penelope Lemay**

I Love to Read and Write Month: Last month we celebrated "I Love to Read Month!" Students participated in a bookmark challenge, book trivia and "drop everything and read." We had a special visit from Fungo, one of the mascots for the NH Fisher Cats. He told us about the Fisher Cats Reading Challenge! We appreciate the many community members who served as guest readers throughout the month. The students enjoyed hearing all of the fun stories.

Winter Sports Day: CES students enjoyed some special activities in the days leading up to February break. Our 3rd to 5th graders traveled to Manchester and went bowling and ice skating. It was the first time for several students. Our younger learners stayed at CES and enjoyed several fun indoor activities, such as yoga and an obstacle course!

Kindergarten Registration: Do you have a student who will be



5 years old by September 30? It's time to think about registering for kindergarten! An online kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year will be open during the week of March 18-22. You can also register in person at CES during this week from 9 am to 2:30 pm. To access the online registration, please go to www.sau80.org, click on Resources and then Kindergarten Registration/ALMA Start. ~ Erin Chubb, Principal



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Parish House rental: By phone, 783-9365. By email, mycanterburychurch@gmail.com

Online: canterburychurch.org
facebook.com/
MyCanterburyChurch

Newsletter: Deadline is 16th of month before publication.
Editors: Mark and Brenda Travis,
newslettercanterbury@gmail.com

Canterbury Fair:
twitter.com/CanterburyFair
facebook.com/CanterburyFair

Town Email List

Kal McKay manages the Canterbury Town Email List. Join or submit by emailing canterburytownemail@gmail.com

Post Office

Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 am to 5 pm
(closed 12:30 to 1:30 pm);
Sat., 8:30 am to noon; 783-4158

Stores

Canterbury Country Store: Mon.-Sat., 7 am to 6 pm; Sun., 9 am to 4 pm; 783-9933

Brookford Farm Store: 7 am to 7 pm daily; 783-4084

106 Beanstalk: 6 am until midnight daily; 783-4305

Loudon Food Pantry

Hours: Open for donations and volunteers Tues. 10-6, Wed. 10-1, Thurs. 10-4.

Service: By appointment only at same hours as above.

Location: Huckleberry Business Park, Unit D, 30 Chichester Road, Loudon.

Contact: 603-724-9731, on Facebook at LoudonFP, or on our website: loudonfoodpantry.org.

Town offices and organizations

EMERGENCY? Dial 911

Police Department: Call 783-0433 for non-emergencies. Concord police dispatch: 228-1010 for non-emergencies.

Fire Department: Call 783-4798 for non-emergencies. Email chief at canterburyfire@canterburynh.gov

Town website:
canterbury-nh.org

Transfer Station: Tue. and Wed., 4 to 6:45 pm; Sat., 8 am to 5:45 pm. Call 783-9980 or email transferstation@canterburynh.gov

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: 783-0153. Mon. and Wed., 9 to 3; Tue. and Thur. 12 to 7. Email: spapps@canterburynh.gov

Selectmen's Office, Town Administrator, and Assessor's Office: 783-9955. Mon. and Wed., 9 to 1; Thur. 10 to 2. Emails: selectmen@canterburynh.gov
assessing@canterburynh.gov
kfolson@canterburynh.gov

Building Inspector: 783-9033
buildinginspector@canterburynh.gov

Highway Dept: 783-4123
canterburyhighway@canterburynh.gov

Planning Board: 848-2059
planningboard@canterburynh.gov

Monthly Meetings (Check town website for details.)
- **Planning Board:** 2nd Tue., 7 pm; 4th Tue. as needed
- **Conservation Commission:** 2nd Thurs., 7 pm
- **Historic District Commission:** 3rd Wed., 7 pm
- **Selectmen:** 1st and 3rd Mon., 6 pm
- **Solid Waste Committee:** Monthly on 2nd Monday, 3:30 pm, Library, or as needed.
- **Zoning Board:** As needed.
- **Energy Committee:** 1st Mon., 7 pm

Farmers Market welcomes your input!

Board members are already hard at work planning the 2024 summer Canterbury Community Farmers Market! There are several ways you can help ...

- Become a new or re-newing market member.

Memberships represent 50% of our basic operating budget each year. Stall fees from vendors, music sponsorships and other support make up the rest of our income. Yearly membership is \$25. Membership forms are available at www.CanterburyFarmersMarket.com or at the Elkins Library by the market display across from the circulation desk.

- **Please participate in the Market Survey.** How can we make the market better? Please let us know! Surveys will be available at the second session of Town Meeting on March 15, at the Elkins Library by the market display, online at the website, and by a link on the market Facebook page.

- **Consider volunteering at the market.** Like so many groups in Canterbury, the Farmers Market is an all-volunteer organization. Setting up and breaking down the market each Wednesday during the summer is a big job, and the more the merrier. Come visit our table at Town Meeting, message us through Facebook, or email us at CanterburyFarmersMarket@gmail.com. We welcome new volunteers – it's a great way to meet your neighbors!

Interested in becoming a vendor? The 2024 Vendor Application is available on our website. You can also contact our market manager, Julie Dewdney, through the website, or email her at CanterburyFarmersMarket@gmail.com. The market works hard to keep a balanced selection of farm/orchard/garden products as well as a limited number of crafts. The board reviews all applications.

Stop by our table at the second session of Town Meeting, March 15. We will be happy to answer any questions, and we usually have baked goods for sale as well. A vibrant farmers market is a win-win for you and the community! We'll see you at Town Meeting and on opening day, June 5.

~ Beth Blair

Food pantry provides for 5,000 meals

In January 2024 Loudon Food Pantry gave out enough food to 276 individuals for them to prepare 5,238 meals. Of those people, 117 were age 60 and older (42%), 69 were age 18 or under (25%), and 90 were between those ages (33%).

Closed and unavailable: It's time for us to take a break. So, Loudon Food Pantry will be closed and unavailable from March 18-March 25. We will reopen on Tuesday March 26. Per usual, our guests will be given enough food for our time off.

Do you need food? Call me at (603) 724-9731 to see if you qualify. The process is simple and if you have all your paperwork, you'll receive food the same day as your appointment! Our hours and location are listed to the left.

~ Sue Houck

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At our February 4H Cloverbuds meeting, the children loved doing Valentine's Day activities! The children made bookmarks with Valentine's themes which we are sharing with the community. You can pick up your Valentine's bookmark at Elkin's Public Library.

Cloverbud members also joined with the Canterbury Rascals and made cards to deliver to residents of Canterbury Spruces. The children also created Valentine's Day sun catchers to help brighten up their own houses. We also collected canned goods for the Loudon Food Pantry. This month, several Canterbury Cloverbuds members also participated in the Merrimack County 4H Food Show. At this event, Cloverbud members put their skills of place setting and food art on display. This was an extra event for Cloverbuds, and the participants worked hard to plan and execute their designs, and they did an excellent job representing their club!

We'll meet next on Monday, March 4, at 5 pm at the Canterbury Parish House, 6 Hackleboro Road. Our 4H Learning Theme will be Observing Animal Behavior. Members will decorate bird houses, make bird feeders and learn about birds in our area. We will talk about what birds eat, where they live and their special "animal super powers." We will also continue our food drive for the Loudon Food Pantry, so please bring a non-perishable item if you can.

Cloverbuds is a 4H club for children ages 5-7. New members are always welcome. If you would like more club information, please contact Kate Mason and Emily Perlet at canterburycloverbuds@gmail.com.

A busy month for the Cloverbuds!



Scenes from the Valentine's Day gathering with 4H Cloverbuds and the older Rascals (above) and the Merrimack County 4H Food Show (left).



Tie your hope for peace to our Peace Tree

Visit Canterbury Shaker Village for an all-ages, outdoor, public art project for peace – a visual celebration of the Shaker core values of non-violence and pacifism. It's next to the Meeting House, and it's accessible from sunrise to sunset through May 31.

Pick up a ribbon at the Elkins Public Library, the Shaker Village entrance or at the Peace Tree and tie it to the tree. You may write a message on the ribbon if you like. It's that easy! The village asks that you do not tie any other material to the tree, as unapproved materials may cause harm to our wildlife. If you have any questions, please contact Kim at kmarcellino@shakers.org.