Welcome to the December 2022 issue of The Hub, the town-wide newsletter for Gilford.

It's the holiday season! There is so much happening throughout the town to get you in the mood for the holidays. See what Gilford has to offer this month!

If your group has something they'd like featured, please email us at gilfordlibrary@gmail.com by the 20th of the month and we will try to fit it in the next month's issue.
NEWS FROM TOWN HALL

Gilford Residents

The Town Hall, Town Offices and Recycling Center will be closed Monday, December 26th for the holiday.

GILFORD PHONE DIRECTORY

Administrator  527-4700
Assessing Office  527-4704
Board of Selectmen  527-4700
Budget Committee  527-4700
Building Inspector  527-4727
Finance Department  527-4701
Fire Department  527-4758
Gunstock Acres Village Water District  293-8580
Health Officer  707-5860
Historic District  527-4727
Library  524-6042
Parks & Recreation  527-4722
Police -Business Emergency  527-4737/911
Planning & Land Use  527-4727
Public Works  527-4778
Solid Waste Center  527-4778
Town Clerk/ Tax Collector  527-4713
Welfare Office  527-4796

DID YOU KNOW?
The Board of Selectmen have a Facebook Page! You can find the page by clicking here or by searching for Town of Gilford - Board of Selectmen’s Office.

CALENDAR

Cemetery Trustees
12/1, 4PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Budget Committee
12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/20, 6:30PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Recreation Commission
12/5, 5:15PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Planning Board
12/5, 12/19, 7PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Conservation Commission
12/6, 12/20, 7PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Friends of the Library
12/13, 4PM @ Gilford Public Library
Gunstock Acres Village Water District
12/13, 5:30PM @ Gilford Public Library
Historic District & Heritage Commission
12/13, 7PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Library Trustee Meeting
12/14, 10AM @ Gilford Public Library
Board of Selectmen
12/14, 7PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Kimball Wildlife Forest Committee
12/15, 4PM @ Gilford Town Hall
Board of Fire Engineers
12/20, 8:30AM @ Fire Station
Zoning Board of Adjustment
12/27, 7PM @ Gilford Town Hall

Town News on your TV

You can find recorded meetings, flyers for town events and programs, & information all on Lakes Region Public Access, which can be found locally on Atlantic Broadband Channels 24, 25, & 26 on the schedule.

Did you know?
The Board of Selectmen have a Facebook Page! You can find the page by clicking here or by searching for Town of Gilford - Board of Selectmen's Office.
Town of Gilford employees collected holiday food donations to benefit the food pantry at Gilford Community Church. All Departments participated in the holiday food drive, and a note received by the Gilford Community Church thanked all Gilford Town Employees for their generosity!
There is a winter chill in the air and with the first snowfall a few weeks in the rear-view the season is proceeding seemingly unabated. While the entire month of December is a time buzzing with fun, family, and a little bit of holiday magic, the first full week of the month here at the library is positively jam-packed with much to enjoy.

A “Holiday Craft” getting you into the spirit Monday the 5th at 10:30, the “Paris Holiday Tour” a virtual sojourn in France’s capital Tuesday the 6th at 1pm, and “Road to WWII” discussing America’s wartime beginnings Thursday the 8th at 4pm this week is busy, busy, busy. And that is to say nothing of the “Gingerbread Houses” the 6th and 7th, and the always magical “Candlelight Stroll” Saturday the 10th, 5-7pm.

A lot to take in, and a lot to look forward to. We hope to see you around, here at the library.

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**Subscribe to Our Weekly Newsletter**

Want the latest information and want to know what’s going on at the Gilford Public Library? Click [here](#) to sign up for the newsletter. We have the latest books and highlight some library staff favorites as well as fun facts and videos.

**Building Hours**

Monday - Wednesday, Friday 9AM-6PM

Thursday 9AM-8PM

Saturday 10AM-2PM

**Curbside Service**

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

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**What’s Going On in the Children’s Room**

**Baby Storytime** - Monday, December 5 @ 10:00am

**Preschool Gingerbread Houses** - Tuesday & Wednesday, December 6 & 7 @ 10:30am

**Elementary Gingerbread Houses** - Tuesday, December 6 @ 3:30pm & Wednesday, December 7 @ 1:30pm

**Preschool Storytime** - Friday, December 2 & 9 @ 10:30am

**Silly Stretching Storytime** - Thursdays, December 1 & 8 @ 10:00am

**Science @ the Library** - Wednesdays, December 21 @ 3:30pm

**Candlelight Stroll** - Saturday, December 10 from 5-7pm

[www.gilfordlibrary.org](http://www.gilfordlibrary.org)
What's Happening @ the Library

**Galileo: the Starry Messenger - December 1 @ 6PM**
Join dramatic reenactor Michael Francis as he performs an interactive, fun filled adaptation of Galileo's short treatise Siderius Nuncius.

**Holiday Craft - December 5 @ 10:30AM**
Liven up your holidays with a decoration for your home made by you! All supplies are provided. Sign up at the front desk.

**Discover Live - Holiday Tour: Paris - December 6 @ 1PM**
Celebrate the magic of Christmas in Paris with a live, virtual tour of the city. Visit such sites as Place Vendome, Rue de Rivoli and the Christmas Market held in the Tuileries Gardens.

**Road to WWII - December 8 @ 4PM**
A presenter from the Wright Museum will talk about Pearl Harbor and how it led the United States to joining World War II.

**Candlelight Stroll - December 10 from 5-7PM**
Join us for the Annual Gilford Village Candlelight Stroll! Walk the candlelit path through the village and stop along the way for snacks, crafts, s'mores and Santa!

**Digestive Health - December 13 @ 10AM**
How does your digestive system work? Why is yours not working optimally? What can you do to help it function better? Find out in this session presented by Dr. Amanda from Awakening Chiropractic.

**Book Discussion - December 15 @ 5:00PM**
This month's book group is set up a little differently. Submit two of your favorite books to arielle@gilfordlibrary.org and come to the discussion! Led by Rhetta; refreshments will be served.

**Holiday Closing**
The library will be closed on Saturday and Monday, December 24-26 for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The library will also be closed on Saturday and Monday, December 31 and January 2 for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.
Gilford Friends of the Library!

The Friends are proud to support our wonderful Library—and we need you! If you are already a Friend, now is a great time to renew your membership. If you are not yet a Friend, you can find info on joining by asking at the library or on its website under the Friends of GPL link.

This month we will be sponsoring the Gingerbread House extravaganza for the kiddos that’s happening on December 6th and 7th.

We are also supporting all the events held at the library during the Village Candlelight Stroll on the 10th from 5-7pm with homemade refreshments, crafts and more. We hope to see you there!
School Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. ~ December 5, 2022 - Gilford High School

GHS - Highlights

Girls Field Hockey won the DIII state championship.

Girls soccer won the DIII state championship.

Boys soccer won the DIII state championship.

Senior Patrick Gandini - Won the Meet of Champions and is the fourth fastest cross country runner in New England!!

The fall show, “Fiddler on the Roof” was awesome! The cast and crew put on a fantastic packed house.

The GHS College/Career Fair was a huge success! Seniors met with 45 representatives from colleges, military branches, and local employers!

Congratulations to our Portrait of a Learner recipients that were recognized, Friday, for an ice cream sundae party! These individuals were nominated by at least one staff member for exhibiting at least one of the four POL attributes.
Red Ribbon Week Campaign is the largest drug and substance abuse prevention campaign in the United States. This year’s Red Ribbon Week slogan is "Celebrate Life, Live Drug Free". Gilford High School ran this week-long event to bring awareness! Each morning started out with a substance abuse "fast fact" over morning announcements. During lunchtime, we had learners write why they chose to stay substance free on paper red ribbons which were displayed on the cafeteria windows all week. School counselors had handouts and pamphlets with information about the dangers of substance abuse and were there to share ways to seek help if need be. On Wednesday, we had a blast having any volunteers come up to take a spin on the "Wheel of Trivia". Every trivia question answered correctly earned a special prize.

Crisis Counselor Kelley Caravona and SRO Alyssa Raxter teamed up to highlight mental health for all this past Saturday with a walk around the track from 9:00-11:00. They, along with senior Marena Beale, raised just shy of $1000! Well done!

The freshmen class attended a day-long event at Gunstock in October and had an incredible time! All freshmen attended with their advisories so they could learn how to work together because they will be together for the next four years. "It is really cool to take a break from our classes and bond with each other" said one freshman. A Gilmanton student shared how much fun it was to be able to play with her new friends from Gilford.

The robotics team competed this Saturday at the Battle of the Bay in Alton. They competed very well and were happy with their results.
Gilford Parks and Recreation News!

Santa Land (Co-Sponsored by the Gilford Youth Center!)
This fun filled program offers area youth the opportunity to participate in some holiday themed games and activities leading up to having their picture taken with Santa Claus. Activities include a bounce slide as well as holiday crafts and activities. This program is scheduled for Friday, December 2nd from 5:00-7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 3rd from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to be held at the Gilford Youth Center.

Holiday Home Decorating Contest (Co-Sponsored by the Gilford District PTA)
The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department and the Gilford District PTA are co-sponsoring a Holiday Home Decorating Contest for the residents of Gilford. There is NO FEE to enter and winners will receive a gift card to a local restaurant as well as a yard sign for bragging rights! Entries should be submitted via email to Parks and Recreation Director, Herb Greene at hgreene@gilfordnh.org. The deadline to submit entries is Thursday, December 8th.

For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Office at 527-4722 or visit our website at www.gilfordrec.com

Boston Celtics Bus Trip on March 1st
Join us on Wednesday, March 1st on a trip to see Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown and the defending Eastern Conference Boston Celtics take on Donovan Mitchell, Darius Garland and the Cleveland Cavaliers! Ride to Boston in comfort aboard a Premier Coach Charter bus, complete with TV/DVD and lavatory. Any child ages 17 or under must be accompanied by an adult guardian. Space is limited, so sign up today! The Bus will depart the Gilford High School at 4:45 p.m. for a 7:30 p.m. game, with an approximate time of return of 12:00 a.m. Cost: $110.00 per person. Please call the Parks and Recreation Office at 527-4722 for registration information.

Gilford Parks and Recreation Contact Info
Gilford Parks and Recreation website: www.gilfordrec.com
Gilford Parks and Recreation Office Phone: 527-4722
Gilford Parks and Recreation Program Announcement Line: 527-4723
You can also “Like” Gilford Parks and Recreation on facebook!
A repeat article from May 2021, but helpful with winter upon us....Over the years, many of you may have been the victim of mailbox damage during winters in New England. Did you know that damage to your mailbox is often caused by the force of wet, heavy snow coming off the end of the plow and not by direct contact with the snow plows? Another common reason for damage is due to improper installation, such as mailbox being too low, too close to the road, or an improperly installed post.

With winter upon us, we suggest that you check your mailbox and make sure it meets the USPS installation requirements. It is important that your mailbox be in good condition, securely attached to a substantial support at the proper height, and at the proper distance from the roadway. Please read these helpful tips on the next page to avoid unnecessary mailbox damage this winter. Thank you!
MAILBOX MAINTENANCE (CONT.)

Requirements:
- Bottom of mailbox should be 41” – 45” off ground.
- The face of the mailboxes should be set back 2-ft from a paved or gravel shoulder and 6-8” from curbing.

Other Helpful Tips:
- Posts should be 4”x4” wooden post or 1”-2” metal pipe embedded 2 feet in the ground.
- Avoid unyielding and potentially dangerous posts such as granite posts, heavy metal pipes, concrete posts, masonry and stone structures, or heavy steel structures for example.
- Whenever possible, locate your mailbox after your driveway opening which improves visibility, minimizes the amount of snow that comes off of the snow plow, and improves the approach for your mail carrier.

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the best mailbox designs for avoiding winter damage is an extended arm with a free swinging suspended mailbox?
Avoid the “Second Shovel”

Place Shovelled Snow From End of Driveway Here

Suggested Location of Mailbox to Reduce Possibility of Damage

Clear This Area

Shovel in the Direction of Traffic

Cleared Roadway

DID YOU KNOW?

Residents may obtain up to two 5-gallon buckets of sand at the Department of Public Works, 55 Cherry Valley Road.

GILFORD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS / MON - FRI 7:30AM - 4:00PM / PHONE 527.4778
GILFORD SOLID WASTE CENTER / TUES - SAT 8:00AM - 3:45PM / PHONE 293.0220
Holiday Help Resources

Salvation Army - Union Ave. - 603-524-1834
Holiday food baskets and toys for Laconia & Gilford residents only. Please call the Salvation Army directly to set up an appointment.

St. Vincent de Paul Children's Foundation - Union Ave. - 603-524-5470
Thanksgiving baskets available. Please reach out to the school for an application, or application can be accessed online @ https://www.svdplaconia.org. Applications accepted until October 31st. Providing clothing, socks, underwear, diapers and personal hygiene items for ages infant to 18 years old. Applications are being accepted and will be filled at SVDP throughout December from 4:30pm-7:00pm. Please call for more information.

Santa Fund - S Main St. - 603-524-3111
Winter coats, hats and mittens for children 16 & under. Ski pants and boots available for elementary students only. See your school guidance counselor, outreach coordinator or nurse for an application. Applications are taken until October 30th and filled as long as supplies last. Orders are delivered to your child’s school. No returns or exchanges at this time, please.

Toys for Tots - 603-528-3035
Toy give-away for children 18 & under. Please call for more information.
The Laconia VITA site needs Intake Specialist and Tax Preparers for the upcoming tax season. Low and moderate-income individuals and families avoid costly tax preparation fees and claim helpful tax credits with this free service.

Intake Specialists greet tax filers, conduct an intake review to make sure all documents are present for a complete and accurate tax return, and offer resources for other financial needs filers may have.

Tax Preparers need not have previous tax or finance experience, just computer aptitude, a willingness to learn, and can volunteer a few hours a week or every other week from late January to mid April. Training provided.

To volunteer please contact Cathy Dumais at 603-528-4295, or cdumais100@gmail.com
BECOME A GREATER LAKES REGION CHILDREN’S AUCTION SUPER BIDDER!

Bidding Perks Available for a $100 Donation

LACONIA — Supporting local children in need doesn’t take superheroes – it takes Super Bidders! The Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction (GLRCA) has a wonderful benefit for bidders at this year’s Auction, scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 6 through Friday, Dec. 9, 9 AM – 7 PM at the Belknap Marketplace. Anyone looking to increase their chances of being a winning bidder — while increasing their support of the Auction — can become a Super Bidder. This year’s Super Bidder promotion is generously sponsored by Bonnette, Page & Stone.

For a donation of $100, Super Bidders will be able to look at the items on Auction boards as soon as they are available. Super Bidders can also:

- bid on items before they are open to the public
- submit bids with incremental increases up to the bidders’ pre-chosen maximum
- see how many bidders are also bidding on the item that they are interested in
- enjoy VIP check-out and pick-up service
- provide support to community nonprofits that serve local children and families in need.

Don’t miss out on your chance to become a Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction Super Bidder! Interested community members can find more information at ChildrensAuction.org

“Community members told us that they would love to spend less time monitoring the Auction for the items that they most want to bid on,” said Executive Director, Jennifer Kelley. “Becoming a Super Bidder gives people an opportunity to donate directly to the Auction to assist children in need while getting some great benefits.”

The GLRCA is looking for items for this year’s event. While many items have been received at this time, there is a need for thousands of items to raise enough money to meet the needs of the community.

Auction leaders will collect new, unused, unwrapped items right up to the week of the Auction. Gift cards, electronics, tools, toys, sporting goods and household items all bring the highest bids. Go to our website at ChildrensAuction.org for a list of convenient donation drop-off sites throughout the Lakes Region. And on Black Friday weekend, Friday, November 25 from 11 AM -3 PM and Saturday, November 26 from 9 AM -1 PM, visit the collection site at Belknap Marketplace.
**New This Year – Pre-Bidding!**
You asked and we listened! Starting on Black Friday, November 25, all online Auction bidders can bid early on items with a retail value of $300 and more. Anyone can bid on these featured items and the items will close during the Auction, December 6-9.

**About the Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction:**

The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction is a charitable event held every December in central New Hampshire. Countless volunteers and donors have turned the Auction and its many fundraising events, including the Community Challenge, into a major annual campaign. In the 40 years that the community has come together for the Auction, an impressive $7.5 million has been awarded to local nonprofit organizations, all through volunteer efforts, community donations and corporate sponsorship. The Greater Lakes Region Charitable Fund for Children is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that helps community organizations in the Central New Hampshire region. For more information about the Auction, the nonprofits it supports and how you can help, visit [ChildrensAuction.org](http://www.childrensauction.org).

### Become a $100 Super Bidder for the Children's Auction

**NEVER MISS AN ITEM YOU’VE BEEN WAITING ON!**

- See future boards
- Bid on future items before they open
- Submit your max bid
- See how many bidders are competing
- Enjoy expedited VIP check-out and pickup
- Register at ChildrensAuction.org

### Become a Super Bidder for The Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction and NEVER miss an item you’ve been waiting on!

**How Does it Work?**

**Pledge $100 to become a Super Bidder and:**

1. View all the future boards as soon as they are released
2. Bid on future items and boards before they open - including Max Bids, which ensure you never miss an item
3. Submit a Max Bid and enjoy automatic bid increases (up to your preselected amount)
4. View the total field of competitive bidders on each item
5. Use expedited VIP check-out and pickup service

Go to the [www.childrensauction.org](http://www.childrensauction.org) to register!