

# Spring 2010 Newsletter



TOWN OF GRANTHAM

May 2010

## Grantham To Recoup Costs From February Wind Storm

Greetings Granthamites!

The weather in Grantham has certainly been making the news! More than 269,000 PSNH customers lost power in the February 25, 2010 wind storm. This was the second-worst storm in PSNH's 84 years of service--surpassed only by the record ice storm of December 2008.

Working around the clock, more than 600 line and tree-trimming crews from as far away as Canada and Michigan joined PSNH crews to restore service to customers in record time. Some homes, such as on Miller Pond Road, were just having their power restored on Monday, March 1 and other's by Tuesday, March 2. Amazingly, there were no homes reported with significant structural damage. Many people lost groceries and had minor damage from downed trees. Through assistance from friends and neighbors we managed to endure.

What happens at Town Hall when there is a "state of emergency" declared by the Governor or a pending disaster declaration? The first matter of business at Town Hall is to open the "Emergency Operations

Center." Your Emergency Management Director (EMD), Bob Osgood and his team of municipal employees are in daily contact with the Governor of the State of New Hampshire and the Governor's Team of Emergency Management Officials. "Situational Reports" are received via email and telephone conferences so that Grantham's Emergency Management Director receives information about when power may be restored. Using this information, Grantham's EMD can decide if it is necessary to open a shelter in Grantham.

All of this activity quietly "plays out" at Town Hall as the emergency management team handles local road closures and other results of the storm. I want to thank the team, especially fire, police and highway for working around the clock and on the weekends to keep Grantham residents safe.

### **Job well done!**

As a result of the storm, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials were in town within weeks. FEMA collects information about the cost of the storm to municipalities. Propane and diesel were used for four (4) days to keep the Town Of-

fice, School and Fire Department secure and operational during the storm. Debris clean up takes an enormous effort by the highway crew. FEMA will be reimbursing the Town of Grantham for 75% of these expenses in the coming months. We have collected approximately \$13,000 in damages to the Town, School and Fire Department as a result of this storm.

Now that the storm is over, it would be a good time to be thinking about generator safety. Please be sure that your generator is properly vented and that you have a carbon monoxide detector in your home. Several carbon monoxide poisonings are reported after each storm event such as this. We want to keep you and your family safe!

On another note—we are seeking volunteers for several boards and commissions in Grantham as well as a representative to the Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. If you have an interest about how you can serve your town, come talk with me or one of the Selectmen! We would welcome your participation in local government.

I recently attended the 5th

grade D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program at the Grantham Village School. This program is truly an education program. Thirty-eight (38) children and students participated in the program presented by Grantham Sergeant John Parsons who is the instructor. The many weeks of education resulted in a "graduation ceremony" where gift bags were provided to all of the children. The highlight of the graduation was when the DARE essay winners were announced. The winners read their essays to the friends and family members present. This was a very special event and I want to thank all who participated in this important project.

As I write, the sun is shining and the weekend is expected to include some 80 degree weather! I hope you all have a chance to get out and enjoy the spring conditions! As for myself, I am hoping for some good kayaking weather soon.

All my best,

Becky Newton, Esq.  
Your Grantham  
Town Administrator



# Grantham Good Neighbors



**Grantham Good Neighbors is a group of community volunteers who are available to provide occasional help to Grantham residents. We can give rides to people who need transportation to a medical appointment or for other essential needs. We can stay with a housebound adult whose spouse or family member needs a break for a couple of hours. We are not licensed to administer medications, trained to do heavy lifting or medical care.**



**If you need help please call one of the numbers below:**



- 603-667-3733



- 603-667-3734



- 603-863-9525



## From the office of the Superintendent of Schools

I would like to thank all of you that participated in our annual school district meeting and annual school district elections. In order to have a responsible democracy, we must have participation by the electorate. With significant turn-outs at both the annual school district meeting and annual school district elections, we can safely say democracy is alive and well in Grantham. I enjoy annual school district elections because of the active participation by the citizens and active exchanges on varying issues and articles. Once again, thank you for coming.

We have instituted a new mathematics curriculum, which we believe will support the mathematics learning of every student in our k-6 school. We are also working on writing extended pieces to sharpen our students' skills in responding to open ended items and writing samples. We continue to focus on overall student literacy and ensuring that all of our students have the necessary reading and writing skills for secondary education. If you have questions about our NECAP performance, I welcome you to stop into our SAU office in the Town of Grantham Building.

Relative to the New England Comprehensive Assessment Program, the Grantham School District made Adequate Yearly Progress in both Reading and Mathematics, School Attendance and Annual Participation rate. We are pleased with our results but we will continue to strive to do better and ensure that our students are both literate and have mathematics skills to prepare them for junior and senior high school.

There are many, many activities during the month of May, which are listed on our school website @ [www.grantham.k12.nh.us](http://www.grantham.k12.nh.us).

As always, I encourage citizens to contact this office if you have questions about the school district or our educational programs. You may do so by calling 863-9689 or by stopping in at 300 Route 10 South in the Town of Grantham Building on the basement floor. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and Passover. The weather has been glorious lately.

- Participation rate- 100% of our students participated in the NECAP exam in the fall of 2009
- Attendance rate- We had an attendance rate of 95% for 2009
- Reading- Performance Target- 91%-Performance Index Score - **96.6% are proficient or better**
- Mathematics- Performance Target-88%-Performance Index Score- **93.4% are proficient or better**

Sincerely,

Keith Pfeifer  
Superintendent

## Be Aware Of Activity On And Adjacent To Our Roadways

The snow has made a hasty retreat, the days are getting longer and warmer, and the robins are back for the season. While these are all signs that spring is upon us, let's not forget the other signs of spring in New Hampshire. These and rough roads, potholes, posted roads and mud season as the frost comes out of the ground, yet again. Spring is also the harbinger of increased activity as residents shake off their cabin fever and winter doldrums for the out of doors. To some, this entails working in

their flowerbeds, and yard clean up, while to others, it is just getting out and enjoying the season.

With that being said there is an increase of activity on and adjacent to our roadways. More and more bicyclists, runners, walkers, and riders are utilizing our roadways everyday and more children are playing in their yards, which leads to the possibility of a child darting into the street at any instant. With all of this

increased activity it is not hard to become distracted; whether partaking of a favorite pastime or driving along enjoying the changing scenery either to and from errands or work.

Not only at this time of year but year round we must be alert and courteous to others sharing our roadways, and be ever vigilant for the unexpected. Sharing the roadway is just that. It is puzzling that some drivers are reluctant to slow down when approaching bicyclists, walkers, joggers,

and horses or move over to afford them a comfortable margin when passing.

If everyone using our roadways extends the courtesy they themselves would expect, it will undoubtedly ensure that everyone using our roadways, for whatever reason can do so safely.

Sincerely,

Walter Madore  
Chief of Police

## Town Clerk Offers Online Dog Licensing

Thank you for your vote of confidence at the Town election in March. I am pleased to serve as your Town Clerk/Tax Collector for 3 more years.

The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office is open 5 days a week and 2 evenings a week. When doing vehicle registrations, dog licenses or vital certificates you must be in line 15 minutes before our closing time in order to receive service.

\*\*\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*\*\*

You can now license your dog online using the link on the Town of Grantham website. Go to [granthamnh.net](http://granthamnh.net), Departments, Town Clerk/Tax Collector and scroll down the page to the link and click. You will need the previous year license number.

If you haven't already done so, come in to register to vote. There is a State Primary in September and General election in November. There is

detailed information about what is required to register to vote on our website.

We welcome your questions so don't hesitate to call or email us.

Happy Spring!

Rita Eigenbrode  
Town Clerk /Tax Collector

Cindy Towle  
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

### Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office Hours

M - Th: 8:00am—5:00pm

Tues & Wed: 6:00pm—8:00pm

Fridays: 8:00am—12:00pm,  
1:00pm—4:00pm

Closed for lunch on Thursday and Friday.

## Great Stuff at Dunbar Free Library!

**MANGO:** Mango is a new language tutor for 19 foreign languages and 14 sections for "English as a second language" instruction. Go to [www.dunbarlibrary.org](http://www.dunbarlibrary.org), click on links, select link to Mango. **Call the library to get the version of your library card number you need to use it.**

**Down-loadable:** Downloadable e-books work on the Sony e-book reader and Barnes & Noble's Nook (but not Kindle) as well as using Adobe on any computer/laptop. We've had downloadable audio books for over two years! In fact, Grantham is one of the top users in the state consortium. Go to the same place as Mango, but

select the New Hampshire Downloadable audios link instead, and make sure you pay attention to whether you're downloading an audio book or an e-book! **Call the library to get the version of your library card number you need to use it.**

### Staff Recommendations:

**Dawn:** "Alcatraz and the evil librarians" by Sanderson, all the "Clementine" books by Pennypacker.

**Joey:** Grace Chapel Inn series (multiple authors).

**Bobbi:** "Sarah's Key" by de Rosnay, "The Welsh Girl" by Davies.

**Sandy:** "The Help" by Stockett, "Brokeback Horses", and "City of Thieves".

**Katrina:** "The end of the road" by Sue Henry; "Walking to Gatlinburg" by Howard Frank Mosher and "Think Twice" by Lisa Scottoline.

**Terri** listens to downloadable audios and gives this tip:

If you "place hold" always leave yourself an open slot. You're only allowed to check out 3 at a time, and the audios have a mandatory 7 day check-out. If a hold comes up, you only have 48 hours to respond to the e-mail, so if you just checked out 3 titles you're out of luck

and will have to place hold again.

Also, check out our music CDs, like George Winston.

Sincerely,

Dawn Huston  
Library Director



## A word from your Emergency Management Director

In February I started my tenth year as Grantham's EMD. Each year I submit a report to the Selectmen with comments of what took place and was accomplished during that time. In the first few years it has become evident that what we dealt with most regarding public health and safety in our area is the problem of power outages, due to ice, large snow and wind storms.

When we lose power for one day or a week as in some cases it places big concerns on heat, food from spoiling in the refrigerator, water for basic necessities, medications and so on. If you are like me, after a long time without electricity, I say "I'll never complain again of my monthly bill to PSNH!"

As your EMD, how can I better serve you? If you think it is a good idea to have an evening meeting for Grantham residents to share thoughts and ideas on this subject please email me at [EMD@granthamnh.net](mailto:EMD@granthamnh.net) if you are in favor of this and response is good it will be beneficial to all. I would request the Selectmen, Town Administrator and all depart-

ment heads be present if possible. I can share with you Grantham's Emergency Operation Plan which was updated 2008, and Response Plan for the Upper Valley All Health Hazards, Region IV.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. we will be hosting the Annual Health Fair and Flu Clinic.

Sincerely,

F. Robert Osgood, EMD

## Athletics Department Offers Summer "Sports" Camps

This summer Grantham will offer a variety of summer sports camp. Currently we are looking to offer the following camps:

**End of June:** Field Hockey and Basketball

**End of August:** Soccer

Registration forms will be available in early June on our website at [granthamnh.net/athletics](http://granthamnh.net/athletics).

**Got talent?** Volunteers are always welcome! Contact Athletics Director, Marsha Googins at 863-9124 or email me at [athletics@granthamnh.net](mailto:athletics@granthamnh.net).

Marsha Googins,  
Athletics Director

### Grantham Community Crisis Fund:

#### Neighbor Helping Neighbor

The Grantham Crisis Fund offers assistance to Grantham residents in crisis situations. We are not a long-term solution to economic woes, but a helping hand to rise above a crisis problem.

Please feel free to call for questions about assistance for you or for someone whom you may know that is in crisis. Our goal is to be as discreet as possible whenever we assist. You may call any of our members at the following numbers:

Deborah Cheever 863-5946

Cindy Towle 863-3156

Arthur Lotz 863-9745

Terry Dorr 863-4028

Kris Widmann 863-7083

## Display Your Street Address

The Grantham Fire Department would like to remind residents while doing spring clean up to check their 911 street addresses.

The address that 911 has assigned to your home or building is very important for your safety. This address is a measurement of where you are located.

Display only the address provided by 911 on your home or building where it can be seen. Remember emergency personnel are trying to locate you quickly to help you with your problem.

PLEASE! Display your number (with reflective decals) on the front of your home or building where it can be read from the street or road. If you are too far from the road for your number on your home or building to be read, place your number by your driveway so that it can be read from both directions. If you use a mailbox in front of your home place your address on both sides of your mailbox.

Sincerely,

Jay Fountain

Fire Chief



## Grantham Activities Department “Our Town” Events

The Grantham Activities Department also known as “Our Town” offers many events for families and children. Below are what’s happening this spring and summer:

**Town Wide Yard Sale:** May 22nd from 9am—3pm rain or shine. Maps will be available on Wednesday, May 19th at Town Hall. Call or e-mail to place your location on the map. For those who would like to be centrally located set-up space is available inside the Grantham Town Hall @ \$5.00 per table, or outside the town hall for FREE.

**Kids Bike Rodeo:** Coming in June—check our website later in May.

**Old Home Day:** Sunday, July 4th at the Recreation Park field. This year’s parade theme is **Celebrate New Hampshire**. We are looking for crafters, food vendors, entertainers, demonstrators, parking assistants, help with setup and clean-up and individuals willing to supervise the children’s games. Consider entering your group or business in our annual parade. Help make this a fabulous Old Home Day!

**Craft in the Park:** Tuesday’s

at 10am from July 27th—August 17th.

**Grantham Farmer’s Market and Craft Fair:** The Farmer’s Market and Craft Fair will be held at the Recreation Park on Tuesday’s from 3pm—6pm from July 27th—August 17th. This is a special four week pilot event! VENDORS ARE STILL NEEDED!

**Music in the Meadow:** Music in the Meadow will immediately follow the Farmer’s Market from 6pm—8pm! Great fun for the entire family!

For more information and a complete listing of all our



events and activities visit us at [granthamnh.net/activities](http://granthamnh.net/activities).

To volunteer contact me at [fun@granthamnh.net](mailto:fun@granthamnh.net) or call 863-9143.

Sincerely,

Laurie Field  
Activities Director

## A New Playground for Grantham

The Grantham Selectmen are pleased to announce the award of the “Pepsi Supports Surrounding Towns” program grant to Grantham New Hampshire.

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 8:00 AM, Pepsi employees will arrive at the Grantham Recreation Park with rakes and other tools in hand. They will be placing playground chips under the play structures and putting the finishing touches on the new Grantham Playground! Once the work is complete, there will be a picnic celebration sponsored by Pepsi and a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new playground.

Through local fundraising residents were able to raise \$40,000 in donations for playground equipment. Major contributors included the Byrne Foundation, Eastman Charitable Foundation and an anonymous “friend” of the Grantham Playground. A “Buy-a-Brick” Fundraiser is also in its final stages.

Building a playground is a complicated endeavor. The playground equipment was purchased over the winter. It has been delivered and it is in storage.

Before the playground can be used, the equipment will need to be moved on-site and assembled. This process is expected to take a week. The equipment will be moved by local volunteers on Saturday, May 8 beginning at 8:30 AM. Local residents will arrive at the Grantham Village School—with a convoy of pickups, box trucks and trailers. Volunteers will move the equipment from the storage location to the location of the new playground. It will take many volunteers and Selectman Harold Haddock said, “If you are free that day and want to lend a hand, it would be greatly appreciated! Just touch base with the Town Hall by calling 863-6021 or by emailing [mmenard@granthamnh.net](mailto:mmenard@granthamnh.net). We would like to hear from people in advance so we can get an idea of the number of volunteers we might have.”

During the week of May 10, the equipment will be assembled on-site by a professional playground installation firm. The Pepsi Supports Surrounding Towns Program will be instrumental in getting the playground operational. Missy Walla, one of the Playground

Committee members said, “Pepsi will provide much needed exposure to the project. Pepsi will also give us a reason to celebrate another success of the overall concept of the Grantham Recreation Park.”

Why is this project so important to the Town of Grantham? It has taken over 10 years and \$475,000 in taxpayer dollars to buy the Grantham Recreation Park. A core group of volunteers have built a baseball playing field and now a playground—almost entirely from private donations and local grants. Said Town Administrator Becky Newton, “We were even approached by Kenneth Stitt, a boy scout who is going for his Eagle Scout ranking to assist with the project. The Boy Scouts, with lumber donations from local businesses, will be constructing the dugouts for the new baseball field. This is truly a community effort.”



## Buy-A-Brick fundraiser ends on May 31st!

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the playground. Our plan is to create a brick patio and shade garden at the new Recreation Park with granite bricks and benches that can be engraved with a name or special message. Use the form below to reserve your place in history!



# Buy a brick, make a memory.

Grantham Community Playground Fundraiser.

To place your order fill out this form and return it along with your check payable to:

**Trustee of the Trust Funds,**

reference "playground" and mail to:

300 RT10 South, Grantham, NH 03753

(Print) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Check which item you would like engraved.**

Granite Brick (4" x 8" x 4") \$65.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Granite Paver (12" x 12" x 3") \$ 150.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Granite Rectangular Bench (48" x 14" x 4") \$1,000.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Granite bricks** can have up to three lines of lettering. Each line can have a maximum of fourteen characters including spaces. No punctuation is allowed on bricks. The letters will be roughly 1/2 inch high.

Clearly print the words that you would like engraved on your brick.

1																				
2																				
3																				

**Granite Pavers** will fit about nine lines of lettering depending on the exact size. Each line can have about twenty two characters including spaces. This is the maximum an average 12"x12" paver can fit. If there are less than nine lines requested by the donor, the font can be larger than 1/2 inch. To order an additional brick or paver use the order form on the backside of this sheet. Please call for bench details.

Opportunities are also available to purchase a piece of playground equipment.





## Household Hazardous Waste Day

The Grantham Transfer Station, also known as “Mount Trashmore” is located at 1150 Route 114, Grantham, NH. Stickers are required for entry to Mount Trashmore and expire on December 31st. The first one is free to the property owner; additional stickers and stickers for renters are \$10.00 each. To obtain your sticker stop by the Selectmen’s Office in Town Hall. You will need your license plate number of the vehicle the sticker is going on (renters will also need a copy of their lease agreement).

Items other than household trash require the pre-purchase of a “punch card” which can be obtained during regular hours from the Selectmen’s Office.

Please recycle! The following is a list of items we accept for recycling:



- ◆ **Co-mingled paper products:** Newsprint, glossy inserts, magazines, junk mail, envelopes, file folders, tissue paper and cardboard items such as cereal boxes, egg cartons, pizza boxes etc. Excluding waxed coated papers or cartons.
- ◆ **Plastic:** All plastics # 1—7. We do not accept plastics labeled “other”.
- ◆ **Tin, Aluminum and Steel:** All tin, aluminum and steel cans including aerosol cans. All need to be emptied and rinsed.
- ◆ **Glass:** All glass including dishes, cups, window panes, mirrors etc.
- ◆ **Corrugated Cardboard:** All corrugated cardboard, cleaned and flattened.

On Saturday, June 26, 2010 from 9am—12pm we will have Household Hazardous Waste Day at Grantham Town Hall, 300 Route 10 South. Flyers are available at the Transfer Station, Town Hall and our website.



### Hours of Operation:

Sunday: 9am-Noon; 1pm-4pm

Monday: 8am—Noon

Tuesday: **Closed**

Wednesday: **Closed**

Thursday: 8am—Noon; 1pm—4pm

Friday: 10am—Noon; 1pm—4pm

Saturday: 8am—Noon; 1pm—3pm

### **New at Town Hall**

- ◆ We have a “drop box” located by the bulletin board at the front entrance of Town Hall.
- ◆ Items for the Selectmen’s Office and Town Clerk/Tax Collector can be dropped here.

### **Grantham List Serv**

To find out what’s going on in Grantham sign up for our list serv! Just go to [www.granthamnh.net](http://www.granthamnh.net); at the top of the page under email updates, enter your information and click submit!

*Holiday Closures:*

Grantham Town Offices and  
Dunbar Free Library will be  
closed on:

- ◇ May 31st
- ◇ July 5th
- ◇ September 6th

Grantham Transfer Station will  
be closed on:

- ◇ May 31st
- ◇ July 4th
- ◇ September 6th

**Food Bank Collection Continues**

We have collected many, many, pounds of food for the Newport Food Bank and the Listen Center in Lebanon and thank you for your donations! We will continue to take the donations and ask that they are not expired.

Thank you for caring!



**Town of Grantham Spring 2010 Newsletter**

300 Route 10 South  
Grantham, NH 03753  
Phone: 603-863-6021  
Fax: 603-863-3961  
[www.granthamnh.net](http://www.granthamnh.net)

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