

FRIENDS FOOTNOTES

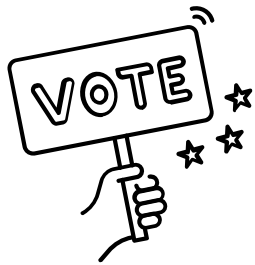
The official quarterly newsletter of the Friends of the Newfields Public Library, bringing news, updates, and stories to the residents of **Newfields, NH**.



MARCH 2026

From the Newfields Town Clerk

Town Election Details—Tuesday, March 10, 2026



Important Dates and Reminders

- **Supervisors of the Checklist Meeting:** Saturday, February 28 at 11:00 am at the Newfields Town Hall to accept party changes, additions, and corrections to the checklist.
- **Absentee Ballot Drop-Off:** Monday, March 9 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Ballots can be dropped off at the Town Clerk's Office.
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, March 10 from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Newfields Town Hall.

Voter Registration: Any Newfields resident, who is at least 18 years old, may register to vote in person at the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours, Monday to Thursday (8:30 am to 3:00 pm) and Friday (8:30 am to 12:30 pm). You must provide proof of identity, age, US citizenship, and domicile.

From the NYAA

T-Ball/Baseball Registration



It's time to get back on the field! Registration is officially open for T-Ball and Baseball for Pre-K through 4th grade students. The season kicks off on April 18 at the baseball field behind Newfields Elementary School. In case of inclement weather, an indoor space will be available so our athletes can keep playing and developing their skills. We can't wait to see everyone out on the field this spring!



Scan the QR code to register: www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=nyaa
Questions? Email the NYAA at newfieldsathletics@yahoo.com.

Newfields Cleanup Day—Saturday, April 18, 2026



Plan to meet at the Newfields Town Hall between 9:00 and 10:00 am. Volunteer opportunities include roadside litter cleanup and raking and tidying of public spaces. Please bring work gloves and wear brightly colored clothing. Rain date is Sunday, April 19. Thank you for your support in making Newfields a cleaner, greener place!



Town Hall Trivia Returns

35 Trivia enthusiasts from Newfields and surrounding towns gathered at Town Hall on Sunday, February 1, to engage their brains in battle once again! The Friends hosted our annual winter trivia contest, DJ'ed by Raise the Bar Trivia. Fueled by popcorn (thanks to professional popper Jane Walsh), chocolate, and a bevy of beverages, teams racked their brains for two hours to win prizes: gift certificates to Muddy River Smokehouse (\$75), Newfields Country Store (\$50), and Vernon Family Farm (\$50). Congratulations to first-place team, "No One Under 50." Teams had a great time escaping the cold afternoon for a good-natured community trivia quest. We hope you will consider joining us next year!



New members are always welcome to join the Friends of the Newfields Public Library Board of Directors! We are currently looking for volunteers who are passionate about supporting our library and strengthening our community. The board meets once per month, and it's a wonderful way to get involved and make a meaningful impact. If interested, please email FriendsofPML@comcast.net.



Books for Babies

The Friends of the Newfields Public Library recently sponsored a special Books for Babies event for Newfields families with children under age 3. Little ones received a new book and a commemorative shirt, helping to build their home libraries and celebrate early literacy. Families also had the opportunity to connect with one another, strengthening relationships, and building community among our youngest residents.

Certified Babysitter Course

Through a course sponsored by the Friends of the Newfields Public Library, participants learned essential skills in safety, child care, first aid, and rescue, as well as life and business skills that will set them up for success now and into the future. Thank you to Safe Sitter for leading the class and to our volunteer chaperones for their support.



UNH Hockey Game

The Friends of the Newfields Public Library were pleased to extend tickets to the University of New Hampshire Wildcats men's ice hockey vs. Boston University Terriers game on Friday, February 13. It was wonderful to see so many Newfields residents in attendance enjoying a fun night out together. The game was exciting from start to finish. Congratulations to UNH on the win!





The programs and resources below are sponsored by the Friends.

New! Ancestry Library Edition

Ancestry Library Edition is now available for free in-library use. With over 1.2 billion records in over 3,000 databases, ALE is the most comprehensive online source of information for conducting genealogical and local history. Use our public computer or bring your laptop to start your family history journey today.

Free! BookPage Copies

BookPage is a monthly print magazine for readers, highlighting the best new books and authors across all genres. Pick up a copy at the Library today - it's yours to keep!



Yoto Players & Yoto Cards

The Library is adding two mini Yoto Players and a collection of Yoto Cards for library members to borrow. Yoto Players are simple audio players made for kids - no screens, no internet. Kids just pop in a Yoto Card to listen to a story, either out loud or with headphones. It's a safe, easy, and an engaging way for them to enjoy audiobooks.

Museum and Event Passes Available Now

PML offers free and discounted museum and event passes to our patrons year-round, provided by the Friends of the Library. **Contact the Library to reserve any of the following passes:**

- Children's Museum of NH (Dover)
- Children's Museum of Maine (Portland)
- Historic New England
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston)
- Seacoast Science Center (Rye)
- Strawberry Banke Museum (Portsmouth)
- USS Albacore (Portsmouth)
- Zoo New England (Stoneham + Boston)

NEW! American Heritage Museum (Hudson, MA)

See 80+ tanks and rare artifacts, with many unique to public display in North America.

NEW! Ogunquit Museum of Art (Ogunquit, ME)

Explore a three-acre sculpture park with ocean views and changing exhibits from the 1800s to contemporary artists. Open April 10 to November 15.

NEW! Currier Museum of Art (Manchester, NH)

Explore European and American paintings, decorative arts, photography, and sculpture. The permanent collection features Picasso, Matisse, Monet, O'Keeffe, Calder, and more.

*Is there a museum you'd like to see added?
Send an email to staff@newfieldslibrary.org.*



Thank You to The Brook!

The Friends of the Newfields Public Library extend our sincere thanks to The Brook for generously donating gaming proceeds to support our work. These funds have made it possible to expand programs, sponsor special events, and invest in important library initiatives that benefit our entire community. We are deeply grateful for their partnership!

From the Newfields Town Clerk

Vehicle Registration, Elections, Recycling

NH Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

The DMV has moved to a fully appointment-based system to transact all business, from obtaining a driver's license to getting a temporary vehicle plate. Make an appointment at www.dmv.nh.gov or call 603-227-4000 to speak with a DMV representative. NOTE: the Epping DMV has closed, and a new DMV has opened in the Raymond Shopping Center at 17 Freetown Road (exit 5 off Route 101). The hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 am to 4:30 pm and Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Effective January 1, 2026, state fees for motor vehicle registrations have increased. City/town fees have not changed. Visit the DMV website for details.

Voter Registration & Elections

Newfields residents age 18+ may **register to vote** at the Town Clerk's Office (Monday to Thursday at 8:30 am to 3:00 pm and Friday at 8:30 am to 12:30 pm) with proof of identity, age, U.S. citizenship, and domicile. **Supervisors of the Checklist** will meet Saturday, February 28 at 11:00 am at the Newfields Town Office for party changes and checklist updates. **Town and School Election** will be held on Tuesday, March 10 at 8:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Newfields Town Hall. Photo ID is required. Election Day registration is available. **Absentee ballots** require a completed application with proof of ID (no electronic signatures). Applications are on the town website and may be submitted by email, mail, fax, or in person. The Clerk's Office is open until 5:00 pm on March 9 to accept absentee ballots.



Recycling Reminder! Do not place pizza boxes or non-corrugated cardboard (cereal boxes, soda boxes, food boxes, etc.) in the corrugated cardboard bin at the town hall. Pizza boxes must be thrown in the trash and non-corrugated cardboard should be placed in a recycling bin curbside for pickup.

From the Newfields Community Church

What's Happening at the Church

10,000 Mothers Initiative: Ministry to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women
2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm

Morning Services

Sundays at 9:30 am | All are welcome

Plant-based Cooking and Eating Class

March 13 and 27 | \$10 per person

Book Study: The Sabbath by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Thursdays for five weeks starting February 26 at 4:00 pm

Chili Dinner

March 14 at 4:30 pm | \$12 per person



As always, your questions and kind comments are always welcome. Reach Pastor Sherry at 603-828-5234 or pastor@newfieldsc.org. Find us on Facebook! Search for "Newfields Community Church" or visit our website: newfieldscommunitychurch.org

From the Newfields Water and Sewer Water Ban and Annual District Meeting

A Critical Water Ban Notice: This Is An Emergency!

A water ban is necessary, even during winter ice rink filling, because well levels remain critically low and are not recovering. DO NOT use the District's water to fill your ice rink; contact a bulk water delivery company for your outside watering needs. Protecting our water supply is a shared responsibility - every household's actions matter. Please do your part by stopping all nonessential water use immediately, so we can safeguard water for our neighbors, families, and future generations.

Annual District Meeting

The Annual Newfields Village Water and Sewer District Meeting will be held on April 27, at 7:00 pm at the Ray P. Buxton, Jr. Building (75 Main Street) to vote on the 2026 Operating Budget, warrant articles, and elected officials. Open seats are listed below. Terms expire in 2029.

- **Treasurer:** Accounts receivable; accounts payable; quarterly billing; administrative support.
- **District Clerk:** Recording secretary for the annual and special meetings; quarterly invoice mailing.
- **Moderator:** Moderates the annual and special district meetings.
- **Commissioner:** Basic knowledge of water and wastewater systems; familiarity with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and Environmental Protection Agency water and sewer regulations; works closely with the district's engineering firm and legal team; annual budgeting; water and sewer rate projections and implementation; responsible for compliance with all state and federal regulations.

Newfields Parent Teacher Organization
*IS LOOKING FOR
NEW MEMBERS!*

Our school thrives because of amazing families like yours and we'd love for you to be part of the fun! NPTO brings parents, teachers, and staff together to support our students and build a strong school community. No matter your schedule or skills, there's a place for you. Volunteer as much or as little as you can. Together, we can make our school an even better place for our kids to learn and grow.

WHY GET INVOLVED?

- Support school activities, events, and enrichment programs
- Help create memorable experiences for our kids
- Get to know other parents and staff
- Make a real difference—big or small!

Interested? Join our next PTO Meeting
or use the QR code to contact us!



Newfields Cleanup Day

April 18, 2026

Rain Date April 19
MEET AT TOWN HALL BETWEEN
9 AM AND 10 AM

Volunteer Opportunities

- Roadside litter crew
- Rake & tidy public spaces

Please bring **work gloves** and wear **brightly colored clothing**

For more information contact: Phyllis Mackey, phylmackey@hotmail.com 603.498.9969





From the Paul Memorial Library Director's Update

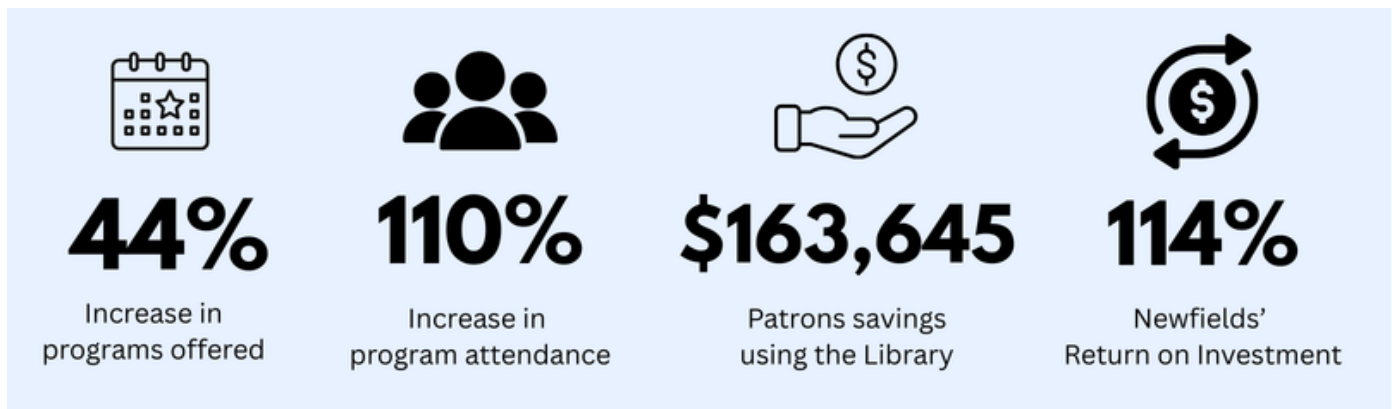
Hello, Newfields! We have had a busy start to the year that has included book clubs, mah jongg meetups, a SafeSitters class sponsored by the Friends of the Library, and the installation of a new Library HVAC system. Thank you to everyone for your patience while we made these needed updates. But we're just getting started! The year ahead is going to be an exciting one at the Library.

This month, we are kicking off a new 2026 reading challenge. It's simple! Read a book from each of the 10 categories by December 31. That's 10 books in 10 months. Read at your own pace. More details at our website.

2026 is also the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. We are gearing up for a series of events and programs to commemorate this landmark moment in U.S. history.

2025 Year in Review


Here are a few highlights from our past year at the Library. A full review is also published in the Newfields 2025 Annual Town Report. Copies are available at the Library.



Despite a slow start to our year following renovations and five months of operating short-staffed, we still increased our event offerings to the community. As we enter 2026 with a full staff, we are focused on improving Library use with programs and services emphasizing reading, learning, and community engagement. I hope to see both new and familiar faces join us at the Library this year and beyond.

Brittney Thompson, Director

Contact the Library

 603-778-8169

 staff@newfieldslibrary.org  newfieldslibrary.org

 @newfieldslibrarynh

 Paul Memorial Library



From the Paul Memorial Library

Libby + hoopla

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BookList Reader Online

Booklist Reader is a monthly online magazine featuring diverse readers' advisory recommendations for readers of all ages. Browse by age, topic, or genre. Check it out at <https://newfieldslibrary.org/booklist-reader-online/>

Virtual Author Talks + NEW Series



Enjoy monthly online talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders all year long - right from home! Based on popular demand, we are doubling our monthly online talks starting March 2026. This year, enjoy 6 talks/month (1 talk per category): fiction, nonfiction, variety and lifestyle, kids and teens, health and wellness, and cooking.

Register for new talks and watch past recordings at our website under "Programs > Virtual Author Talks" Or visit <https://libraryc.org/paulmemoriallibrary> or scan the QR code here to go there directly. Brought to you in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium.



From the Paul Memorial Library **U.S. 250th at the Library**

Join us at the Library for a series of events reflecting on America in the coming months:

Watch Party: 1776

Saturday, March 14 | 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Library

Join us for a screening and discussion of *1776*, the acclaimed 1972 musical film that brings the drama and debate of America's founding to life. Popcorn and light refreshments will be served.

Book Discussion: *The Small and the Mighty* by Sharon McMahon

Thursday, April 9 | 6:30 pm at the Library

Join us for a discussion of the #1 New York Times bestselling nonfiction book *The Small and the Mighty: Twelve Unsung Americans Who Changed the Course of History*, from the Founding to the Civil Rights Movement by "America's favorite government teacher," Sharon McMahon. Led by Assistant Librarian Susan McClelland.

Film Screening & Discussion: *The American Revolution*

Saturday, May 16 | 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the Newfields Town Hall

Watch an excerpt from *The American Revolution*, directed by Ken Burns et al., featuring "The Spirit of Service," which explores service as a core American value. Town history displays will be on exhibit beginning at 5:00 pm The screening begins at 6:00 pm, followed by a discussion led by NHH facilitator Courtney Marshall. This event is sponsored by New Hampshire Humanities in partnership with Paul Memorial Library and the Newfields Celebration Committee.

Revolutionary Militia Camp

Saturday, May 23 to Sunday, May 24 at Hilton Field in Newfields

Celebrate the U.S. 250th on Memorial Day Weekend with the 8th Continental/2nd New Hampshire Regiment reenactment group. All are invited to pitch tents alongside the militia for an optional overnight community campout. Free and open to the public. All ages welcome. This event is brought to you by Paul Memorial Library and the Newfields Celebration Committee.

Photos from recent Library events





From the Paul Memorial Library Recurring Monthly Events

American Mah Jongg Group

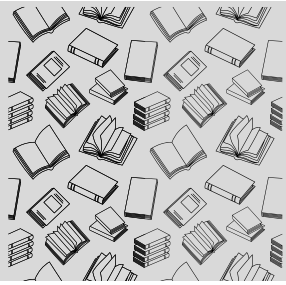
Tuesdays, 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Beginners welcome. Email the Library to join.

Youth D&D Group

Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Grades 5-8. Email the Library to join.

Story Time with Andy

Wednesdays, 10:30 am. Children ages 2-5 years.



Library Book Clubs

Copies of the books are available to check out each month.

- **Afternoon Book Club** - 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm
- **Evening Book Club** - 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm
- **Fantasy and Sci-Fi Book Club** - 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:30 am

Intro to Genealogy | Ancestry Library Edition

Wednesday, March 11 at 6:00 pm

Interested in doing family history, but not sure where to start? Join us for a beginner-friendly introduction to genealogy using Ancestry Library Edition. Ancestry is one of the biggest genealogy resources in the world, and a great place to start your research.



Yoga for Kids

Saturday, April 11 at 10 :00 am

Join us for a morning of kid-friendly yoga designed especially for toddlers and preschoolers! Move, stretch, and play through simple poses woven together with upbeat kid's music.

From the Newmarket Community Church Food Pantry A New Year of Abundance

As we all make our plans for 2026, your pantry coordinator, Sianna, would like to encourage anyone who thinks they might benefit from the food pantry to come on down and give us a try. It's very common for folks to hesitate to come for food from us for a variety of reasons--I hear "what if someone else needs it more than me?" much more often than I should. I would like to personally reassure everyone in our shared community of Newmarket and Newfields that we have plenty to go around! I hope to meet some new faces from Newfields this year.



About the Newmarket Community Church Food Pantry

137 Main Street, Newmarket

newmarketchurch.org/ncc-pantry | 603-659-3892

Must be a Newmarket or Newfields resident to visit pantry.

Offers free fresh and non-perishable food, personal hygiene and home cleaning items.

From the Newfields Conservation Commission

Successful Community Energy Savings Program



The Newfields Conservation Commission (NCC) supports actions that promote sustainable resource use in our town.

Last fall, we partnered with the Exeter Energy Committee to support the WindowDressers program, which builds customized, reusable window inserts at low or no cost to improve energy efficiency. The program is coordinated by Exeter volunteers and was offered to all SAU 16 communities, including Newfields.

Several Newfields residents participated, accounting for about 15% of the 245 inserts built in January for SAU 16. WindowDressers cut and assembled the wooden frames, which were delivered to Exeter, where volunteers from SAU 16 towns covered them with durable plastic before distribution for winter use. Our community church is among this year's beneficiaries.

The Exeter Energy Committee plans to offer the program again. Look for information this fall or visit www.windowdressers.org to express interest. No commitment is required until measurements take place in late fall. The NCC thanks the Newfields Select Board for its support. The Commission meets at Town Hall on the third Monday of each month and welcomes community participation. Please check the town website calendar for meeting details and agendas.

From the Newfields Garden Club

Grow and Learn With Us

Spring is only a few weeks away, and the Newfields Garden Club has been hard at work planning for an amazing 2026 gardening season! This year we will be offering many opportunities to expand your knowledge about gardening with a robust educational series.

- April: Garden Strong – How to Stay Healthy as a Gardener
- October: Putting the Garden to Bed
- December: Holiday Wreath Workshop

The Annual Plant Sale will be on Saturday, May 23 at the Newfields Town Hall. This year's offerings will include amazing varieties of tomatoes, peppers, and other favorite vegetables, herbs, annuals, and perennials.



New Members Wanted

Want to learn about gardening and meet new people in town with a passion for plants? The Newfields Garden Club offers a great opportunity to meet others in the community. Email us for more information: newfieldsgardenclub@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook: Newfields NH Garden Club or Instagram: Newfieldshgardenclub.

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FRIENDS FOOTNOTES

FROM: 76 MAIN ST, NEWFIELDS, NH 03856

High School Senior Scholarship Due April 15

The Friends of the Newfields Public Library proudly continue their commitment to education and literacy by awarding the fourth annual Friends of the Newfields Public Library High School Scholarship this spring. This \$1,000 scholarship supports Newfields students in their pursuit of higher education. For more details, visit newfieldslibrary.org.



Become a supporting member of the library!

As a member of the Friends of the Newfields Public Library, your contributions help fund programs, events, and resources for our community. Pay your membership dues online! Scan the QR code or visit <https://square.link/u/J7ovEPui>

Community Coloring Corner

Take a moment to slow down and get creative! We've included two small coloring activities below, perfect for children and adults alike.

