

TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
249 Calef Highway
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(603) 659-5414

**Lee News & Upcoming
Events
January 7, 2022**

PLEASE WELCOME THE TOWN OF LEE'S NEW LIBRARY DIRECTOR!



The Lee Public Library trustees are pleased to welcome Hayley Van-Gils as the library's new director. Originally from the UK, where she managed day-care facilities, Hayley and her family moved to the United States in 2010. She opened a children's bookstore in Kingston and managed it for six years before becoming the Youth Services Librarian at the Kingston Library. Most recently, she served as the Youth Services Librarian at the Gale Library in Newton. She and her husband and two children live in Brentwood.

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST MEETING NOTICE

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting on **Tuesday, January 11th** at 9:00am at the Lee Town Offices, 249 Calef Highway, to approve changes to the official checklist for the Town of Lee. Supervisors will also be meeting on Tuesday, January 18th from 7:00-7:30pm with the location yet to be determined.

ICE SKATING RINK AT TOWN FIELD IS READY
Please keep these guidelines in mind

GUIDELINES WHEN USING NEW ICE RINK

1. DAWN TO 8pm
2. PARKING OUT FRONT, AT MAST WAY OR AT HWY DEPT
3. HOCKEY MAY BE PLAYED IF NO ONE ELSE IS SKATING
4. HOCKEY ONLY HOURS: SAT & SUN 8-10am WED 6-8pm

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

January 10th Select Board Meeting & 2nd Budget Public Hearing

January 24th Select Board Meeting & 3rd Budget Public Hearing

[CLICK HERE](#) for Budget Meetings Schedule

Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road
Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar

Meetings can be seen on **YouTube** at [CLICK HERE](#)

LEE PUBLIC WORKS NEW ROLL-OFF TRUCK



Photo by TA Andy Robertson

On Friday, December 17th the Lee Public Works Department took delivery of a 2022 Western Star roll-off truck. The current contract with Win Waste Solutions is ending on December 31st. With the rising cost of hauling fees and the difficulty in getting our trash to the landfill this purchase became an easy decision. The towns hauling budget is \$31,400. With a new 3 year contract the first year hauling budget was projected to be \$36,000 a year. At the end of the 3 year contract it was projected to be in excess of \$42,000 a year. This truck will enable us to haul all our own dumpsters, give us the ability to shop the best price for our light iron and cut \$29,000 from the Transfer Station budget in year one. The Department would like to thank the residents for their continued support of the Public Works Department and the Select Board for their support as well.

JOIN THE NEW COMMITTEE OF LEE GREETERS!

The Lee Select Board is interested in putting together a committee of approximately 6-7 members who will work together on greeting new residents to the Town of Lee. What, when and the logistics of how this will happen will be developed by this new committee and presented to the Board for final approval. If you are interested in being part of this, please call Caren at 603-659-6783.

LEE HERITAGE COMMISSION CALENDARS FOR SALE

The Lee Heritage Commission 2022 calendars are still available!! Calendars can be purchased in person at the Lee Library. They are \$10 each, payable by cash or check made out to the Town of Lee. If you would like to order copies online and have them shipped go to <https://www.ebay.com/itm/133965658009>. We hope you all enjoy the photos as much as we have! Here's to a happier and healthier 2022!



LEE POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDER

Please Do Not park any vehicles upon any roadway in Town during a snowstorm as it impedes the Highway Department from doing their job. Also, please clear the snow from your vehicle before hitting the road!

Jessica's Law has been the law of NH for about fifteen (15) years now. It is a law that **requires the clearing of ice and snow off the top of a vehicle prior to driving it**. The basis of the law was a tragic accident that claimed the life of Jessica Smith in 1999.

265:79-b Negligent Driving. – Whoever upon any way drives a vehicle negligently or causes a vehicle to be driven negligently, as defined in RSA 626:2, II(d), or in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger any person or property shall be guilty of a violation and shall be fined not less than \$250 nor more than \$500 for a first offense and not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense.

The Town of Lee also has a **Snow Casting Ordinance** which was adopted on 1/7/2008. [CLICK HERE.](#)

STUMPOLOGY PART 2 – EASTERN WHITE PINES

By Catherine Fisher

Unlike deciduous trees, conifers native to our part of the planet can't reproduce vegetatively. If a conifer is cut down or sheared off, it will not send up suckers, and its life as a photosynthesizing organism ends.

The stump or log of a conifer, on the other hand, persists much longer than one from a deciduous tree. As opposed to the 30 year "life span" of deciduous tree stumps, coniferous stumps can persist for 70 to 100 years. This explains why so many of the stumps in Lee's town forest are coniferous - they simply last longer.

Deciduous hardwoods have heartwood that is more porous than their outer sapwood; thus this group of trees rots from the inside out. Conifers have heartwood that is dense, less porous, and more resistant to decay than their sapwood; hence their stumps rot from the outside in. Coniferous wood is so resinous, that the whole process of decaying is a slow one.

The coniferous stumps most often encountered in the town forest are those of eastern white pine and eastern hemlock. Because the stumps of each of these species differ in the way that they break down, we'll save eastern hemlocks for next week's article and focus this time on eastern white pines.

Stumps of eastern white pine are found throughout the town forest. Once a white pine has been cut or sheared it takes approximately 25 years for the remaining stump to lose its bark. After the bark has been shed, the outside-in rotting process continues. But as this outside-in rotting process occurs with all stumps of conifer trees in the town forest, no matter which species, how can you tell if the conifer stump you're looking at belongs to a white pine? Look for the whorls.

Like many species in its genus, eastern pine is uninodal - producing each year, from the tip of its leading shoot, a single new circle, or whorl, of branches. These whorls are present in a white pine stump and are especially rot-resistant - even as the surrounding wood crumbles the whorl structures remain sturdy and intact. Three of these whorls can be seen in the photograph of a white pine stump. Even if the surrounding wood hasn't yet decayed enough to reveal the whorls, you can feel their presence just by pressing down around the stump's surface - the wood surrounding the whorl will be spongy and/or crumbly, but the whorl structures radiating out from the stump's center will be firm.



An old pine stump, such as the one pictured, will eventually become the substrate for slow-growing mosses and lichens. Because it takes time for a good-sized moss/lichen colony to form, a well-mossed stump is generally an older stump. The moss colony in turn becomes a good substrate for small-seeded trees such as birches and eastern hemlock. These 2 species require specific conditions in order for their seedlings to survive, conditions that are met on a mossy white pine stump. The fate of these seedlings will be the topic of a future stumponology article. In the meantime, when you're out in the town forest, keep an eye out for white pine stumps at various stages of decay.

Photo by Catherine Fisher

LEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE ANNUAL MEETING WAS HELD 11-3-2022

Our board held monthly meetings during last winter on Zoom. We also co-hosted with the Lee Library NHHC programs via Zoom. Beginning in the summer, we resumed board meetings in person.

In May Jan Allen, our museum curator, organized a thorough cleaning of the museum with extensive help from Bob Cabral. With the town allowing us to use the Annex for temporary storage and research space, Andrew Huppe helped in moving large items into the Annex. This move created expanded space for new exhibits on the 1st floor, where Jan was able to tell Lee's story. On the 2nd floor we expanded the size of the schoolroom with donations of additional school desks. We created new spaces for the children's collection and household artifacts.

We delayed our opening this year for a special event. On May 29th, we held LHS's 50th anniversary celebration. We were thankful for all the visitors on that rainy day. We were also open for visitors on Lee Fair Day, September 11th, from 3:00 to 5:00pm. Otherwise we held our regular monthly Saturday hours, plus special tours by appointment.

We co-sponsored with the Sustainability Committee, Lee Trees; Then and Now, which ended on December 31st.

Our board has been very busy. Catherine keeps track of needs for our non-profit status. Charlotte continues to expand our web site. Scott works on social media and fundraising. Although not a member of our board, my son Kevin Shenefiel replies to many genealogy requests. Finally my book "Students Should Not Miss a Day" was published and printed in early August. We are now in the phase of marketing and distribution of the new book.

How will we use our funds? For our building, our most immediate need is new lighting. We also need to paint our deck and ramp. As to our artifacts, we have several items on a preservation list. Funds are also needed for programming and special events, which we hope to revive after the recovery of this pandemic. We are grateful for both monetary and item donations this past year.

What did we miss this year? Jan and I have missed having the Mast Way third graders visit the museum, as well as our program of taking artifacts into the school.

How can you help? We would welcome new members to our board. We need more docents to volunteer a two hour shift at the museum; you do not need to know all the answers. With more volunteers, we could be open on a weekday. Town of Lee caps or LHS caps, maps, books, and gifts for children are available to purchase.

Thank you for taking interest in Lee's history.

Respectively submitted,
Phyllis White, president

SWAP SHOP NEWS – WINTER 2021/2022

Bulky Items: **Saturday, December 11** was the last day until spring that large bulky items were being accepted at the Swap Shop.

Electronics: A reminder that there is a Disposal Fee that needs to be paid before drop off of electronics (Radios, Stereos VCR/DVD Players, Monitors, or TV's).

Smaller items: With limited space for the winter, please limit your drop off items to One (1) Tote per week.

If you have a large load, we suggest you use the Facebook page "Swap Shop Treasures ~ Lee, NH" or one of the local charitable groups (Goodwill, Re-Store, Salvation Army, etc.). Please note the "Swap Shop Treasures ~ Lee, NH" Facebook page is not maintained or controlled by the Transfer Station Swap Shop but provided by a private citizen. Please follow the rules associated with this page.

Hours: The Swap Shop is open for now but the number of Volunteers is reducing for the winter months. This open status may change in the future.

The Swap Shop is open, if the garage door is open. **Please do not drop off anything if the Swap Shop garage door is closed.**

The Swap Shop will be Closed due to:

High winds, rain or snow;

Schools closing due to weather;

Temperatures below 10°F wind chill;

Or the lack of volunteers.

Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to returning to normal operations in the spring.

RECENT COVID-RELATED INFORMATION

[NH COVID-19 WEBSITE](#)

NH DHHS

[COVID-19 PANDEMIC, UPDATE #48](#)

Vaccine for Children 5-11 Years Old

WILKINSON FOOD PANTRY - Lee Church Congregational, 17 Mast Rd

The food pantry is open to any household in Lee, Durham, Madbury, Newmarket, and Nottingham. Delivery is through a walk-up window service to minimize contact during this time. The pantry is open the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month from **5:30pm - 7:00pm**. If you have an emergency need for food outside of the normal hours, please call the Church office at 659-2861 or email at leechurchucc@comcast.net. All visits to the pantry are strictly confidential.

LEE TOWN COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

Various Committees have openings to be filled. If you are interested contact the Assistant Town Administrator Denise Duval at 603-659-5414 or email dduval@leenh.org. [CLICK HERE](#) for Application.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

LIBRARY CALENDAR

READY RIDES

Ready Rides provides transportation at no charge for the elderly & disabled residents living in: **Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madury, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham and Strafford** NH. Rides are provided by volunteer drivers using their own vehicles. **Accessible rides available.** To request information about registering as a rider or becoming a volunteer driver, please email info@readyrides.org or call (603) 244-8719. You can find an [Application](#) for riders and a [Volunteer Application](#) on this website. Email or mail it to Ready Rides P.O. Box 272 Northwood, NH 03261. For other transportation options available in the region, please visit ACT's [Community Transportation Directory](#).

WHEN SECONDS COUNT... **Please take the time NOW to SAVE TIME in an EMERGENCY.**



Can the Police, Fire, or Ambulance find your home when you need them for assistance with an emergency? Can they find it at night? Can they find it during a snowstorm?

Having your name and number on a mailbox is just not enough. The Lee Firemen's Association, in a joint effort with the Lee Fire Department, has a program to install reflective house number signs at driveway entrances to assist all emergency responders in locating your home in a time of need. The cost for each sign with a post is \$50.00 and it will be installed by the Lee Firemen's Association. [CLICK HERE](#) for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form

Lee Public Library

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Wednesday 11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Thursday & Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

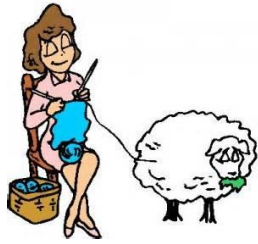
HOLIDAY

Monday, January 17, 2022 - CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY

WELCOME!

The Lee Public Library trustees are pleased to welcome Hayley Van-Gils as the library's new director. Originally from the UK, where she managed day-care facilities, Hayley and her family moved to the United States in 2010. She opened a children's bookstore in Kingston and managed it for six years before becoming the Youth Services Librarian at the Kingston Library. Most recently, she served as the Youth Services Librarian at the Gale Library in Newton. She and her husband and children live in Brentwood.





KNITTERS MEET HERE

Knitters are meeting on the 1ST AND 3RD Wednesday morning of the month at 10 AM. Their next meeting is Wednesday, January 19th. All skill levels invited, and there is instruction!

CHILDRENS PROGRAMS – JANUARY 2022

Grab and Go crafts

Make sure to like the *Lee Public Library (NH)* Facebook page to see our weekly updates, and watch for info on this month's grab and go crafts. Kits will be going out on January 4th and 18th.



Preschool Story-Time – Thursdays from 10:30am – 11:30am. Stop by for our traditional story time. We will read, sing, wiggle and craft.

Sensory/Station Story time – Fridays from 10:30am – 11:30am. This is our activity based program. We will listen to a story or two, get out our rhythm sticks/maracas/boomwhackers or scarves and then have fun with assorted stations including sensory, fine/gross motor, puzzles...



January Themes:

January 6/7 - **Snow**

January 13/14 - **Trains**

January 20/21 - **Let's Get Cozy**

January 27/28 - **Feelings**

Afterschool Offerings – Tuesday & Thursday

Call the library at 603-659-2626 for information on registering for our next 8 week session.

Session 4 – March – April

Afterschool story time - Tuesdays from bus drop off until 4:45.

Craft Club - Thursdays from bus drop off until 4:45.

Middle School Book Club – Tuesday, January 25th

Our middle school book club meets via ZOOM on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6-6:45 pm. Contact the library at 603-659-2626 if you are in grades 5-8 and would like to join us. We have a supply of the books available at the Library.

Middle School Crafters

This fun group meets on the 3rd Friday of each month. Our January crafts supplies will include items and ideas to create winter dream catchers and gods eye wall art. Call the library at 603-659-2626 for more information.



Regional & State News & Events

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS – 1-5-2022

Happy New Year! The new Oyster River Middle School building is on track to open to students on February 28, 2022. As of January 5th, there are 28 school days left in the current ORMS building.

Multiple speakers recognized the efforts of students, parents, and staff to communicate openly and utilize multiple, layered precautions to reduce the risk of COVID transmission in Oyster River Schools and keep schools open. It is essential that parents communicate with the school about students' health before sending them to school if they have any COVID symptoms. Students who arrive at school with symptoms of illness will be sent home. If your student is symptomatic, please call the school and speak with the nurse before sending or bringing your child to school. Oyster River continues to use state guidance on screening procedures. Please thank our school nurses when you talk with them – they continue to work tirelessly to support all Oyster River students.

The staff has been particularly stretched covering for each other with a limited number of substitute teachers available. Thank you for continuing to go above and beyond to keep our students in school! Some of the precautions employed in school settings are mask use, collaborating with health officials to make vaccinations available, weekly surveillance PCR testing, health screening, distancing in cafeterias, extra cleaning, and hand hygiene.

Dr. Andrew Smith from the UNH Survey Center presented an overview of parent and staff feedback received in the fall district communication survey. Thanks to parents and staff who provided their insights. A community survey (targeted for those who live in Durham, Lee, or Madbury and do not work for or have students in Oyster River Schools) will be conducted this winter.

The proposed 2022-2023 school budget will be presented at a public hearing on January 11, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the ORHS auditorium.

The School Board will discuss the 2022-2023 school year calendar at its January 19th meeting. Under consideration are options for the start of the school year and for February break. For February vacation, Oyster River could align with Dover, Rochester and Somersworth to synchronize schedules for ORHS students who attend Career Technical Center classes in these towns (Feb 20-24, 2023), or align with the NH DOE recommended calendar (Feb 27-Mar 3, 2023). At the beginning of the school year, the district is considering starting before Labor Day (as we have typically) or after Labor Day, pushing the end of school later in June.

Oyster River is hosting two online events to discuss equity and belonging in Oyster River Schools on January 13th and January 26th at 6:00 pm. This series is an opportunity for the community to connect and share perspectives on diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice work in the district. Events were planned with good faith to foster genuine conversation among neighbors and community members. This is an opportunity to share your perspective, answer questions, and make connections. January 13th will feature facilitated small-group discussions and January 26th will include a panel and dialog. Preregistration is required. Please register using the following link: <https://unh.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEld-2qrzwjH9JV572uYPMSY0gIPwCrSpr>



[CLICK HERE](#) for the Winter Lamprey River Wild & Scenic Newsletter



**The Seacoast Village Project
(a nonprofit)**

Helping seniors age in their homes and community!

Educational Programs, Social Activities, Home Services, Resources, Friendships

Membership Information

<https://www.seacoastvillageproject.org/>

(603)-373-8429

**If you are a Lee Resident in need of assistance with a Veteran's issue the Lee
Memorial VFW Post 10676 may be able to help.**

This post serves the communities of Lee, Durham, Madbury and Newmarket and has Service Officers who can help folks with just about any Veteran's related issue. At the State level they have a seat on the SVAC (State Veterans Advisory Committee) and are linked with tens of other non-profit Veterans organizations that provide a host of services. Please contact **Scott Moreau**, Commander, VFW Post 10676, at vfwpost10676@yahoo.com for assistance.

ATTENTION!

To receive the E-CRIER via email every week go to www.leenh.org, click on the Subscribe button under the Town Resource Center section & follow the directions to subscribe.

If you do not have the internet please come to the Town Offices for a **printed copy** or go to the Library to view it there. If you cannot leave your home please call Town Secretary Denise Duval at 659-5414 to have it mailed!