



Volume II, #2

March 2015

Winter Carnival is a Blast!



The 2015 Frozen Over Winter Carnival held on February 6th-8th was a huge success! Snow Queen Elsa sure made her presence known, leaving us with mountains of snow and freezing temperatures for the weekend's festivities.

Despite the frigid temperatures, the town came alive with spirit throughout the entire weekend at one of our busiest and best carnivals to date.

The freezing temperatures (-15°) of early Friday morning did not stop us from delivering the 300-pound ice blocks from Summit Ice. Each artist began with two 300-pound ice blocks arranged per their request. By 8:00 a.m.



chainsaws echoed throughout downtown as our ice sculpture contest was fully underway. We had a total of eight live carvers demonstrating their talent with chainsaws, ice picks, and chisels.

Friday evening kicked off our 1st Annual Parade of Lights down Main Street and along Federal Street. Christmas lights decorated vehicles of many shapes and sizes including school buses, a FRTA Passenger Bus, tow

trucks, fire truck, trucks and trailers, and personal vehicles. The new parade was a big hit, and we would like to give kudos to the Greenfield Fire Department



who brought home the Town Council Award for their decorated fire truck. We trust the trophy is displayed proudly at the station. We hope more town departments will join the fun in 2016! Friday evening concluded with a dazzling display of fireworks.

Saturday morning began early again at Hope & Olive with Sven's Reindeer Run 4-mile road race. Runners ranging in age from 6 to 85 bundled up for the cold weather and snowy streets. Cheers rang out as the runners crossed the finish line. Meanwhile at Sanderson Street,



children were awe struck with the presence of Frozen’s Anna, Elsa, and Kristoff at Family Fun Fest. Hundreds of kids enjoyed singing, dancing, face painting, arts & crafts by Macaroni Kid, board game demonstrations by Greenfield Games, and a showing of Frozen. Big thanks to Audrey LaBonté and Penny Ricketts, our concessionaires extraordinaire. Also, Karen Gaudette’s Middle School students’ masks and penguins transformed the building walls into a beautiful art gallery. Saturday afternoon wrapped up with a cribbage tournament, where cribbage enthusiasts played their heart out.



The final day of festivities started with a bang with record-setting numbers at Breakfast with Olaf hosted by the 99 Restaurant. Olaf

gave nearly 800 people warm hugs, high fives, and everlasting memories. Thank you to the Youth Commission, Safe Schools Safe Streets, Student Council, and Key Club for seating, serving, and bussing!

Following breakfast, everyone made their way to Beacon Field for ice skating, sledding, ski & snowshoe demos, a hockey match, sleigh rides, k-9 Keg Pull, Chili Cook Off, tug of war, and cardboard sled race. Hundreds of people

of all ages filled the field to take part. After three years without snow, this year’s Winter Carnival was magical!



After 93 years, Winter Carnival is still an event that truly warms the spirit of our community. We heard many people comment that events like this make them “so proud of our town.” Thank you to our event sponsors and volunteers, as without them this event would not be possible. We would also like to give a special thank you to the DPW who was able to squeeze in all the preparations on top of what seemed like endless snowfall.



... *shines a spotlight on GREENFIELD !*

In case you missed the February 9, 2014 issue of *Business West* magazine, Greenfield receives the “Community Spotlight” attention in a multi-page article by Kathleen Mitchell. Ms. Mitchell interviewed Mayor William Martin at length for this feature focusing on past successes, current initiatives and future goals. Check out the entire article at <http://businesswest.com/blog/community-spotlight-greenfield-2/>.

“Now is the winter of our discontent. . .”

While the season brought the town the requisite walls of snow and ice for a glorious Winter Carnival, it has wreaked havoc on the Greenfield DPW’s operating budget for the season. Given the 4 (or was it 5?) major snowstorms and frigid temperatures of January and February, the salt and de-icer supplies are dwindling, while DPW road crew overtime hours are accumulating.



ANNUAL SNOWFALL BY MONTH (IN INCHES)

	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
Oct	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.0	0	0	0
Nov	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	0.0	0.0	5.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	7
Dec	6.0	0.0	15.0	7.3	16.8	15.5	7.0	16.4	0.0	27.6	16.5	7.4	5.5	0.0	14.2	15.1	1.1
Jan	18.1	18.5	7.1	6.8	22.2	11.8	26.3	13.8	0.4	13.7	26.5	8.1	30.2	7.0	5.7	8.6	22.1
Feb	1.5	10.8	25.8	2.3	23.8	10.3	9.8	12.7	22.0	22.6	6.2	13.0	23.3	0	21.6	25.5	29.30
Mar	11.6	4.0	31.1	8.5	4.0	9.0	19.7	0.2	14.0	7.4	8.6	0.0	0.8	8.5	8.8	1.1	
Apr	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	
Total	37.2	33.3	79.0	24.9	78.4	46.6	62.8	48.3	39.4	71.5	57.8	28.5	61.0	24.5	50.2	51.2	59.5



Given the February 2015 total of 29.30 inches -- one of the largest on record -- the DPW is looking at a possible \$100,000 deficit this season. Fortunately, at its recent February 18 session, the Greenfield Town Council voted to approve deficit spending on snow and ice, which will have to be raised in next year’s budget. So far, there have been 1,827.50 hours of overtime at a price of \$55,101.27 spent. We’re not talking about time spent only clearing roads and hydrants of snow and ice, but numerous service calls for frozen pipes, water main breaks, and various other nightmares of a brutal winter. **Kudos to Don, Marlo and the entire DPW staff and road crew!**

And if you think this winter’s been bad, just remember March is right around the corner... perhaps we’ll *beat* 2000/2001!

Your FEEDBACK
is welcome!

Please send your comments/suggestions to:
Office of the Mayor
mayor@greenfield-ma.gov

MEET THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK !



Don Ouellette, DPW Director

Don grew up in Old Town and Orono, Maine where he attended Orono High while competing in three sports, graduating in 1975. He then attended the University of Maine where he studied civil engineering. In 1980 Don graduated with a BS degree and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers. He spent the next 13 years or so as an Army Officer with various job titles such as resident engineer, platoon leader, company commander, logistic officer, project manager and environmental engineer. Don's favorite assignment was in Frankfurt, Germany where his daughter Sarah was born. Melanie, Don's wife of nearly 33 years, Sarah and he traveled extensively in Europe.

Don's most meaningful assignment was as the project officer in Kuwait restoring the Kuwaiti water system. In June 1992 he left the military and became a civilian. For the last 22 years Don has been working in the DPW field as a City Engineer in Medford and Nashua and then as Public Works Director in Ayer, Ashburnham, Wayland and now Greenfield.

Don's hobbies are hiking, camping, playing poker, hunting, and gardening. He was the chairman for a habitat house in Townsend, and for the last four years was the President of Townsend Ecumenical Outreach, which is a food pantry and clothes closet.

In the near future, Don looks forward to relocating to this area and working in Greenfield.



Fernando Fleury was born in El Salvador, where he and his younger brother and sister were raised by their grandparents. They relocated to the United States when Fernando was 13 years old to be reunited with their mother. He grew up in Springfield, Massachusetts, where he graduated from high school, and after high school he joined the Navy as a data processing technician. Fernando excelled in the Navy; he graduated from boot camp in the top ten percent of his class and assumed command of the IT department of the USS Sylvania. He also enjoyed the travel the Navy afforded him. He spent a great deal of time visiting Europe and the Middle East. Fernando is a veteran of both Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Fernando returned to Massachusetts after the Navy and began attending UMass in the Computer Systems Engineering program. During this time he also served in the National Guard. He obtained a job as an IT Business Analyst at RCN where he gained experience in analyzing IT processes in order to identify improvements in policies and workflows. After his time at RCN, Fernando decided to change his focus and obtained a job at a local human service agency, where he was able to utilize his IT server and networking skill set. During his time there he assumed the responsibility of managing the IT department.



Fernando Fleury, IT Director

Fernando mostly enjoys spending time with his children Brianna, Fernando and Gabriel. He can also be found passing time playing video games and watching the Bruins and Patriots on TV. He is an avid reader and loves spending time outdoors.

In regards to his new position as the IT department manager for the Town of Greenfield, he is excited about the challenges ahead while implementing the new initiatives and projects that will bring Greenfield into the 21st Century.



Enhanced Voluntary Benefits Coming Soon!

Great news! The Town of Greenfield will be offering enhanced Voluntary Benefit Options through Boston Mutual in the April/May open enrollment period. Stay tuned for details in April.

Plan Offerings -

Whole Life Insurance –

- Guaranteed Issue – no health questions this year up to certain limits
- Coverage available for employee, spouse and children.
- Builds cash value.
- Permanent and portable insurance (does not end if you leave or retire).

Term Life Insurance –

- Guaranteed Issue – no health questions this year only
- Coverage available for employee
- Does not replace or change any existing coverage.

Critical Illness – Guaranteed Issue – no health questions this year only up to certain limits

- Coverage available for employee, spouse and children.
- Covers you and your elected dependents for an initial occurrence of a heart attack, stroke, cancer or other serious illness as defined in the policy.

Accident Insurance – Guaranteed Issue – no health questions this year

- Coverage available for employee, spouse and children.
- Covers you and your elected dependents for covered on or off the job accidents

Full brochures and information will be in your paycheck in April. Individual information and enrollment sessions will be scheduled in the Spring with representatives.

Your HR Department

And last but not least

The installation of a new administration at the state level provides even more of a challenge for us on the local level as the new Governor has an extended time to create and submit the FY16 state budget. The FY16 state budget is expected to reflect a \$250M deficit which could in turn show up in the cherry sheet numbers which will not be released until the first week of March. Accordingly, managers and directors should be prepared for level-funded departmental budgets except in some particular areas. This is not new for Greenfield. Most of us have worked through very lean times and become more efficient in doing so. The last few years have been healthier and we have been fortunate enough to expand staff and services, but FY16 will mean we have to stay the course.

Lane Kelly, Finance Director