

2023 GILFORD OLD HOME DAY

AUGUST 26, 2023

Schedule of Events and Activities

6:30 AM to 7:30 AM – Check-in, bib pick-up for GUNSTOCK NORDIC ASSOCIATION'S 46th ANNUAL 5K ROAD RACE and 23rd ANNUAL FREE KIDS FUN RACE at the Elementary School. Online pre-registration required. Visit GNA's website at: www.gunstocknordic.com

7:00 AM to 10:00 AM - The Gilford Rotary Club will be hosting the 38th Annual Pancake Breakfast at the Gilford Community Church.

8:00 AM - GUNSTOCK NORDIC ASSOCIATION 46th ANNUAL GILFORD OLD HOME DAY 5K ROAD RACE begins at the Village Field entrance. Prizes and awards presented at the finish line following the race.

8:30 AM - Parade Formation - Participants report to the Town Hall for assignment.

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Pie and ice cream will be served at the Library while it lasts.

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Book Sale at the Library at the Library Garage.

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM - Free shuttle bus service making a loop between Gilford Town Hall (***Please read below- no parking at Town Hall***), Gilford Middle and High Schools, Gilford Elementary School, the First United Methodist Church (on Gilford Avenue/Route 11-A), and the entrance to the Gilford Village Field. Sponsored by First Student, Inc. and the Gilford Old Home Day Committee.

*There is no public parking at the Town Hall during the morning hours, including the parade line-up and parade time. After approximately 11:00 AM, the public can park at the Town Hall parking lot.

9:00 AM - Craftspeople and everything imaginable to eat available on the Village Field.

9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon - Open House including free exhibits and demos at the Mt. Belknap Grange, the 1834 Union Meetinghouse, and the Benjamin Rowe House. Come meet and greet old friends and make new friends.

10:00 AM PARADE!!! (See Parade Route Map, centerfold). *Watch for the kids with the donation buckets as they pass by - all proceeds go to the 2024 Old Home Day celebration and fireworks!

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM - Live broadcasts by 104.9 "The Hawk" and 101.5 "UnRock & Relax" of Lakes Media adjacent to the Bandstand.

11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon - Music provided by “Bryan Conway – The One Man Band” at the Bandstand. Bryan Conway has been performing throughout New England for over forty years. Bryan plays listening and dance music from the 1950’s through the 1980’s, and he will have you clapping, singing, and even dancing along with him as he plays many of your favorites from the past. Be prepared for a trip down memory lane.

(Bryan Conway’s performance was graciously sponsored by Franklin Savings Bank!)

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Free shuttle bus service making a loop between Gilford Town Hall, Gilford Middle and High Schools, Gilford Elementary School, the First United Methodist Church (on Gilford Avenue/Route 11-A), and the entrance to the Gilford Village Field. Sponsored by First Student, Inc. and the Gilford Old Home Day Committee.

12:00 Noon - Opening Ceremony and Flag Raising with the National Anthem, sung by Marlene Makowski at the Bandstand.

12:00 Noon to 12:30 PM - Parade results announced at the Bandstand.

12:30 PM - General announcements and presentation to the Grand Marshal, featuring our grand Master of Ceremonies, Bob Pomeroy.

12:30 PM – Wicked Witches of the Lakes Region dance performance. Located adjacent to the Bandstand.

1:00 PM to 1:30 PM -This performance will feature students from Edgewater Academy of Dance showcasing dances that are sure to entertain the whole family!! After we are done performing we will invite your whole family up for a dance party. Located in the Entertainment Tent on the Village Field.

1:00 PM to 1:30 PM - Games and Races for children 6 years old and under, near the Aaron Francoeur Little League Field on the Village Field.

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM - Field Events for children 7 - 12 years old on the Village Field.

2:15 PM to 2:50 PM – Ahoy! Performance by Rockin’ Ron, The Friendly Pirate to be held at the Entertainment Tent on the Village Field. Since 2002 Rockin’ Ron has performed fun, educational and inclusive Pirate Music for All Ages! Come sing along!

3:00 PM - Pie-Eating contest on the Village Field - all ages welcome. There will again be an Adult and a Youth competition this year!

3:50 PM – Old Home Day Quilt Raffle and 50/50 Raffle drawing at the Bandstand.

4:00 PM to 4:30 PM - Egg Toss: Ages Preschool-9, on the Village Field.

4:30 PM to 5:00 PM - Egg Toss: Ages 10-Adult (mixed pairs/ages must compete with this division), on the Village Field.

5:00 PM - GUNSTOCK NORDIC ASSOCIATION 23rd ANNUAL FREE KIDS' FUN RUN RACE begins at the Village Field entrance. Open to kids ages 7-12.

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM - Dinner Break

5:30 PM to 7:30 PM – Musical performance by The Duncan Idaho Band located in the Entertainment Tent on the Village Field. Duncan Idaho will entertain and delight you and your friends and family. They play classic rock but not “just” classic rock! They play songs you love, and songs you’ve forgotten you love, all with a style all their own. You’ll be dancing and tapping your feet, singing along, and having fun! Don’t miss it!

6:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Free shuttle bus service making a loop between Gilford Town Hall, Gilford Middle and High Schools, Gilford Elementary School, the First United Methodist Church (on Gilford Avenue/Route 11-A), and the entrance to the Gilford Village Field. Sponsored by First Student, Inc. and the Gilford Old Home Day Committee.

8:00 PM to 9:00 PM - Community Band Concert at the Bandstand.

9:00 PM - FIREWORKS!!!

(**For safety reasons, we ask that everyone please stay well behind the roped-off areas on the Village Field, out of the Aaron Francoeur Little League field area, and out of the Gilford High School track area when watching the fireworks.**)

9:30 PM to 11:00 PM - Dance featuring DJ Alex Bailey in the Entertainment Tent at the Village Field!!! All ages welcome. Come dance the night away!

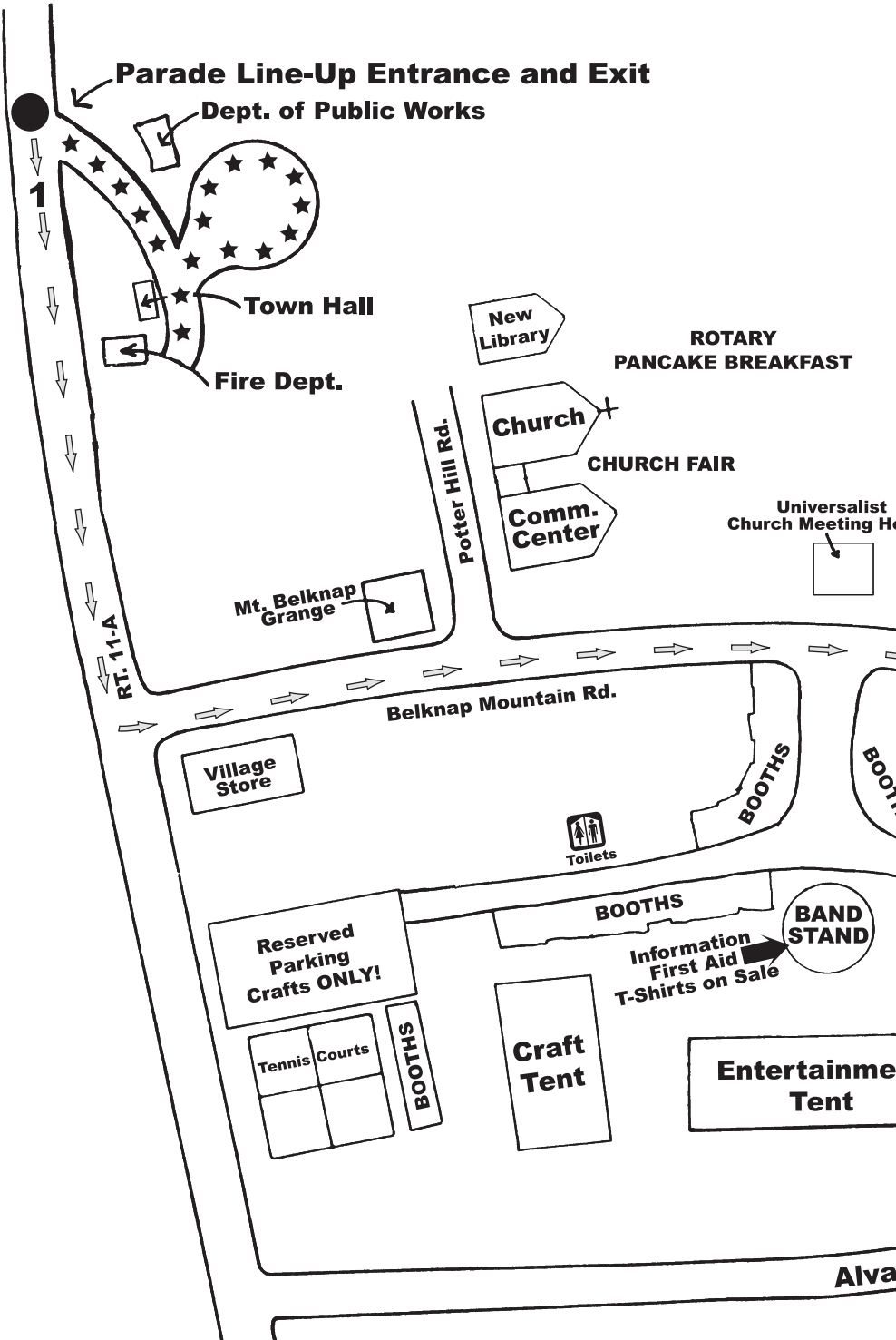
2024 GILFORD OLD HOME DAY

The 2024 Gilford Old Home Day Celebration is tentatively scheduled for August 24, 2024. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to help on the Committee, contact Jennifer Hancock, Gilford Parks and Recreation Department, 527-4722.

Thank you to all the participants of the Art Contest!

The entries were made by GHS Students, three of the winners artwork will be used for the OHD Program/Ad Book and this year’s t-shirts. This art contest was sponsored by the OHD Committee/Parks and Recreation Department, with prizes provided by BNH. The contest winners are Victoria Bradstreet with 1st place, Brendan Baldi with 2nd place, and a tie between Emily Watson and Colin Logan for third. Other entries were from Megan Hughes, Hailey Johnson, Taz Zaccheo, and Chris Port.

Thank you to Body Covers for the OHD T-Shirts!



Parade Line-Up Entrance and Exit

Dept. of Public Works

Town Hall

Fire Dept.

New Library

ROTARY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Church

CHURCH FAIR

Comm. Center

Universalist Church Meeting H

Mt. Belknap Grange

Potter Hill Rd.

RT. 11-A

Belknap Mountain Rd.

Village Store

BOOTH

BOOTH

Toilets

Reserved Parking Crafts ONLY!

BOOTH

BAND STAND

Information First Aid T-Shirts on Sale

Tennis Courts

BOOTH

Craft Tent

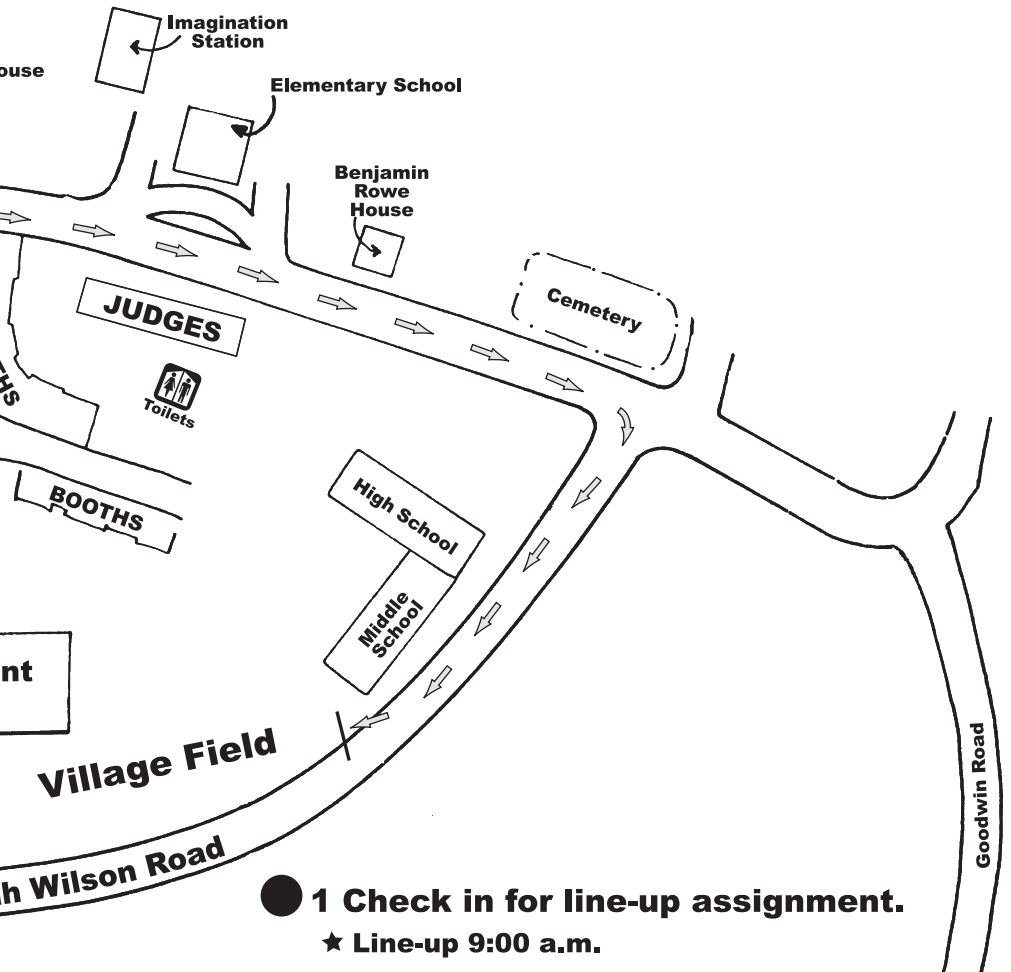
Entertainment Tent

Alva

GILFORD OLD HOME DAY PARADE

Four Seasons of Fun

August 26, 2023



2023 PARADE GRAND MARSHALS

The Sawyer Family



It was with great pleasure that the Gilford Old Home Day Committee at their first planning meeting for this year's celebration chose to honor the Sawyer Family as the 2023 Gilford Old Home Day Parade Grand Marshals.

With more than 60 combined years serving in the field of education – most of those in the Gilford School District – Peter and Monica Sawyer have dedicated their lives to helping children see and fulfill their potential. They met at Gilford High School nearly 30 years ago. Peter was substitute teaching for Monica's High School German classes

while she took a group of students to Germany, a trip Monica had worked hard to make affordable for families so that their children could broaden their horizons and learn another culture. Soon after, they decided to marry and raise a family here in Gilford, the only place Peter has ever called "home."

Peter graduated from GHS in 1984 and went on to earn his bachelor's degree at Saint Anselm College and his masters' degree at New Hampshire College. He spent his summers working at the family restaurant, Sawyer's Dairy Bar. Monica attended the Derryfield School before going on to Clark University for her bachelor's degree in economics and her masters' at Notre Dame College in counseling. She spent her summers furthering her education studying abroad. Sharing her love of travel, culture, and language with her family has brought her great joy.

The greatest joy of Peter and Monica's life together, of course, is their four children. Maxwell, Joseph, and Samuel were the first born into this loving family. After hearing of the plights of China's daughters, they decided to adopt Sofia (aka "Shushu") to make their family complete. This experience enriched the lives of their entire family and also made them more passionate about the importance of education. As an orphan in China, Shushu would not have been entitled to an education. Max is following in his parents' footsteps and is working in education, truly enjoying his work with kids. Joe is working at the Taylor Home in Laconia, helping its senior citizens. Sam, like his dad, is coaching soccer to the youths of Gilford and Gilmanton and working on Lake Winnepesaukee. Shushu is beginning her senior year in college studying applied mathematics and, like her mother, will use her smarts to make the world a better place for others. All of them have volunteered since they were very young. It became second nature for them to participate in numerous community projects here in Gilford, such as Youth for Hire, Interact, NAMI, and mission trips around the country through the Gilford Community Church and as far away as Puerto Rico.

During his career here in Gilford, Peter taught computers at GMS, was both the assistant principal and principal at GHS, and up until his retirement last year, was the GMS principal. He also coached basketball and soccer for the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department, baseball for Cal Ripken Youth Baseball, and basketball at both GMS and GHS. Peter has also served on the boards for the Gilford Youth Center, the Community Church Diaconate, and the Gilford Cal Ripken Youth Baseball League. Aside from teaching German at both GMS and GHS, Monica became a school counselor at GHS, where she won the award for NH State Counselor of the Year. She worked with countless students and families in preparing them for life after high school. She also worked at NHHEAF, again working with families in preparing them for the financial impact of a college education. Monica has also volunteered her time with the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation, Gilford Interact, the Gilford Community Church, and Saint Baldrick's Cancer Research. Monica completed her career in public education in Laconia, where in only two years she was awarded the Above and Beyond award and asked to speak at the top ten dinner.

Both Monica and Joseph are cancer survivors, breast and brain cancer, respectively. Although they were the most difficult times they've had to face, it has made them a stronger family. It has also made them extremely thankful for living in Gilford. The community has stepped up big time when the Sawyer Family really needed it most, something they cherish and will never forget.

Today we are so pleased to recognize and honor the Sawyer Family as the Parade Grand Marshals for the 2023 Gilford Old Home Day celebration. Over the years, Peter and Monica's contributions, dedication, commitment, guidance, and genuine love for our community have proven to be immeasurable. And their four children are all proving to be no different! A big "Thank You" to the Sawyer Family – Peter, Monica, Max, Joe, Sam, and Shushu!

2023 DEDICATION

Virginia “Ginny” Clifford



The Gilford Old Home Day Committee voted to dedicate this year's celebration to a remarkable woman – Virginia “Ginny” Clifford.

Ginny was born September 19, 1932 in New York City, the daughter of Harry and Grace Wiegand. She grew up in New York and Franklin, NH. She went on to attend the University of NH, earning a Master's Degree in Horticultural Science in 1958. Ginny and former husband Bob then moved to Gilford Village, where Ginny became a single mom and raised four children here. All of her kids ultimately graduated from Gilford High School.

Ginny truly loved the “small town” way of life in Gilford and became a very active member of the community. Having grown up as a 4-H member, she felt the program would benefit the youth of Gilford and the Lakes Region area, so in 1968, Ginny began organizing and leading the Cherry Valley 4-H Club. With the help of several other area parents, the Club quickly grew from 12 to over 100 kids! Her home on Tannery Hill Road became a part-time clubhouse, hosting 4-H meetings and educational activities such as arts and crafts, sewing, woodworking, gardening, cooking, and preserving. Along with her volunteer service, Ginny was also employed for 17 years as the UNH/Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Educator for Belknap County, working with youth and families of the Lakes Region and bringing helpful programs and information to area schools.

Ginny always made a point to participate in Gilford's Memorial Day observances. For many years, she potted beautiful flowers for the occasion at the WWI and WWII Veteran's Memorial on Potter Hill Road and at the Pine Grove Cemetery. A skillful artist, Ginny designed many annual report covers for the Gilford Community Church, as well as made wreaths and swags for the Church doors and window candles. For decades, she also rented two tables at the annual Gilford High School Christmas Fair, and her gorgeous wreaths, centerpieces, and crafts always drew a big crowd. In the summer, Ginny would always sell her cultivated blueberries from a self-service shelf on her side porch, and she left veggies and flowers on a chair near the road, free for the taking. One of Ginny's most treasured yearly events was Gilford Old Home Day, and her house was always open to family and friends from near and far as a base camp for all the festivities. She would cheer for the parade, enjoy some fried dough, greet visitors, and host an evening feast followed by one of her favorite events of the day – the fireworks!!!

Sadly, Ginny passed away on December 4, 2021. Our community lost a wonderful friend, and she is greatly missed by all who knew her. Her family, friends, and loved ones, however, will carry on her spirited tradition of celebrating Gilford Old Home Day together!

OFFICIAL SPONSORS

A special tribute and thanks to the following
2023 OFFICIAL GILFORD OLD HOME DAY SPONSORS
whose donations have helped to assure a successful celebration
and a fantastic fireworks display:

The Bianco Family
Lakes Region Dental Care
Shaw's Supermarket
Mother Nature
Gary, Lisa, John Michael
Dimartino
The Banks Family
Yogi Bear
Wicked Witches of the Lakes
Region
Fay's Boat Yard
Winter Wonder
Year round fun with Chesca, Ava,
Nick, Chase, Norah, & Tucker
Gold Standard Tree Care

The Parker Family
Daniel's Electric Corporation
Simply Spotless
Jack Frost
Northstar Timber Harvesting
Fallalot
For Gail and Mom
The Family of Ginny Clifford
Varney Point Association
The Farkle Family Farm – Fred,
Fanny,
Frank, Fern, Felix, Fifi, Yondu, Gru
and Sparkle Farkle
Gator Graphix

AND THANKS TO ANY SPONSORS WHOSE DONATIONS WERE
TOO LATE TO BE LISTED IN THE BOOK.

GILFORD OLD HOME DAY 50/50 RAFFLE!

Tickets will be available at the Village Field Bandstand on
Friday afternoon and all day Old Home Day prior to the
drawing. Winner to be drawn at 3:50 p.m. at the Village
Field Bandstand on Old Home Day.



Ticket Costs: 1 for \$1.00 or 10 for \$5.00