In spite of this year's craziness, there is much to be grateful for. I am grateful for the joy of friendship and family, for everyone—health care professionals, teachers, and neighbors—who are working tirelessly to keep us safe. I am grateful for this beautiful area in which we live, and I am grateful for YOU, for your can-do attitude, your resilience, and your friendship. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

Don’t Forget Your Turkey

Today’s the day! Pick up your turkey this Thursday and Friday from 1:30-4:30pm at the loading dock behind '53 Commons. Please wear a mask while you check in, and roll down your window so a turkey can be placed in your vehicle. Some departments have made other pick-up arrangements for their employees, so check in with your supervisor if you have any questions. Any turkeys not picked up by 2pm on Nov. 24 will be donated to The Haven.

Creativity Abounds!

Dartmouth Dining continues to amaze with their ingenious solutions. As mentioned earlier, Dartmouth Dining is required by NH COVID guidelines to limit the number of people in dining venues at any one time. They do this, in part, by having a single greeter in the '53 Commons reception area. While this helps manage the pace of things inside the building, it causes students to wait on line outside.

A small team developed a solution to help students choose when to visit the dining hall, and the Cookie-O-Meter website was created. Simply, it uses a fictional stack of cookies to convey to students how busy the dining hall is at any point in time. A high stack of cookies indicates it’s a good time for students to come in to grab one of their infamous cookies. The site works by tapping into transaction data from the cash registers to calculate a rolling average number of dining hall transactions from the previous 15 minutes. This info is then used to estimate how busy the dining hall currently is. To keep it up-to-date and accurate, the site is configured to calculate new transaction data every 60 seconds. Ingenious!

Thanks to James Gerjevic, Todd MacKenzie from ITC, and Dining’s Matt Smith for applying their creative problem-solving skills. Great job!

Supporting our Neighbors

In response to pandemic challenges, our local Granite United Way has expanded its delivery of services. Campus Services is pleased to support Dartmouth’s United Way campaign. A gift to Granite United Way will respond to needs across the Upper Valley and ensure access to important programs and services our neighbors rely on. Please consider a donation by Dec. 18.

Who is Granite United Way?

• A trusted partner helping people Learn, Earn, and Be Healthy across NH and Windsor County, VT.
• We create opportunities to address our community’s most critical needs.
• We answer the call 24 hours/day, 7 days/week at our 211 NH information and referral call center.
• We help our youth advance their leadership and literacy skills as the foundation for lifelong success.
• We provide support to individuals and families striving to build financial stability.

This year’s pledge form, to be completed online, enables you to pledge through payroll deduction, credit card, or check.

To help kick-start early donations, the Skiway has pledged four day-passes to the mountain for use this season. All weekly donors are eligible for the raffle each Friday. If you donate by Nov. 20, you have four chances to win. The final drawing will be Dec. 11. All payroll deduction supporters will receive a cinch bag courtesy of Dartmouth Dining. Won’t you consider a gift this year?

Watch the COVID Video

By Dec. 1, all College employees must watch a video called “COVID-19 Prevention: Staying Healthy in a Changing Environment.” Click here to log in with your Dartmouth NetID and password. Thank you for keeping informed and staying safe.