

Hadleigh Woods Gazette

February 2026

www.hadleighwoods.org

Volume 208

Hello All,

We survived the largest snowstorm in years. Nasser Landscaping and the professional snow removal crew provided great results. Currently, I want to review a few takeaways from this storm:

- With very large snowbanks on the roads, we need to be very careful in exiting the driveways and traveling the roads. The visibility is very limited on the roads, especially on Upper Hadleigh Rd. Please go slow and watch out for the delivery trucks.
- If the weather remains active, we may have to bring in front end loaders to move the snowbanks away from the side of the roads.
- For those of you who utilize the overflow parking lots, your vehicles need to be moved to your driveways when they are cleared (during daylight hours). This will allow the plows to clear these areas while they are onsite. This is particularly important for the Pump House parking lot to have it cleared up for Hampstead Water employees or the fire department. In the event of a need for critical repairs to our water system, access should not be delayed.
- For those of you who have guests who utilize the overflow parking lots, they also need to move their vehicles as needed. In the last storm there were at least two or three vehicles that were almost completely covered with snow for an extended period of time. This was a potential hazard for the plow drivers as they may not know that these vehicles were covered not to mention the vehicles themselves if they were hit by the plow.
- If you have a special request for snow removal or need to identify a snow hazard, please contact NextGen Management. They have a dedicated extension for snow issues. The Telephone # is 888-356-3984

Gene G, Secretary



Property Management of New England

Dear Homeowners,

One winter month done and onto the next. If I still skied, I would think more of the winter. After ACL surgery, no love lost for the sport. Next! As noted last month, please keep this number handy for snow storms ... 888 356-3984 and choose "snow plow services". Your message is recorded and is forwarded to the plow operator. The septic pumping continues. As of January 23, 2026, half are completed. Once the snowstorm passes, they will continue until complete. Stay safe and be careful.

Sincerely,
Ken Foley,
NextGen



February 2026

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 6:00 – Wasabi dinner , rescheduled. Call Linda to cancel from original RSVP or to be added as an attendee. 603-401-5791	24	25	26	27	28

Northern Flicker



In many ways the Northern Flicker is unusual in comparison to the other woodpeckers found in NH. For one thing, it is not boldly patterned in black and white. Instead, it sports a generally brown base color with numerous black spots and bars, and of course the bright white rump and yellow wing and tail feathers seen in flight. The latter features are behind an older name for species, Yellow-shafted Flicker, that was “retired” when our eastern birds were determined to be the same species as “red-shafted” ones in the west. The two forms hybridize on the Western Great Plains, and very rarely do we see birds with red and orange wing and tail feathers in New England.

Flickers are also unusual in their diet and foraging. They feed primarily on ants, which they obtain by hopping and walking on the ground. Their tongues are slightly longer than those of other woodpeckers, which probably facilitates extracting ants and other terrestrial insects from underground. Perhaps because they need open habitat for foraging, Flickers are not birds of the deep forest. You are most likely to find them along edges, in wetlands with dead trees and residential areas. Another way in which Flickers differ from other woodpeckers is that they often reuse a nest hole in multiple years. In some parts of their range, Flickers are considered “keystone species” because of the important role they serve as creators of nesting cavities for other species like kestrels and bluebirds.

One more point of contrast with our other species is that the Northern Flicker is a species in decline. Over most of New England there are now only a quarter of the flickers present 50 years ago. Causes of this decrease are currently speculative but include competition with non-native cavity nesters such as starlings, habitat loss, and the effects of pesticides on prey populations. It’s possible that all three are at play and more research is needed to help us determine what’s going on with this unique woodpecker while it is still common.

Credits:

NH Audubon

BACKYARD TIPS

Consider putting up a nest box to attract a breeding pair. Make sure you put it up well before breeding season. Attach a guard to keep predators from raiding eggs and young.

Northern Flickers do not habitually visit bird feeders, but you can find them in backyards and at bird baths. If your backyard has a mixture of trees and open ground, or if it’s near woods, you may find the Northern Flicker simply by walking around wooded edges.

COOL FACTS

- Although the Flicker can climb up the trunks of trees and hammer on wood like other woodpeckers.
- The Northern Flicker is one of the few North American woodpeckers that is strongly migratory.
- Northern Flickers generally nest in holes in trees like other woodpeckers.
- Like most woodpeckers, Northern Flickers drum on objects as a form of communication and territory defense. In such cases, the object is to make as loud noise as possible, and that’s why woodpeckers sometimes drum on metal objects.

HABITAT

Look for Northern Flickers in woodlands, forest edges, and open fields with scattered trees, as well as city parks and suburbs.

FOOD

Northern Flickers eat mainly insects. Other invertebrates eaten include flies, butterflies, moths and snails. They also eat fruits and seeds, especially in winter, including poison oak and ivy, bayberries, hackberries, elderberries, sunflower and thistle seeds.

NESTING

Northern Flickers usually excavate nest holes in dead or diseased tree trunks or large branches. Unlike many woodpeckers, Flickers often reuse cavities that they or another species excavated in a previous year. Nests are generally placed 6-15 feet off the ground.

NEST DESCRIPTION

Both sexes help with nest excavation. The entrance hole is about 3 inches in diameter, and the cavity is 13-16 inches deep. The cavity widens at the bottom to make room for eggs and the incubating adult. Inside, the cavity is bare except for a bed of wood chips for the eggs and chicks to rest on. Once nestlings are about 17 days old, they begin clinging to the cavity wall, rather than lying on the floor.

NESTING FACTS

Clutch size: 5-8 eggs

Number of broods: 1 brood

Egg Length: 0.8-1.4 inches

Egg Width: 0.6-1.3 inches

Incubation Period: 11-13 days

Nestling Period: 24-27 days

Egg Description: All white

Condition at Hatching: Naked, pink skin, a sharp egg tooth at the tip bill; eyes closed, movements clumsy

BEHAVIOR

Northern Flickers don't act like typical woodpeckers. Flickers do fly like most woodpeckers do, rising and falling smoothly as they intersperse periods of flapping with gliding. Early in Spring and Summer, rivals may face off in a display sometimes called a "fencing duel", while a prospective mate looks on. Two birds face each other on a branch, bills pointed upward and bob their heads in time drawing a loop or figure-eight pattern in the air, often giving rhythmic Wick-a, Wick-a calls at the same time.

CONSERVATION

Northern Flickers are widespread and common, but numbers have decreased by an estimated 1.2% per year between 1966 and 2021 for a cumulative decline of 49%.

Credits:

All About Birds-Cornell Lab

I have had the opportunity to have the Northern Flicker visit at my suet feeder.

Elaine G

Moroccan-Spiced Chickpea Stew

INGREDIENTS:

2 TBL. Olive oil	3-14oz cans chickpeas (1 drained, 2 with liquid)
1 medium onion(diced).	1-14oz can fire-roasted diced tomatoes w liquid
1 tsp salt	½ cup parsley or cilantro(chopped)
4 garlic cloves (minced) or 1 tsp garlic powder	¼ tsp cayenne(optional)
1 TBL tomato paste.	1 tsp lemon zest (optional)
2 tsp cumin	
1 tsp ground ginger	
1 tsp cinnamon	
1 tsp ground coriander	

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large, wide skillet, warm oil over medium-high heat. Add onion & salt; sauté about 6 minutes, until soft & slightly caramelized.
2. Reduce heat to medium-low. Stir in garlic, tomato paste, cumin, ginger, cinnamon & coriander. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly to avoid burning. The mixture will be thick & aromatic.
3. Stir in 1 can of drained chickpeas and tomatoes with liquid. Simmer 5 minutes.
4. While stew simmers, add 2 cans of chickpeas with liquid to a blender. Process until smooth and creamy.
5. Stir creamy chickpea into skillet mixture. Increase heat to medium-high, stir until it reaches a gentle boil. Cover and reduce heat to simmer, cover and cook for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add preferred herb. Add lemon zest for brightness or cayenne for heat. Salt & pepper to preferred taste.

1 cup serving facts: CAL=230 CARB=36 PRO=11g FAT=6g Fiber = 11g Sodium=680mg

This is an easy stew to make. Very flavorful. If you have any dietary preferences for improving your health, it is vegan, vegetarian, very high fiber, has a good protein content, medium sodium content compared to commercial canned soups or stews.

Added serving suggestion.....shredded cheese to increase protein content or sour cream to change the flavor slightly.

REF: Savory Magazine from Stop & Shop, Joy Bauer, MS, RDN, CDN

Claudette

Free Printable Crossword Puzzle #7

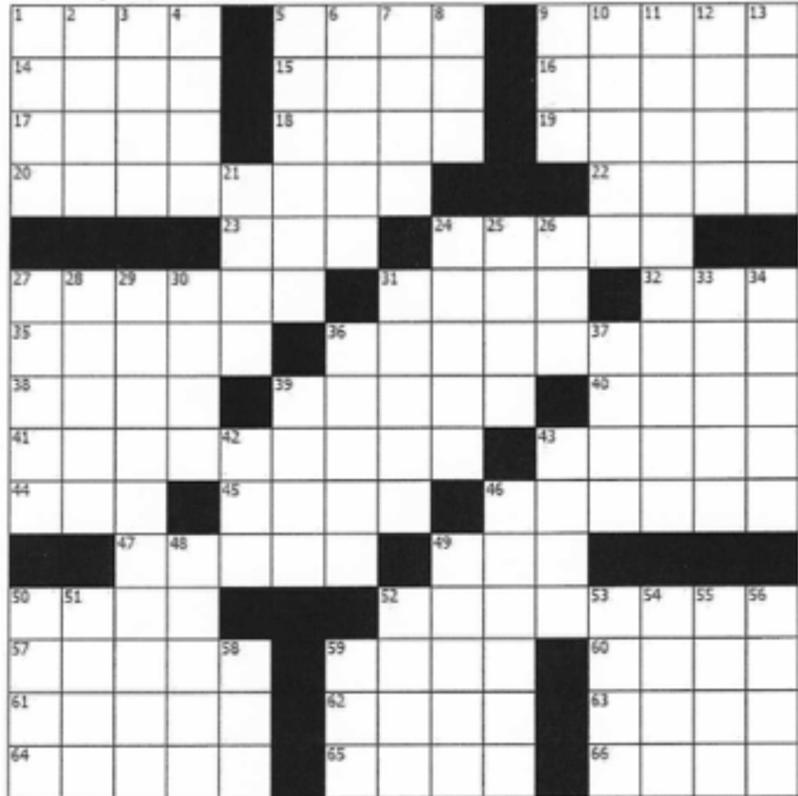
This is the Daily Crossword Puzzle #7 for **Sep 25, 2025**

Find the solution at

<https://onlinecrosswords.net/53947>

Across

- 1. Humanities
- 5. Discontinues
- 9. Gall
- 14. Boxing contest
- 15. Affirmative votes
- 16. Different
- 17. Delayed
- 18. Shredded cabbage
- 19. Horned animal, for short
- 20. Volcano event
- 22. Picnic pests
- 23. Still, poetically
- 24. Spectacle
- 27. Inferior
- 31. Booty
- 32. Resort
- 35. Baldwin and Guinness
- 36. Devoted
- 38. Mama's man
- 39. Competitor
- 40. Highway
- 41. Sudden rushes of cattle
- 43. Because
- 44. Always, in verse
- 45. English princess
- 46. Truly
- 47. Parcel out
- 49. School org.
- 50. Detest
- 52. Reply
- 57. E.T., e.g.
- 59. Palm fruit
- 60. Flat bread
- 61. Roger ____ (007 actor)
- 62. Face shape
- 63. Sad cry
- 64. Sight or smell
- 65. Ego
- 66. For fear that



Down

- 1. Talented
- 2. Jungle sound
- 3. Ballet skirt
- 4. Stair part
- 5. Less difficult
- 6. Hosiery material
- 7. College official
- 8. Wind dir.
- 9. Also not
- 10. Patriot ____ Allen
- 11. Diamond substitute
- 12. Dryer outlet
- 13. Greek god
- 21. Golf gadgets
- 24. Fizzy drinks
- 25. Bedspring
- 26. List abbr.
- 27. Slip-up
- 28. Delight
- 29. Detachment
- 30. Swindle
- 31. Embankment
- 33. Tranquility
- 34. Said further
- 36. Common contraction
- 37. Moistureless
- 39. Nevada resort
- 42. Sidekick
- 43. Finger sound
- 46. Pronoun
- 48. Nasty looks
- 49. Flower part
- 50. Smoked meats
- 51. African lily
- 52. Talk wildly
- 53. October's stone
- 54. Egyptian river
- 55. Terminals (abbr.)
- 56. West's opposite
- 58. Born as
- 59. Two (Sp.)



FIND the WORDS

Volunteers – February – Eighth – Interfaith – Wasabi – Wonderland – Figure
 Skating – Thaw – Freedom – Frost – Harmony – Love – Alpine – Skiing

T	E	X	C	H	A	P	T	T	A	F	X	A
R	I	C	R	M	O	O	H	F	H	F	O	A
S	H	A	R	M	O	N	Y	R	F	A	D	L
N	I	K	E	T	U	A	L	R	L	G	W	P
S	D	G	T	A	E	R	O	E	N	O	H	I
I	G	N	I	I	K	S	C	Z	N	A	V	N
E	D	I	E	D	T	A	A	D	V	H	R	E
M	B	T	T	H	I	S	E	N	S	T	O	U
O	R	A	L	T	T	R	S	G	H	H	L	L
D	A	K	S	I	L	E	Y	A	Z	G	L	O
E	I	S	A	A	A	E	R	U	G	I	F	C
E	W	L	N	F	R	T	A	L	N	E	S	S
R	A	D	I	R	D	N	U	V	T	S	T	P
F	S	N	O	E	A	U	R	S	D	S	R	K
M	A	G	L	T	U	L	B	O	L	R	E	S
E	B	E	N	N	Q	O	E	J	O	S	E	R
T	I	E	N	I	Y	V	F	I	X	G	I	B