



Greenfield Business Association's 20th annual ornament features college's 50th anniversary



By [Cori Urban](#)

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GREENFIELD—Marian E. Noga, of [Charlemont](#), has collected all 20 ornaments in the [Greenfield Business Association](#)'s Landmark Series.

"I really should start a second tree," she said recently, with a laugh.

She has collected the ornaments—suitable for hanging on a Christmas tree—since 1993. "Every one has got a story," she said. "People have memories of the places."

Since the first Greenfield ornament—depicting the iconic Poet's Seat Tower—the decorations have depicted town landmarks, including Greenfield Public Library, the Garden Theater, The Weldon Hotel, [Wilson's department store](#), the Roundhouse at the Franklin County Fairgrounds and the [Greenfield Energy Park](#). Noga's favorite: The Pumping Station Covered Bridge. "I like bridges," she said.

This year's 20th annual ornament is made of pewter; previous ornaments were gold-plated brass. On the 2½-inch-diameter ornament is an engraved image of the new main building at the community college, its name and a notation of its years 1962-2012 along with "50 Years."

There is a tree motif on the reverse side.



The 50th anniversary of Greenfield Community College is commemorated on the 2012 Greenfield Business Association holiday ornament.

Photo by Cori Urban

According to Caitlin von Schmidt, coordinator of the Greenfield Business Association, [Greenfield Community College](#) was selected for the ornament as a nod to its half-century mark. "To have such a resource here is so lucky for us," she said. "It provides education and trained employees for our area."

The ornaments have been popular through the years because, as Noga said, "they're something from home."

Many residents purchase them to send to family and friends who have left the area; others like to collect them for themselves. "It's nice to have a piece of your town that you can show off," von Schmidt said. "And people feel emotionally connected to places portrayed in the ornaments."

Christmas ornaments, she added, "we imbue with memories and emotional connections."

This year's Greenfield Community College ornament is for sale for \$15 with proceeds going to the Greenfield Business Association and its holiday light program.

The ornament can be purchased at Wilson's, [Raven Used Books](#), Imagine Jewelry and the [Franklin County Chamber of Commerce](#).

Some previous year's ornaments are also for sale at the chamber office.

Von Schmidt said she hopes the business association soon will host an online store to sell past ornaments, T-shirts and other association items.

For more information, call (413) 774-2791 or e-mail: gba@franklincc.org.

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