

# The Dublin Advocate

*To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community*

Volume 18, Issue 2

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Dublin, NH 03444

## Controlled Burns Benefit Many

*Great training opportunity for newer members.*

BY MARGARET GURNEY

In discussing the Dublin Fire Department's recent controlled burns, Fire Chief Tom Vanderbilt said, "we were just lucky a couple of people donated structures. We used them before the burns for search and rescue, self rescue and ventilation, advancing hose lines," and other relevant activities.

On the day of one burn, Vanderbilt said an instructor who is a deputy from Antrim and teaches at the NH Fire Academy in Concord, NH, arrived with his instructor friends. Plus newer members and fire departments from surrounding towns were all there to learn more about fire behavior, fire attack, and thermal insult.

"Twenty years ago, fires used to be mostly wood burning. Now synthetics and foam and plastics burn like oil or gas and those fumes are much more toxic. These trainings help make the guys aware of how quickly it can change, even with our state-of-the-art gear."

That's about interior fires. Outdoors, lessons cover the



Fire photos by Sharon Monaghan

Firemen onsite at one "burn" survey the progress.



water supply, tanker shuttle, ambulance, and help for fire-fighters to recover after being in such a stressful environment. They learn about hose lines, fire attack, efficient breathing apparatus, searching for the "seat" of the fire, and ventilation.

"All we drill on all year — a live burn brings it into a real-life fire scenario," pointed out the chief. "It's a great opportunity for newer members," which the department is actively seeking.

MARGARET GURNEY is editor of the *Advocate*.

### Petition Warrant Articles

**Due February 7**  
to Sherry Miller,  
Town Administrator

### Deliberative Session for SAU 1

2017/2018 School District Budget  
**February 8, 6 pm**  
ConVal High School

### Town Budget Hearing

**February 14, 7:30 pm**  
(snow date February 15)

### Pre-Town Meeting

By the Dublin Women's Club  
**February 28, 7:30 pm**  
Town Hall, downstairs  
Refreshments begin at 7 pm

### Town Voting

**Tuesday, March 14,**  
**8 am-7 pm**  
Town Hall, upstairs

### Town Meeting

**Saturday, March 18, 9 am**  
Dublin Consolidated School  
*Park at Yankee and take  
the shuttle bus.*



The *Advocate* will run the entire Warrant Articles in the March issue. The 2017 proposed projects will include petition warrant articles.

## Dublin Public Library

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies,” said Jojen... “The man who never reads lives only one.” This quote is from George R.R. Martin’s *A Dance with Dragons*. This is from a new book in the library called *Books for Living* by Will Schwalbe, in which each chapter features a book that influenced his life.

### NEW BOOKS

*Hidden Figures*

by M. Shetterly

*The Stockholm Octavo*

by K. Engelmann

*My Name is Lucy Barton*

by E. Strout

*The Mistress* by D. Steel

*Books for Living*

by W. Schwalbe

*The Seventh Plague*

by J. Rollins

*Downfall* by J. A. Jance

*Below the Belt* by S. Woods

Some of the books featured include *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *The Good Earth*, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, and *Death Be Not Proud*. Ask at the desk to put your name on the list.

As we mark the inauguration of a new president, come in and check out biographies of past presidents to learn about their experiences in office.

Join us for story time Wednesday mornings at 9:30. On February 1, the children will be making a groundhog puppet as they learn about Groundhog

Day and shadows. Making Valentines for friends and family will take place on February 8 and there will be a pajama party on February 15. A winter activity will be set up for February 22 and remain on display throughout school vacation week. Books that we will be reading include *Groundhog Weather School* by Joan Holub, *How to Put Your Parents to Bed* by Mylisa Larsen, and *Goodnight Good Dog* by Rebecca Malone. Refreshments are served.

## Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery Winter 2017

Exhibitions, programs, events

### OPENING RECEPTION

Friday, February 17, 5–7 p.m.

### 2125 Stanley Street/Traces

Dahlia Nayar, Margaret Sunghe Paek, and Loren Kiyoshi Dempster

February 9, 10, 11 (performance)

(Tickets \$8-\$10, available through the Redfern Arts Center box office)

February 17–March 26 (exhibition, free)

*Sympathetic Vibration: Selected Works by Rachelle Beaudoin, Janet Hulings Bleicken, Sally Bomer, Brian Cohen, Glen Scheffer, and Craig Stockwell*

February 9 – March 26

New and recent work by six area artists who, in various ways, address local and global issues and images.

### At Home: A Teaching and Learning Installation

February 9 – March 26 | Interactive education installation developed in collaboration with the Horatio Colony Museum & Nature Preserve.

Programs and events supported by New England Foundation for the Arts, Robert P. Hubbard Family Trust, Redfern Arts Center, Horatio Colony Museum & Nature Center, and Keene State College.



Study for 2125 Stanley Street/Traces, digital image; courtesy Dahlia Nayar

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## Historical Society Hosts Annual Potluck and Speaker

Gordon Hayward, a nationally recognized garden writer, designer, and lecturer, will be the guest speaker at the Dublin Historical Society’s Potluck Supper on Friday, February 17. We gather promptly at 6 pm in the Dublin Community Church Hall to share the meal; the program will start shortly before 7 pm.

Hayward, author of *Greek Epic: The Latchis Family and the New England Theater Empire They Built*, will trace the story of three generations of the Latchis family from 1901 to the present. The 37-year-old patriarch, Demetrios Latchis, immigrated to America and settled in Hinsdale in 1901, leaving behind his family of five in the Greek Peloponnese. Once here he built a beautifully decorated handcart and peddled fruit for miles around. With the family reunited ten years later, and from their new home in Brattleboro, they began building a movie theater empire. By 1938 they controlled 14 movie theaters in three states. Hayward will also discuss the



Latchis’ struggles with the arrival of television, drive-in movies, and a constantly changing local economy. In the end the family lost all their theaters, but left behind a legacy for Brattleboro in the form of the art-deco Latchis Theater and Hotel, which flourishes today.

In his presentation, Hayward will focus on the Latchis family and the two theaters that they owned in Keene, as well as Peter Latchis’ residence, Owl’s Nest, on Meryman Road.

We welcome all comers. Bring a main dish, a side dish, or a dessert to share. As winter weather can offer up surprises at the last minute, the snow date for the event is Saturday, February 18, same time, same place. If uncertain about conditions, please call 563-8545 to hear the recorded message on Friday.

Peterborough Folk Music Society  
(an all-volunteer, non-profit organization)

**DALA**

Saturday, Feb 18th at 7:30 PM

Bass Hall, 19 Grove St, Peterborough

\$20 advance / \$23 at door

Tickets available at Toadstool Bookshops in Peterborough, Milford & Keene or online at [PFMSconcerts.org](http://PFMSconcerts.org)  
Info: (603) 827-2905 Email: [deb@pfmsconcerts.org](mailto:deb@pfmsconcerts.org)

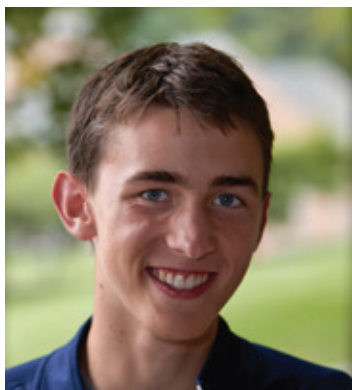
For detailed Information & Directions visit our website: [pfmsconcerts.org](http://pfmsconcerts.org)



## Dublin School Presents Fun Play

Dublin School will present "Once on this Island," the Tony-nominated and Olivier award-winning Broadway musical on February 23-26, 2017 at the Fountain Arts Theater on its Dublin Campus.

Based on the 1985 novel *My Love, My Love, or The Peasant Girl* by Rosa Guy, it is set on a fictional Caribbean Island. Part



Otto Vogel plays Daniel.

*Romeo and Juliet*, part *The Little Mermaid*, this musical is about star-crossed lovers from two different worlds.

Appearing in this production are local students Otto Vogel of Dublin as the young lover Daniel; Emma Williams of Concord,

Dublin School Presents:



Thursday, Friday & Saturday  
February 23, 24 & 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday  
February 26th at 2:00 p.m.

All performances at  
Dublin School  
Fountain Arts Building  
18 Lehmann Way  
Dublin, NH 03444

Tickets Free - Donations Welcome  
Reservation Suggested: 603-563-1285

Produced by arrangement with Music Theater International

NH, as Ti Moune; Deven Hardikar of Peterborough as the Sly Demon of Death; Taya Kerwin of Hancock as God of Water; and Gwyneth Thomson of Walpole as Goddess of Love.

Local orchestra members are Tom Martin, Kyle Phaneuf, Steve Cady, George Robinson, and Donna Morse. The show will run from February 23 to 25 at 7 pm, with a 2 pm matinee on Sunday, February 26. Admission is free (donations welcome) and reservations are suggested by calling 563-1285.

The Dublin Conservation Commission is fortunate to have Katie Featherston and Phil Drake Underkoffler joining us.

## Peterborough Players Continues Winter Season

BY FRED LEVENTHAL

For the first time in its history the Peterborough Players is producing a winter season consisting of three plays, each performed over a two-week period, weather permitting. The season began in December with David Sedaris' *The Santaland Diaries*, a one-man show.

In February audiences will have the opportunity to see two plays. *Mass Appeal*, a comedy/drama that ran for more than 200 performances on Broadway in 1981-2, stars Artistic Director Gus Kaikkonen as the

popular Father Tim Farley, whose easy-going manner and traditional religious views are challenged by the

idealistic young seminarian, Mark Dolson, played by Adam Sowers, who seeks to shake up the complacent Catholic congregation by raising such controversial issues

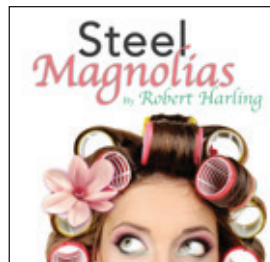
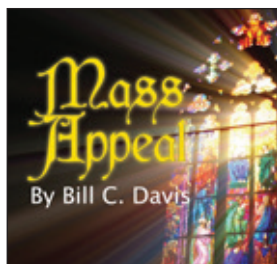
as the ordination of women. A close friendship develops between the two that tests both priests when a personal crisis at the seminary forces them to make life-changing choices. *Mass Appeal* will run February 1-11, with performances

Wednesdays through Saturday at 7:30 and matinees on both Saturdays at 2 pm.

On February 15 *Steel Magnolias*, last seen at the Players in 1990, will begin a two-week run, with matinees on February 18 and 26. This popular comedy/drama premiered in 1987 and features an all-female cast headed by local actresses Lisa Bostnar, Kathy Manfre, and Pamela White. Set in a beauty salon, it celebrates the bonds that

develop among a group of Southern women in northwest Louisiana, who may be as delicate as magnolias but prove themselves to be tough as steel.

FRED LEVENTHAL is a Trustee of the Peterborough Players.



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## News from Dublin Consolidated School

BY NICOLE PEASE

January brought us snow and “Winter Fun Days!” For five weeks beginning in January, DCS students were able to participate in various winter activities, from sledding and extra recess at school, to skiing at Crotched Mountain. It is so wonderful to watch our students have fun in the snow and learn some new skills.

We also had our first FACTS (Famous Artists Come to School) presentation with Mary Loftis and with support from the Arts Enrichment Program. The revival of the FACTS program occurred with great interest in developing a community connection with the Monadnock Rotary. Many thanks to the current Rotary President Susan Copley as well as to the Rotarians who will be working with our students! This fun day was made even more special

with the annual Pizza and Movie Night; it was a well-attended family event!

Winter Benchmarking of academic progress occurred in January as we neared the end of the second quarter. All students in Grades 1-4 participated in computerized NWEA testing. Students also completed AIMSweb probes, which examined fluency in reading and math. K-2 students’ mathematical understandings were assessed using a tool called a PNOA. While this is a lot of assessing, it provides great information for teachers to focus their instruction to build up their students’ knowledge base.

February is Kindness Month where many of our district schools will be focus-



ing upon acts of kindness. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to develop our sense of community as the ConVal School District.

Kindergarteners are wanted! If you know of a child that will be 5 years old before August 25, please have them call our school at 563-8332.

NICOLE PEASE, principal of Dublin Consolidated School, is also the SAU1 District Math Coach.

## Update from the School Board Representative

BY BERND FOECKING

It is February and that means, first and foremost, budget season for the School Board.

As I reported earlier, this year we are in the fortunate position of proposing a flat budget, although due to a decrease in state support, the assessment will be up by 0.93% for the district. In my review, I find that the administration has worked hard to make this a reality, and I am in full support of this year’s proposed budget.

All of us on the school board and at the SAU were surprised by Mr. Pickering’s early retirement. During the short time I have been on the school board, he impressed me with his dedication and for

the respect the employees of ConVal, at the high school and beyond, had for him. I certainly wish him all the best.

The Strategic Planning Committee continues its work on researching how equitably resources are allocated within our district. This goes beyond financial equity and includes educational equity. The goal is to evaluate if all students receive the services they need to have equal opportunities during their time in our school district. This process is highly informative, and I am very happy that we have had interest and support from several selectman in the district as well as valuable input by the general public.

This winter I had the chance to see

some of the DCS students at the Crotched Mountain ski program – and the wonderful faculty and volunteer parents who supervise and coordinate it. Our DCS students are fortunate to be able to leave school early and enjoy the sun while skiing. As always, the service to our kids, be it by the dedicated chaperones or those who provide hot chocolate in the lodge, is exemplary. Thank you!

Please note that the deliberative session for the 2017/2018 budget is on February 8, 6:00 pm, ConVal. Equally important: Please go and vote in town for the budget on March 14; I believe our students and teachers deserve it.

Until next month.

BERND FOECKING, who can be reached at [bfoecking@conval.edu](mailto:bfoecking@conval.edu), is Dublin’s representative to the ConVal School Board, SAU 1.

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*Eighth in a series of nonprofits providing essential care to Dubliners.*

## CVTC Volunteer Drivers Provide Hope with Each Mile Driven

*Improving the health and wellbeing of our riders.*

BY ELLEN AVERY

CVTC, Community Volunteer Transportation Company, was initially created to meet the documented transportation needs of residents living in 13 towns in the Eastern Monadnock Region (2009). Most Monadnock Region residents who don't drive or don't have a vehicle have a hard time getting where they need to go. This fact is supported in Community Needs Assessments conducted by Monadnock Community Hospital, Southwestern Community Services & Monadnock United Way. Access to transportation for vulnerable residents ranked in the top five of community issues not being met.

Last July, CVTC absorbed the medical-transportation program run by the American Red Cross-NH West Chapter in Keene. We now serve a total of 33 towns within the Monadnock Region through our Volunteer Driver Program.

CVTC is the largest human service agency in the region where "access to services through transportation" is at the core of our vision. Our mission is "to create, coordinate, and deliver transportation solutions for the Monadnock Region."

Our purpose is to provide access to services that improve the health and wellbeing of our riders, and enhance their ability to retain, re-gain, or attain independence for them and their families.

Our primary trip purposes are non-emergency medical and social service appointments, trips to the pharmacy, food shopping, and banking. We accomplish this by engaging Volunteer Drivers who donate their time; drive their own vehicles; carry appropriate levels of liability insurance; opt in or out of receiving mileage reimbursement at \$0.41/mile; and have a desire to serve their neighbors and communities.

Here are the overall 2016 statistics, followed by our service to Dublin residents.

Category	Overall	Dublin
Towns served	29	1
Active Volunteer Drivers	80	5 residents
Riders Served	291	7
Donated Volunteer Hours	4,641	50
Trips Requested	5,983	69
Trips Provided	3,853	42
Miles	85,558	732

Riders call to register their trip requests and the Volunteer Drivers select trips that fit their schedule through our online trip-management system, TripList. Call 1-877-428-2882, ext. 3 and speak with a Transportation Coordinator to register your trip or to learn more about becoming a Volunteer Driver. Our goal is to have 120 drivers across the region.

ELLEN AVERY, Executive Director of CVTC, is a former resident of Dublin.



## Offerings from The River Center

**Tinker Tots:** A STEM Program for preschoolers winter session February 6, 13, 20; theme is Magical Magnets.

**Our Tuesday Topic** from 6:30 pm to 8 pm for February 21 is Caring For Your Sick Child.

**Our Employment Specialist** will guide you through the online job search process every second and fourth Tuesday, from 1-2 pm for dedicated support in your online job search, applications, and emails. Internet access and computers will be available. Join other job seekers at our weekly MeetUp on Tuesdays, from 12 to 1 pm.



**Free Money Coaching** available with our trained Money Coaches. One on one appointments are available on Wednesdays from 12:30 pm to 2 pm.

**Free help** is available from IRS certified tax preparers. We are accepting tax appointments for low and moderate income families/individuals.

Call The River Center at 924-6800. We connect you to the resources in this region that can help. The River Center is located on Vose Farm Road in Peterborough, across from ConVal.

Please honor Dublin's leash law.



### PROPERTY, LANDSCAPING & TREE SERVICES

### CARETAKING & FARM SERVICES

It's a great time of year to have trees around your home pruned or removed while they are dormant and the ground is frozen.

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489 Windy Row, Peterborough, NH 03458

## February at the Hub

### Art by Sally Bomer

Sally Bomer of Peterborough will show her large-scale abstract charcoal drawings at the Hub during February. Sally, who has long worked as a dancer, teacher, and choreographer, acknowledges the connection between performing and visual arts. In her artist's statement she says, "My work explores drawing in its intimate relation to movement: the human body in mark making; the long history of drawing in portraying and studying anatomy; ... the structuring tenets of dance improvisation and choreography."

There will be a reception for the artist on Friday, February 3, from 5 to 7 pm. Light refreshments will be served.



### Paws to Read Comes to Town

Paws to Read with our Tail Wagging Tutors is a program sponsored by The Dublin Community Center and the Dublin Consolidated School and has had success all over the country. The Monadnock Humane Society and the licensed therapy dogs and their owners have made this possible. The premise is to provide a non-judgmental listener for students who struggle with reading, but even fluent readers enjoy reading to the dogs. To free the child from stress of performing, usually only the child goes into the reading room with the dogs and trainers. Licensed therapy dogs Gus and Meg will be visiting with the children of DCS at the Community Center to provide a program that can be beneficial to both children and animals.



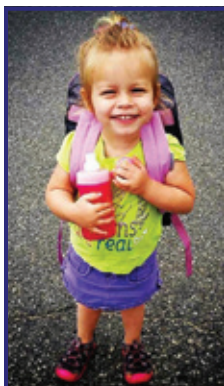
### Hub Saturdays for Social Media Teenius Genius Techs

The Teenius Genius Tech Sessions kick off on Saturday, February 11, at 10 am. In cooperation with the Dublin School, we're supplying teenagers to steer you cheerfully through the oft-confusing waters of social media. What's the difference between unfollowing or unfriending someone on Facebook? What's a feed anyway? What are my children doing on social media?

No matter what your level of familiarity with social media (total newcomer to seasoned user), there'll be something for you to learn or share. All ages are invited. We suggest you bring your own device — Continued on next page

### Craft Night by MVBC

Mountain View Bible Church (MVBC) will be sponsoring a monthly craft night at the Dublin Hub. Our first one will be Tuesday, February 7 from 7 to 9 pm. This is open to everyone in the community to join us with any project you want to work on. Snacks and drink will be provided. If you have any questions please email Liz Ogden at [secretary@mtnview-bible.org](mailto:secretary@mtnview-bible.org).



### Dublin Community Preschool & Childcare Center

## Open Enrollment

For inquiries call or email:

**603-563-8508**

[Info@dublincommunitypreschool.org](mailto:Info@dublincommunitypreschool.org)

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computer, smart phone, or other mobile device — but you can also just watch and learn if you prefer. If you have specific ideas for subjects you'd like to cover, we'll do our best to include them. Please email us at [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org). (Future programs: Feb. 18, Instagram; Feb. 25, Snapchat; March 4, Twitter)

### Art Classes on Sundays

Earl Schofield will be teaching painting and drawing lessons at the Dublin Community Center on Sundays from 3 to 5 pm. This class is for adults and teens and will cost \$10/hour. Classes will be customized to meet each individual need. Students should bring with them paper, pencils and erasers.

Earl Schofield works in the difficult media of Encaustic (wax) painting. His landscapes are very personal and intuitive without abandoning a high degree of technical precision and realism. Earl teaches at the Dublin School, and many of his landscapes are inspired by the northeast. Earl has shown his work here at the center and volunteered his time for our Paint and Sip fundraiser, which was a huge hit. We are excited to have Earl come and offer

these wonderful classes for the community.

### HCS Wellness Clinic

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services is offering a Nurse Is In wellness clinic at the Hub on Tuesday, February 21, from 12 to 1 pm. Our HCS wellness nurse will check blood pressures and be available to answer questions about home care and any health concerns you may have. This screening is open to residents of all area towns and is offered free of charge. No appointment necessary. Nurse Is In clinics are sponsored by Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services (HCS), a Monadnock United Way agency. For more information, visit [HCSservices.org](http://HCSservices.org) or call 352-2253.

### Zumba/Line Dancing Fund Raiser

On Thursday, February 23, from 5:30-6:45 pm, Deb Giaimo will host a fundraising dance party for the Peterborough food pantry. The fun will begin



with 30 minutes of beginner line dancing lessons (no partner needed) followed by 45 minutes of Zumba Fitness. A contribution of \$5 at the door is requested, and any non-perishable food item donations (please check expiration dates) are always appreciated. All proceeds help stock the pantry's shelves. Anyone unable to attend the event but wishing to make a donation can bring it to the Hub on Monday, February 20, from 5-6:30 pm or on Thursday from 5-6:45 pm. Participants are asked to please bring clean shoes for dancing and to enter through the door at the rear of the building. For more information, call Deb at 563-8648.



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## Alene Rajaniemi McLean, 1927–2016

BY CINDY JOSEPH

Our mother Alene died very peacefully at Summerhill Assisted Living on her 89th birthday. She was surrounded by her loving family. While suffering with dementia she still exuded love and caring for others. She was even called “Ma” by some of her caregivers.

Alene McLean was a lifelong resident of Dublin. She and her husband of 64 years, Ernest L. McLean Jr. (Buddy) spent most of their married life on Lower Jaffrey Rd., where they raised their five children. Two of their children still live in Dublin, and the other three still call Dublin their home.

For many years when you drove down Lower Jaffrey Rd. you would pass her friendly sign: Alene’s Beauty Shop. She tended to the beauty of many of her friends and fellow Dubliners right up until her 80th birthday. When she was younger she also worked for *Yankee Magazine*, typing the mimeograph stencils for its mail-



Alene’s homemade Christmas stockings.

ing list. The job to which she was most devoted, however, was being the best Mom to her five children, and a loving wife to her Buddy.

She enjoyed watching her favorite sports teams, the Celtics and the Patriots. She would hop on a bus and travel to Boston to see her favorite basketball player, Larry Bird. Alene also loved league bowling at Bowling Acres in Peterborough.

Playing card games and Scrabble with her sister Anita Crowell was a ritual. She loved to knit and made every one of her grandchildren and great grandchildren Christmas stockings, which are keepsakes of her love for each and every one of them.

Alene was a participant in life; she worked hard, played with enthusiasm, and loved profoundly. Every aspect of her life was marked by her kindness and radiant inner beauty. If you had the opportunity to be her friend, you were blessed.

WRITTEN LOVINGLY by Cindy Joseph of Wolfeboro, NH, daughter of Alene.



## Allan James Fox, 1923–2017

BY BRUCE FOX

*“Happy,” I said, “whose home is here.”*

These are words from Ralph Waldo Emerson’s poem entitled “Monadnock” and are inscribed on the old watering trough sitting near the entrance to The Friendly Farm.

For 52 years, Allan Fox and his family have lived in Dublin at The Friendly Farm and have been happy. They have also brought happiness to more than one million visitors who have visited the farm in its 52-year history.

Allan Fox, 93, died peacefully in his home at The Friendly Farm on January 3, 2017, with his wife Mary Alice at his side. He is survived by his wife, five children and their spouses, 13 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Son of a milkman, Allan grew up in Dracut, Massachusetts, and graduated from the University of Massachusetts after serving in the Army during World War II. He fought in Italy and earned several battlefield promotions and was awarded a Bronze Star for bravery.



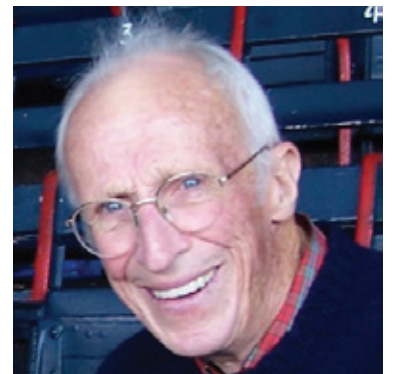
The stone came from the farm.

In 1963, Allan realized he was no longer fulfilled by his job in the corporate world and instead realized that being around his backyard assortment of farm animals brought him greater satisfaction. His dream of opening a farm where people and animals could mingle together in a natural relaxed atmosphere came to fruition when Allan and Mary Alice purchased the farmhouse portion of the Brewster Estate in 1964.

In 1976, the Farm was sold to me although both Allan and Mary Alice worked on the farm until they fully retired in 1990. Allan and Mary Alice loved to go camping during the offseason of the farm and they traveled all over the United States and four continents and later spent many winters in Frostproof, Florida.

Allan served Dublin as a Selectman, a member of the Planning Board, and Superintendent of the Cemetery. He was a longtime member of the Dublin Community Church. He also was devoted to watching Red Sox games on TV and loved happy hours with friends and family during the warmer months out on his back porch.

BRUCE FOX, a retired schoolteacher, is a former Dublin selectman himself. He and his family run both the Friendly Farm and Friendly Folks, which helps to look after seniors.





## Fat Biking in Winter

*And what this sport has contributed to my life.*

BY SHARI LAPIERRE

Two years ago, I began seriously pursuing what has become a new passion – well, let's just say a reawakening. I've been riding a bike since I was 7 years old. My Dad brought home a used Lil' Miss Schwinn – purple, with a banana seat and high-rise handlebars. I loved that bike. It took homemade jumps like a champ!

Fast-forward to 2015 and a fateful ride with the Greenfield Trails Association, a local mountain biking group that rides twice a week in Greenfield, NH. I borrowed my son's basic mountain bike (complete with kick stand) and rode my heart out over rocks, roots, down narrow trails and paths. I came home exhausted, dirty, and smiling from ear to ear. A mountain biker was born!

I continued to ride (on a much better bike) on mountain bike trails and rail trails all over the Monadnock Region and beyond. I love how it challenges me physically and mentally. I love riding so much, it's actually become a part of me – like breathing. I ride all four seasons in all kinds of weather. A fat bike allows me to do just that.

A fat-tire bike, or just "fat bike," is a



mountain bike with larger wheels that accept tires ranging in width from 3" to 5". On mine, I'm currently running 4.8" stud-ded tires that keep me safer on icier trails.

What's so enjoyable about fat bikes is their stability. The wider tires run on lower air pressure making the ride much smoother, especially over bumpy terrain. I ride with each tire at around 8 pounds of air pressure per square inch (psi) into it.

Rail trails are especially fun since snowmobiles travel the same corridors and groom the snow nicely. You can ride for miles. The local Brattleboro-Keene chapter

of the New England Mountain Biking Association also manually packs off-road bike trails, called single-track trails, in the Keene area using snowshoes. This expands the variety of terrain for winter bikers.

I ride my fat bike all year round. In fact, they're becoming popular among people from all walks of life. Even discount stores now sell a line of fat bikes. If you're considering a bike for off road enjoyment – try one out; you may be surprised.

I love winter and being outside in the snow, as many hardy New Englanders do. I still snowshoe and hike, but fat biking adds to my enjoyment of winter in a more adventurous way. And I get to re-experience that 7-year-old's joy and sense of freedom all year round.

If you're interested in trying this sport on for size, visit a local bike shop. Each carries different bike brands, but they can certainly help you decide what type of bike might be a good fit. Three bike shops (Norm's, 365 Cycling, and Andy's) are all located in Keene and were all helpful to me when I bought each of my bikes. Of course, if you know someone who is a mountain biker, pick their brains. Nothing beats sharing experiences, and we love to talk about our bikes and our rides! If you have any initial questions, please feel free to contact me. Hope to see you out there!

SHARI LAPIERRE, on the *Advocate* staff, can be reached at shari.lapierre@gmail.com.

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## Makerspace Offers Workshops: "Toss It? No Way!"

**M**AxT (Monadnock Art X Tech) is a community makerspace dedicated to supporting a vibrant creative and entrepreneurial community in our region. Access to its facility, shared equipment, and a growing community of artists, makers, and innovators is offered to members who can register easily.

In addition to offering the first Repair Cafe (Saturday, February 11, 10 am to 2 pm) to help you fix what's broken, MAxT will also present a two-part class on Japanese Woodworking to be taught by Paul Tuller of Dublin, called "An Introduction to the Art of Japanese Woodworking."

The first workshop (February 25) will cover the proper use and care of Japanese saws, chisels, and planes. The second workshop (March 4) will cover sharpening with Japanese water stones, plane setup and tuning, and traditional Japanese layout.

The two full-day classes can be taken individually or together, and are designed to provide students with an overview of

working with Japanese hand tools and some hands-on practice.

The Makerspace is located in Monadnock Plaza, 1 Jaffrey Rd., Peterborough. Members can attend for free; otherwise there is a \$5 door charge for non-members. Contact Monadnock Art X Tech (MAxT) at [info@monadnockartxtech.org](mailto:info@monadnockartxtech.org).

## Be Prepared When Hiking in Winter

**N**H Fish and Game Conservation Officers would like to remind anyone who ventures outdoors to prepare for the unexpected by leaving adequate time to hike and by carrying the essential equipment such as a map, flashlights, food, water, extra layers, and to know your physical limitations. Cell phone batteries tend to fail in the cold. For details, call CO William Boudreau, NH F&G at the Region IV Office in Keene, at 271-3361.

## Annual Spring Art Show at Jaffrey Civic Center

**T**he Jaffrey Civic Center announces the Call of Entry for the 2017 Annual Spring Art Show to be held March 17-April 14 with an opening reception on Friday, March 17, from 5 to 7 pm. This is a great opportunity for established artists and new local artists to showcase their work.

Each artist may submit two pieces in any medium, and two shrink-wrapped, matted pieces of art for the floor portfolio. The entry fee is \$25 per person. The sales commission is 30%. Artists may bring artwork to the Center beginning March 6 through March 11.

Call of Entry forms are available at [www.jaffreyciviccenter.com](http://www.jaffreyciviccenter.com) or at the Center. For more information, call 532-6527, or email [info@jaffreyciviccenter.com](mailto:info@jaffreyciviccenter.com). Open Monday through Friday, 10-12 and 1-5 pm and Saturday 10-2.

REGINA G. VORCE is Executive Director of the Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main Street, Jaffrey.

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## The Pine Grosbeak

BY TOM WARREN

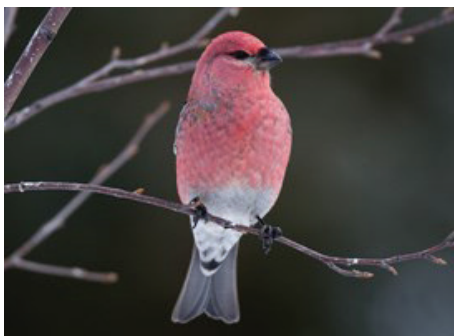
A large, brilliantly colored arboreal bird, the Pine Grosbeak lives in Northern boreal forests throughout the world but makes periodic visits, called irruptions, to the Dublin area in November and December. Thoreau referred to their “dazzling beauty” and called them “angels from the North.” This is one of the irruption years and already many were observed. Flocks build to a peak around Christmas and early January then decrease as the crabapples and mountain ash berries are eaten.

Some believe they move south due to bitterly cold weather to our north, but the usual reason is a failure of cone crops and fruiting shrubs.

Among their favorite foods are seeds of birch, ash, beech, maple, spruce, and larch trees as well as fruits of mountain cranberry, mountain ash, Virginia Juniper, crabapple, hawthorn and sumac. They eat the fruits largely to get at the seeds, usually discarding the fruit pulp. So you will not find them inebriated on the ground like Waxwings, birds that eat only the pulp.

It is a large unwary bird, and in my youth I discovered a flock on my paper route in crabapple trees, which I reported to my biology teacher. He was able to pick one up by hand and it was in our classroom for a week before returning to its favorite crabapple.

During the blizzard of February 1978, a flock of 100 birds descended on a local mountain ash and stripped the tree of its fruit in 30 minutes.



The male is a deep brick to carmine red color with grayish underparts and white wing bars. Females show more yellowish-olive coloration with the possibility of some rusty color dispersed.

Considerable flights often arrive in our area during mild winters. This is especially true when there is a dry, warm spring and summer in northern Canada, which results in fewer seeds and fruits. Another indicator of a mild winter is a mild November in our region.

Research studies in Europe and Scandinavia indicate that irruptions of Pine Grosbeaks there originate in Siberia.

The song has a “ventriloquially” quality and consists of a series of warbles and trills. Sometimes it will sing on bitter below-zero days.

Here in Dublin, look for these birds in any fruiting bush or tree, especially during storms. They will occasionally visit feeders for sunflower seeds.

TOM WARREN is Dublin's resident ornithologist, and serves as a trustee of both the Harris Center and the Audubon Society.

Photo by Chris Wood from All About Birds

## Backyard Winter Bird Survey

New Hampshire Audubon's annual Backyard Winter Bird Survey, now in its 30th year, will be on February 11 and 12. Past participants received last year's results with their 2017 forms in the mail in January. You can also report online or print out the survey from [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org), where you can also find more details on how to participate.

To receive a packet in the mail, call NH Audubon at 224-9909.



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## FEBRUARY 2017 Dublin Town Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>BOS</b> Board of Selectmen <b>DCA</b> Dublin Christian Academy <b>DCC</b> Dublin Community Church <b>DCS</b> Dublin Consolidated School <b>DPL</b> Dublin Public Library	<b>DS</b> Dublin School <b>HUB</b> Dublin Community Center (Open Mon & Weds 9:30-5:30) <b>MRC</b> Monadnock Rotary Club <b>TH</b> Town Hall		<b>1</b> <b>DPL</b> United Way 9 am; <b>HUB</b> Coffee 9-12 pm; Qigong 12-1 pm; Yoga 4-5:15 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>HUB</b> Art Opening Sally Bomer 5-7 pm	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>HUB</b> Art Classes with Earl Schofield 3-5 pm	<b>6</b> <b>HUB</b> Coffee 9-12 pm; Paws to Read 10 am; Zumba 5:30-6:30 pm; <b>TH BOS</b> 4 pm	<b>7</b> <b>DCC MRC</b> 7:30 am; <b>HUB</b> Craft Night MBVC 7-9 pm; Senior Exercise 11-12 pm; <b>DPL</b> HillTop Group 6:45 pm	<b>8</b> <b>DPL</b> StoryTime 9:30 pm; Trustees 7 pm; <b>HUB</b> Coffee 9-12 pm; Qigong 12-1 pm; Yoga 4-5:15 pm; <b>DCC</b> TwoHat Group 7 pm	<b>9</b> <b>DPL</b> Book Group 6:30 pm	<b>10</b> <b>HUB</b> Open Mic 7-9 pm	<b>11</b> Backyard Bird Count Winter Bird Survey; <b>HUB</b> Teenius Geenius Tech Talk 10-11 am; <b>Makerspace</b> Repair Café 10 am
<b>12</b> <b>Lincoln's Birthday</b> Bird Count continues; <b>HUB</b> Art Classes 3-5 pm	<b>13</b> <b>HUB</b> Coffee 9-12 pm; Zumba 5:30-6:30 pm; <b>TH BOS</b> 4pm	<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> <b>DCC MRC</b> 7:30 am; <b>HUB</b> Senior exercise 11-12 pm; <b>DPL</b> HillTop Group 6:45 pm	<b>15</b> <b>DPL</b> StoryTime 9:30 am; <b>HUB</b> Coffee 9-12 pm; Qigong 12-1 pm; Yoga 4-5:15 pm; <b>DCC</b> TwoHat Group 7 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>DCC DHS</b> Annual Pot Luck 6 pm; Speaker Gordon Hayward 6:45 pm	<b>18</b> <b>DHS</b> Annual Pot Luck Snow Date; <b>HUB</b> Teenius Geenius Tech Talk 10-11 am
<b>19</b> <b>HUB</b> Art Classes 3-5 pm	<b>20</b> <b>Washington's Birthday</b> <b>HUB</b> Paws to Read 10 am; Zumba 5:30- 6:30 pm	<b>21</b> <b>DCC MRC</b> 7:30 am; <b>HUB</b> Community Lunch-Nurse is in 12-1 pm; Senior Exercise 1-2 pm; <b>DPL</b> HillTop Group 6:45 pm	<b>22</b> <b>DPL</b> StoryTime 9:30 am; <b>HUB</b> Coffee 9-12 pm; Qigong 12-1 pm; Yoga 4-5:15 pm; <b>DCC</b> TwoHat Group 7 pm	<b>23</b> <b>HUB</b> Zumba Fundraiser 5:30-6:45 pm; <b>TH ZBA</b> 7 pm; <b>DS</b> "Once on This Island" 7 pm	<b>24</b> <b>DS</b> "Once on This Island" 7 pm	<b>25</b> <b>DS</b> "Once on This Island" 7 pm; <b>HUB</b> Teenius Genius Tech Talk 10-11 am; <b>Makerspace</b> Paul Tuller Japanese Tool Workshop (full-day)
<b>26</b> <b>DS</b> "Once on..." matinee 2 pm; <b>HUB</b> Art Class 3-5 pm	<b>27</b> <b>TH BOS</b> 4 pm	<b>28</b> <b>DCC MRC</b> 7:30 am; Community Supper 5:30-6:30 pm; <b>HUB</b> Senior Exercise 11-12 pm; <b>DPL</b> HillTop Group 6:45 pm				

**THE DUBLIN ADVOCATE** may be found online and in color at **WWW.DUBLINADVOCATE.COM**

*The Dublin Advocate* is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Everyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. Email submissions to **DublinAdvocate@gmail.com** by the 15th of each month.

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