

The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Dublin, NH 03444

NH DES Releases First Study of NH Lakes and Ponds

BY JULIE RIZZO

The NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) has released its first long-term study of the condition of lakes and ponds in New Hampshire. Data was gathered by NHDES and the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program, which includes lake residents and members of lake associations. The report reflects data collected statewide between 1991 and 2018 from 170 bodies of water with surface area greater than 10 acres, including 30 in the Monadnock Region.

These water bodies are key economic drivers, wildlife habitats, and sources of drinking water. The report will be produced every five years to provide regular updates on water quality conditions and trends.

Initial findings statewide include key takeaways noted by Annie Rokeir of New Hampshire Public Radio (9/1/2020):

1. The annual number of bacteria advisories, which limit recreational activities at lakes and beaches, rose from 2003 to 2018.

2. Most lakes didn't see significant changes in their temperature, acidity, or murkiness, but those that did generally became warmer, less acidic, and murkier – effects of both climate change and recovery from acid rain.

3. Average ice-out dates, when lakes fully thaw in the spring, are now coming about two weeks earlier than they did in the 1930s.

4. The number of lakes with invasive species has steadily increased, but these infestations are now being controlled more often with methods other than herbicides.

5. Lakes appear to be seeing more run-off from road salt, a possible consequence of increased development and population growth.

The report provided details about Dublin Pond (Lake) in Dublin, Harrisville



Pond, Lake Skatutakee, Russell Reservoir, and Silver Lake in Harrisville, among others in the Monadnock Region. Overall, Monadnock Region lakes and ponds show some of the highest increases in water temperature. These changes have likely been driven by increases in air temperature (almost 2° F from 1895 to 2011), earlier ice-out dates, and increases in water color known as “lake browning,” where increasing amounts of dissolved organic carbon darkens the water and absorbs more heat.

Monadnock Region waterbodies also showed higher than average increases in alkalinity, decreases in dissolved oxygen, and increases in pH. According to the report, increasing alkalinity is likely due to recovery from acid rain and influx of salt, and results in a lowered capacity to bounce back from acid events.

Reductions in dissolved oxygen may be a response to increasing water temperature, as warmer water holds less dissolved oxygen. These factors, as well as carbon dioxide and pollutant levels, in turn contribute to rising pH, which is vitally important to aquatic organisms such as insects and fish.

The Monadnock Region also shows some

of the highest rates of increase in total phosphorus in our waterbodies, the most common limiting nutrient in New Hampshire lakes. Changes in total phosphorus levels are waterbody-specific and reflect land-use practices in each watershed, and can have “cascading effects throughout a waterbody,” according to the report.

Storm water run-off, impervious surfaces, fertilizers, and vegetation loss contribute to increases, while decreases may reflect better management practices, such as leaving vegetation buffers intact, reducing fertilizer use, or regularly pumping septic systems.

Lakes and ponds typically undergo a slow aging process, advancing from clear water with few plants and/or algae (oligotrophic) to less clear water and lots of plants and/or algae (eutrophic). Human activities can lead to premature aging of a lake or pond by contributing artificially to the nutrients that stimulate plant growth. Dublin Pond (Lake) is a currently listed as an oligotrophic lake.

A summary of the report is available at <https://bit.ly/32qqv9d>, and the full report at <https://bit.ly/3isDm0n>.

JULIE RIZZO is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

Dublin Public Library

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

The Dublin Public Library opened to in-person browsing and reservations last month. We missed you!

Thank you for your patience during these unique times. We continue to be open by appointment for browsing and computer use. We are slowly adding open hours and days and will continue to operate under limited capacity with strict cleaning procedures and social distancing. Masks are required to enter the building. Curbside pickup will also be offered during any open hours.

Our current hours are on Mondays from 10 am to 2 pm; Tuesdays from 3 to 7 pm; and Wednesdays from 10 am to 2 pm.

Appointments and curbside pickup reservations can be made online via www.dublinpubliclibrary.org, Facebook, or directly at www.picktime.com/dublinpubliclibrary. Or please give

us a call (563-8658) or email (librarypublicdublin@myfairpoint.net) and we'd be happy to schedule an appointment for you, help with library card signup, and gather requested materials.

We are happily accepting donations of books again! Gently used books in good condition are welcome and will either be added to our collection for circulation, or set aside for the next Friends of the Dublin Public Library Book Sale. Incoming and returned material will continue to be quarantined for a minimum of three days.

We have some new options for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) kits, as well as Book Bundles, including coding kits, origami, robots, and more! As always, we have plenty of 'Take & Make' craft bags to bring home and enjoy.

Make your appointment today!

RACHAEL LOVETT was appointed the Director of the Library last March.

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Broadband Update

When the website is up, we can sign up for fiber broadband.

BY CAROLE MONROE

Utility poles have been delivered to locations all around Dublin. There are now more than 50 poles that require replacement and this work has begun. Fiber has also been strung on various poles throughout town, mostly in areas without pole replacements or underground requirements. Consolidated Communications has brought in Eustis Cable, a network construction firm from Vermont, to do the aerial fiber network and Twin State Utilities, to ensure access to any mainline conduits. You will be seeing their trucks around town (and at the Dublin General Store for lunch).

When the network is complete, Consolidated will be delivering fast internet service to our Town-owned buildings without charge. This will be great for our employees and committee members, and for events and meetings at Town Hall or the Library.

We are still expecting Consolidated Communications' Dublin-specific website to be announced in October. When the website is available, we can all sign up for fiber broadband. The page will include internet rates, as well as telephone, internet, and streaming television packages. When this page is ready, a notice will be posted to Next Door, on the Town's website, and in the *Advocate*.

Please feel free to email me at carole.monroe@valley.net if you have any questions or concerns. If I don't know the answer, I'll find the answer.

CAROLE MONROE is a Selectperson of Dublin, and was a key organizer for bringing Broadband coverage to Dubliners.



Photo by Carole Monroe



New Library Cards for Everyone!

CORRECTION

In the September issue, three of the four phone numbers were correct for local contractors should Dubliners wish to seek advice or work for underground conduit — the broadband's fiber-optic cable going in now all around town.

Here is a correct phone number for Dave Whitney: 563-8067. The *Advocate* regrets the error.



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From the Town Moderator

BY TIM CLARK

In my 16 years as Dublin's Moderator, I have never felt so proud of our town as I did after the primary election on September 8. We had a surprisingly large turnout (550) in spite of the pandemic, and a record number of absentee ballots were cast.

Voters used their common sense and followed the procedures we established to keep everyone safe. They were patient with delays, willingly repeated their names to ballot clerks who found it hard to hear them because of masks and plastic shields, and followed directions from me and other

election officials promptly and, for the most part, cheerfully. I had lost a lot of sleep leading up to the election, fearing tension and discourtesy, but there was virtually none.

I'm expecting at least twice as many voters to cast ballots in the general election on November 3, so we'll all have to be even more patient with and kind to one another. But I'm no longer losing sleep about it.

On behalf of all of us who work the elections, thank you.

If you haven't already requested your absentee ballot for November 3, please do so now. It helps.

TIM CLARK is our Town Moderator.



Photo by Nancy Campbell

Taken on September 5th, when the absentee ballots were pre-processed. This marks the first time such an event has happened in Dublin.

Thank You to Poll Workers

BY JUDY KNAPP

The moderator, the town clerk, the supervisors of the checklist, the board of selectmen, and the town administrator all worked to make the State Primary election as safe as possible. In the end, however, it was successful because of the Dubliners who volunteered to work on September 8.

We sent out an appeal for volunteers in the *Advocate* and on Next Door and the people of Dublin stepped forward.

Sarah Sangermano, Megan Suokko, and I would like to extend our gratitude to everyone by name who worked as a ballot clerk, greeter/disinfector, or ballot counter: Shauna Arpin, Cecily Bastedo, June Brening, Nancy Campbell, Peter Cerroni, April Claggett, May Clark, Christine Clinton, Pam Cox, Laura Elcoate, Bruce Fox, Judy Gannon, Bill Gurney, Andy Hungerford, Debbie Jameson, Traceymay Kalvaitis, Karen Keenan, Louise Kenyon, Peter Kenyon, Jesse Marcum, Sharon Murray, Karen Niemela, Janice Roberts, Elaine Sandford, Kiki Sangermano, Lucy Shonk, Celeste Snitko, Tim Suokko, K Vanderbilt, David VanEtten, Anne Marie Warren, and Kyle Wilcox.

Thanks also to David DeWitt who donated face shields that made it possible for any poll worker who was not behind a sneeze guard to have a face shield available to them and to K Vanderbilt for helping us secure hand sanitizer and disinfectant, masks, and gloves.

Because of the generosity of the volunteers, we were able to disinfect the booths between voters, ensure that voters entering the polling place had used hand sanitizer, and limit the ballot clerk shifts to three hours instead of the usual six hours.

We all owe these individuals our thanks for making this a safe election for the people of Dublin.

JUDY KNAPP is Supervisor of the Checklist.

Photo by Judy Knapp



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News from Our Police Department

The Dublin Police Department is excited to welcome Officer Dan Anair to the ranks. Officer Anair was sworn in on September 10, 2020, and will serve as a part-time police officer for the Town of Dublin. Officer Anair joins the department with nearly 20 years of full-time service with the Rindge Police Department. Please welcome him to town.



In other news, the Dublin Police Department will be participating in the Pink Patch Project (pinkpatchproject.com), a national campaign to raise awareness about breast cancer. Throughout October, officers will be able to wear special pink uniform patches in an effort

to raise awareness and honor the lives of those who have been affected by this disease.

The Dublin Police Department has teamed up with the New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition (NHBC.org) to raise money for its support services fund, which provides financial assistance to breast cancer patients. These pink patches can be purchased (by check) at the Dublin Police Department for a minimum donation of \$10.00 each (please make checks payable to New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition).

Donations can also be made to the Dublin Police Pink Patch Project online fundraiser at charity.gofundme.com/dublin-pink-patch-project.



Trunk or Treat!

Mountain View Bible Church will host its annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 31, at 81 Page Road here in Dublin. The event will begin at 6 pm. While the event itself may look a little different this year, we look forward to once again offering this fun event for families. Please check out our website (mtnviewbible.org) or follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/mvbedublin) for more announcements.

The Town of Dublin announces the official times for **Trick or Treating** will be Saturday, October 31, from 5:30-7:30 pm.

The Hub Takes a Stand

The Dublin Community Center recognizes and stands with the awakening recognition that violence — individual and systemic — towards Black people, Indigenous people and People of Color (BIPOC) is unacceptable. We affirm that this is a human rights issue.

We acknowledge that there is structural racism within our country, and as such, inherently present within our community. We acknowledge that privilege for our white community members exists at both the simple level of daily life and within our larger financial, governmental, educational and political institutions, and that this privilege, whether overtly or unconsciously expressed, is harmful for our BIPOC community members.

We also recognize and respect that within our community there are differing opinions and expectations of how we move forward as part of this change that is happening in the larger world and here in our community. Recognizing that the strength and character of a community is not reflected in its harmony, but in how it addresses the complexity of its conflict, we pledge to serve as a safe space where healthy conversations can happen to address these conflicts and to support opportunities so that our community can consciously address and change all forms of racism.

— Adopted by the Dublin Community Center Board of Directors, September 8, 2020

Science Forum at Mountain View Bible Church

On October 11-13, Dr. George Matzko will present five seminars considering science in the Bible. Dr. Matzko, who holds a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from Clemson University, taught at the college level for 39 years until he retired in 2018. He and his wife now travel as Science Ambassadors for Bob Jones University, speaking primarily in churches and schools.

The free seminars will cover a variety of topics and are open to the community. Additional information can be found at www.mtnviewbible.org/science.



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DCS News

BY NICOLE PEASE

What an amazing start to the school year! With a tremendous amount of planning for students to return to school, the first day, weeks, and now month have whizzed by! Staff members spent a great deal of time working on new routines around physical distancing and mask wearing. While we realized that teaching and learning while wearing masks would be different, staff focused on how to engage students in their learning, and how to incorporate safety protocols into our school day to allow for students to return to school in the safest way possible.

DCS staff combine the new protocols with a deep focus on strengthening the social and emotional development of our students. The work of staff on social and emotional learning begins with asking students and their parents to identify their



hopes and dreams. These become the basis for developing classroom and schoolwide expectations. Always at the forefront of this work is our building motto — “DCS Cares...for ourselves, each other, our school and community.” It is so lovely to see the deep sense of community develop through this process despite being apart for six months.

With the onset of October, many of the fall benchmark assessments have been completed. These results will guide the teachers' lessons and grouping in the classrooms. These scores are also used to assess student progress throughout the year and also our effectiveness as a school.

The staff and students at DCS have embraced the outdoor learning spaces! While there have been some delays in the installation and inspection of the tents, staff have used the opportunity to learn outdoors in many different ways, welcoming the integration of learning spaces without walls. This has looked a little different at each grade level, but staff and students all enjoy learning outside.

I am so thankful for our amazing students, their families, and our staff who all make DCS the special place it is! Please call the school at 563-8332 with questions.

NICOLE PEASE is the Teaching Principal at DCS.

DCA Takes Learning Outdoors

This year Dublin Christian Academy teachers are finding new opportunities to teach students outside the classroom.

The school's reopening plan separates students into multi-grade pods that stay together in one or two dedicated classrooms each day. Because students are moving less between classrooms, teachers are bringing students outside and using the school's campus in new ways to keep students active and engaged.

Each pod has two outside breaks during the day. During breaks, the upper school students have enjoyed competing at Crossnet, a game that combines volleyball with four-square. Because singing and playing instruments can increase the spread of germs, students are going outside to make music. Lower school students also have some classroom time outside, practicing their skills in new ways.

Although the faculty and staff and students look forward to a time when restrictions can safely be lifted, they have enjoyed taking advantage of the school's spacious campus.



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Invasive Species of Plants in Dublin

BY KATIE FEATHERSTON

This month the town will sponsor the spraying of several plots in Dublin, both public and private, for invasive knotweed. The spraying is done by a licensed professional, and has been in practice for several years now. One of those plots previously sprayed is across the street from our driveway on Church Street, which is the property of Dublin School. The spraying has reduced the knotweed population along the road by 90%, but other invasive plants, mostly bitter-sweet and buckthorn, continue to thrive farther back under the trees.

As an organic gardener, certified in Permaculture Design, I have been searching for other ways to manage these plants, while encouraging the population of native plants. One of the best sources I have found on understanding the science of invasive plants is the book, *Beyond the War on Invasive Species: a Permaculture Response to Ecosystem Restoration* by Tao Orion.

In the book the author looks at what makes a species invasive vs. native, how plants move from one ecosystem to another, and what they do when they colonize a new environment.

The plants that we consider invasive frequently show up in areas that have been disturbed by human activity where the soil has been degraded. They may actually contribute to the rehabilitation of the soil and be part of a succession of plants in the area; for

instance, knotweed plants are high in nitrogen, which is added to the soil every year when the plant dies back.

One of my questions about the spray program is, how long do you have to spray before you consider the knotweed eradicated? As mentioned before, after several years of spraying on Church Street the knotweed has been greatly reduced, but it's not gone. Many, many native plants have moved in (asters, golden rod, jewel weed, skunk cabbage, Jack-in-the-pulpit, rudbeckia, to name a few), but all of those would be killed by the non-specific herbicide used in the spray program.

It turns out that spraying is not a simple answer to a complicated problem. We need to consider the idea of suppression rather than eradication and management of our landscapes to give the native plants some advantage over the aggressive ones. And there is more to

consider. New plant species are moving this way due to climate change, and some native plants are disappearing.

This year Dublin School has agreed not to spray the patch across from our driveway, although they will spray two other sites on campus. The unsprayed patch will serve as a demonstration plot for management techniques to suppress the invasive species and multiply the natives.

Church Street is a poster for invasive species that are very challenging: buckthorn, bittersweet, garlic mustard, Japanese barberry, multiflora rose, and Japanese honeysuckle. They use different strategies for spreading — such as seeds, suckers, and roots. I think knotweed is the only one with the ability to root itself from the tiniest bit of cutting, which is why we have to be so careful not to spread it through cutting or mowing.

Nevertheless, at our house we have been able to reduce our knotweed population by at least 95% through cutting, mowing, burning and pulling, and replaced it with many native plants that have either come in on their own or been planted. And yet it still requires regular maintenance and management to keep what little remains under wraps.

I plan on using the same approach on the plot across from our driveway, so if you see little piles of weeds along the roadside, you'll know we have been battling the invasive species.

KATIE FEATHERSTON is a member of the Conservation Commission.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Dublin Historical Society seeks an Administrator to work part-time, approximately 5 hours a week, at the Dublin Archives building.

The ideal candidate will have an interest in Dublin's history and research. Strong organizational skills are necessary as well as

aptitude in managing a database (including data entry), familiarity with social media, and an ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

Previous experience is not required — just capabilities and a willingness to learn.

Interested candidates will please send resume and cover letter to Lucy Shonk at Lshonk66@gmail.com or to 66 Old Troy Road, Dublin, NH 03444.



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ConVal Reopening 2020-2021

BY ALAN EDELKIND

Think about the ConVal 2020-2021 school year reopening: all of the moving parts, the number of folks involved both internally and externally, the variables in how to reopen while keeping foremost the safety, health, educational needs, and welfare of our students, teachers, administration, and staff.

As I noted in a previous article, a plan is only as good as the day it was written with the information available at that time. It is the execution of the plan and the ability to react to unplanned situations as they occur that is the real challenge.

There have been speed bumps in the implementation of our well-thought-out plan including, but not limited to, the availability of certified tents and the effect on in-school learning, technology limitations and issues, remote learning environments, and challenges affecting both our students and teachers. These needs are being addressed by both administration and the school board on a priority basis with well-thought-out solutions being developed. This continues

to be a vigorous effort with forward progress on all fronts.

We, along with a wonderfully supportive community, will continue to provide the environment, tools, and processes needed for all to move past these abnormal times. Do not hesitate to contact your school principals, administration or your school board representative for their assistance and help with any issues that develop.

The key to all of our success is flexibility. This is not a perfect environment

we have been forced into – but we will get through this together.

Also, not to be forgotten is the effect of these extraordinary times on the school budget and Dublin’s obligation to the School District. I will start to bring the facts to your attention in my next article here in the *Advocate*.

Stay safe, healthy and look forward to a great future.

ALAN EDELKIND is the Dublin School Board Representative.

Dublin Community Church News

On Tuesday, October 27, the Community Church is offering a take-out meal. The menu is baked ham, baked potatoes, green beans, and cookies. Please call June Brening at 563-8467 by Thursday, October 22, to reserve your dinner(s). This way we will have an idea of the number of dinners to plan on. Anyone interested in contributing to this menu (except for the ham), call June.

ABOUT THE GARDEN SANCTUARY

The Dublin Community Church owns and maintains the Garden Sanctuary for the pleasure of the public. There are fees for certain events.

Please call the church office for details at 563-8139.



Recycling Is Important

With so many new people in new homes in Dublin, it is up to us to help improve use of the transfer station/recycling. To follow up on last month’s posting, we remind you to please sort your trash to recycle it properly in the bins. Here are some tips:

Starting from the left side of the barn, corrugated cardboard bin also takes brown paper bags. Mixed paper now takes slicks, but newsprint ad flyers go in with newspapers.

Cans you drink from (aluminum) are separate from the cans you open for food. And it’s so easy to just remove the tops of screw-on plastic bottles. Not all plastic is recyclable; ask the Kennedys if you are not sure.

So that leaves food waste, which you can compost at home if so inclined. All other trash does go into the compactor. Potentially useful items can be left alongside the compactor for someone to take home.

Fees are required for discarded furniture; please speak to Tom and pay accordingly. There is a place for yard waste on the

compost pile, including wood up to 5” in diameter.

With the Swap Shop closed due to COVID (and with hopes it will open next spring), there is one large bin for books, another large bin for clothing and shoes.

The big metal stuff can be left in front of the dumpster until Tom tosses it in. Some of it can be reused.

Please be alert, be globally conscious by acting locally, and keep Dublin recycling responsible.

– *Compiled from recycling board notes*

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October Events at the DubHub

Coffee & Conversation

Weather permitting, the DubHub will continue to host outdoor, socially distant, Coffee & Conversation gatherings throughout October in the Garden Sanctuary behind the Dublin Community Church. If the weather forecast is not favorable, we'll resort to a Zoom session. When in doubt, please email Volkert at info@dublincommunitycenter.org. Monday sessions are hosted by June Brening, and Wednesday sessions are hosted by Mary Loftis. Both will be from 10 am to noon. Bring a

lawn chair and dress appropriately for the outdoor sessions.

Music Events

Weather permitting, the DubHub Song Circle will meet on Sunday, October 4, at 3 pm, in the Garden Sanctuary behind the Dublin Community Church. This will be the final outdoor session of this season. Plans for DubHub Open Stage on Friday, October 23, are still up in the air as we explore various online options. If you, or someone you know,

Decatur Creek Performs Livestream Benefit Concert

Decatur Creek, the popular local folk trio that headlined the Dublin Folk Show in January, will be featured in a livestream concert on Friday, October 30, at 7 pm. Doug Farrell, Jack Henry, and Beth Eldridge are accomplished NH musicians, singer/songwriters, and performers who together are Decatur Creek. Their diverse styles complement one another and the group's evolving original acoustic sound will bring a smile to your face, rhythm to your feet, and leave you wanting for more. Details for this online event benefitting the Dublin Community Center will be in the Hubbub, on Facebook, and in local media.

Decatur Creek (Doug Farrell, Beth Eldridge, Jack Henry)



Tom Martin and Don Baldini presented The Great American Songbook in an outdoor concert.

would like to be the videographer for our DubHub events, please email Volkert at info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Take-Out Community Lunch

The free take-out Community Lunch will be held on Thursday, October 15, from noon to 1 pm. Lunches will be distributed from the main entrance of the DubHub. The menu will reflect an Octoberfest theme. For more information, or if you'd like to help, please call Mary Loftis at 831-6641.



Paul Tuller, who assembled the Hub's new BBQ grill, used it for the 6th annual Chicken BBQ.

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An audience of 70 people sat, socially distanced, in the Garden Sanctuary behind Dublin Community Church on September 12, to enjoy a concert by Dublin resident, Tom Martin. The concert was a benefit for the DubHub

Knit with Nancy via Zoom

Knit with Nancy via Zoom continues on Friday mornings at 10. Contact Nancy Cayford at npcayford@myfairpoint.net if you'd like to be invited.



Face Masks Are Still Available

The COVID-19 crisis is far from over and face masks are still the first line of defense. On October 1, our local free facemask rack will move back to the main entrance of the DubHub. For those who want to make a donation, a secure donation

box will be in place. Each month a different charity/service agency will receive a portion of the donations. If you want to help (donating fabric, sewing masks, etc.), please contact Ruth Thompson at catinthehat3@myfairpoint.net.

Follow the DubHub with the Hubhub and FB

Links to virtual events are provided in the weekly Hubhub from the DubHub newsletter, and can usually be found on DubHub Facebook pages. For more information, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org. Please don't call, as there is no one in the office until things return to normal. To sign up for the Hubhub newsletter go to <http://eepurl.com/bLCNTz>. Once the DubHub resumes public events the online calendar will be updated at dublincommunitycenter.org.

DubHub Wifi Access

The DubHub Wifi is accessible from the parking lot. Look for the network NETGEAR28-5G_EXT. The password is ancientpond703 (all lower case).

You Can Help Make Polar Fleece Fingerless Mitts

Keep the schoolchildren's hands warm when studying outdoors.



- Cut polar fleece 7x8 inches. Fold either way depending on size of hand.
- Sew down one side for 2 inches, leave 1.5 in. open for thumb, sew rest to end.
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If you want to knit fingerless mitts, email Nancy at npcayford@myfairpoint.net for directions.

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We have made and given away approximately 650 face masks.

BY RUTH THOMPSON

If anyone has cotton fabric, muslin, or 1/4-in. elastic they can offer, it would go to good use!

When COVID-19 stripped our world of its life, it created anxiety in me that I didn't even know was there. Listening to the news and how quickly it was spreading with grim outcomes was heavy on my heart. At that same time, the media was claiming it wasn't necessary for the general public to wear a mask; I felt differently about that.

A friend had sent me a video that spoke clearly to me. It was a story about how people sewed face masks at home in the Czech Republic and lowered the number of COVID-19 cases. They put them out on city corners for people to take. I thought, that's what we need to do to make a difference in our town.

I've sewn all my life, had a sewing machine collecting dust, and several boxes full of fabric that had never seen fruition. I felt it would be a crime if I didn't do this.

On April 3, I contacted Nancy Cayford and asked if she'd like to join me to start a community effort to offer free homemade masks to whoever needs them. Her reply was an immediate yes, and we began.

The Free Mask Rack went up the very next morning at the entrance of our beloved and vacant DubHub. We promoted the free masks on NextDoor and through the DubHub newsletter. That was all it took; the rack has emptied daily.

We continue to try and keep some available at all time, and it gets challenging

with other orders that come in from family, friends, nursing homes, but the response has been wonderful! After 11 days,

Nancy and I had made 200 for our community alone.

We continued to make and hang free face masks through June 20, took summer off and started back up the first week of August when we found the need was still present. As of September 16, we have made and given away approximately 650 face masks. In August we added a secure donation box. All of the donated proceeds from the Free Mask Rack are being given back to the community.

We've given donations to the Peterborough Food Pantry, MATS, End 68 Hours of Hunger, and we've had two free Ice Cream "Socials" for the community.

Going forward, I continue to make the masks with the help of my mom (she's 87

and sews every day!). I welcome sewers to join us: contact me at catinthehat3@myfairpoint.net. I'm now posting at the rack which organization the monthly donated money will go to and welcome community suggestions for future months.

For September, all donations at the Free Mask Rack went to Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter (MATS). So many people are in need of housing because of lost jobs and increased rents in our area.

Here is the link to the video that inspired me: docs.google.com/document/d/1EWpWmyjzM4sNBF-7jp_1Y9a-pqiRg0wakGXy7kj11RA/preview

RUTH THOMPSON lives in Dublin with her husband Jim. Ruth is a CASA/GAL volunteer, in the Keene District Court (court appointed special advocate/*Guardian ad Litem* for abused, neglected, at risk children). She has a band, Mulligan Row, which records and shares original music and participates in Dublin's Open Stage, Song Circle, and the Monadnock Ukulele Group (MUG).

The River Center Offerings

The River Center has rolled out some new programs and more are coming. On Mondays, a new parent/baby group meets in person from 10 to 11:30 am for sharing the joys and challenges of pregnancy into parenthood with other new parents and their babies.

On Thursday, October 1, at 7 pm we are continuing our Community Conversations series with Special Education Concerns and Your Child for parents who want to be more informed and more prepared to advocate and support their children receiving services in the schools.

On October 7, Bonnie Harris will begin her Parenting Tweens group that will meet biweekly at 12-1 pm. Get support and learn all about parenting a 10-13 year old so you

can stay connected with your child through these years.

Other programs coming in October and November are Safe@Home and Safe Sitter programs online for Grades 4 and up; offering virtual tutoring, our Coffee and Kindness group, a kinship group, online group play activities for children, and other parenting support programs.

We are also continuing to offer information and referral assistance if you are seeking resources and free one-on-one virtual money coaching for anyone, regardless of income, who would like help making sense of their household finances.

Visit us at rivercenter.us or our facebook page to learn about our programs as we announce them. Call us at 924-6800 if you need help finding resources or want more information about our programs.



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A Long Career

BY MARY LOFTIS

Linda Clukay, who started working at Yankee Publishing in November 1966, just retired from the company on August 21 – a career spanning 54 years! Although many of us think of Linda as the receptionist in the front office, answering and directing calls and greeting visitors, she worked in several different capacities over the years, both in Dublin and in Depot Square when Yankee had an office in Peterborough.

As Linda thinks back over her working life, she is grateful and humbled to be associated with such a “special place with good management.” She says she learned so much in her job, from administrative skills to working with computers and interacting with customers.

Rob Sagendorph was the Publisher of *Yankee* in the early years when Linda’s job involved opening subscription orders and filing them in a circular drum. Later she worked on fulfillment in the book division.

When Linda assumed the role of receptionist, part of her job became greeting visitors who made the pilgrimage to Dublin to visit the home of *Yankee* magazine



and the *Old Farmer’s Almanac*. Because of her long tenure with the company, she could answer most any question tourists might have.

Many Dubliners know Linda as the coordinator of the famed Yankee Barn Sale and, for many years, the Yankee Craft Fair. She and facilities guy Mike Caron would plot out the Yankee field, assigning spaces

so all of us Dubliners could jettison our unwanted stuff (or maybe just exchange it!). She was also in charge of choosing a local nonprofit to operate the concession stand. The annual event became a Dublin tradition which, because of the pandemic, was cancelled this summer.

Linda grew up in Maryland, and now that she’s retired, she’s headed back to be closer to family, including her sisters in Pennsylvania. The moving process has involved lots of divesting. She just had a yard sale at her West Peterborough house, and she says she’s been playing “musical furniture” with different members of her family.

Although it was time to retire, she says she’ll miss her colleagues at *Yankee*, whom she considers her “other family.” And that little office in the front of the red building won’t be the same without Linda’s friendly smile — and her little candy bowl!

MARY LOFTIS is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

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A Virtual Summer at Emmanuel Church

Despite the pandemic, Dublin's summer chapel completed its 132nd year of services.

BY ELLEN AVERY

In April, Emmanuel Church's managing committee grappled with the decision by the Episcopal Diocese of NH not to open their nine seasonal chapels due to the pandemic. At the urging of our two Priests-in-residence, both working at year-round churches in New York and North Carolina, we looked at what they were doing to stay in touch with their communities of faith.

The loud and clear message was "go virtual" with pre-recorded services uploaded to a website that can be viewed 24/7 from anywhere. All well and good, but Emmanuel had no website and who was going to figure out all the mechanics of recording, and creating the final version of the weekly services?

The Managing Committee ultimately voted to move forward in spite of the unknown. We got busy learning what was needed to produce videos and, within three weeks, the website (www.emmanuel-churchdublin.org) was launched. The first service aired at 9 am on Sunday, June 28,

and continued Sundays through September 6 (all on our website).

Reverends Gideon Pollach and John Branson rolled up their sleeves and helped move the church's virtual presence into reality.



Bill Raymond jumped in as videographer and editor, and I served as web-master; we are both former Dublin residents.

With all these new capabilities, Emmanuel Church is better for the experience and is initiating a year-round virtual connection with parishioners.

ELLEN AVERY is Senior Warden at Emmanuel Church.

Peterborough Monday Night Church Suppers-To-Go

Union Congregational Church in Peterborough (33 Concord Street) resumed its weekly free community suppers on Monday, September 14, with the church offering meals for takeout once a week.

A different meal will be served every week, and menus are posted online at www.uccpeterborough.org/community-suppers.

Supper orders must be placed by noon on Fridays. Order by calling the church office at 924-3272 and leaving a name and number of meals for Monday evening pickup.

"UCC invites and encourages anyone in the local community to participate," said supper coordinator Martha Dahl. "A limited number of people will cook and clean up, to keep the kitchen safe and workers socially distanced."



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Hawk Migration Floodgates Opened September 16

Reservations are now required by all visitors to enter the park.

BY PHIL BROWN

For 16 consecutive seasons, biologists and volunteers at the Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory atop Miller State Park in Peterborough regularly record up to 15 different migrating raptor species.

From mid-September through mid-October, significant daily and seasonal flights of Broad-winged Hawks are possible, with lesser numbers of other species that include Sharp-shinned Hawks, Peregrine Falcons, Ospreys, and Bald Eagles. Mid-October through mid-November often brings Golden Eagles and Northern Goshawks, among others.

In 2019, Harris Center staff and volunteers greeted more than 5,700 people at the Observatory, introducing many of them to raptor migration and conservation. This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Observatory looks a little different. Although plenty of people are hitting the trails and safely enjoying the outdoors, there are new restrictions in place, including limitations on numbers of visitors to the Observatory platform — and to Miller State Park, our host partner.

Visitors hoping to view the migration from Pack Monadnock this season should be aware that an online reservation system is now in place and that reservations are now required by all visitors to enter the park. For more information, please visit the Miller State Park website



(www.nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/miller-state-park).

Fortunately, the Harris Center and NH Audubon are finding new ways to connect even more people to raptors. In addition to welcoming visitors to the Observatory area, we have planned many engaging, virtual raptor-related events. You can find more information about these events at <https://harriscenter.org/conservation-research/pack-monadnock-raptor-observatory/hawk-watch-events>

2020 BY THE NUMBERS (SO FAR)

As of 9/15/20, more than 3,000 migratory raptors (the vast majority being Broad-winged Hawks) have already been tallied, and there are surely several thousand more to come in the next two weeks. High

pressure conditions and a northwest wind should continue to usher big numbers of Broad-winged Hawks; the biggest Broad-winged push was expected between 9/11 and 9/24. Plan ahead and make your reservations for early October!

If you'd rather avoid crowds, seek out your own vantage point at a high spot with a north-facing view. A few other good places to try in the region might include Pitcher Mountain (Stoddard), Croched Mountain (Greenfield), or Wilson Hill (Deering), among other locations.

In addition, you can now follow the migration season online in two ways:

- Hawkcount.org: Hawkcount.org
- Harris Center Field Reports: harriscenter.org/conservation-research/pack-monadnock-raptor-observatory/hawk-migration-field-reports

for periodic migration reports, photos, and informative links

The Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory is a partnership between NH Audubon and the Harris Center for Conservation Education, hosted at Miller State Park by the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation. Show your support of continuing research and efforts that connect so many to the world of raptor migration, and select "Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory" at <https://harriscenter.org/donate>.

PHIL BROWN is the Harris Center Hawk Watch Coordinator.

Photo courtesy Phil Brown and NH Audubon

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2021 Old Farmer's Almanac on the Stands

Good things do come in small packages.

Now in its 229th consecutive year, *The Old Farmer's Almanac* is particularly timely in helping people to live better, stay healthy, and do more with less. One can read about Small-Space Gardening 101, as people from all walks of life embrace the practicalities of growing their own food; the Almanac helps to match the care needs of each kind of new pet to the busy lifestyles of prospective owners; since 1880, sea levels have risen 6.5 inches — with nearly half of this has been since 1950, through this strictly scientific look by the Almanac.

You can read up on tips for fighting colds and flu; stories of farmers who work their dreams while making a difference, including food, garden, financial, and lifestyle trends for 2021, the world of migrating birds, and award-winning appetizer recipes.

The Old Farmer's Almanac (\$7.99) encourages readers to buy from indepen-

dent booksellers and retailers whenever possible. Find local retailers at Almanac.com/Wheretobuy.

The Old Farmer's Almanac originates from Yankee Publishing Inc., an employee-owned company based here in Dublin.

Followup: 2020 Census Nonresponse Rates

Available at local level: Dublin at 59.5%.

The U.S. Census Bureau began to release daily 2020 Census Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) workload completion rates by area census office. As of September 1, more than 60.3% of the Nonresponse Followup workload has been completed nationwide. Dublin is at 59.5% (2020census.gov/en/response-rates/self-response.html), however the percentage of NRFU Workload Complete for Concord Area Census Office (2263): 88.0%

Nonresponse Followup is the final 2020 Census data collection operation to count households that have not yet responded to the census online, by phone, or by mail.

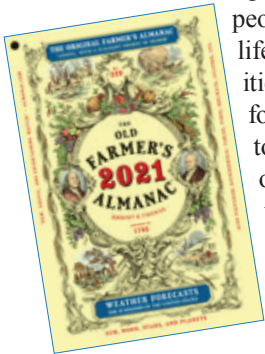
These rates are being released for the first time during a decennial census. The

Census Bureau is releasing this information in order to help our partners and the public track their area's progress in completing the 2020 Census (www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2020/nonresponse-rates-local-level.html).

The Census Bureau is committed to a complete and accurate count and urges every household to respond when a census taker comes to the door or respond on their own by using their census ID online, by phone, or by mail. Visit 2020census.gov for details.

Food for the Children

End 68 Hours of Hunger continues its mission to provide weekend food for food-insecure children in the ConVal School District. Because the program's distribution system is primarily through the schools, the exact timing — which days the food will go home with the kids — is still a work in progress. But the children will get the food! The family of any child attending school in the ConVal district and needing weekend food may contact that child's school principal. Families of home-schooled children are encouraged to email lcara@yahoo.com or text 603-660-2914. End 68 Hours is here to help!



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Monadnock Art Gallery Show in Peterborough

The Monadnock Art Gallery Show will be hosted from October 10 through November 7, 2020, by the Monadnock Center for History and Culture at 19 Grove Street in downtown Peterborough.

There will be no opening reception due to COVID-19. The show hours will be 10 am to 4 pm during Columbus Day weekend (October 10 & 11).

During the rest of the show through November 7, the hours will be Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. Staff from the Monadnock Center will help visitors transact sales. Each artist will show up to two pieces, and all art will be available for sale.

New this year, customers will be asked to take the art piece immediately upon purchase and the artist may replace the sold work with another.

The Board of Monadnock Art/FDAC can be contacted at monadnockartfdac@gmail.com.

Remember to get your flu shot!

Night Owl

BY TOM WARREN

In the past few weeks, many Dublin residents have reported to me they are hearing owls at night, and observing them during daylight hours. Barred Owls, Great Horned Owls and shortly, Saw-Whet Owls during migration to southern latitudes, will be heard.

Times vary, but the following are species common:

- Barred Owl, 10–12 pm and 3 am
- Great-Horned Owl, 12–5 am
- Whet Owl, 7–9 pm

Here is a fact sheet for owls and their incredible adaptation to night life:

Owl vision is 2-3 times better than ours, but a house cat can see twice as well as an owl at night.

Some humans can see twice as well as an owl.

Owls have large eyes. The eye of the Great-Horned Owl is as large as a human's.



The eyes of some owls can admit 2.7 times more light than the human eye.

Owls can focus their eyes 10 times faster than humans so they can see obstacles quickly and make flight adjustments to avoid collisions.

Female owls are larger and 40% heavier than males, which allows for egg production and the generation of heat energy for incubation.

Owls have a well-developed sense of hearing and have evolved asymmetry

in ear openings. This allows sound to be perceived fractionally sooner than its other ear. The time difference may be as little as 3/100,000ths of a second. They can locate sound with remarkable accuracy.

The large facial discs of owls gather and concentrate sound waves like a parabolic reflector to focus sound on an owl's ear.

Owls can hear and locate mice 6" under the snow.

TOM WARREN is Dublin's resident ornithologist.



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OCTOBER 2020 Dublin Town Events



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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 by the 15th of each month to DublinAdvocate@gmail.com.

Articles subject to edit. The editor reserves the right to refuse any article or advertisement.

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