

The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Dublin, NH 03444

A Word from Our Moderator

Treat one another with patience, kindness, and respect.

BY TIM CLARK

The November election will begin on Saturday, October 31, at noon at Town Hall, as we pre-process the absentee ballots that have arrived by then. The ballots will not be opened or counted at that time; instead, we will open the outer envelopes to be sure that the voter has signed the inner envelope, which contains the ballot itself. Without the voter's signature (and that of anyone who helped the voter), the ballot will not be counted. This process will not only save us time on election day, November 3, when the election truly begins, but it will give us time to notify any voters who failed to sign the outer envelope, so that they can come in and correct the problem. As part of the voting, this procedure is open to the public.

If you wish to vote absentee, and have not mailed in your ballot, you can deliver your own ballot to the Town Clerk by 5 pm on Monday, November 2. However, on Election Day itself (Tuesday, November 3), your ballot will only be counted if it is delivered to Town Hall by 5 pm by a commercial delivery service, an authorized



delivery agent (a family member, a nursing home or elder care administrator, or a person who assists a voter with a disability).

Even if you requested and received an absentee ballot, you do not have to use it if you change your mind and wish to vote in person. When you check in with the ballot clerk, inform her or him that you are voting in person instead of absentee. You may do that any time before the polls close at 7 pm on November 3. If you have already sent in your absentee ballot, the only way to change it is to arrive at Town Hall before

9:00 a.m. on Election Day. (See sidebar below left for full explanation.)

As in the primary, all voters will enter from the parking lot door on the south side. All voters must observe proper social distancing on the stairs and on the third floor where voting takes place. All voters must wear a facemask or a face shield while in Town Hall.

If you cannot wear a facemask or face shield, we will offer you an alternate site in which to vote, but you will not be allowed in the voting area on the third floor. Persons with difficulty walking may take the elevator to the third floor to check in and vote. Those persons will also be allowed to go back down in the lift after voting.

All other voters will depart Town Hall by taking the front stairs (on the Main Street side of the building) to the parking-lot level in back, and leaving by the door that faces the library. The front doors to Town Hall will not be used to enter or exit on Election Day.

At the primary election, 551 voters cast their ballots, either in person or by absentee ballot, and I expect perhaps twice as many on November 3. I also expect that Dublin voters, as usual, will treat one another with patience, kindness, and respect.

TIM CLARK is Dublin's Town Moderator.

To clarify Absentee Ballot voting: If you have already sent in your absentee ballot, the only way to change it is to arrive at Town Hall before 9:00 am on Election Day and ask for a new ballot before we remove your first ballot from its envelope and put it in the ballot box.

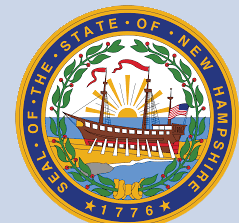
When we open your outer envelope on Saturday, we highlight your name on the checklist to warn the ballot clerk that we have received your ballot, and you can't vote in person (unless you still have



your absentee ballot, which we will destroy, then give you a new one). But we don't draw a line through your name – signifying that you have voted – until we open the inner envelope, remove the ballot, and put it in the box. That doesn't happen until Tuesday morning. I'm sorry it's so complicated, but the election manual is 260 pages long. – TC

"How To Vote In N.H., Whether You're Voting Absentee Or At The Polls"

www.nhpr.org/post/2020-elections-guide-how-vote-new-hampshire-whether-youre-voting-absentee-or-polls



Dublin Public Library

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

The Dublin Public Library has just extended its hours. We are currently open from Monday 10 am to 5 pm, Tuesday 3 pm to 7 pm, Wednesday 9 am to 5 pm, and Thursday 3 pm to 7 pm.

We are still asking that your appointments be made in advance in order to allow for safe social distancing. Please keep in mind that masks are required to enter the building, and that we do have some disposable masks available upon request. Alongside in-person browsing, we will continue to offer curbside pickup of reserved material. Curbside is available during all open hours and is located in the main entrance lobby.

Please visit www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org and click on the "Book Appointment" button at the top to make your reservation.

We'd like to remind you that all patrons will need to receive a new physical library card. This is replacing your former yellow paper card, as we have moved our system to an online catalog. In addition, any temporary online accounts created will expire after two months. We ask anyone with an online account (or no physical library card) to please book an appointment to verify your information and to receive your new library card. Please also visit the website, and click on "How to Sign Up for a Library Card."

DPL will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, for Veteran's Day and Thursday, November 26, for Thanksgiving.

RACHAEL LOVETT is Director at the DPL. She can be reached at 563-8658 or email librarypublicdublin@myfairpoint.net.

Broadband Update

Dublin is now on the Consolidated Communications website.

BY CAROLE MONROE

Dublin now has a specific website (www.consolidated.com/Dublin) that will allow you to check on the status of the Dublin Fiber Internet project.

Sign up on the "Be the first to know" form and you will receive regular updates on the fiber construction project. When the Dublin network is close to completion, you will be notified that it is time to pre-order your service and a form for you to do that will become available.

The site is very easy to navigate and includes the construction



phases and the service plans that will be available, including pricing. Check it out.

Please let me know if you have any questions; you can email me at Carole.Monroe@valley.net.

CAROLE MONROE is a member of the Select Board.

Register to Vote

At the polls on Election Day, November 3.

If you are domiciled in a New Hampshire town or city ward, are 18 years of age or older on the day of the next election, and are a United States citizen, you may register to vote on Election Day at the polling location for your town or city ward.

There is no minimum period of time you are required to have lived in the state before being allowed to register. You may register as soon as you move into your new community. Simply visit your designated polling location on Election Day, complete a Voter Registration Form, and show proof of identity, age, citizenship and having established a domicile in that town or city ward.

If you do not have documents with you to prove a qualification, you may prove your identity, age, citizenship, or domicile by completing an affidavit. Your local election officials will provide the forms needed, and are happy to answer any questions you may have (sos.nh.gov/elections/voters/register-to-vote/at-the-polls-on-election-day).

Antiracism Statement from Dublin School

This excerpt is the last paragraph from Dublin School's two-page statement on the need for racial justice, reprinted with permission of the Head of School, Bradford Bates.

"...While it will take courage for all of our community members to meaningfully engage in the necessary steps of committing to antiracism, it does not take courage to name the truth: systemic racism has shaped our world, our institution, and all of our lives, and it is our responsibility to understand, address, and dismantle it. Please join us in these antiracism commitments so that we can co-create a world where everyone can thrive and where our values align with truth, courage, and justice."

To access the full document, please visit www.dublinschool.org/equity-and-inclusion.

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Dublin Earns Risk Management Designation

BY KATE FULLER

The Town of Dublin recently earned the PRIME3 designation from New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex3). The Town's Board of Selectmen accepted the award

The Dublin Safety Committee members were instrumental in implementing the risk management best practices. (L-R): Fire Chief Tom Vanderbilt; Road Agent Roger Trempe, Town Administrator Kate Fuller; Building Inspector Mike Borden, and Police Chief Tim Suokko.



presented by Phil St. Cyr at the Board's October 5 meeting.

To receive the PRIME3 Designation, the Town adopted a series of Risk Management best practices ranging from a seatbelt

policy to harassment training. The Town sets goals for itself to maintain best practices and works with Primex to achieve these goals through training and policy development.

The Town of Dublin was acknowledged for implementing ten risk-management

Best Practices aimed at protecting employees, residents, and facilities.

In recognition of these efforts, the Town will receive a 2.5% reduction in its Property Liability and Workers Compensation insurance, which will result in savings of more than \$800 annually.

KATE FULLER is Dublin Town Administrator.

Dublin Police Department Fully Staffed Again

BY CHIEF TIMOTHY SUOKKO

On October 14, the Dublin Police Department hired Officer Stephen Nickerson to fill our vacant full-time officer position. With the hiring of Officer Nickerson, the police department is now back up to full staffing.

Officer Nickerson grew up in the Keene area and is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire. He is fully certified through the NH Police Standards and Training Council, having graduated from



both the part-time and full-time police-officer academies.

We are excited to have him on the department and hope that you will welcome him to our wonderful community.

As far as prepping for winter safety, November is always a good time to make sure your vehicle is "winter ready." Having proper tires, windshield wipers, washer fluid, snowbrush and scraper on hand will make traveling the roadways this winter a lot safer.

OFFICER TIMOTHY SUOKKO is Dublin's Police Chief.

Racial Justice: A Message from Eversource

"We acknowledge the ongoing pain caused by racism and injustice in our society. Eversource and its employees support many programs that address racial and ethnic disparities in our own communities and beyond. We are also working to develop a workforce that fully reflects the diversity of the people and communities we serve. As individuals and as a company, we can help lead the way to a more just future."

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In keeping with the tagline of *The Dublin Advocate*, "to encourage and strengthen our community," our newsletter focuses on the dissemination of community information and entertainment.

The editor reserves the right to select and edit all editorial and advertising. The views expressed in these issues are not necessarily those of *The Dublin Advocate* or its staff. —Ed.

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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.

COVID-19 Impact on the ConVal School Budget

BY ALAN EDELKIND

When I was elected to the ConVal School Board as the Dublin representative, I had a basic understanding of how work on the School Board would affect the education and lives of our students. I also had an understanding of how it would also affect the community as a whole. Nothing could have prepared me for the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on all of our lives.

The actions of the ConVal administration and School Board to deal with this unprecedented event have been committed to the safety of our students and developing and executing a plan that reflects this commitment. This comprehensive plan reflects processes, policies, and procedures that were never contemplated in a traditional educational environment, and they come with a price.

Our current school year budget was approved by District voters weeks before we felt the impact of COVID-19, so the budget had to be adjusted to deal with these extra expenditures.

Our current estimate is that the costs related to COVID-19 and school re-opening are approximately \$3.4 million, which is about 7% of the \$48.9 million budget approved by voters this past March.

- \$1.2 million (up to) for staffing, such as increases in nurses and paraprofessionals. This represents a 5% increase over planned expenses.
- \$853,000 for contracted services, primarily for our special education programs to ensure the needs our students are being met.
- \$827,000 for safety equipment, such as

personal protective equipment (PPE) for teachers and students, and the tents being used for outdoor instruction, which allow for more physical distance between students.

- \$413,000 for technology and communication equipment, including Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hot spots, for students and staff to use during remote learning.
- \$84,000 for HVAC upgrades to help improve the air quality and circulation in our schools.
- \$22,000 for cleaning and sanitizing of all school buildings. This will be done frequently throughout the school day, and all buildings will receive scheduled extra deep cleaning.
- \$22,000 for miscellaneous costs.

By State laws and regulations, our costs cannot exceed the budget approved by voters each March. There are several ways to pay for these extra expenses, whether it be shifting ("encumbering") costs from one school year to the next, using available District Trust Funds, or by using money from other parts of the approved budget to help cover these costs. Also, planned programs will need to be reduced, deferred or, as a last resort, eliminated to accommodate the unanticipated costs.

Federal or State government funds may be available for certain COVID-19-related expenses. The amount and timing of this revenue is unpredictable. For example, last month's about-face by the Federal Emergency Management Agency meant schools would not be reimbursed for personal protective equipment because FEMA determined that schools do not qualify since "the education of children is not an

immediate action necessary to protect public health, life, and safety."

The GOFERR's (Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery) Legislative Advisory Board's leadership hopes to meet by the end of this week (10/16) to recommend to Gov. Chris Sununu how much additional money schools should receive from the \$1.2 billion block grant New Hampshire received last spring to deal with the pandemic.

There are many moving parts in both our costs and revenues. Our School Board meetings are open to the public so all can hear and participate in discussions of the budget and other topics. Meeting information can be found at <https://schoolboard.convalsd.net/>.

For continuing information and updates on the budget, we will be sending out a series of financial updates to help you stay informed as we work through this. These updates can be accessed at <https://convalsd.net/>.

I want to express my appreciation to Jim Fredrickson, Chairman, Budget & Property Committee, ConVal School Board (Sharon) for information from an article he wrote that has been used in this article.

ALAN EDELKIND is Dublin's representative to the ConVal School Board (SAU 1).

**Daylight Saving Time ends
at 2 am on Sunday, November 1.
Set your clocks one hour back.**



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News from DCS

BY NICOLE PEASE

I have known for a very long time how special our school and community are — and this year adds more evidence! With new safety protocols guiding in-person instruction, staff developed new routines for the classroom and school. Students, staff, and their families have been diligent about following these new procedures and the effort is appreciated.

One of the new protocols identified the importance of using the outdoors for learning. We are fortunate to have many locations outside in which learning can occur. The outdoor spaces at DCS have been used for many different aspects of the school day, and students and staff are enjoying the time outside! We have been lucky that the fall has been mild so far.

With the anticipation of cooler weather, we have had a number of people in the community reach out with thoughtful offerings to keep everyone warm. Many thanks to May Clark, Lynn Clark, Nancy Cayford, and Laurie Jameson for making fingerless gloves.



These have been given to school-children in Grades 3, 4, and 5 and there are more to come for the other students. Nancy Cayford and Martha Pitt donated handmade masks for any student that might need one. We are very appreciative of our community members and their support!

Staff started the school year focusing on developing a sense of community within their classrooms. This is such important work and is one of the very special aspects of DCS. Through the activities, students feel connected, cared about, and successful. Staff also work to collect fall data, and much of the fall benchmarking is complete. Teachers use this information to focus their instruction to ensure student growth is maximized.

DCS held its annual Open House virtually on October 12. This was well attended by parents, many of whom expressed their thanks for all that staff has done to support in-person learning. We are beginning our planning for the remote instructional portion of the school year.

All of us at DCS hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

NICOLE PEASE is Teaching Principal at Dublin Consolidated School.

DCA Gatherings Held Outdoors

BY BETHANY PAQUIN

Dublin Christian Academy's annual homecoming celebration on October 3 looked different this year, but beautiful weather and creative adaptations made for a fun, safe, and successful outdoor event. DCA's Stags competed against alumni in soccer and volleyball. Alumni won against DCA's Stags on the soccer field, but the Stags beat alumni on the outdoor volleyball court. For the first time, the school hosted hybrid class reunions, allowing alumni who were unable to attend in person to join by Zoom.

Saturday evening, the school hosted an open-air barbecue meal on the lawn. Carl and Diana Johnson, owners of Grove Street

Fiduciary, underwrote the meal. The barbecue kicked off the school's annual fund campaign to raise funds for need-based financial aid.

The dinner program, which streamed live on Facebook and YouTube, featured Haro Setian, alum of the Class of 1995 and Jordan Moody, alum of the Class of 2007. Haro spoke of his years at DCA as a turning point in his life, spiritually and academically.

Jordan Moody gave a tribute to his late father, Kevin Moody, who passed away earlier this year after 38 years of service to the school.

BETHANY PAQUIN is Director of Development at Dublin Christian Academy at 106 Page Road. She can be reached at 563-8505 ext.16 or email bpaquin@dublinchristian.org.



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“Dublin My Hometown” Is Her Song

Singer/songwriter creates music from experience of pandemic.

BY RAMONA BRANCH

Dublin resident, Ruth Thompson, is a musician, singer, and songwriter. “As a young girl, I loved listening to campfire songs and the music of John Denver,” Ruth explains. “When I was 13, my parents bought me a guitar and I taught myself to play.” Ruth has been strumming the guitar and writing music ever since.

Several years ago, Ruth joined Monadnock Ukulele Group at the DubHub. She met two fellow musicians and together the three formed a band called Mulligan Row. The band plays regularly at Dublin’s Song Circle and Open Stage and has also participated in the Dublin Folk Shows.

Professionally Ruth is a real estate agent. She and her brother, Fred Blais, own Blais & Associates Realtors in Keene. When COVID-19 hit, they decided to close the office in Keene and work from home.

Like many of us, Ruth felt cut off from people and isolated. While at home, she started sewing face masks to give away to those who needed them. To break the monotony and get exercise, Ruth would take walks up the hill to the Community Center to re-fill the free mask rack.

One day in April she noticed how still and eerily quiet Dublin was — but in a good way. There were no trucks passing by and very few cars. It made her realize how fortunate she was to live in a small town with fresh air, a place to walk, and a community that came together to help one another in difficult times. As she came up the hill her eyes focused on the American flag waving gently in the stillness. Thoughts of national pride and community

nostalgia filled her mind. When she returned home she put her inspiration down in words and music and created the song, “Dublin My Hometown.”

By this time the Dublin Historical Society’s plans for the town’s Centennial Celebration were in the works, and Ruth offered to share her song as a submission. She recorded the song with Molly Tucker on violin at Evenfall Studio in Chesterfield. She then contacted the Historical Society to gather some old photos. Her niece, Grace Jack of Swanzey, created a video using the audio recording, live studio footage, and old and current photos of Dublin. Ruth had planned for the video to be a part of Dublin’s Centennial



Celebration — that event has been rescheduled due to the pandemic.

Ruth and Molly have been invited by the DHS to perform the song live at the rescheduled celebration at the Schoolhouse Museum on Saturday, August 7, 2021.

You can find the video on YouTube by searching: Dublin My Hometown, www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-b7w3xHM1k.

RAMONA BRANCH is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

Monadnock Art Exhibit Is On

Although the Monadnock Art Open Studio Tour (monadnockart.org) was cancelled this year, you can still enjoy works by Monadnock Art Tour artists in Bass Hall, 19 Grove Street, Peterborough, through November 7.

On opening day of the exhibition, October 10, Monadnock Art also presented an Art Fair on the Monadnock Center grounds featuring 20+ artists exhibiting and selling their works. The Annual Members Exhibit will be on view through November 7.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free.

Credit to Monadnock Center for History & Culture (monadnockcenter.org).

Although the ban on open fires has been called off as of 10/21 due to recent rain, this was the worst drought in New Hampshire since 2016. All permits for fires are now online. Any questions, call Brian Barden, Forest Fire Warden, at 803-1365. Brian is also Deputy Chief, Dublin Fire Department.






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A Homestead Right Here in Dublin

BY TRAVIS BOYD

First, thank you for the opportunity to be in the *Advocate*. We all love our little town's newsletter.

I work at AVA Restoration in town. I met my wife in 2002 and we moved to Peterborough together before we married. My wife, Corey, has lived in Dublin her entire life and has just become a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner.

We married in 2007 and began to build our house here in Dublin. We have two children, both of whom attend DCS. Quinn is 10 and Kendra is 8, and both help out with daily chores along with giving lots of love and attention to all our animals.

We began Four Paws Mountain Homestead, starting with chickens, then acquired pigs. And now we have many animals here.



On the homestead, we have seven pigs at this time with hopes for a litter soon. We also have two Icelandic ponies, two calves (baby cows), four Nigerian dwarf goats, many chickens, and some ducks. We also raise turkeys and chickens.

We have a small garden – nothing too big. I am able to pick up two buckets of veggies, breads, and all the other extra stuff that can be consumed by the pigs from the Dublin General Store every day. It helps us with feed costs and helps the General Store limit their outgoing trash.

It's a win-win for Michelle and us. Some days I think the critters eat better than I do.

TRAVIS BOYD lives and works in Dublin. He can be reached at 704-682-8110 or email him at blkandblues@yahoo.com.

What Is MATS and How Is It Doing?

BY MARY LOFTIS

MATS (Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter) was founded more than 30 years ago when a group of Peterborough citizens and clergy came together to address the growing problem of homelessness in the area. Since then, with grants and the ongoing support of the community, the organization has provided secure housing, counseling, and rehabilitative services to hundreds of families.

COVID-19 and the shrinking economy have affected everyone, but most of us have a secure home in which to shelter with our families and homeschool our children. However, families and individuals who are living on the edge, paycheck to

paycheck, may have lost their jobs, reliable transportation, and – in some cases – their homes.

MATS currently owns a four-unit apartment building in Peterborough, which includes the office of a full-time Program Director. Guests are provided with resources such as job training, child care, and counseling so that when they leave MATS, they have the day-to-day skills and support they need to avoid recurring homelessness.

During the pandemic, the very idea of “home” has become a potent symbol of security. To learn more about MATS, please visit matsnh.org.

MARY LOFTIS is on the staff of the *Advocate*, and is a member of the MATS Board.



November Events at the DubHub



Greg Pease and an employee roofed the addition, well before snows set in. Greg owns and runs Beech Ridge Builders LLC.

An Addition

The addition to the DubHub is taking shape. Dublin builder Greg Pease and his crew have framed the large multi-purpose room on the back end of the building (where the garage of the old General Store used to fit) and added a roof to make it weather-tight. In the next month will come electrical work and insulation – and then the interior finish of the open, vaulted-ceilinged space. Completion is estimated to be early in the new year.

This addition, as well as the renovation of the original building, was designed by architect Scott Swanson of Peterborough, formerly of Dublin. The current Dublin Community Center has been a “hub” of activity since it opened in July of 2014. This new space will allow more flexibility

in scheduling simultaneous activities. It will also serve as a permanent home to the Dublin Community Church Sunday School. The space is being dedicated to long-time Sunday School teacher Rosamond (Yummy) Cady.

Due to the pandemic, the Community Center has been closed to in-person programming, but the Hub has sponsored popular outdoor musical events and Coffee and Conversation sessions throughout the summer and fall. In addition, there have been monthly community take-out lunches, which will continue into the winter. All summer, vegetables and flower arrangements were displayed out front and free for the taking. The annual Small Treasures art show will be online this year. Stay tuned for details – and for other ways

the DubHub is staying engaged with the community during this challenging time.

Coffee and Conversation Zooms Back

With dropping temperatures and increasing chances of rain, the DubHub Coffee and Conversation sessions on Monday and Wednesday mornings will move back to Zoom this month. These sessions will go from 10 to 11 am. Mondays are hosted by June Brening, and Wednesdays are hosted by Mary Loftis. Check the weekly Hubbub from the DubHub newsletter for login information or email Volkert at info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

DubHub Music Events

DubHub music events also move back to Zoom sessions. On Friday, November 6, Song Circle will meet from 7 to 9 pm. Then on Friday, November 27, Open Stage also starts at 7 pm. Check the weekly Hubbub newsletter for information or go to info@dublincommunitycenter.org.



Al Brodgon of Fitzwilliam entertains DubHub guests with authentic Oktoberfest music, at the Community Take-out Lunch October 15.

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DubHub guests have enjoyed the fall colors and warm sunshine during the October outdoor Coffee and Conversation sessions in the Dublin Community Church Garden Sanctuary. Shown (L-R): David Mueller, Edith (Shonk) Jenkins, Mary Alice Fox, John Zanella, and June Brening.

Community Lunch To-Go

A free Community Lunch To-Go will be held on Tuesday, November 17, from noon to 1 pm. Lunches will be distributed from the main entrance of the DubHub. On the menu is a fresh roasted turkey sandwich, fresh veggies (carrots, celery), raisins, dried cranberries, cranberry sauce, with pumpkin bread for dessert. Free, but donations always welcome. For more information, or if you'd like to help, please contact Nancy Cayford at npcayford@myfairpoint.net.

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 Move Back to the DubHub

The free Mask Rack and secure donation box have moved back to the DubHub main entrance. Each month donations will be collected and given to a local

charitable cause. In the past two months funds have been given to Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter (MATS) and Hundred Nights in Keene.

Custom masks are also for sale for \$10 each. For more information or if you want to help (sewing masks, donating fabric, etc.), please email Ruth Thompson at catinthehat3@myfairpoint.net.

Follow the DubHub with the Hubhub and FB

Links to virtual events are provided in the weekly Hubhub 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.

DubHub Wi-fi Access

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

HCS Offers Poinsettias to Support Care in Our Region

Orders must be received by Thursday, November 19.

The 25th Annual Poinsettia Sale to benefit Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services (HCS) is under way. Plants will be available at the HCS offices in Keene and Peterborough. Proceeds benefit HCS home care and hospice services provided in southwestern New Hampshire communities. The poinsettias are grown right here in New Hampshire!

Poinsettias are available in red, pink, and white and in three sizes: a single stem plant in a 6" pot with 6 to 8 blooms (\$12); a double stem plant in a 7" pot with 12 to 15 blooms (\$20); and a triple stem plant with 20 to 25 blooms (\$30).

Orders must be received by Thursday, November 19. Place orders online at www.HCSservices.org or printed forms may be mailed. To print an order form, visit www.HCSservices.org.

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A Summer of Music Went Online

BY SAMMI JO STONE

The Walden School, “the music camp that changes lives,” usually convenes each summer on the campus of the Dublin School. This year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we could not meet and make music in person. Instead, we were able to use technology to teach, learn, and form a vibrant musical community, almost entirely online, over the course of two festival programs.

The Online Creative Musicians Experience (OCME), nine days in June, brought together adult musicians from a variety of musical backgrounds and experiences. Visiting artists, Walden’s faculty and staff, and 17 participants immersed themselves in creative music-making. The OCME community was spread across two countries, four time zones, fifteen states and the District of Columbia. We tuned in by video call for concerts, classes, and presentations, and enjoyed company and conversation at virtual coffee breaks.

The Online Young Musicians Experience (OYME) in July brought together 33 talented and creative young people from

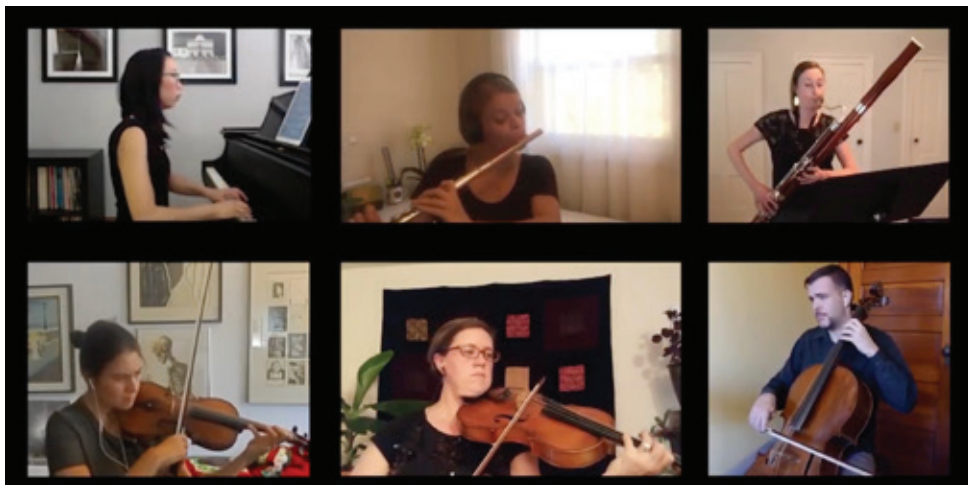
around the country and beyond. Though physically distanced, students had ample opportunity to connect with a larger community of peers, mentors, and friends, through creative extracurricular projects, online social gatherings, and weekly livestream concerts.

As a culmination of our summer like no other, on August 1, Walden alumni, faculty and staff, board members, families, and friends gathered by video call to attend an online concert to benefit and celebrate

Walden. It featured flutist Claire Chase, who performed live from the Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at Dublin School.

We plan to return to the Monadnock Region when it is safe and feasible to convene in person, hopefully during summer 2021. In the meantime, The Walden School extends gratitude to the Dublin community for many decades of support, along with our wishes for your wellness, fortitude, and continued creativity during these challenging times.

SAMMI JO STONE is Director of Operations at The Walden School (waldenschool.org).



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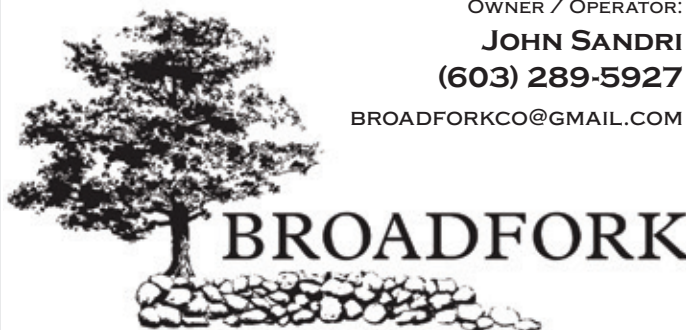
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Preparing Your Garden for Winter

Conservation Commission shares some practical tips.

BY DENISE FRANKOFF

In New Hampshire, fall is when we prepare our gardens for winter. It's a balancing act: we want our gardens to look tidy while providing a habitat for beneficial insects and wildlife. Here are some tips from an article by horticulturist Emma Erler at UNH Extension Service, titled *Putting Your Garden to Bed*.

Leaves are full of nutrients so use them in your garden:

- Mulch the leaves in place with a mulching mower. This will not work if the layer of leaves is too thick so mow the leaves a few times per season.
- Rake and compost leaves.
- Use chipped leaves as mulch for your flower and vegetable gardens.



Dahlias Cut back the foliage when the leaves turn yellow. Dig up the tubers. Shake out excess dirt. Let tubers dry out. Wrap loosely in newspaper or pack them in peat moss. Put them in a crate or box with good air circulation. Store them in a cool, dry area.

PERENNIALS

- Leave the seed heads on your perennials, as they provide a foraging habitat for songbirds.
- Remove any diseased top growth.
- In the spring, cut perennials to the ground before new growth starts.

ANNUALS

- Remove annual flowers and vegetable plants after the first frost. This will help prevent diseases that overwinter in the soil, such as two fungal diseases that affect tomatoes.
- Bring some annual plants inside for the winter. Some plants that do well indoors are geraniums, impatiens, and begonias.
- A tip from Katie Featherston on the Dublin Conservation Commission about petunias: Put them in the cellar over the winter. Cut back and water just enough so they do not dry out.

BULBS

After the first frost, dig up tender bulbs, such as dahlias and gladiolus. Wrap in newspaper and put them in a dry cellar until spring.

SHRUBS AND TREES

- Wait until late winter or early spring to prune trees and shrubs. This prevents dieback at the pruning site. Also, bacteria and fungi are less likely to infect a dormant plant.
- Butterfly bush and rhododendrons benefit from a two-inch layer of mulch over the roots, but not against the trunk or crown. Hydrangeas and roses produce more flowers after being wrapped with burlap or surrounded by a cage with mulching materials, such as peat moss.

Here are two trusted websites for information about plants and gardening: UNH Extension Service for useful information about plants and gardening (extension.unh.edu) and Native Plant Trust (nativeplanttrust.org).

DENISE FRANKOFF, a speech therapist, is a member of the Dublin Conservation Commission and is on the staff of the *Advocate*. She is also on the board at the Hub and serves on the MATS board.

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Ways We Can Help Others

Ending Weekend Hunger

Buy some extra food at the store next time you shop.

So far this fall, End 68 Hours of Hunger has sent home an average of 200+ bags of food to food-insecure students every



weekend. That includes bags delivered to schools and sent home with in-school learners in the traditional way, plus bags left in totes for parents of remote learners to pick up. And homeschoolers participate as well; a parent of any homeschooler not already on the list is encouraged to text 603-660-2914 to sign up.

Each week Karen Conrow picks up Dublin food donations from the general public and delivers them to the End 68 Hours storeroom. Then she turns around and delivers the weekend bags for Dublin students to their respective pick-up spots. Many thanks to Karen!

Feel free to drop off food items in the bins for End 68 Hours of Hunger at the westside entrance of the Dublin Community Church (end68hoursofhunger.org/donate/).

Hundred Nights Is for Those Experiencing Homelessness

Opened in Keene in 2010, Hundred Nights, Inc. offers services to those experiencing – or at risk of experiencing – homelessness in our area. Its mission is to provide shelter and crisis-related services to the displaced or homeless combined with a vision of a community whose members, regardless of means, are equally valued and supported. We offer help with respect, dignity, and compassion.

Hundred Nights, Inc., which is open well beyond 100 nights, is a Cold Weather

Shelter, open from mid-November to mid-April. We also have an Open Doors Resource Center that offers many support services.

Hundred Nights Shelter welcomes donations of camping gear and warm, practical, winter coats. Any donations may be dropped off inside the side door of the Dublin Community Church; there is a bin to the left just inside the door. New warm socks are also needed (hundrednightsinc.org/help-us/wish-list/).

Feeding Tiny Tummies

Feeding Tiny Tummies (www.feeding-tinytummies.com) is a 501c3 nonprofit program to fight against childhood hunger that works with local schools in Cheshire and Sullivan Counties to provide meals to children on weekends, breaks, and summers. It is working in many locations to ease the impact of food insecurity on these families.

The effects of hunger in the classroom present as inability to concentrate, poor academic performance, behavior problems, health problems like head and stomach aches, dental issues, and sometimes suicidal thoughts.

continued on next page

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Feeding Tiny Tummys

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We are currently distributing more than 10,000 meals a week, which represent a 75 percent increase in food and funding needs. We are serving more than 20 locations and our community drive-through pickups as well.

We need donations of food, as well as monetary donations to our NH Food Bank account, and volunteers to assist delivering to folks with transportation issues.

Community volunteers fill bags that are delivered to schools in 14 locations. We are trying to reach every child/family or elderly person who is struggling through this hard time.

We include an academic item, activity pages and crayons, a book to read, or a family engagement activity.

If you know someone who needs assistance, please reach out to Feeding Tiny Tummys, by calling Jennifer Dassau at 762-5890 (feedingtinytummys.com).

Get a flu vaccine to protect yourself, your family, and your community.
(cdc.gov/flu/season/protect-your-health.html)

COVID, Aging, State Update & Spanish Resources

As the COVID-19 virus continues to affect our lives, NH residents are faced with a variety of new circumstances that we must face together. This moment calls us to make sure that everyone can weather the storm.

The New Hampshire Alliance for Healthy Aging (NHAHA) has a resource page to help the aging community learn and better acclimate to these new circumstances. We will update this resource as the new events take place across the Granite State as well as on the Federal level.

Access the most up-to-date informa-

tion regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in NH: nhaha.info/covid-19-resources.

The State of NH resource to keep you updated: www.nh.gov/covid19/index.htm

Spanish Language COVID-19 Resources: The American Public Health Association (APHA) announces the launch of a new Spanish-language resource hub. COVIDGuia.org offers the latest evidence-based information on #COVID19 in one, easy-to-navigate spot: www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/communicable-disease/coronavirus/guia

Governor Issues 70th Emergency Order

Extends 'Safer At Home' guidance.

Gov. Chris Sununu issued an emergency order to extend COVID-19 emergency orders for public health guidance and "safer at home" guidance until November 15 (NHPR).

The order reads, in part: "New Hampshire State Epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan has determined that, while New Hampshire's mitigation strategy has

been effective in controlling the spread of COVID-19, community mitigation has been and continues to be critically important..."

Relaxing mitigation efforts and emergency orders "risks additional COVID-19 outbreaks," reads the order, Sununu's 70th in connection with the coronavirus pandemic (www.nhpr.org/sites/nhpr/files/202010/2020-20_Oct9.pdf).

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Hunting Season Is Here

Get out and enjoy our woods safely by wearing blaze orange.

NH Fish and Game announced New Hampshire's fall hunting seasons kicked off September 1 with the opening of black bear and gray squirrel seasons. Archery seasons for turkey and white-tailed deer got underway September 15. The statewide resident Canada goose hunt ran September 1-25. The fall shotgun turkey season ran October 12-18.

Hunters look forward to the opening day of deer season all year, and the much-anticipated regular firearms deer-hunting season starts November 11, and ends December 6.

Check the Hunting Digest for WMU-specific either-sex deer-hunting regulations and additional bear hunting opportunities.

Highlights of NH's hunting seasons can be found in the New Hampshire Hunting and Trapping Digest, which includes New Hampshire hunting season dates, bag limits, check station locations, and more. Hunters and trappers can pick up a free copy at NH Fish and Game or their local license agent when they buy their license. The Digest can be viewed online at www.huntnh.com/hunting/publications.

The 2020 NH hunting seasons for White-Tailed Deer:

Archery: September 15-December 15 (ends December 8 in WMU A)

Muzzleloader: October 31-November 10

Firearms: November 11-December 6 (ends November 29 in WMU A)

Apprentice Hunting Licenses are an option for people age 16 and older who want to try hunting but have not taken Hunter Education. Apprentice licenses are

available only at NH Fish and Game Headquarters, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord (www.huntnh.com/hunting/apprentice.html).

Note: As the fall hunting seasons begin, NH Fish and Game urges hunters to use synthetic lures and not to use natural urine-based deer lures, which can potentially spread Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a neurological disorder that is always fatal to white-tailed deer and moose. Do your part and help keep our deer herd free of CWD (www.huntnh.com/wildlife/cwd).

New Hampshire hunting licenses and permits can be purchased online anytime at www.nhfishandgame.com.

Hunt for the Hungry, Share the Harvest

NH Food Bank seeks wild game donations from hunters.

New Hampshire hunters can share their fall harvest with the needy through "Hunt for the Hungry" at the NH Food Bank. Once again this fall, the Food Bank is collecting donations of whole or processed game animals for distribution to more than 425 food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and group homes statewide.

"We are counting on continued strong support from hunters this year," said Bruce Wilson, Director of Operations for the New Hampshire Food Bank. "Donations for protein foods fill a big need with the Hunt for the Hungry program. Venison is especially popular, a real treat for clients."

In 2016, the Hunt for the Hungry program took in approximately 420 pounds of donated deer, moose, and other game meat for distribution to those in need. This was a significant decrease from prior year donations. The need continues to grow, so

please consider donating your game meat to help feed our neighbors in need in New Hampshire.

To donate game, and for packaging instructions, call the Food Bank at (603) 669-9725.

Please note that the NH Food Bank is not equipped to accept donations of bear meat or wild game birds such as wild turkey or grouse.

"The Hunt for the Hungry program is a great way for hunters to share their harvest and help needy families get through the winter," said Scott Mason, Executive Director of NH Fish and Game. "Wild game is a local, renewable resource that is high in protein, low in fat, and all natural..."

For more information on donating to the NH Food Bank, visit nhfoodbank.org. For details from Fish & Game, see www.wildlife.state.nh.us/hunting/hunt-for-hungry.html.

Hiking during Hunting Season

Get outside, wear orange, and share the forest safely using these tips.

NH Fish & Game reminds us that autumn is the perfect time of year to be in the woods (the leaves are changing, the weather is cooler, and the biting bugs are almost gone). There are opportunities to see wildlife that remains in NH during the winter. With fall hunting seasons here now, and soon the popular deer season, here are safety tips from www.hikesafe.com:

Be aware of your surroundings. Know the dates of hunting seasons in your area by looking them up online in the annual

continued on next page



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The American Crow

BY TOM WARREN

Who has not seen a crow? Just about everyone. They are large, black and noisy. Also, an early riser, usually long before we see the rising sun. Legs, bill and feathers are all black. Some people think he is evil, knows too much and can recognize the gun of a hunter and remain just out of range. He is not evil. He is a close cousin to the Raven, also a common bird in the Monadnock Region. They are social birds and can sometimes be found in flocks of thousands.

Crows are highly intelligent; some ornithologists believe they are as intelligent as a 7-year-old child. Crows can make tools using leaves and twigs. They can drop walnuts on highways to break the nuts open and retrieve them when red and green lights change. During migration, they will avoid places where members of the flock were killed using their great memories. They can recognize human faces.

Crows can understand complex concepts like displacement and gravity. Sometimes two crows will work together to solve a problem. Crows communicate with each



other. They will store food for future use, especially in winter.

Young crows make good pets, especially in rural locations. Like a child, when bored, they will carry small tools, trinkets, and jewelry. Many observers refer to their mischievous habits.

Pet crows have imitative powers and attempt to mimic the sounds of human voices.

Often if a crow is injured in a stream, other crows will come to the rescue and help it reach shore.

In winter, they gather in communal roosts ranging from 100 to one to two million birds, usually in white pines. Its food

consists of a wide range of vegetables and animal food, dead or alive. They rob small songbird nests of eggs and young. Vegetable food includes corn, nuts, seeds, and fruit.

The nest is located 65-75 feet high in a tree, usually a White Pine. The nest is made of large sticks about 8-10 inches deep and then it is lined with grapevines, cedar bark, fine rootlets, rags, wool, and soft materials such as flowers, fur, and moss/wool. It is solidly constructed and warmly lined.

A normal clutch is 4-8, pale bluish-green eggs, marked with irregular blotches of brown and shades of gray. The eggs hatch in 15-18 days and young are well cared for and defended by parents. They fledge at approximately 30 days.

Crows and their cousins, Blue Jays, are prone to West Nile Virus. Predators include Red-Tailed Hawks, Great Horned Owls, and boys with rifles.

Thoreau said, "This bird sees the white man come and the Indian withdraw, but it withdraws not. It remains to remind us of aboriginal nature."

TOM WARREN is Dublin's resident ornithologist.

Photo Bird Watcher's Digest

Hiking during Hunting Season continued from page 14

NH Fish and Game Hunting Digest: www.huntnh.com/hunting/publications.html.

Pick the right trail. Stick to established hiking trails. Hunters generally avoid heavily used hiking paths because activity in the woods usually frightens game species.

Pick the right time. Legal hunting times in New Hampshire for most game run from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. Wildlife, and consequently hunters, are most active at dawn and dusk. Most hunting takes place on weekends.

Wear hunter orange. Anyone who enjoys the outdoors in NH should already own a piece of bright "blaze" orange clothing, and fall is the time to wear it. An orange hat, handkerchief, vest, or shirt is a must for this time of year. Put orange on your dog, too.

Make some noise. Talk, sing, or whistle to make your presence known in the woods. Chances are good that anyone in your vicinity has already heard you, and the singing will make you more noticeable. Placing a bell on your dog's collar is a good idea.

Hike safe. Be sure to follow the hiker responsibility code by being knowledgeable about where you are going and what the local weather and terrain conditions are, leaving your plans with someone, staying together, turning back in inclement weather or impending darkness, and planning and preparing for emergencies.

Visit www.hikesafe.com for more information. For details, visit www.wildnh.com/outdoor-recreation/hiking-safety.html.



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		24	25	26 Happy Thanksgiving	27	
29	30					

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

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