

# The Dublin Advocate

*To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community*

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Dublin, NH 03444

## Changing Seasons, Changing Views

*Mud Pond from my perspective.*

BY KEVIN KEANE

I would describe Mud Pond in Dublin as a seasonal body of water, the open water of spring giving way to more marshland as the spring rains pass. Viewing Mud Pond in the spring of 2020, I noted how high the water level had been raised to by the heavy spring rains. As the larger ponds and lakes still had substantial ice cover, the heavy rains of 2020 made Mud Pond an early haven for birds needing open water.

As someone who combines their interest in nature photography and travel, the pandemic presented challenges and opportunities. When travel was curtailed, I began to shift my focus to my local area. I began to carry my camera with me as I took to walks and cycling to get out of the house. Through the perspective of my camera, I really began to observe the area that my daily travels took me through. —KK



Osprey by Kevin Keane

In addition to the Mallard ducks, Canada geese, and occasional Great Blue heron I had previously seen at the pond in the early spring of 2020, I began to see wood ducks, Osprey, and – on separate occasions – a juvenile and adult bald eagle. Both these birds of prey rely heavily on fish for their diet, which they sought in the open waters of Mud Pond.

As the spring rains passed, the water level dropped and the pond transitioned to more marshland. As the larger ponds and

lakes had open water when ice melted, the eagles and ospreys moved on. With warming weather, choruses of frogs could be heard and turtles emerged to lay their eggs. I escorted several turtles to safety across the highway, and quietly mourned those that didn't make it across. I performed the same service for a few of their hatchlings as they appeared.

In the much drier spring of 2021, with accompanying lower water levels, I was only rewarded with a single osprey sighting and none of bald eagles. I have seen less of the herons and only a single wood duck. I saw far fewer turtles migrating to dry land to lay eggs and fewer hatchlings scrambling to reach water.

With only a year of observations to go by, I can't make much of a conclusion about a long-term trend, but I have seen how the weather impacts the behavior and habitat of some of our local wildlife.

KEVIN KEANE moved to Dublin in 2004 from Massachusetts with his wife Stephanie. They enjoy traveling, have visited Alaska, the Amazon, the Galapagos, Central America, Kenya, and Botswana to experience nature. They've also visited other sites to experience some wonders of the ancient world.

## Dublin Historical Society Celebrates Centennial

On August 7, 2021, from 1 to 3 pm (rain date August 8), the Dublin Historical Society (DHS) will celebrate its Centennial at the 1841 Schoolhouse on Main Street.

In recognition of this milestone, "My Dublin Story," comprised of more than 50 illustrated storyboards written by residents, will be exhibited in the Schoolhouse. In addition, there will be exhibits on tools, homemaking, costumes, and special items from our Archives.

During the celebration, Randy Miller will entertain us with Celtic fiddle music, similar to what early Dubliners enjoyed. Randy has played fiddle and piano at contradances and Irish sessions nationwide for more than 40 years. He has recorded

six albums of traditional New England and Irish fiddle music.

Refreshments will be served, and ephemera and special Centennial memorabilia will be on sale (cash or checks only).

Please park behind the Dublin Consolidated School. People who need assistance may be dropped off in the 1841 Schoolhouse driveway.

This event is open to all – please join us!

The new Dublin Historical Society sign on the Dublin Schoolhouse Museum was recently installed by Peter Poanessa of Keene Signworx and his assistant Mary McCord. Built to last many years, it duplicates the look of the original sign but with a more lightweight and durable material. In spite of the pouring rain, they made quick work of it.



## Dublin Public Library

*Come on in, we're open!*

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

Summer Reading is in full swing at the Library. We have lots of programs and events happening through August. Every week Pajama Storytime meets on Tuesday nights, Music Time and Outdoor Painting are on Wednesdays, Family Game Night is on Thursdays, and Coffee Hour meets on Saturdays. The Craft Corner is always stocked and open; we have a few large, ongoing puzzles; and the book group is being revamped this month. For a full schedule, please visit [www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org](http://www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org).

Our big-fun August events:

On **July 31** (10 am-12 pm) is the Reptile Show of New England. Come learn about 15+ different species of reptiles, ask questions, and even handle some of the animals!

Monday, **August 2** (1-2 pm) — Dublin's Police Chief Suokko will join us for a story and answer questions about being a police officer. A K-9 unit will also be attending, and we'll have the chance to climb into the police cruiser!

Thursday, **August 5** (6-7 pm) — Author Richard Adams Carey will present his program "In the Evil Day," the story of the 1997 Colebrook murders. This is brought to us by the NH Humanities Programs.

Saturday, **August 7** (10-11 am) — Lindsay and Her Puppet Pals are coming to the Library! Join us for a fun-filled variety show with "larger than life" puppets.

Saturday, **August 21** (10 am-12 pm) — Summer Reading Send-Off Dance Party! Come dance the morning away with us and send off Summer Reading in style. We'll have ice cream, dancing, games and we'll announce our Summer Reading winners and give out prizes!

Just a reminder – we are fully open and no longer require reservations. We ask that masks be worn for those not fully vaccinated and social distancing is encouraged for all library-sponsored events and activities. We still offer curbside services and ask a reservation be made in advance, so we can prepare your material.

In addition, our meeting space has opened up for public use! Please contact us to reserve the space.

RACHAEL LOVETT is Director of the DPL.



Photo by Ramona Branch

Sue Bird (left) and Veronica Lima in front of their floral creations at Town Hall.

## Floral Beauty Adorns Our Village

BY RAMONA BRANCH

Have you ever wondered who plants the lovely flower arrangements that welcome visitors to our Town Hall and the parking spaces between the Town Hall and the Dublin Public Library?

For many years now, the Garden Club of Dublin has been in charge of the civic plantings that include the four urns and six hay racks in the parking area. Members of the club also create arrangements for fall and winter. This project is managed by Sue Bird and assisted by other club members. Thank you one and all.

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

All of our village buildings are indeed fronted with varieties of flowers in all different colors, all currently blooming: the Dublin Public Library, Yankee Publishing, the Dublin Community Center, and the Dublin Community Church.

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## Primary & Special Election for State Representative

*The Primary will be September 7; the Special Election is October 26.*

BY JUDY KNAPP

This June one of our state representatives, Doug Ley, passed away. As a result, Dublin, Jaffrey, Harrisville, and Roxbury will be having a Primary and Special Election to elect a representative for Cheshire County District 9.

The Primary will be held on Tuesday, September 7 (the day after Labor Day) and the Special Election on Tuesday, October 26.

The following individuals have filed to run for the position: Democrat - Andrew Maneval (Harrisville), Republican - Lucille Decker (Jaffrey), and Rita Mattson (Dublin). The winner of the Special Election will complete the remainder of Doug Ley's two-year term.

The Supervisors of the Checklist will hold two sessions in August to correct the checklist and enable voters to register prior to the September 7th primary. The sessions will be on Tuesday, August 3, and Tuesday, August 31. We will meet in the conference room on the main floor of the Town Hall from 7 to 7:30 pm.

To register to vote, you must be 18 years old by September 7 and provide proof of your identity (e.g., driver's license, passport), age (e.g., birth certificate, driver's license, passport), citizenship (e.g., passport, naturalization certificate), and domicile (e.g., utility bill, property tax bill). Proof can be either by documents or by signing a Qualified Voter Affidavit when

you register. People who are already registered voters will not be able to change their party affiliation prior to the primary. You may also register to vote with the Town Clerk. If you wish to receive an absentee ballot for either the primary or the special election, you may request an application from the Town Clerk.

If you would like to work as a ballot clerk, greeter, or counter at the primary or the election, or if you have any questions regarding the election, please call Judy Knapp at 563-8176.

JUDY KNAPP is Chair of the Supervisors of the Checklist.

For further information, see [sos.nh.gov/elections/elections/special-elections/2021-2022-special-elections/cheshire-county-district-9/](https://sos.nh.gov/elections/elections/special-elections/2021-2022-special-elections/cheshire-county-district-9/)

## A Busy Boat Launch on Dublin Lake

PHOTOS BY SALLY SHONK

There's plenty happening at the Dublin Boat Launch. Swim teams accompanied by their coach in a kayak, a couple giving their dear old dog a little boat ride, Dan Parrish returning from a sail, and our Lake Host this year is Lisa Carne, who makes certain that boats are cleaned before going into Dublin Lake.



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## Conservation Commission Offers Free Invasives Control

*Please email your interest in participating to get into our lineup.*

BY JAY SCHECHTER

The Dublin Conservation Commission (DCC) is offering assistance and advice to Dublin landowners in the fight against Buckthorn, Knotweed and Bittersweet. These are non-native invasive plants found throughout the town. Invasive species are highly competitive and suppress native species.

Invasives can reduce natural diversity, impact endangered or threatened species, reduce wildlife habitat, create water quality impacts, and cause other negative impacts on our natural environment. The benefit being offered to you, as a participant in this program, is no out-of-pocket cost. The DCC has budgeted money to pay for a licensed professional to apply an herbicide that has proven successful in killing these invasive plants.

The recommended strategy for killing these invasive plants is as follows. First, they need to be cut near the base of the plant between mid-June and mid-July (note the window for cutting the invasives this year has gone by). These are resilient plants and may grow back, but in a weakened

state. The cut portion can be left in place and allowed to dry in the sun. Once the cut stems turn tan to brown in color they are no longer a threat. In the Fall a professional company will spray the regrown portion of the plants with a herbicide. The herbicide is drawn down into the roots as the plants prepare for winter. This results in killing the entire plant, including the roots. Cutting of knotweed should be done by hand. This plant can spread via small pieces, which makes mowing it a losing proposition.

We are scheduled to treat invasives on August 26, with a rain date of August 27. Please confirm your interest in participating in this program by emailing Katie

Featherston at [kfeatherk@gmail.com](mailto:kfeatherk@gmail.com) with your name, mailing address, email address and phone number. She can also be reached at 603-563-9260. Katie will also answer questions about non-chemical methods for controlling invasives.

Your task will be to do the initial cutting in June or July. The DCC will then put your property on the list for herbicide application in the Fall. We are limited in the number of properties we can treat. The list will be created in the order we are contacted.

Thank you for supporting the DCC in its continuing effort to rid Dublin of these invasive plants.

JAY SCHECHTER is Chair of the Dublin Conservation Commission (PO Box 277, 1120 Main St., Dublin, NH 03444.)

## American Legion Post 24 Celebrates New Name

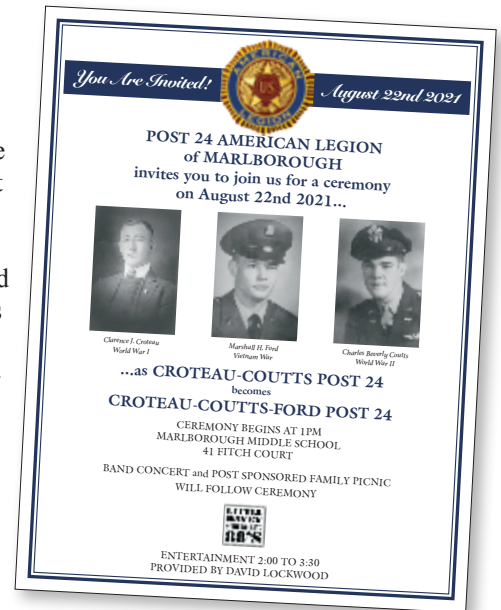
*Everyone is welcome.*

The American Legion Post 24, Croteau-Coutts is honoring a fellow comrade, Marshall H. Ford, Vietnam War Veteran, by renaming the post Croteau-Coutts-Ford. The re-designation ceremony on Sunday, August 22, will begin at 1 pm followed by a Post-sponsored band concert and family picnic.

Additional entertainment will be provided from 2 pm to 3:30 pm by David Lockwood's traveling music show, which is called Little Davey and the Rolling 88s ([www.davidlockwoodmusic.com/shows](http://www.davidlockwoodmusic.com/shows)).

The event will be held at the Marlborough Middle School, 41 Fitch Court, Marlborough.

Dubliners Jerry Branch, Post Vice Commander, and Tom Warren are members of the Croteau-Coutts-Ford Post.



The following links are available for further information about invasive plants in New Hampshire:

- [townofdublin.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Invasives2020.pdf](http://townofdublin.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Invasives2020.pdf)
- [www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/upland-invasive-species.pdf](http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/upland-invasive-species.pdf)
- [www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/invasive-species-poster.pdf](http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/invasive-species-poster.pdf)

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## Augusta Petrone Feted by NH GOP

*One of Dublin's true ambassadors received statewide and national recognition.*

BY RICK MACMILLAN

More than 150 admirers and Republican patrons honored the service of Dublin's Augusta Petrone at LaBelle Winery, July 17. Billed as a fundraiser featuring GOP National Co-Chair Tommy Hicks (of Dallas, TX), Augusta was the true object of the New Hampshire State

Republican Committee's festivities.

Attendees included Dublin friends, Senator Kelly Ayotte, State GOP Chair Steve Stepanek, and friends from Massachusetts, Florida, and Washington, DC.

Accolades came from Gov. Sununu, Ambassador Terry Branstad, Senator Ayotte, the Cheshire, Hillsborough, and Belknap County GOP Committees, as well as the Republican Women of Southwest Florida.

Over the years, Augusta has become widely known in Republican circles and elsewhere for her devoted passion for conservative causes, supporting local, state, and presidential candidates. In addition, her philanthropy for Monadnock area arts has been a mainstay of our cultural heritage. Her energy and highly contagious merry disposition have earned her widespread affection from people across the political spectrum.

RICK MACMILLAN is a former editor of the *Advocate*.

## Community Forums Planned for the School District

BY ALAN EDELKIND

As co-chair of the Communications Committee, I presented this at the School Board Meeting 7/13/21. It was approved.

The ConVal School Board hopes to provide a venue for effective two-way communication between ourselves and our constituents.

We currently communicate with our constituents in various ways. Our public School Board meetings allow for two public-comment sections for concerns and opinions. During regular School Board meetings, the Board and Administration collect information and comments from the public, but does not provide information nor have a discussion that may clarify the Board's position.

The District and the Board communicate with the public in various ways: the ConVal website, Facebook groups, printed media, emails, and town publications. While these avenues are effective, they allow for only one-way communication to take place.

In our continued effort to enhance communication and increase transparency, we have determined that we will establish **quarterly public/community forums** including school board members, ConVal Administration, and the public as attendees/contributors.

The Communications Committee has established the following parameters to provide for establishment of the format and operation of these forums:

- Moderator will be a selected School Board member.
- A survey will list possible topics and allow room for additional topics.
- Survey to be sent out 2+ weeks in advance.
- Email and ConVal website to be used to communicate the survey. Can also use Facebook groups and town publications.
- Communicate to the public through other outside sources.
- Maximum of three topics will be selected from survey responses.
- Meeting venue will be in-person (School Board and other participants).
- For the public, it will be in-person.

- Childcare will be provided for the public in attendance, if needed.

Livestream will be provided for those who are interested but cannot attend.

Format will be (for each topic):

- Moderator will present the topic.
- Moderator will let audience know the topic status with School Board, i.e., voted for or in discussion.
- Moderator will have the School Board member or other District representative discuss the topic and answer the pre-submitted questions.
- Follow-up questions will be allowed.

The first half of the meeting will be for topics (from the survey) and the second half will be used for questions and answers on other (audience determined) topics.

- Questions only from those attending.

Maximum of two hours for each forum:

- Will be recorded.
- Not limited to parents or guardians.
- Limited to ConVal district town residents.

ALAN EDELKIND is Dublin's representative to the ConVal School Board, aka SAU1. He can be reached at [aedelkind@conval.edu](mailto:aedelkind@conval.edu).

Jon Wilson DIPL. AC.



Leah Reed L.M.T.

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## Baha'i Annual Event, a Dublin Tradition

*"On Unity" is the topic by Douglas Gilbert.*

BY PHIL AND RUTHIE GAMMONS

For more than 50 years, the Baha'is of the Monadnock Region of New Hampshire have gathered to commemorate the visit of Abdu'l-Baha to Dublin in the summer of 1912. Abdu'l-Baha was the son of Baha'u'llah, Prophet Founder of the Baha'i Faith, and leader of the Baha'is from 1892 until His death in 1921.



On Sunday, August 15, at 10:30 am, the Baha'i community will host a program at the Dublin Community Church to commemorate Abdu'l-Baha's visit. There will be a talk by Douglas Gilbert, a Baha'i who recently moved to Weare, NH. His topic is "On Unity."

If you wish to meet Mr. Gilbert, please join us after the Church service at the historic Dublin Inn located at 1265 Main Street. All are welcome to attend.

Mr. Gilbert is an award-winning author, an inventor with four patents, a professor, and a speaker who has lectured across Europe and the United States. He recently taught mathematics at York Technical College (SC) and studied at Winthrop University (SC) and Williams College (MA). He holds a BS in Mathematics from

the US Naval Academy and a Masters of Philosophy from Yale University. He is the author of "The Last Saturday of October," and recently published an article in the US Naval Institute Journal of Naval History.

For more information on this event in town, please contact Phil or Ruthie Gammons at 563-8809, or visit <http://dublininn.bahai.us>.

### History of Abdu'l-Baha's Visit to Dublin

During the summer of 1912, Abdu'l-Baha stayed in Dublin for three weeks at the invitation of Mrs. Agnes Parsons. After being released from imprisonment in Palestine in 1908 He was able to travel extensively, initially to Europe in 1911, and later to North America from April to December 1912. The accounts of His journeys and talks in France, England, and America are in several publications ([bahaibookstore.com](http://bahaibookstore.com)).

His talks centered on the Baha'i Faith and its teachings on universal peace, the elimination of all forms of prejudice, the equality of women and men, the need for universal education, and other topics.

One of the most remarkable meetings took place at the boathouse on Dublin Lake owned by Mrs. Parsons, now the property of the Dublin School.

At that time Abdu'l-Baha spoke to approximately 25-30 of the African-American servants who worked at various homes in Dublin. We know little of the talk except that it centered on the unity of the races.

While He was here, Abdu'l-Baha also spoke at the homes of local residents, at the Dublin Community Church, and at the Dublin Inn.

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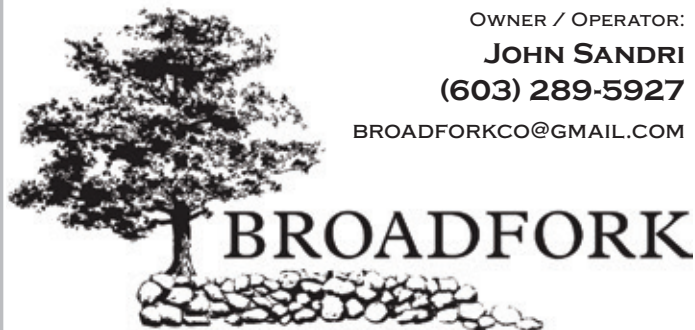
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## Memories of the Friendly Farm

BY MARIA FINNEGAN

As a new parent, the past eight months of my life have been a parade of milestones, each more exciting than the last. They started out simple – first bath, first car ride, first doctor’s appointment – and have evolved as my son has – first tooth, first roll over, and first “word” (ma-ma and baba count!).

But there was one special occasion that I had been anticipating for months, make that years, stemming from a time when just the thought of having a baby at all was a distant dream. And last month, that important “first” finally happened. We took my son to the Friendly Farm.

I made my own first visit to the Farm when I was two years old. In faded 1980s home videos I can see little Maria rushing up to the goats, patting them on the back, and then running away with a squeal. I remember birthday parties at red picnic tables, and the distinct smell of the chicken coop — a cocktail of sweet and sharp that both pleases and stings the nostrils when you walk in.

But what really stuck with me was the carefree joy I experienced running from animal to animal, from pen to pen, the kind of feeling that comes so easily to children, but as an adult, always seems just out of reach.

When my family left New Hampshire, these memories dotted the idyllic narrative of my Monadnock childhood, and continued to pull at me decades later. After college I moved from city to city, from job to job, always fanaticizing about a life where I could feel as happy as that little girl at the Friendly Farm. I wanted to move home. I knew it would never be exactly the same (I’m a “grownup” now, after all), but



I knew the magic was still there somehow. It had to be.

When I met my now husband in 2016, I had made it as far north as Cambridge, and after a month of dating, I brought James to Dublin to show him “my New Hampshire.” It must have been an odd sight for Farmer Bruce – two 30-something lovebirds alone at the farm on a quiet July afternoon, giggling like toddlers as we chased the goats. Then again,

if there is anyone who knows the magic of the Farm, it’s Mr. Fox himself. Maybe he wasn’t so surprised after all. On that day it had been over 20 years since my last visit, and the Friendly Farm was even better than I remembered. It made an impression on James too – he brought me back there the day that he proposed.

The pandemic took so much from us, and in that spectrum of loss, joy was harder to come by. But in that lost year of 2020, I realized my loftiest dream of moving to the beautiful town we now call home. My biggest “can you imagine?” became a reality. And the dream is better than I could have ever hoped for, because I share it with my husband, and our new baby. I get to raise my child here.

It was a sunny day in mid-June when we brought Jude to the Friendly Farm. He giggled and squealed just like I did. He was joyful. In that moment, I had to pull my head out of the clouds. I wasn’t daydreaming at my desk back in DC, I was living it, this is my reality now. Suddenly struck with emotion, I looked away from the goats and spotted another mother watching her child from beyond the fence. “I used to come here as a little kid!” I blurted out to her. She smiled at me, and said “So did I.”

MARIA FINNEGAN is very happy to make Dublin her home now with her husband James and their new son Jude.



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## August Events at the DubHub

For more information, email [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org).

### Coffee & Conversation

Coffee & Conversation sessions meet outdoors in the Garden Sanctuary behind Dublin Community Church on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10 to noon. In case of inclement weather, we move inside, socially distanced, with windows open.

### Knit with Nancy on Fridays

Knit with Nancy via Zoom every Friday at 10 am. Contact Nancy Cayford at [npcayford@myfairpoint.net](mailto:npcayford@myfairpoint.net) for an invitation.

### Song Circle

Song Circle on Sunday, August 1, at 3 pm, will meet in the Garden Sanctuary. Musicians, listeners and singers are welcome to this informal session of folk, pop, blues and original music. Bring a lawn chair, beverages and snacks. For details, email [bruce\\_simpson@msn.com](mailto:bruce_simpson@msn.com).

### Songwriting Workshop

The Cosy Sheridan Songwriting Workshop on the evenings of August 10, 11, and 12 has sold out! A waitlist has been created for those who would be interested in a possible future session.

### Tom Martin Performs Jazz from Broadway

Tom Martin and Friends will perform jazz standards and music from Broadway on Saturday, August 14, at 3 pm, in the Garden Sanctuary. (Rain date August 15.) Admission is free, however guests must register to save a spot at [tom-martin-concert-2021.eventbrite.com](http://tom-martin-concert-2021.eventbrite.com).

### Art Opening: Christopher Myott

On Friday, August 6, from 5 to 7 pm, Christopher Myott will be our first featured artist since the pandemic began. Chris combines tools, plants, figures, and other abstract forms into oil paintings and uses techniques to create the patina of age. View his work in August during open times.



Proceeds from a collection will be shared between the Dublin Community Center and Dublin Community Church. Guests may bring a lawn chair, beverage and finger



Tom Martin at the piano.

food. Please park at Yankee Publishing or behind Dublin Town Hall.

### Community Lunch

The next Community Lunch will be on Tuesday, August 17, from noon to 1 pm. Pick up your free meal by the main entrance of the Hub between 12 and 1 pm. Bring a lawn chair for the Garden Sanctuary. The menu will be pasta salad, fresh fruit, and brownies.



Gwir Huddleston Llewellyn prepares a delicious meal for a recent Community Lunch with help from Charlotte Lasky (left) and Balmeat Lasky (right).

### Open Stage: All Are Welcome

The DubHub Open Stage on Sunday, August 22 at 3 pm, will be in the Garden Sanctuary. All styles of music and spoken performance welcome. Performers are encouraged to reserve a slot by emailing [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org). Please bring lawn chairs, beverages and snacks.

### Chicken BBQ August 28

The annual Chicken BBQ will be on Saturday, August 28, from 5 to 7 pm. Guests may get their meal "to go" or enjoy it in the Garden Sanctuary or socially distanced outside the DubHub. Reserve your tickets (\$10 for adults and \$6 for children) at 563-8471 or 563-8467. Music will feature the harmonies of Kota, a popular Monadnock area trio.

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## GMRC Supports Animal Rescue Sanctuary

Grand Monadnock Rotary Club (GMRC) Charitable Fund donated \$1000 this month to the Amazing Grace Animal Rescue Sanctuary (a NH 501-c3) to help support its rescued animals. The sanctuary is the result of Donna and Daryl Watterson's long-time passion for animals. Donna is their executive director, Daryl, president of the board.

Life at the sanctuary started in April 2015 with the adoption of a baby goat that had suffered serious damage to her ears, leg and face. This goat, Olga, became the angel that brought healing to Donna as she cared for it, as her own mother had recently died. The goat lived with the Wattersons; eventually needing to have the leg ampu-

Grand Monadnock Rotary Charitable Fund makes donations based on the recommendations of its members. To learn more about this Rotary club, go to [grandmonadnockrotary.org](http://grandmonadnockrotary.org). Rotary meets at 7:30 on Tuesday mornings with hybrid meetings. For inquiries contact the new president Greg Robidoux at [gregr.edgewood.solutions.com@clubrunner.email](mailto:gregr.edgewood.solutions.com@clubrunner.email).



Rick MacMillan presents a check to Donna Watterson of Amazing Grace Animal Rescue Sanctuary.

tated, but she had a wonderful life on three. Olga even gave birth to her own "kid," Finn, in 2017. Sadly, she died in 2018.

Today, the Wattersons house more than 40 animals ranging from chickens to llamas, mules, goats, turkeys, and horses. Their philosophy is that "saving one animal will not change the world, but surely for that one animal their world will change forever."

To see these lovely animals, you can visit the farm at 161 Centre St., Sullivan, NH; call 603-358-0578 or go to [amazinggraceanimalsanctuary.org](http://amazinggraceanimalsanctuary.org). Email: [info@amazinggraceanimalsanctuary.org](mailto:info@amazinggraceanimalsanctuary.org).

## MAxT Offers Class in Watercolors

Four MAxT Makerspace classes will be held at the Dublin Village Park (August 3,5,10,12) from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Students will move through basic color theory, into material tips, then do a deep dive into technique experimentation. Each day the instructor Earl Schofield will start the day with an art history masterwork lecture, then move on to demonstrate various watercolor techniques.

This is not specifically a landscape class; it is a watercolor class, field trips included.

The class will cost \$150. Visit [maxt.pike13.com/courses/268032](http://maxt.pike13.com/courses/268032).



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## Goats Eat Bittersweet

*Yes, the cloven-hoofed creatures serve a solid purpose.*

BY MARGARET GURNEY

What do you do when your two fields are connected by a ravine filled with bittersweet, an invasive berry-producing menace that plagues our roadsides and gardens? Certainly can't use chemicals, for obvious reasons; burning's not a great option either; and it's too large a space for simple weed-whacking.

Well, Paul Tuller and Mary Loftis took the most ecological route they could think of: they called Gap Mountain Goats. And yes, these are Gap Mountain Goats.

The owners, Natalie & Russell Reid, rent these sizeable, friendly, and hungry "Kikos & Nubians" to people with such a problem as bittersweet in the ravine.

Mary, well attuned to caring for large-footed animals like horses and ponies for decades, takes joy in delivering fresh buckets of water to the goats a couple times a day, while they either graze or stand under a temporary shelter from the sun or rain, within the well-known confines of a large electric fence that interferes not at all with the goats' duty of munching away on such unwanted shrubbery.

Paul, well versed in farming himself having grown up on a dairy farm in Connecticut, and a member of the Cornucopia Project board, is just as comfortable with the new installation as well, knowing they have found the best solution to what had become a rather pressing problem. Costs entail the installation of the temporary electric fence.

So, headed by Patrick – the lead goat



The ability of Gap Mountain Goats to clear brush offers a natural approach to removing unwanted, overgrown vegetation, or even invasive plant species.

with the longest horns and biggest belly – the seven goats (all males) were delivered alongside installation of the electric fence,

and all Mary must do is carry fresh water to them a few times a day. According to the owners, this group of boys is called the "Bros Before Does" brush-clearing crew.

In one month's time or so, their job will be complete, and then Mary and Paul will be able to cut back the spindly stems that have been stripped of all their leaves and berry buds once and for all. And the goats will be safely transported back home to Marlborough, where they are not only very well-cared for, but bred professionally.

Each goat has a name – and a personality, are friends among themselves, and are easily approachable. In other circumstances, they sometimes come accompanied by a livestock guard dog (LGD), a Maremma, but that good fellow was not deemed necessary in this instance.

Perhaps if you are having a thorny problem in your landscape, try calling Gap Mountain Goats ([www.gapmountaingoats.com](http://www.gapmountaingoats.com)) to see what they might offer you. Certainly Mary and Paul are relieved to have found such a viable and local solution.

MARGARET GURNEY is editor of the *Advocate*.

Photo by Mary Loftis

### The Benefits of Using Gap Mountain Goats (excerpts)

- Goats work for pennies per hour and they work all day!
- Goats quietly eat their way through brush while treading lightly.
- Goats have no trouble clearing areas on steep hillsides or rough terrain.
- Goats can be used in sensitive environmental areas where chemicals are not desired or permitted.
- Goats leave behind a fantastic fertilizing manure that does not burn or smell but decomposes quickly to add nutrients to the soil.
- Goats do not leave weed seeds through their manure.

In sum, utilizing the natural ability of goats to eat unwanted vegetation is a fun and responsible way to manage overgrown and invasive foliage. Whether your goal is field improvement or a complete eradication of brush and weeds, our goats are experienced professionals that can help accomplish your objective!

SOURCE: [www.gapmountaingoats.com/brush%20clearing.htm](http://www.gapmountaingoats.com/brush%20clearing.htm)

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## The Buzz on Blooms

*Cyanobacteria monitoring and what to look for in local lakes.*

BY KAREN SEAVER

For many of us, time “down at the lake” is here and with it comes welcome observations: painted turtles basking on rocks, fish jumping above the waterline, herons stalking among the reeds. But how much do you wonder about what else is in the water? Our local lakes are teeming with microscopic life vital to the functioning of freshwater ecosystems, though they rarely grab our attention, that is, until their populations swell to a size that’s difficult to ignore, and the microscopic becomes macroscopic.

Cyanobacteria are one such group of tiny local lake life. The modern descendants of ancient microbes that had significant effects on Earth’s atmosphere and ecology during our planet’s earliest days of supporting life, cyanobacteria have evolved in freshwater ecosystems across the globe. All lakes and ponds now have their own native and natural contingent of cyanobacteria, which are commonly present at both the surface and in deeper water. In the past, cyanobacteria have been referred to as “blue-green algae,” though cyanobacteria are not true algae, as they lack a nucleus in their cells.

Populations of cyanobacteria often proliferate in response to human impacts. Blooms, or visual evidence of large amounts of cyanobacteria growth, are increasing in frequency and severity in many places, including lakes and ponds in the Monadnock Region. Cyanobacteria populations can grow rapidly in response to warming water temperatures, as well as nutrient inputs – especially nitrogen and

This article first appeared in the Spring 2021 *Harris Hearsay*, the e-newsletter of the Harris Center for Conservation Education based in Hancock. Visit [harriscenter.org/about-us/reports-newsletters](http://harriscenter.org/about-us/reports-newsletters) and click on Spring 2021 to download the issue that contains this full article, *HarrisCenter\_Hearsay\_Spring-FINAL-WEB.pdf*.

It is reprinted and edited with permission.

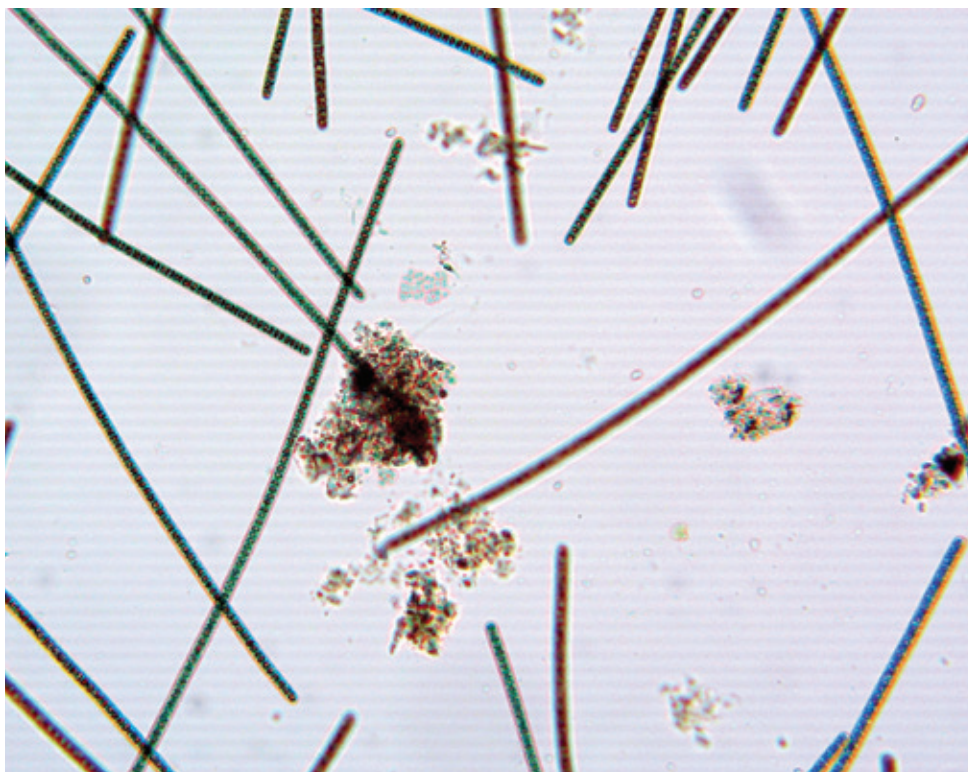


Photo by H. Marie Lawrence

Oscillatoriales. A photo of cyanobacteria from the Norway Pond bloom in August 2020 (Hancock), as viewed through a microscope. To the naked eye at the pond surface, this cyanobacteria looks like neon-green strings.

phosphorous – through both point pollution (such as leaky sewage systems) and non-point pollution (such as fertilizer runoff). Blooms can pop up quickly, during the day or even at night. They may have a variety of visual appearances, from brightly colored globules and feathery streaks to hazy clouds of cells. Some are ephemeral, meaning the “bloom boom” busts and subsides quickly, while others can persist for longer time periods.

Further upping the intrigue surrounding cyanobacteria is their potential for toxin production. Though a few strains are widely known for “cyanotoxins” that can negatively impact human health, the vast majority of cyanobacteria species are not capable of producing these chemicals. The relative risk of toxin exposure is hard to assess, since not all strains of the same species will produce cyanotoxins. This makes the identification of toxin-producing strains challenging, even for well-trained researchers. When blooms occur, if there are toxin-producing strains present, the concentration of toxins can pose risks to humans (and other animals) who ingest or inhale these molecules.

If you think you see a cyanobacteria

bloom, here’s what to do next: Avoid wading or swimming in the affected waterbody and keep pets out of the water. If you have made contact with the water, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly. Note your location and take several pictures of the bloom, which can help with identification. Report your observations to both federal and state agencies:

- Bloomwatch is a program run by the EPA that is available both as a mobile app and as a website ([cyanos.org/bloomwatch](http://cyanos.org/bloomwatch)).

- The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) encourages the public to submit bloom photos, along with information on the location of the observed blooms. You can report blooms through their Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) hotline at (603) 848-8094 or email [HAB@des.nh.gov](mailto:HAB@des.nh.gov).

KAREN SEAVER is Staff Ecologist at the Harris Center. This article first appeared in their *Harris Hearsay*.

**Russell  
Wright Robertson  
1939-2021**

## A Not-So-New Hemlock Disease

**H**ave you checked the underside of your hemlock needles lately? You may find many small white dots. They are aphids, and they are up to no good.

According to the UNH Cooperative Extension's County Foresters – “especially in southern New Hampshire – we have been receiving a lot of calls and emails this spring about “sick” hemlock trees. . . . Most of the trees we look at are not found to be suffering from diseases caused by pathogens such as fungi, bacteria, or viruses. Instead, many trees are infested by non-native, invasive insects – either hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) or elongate hemlock scale (*Fiornia externa*).

To make matters worse, some trees are infested by both insects. Left untreated, hemlock trees can succumb to these pests in less than 10 years.”

“ . . . Woodlot owners should work with their forester to decide on an appropriate plan of action. Options include doing nothing, thinning to maintain tree health, or initiating pockets of regeneration to replace the dying hemlocks. The appropri-

**T**he hemlock woolly adelgid or HWA, is an insect of the order Hemiptera (true bugs) native to East Asia. It feeds by sucking sap from hemlock and spruce trees. In its native range, HWA is not a serious pest because populations are managed by natural predators and parasitoids and by host resistance. [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hemlock\_woolly\_adelgid#cite\_note-inspection.gc.ca-2]

In eastern North America it is a destructive pest that threatens the eastern hemlock and the Carolina hemlock. HWA is also found in western North America, where it has likely been present for thousands of years.

Accidentally introduced to North America from Japan, HWA was first found in the eastern United States near Richmond, Virginia, in 1951. [2] The pest is now found from northern Georgia to coastal Maine and south-western Nova Scotia.[2]

As of 2015, 90% of the geographic range of eastern hemlock in North America has been affected by HWA . . . [3]

SOURCE: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hemlock\_woolly\_adelgid



ate response will depend on the level of infestation and the vigor of the trees. In the long run, release of predatory beetles by the NH Division of Forests and Lands

looks promising. There is no need to preemptively harvest all your hemlock...”

SOURCE: extension.unh.edu/blog/what%E2%80%99s-wrong-my-hemlock-tree

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## Peterborough Players Presents *Our Town*, Downtown

Peterborough Players returns to the stage with the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder, which will run Wednesday–Sundays, August 4–15, at 5:30 pm. In a first for the 88-year-old professional theater, this production will be performed onsite, outdoors in downtown Peterborough.

An exploration of the profound experience of everyday life, *Our Town* looks through the eyes of the citizens of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, in their growing up, loving, living, and dying. Emmy-winner and Players' favorite Gordon Clapp appears as the Stage Manager. Players' audiences will remember him for his turn as Robert Frost in *Robert Frost: This Verse Business*.

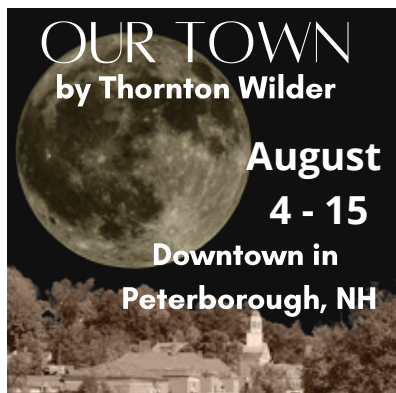
This year, the Players announce the expansion of the Players Gives' Pay-What-You-Can ticket program, offering

20 Pay-What-You-Can tickets to every performance of each show in the Summer 2021 Grand Restart Lineup, including *Our Town*. The Players invites anyone who

needs assistance accessing tickets to attend, with a guest, for whatever they feel they can pay. Tickets must be reserved ahead of time through the box office by calling (603) 924-7585.

The entrance to the performance space for *Our Town* is off Phoenix Mill Lane in Peterborough, NH. The show will be performed on what's

known as R.J. Finlay Green (70 Main Street Green), behind the Monadnock Center for History & Culture and the Peterborough Town House. Single tickets went on sale July 16. More information can be found by calling our box office at (603) 924-7585, or by visiting us online at [www.peterboroughplayers.org](http://www.peterboroughplayers.org).



## Monadnock Summer Lyceum Welcomes All

In August of its 52nd season, the Monadnock Summer Lyceum introduces three speakers who continue our mission “to inform, engage, and inspire.” These sessions will be recorded and available in audio and video format for you to enjoy at any time of your choosing.

We meet Sundays at 11 am; visit [www.monadnocklyceum.org](http://www.monadnocklyceum.org) for the Zoom link.

On August 1, Paula Stone Williams will speak on “*What I’ve Learned about Gender Inequity and What We Can Do About It*.” On August 15, Elise Hooper will present “*Writing About Overlooked Women*.” And on August 22, Carolyn Finney will discuss “*The N Word, Nature Revisited: Conversations with John Muir and Others*.”

For further details, please visit [www.monadnocklyceum.org](http://www.monadnocklyceum.org).

## Walk to End Alzheimer’s in October

*Event dedicated to Alzheimer’s care, support and research.*

The Alzheimer’s Association invites residents of Western New Hampshire and the Monadnock Region to join the fight against Alzheimer’s disease by participating in the Western NH Walk to End Alzheimer’s. The Walk will be an in-person event held on Saturday, October 2, at Keene State College in Keene, NH.

For more information on Western NH Walk to End Alzheimer’s and to register a team, please contact Chelsea Turner at [caturner@alz.org](mailto:caturner@alz.org).

## Amos Fortune Forum 2021 Season

*Each session’s recording will be stored on YouTube.*

The Amos Fortune Forum lectures continue in August on Fridays at 8 pm in the Meetinghouse located in Historic Jaffrey Center, two miles west of downtown Jaffrey, NH. There is no charge for admission.

On July 30, Will Torrey will address “Your Health Matters: Improving Access to High-Quality Psychiatric Care.” On August 6, Francie Von Mertens will speak about “Wild Bees, the Pollinator Pros, and

How We Can Help Them in Backyards and Beyond.” And on August 13, Ted Widmer will present about “Lincoln on the Verge, Thirteen Days to Washington.”

Lectures are also livestreamed online Friday nights at 8 pm, at <https://amos-fortune.com>, where you can find further information as well. Click on either the Facebook Live or the YouTube Live button below and look for the selection marked Live Now.

## Where Wind and Solar Power Need to Grow

BY VERONICA PENNEY, NEW YORK TIMES

“The United States is now aiming to bring emissions down to net-zero by 2050, meaning the country would eliminate as much greenhouse gas as it emits. To reach that goal, Americans will need to get a lot more of their energy from renewable sources like wind and solar farms.

“One of the most recent studies on the subject is Princeton University’s *Net-Zero America Report*, ([netzeroamerica.princeton.edu/?explorer=year&state=national&table=2020&limit=200](http://netzeroamerica.princeton.edu/?explorer=year&state=national&table=2020&limit=200)).”

SOURCE: [www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/05/28/climate/climate-wind-solar-energy-map.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pgtype=Article](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/05/28/climate/climate-wind-solar-energy-map.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pgtype=Article)



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## Farm to School (F2S) is Local and Statewide

Cornucopia Project announced the creation of the Monadnock Farm to School Network, a community resource for all schools and educators who are pursuing farm-to-school activities in the Monadnock Region. Activities can include growing school gardens, teaching lessons with a focus on local food and farming, local food in cafeterias, and more.

The Monadnock Farm to School (F2S) network is a branch of the New Hampshire

Farm to School Network.

Cornucopia Project is working with Stonewall Farm of Keene to strengthen the ability of Farm to School programs in the Monadnock Region to collaborate on funding, finding resources and tools, and sharing contacts.

The Young Farmers program enables youth to learn farming skills at the Cornucopia Project Educational Farm. Students entering grades 5 through 7 will

gain hands-on experience with growing nutrient-rich produce and will learn about sustainable food production. Creative projects will connect growing food with interdisciplinary topics.

This summertime skill-building program will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 1 pm in August. Half/Full scholarships are available for August 3 and 5, or August 10 and 12.

Please contact the Cornucopia Project, 49 Vose Farm Road, Suite 110, Peterborough, NH 03458; 603-784-5069.

## Insect Infestations

### Tree and Forest Pests Alert

BY STEVE ROBERGE

**Gypsy Moth:** Parts of New Hampshire are seeing outbreaks of gypsy moth caterpillars. Gypsy moth caterpillars prefer oaks, apples, birches, poplars, and willows. Less preferred species are ashes, maples, cherries, elms, beeches, and softwoods. Healthy deciduous trees should bounce back next year. Submit reports of gypsy moth on [nhbugs.org](http://nhbugs.org).

**Check Your Pool for Asian Longhorned Beetle:** We need your help to look for

Asian Longhorned beetle (ALB). UNH Extension is asking New Hampshire residents with pools to check their filters regularly for ALB. Pool filters naturally gather an assortment of bugs making it easier to keep an eye out for ALB. (John Ghent, Bugwood.org)

**What's Wrong With My Hemlock Tree?** UNH Extension's County Foresters – especially in southern NH – say the main culprit seems to be non-native, invasive insects – either hemlock woolly adelgid or elongate hemlock scale. (Donald Duerr, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org)

**Emerald Ash Borer:** EAB continues to

spread throughout the state with new detections in Ashland, Dublin, Sharon, Stoddard, and Unity. Coos County is still EAB free.

**New Hampshire Forest Health Update:** Check out the latest update from forest health specialists at The New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands. (Donald Duerr, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org)

**Tree and Forest Pests Alert** is produced by the UNH Cooperative Extension, in cooperation with the NH Division of Forests & Lands, and the NH Dept. of Agriculture.

STEVE ROBERGE ([Steven.Roberge@unh.edu](mailto:Steven.Roberge@unh.edu)) is Extension Forester in Cheshire Co. UNH Cooperative Extension, 33 West St., Keene, NH 03431; 603.352.4550

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## The River Center

The River Center has a great lineup of free and fun programs for your family, from berry-picking to child-friendly hikes to farms. Explore the Monadnock area with the Families, Forests, and Farms program on Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

On August 6 at 7:30 pm we will show the film "Rio" in Putnam Park in Peterborough for our Outdoor Movie Night. We'll have a fun "make-it, take-it" mask craft for pickup to do at home so you can bring your mask-erpiece to movie night!

Visit us at [rivercenter.us](http://rivercenter.us) or find us on Facebook for more of our offerings including Baby and Me, Mini Explorers, Safe@Home, and other groups.

The River Center: A Family and Community Resource Center provides community connections, parenting support, tax assistance and money coaching to strengthen individuals and families in the Eastern Monadnock Region. We are located at 9 Vose Farm Rd., Suite 115, Peterborough.

**Travis McKenna**  
1979-2021

## Help to End 68 Hours of Hunger

*You can drop off crackers or nutrition bars at the church.*

On June 30, End 68 Hours of Hunger wrapped up a year that for us, as for so many others, was our most challenging yet. We went from sending food home on school buses over the summer, to a mix of home deliveries and school deliveries when schools were following a hybrid model, to the traditional school deliveries — with plenty of back-and-forth along the way.

Our amazing team of volunteers adjusted to every change with smiles and good humor.

And thanks to community members like you, the food donations kept coming! From last July through this June, generous Dublins donated more than 4,000 food items valued at \$3,356. Thank you so much!

This summer, we continue sending home weekend food to food-insecure children through social-service agencies as well as pick-up spots outside each of the district's schools. Numbers always go down in the summer, but there are still

plenty of food-insecure kids out there who need food. Donations of crackers (Ritz, Saltines, or Club) are especially welcome right now, as are nutrition bars.

Thank you very much for your continued support!

## NH Humanities Offers Grants for Humanities

*Applications are due August 6.*

BY REBECCA KINHAN

New Hampshire Humanities invites all NH-based humanities organizations, cultural institutions, and other eligible nonprofits to apply for "Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP)" Grants.

The 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) allocated significant funds to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to assist organizations impacted by the pandemic.

Applications are due by 5 pm on Friday, August 6, 2021. For more information, go to [www.nhhumanities.org/nhsharp](http://www.nhhumanities.org/nhsharp).

REBECCA KINHAN ([rkinhan@nhhumanities.org](mailto:rkinhan@nhhumanities.org)) is Communications Director at New Hampshire Humanities.



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## AUGUST 2021 Calendar



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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](mailto:DublinAdvocate@gmail.com).

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

**The Dublin Advocate**, sponsored by the Town of Dublin, NH, is published monthly and is a registered nonprofit, and may be found online at [DublinAdvocate.com](http://DublinAdvocate.com) or [townofdublin.org](http://townofdublin.org).

**Editor:** Margaret Gurney. **Advertising Coordinator:** Jeanne Sterling. **Staff:** Kim Allis, Jean Barden, Rusty Bastedo, Ramona Branch, Denise Frankoff, Shari LaPierre, Jill Lawler, Mary Loftis, Lorelei Murphy, Susan Peters, Julie Rizzo, Sally Shonk. **Production Editor:** Jill Shaffer.

**Treasurer:** Bill Goodwin

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